



# CCI-CBF WEEK 2020

Nature-Based Solutions  
For Our Caribbean Future

# MEETING REPORT

July 13-16, 2020

Prepared by: Asha-Gaye Cowell, CBF Secretariat  
For the CCI and CBF

*With the support of:*





***For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)***

# CCI-CBF Week 2020

Nature-Based Solutions for Our Caribbean Future

*Virtual*

## Meeting Report

July 13-16, 2020

The Caribbean Biodiversity Fund & The Caribbean Challenge Initiative

**For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)**



The information detailed in this report does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund or the Caribbean Challenge Initiative. The mention of specific organizations and products whether or not these have been registered does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by CBF or CCI in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of CBF. Unless we are cited or provide prior written consent, no part of this report should be reproduced, distributed or communicated to any third party. This report may be shared and distributed freely in its entirety. We do not accept any liability if this report is used for an alternative purpose from which it is intended, nor to any third party in respect of this report.

## Table of Contents

Acknowledgement .....	6
Executive Summary.....	7
Abbreviations .....	8
Message from the CCI Envoy .....	9
Message from the CEO.....	10
About the Caribbean Challenge Initiative.....	11
About the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund.....	12
Conservation Finance Program: CBF Endowment Fund and Regional Architecture .....	12
Climate Change Program: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Facility.....	12
Panel Highlights.....	14
Day 1 - Opening Session.....	14
Day 1 - High-level Panel: The 2030 Biodiversity Framework and the Caribbean Perspective for the Next Decade.....	16
Day 2 - Panel 2: Nature's Role in the COVID-19 Recovery Pathway.....	19
Panel 3: Sustainably Financing Protected Areas Effective Management .....	22
Update on NCTFs and Partnerships to date .....	26
Panel 4: Scaling-up Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Caribbean .....	35
CCI-CBF Closing session.....	39
Interactive Sessions .....	45
Networking Events .....	45
Logistics & Technical Highlights .....	51
Social Media Engagement.....	52
Twitter .....	52
YouTube.....	54
Facebook.....	55
LinkedIn .....	56
Attendee Feedback .....	57
Notes .....	58
Thank You to Our Partners!.....	59

## Acknowledgement

The CCI and CBF secretariats wish to express gratitude to the many players and actors that Contributed to the success of the first virtual CCI-CBF 2020.

Special mention must be made to the Organizing Committee:

- Yabanex Batista, Asha-Gaye Cowell, Karen McDonald Gayle and Camila Monteiro from the CBF
- John Calixte and Karolin Troubetzkoy from the CCI
- Eleanor Phillips and Shenique Albury from TNC
- Safiya Sawney from Ocean Unite
- Karen Panton, from BPAF
- James Ellsmoor, Taylor Mills, Alexandra Lemus from Island Innovation
- The interpreters from RIV Eventos

Sincere gratitude is expressed to our sponsors. The meeting was supported by:

- The Secretariats of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative and the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund;
- The German Federal Ministries of Economic Cooperation and Development and Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the German Development Bank (KfW).
- The Nature Conservancy;
- Metzler-Payden;
- Ocean Unite;
- The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund;
- Island Innovation;

Heartfelt gratitude to all the [speakers, presenters and moderators!](#)

Lastly, but by certainly no means least, to every single person, who participated and signed up for the CCI-CBF Week 2020. We are truly thankful for your continued support as we work together towards sustaining our natural capital!

## Executive Summary

The Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) and the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) Secretariats hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> CCI-CBF Week, which took place virtually on July 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The event was open for participation and registration was free. Participants registered at [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org).

The CCI was established as an innovative platform uniting governments, the private sector and partners (e.g. funding agencies, NGOs) to take collaborative action to conserve and sustainably manage the Caribbean's marine and coastal environment. Originally launched in 2008 at the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the CCI aimed to support and incentivize Caribbean governments to meet their sustainable development commitments, to catalyze new funding and accelerated action, and to help ensure more prosperous and sustainable economies across the Caribbean in the future.

The Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), which was established in 2012, is the realization of the vision to create reliable, long-term funding for conservation and sustainable development in the Caribbean region. The CBF and a group of National Conservation Trust Funds form the Caribbean Sustainable Finance Architecture, which, among other objectives, supports and incentivizes targeted Caribbean nations to meet the goals of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI), national conservation priorities, and targets under other international and regional commitments.

This year was a landmark year for the CCI, as its goals were to protect and effectively manage 20% of the coastal and marine resources by 2020 and create sustainable finance mechanisms to support this effort. The week of meetings brought together CCI and CBF members, National Conservation Trust Funds from the Caribbean, partners, donors, and observers to:

- Celebrate CCI's achievements since its creation in 2008;
- Recognize the accomplishments and challenges in the region in the areas of effective management, sustainable financing, climate adaptation, implementation of a nature-based economy, and identify necessary actions to ensure healthy ecosystems;
- Identify partners and opportunities for developing the way forward for biodiversity conservation, protected areas management and nature-based economic development in the Caribbean.

The content of this report provides a snapshot of the panel discussions, key highlights and other relevant information.

**For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)**



## Abbreviations

BPAF	<a href="#"><u>Bahamas Protected Area Fund</u></a>
CBD	<a href="#"><u>Convention on Biological Diversity</u></a>
CBF	<a href="#"><u>Caribbean Biodiversity Fund</u></a>
CCI	<a href="#"><u>Caribbean Challenge Initiative</u></a>
CERMES	<a href="#"><u>Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies</u></a>
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
MARENA Fund	<a href="#"><u>National Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources</u></a>
GSDTF	<a href="#"><u>Grenada Sustainable Development Trust Fund</u></a>
GIZ	<a href="#"><u>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</u></a>
IUCN	<a href="#"><u>International Union for Conservation of Nature</u></a>
KfW Group	<a href="#"><u>(Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau) German Development Bank</u></a>
MEPA Trust	<a href="#"><u>Marine Ecosystems Protected Area Trust Inc.</u></a>
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NbS	Nature based Solutions
NCTF	National Conservation Trust Fund
NCTFJ	<a href="#"><u>National Conservation Trust Fund of Jamaica</u></a>
NPAS	National Protected Areas System
RedLAC	<a href="#"><u>(Red de Fondos Ambientales de Latinoamérica y el Caribe)</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Latin American and Caribbean Network of Environmental Fund</u></a>
PA	Protected Areas
SCNCF	<a href="#"><u>St. Christopher and Nevis Conservation Foundation</u></a>
SLUNCF	<a href="#"><u>Saint Lucia National Conservation Trust Fund</u></a>
SVGCF	<a href="#"><u>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Conservation Fund</u></a>
TNC	<a href="#"><u>The Nature Conservancy</u></a>

## Message from the CCI Envoy



*Karolin Troubetzkoy, Caribbean  
Challenge Initiative Envoy*

Since 2016, the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) and the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) have been holding joint annual meetings, called CCI-CBF Week. This year's event had originally been scheduled for the Bahamas, but for obvious reasons had to be transformed to take place virtually.

Seeing the agenda for CCI-CBF week stretch over an entire week was daunting, with virtual morning and afternoon meetings from Monday through Thursday, July 13-16. I secretly wondered who, if anyone, would have the stamina and commitment to actually attend these meetings daily. Amazingly though, the week went by very quickly and not only was the level of attendance great, but also the engagement was very high and inspiring throughout. There were over 900 attendees from all over the world, a new record for the CCI-CBF week. There could have been no better testimonial to the importance of the subject matter at the core of CCI-CBF week: How best to protect the Caribbean's natural resources and ensuring healthy ecosystems for future generations to come.

In this landmark year of 2020 for the CCI, and seven years after the inaugural summit, we certainly must celebrate the strong efforts and commitment of the now 11 governments that voluntarily took on the 20-by-20 Goal – The Bahamas, The British Virgin Islands, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the US Virgin Islands. Five of them have achieved or surpassed the 20% declaration target. The Dominican Republic with approximately 75 per cent of its near-shore marine area under protection, followed by Saint Christopher and Nevis with 50 per cent, the U.S. Virgin Islands with 44 per cent, Puerto Rico with 27 per cent, and Haiti with 23 per cent.

Today we must also celebrate that, collectively, CCI countries have now under protection or management 47,232 square kilometers of their near-shore environment, 61% of the way towards the 20-by-20 goal. And while the full 20-by-20 goal has not been met, under any standard or measurement used, the Caribbean has clearly demonstrated its ambition and has set a strong basis and stage for new targets to be agreed soon, whether the target year is 2030 or 2050.

I am honored to be able to be a part of the movement and initiative and I look forward to future successes as we collectively explore “Nature-Based Solutions for our Caribbean Future”!

Karolin Troubetzkoy  
Special Envoy – Caribbean Challenge Initiative

**For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)**

## Message from the CBF CEO



*Yabanex Batista,  
Caribbean Biodiversity Fund CEO*

As CEO of the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund, I am proud to share with you that our first virtual CCI-CBF Week 2020 was a huge success!

The Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) is a regional environmental fund whose mission is “to ensure continuous funding for conservation and sustainable development in the Caribbean.”

Since 2016, the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) and the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) have been holding joint annual meetings, called CCI-CBF Week. This year’s event, originally due to be held in the Bahamas, was held online and free to attend, as a result of the COVID19 pandemic.

2020 is celebrated as the Biodiversity Mega Year and while the pandemic put a plug in our physical celebrations, we wanted to ensure that the Caribbean conservation and biodiversity goals were duly commemorated! Some of the CBF’s highlights, this year, despite the looming pandemic include the EbA Facility 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposal, the EbA Facility Workshop, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Conservation Fund (SVGCF) launched its First Call for Proposals, and the CBF announced its partnership with Blue Finance to build Public Private Partnerships for Marine Conservation and so much more! Additionally, just before the year started, with the support of the German government, we were able to increase our pool of resources to approximately USD\$125 million. Pandemic or no pandemic, we are dedicated to our cause.

Our CCI-CBF Week 2020 was held under the theme “Nature-Based Solutions for our Caribbean Future”. The week had several highlights, a diverse array of panels, networking events and even a field trip! Our resilience as a Caribbean people was definitely on display; we recorded over 1000 attendees over the week and for each session, almost all of over attendees stayed locked in.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who joined in and we look forward to your continued support, as we all work towards sustaining our natural capital!

Mr. Yabanex Batista  
Chief Executive Officer - Caribbean Biodiversity Fund

**For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)**

## About the Caribbean Challenge Initiative



The CCI was established as an innovative platform uniting governments, the private sector and partners (e.g. funding agencies, NGOs) to take collaborative action to conserve and sustainably manage the Caribbean’s marine and coastal environment. Originally launched in 2008 at the 8th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the CCI aimed to support and incentivize Caribbean governments to meet their sustainable development commitments, to catalyze new funding and accelerated action, and to help ensure more prosperous and sustainable economies across the Caribbean in the future.

At the CCI Summit of Political and Business Leaders held on May 2013 in the British Virgin Islands, the second phase of CCI was launched. At the Summit, a new type of partnership came together to safeguard the Caribbean’s marine and coastal environment. Three important “constituency groups”—governments, the private sector, and partners— all joined forces and voluntarily committed to supporting the two major goals under the CCI. New marine conservation commitments were made, primarily in the form of a Leaders Declaration signed by nine governments and a Corporate Compact signed by 15 companies at the Summit. Over US \$75M of funding for activities to support CCI Goals were also announced on the occasion. In short, the launch of Phase II of the CCI generated significant momentum towards the shared vision of a healthy marine and coastal environment.

The CCI has two main Goals:

- 1) CCI 20-by-20 Goal: to conserve and effectively manage at least 20% of the marine and coastal environment by 2020.
- 2) Sustainable Finance Goal: to put in place fully functioning finance mechanisms that provide long-term, reliable funding to ensure marine and coastal areas are sustainably managed into the future.

