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CANARI serves as CEPF's regional implementation team for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot.

# CAPACITÉ+

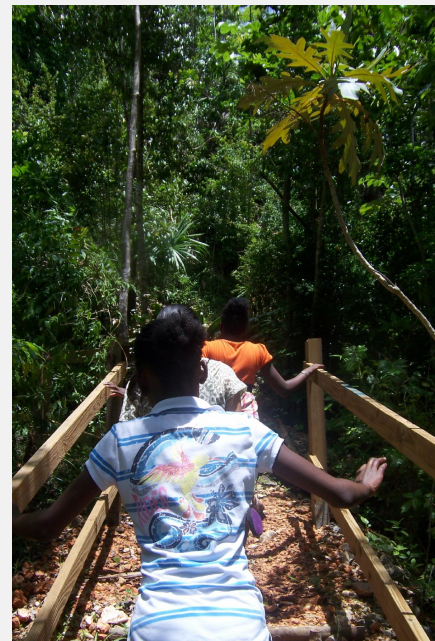
January 2023 | Issue #2

## Welcome back to Capacité+!

In this second issue of Capacité+, you will find an update on the exciting work started in Jamaica by the Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM) and learn more about their efforts to strengthen the management the Portland Bight Protected Area (PBPA) and address major threats to endangered and critically endangered species.

This issue also introduces the collaborative social accountability (CSA) component of the current CEPF investment in the Caribbean region. Applied for the first time to biodiversity conservation, this mechanism will use CSA methodologies and tools to facilitate multi-actor and multi-sectoral partnerships for biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation in the Caribbean.

Last but not least, you will get an update on the latest grants awarded under the CEPF Caribbean Islands Phase II investment and meet our newest team member, Liliana Betancourt, who recently joined the RIT as Country Coordinator for the Dominican Republic.



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**We wish you a happy new year  
and hope that you enjoy reading Capacité+!**

Strengthened management planning underway

## in the Portland Bight Protected Area, Jamaica



*View from Portland Ridge to West Harbour,  
Jamaica  
© Dr. Ann Sutton*

The Portland Bight Protected Area (PBPA) Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) is one of the most biodiverse areas in the Caribbean region. It is, however, facing various threats, including pollution, mining and alien species invasion. Learn more about the work done by the Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM) to mitigate threats to the PBPA and promote effective co-management of Jamaica's largest protected area.

[Learn more](#)

### **Improving biodiversity conservation in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot through Collaborative Social Accountability (CSA)**

Launched in December 2021, this new and innovative component of the CEPF