## About the [Caribbean Biodiversity Fund](#)



Established in 2012, the CBF is the realization of a bold vision to create reliable, long-term funding for conservation and sustainable development in the Caribbean region. The CBF and a group of National Conservation Trust Fund form the Caribbean Sustainable Finance Architecture, which, among other objectives, supports and incentivizes targeted Caribbean nations to meet the goals of the CCI, national conservation priorities, and targets under other international and regional commitments.

The CBF is an umbrella fund with a flexible structure to implement innovative solutions for resource mobilization at the regional level through a range of financial instruments. Currently, the CBF manages approximately US\$125 million through its Conservation Finance and the Climate Change: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) Programs.

### [Conservation Finance Program: CBF Endowment Fund and Regional Architecture](#)

The goal of the CBF Conservation Finance program is to contribute to the sustainability of this natural capital. Activities are focused on the conservation, protection, management of biodiversity and natural resources with an emphasis on support to the region's Protected Areas. The program is mainly supported through the CBF Endowment Fund which allows CBF to secure a reliable, long-term funding stream to the targeted countries in partnership with the national funds and other regional actors.

The Endowment Fund was created at the same time as the establishment of the CBF, in 2012, and currently has a value of about US\$75million to support 12 countries. The proceeds of the Endowment are channeled through the eligible National Conservation Trust Funds (NCTFs) that have signed Partnership Agreements with the CBF. The Partner NCTFs then lead the grant-making programs at the national level with resources from the CBF and other donors. The CBF is also working with other countries to join the regional Finance Architecture.

### [Climate Change Program: Ecosystem-based Adaptation \(EbA\) Facility](#)

With support from the Government of Germany, the CBF established the EbA Facility, a US\$50 million sinking fund to support projects in targeted countries, including Antigua & Barbuda, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines. The Facility is distributing grants directly to local, national and regional projects through competitive calls for proposals. Projects are being implemented by a wide range of local, national, regional and international

institutions, including civil society organizations, government agencies, universities/research organizations, and community-based organizations.

Aimed at supporting effective climate change adaptation measures in the marine and coastal zone of the insular Caribbean, the EbA Facility is awarding grants to support a wide range of EbA actions in eligible Caribbean countries.

These actions include restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems, reduction of land-based stressors, other measures to reduce pressures on ecosystems, measures to reduce physical damage to ecosystems, installation of artificial reefs, and grey infrastructure (hybrid solutions) relevant to the EbA approach.

## Panel Highlights

The CCI-CBF Week 2020 was characterized by 9 panels centered on the theme “Nature-based solutions for our Caribbean Future.” Each panel was thoughtfully designed to ensure that consideration was given not only to the existing realities but also factored for forecasting and planning for issues relevant to the Caribbean’s biodiversity.

### *Day 1 - Opening Session*

**Date:** Monday, July 13th, 2020 – 9:00 – 10:00 EST

**Session Attendees:** 212 Attendees

**Recording link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdMoz7sKj5w&feature=youtu.be>

**Platform:** Zoom Webinar

**Session Objectives:** Openings remarks and keynote addresses

**Was the Session Translated?** Yes

**Moderator:** James Ellsmoor, Island Innovation Founder

#### **Panellists:**

**H.E. Ambassador Ute König**, German Embassy Trinidad and Tobago, Caribbean Challenge Initiative Co-Chair

**Dr. Jens Mackensen**, Board Chair, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund

**Karolin Troubetzkoy**, Caribbean Challenge Initiative Envoy

**Yabanex Batista**, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund CEO

**Karen Panton**, the Bahamas Protected Area Fund Executive Director

Special Message: **H.E. Ambassador Peter Thomson**, Special UN Envoy for the Ocean

#### **Session Summary:**

The Opening Session was punctuated by several memorable moments. Karen Panton, from the Bahamas Protected Area Fund (BPAF) and a member of the event’s organizing committee, opened the session, highlighting that The Bahamas was the proud “host country” of this year’s CCI-CBF Week and co-chair of the CCI Steering Committee. It was noted that the Bahamas has already designated 10.34% (29,995 square kilometers) of its near-shore environment as protected areas. And with their current plans to expand their marine protected area network, The Bahamas would soon reach the CCI 20-by-20 Goal by protecting in total 21.76% (63,112 square kilometers) of their near-shore environment as protected areas.

**For more information:** [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)

Ambassador Ute König, representing the Government of Germany, along with Dr. Jens Mackensen from the KfW, the main source of funding for the CBF, and CBF Chair, shared remarks and underscored their commitment to the Caribbean region and the preservation and conservation of biodiversity life. A key highlight was the commendations to the CBF under the Conservation Finance Program, as they would soon be signing four new Partnership Agreements with:

- the Bahamas Protected Areas Fund
- the Guyana Protected Areas Trust
- the Haiti Biodiversity Foundation and
- the Saint Christopher and Nevis Conservation Foundation

In addition, under the Climate Change Program, the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Facility has already committed about US\$12 million in its first call for proposals in 2019, with 11 projects that have actions in 10 Caribbean countries. The Facility is currently conducting its second call for proposals, having received 79 project concept notes, which are under review.

- There were also video messages from Mr. Volker Oel, from the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Ambassador Peter Thomson, UNSG's Special Envoy for the Ocean. These videos added to the overall quality of the event as the common message was the importance of establishing sustainable finance mechanisms to better serve the region in its endeavors to preserve nature and establish nature-based solutions geared towards the betterment of the Caribbean's future.
- The highlight of this session was the presentation of the status of CCI and the CBF by Yabanex Batista, CBF CEO and Karolin Troubetzkoy, CCI Envoy. This presentation was sketched by the scribe, Reilly Dow. *Fig. 1* depicts the outcome document.



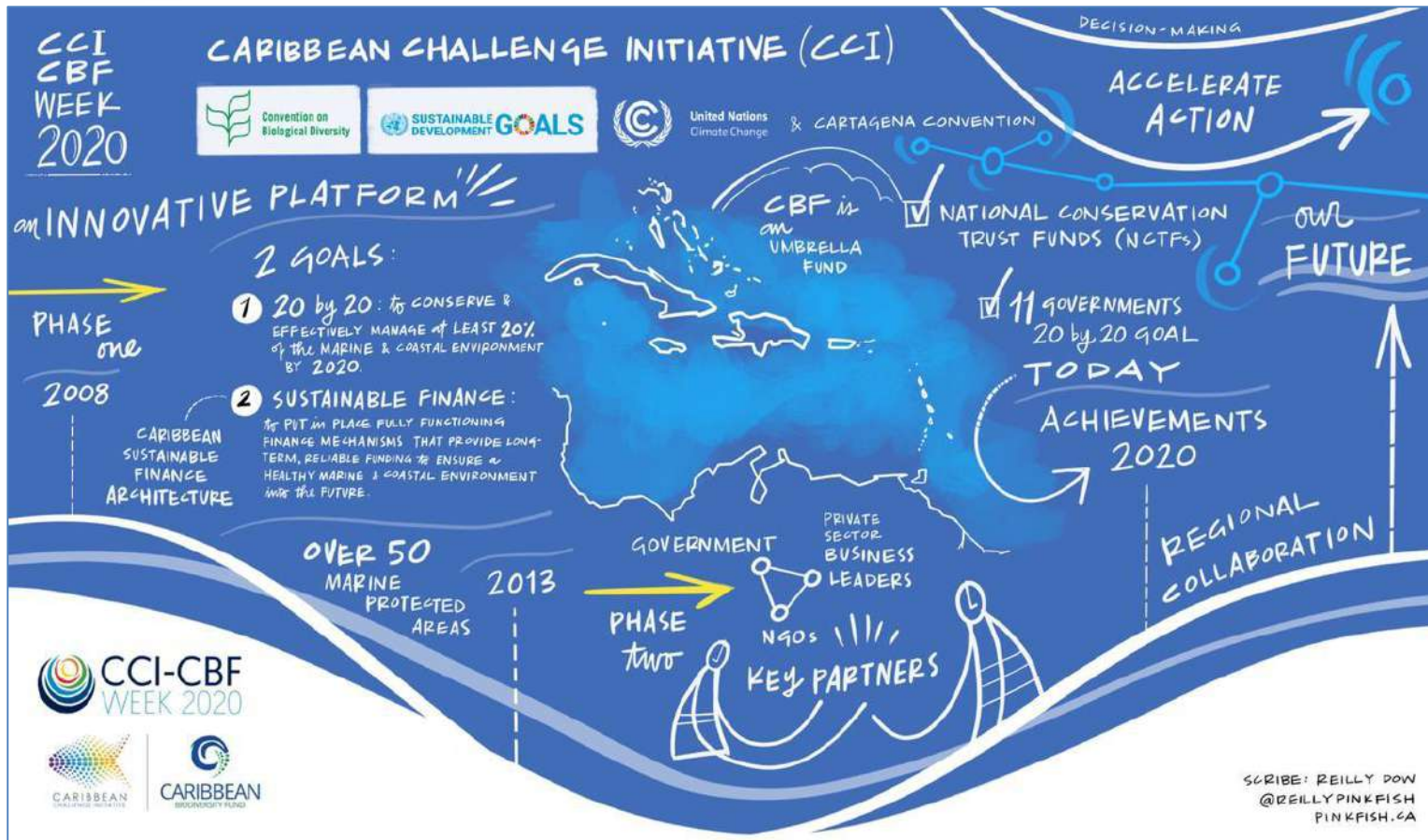


Figure 1 - Opening Session sketch by Reilly Dow

Day 1 - High-level Panel: The 2030 Biodiversity Framework and the Caribbean Perspective for the Next Decade

**Date:** Monday, July 13th, 2020 – 10:30 – 12:30 EST

**Session Attendees:** 275

**Recording link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=emHt7fTBQZY&feature=youtu.be>

**Platform:** Zoom Webinar

**Session Objectives:** This panel is intended to promote a discussion about the new global biodiversity framework, the status of its development and the vision and roles for the Caribbean countries.

**Moderator:** Susi Menazza, Director, Global Institutions, The Nature Conservancy

**For more information:** [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)

**Panelists:**

**Elizabeth Maruma Mrema**, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity

**Hon. Pamela Castillo**, Vice Minister of Environment of Costa Rica

**Hon. Romauld Ferreira**, Minister of Environment and Housing of The Bahamas

**Dr. Grethel Aguilar**, Acting Director-General International Union for Conservation of Nature

**Hon. Simon Stiell**, Minister for Climate Resilience, The Environment, Forestry, Fisheries & Disaster Management of Grenada



Figure 2- High-level Panel Screenshot

**Session Summary:**

This panel was guided by the objective: to promote a discussion about the new 2030 global biodiversity framework, the status of its development and the vision and roles for the Caribbean countries and was moderated by Susi Menazza.

*Panelist Interventions:*

- The first speaker, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, highlighted the status of the development process of the new Global Biodiversity Framework, its 2050 goals and its action targets for the next decade. She mentioned the synergies with other UN frameworks, such as the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and the Decade for Restoration.

- Vice Minister Pamela Castillo, Vice Minister of Environment of Costa Rica, presented the High Ambition Coalition (HAC), its links to the CBD process on the next decade targets.
- Hon. Romauld Ferreira, Minister of the Environment and Housing of The Bahamas, spoke about the Bahamas vision for the environment in the next decade and its participation in the new Global Biodiversity Framework process and his vision for the Caribbean.
- Dr. Grethel Aguilar, Acting Director-General International Union for Conservation of Nature, was asked to comment on how IUCN is participating in the global biodiversity framework discussions and how this is expected to reflect in the next World Conservation Congress in January 2021. She highlighted the aim of increasing the participation of the private sector in the event.
- Hon. Simon Stiell, Minister for Climate Resilience, The Environment, Forestry, Fisheries & Disaster Management of Grenada, commented on how Grenada is preparing to incorporate the new biodiversity framework in its own policies and national targets and talked about the role of Caribbean nations in the framework implementation. He mentioned SIDS are a perfect petri dish for innovative approaches to be scaled-up later in larger countries.

**Key take-aways:**

- Biodiversity is at the center of sustainable development, as such there is an urgent need to stop the current trend of biodiversity degradation and revert it to a trend of ecosystem restoration. This is the focus of the new Biodiversity Framework.
- The action targets for the next decade, act as a guide that will see 2030 as a landmark for taking stock of recovery levels and 2050 as the year with consolidated ecosystems restoration processes in place. To actualize this, there is a need for a much higher level of investments from all sectors – both public and private. There is need for higher levels of public funding but also it is fundamental to have the participation of private capital in initiatives that deliver nature-based solutions and help us achieve the 2030 targets at the same time.
- Leadership is essential. While individual leadership at every level is key, countries need ambitious, science-driven action and collaboration platforms, such as the High Ambition Coalition, to push for global action. But so is stakeholder participation.

- Finally, in the Caribbean, nature needs to be at the center of the post-COVID economic recovery, not only because the most important sectors in the Caribbean depend on natural resources, but also to build the islands resilience needed to withstand the effects of climate change.

*Day 2 - Panel 2: Nature's Role in the COVID-19 Recovery Pathway*

**Date:** Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 – 10:00 – 12:00 EST

**Session Attendees:** n/a

**Recording link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHxg3XYyxaI&feature=youtu.be>

**Platform:** Zoom Meetings

**Slides Link:**

*Nature's Role in the COVID-19 Recovery Pathway:*

[https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/COVID-Role-of-Nature-In-Recovery-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020\\_compressed.pdf](https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/COVID-Role-of-Nature-In-Recovery-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020_compressed.pdf)

*Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security*

<https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Sustainable-Food-Systems-for-Food-Security-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020.pdf>

**Session Objectives:**

This panel is intended to promote a discussion about the impacts of the COVID-19 in the Caribbean and what are the envisioned strategies to rebuild the economies through the implementation of a sustainable development agenda.

**Moderator:**

**Safiya Sawney**, Caribbean Policy Lead, Ocean Unite

**Panelists:**

**H.E. Dr. Didacus Jules**, Director General, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States

**Therese Turner-Jones**, General Manager Country Department Caribbean Group, Inter-American Development Bank

**Karolin Troubetzkoy**, President of the Saint Lucia Hospitality and Tourism Association

**Session Summary:**

This panel, moderated by Safiya Sawney, Caribbean Policy Lead for Ocean Unite was guided by objective: to promote a discussion about the impacts of the COVID-19 in the Caribbean and what are the envisioned strategies to rebuild the economies through the implementation of a sustainable development agenda.

**For more information:** [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)

### *Panelist Intervention*

- Dr. Didacus Jules, Director General of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, was the first panelist to bring remarks, where he spoke to the challenges ahead of the Caribbean states for the economic recovery after COVID-19 and how regional integration will be fundamental to include nature as a central piece of the recovery process. Through a series of Q&As, Dr Jules positioned that (i) the old model of tourism will have to be re-configured to foster more direct benefits to local communities, a better understanding of local culture, generating cross-cultural friendships/promoting international understanding. In the debate taking place right now, there is a line of argument that suggests that if pandemics will be a recurring event, the "enclave model" could well become the predominant model, but this would be counterproductive in his view as it would further alienate local communities from visitors; (ii) much of the evidence of nature recovery since COVID has been anecdotal e.g. reports of an increase in bee and other pollinator populations in the islands but no "hard" scientific data to support this. Unfortunately, the only relatively accurate data is from industrialized environments and are mainly about the reduction in emissions from the shutdown; (iii) one of the impacts of COVID that he has personally experienced in his capacity at the OECS is a new willingness and openness by the leaders to embrace transformational ideas and actions. In education, for example, they have done in just two weeks of the early shutdown of schools, things that they have just been talking about for 20 years - e.g. online learning. Cuba developed a 100-year plan for climate change mitigation that involved many natural solutions like this.
- His remarks were followed by Therese Turner Jones', General Manager, Country Department Caribbean Group, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); she presented several slides with data on the region and the impacts of the pandemic in the economy. Mrs. Jones, through her series of Q&A, indicated that (i) considering the role of the diaspora, the human capital and the skills that we have in the USA, or Canada or the UK, have not been captured as it is possible; this is not only about remittances, but also opportunities for investments and participation, we haven't really captured all of the value. She also added that there is no specific program on food security, but this issue is crucial and needs to be monitored. There is more and more need for food support in the Caribbean countries and Guyana and Jamaica have a great potential to feed our region. If we have a coordinated mechanism in place, the produce could be exported within the region, to ensure we don't end up with a large food deficit. One participant asked Therese if she thinks the countries should look at a more progressive approach to dealing with the vulnerable sectors instead of creating that welfare attitude that most countries are taking. In her response, she expressed that

poor, vulnerable groups--yes of course--education and access is very important. But short-term needs are grave in this crisis, so safety nets are important in the equation.

- Karolin Troubetzkoy, President of the Saint Lucia Hospitality and Tourism Association – SLHTA, the final panelist to share, presented the impacts in the tourism sector and how to build nature-based solutions for the recovery of tourism in the Caribbean.

After the interventions of the panelists, participants were divided into three groups to discuss nature-based solutions for the COVID economic recovery. The groups and facilitators were:

- Group 1 - The role of Nature in the Tourism Sector Recovery with Kim Halbich (SVG Hotel and Tourism Association)
- Group 2 - Sustainable Food Systems for Food Sovereignty with Dr. Vasantha Chase (Saint Lucia National Conservation Fund)
- Group 3 - Nature-based public policy responses with Dr. Lorna Inniss (Coordinator, UN Environment Cartagena Convention Secretariat)



Figure 3- Nature's Role in the COVID-19 Recovery Pathway Snapshot

Break-Out Group Highlights:

- There is a need for a greater push for local and family enterprises...small farmers market in the hotel industry, and promoting digital nomads that bring financial resources to the countries that are interested in promoting nature-based and responsible tourism.
- It was mentioned that there is a need to create a special rate, especially for persons who have dual citizenship, as this will be another way to increase Diaspora visitors and to create a Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism and Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association. Additionally, Regional partners are encouraged to work to reactivate tourism in a nature-responsible way.
- Encourage the diversification of tourism products and explore the potential for volunteerism.
- NCTFs are encouraged to join together to fundraise for a food sovereignty program. The idea is to finance ongoing projects - low hanging fruits – that can be scaled-up and out within the region. For example, sea moss cultivation is developed in Saint Lucia, permaculture is developing in St. Vincent, and these solutions could be expanded to other islands.
- NCTFs are encouraged to finance food security as this is an urgency for the region after the collapse of the tourism sector due to the pandemic, but they need to find projects that are aligned with biodiversity conservation, the core of their missions.
- There is a greater need to invest in capacity building for community-based organizations. This must, and should, be a permanent effort of the NCTFs, as there is a need to increase the resources absorption capacity.

*Panel 3: Sustainably Financing Protected Areas Effective Management*

**Date: Wednesday, July 15th, 2020 – 10:00 – 12:45 EST**

**Session Attendees: 329 Attendees**

**Recording link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpCVKhYTOao&feature=youtu.be>**

**Platform: Zoom Webinar**

**Slide Links:**

*Nature's Role in the COVID-19 Recovery Pathway Sustainably Financing Protected Areas Effective Management*

**<https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Sustainably-Financing-Protected-Areas-Effective-Management-Part-1-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020.pdf>**

**For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)**

<https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Sustainably-Financing-Protected-Areas-Effective-Management-Part-2-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020.pdf>

*Update on NCTFs and Partnerships to date*

<https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/NCTFs-and-CBF-Collaboration-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020.pdf>

**Session Objectives:**

This panel is intended to promote a discussion about the relationship between effective management and sustainable financing of the Protected Areas and to share information about the status of the CBF Conservation Finance Program and the NCTFs.

**Moderator: Karen McDonald Gayle**, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund Conservation Finance Program Manager

**Panellists:**

**Opening: Dr. Robert Brumbaugh**, Executive Director Caribbean Division, The Nature Conservancy  
**Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughan**, Coordinator of BIOPAMA in the Caribbean, International Union for Conservation of Nature

**Camille David**, CATS Marine Expert, GIZ

**Brian O'Donnell**, Director, Campaign for Nature, Wyss Foundation

**Hon. Patricia Abreu Fernández**, Vice Minister for International Cooperation, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic

**Session Summary:**

This panel was opened by Karen McDonald Gayle, CBF Conservation Finance Program Manager, as the moderator who explained the format of the session and the objective: to promote a discussion about the relationship between effective management and sustainable financing of the Protected Areas and to share information about the status of the CBF Conservation Finance Program and the NCTFs.

Mrs. McDonald Gayle presented as the CBF Conservation Finance Program Manager and she explained that the main instrument under this Program is the CBF Endowment Fund which is valued at approximately USD 75m and is geared towards the CBF providing support to the National Conservation Trust Funds that are currently or will soon be receiving Endowment Funds through CBF Agreements. The CBF Endowment represents the long-term vision conservation initiatives require. It will ensure predictability and continuity

**For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)**



of resources for the national trust funds to plan strategically on how to maintain and improve the protection of nature in their countries.

In this sense, one of the major priority areas of support has been the development of Financial Mechanisms that can provide resources to be combined with the CBF funding and increase the conditions for conservation financing in each country. Since the previous CCI-CBF Week in Antigua last year, the CBF has approved a Matching Requirement Policy that was informed by that meeting, and the NCTFs and CBF have been working on a range of potential eligible finance mechanisms.

CBF also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Blue Finance in November last year to promote the creation of sustainable finance mechanisms for Marine Protected Areas in CBF countries. A pre-recorded video from Blue Finance was played, with an update on their efforts. As the video noted, sustainable finance for Protected Area management requires a mix of resources and this panel will talk a little more about that and also about what PA management is.

Karen invited Dr. Robert Brumbaugh, Executive Director, Caribbean Division, in The Nature Conservancy (TNC), to give a brief statement on how sustainable financing of Protected Areas supports effective management and the regional partnerships in place with this objective. Dr. Brumbaugh also invited Yabanex Batista, CEO of the CBF, to announce the new partnership with the Haitian Fund for Biodiversity.

#### *Panelist Interventions*

- Hyacinth Armstrong-Vaughn, Coordinator of BIOPAMA in the Caribbean, International Union for Conservation of Nature presented the status of effective management in the Caribbean with data collected by BIOPAMA and linked to the IUCN Green List.
- Camille David, CATS Marine Expert, GIZ, spoke about the development of Sustainable Finance Mechanisms in the Caribbean for achieving effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).
- Brian O'Donnell, Director Campaign for Nature, Wyss Foundation, highlighted the role of the private foundations in the support to Protected Areas effective management and presented the 30-by-30 Campaign and the support to the Caribbean.
- Hon. Patricia Abreu Fernández, Vice Minister of International Cooperation of the Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic, shared some lessons learned in

the Dominican Republic on the support to sustainable finance of PAs and the improvements in effective management.



Figure 4 - Sustainably Financing Protected Areas Effective Management Snapshot

### Questions & Answers

- The question was asked of Hyacinth, which the 15 countries are included BIOPAMA and how a country that is not already included could be added. She explained the project countries are Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, The Bahamas, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. These countries are members of the Organisation of Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States and therefore the only beneficiaries in our region that can benefit from BIOPAMA funding.
- A question for Brian was: what level of funding would be required to reach the 30% target by 2030. He responded that the total need would be around 140 billion annually. The world is currently spending 24.3 billion for currently established protected areas (a shortfall of 68 Billion over what is needed for effective management). Another participant commented that this is less than spent on video games and asked more about where and how this additional funding could be raised. Brian commented that some countries set targets of national GDP for specific public investment/spending and to see how this could be targeted towards both PA management and to mitigate damaging activity.

- Another question raised to all panelists was, if there are ideas for on-line capacity building training especially with the COVID 19 and limited funding to CaMPAM and other such organizations. Dr. Brumbaugh answered that one example of online capacity building is the Reef Resilience Network - while coral-focused, it has broader training on MPA management and other topics: <https://reefresilience.org/>
- A question to Blue Finance was centered on the tangible and diversified revenue model and the kind of blended finance that they have tried out in the Dominican Republic. Nicolas Pascal from Blue Finance answered through the chat that expected revenues for the sanctuary Arrecifes del SE are from tourism fees, innovative tourism products and blue carbon. Blended finance is from grants and impact investors to finance up-front capital (vessels, equipment, and visitor center) and working capital.
- One additional question through the interactive chat was: “the Western Indian Ocean countries have a program to train and certify MPA staff as “professionals” - with different levels that roughly equate to ranger, middle manager, senior staff etc. Is there any similar program in the Caribbean and if not, is there scope for establishing one?” If protected area staff were seen as professionals (people in health, education etc.) perhaps we could get more attention on capacity building and raise funds for this more easily? Hyacinth answered, that there is no program in the region that provides certified training to MPA staff and recognizes them as ‘professionals’. The CaMPAM Network facilitated over the last 20 years training to build MPA staff capacity and build and improve the networking and sharing of lessons learned and best practices.

The panel concluded and CBF Program Manager, Karen thanked the panelists.

*Update on NCTFs and Partnerships to date*



Figure 5- CBF Partner NCTFs

Eight (8) national conservation trust funds (NCTFs) that have been working with the CBF over the last 8 years were invited to share with the audience how they see their role in supporting effective management of Protected Areas in their countries.

Prior to their presentations, Karen shared how this partnership with the CBF progressing with each of the NCTFs, by presenting the table in Fig. 6.

NCTF	Country	Total received from CBF to date (thousands USD)	CBF Partnership Agreement status	Grants on the ground with CBF resources
BPAF	The Bahamas	150	Pending	Call for Hurricane Recovery Proposals
GSDTF	Grenada	232.4	Signed	Planned for late 2020/early 2021
MARENA	Dominican Republic	910	Signed	8
MEPA	Antigua & Barbuda	265.6	Signed	Pilot Project being developed
NCTFJ	Jamaica	233	Signed	Concept Notes from Call under review
SCNCF	Saint Kitts & Nevis	90	Pending	Agreement under negotiation
SLUNCF	Saint Lucia	505	Signed	6
SVGCF	St Vincent & the Grenadines	232.6	Signed	3

Figure 6-CBF Update on NCTF Disbursement and Status

Karen highlighted how glad she is to see the increasing number of funds actively granting CBF resources to projects. This is the final step of the structuring of the Architecture, after the funds achieve the CBF requirements, sign the partnership agreement and start receiving annual disbursements from the CBF endowment.

She also showed the dashboard, which is a diagram the CBF has been showing for the last 5 years, in all editions of the CCI-CBF Week, and it illustrates this progress she described. See Fig 7 for details.

NCTFs Status	Legally Established	Functional Board	Pre-Financing Agreement	By-laws	OM (Board Approved)	Staff Hiring	CBF Eligibility Request	Partnership Agreement Negotiations	First CBF Payment
MEPA Trust	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
BPAF	Complete	Complete	Not applicable	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress	Not initiated yet
Fondo MARENA	Complete	Complete	Not applicable	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
FHB	Complete	Complete	Not applicable	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress	Not initiated yet	Not initiated yet
GPAT	Complete	Complete	Not applicable	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress	Not initiated yet
GSDTF	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
NCTFJ	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
SCNCF	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress	Not initiated yet
SLUNCF	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
SVGCF	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete

■ Complete   
 ■ In progress   
 ■ Not initiated yet

Figure 7- CBF's NCTF Dashboard

### Trust Fund Interventions

- Karen Panton, Executive Director of the Bahamas Protected Area Fund (BPAF), highlighted that the challenges to protected areas management within the Bahamas are accelerating. As the world grapples with increasing shocks, there is pressure on funding. Inadequate budget space is the single, most significant challenge to management effectiveness within The Bahamas.

A 2017 study commissioned by The Nature Conservancy set the annual cost to effectively manage the Bahamas National Protected Area System at \$70M in 2018 compared to \$10.58M in anticipated funding.

BPAF is the funding mechanism established for the Protected Area (PA) System. However, for PA Managers to fully implement their management plans and realize successful outcomes, there must be a strong and concerted need to booster funding. One pressing issue that BPAF has recently addressed, is the inequity in the allocation of funding to The Bahamas, despite our contributions to people and livelihoods across the region. Management effectiveness is also impacted by a lack of capacity – at various levels and degree as seen in insufficient and/or inadequately trained human

resources and infrastructure. Inadequate systems and processes and the lack of technological capacity and scientific data.

A third challenge identified is the need for improved stakeholder engagement. Environmentalists must find that balance between conservation and livelihoods. One environmentalist put it succinctly when she said that “starving people don’t care about PA laws”. Through stakeholder engagement, conservationists and local communities can co-develop the strategies that best support sustainable livelihoods and long-term protection. We must also work more strategically with the private sector, presenting our work as social investments essential to their business continuity.

The fourth challenge lies with the perception, that protected areas have been set aside for the benefit of special interests. Environmentalists are also often seen as “strange” or “funky”. This presents a challenge when these persons and sometimes communities, directly oppose protected areas management. Education and outreach must be delivered that can help to change these entrenched mindsets. This messaging should include the noble stories of environmentalists, politicians, academics and community-minded individuals who have sacrificed and made personal financial contributions to the protection of our countries.

Political will is a fifth challenge, throughout the Caribbean, especially as it relates to innovative financing. And finally, the impacts of climate change including rising and heating seas, ocean acidification, flooding, unusual storms, new or rapidly spreading diseases - like the discovery of the aggressive Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease in The Bahamas following Hurricane Dorian.

Management effectiveness is a key grant funding priority for BPAF. In fact, three of our four funding priorities and 13 of our 17 priority funding activities through 2022, specifically target improved management effectiveness and enforcement, promote compliance, address threats to ecosystem health and foster more inclusive governance of protected areas. These activities, which are meant to strengthen the PA system, include:

- Development of research or monitoring program.
- Improvements in infrastructure – including a data management platform.
- Skills training for protected area managers and
- Development of sustainable finance plans or business plans for protected areas.
- Improvements in climate resilience of protected areas.

- Craig Henry, Program Officer of the St. Lucia National Conservation Fund (SLUNCF), presented the Mission of the SLUNCF: to secure and provide sustainable financing to support conservation, restoration and effective management of Saint Lucia's biodiversity and natural resources.

The SLUNCF fulfils this mission through its two core work program areas:

- Grantmaking – providing funding to local agencies public, private, NGOs, CBOs and CSOs for initiatives that seek to promote the conservation, protection and sustainable use of our biodiversity and natural resources
- Sustainable Finance – seeking to build the finance portfolio of the organization in order to maintain not only its grantmaking program but also importantly, to provide institutional support to grantees and other actors within the conservation landscape to build national capacity in support of the broad goal of biodiversity and natural resource conservation and sustainability.

Management of PAs involves a wide range of actors with diverse interests, skills and resources that somehow have to be organized in a manner that supports the specified aim of the PA. To the extent that PAs management exists formally as in a codified document, or based on a shared agreement or aspiration, management actions often do fall short of the desired goal or expectations as a result of many factors including limited funding, manpower and technological constraints; lack of responsiveness to crises or challenges that can overwhelm a management regime, and external pressures.

While the SLUNCF cannot define to PA managers what effective management is, it is certainly ready, willing and able to engage with PA managers and partners in determining and achieving management objectives and activities that have the support of the community and guided by research and best practice. Some of these may include supporting public awareness programs, staff training, sustainable livelihood exploration and promotion.

Sustainable finance is a major area of focus for PA management and PA management intervention programs. This confers with the sentiments of Camile David that CATZ Access to stable and long-term financial resources is key to effective protected areas systems management. The SLUNCF, through their core work program areas that they are part of, this national sustainable finance architecture supports Saint Lucia's biodiversity and natural resources conservation goal. By its nature, it provides a different form of funding, besides from traditional sources of funding, owing to its flexibility and responsiveness to the national context and needs. More importantly, it provides



an opportunity to build a store of funds contributing to the pool of resources available for financing PA management activities.

In addition, the SLUNCF has made it a policy to ensure that interventions (funding and other support) advance conservation-oriented national priorities, which include PA management outcomes, in so doing strengthening the national effort to secure biodiversity and natural resource sustainability goals.

A major priority set by the SLUNCF is the support of the institutional strengthening of groups so that they can function more effectively. Research, and their own experiences, have provided a learning opportunity: the internal dynamics of an entity have a major influence on the success of its stated goals – (short- to medium – to long-term). A major target is Community-based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) who operate at the grassroots level and have close linkages to natural resources. The goal is not only to support livelihoods but deliberately and strategically invest in the groups themselves so that they can see the benefit of aligning their objectives and activities. An example of this is with conservation management which aims to protect mangrove or marine reserves.

- Tricia Greaux King from the St. Christopher and Nevis National Conservation Fund (SCNCF), indicated that, as a new and emerging entity, the SCNCF would need to “stand on the shoulders of giants”, therefore, the structures that are existing are critical to the work being done which would encompass sustainable financing options and to lend support to the effective management of St. Kitts and Nevis PAs and MMAs. Areas of interest for implementation are the Central Forest Reserve and Royal Basseterre Valley National Park, St. Kitts; the St. Kitts and Nevis Marine Management Area; and the Nevis Peak and Camps River Watershed.

She also highlighted that best practices that are relevant within their local context include success stories and shared knowledge from other NCTFs, Pacific and African Small Island and Developing States. Additionally, introspecting effective ideas from inter-sectorial initiatives that were successful examples indicated by the St. Kitts Sustainable Destination Council is another opportunity for institutional strengthening.

The Fund, through the lens of science, has initiated planning processes that are rooted in scientifically based policies for action and implementation. Its shared vision is to support co-management options, capacity development and financing.

- Sasha Middleton, representing the Marine Ecosystem Protected Area (MEPA) Trust, shared that through the CBF's support, a Sustainable Finance Specialist was hired, in 2017 to aid countries and relevant stakeholders with identifying the costs needed to effectively manage protected areas, which proved to be very helpful. This document aided in fundraising efforts as donors would also have an idea of the funds needed to effectively manage PAs in Antigua and Barbuda.

The MEPA Trust is a grant-making entity and it is responsible for fundraising and supporting PA management. It is embedded within MEPA's institutional documents such as the grant-making manual that priority will be given to projects within a PA.

Further to this, Category 5 Hurricane Irma devastated the sister island Barbuda in 2017 and not only damaging at least 95 per cent of the structures on the island but also the MPA called the Codrington Lagoon, also most of the mangroves were destroyed. Through funds given to the MEPA Trust from Team Atlantic Rowers and UNDP, the Waitt Institute and the MEPA Trust collaborated to replant the mangroves within the MPA. The MEPA Trust has aided in supporting a co-management agreement with the government and another Community NGO such as Wallings Nature Reserve to manage a protected area in Antigua. Thus far, it has been successful due to the dedication of the community and its partners.

Unfortunately, the Nature Reserve was in a deplorable state and is under the management of the Government. Due to lack of resources amongst, other challenges the reserve was not restored. However, the community people took ownership and volunteered to restore the Nature Reserve through labour, raised funds and donations to support the restoration efforts of the reserve.

One challenge faced to effectively manage the PAs in Antigua and Barbuda is limited or lack of funding. Many PAs have management plans, legislations, policies and or implementation plans in place, but no funds to execute what is in the plans. The plans, therefore, become outdated and paper parked. A sustainable flow of funds is needed to absorb the recurrent costs, hiring, training and retaining staff, monitoring, education and awareness costs and more to enhance the chances of PAs to be effectively managed. Fundraising is a challenge not only as a result of COVID 19 but also because Antigua and Barbuda is a high-income country according to the World Bank in 2017. As a result, Antigua and Barbuda often times would not qualify for grants as most grants will be given to middle to low-income countries. Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda must settle for concessional loans to address its development needs. It also does not help that Antigua and Barbuda is generally susceptible to natural disasters yearly, and thus, that too becomes a challenge in effectively managing the PAs as it takes additional resources to rebuild what was lost.

There is a saying is that it takes a village to raise a child and the same principle applies for conservation efforts. The MEPA Trust tag line logo is biodiversity is everyone’s business and although the PAs are being managed by the government; the people, the community and other entities have a responsibility to aid in education and awareness, fundraising and more to support the PAs as this impacts everyone’s well-being and livelihoods. It is through the inclusion of people, education and awareness, partnerships and synergies being built that PAs will also be effectively managed.

See below for Fig 8, with a screenshot of the eight NCTFs representatives and CBF CEO and Conservation Finance Program:

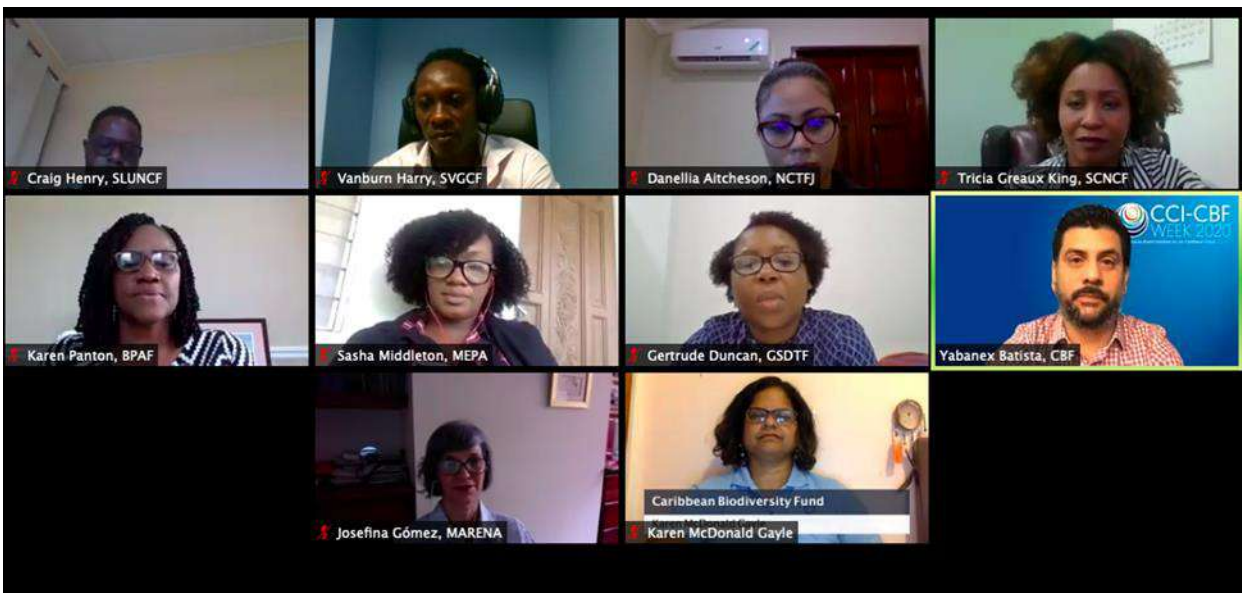


Figure 8 - NCTFs representatives and CBF CEO and Conservation Finance Program

*Panel 4: Scaling-up Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Caribbean*

**Date:** Thursday, July 16th, 2020 – 10:00 – 12:00 EST

**Session Attendees:** 329 Attendees

**Recording link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVOMFj0HeDg&feature=youtu.be>

**Platform:** Zoom Webinar

**Slide Link:**

*Scaling-up Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Caribbean:*

[https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Scaling-up-Ecosystem-based-Adaptation-in-the-Caribbean-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020\\_compressed.pdf](https://ccicbfweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Scaling-up-Ecosystem-based-Adaptation-in-the-Caribbean-CCI-CBF-WEEK-2020_compressed.pdf)

**Session Objectives:**

This panel is intended to promote a discussion about the strategies and tools to scale-up Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) efforts in the region and provide examples.

**Moderator:** Ali Raza Rizvi, EbA Program Manager, International Union for Conservation of Nature

**Panellists:**

**Opening:** H.E. Ambassador Ute König, German Embassy Trinidad and Tobago

**Dr. Joth Singh**, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund EbA Facility Program Manager

**Jake Kheel**, Vice President, Grupo Puntacana Foundation

**Maria Pena**, Project Officer, The University of the West Indies

**Mr John Smith Abbott**, Deputy Secretary Ministry of Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration of the British Virgin Islands

The panel was opened by Ambassador Ute König. She highlighted that the week's discussions could not conclude without addressing a key topic - *climate change* - which can have serious implications on all efforts geared towards effectively conserving and sustaining use our natural resources.

The Caribbean's natural capital and people are under growing threats from the effects of climate change and unsustainable development. Unregulated land clearing, pollution, overfishing, among others causes and increasing frequency and severity of hurricanes and storms, sea-level rise, rising sea and air temperatures, ocean acidification, are having serious impacts on the Caribbean SIDS.

A key approach to address these threats is to implement Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) actions. EbA, as a part of a broader climate change adaptation strategy, has proven to provide resilient and cost-effective

**For more information:** [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)

means of alleviating climate change impacts by integrating the sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services with human well-being and sustainable livelihoods.

In this context, with support from the German International Climate Initiative within the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and through the German Development Bank - KfW, the CBF has established the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Facility, a US\$50 million sinking fund to support EbA projects in targeted countries, including: Antigua & Barbuda, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent & the Grenadines.

To date, the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Facility has already committed about US\$12 million in its first call for proposals in 2019, with 11 projects that have actions in 10 Caribbean countries. The Facility is currently conducting its second call for proposals, having received 79 project concept notes, which are currently under evaluation.

In addition, through the recent contribution to the CBF Endowment from the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through KfW, they are supporting along with CBF resources Hurricane Dorian recovery efforts in The Bahamas. Ambassador König introduced the Bahamas Protected Area Fund (BPAF) who made a brief announcement related to these efforts.

Ali Raza, as moderator, opened the panel by stating that the panel was intended to promote a discussion about the strategies and tools to scale-up Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) efforts in the region.

*He indicated that in today's world, we've reached a point where working with nature is not just important but a matter of survival. Wildfires, COVID, heatwaves in Siberia and Alaska, looming season of new cyclones – all call for action on an emergency basis. It's no longer a matter of conservation or sustainable development for future generations. It's a matter of now or never for the current generation as well. It's critical that actions are taken holistically and not in silos. We must approach this with a BIG Picture programmatic strategy.*

Ecosystem-based Adaptation links people and nature to respond effectively to the challenges of climate change in an integrated manner. Working through EbA approaches, human-climate resilience is enhanced, and socio-economic aspects are strengthened while respecting the integrity of local ecosystems and biodiversity. EbA recognizes the importance of equity, gender, and the role and importance of local and traditional knowledge.

This is why EbA is the embodiment of sustainable development in the context of climate change as it targets all pillars of sustainable development: social, economic, and ecological. Predating to 2008, at the UNFCCC Poznan COP, that was when the term EbA was coined by IUCN and its Members, and in 2009 it was officially defined by the CBD as the use of biodiversity and ecosystems to respond to climate change. It is crucial to note here that under Nature-based Solutions - NbS, which was defined in 2016 at the Hawaii WCC, EbA is an operational component of the umbrella term NbS. So EbA is part and parcel of NbS operationalization and as such is the nature-based solution for climate adaptation.

Ali mentioned that the Government of Germany has championed EbA through its International Climate Initiative – IKI since 2010 and till now has invested around 250 million euros on EbA specific projects. The first major EbA project, Mt EbA was funded by IKI and implemented by UNEP, UNDP and IUCN in Nepal, Peru, and Uganda. Since then, various organizations have done tremendous work to showcase the effectiveness of this holistic approach to tackle climate change, including the IUCN which has been working with members in Honduras; improving the livelihoods of 27,000 farmers and rural leaders living in the dry corridor through the adoption of climate-smart and disaster risk reduction practices. 44% of the beneficiaries are women. In Guatemala, working on cocoa value chain, from production to commercialization resulted in increased cocoa yields from 180 kg/ha to 500 kg/ha.

The key to success for EbA is to design and implement initiatives as per the defined components of EbA. That is, all elements pertaining to social, economic, and ecological aspects are targeted concurrently to enhance resilience and reduce climate risks. If the implementation process fails to target all three components, not only is the investment not maximized but it could also lead to maladaptation and negatively impact the local environment or economies in the long run.

That is the very reason, FEBA – a global network of EbA partners – developed the EbA Qualification and Quality Standards together with GIZ, IIED, and other partners. And together with IIED, WCMC, and IUCN also developed a methodology to appraise the effectiveness of EbA. Recently through the platform of FEBA, GIZ, WCMC, CI worked on M&E guidelines for EbA. An EbA Navigator comprising over 250 tools and methodologies is also available.

At the policy level, this is good uptake of EbA as at least 77% of NDCs contain at least one quantitative target pertaining to climate adaptation through ecosystems. Similarly, various policy processes at the UNFCCC, CBD, CCD, all emphasize the use of ecosystem-based approaches for climate adaptation. The challenge is to scale up field projects and today we will have a panel discussion on how initiatives in the Caribbean regions are responding to this challenge.



Fig 9

### *Panelist Interventions*

- During the panel, Joth Singh, CBF EbA Facility Program Manager, talked about the financing strategies to scale-up and scale-out EbA in the Caribbean, looking for economies of scale opportunities and replication, and shared the experience of the CBF EbA Facility.
- Jake Kheel, Vice President, Grupo Puntacana Foundation, focused on the relation of the private sector with EbA initiatives and shared the example of Fundacion Grupo Puntacana experience in the Dominican Republic on how to plan a project for scaling-up.
- Joseph Smith Abbott, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration of the British Virgin Islands, approached the public policies perspectives that support a deliberate scaling strategy and the vision of BVI government on EbA.
- Maria Pena, Project Officer, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), talked about the required social engagement, ownership over the projects and skills to incorporate innovations in the projects that allow for scaling-up. During her intervention a participant shared the link on OECS gender equality toolkit for EbA: <https://www.oecs.org/en/our-work/knowledge/library/climate-change/ecosystem-based-adaptation-gender-equality-toolkit>. Another participant provided this example in Guadeloupe: <https://www.cayoli.fr/action/culture-en-pepiniere>.

- Ali closed the panel by saying that: COVID has further complicated the challenges of responding effectively towards biodiversity collapse and climate crises. It's crucial that we take an integrated approach towards these challenges where social, economic, and ecological aspects must be handled simultaneously. We need to inform government policies and legislation with concrete on-ground evidence for scaling up. Therefore, we need to demonstrate the effectiveness and Return on Investment of EbA interventions. Only through these measures, will governments be encouraged to make large scale public investment. Interdisciplinary research and breaking the silos will help us in maximizing our efforts. We all chose to be in this sector to make a difference and in order to make a meaningful change, we must be willing and able to reflect and change the course of action where necessary.

### *CCI-CBF Closing session*

**Date:** Thursday, July 16th, 2020 – 12:00 – 12:30 EST

**Session Attendees:** 289 Attendees

**Recording link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpCVKhYTOao&feature=youtu.be>

**Platform:** Zoom Webinar

**Session Objectives:**

Final remarks and a summary of the week's events.

**Was the Session Translated? Yes**

**Moderator:** James Ellsmoor, Island Innovation Founder

**Panellists:**

**H.E. Ambassador Ute König**, German Embassy Trinidad and Tobago, Caribbean Challenge Initiative Co-Chair

**John Calixte**, Caribbean Challenge Coordinator

**Eleanor Phillips**, Board Vice-chair, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund

**Yabanex Batista**, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund CEO

**Karen Panton**, the Bahamas Protected Area Fund Executive Director

**Safiya Sawney**, Caribbean Policy Lead for Ocean Unite

Special Message: **Sir Richard Branson**, Founder of the Virgin Group

**Session Summary:**

The closing session commenced with a speech by Karen Panton, Executive Director of the Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF). Karen's highlights included:

**For more information:** [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)



- The CCI-CBF Week 2020 received almost a thousand registrations, which was evidence of the event’s relevance to the broad audience for the Caribbean conservation agenda. Although the event was initially scheduled to take place in The Bahamas, going virtual has several positives, including a much-expanded database.
- Representing the consortium of National Conservation Trust Funds of the Caribbean, which is the group of 8 trust funds already working with the CBF, there was mention of the COVID situation in the Caribbean and how it brought them closer to discuss and build ideas to implement together, increasing their impact at the regional level and learning from each other. She indicated that together the NCTFs decided that they “want to build together [their] vision of the blue economy that [they] want for [their] region and work together to implement it with consistent funding for strategic actions”. The NCTFs and the CBF are certain that, as important as financial resources are the connections they can create, pooling together all types of resources to help our countries in the next decade.
- Blue economy, nature-based solutions, effective management, responsible tourism and ecosystem-based adaptation: these different strategies form the basis of the work cut out for NCTFs whose common job as funding agents, is to mobilize and direct resources to materialize these solutions in the Caribbean.



Figure 9- Closing Session Remarks highlighting Richard Branson

Safiya Sawney, Caribbean Policy Lead for Ocean Unite presented a pre-recorded video from Sir Richard Branson, founder of the Virgin Group, and one of the original supporters of the CCI process. After Sir Richard Branson's message, Eleanor Phillips, Vice-chair of the CBF, highlighted that:

- The week has marked an important milestone for the CCI, the CBF, for the Caribbean Program of The Nature Conservancy, and for all, dedicated to conservation in the region. 2020 a key milestone has, we take stock of the extremely important results in Caribbean Conservation.
- Eleven governments voluntarily took on the 20-by-20 Goal, with 5 of them having achieved or surpassed the 20% declaration target. The Dominican Republic with approximately 75 per cent of its near-shore marine area under protection, followed by Saint Christopher and Nevis with 50 per cent, the U.S. Virgin Islands with 44 per cent, Puerto Rico with 27 per cent, and Haiti with 23 per cent. CCI countries have now under protection or management 47,232 square kilometers of their nearshore environment, 61% of the way towards the 20-by-20 goal
- The Caribbean Sustainable Finance Architecture, which comprises the family of conservation trust funds and which is also at the center of the CCI Sustainable Finance Goal, has evolved to increasingly support the countries to achieve their targets. To date, 6 national conservation trust funds have signed Partnership Agreements with the CBF, and 4 more Partnership Agreements are expected to be signed very soon. With these 10 agreements, the CBF will be disbursing to partner national conservation funds about US\$2.5 million on a yearly basis in the next 2 to 3 years, fulfilling its role as a regional umbrella fund.
- It is also expected that there will be positive results from the projects being funded by the CBF Ecosystem-based Adaptation Facility. In the next few years, US\$50 million will be allocated to ecosystem-based adaptation, strengthening the resilience of our communities, our ecosystems and our economies. We will now strive to make the EbA Facility a permanent financial mechanism for the Caribbean.
- There is a long way to go and the financial needs to tackle biodiversity loss and climate change effects in the Caribbean are far from being covered, thus scaling-up resources mobilization by CBF and the NCTFs will be crucial. The national funds, the CBF and a growing number of partners are already working together to establish financial mechanisms that will increase the number of resources so we can close this financial gap.

- There is no doubt that the CCI, its goals, the regional financial architecture and the partnerships forged among governments, international cooperation agencies, NGOs and the private sector have revolutionized the marine conservation finance landscape in our region.

Ambassador Ute König asked John Calixte, CCI Coordinator, to provide a summary of the sessions. John highlighted that:

- The week's discussion on the new global biodiversity framework and the panelists showed that if the action targets are followed for the next decade, we can reach 2030, start to recover and reach 2050 with consolidated ecosystems restoration processes in place.
- It is concluded that a much higher level of investments from all sectors – both public and private – is needed.
- Besides financial resources, leadership is essential. While individual leadership at every level is key, countries need ambitious, science-driven action and collaboration platforms, such as the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, to push for global concerted action.
- The discussions highlighted that in the Caribbean, nature needs to be at the center of the COVID economic recovery, not only because the most important sectors depend on natural resources, but also to build the islands' resilience needed to withstand the effects of climate change.
- Innovative ideas and actions to support the economic recovery of our region were also on display. To promote responsible tourism within the region, supporting each other's economies; to support conservation projects that build food security at the community level; to advocate for public policies that encourage all sectors to incorporate the green and blue economies; these were some of the solutions discussed and that will be the focus of several of the actors that joined this week of meetings.
- Caribbean Small Island Developing States are perfect for becoming models of best practices. They can be Petri dishes to develop and test innovative approaches and show results that can guide others.
- Coastal, marine and terrestrial protected areas and their effective management are essential for the future of the Caribbean region. The balance between protecting ecosystems and improving

living conditions and the wellbeing of the Caribbean people is a key element in the protected areas agenda.

- The work of the conservation trust funds is central to achieve conservation targets and supporting a nature-based economic recovery. Bringing all sectors within their governance structures and with the potential to attract international cooperation support, the trust funds need to keep moving fast to scale-up their resources base and the impact they can make in Caribbean ecosystems.
- Ecosystem-based adaptation in the Caribbean is key for the next decade. It is fundamental that EbA projects can be scaled-up to build the climate-resilient communities, ecosystems and economies we need. There is a need to protect, to sustainably use and to restore our ecosystems in a way they keep on providing the key ecosystem services, including food to our people. Our mangroves, our coral reefs, our biodiversity are our assets in the fight against climate change.

Ambassador Ute König thanked the organizers and supporters of this week of meetings:

- The Secretariats of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) and the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF);
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC);
- the Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF);
- Ocean Unite;
- Island Innovation;
- Metzler-Payden;
- The German Federal Ministries of Economic Cooperation and Development and Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; and the German Development Bank KfW.

She also thanked the team that has worked hard in the last months to put this week of meetings together:

- Yabanex Batista, Asha-Gaye Cowell, Karen McDonald Gayle and Camila Monteiro from the CBF
- John Calixte and Karolin Troubetzkoy from the CCI
- Eleanor Phillips and Shenique Albury from TNC
- Karen Panton, from BPAF
- James Ellsmoor, Taylor Mills, Alexandra Lemus from Island Innovation
- Safiya Sawney from Ocean Unite
- The interpreters from RIV Eventos that translated the sessions

The Ambassador congratulated all the countries for their incredible conservation efforts highlighted this week. Collectively, CCI countries have now under protection or management 47,232 square kilometers of their near-shore environment. The Caribbean has shown its leadership and this is an amazing starting point to also lead in accomplishing the 2030 targets.

She declared she was also happy to finish this week with a clear view on how the Caribbean Sustainable Finance Architecture is becoming more and more relevant to support the region's countries to achieve the future international targets. The governments, the conservation trust funds, the NGOs, the international cooperation community, we all have a role to play in the economic recovery of the Caribbean region and nature needs to be a central piece in this process.

The situation is not easy. The threats continue to exist and now aggravated by the COVID pandemic and its consequences. More than ever we need to be creative and collaborative to adopt holistic approaches that help us address all the global crisis at the same time – the biodiversity collapse, climate change, the Economic and health crisis. She mentioned the World Economic Forum report “New Nature Economy Report”<sup>1</sup> and stated that nature-based solutions are a key pathway for the Caribbean. Nature is the key force that can help the planet recover.

She declared the closing of the 5th CCI-CBF Week.

End of the event.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.weforum.org/reports/new-nature-economy-report-ii-the-future-of-nature-and-business>

## Interactive Sessions

### *Networking Events*

To compensate for the lack of a coffee break chit chat, the CCI-CBF Week Organizing Team structured two separate side events on [Remo](#).

Remo allowed for remote networking in a very easy to use interactive platform. By design, Remo has preset small meeting rooms, which allowed for more intimate, one-on-one, one-on-few round table talks. Participants were able to hop from table to table and engage each other, as they normally would in a physical meeting space.

Participants were encouraged to, guided by the respective themes per table, discuss opportunities for the Caribbean to work together, as well as answer the questions: (i) how well are we working together now? (ii) what can we do to improve? (iii) who are the key stakeholders?

### Open Networking Session 1

**Date: Monday, July 13th, 2020 – 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST**

**Session Attendees: 72**

**Platform: Remo**

### **Session Summary:**

This session was less structured as tables were labelled according to different themes, and persons were given the opportunities to meet partners and explore collaboration opportunities with other CCI-CBF Week participants.

Using a small sample of 16 persons, participants were asked to provide feedback on their experience during this session. 75% of participants agreed that the event was to be scored 7 or higher on a scale of 1-10.

Monday Networking: Open Networking Session 1  
16 responses

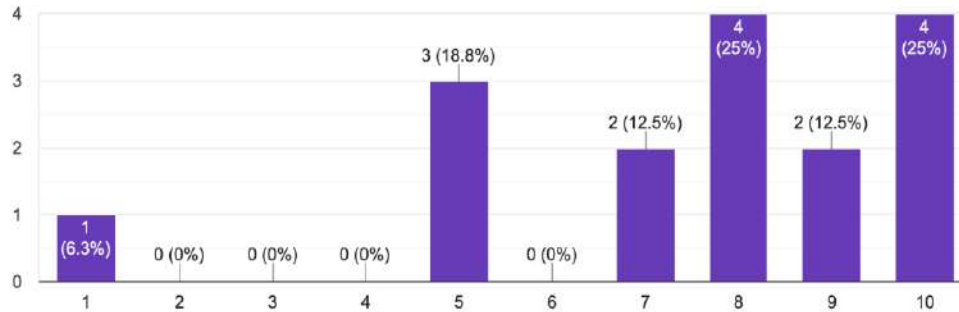


Figure 10- Open Network Session Feedback

**Open Networking Session – Meet the National Conservation Trust Funds**

**Date: Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 – 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST**

**Session Attendees: 72**

**Platform: Remo**

**Session Summary:**

The second networking session vacillated small group interactions with the CBF NCTFs. Each “table” in Remo was assigned to an NCTF and participants were able to hop from table to table and learn more about the work of each country NCTF.

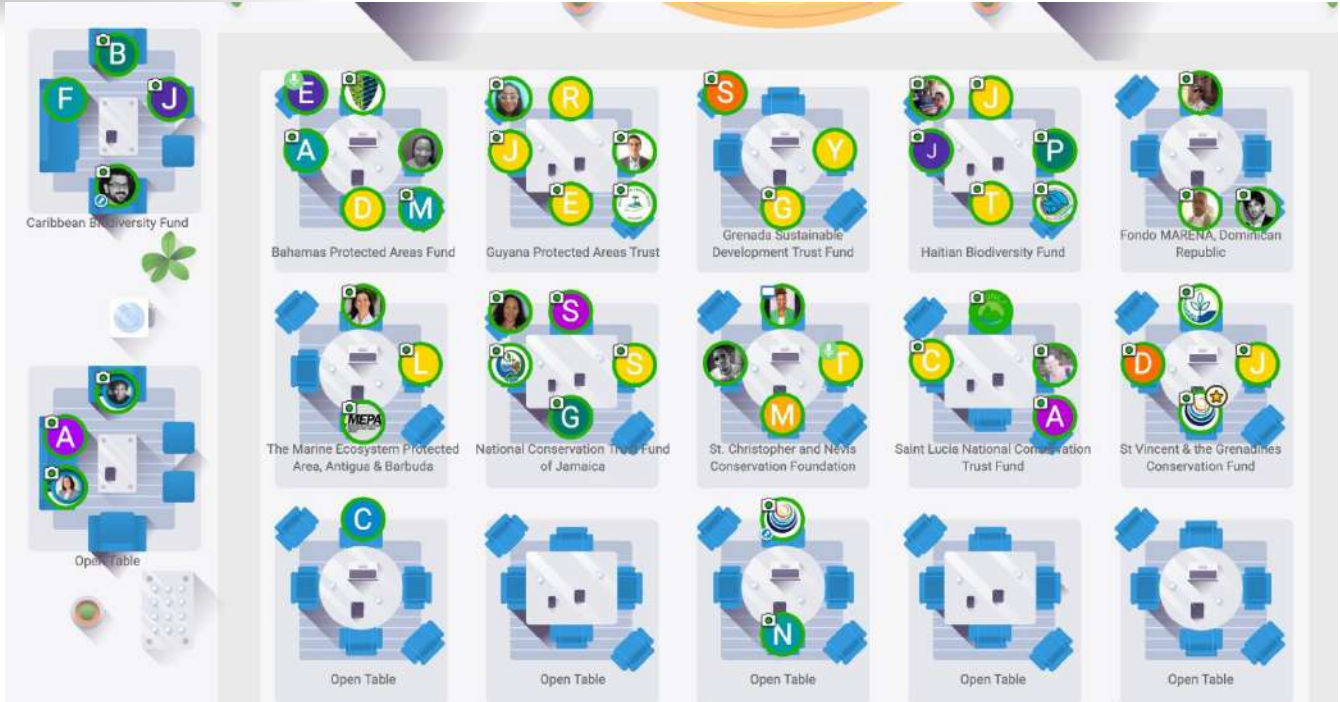


Figure 11- Snapshot of Remo NCTF Meet & Greet

Consulting with a sample of 18 participants, the feedback provided was overwhelmingly positive with 78% of the respondents rating their experience with a value 8 or higher.

Tuesday Networking: Open Networking Session 2 – Meet the National Conservation Trust Funds  
18 responses

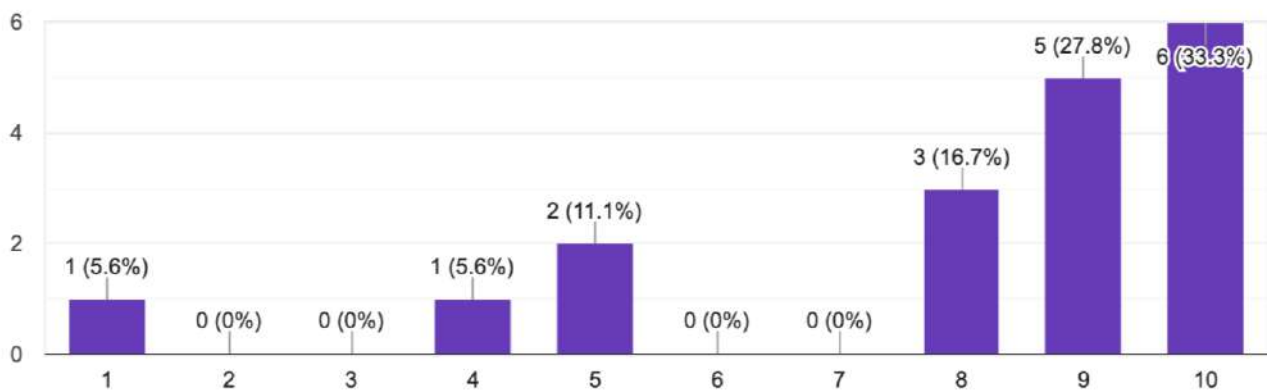


Figure 12- Participant Feedback on NCTF Meet & Greet Network Session



### Field Trip

Live “Field Trip” with the Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation

**Date: Wednesday, July 15th, 2020 – 2:00 – 4:00 PM EST**

**Session Attendees: ~120**

**Recording link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caZRGiwt2oY>**

**Platform: Zoom Meeting**

### Session Summary:

The CCI-CBF Week Organizing Team had all plans to host a field trip in the physical meetings scheduled for the Bahamas with the [Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation \(BREEF\)](#).

BREEF is a non-governmental nonprofit Bahamian foundation concerned with educating our people about the value of and need for conserving our marine environment. To support their work, visit: <https://breef.org/index.php/donate/>

Moving to the virtual realm, this was still an element of the CCI-CBF Week that the team wanted to include, hence they went virtual with the field trip also! Arguably, this was the highlight of the CCI-CBF Week. The review and feedback were all positive. The Team at BREEF did an amazing job.



Figure 13- CCI-CBF Week 2020 Virtual Field Trip Snapshot



Figure 14- Snapshot of some participants in the Virtual Field Trip

Using a sample to evaluate the event, please see below for participants' feedback. All 22 persons rated the event a 7 or more, with only one person giving the event a 7 while 17 persons gave it a full 10/10.

Wednesday Afternoon: Live "Field Trip" with the Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation  
22 responses

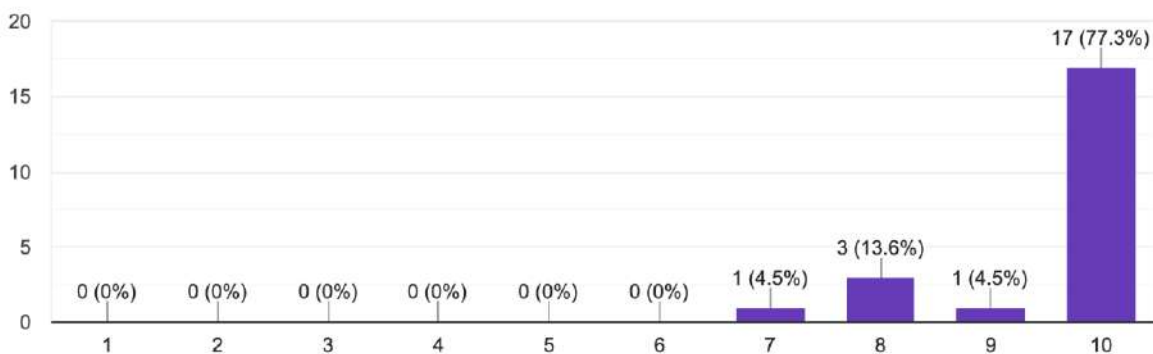


Figure 15- Participants' Feedback on Field Trip



## Logistics & Technical Highlights



**Attendees**  
941 sign ups  
1,066 attendees



**13-16 July**  
4 days  
9 sessions  
3 languages



**Recordings**  
Video  
Audio  
Chat

Figure 16- Logistics and Technical Report

The 2020 CCI-CBF Week logged a record high in attendance, by virtue of its virtual nature. The week of events, which spanned 4 days, included a field trip, 2 networking sessions and a total of webinars and meetings. These events were accessible in three different languages: English, French & Spanish. The translation services were provided by [Riv Eventos](#), based in the Dominican Republic.

## Social Media Engagement

By going virtual, there was a greater need to engage with our audience, as a result, there was the employment of a media strategy which entailed social media engagement. The proceeding section provides a synopsis of the traction gained from utilizing this strategy.

### Twitter

All event feedback, photos, and info can be found at [#CCICBFWeek](https://twitter.com/CCICBFWeek) on Twitter.



Figure 17 - Twitter Snapshot



**OceanUnite** @oceanunite · 17 jul.

#CCICBFWeek 2020 was great! A perfect blend of learning and making connections. We can't believe it's come to a close already. Visit @caribbiofund's website to learn more about #NatureBased solutions for our #Caribbean future: [bit.ly/32thx1D](https://bit.ly/32thx1D) Artwork by @ReillyPinkfish.



1 3 8



**ITACA SOLUTIONS** @ItacaSolutions · 16 jul.

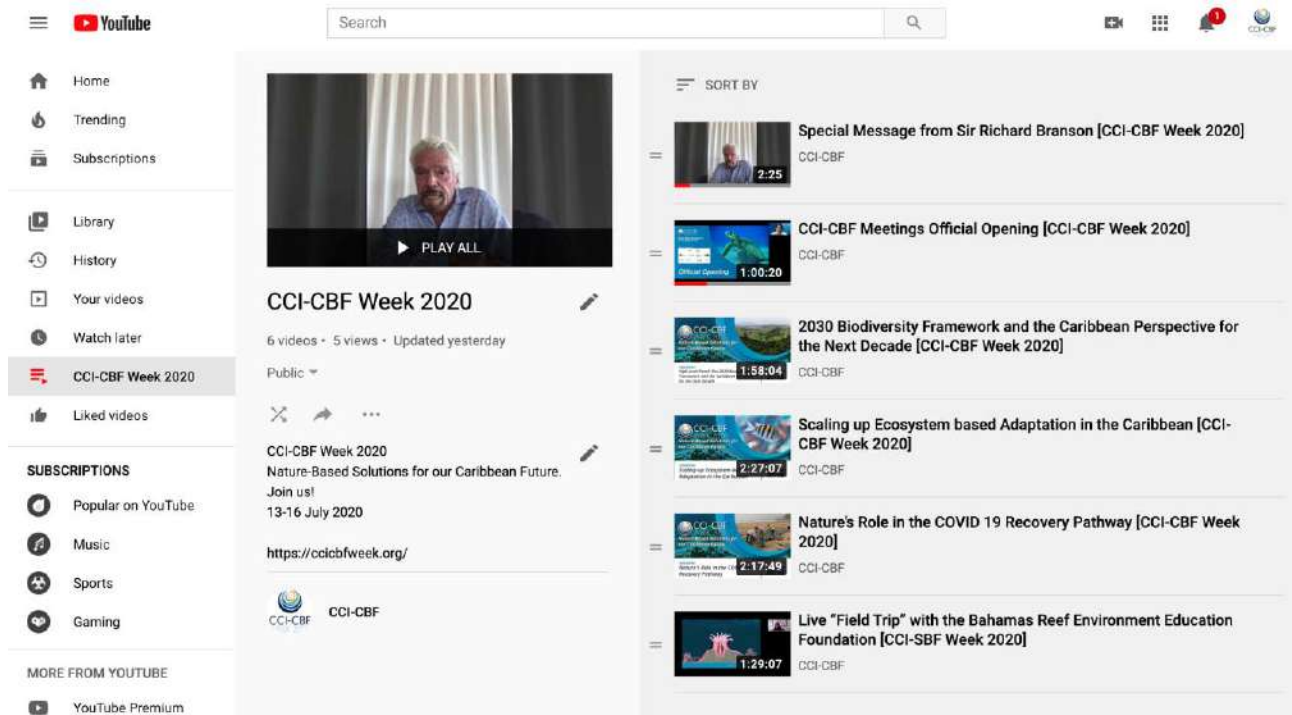
#CCICBFWEEK has been instrumental in helping us understand that #nature needs to be at the centre of #Covid\_19 recovery in the #Caribbean, but much higher levels of investment in #NBS are needed together with strong #leadership and good #governance. Well done to organisers!

3 8

Figure 18- Twitter Snapshot\_2

## YouTube

All recordings can be found when you search the playlist "[CCI-CBF Week 2020](#)".

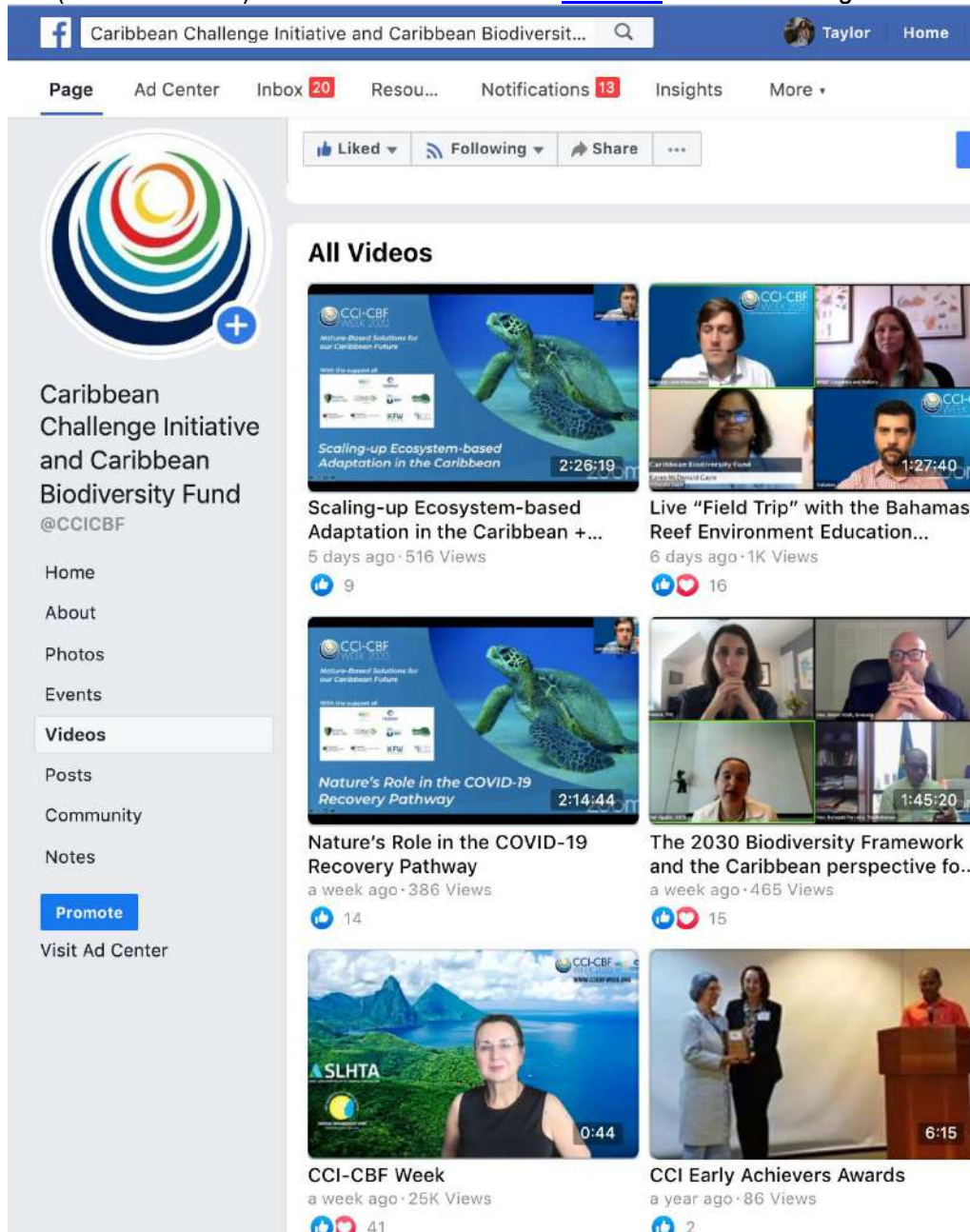


The screenshot shows a YouTube interface with a search bar at the top. On the left is a navigation menu with options like Home, Trending, Subscriptions, Library, History, Your videos, Watch later, CCI-CBF Week 2020 (selected), and Liked videos. Below the menu are sections for Subscriptions and More from YouTube. The main content area features a video player for a 'PLAY ALL' video, followed by the playlist title 'CCI-CBF Week 2020' with 6 videos and 5 views. Below the title is a description: 'CCI-CBF Week 2020 Nature-Based Solutions for our Caribbean Future. Join us! 13-16 July 2020 https://ccicbfweek.org/'. To the right of the video player is a 'SORT BY' dropdown and a list of six video thumbnails with their titles and durations. The video titles are: 'Special Message from Sir Richard Branson [CCI-CBF Week 2020]', 'CCI-CBF Meetings Official Opening [CCI-CBF Week 2020]', '2030 Biodiversity Framework and the Caribbean Perspective for the Next Decade [CCI-CBF Week 2020]', 'Scaling up Ecosystem based Adaptation in the Caribbean [CCI-CBF Week 2020]', 'Nature's Role in the COVID 19 Recovery Pathway [CCI-CBF Week 2020]', and 'Live "Field Trip" with the Bahamas Reef Environment Education Foundation [CCI-SBF Week 2020]'.

Figure 19 - YouTube Repository Snapshot

Facebook

All live streams (500-25K views) can be accessed on the “[CCICBF](#)” Facebook Page.



The screenshot shows the Facebook profile for the Caribbean Challenge Initiative and Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (@CCICBF). The page features a navigation menu on the left with options like Home, About, Photos, Events, Videos, Posts, Community, Notes, Promote, and Visit Ad Center. The main content area is titled "All Videos" and displays a grid of six video posts:

- Scaling-up Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Caribbean +...**: 5 days ago · 516 Views, 9 likes.
- Live "Field Trip" with the Bahamas Reef Environment Education...**: 6 days ago · 1K Views, 16 likes.
- Nature's Role in the COVID-19 Recovery Pathway**: a week ago · 386 Views, 14 likes.
- The 2030 Biodiversity Framework and the Caribbean perspective fo...**: a week ago · 465 Views, 15 likes.
- CCI-CBF Week**: a week ago · 25K Views, 41 likes.
- CCI Early Achievers Awards**: a year ago · 86 Views, 2 likes.

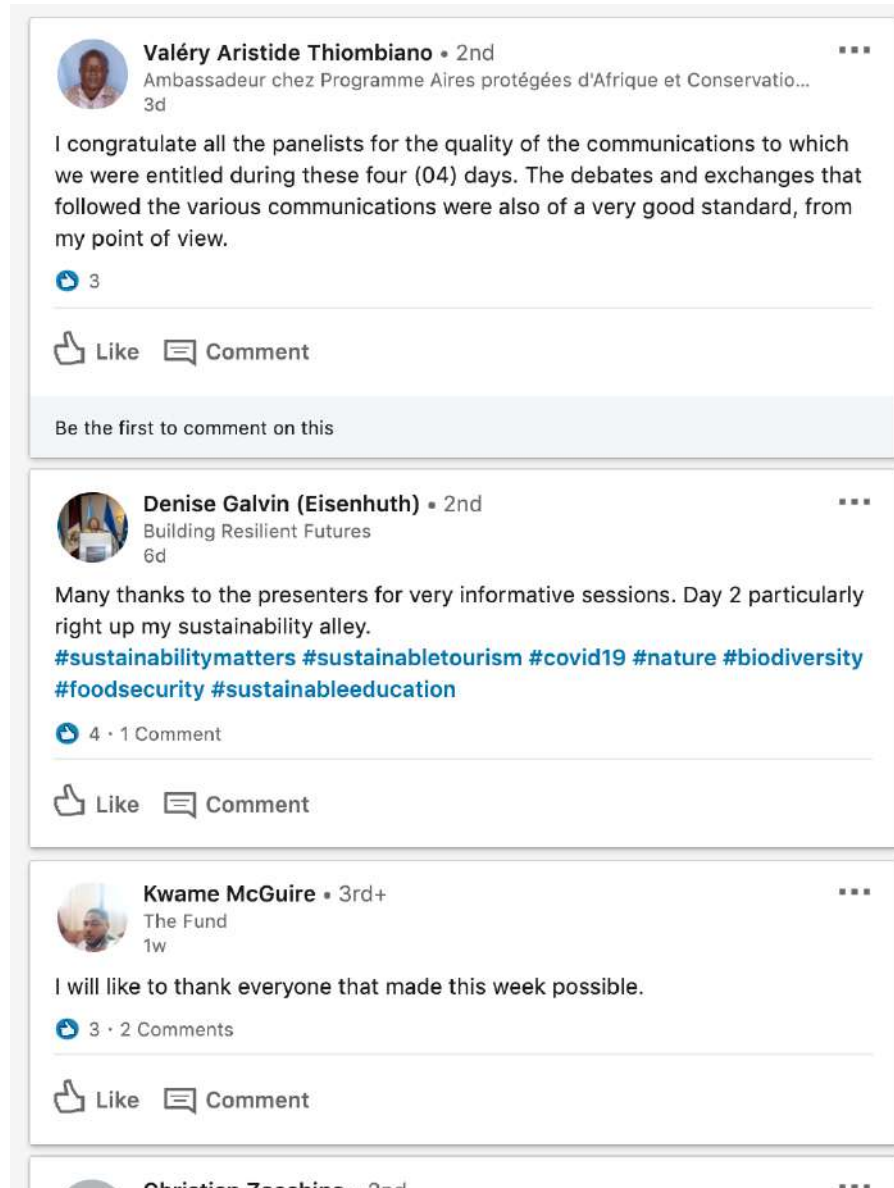
Figure 20 - Facebook Snapshot

For more information: [www.ccicbfweek.org](http://www.ccicbfweek.org)



*LinkedIn*

All attendees are invited to join the event “[CCI-CBF Week 2020](#)” Group.



The screenshot shows three LinkedIn posts from attendees of CCI-CBF Week 2020. Each post includes a profile picture, name, title, and a message of appreciation for the event.

**Valéry Aristide Thiombiano** • 2nd  
Ambassadeur chez Programme Aires protégées d'Afrique et Conservatio...  
3d  
I congratulate all the panelists for the quality of the communications to which we were entitled during these four (04) days. The debates and exchanges that followed the various communications were also of a very good standard, from my point of view.  
3  
Like Comment  
Be the first to comment on this

**Denise Galvin (Eisenhuth)** • 2nd  
Building Resilient Futures  
6d  
Many thanks to the presenters for very informative sessions. Day 2 particularly right up my sustainability alley.  
[#sustainabilitymatters](#) [#sustainabletourism](#) [#covid19](#) [#nature](#) [#biodiversity](#) [#foodsecurity](#) [#sustainableeducation](#)  
4 · 1 Comment  
Like Comment

**Kwame McGuire** • 3rd+  
The Fund  
1w  
I will like to thank everyone that made this week possible.  
3 · 2 Comments  
Like Comment

**Christian Zaccaria** • 2nd

Figure 21 - LinkedIn Snapshot

## Attendee Feedback

“Thank you very much for a well put together virtual seminar.”  
“Congratulations on a job well done. Island Innovation know how to launch an online forum and make it seamless, interactive and fun!”

“Thank you all the CBF team for pulling off a well-planned and organised meeting using this medium. You all did an excellent job.”  
“Very well executed meetings, and very creatively put together field trip.”

“Thank you it was a really interesting event that I enjoyed and learned a lot from.”  
“Que para ser la primera reunión virtual salio todo excelente, felicidades.”  
“Very informative and congenial. Thank you.”

“I really liked the online conference, **I don't think I could have attended in person so I really valued the opportunity to join in.**

It was much easier to pick up key points over zoom when there were slides as well as the talk. I wonder if you do it again online if you could get the panelists to prepare just one slide with their key-points to show as they talk.”

## Notes

## Thank You to Our Partners!



### Partners

*With the support of:*

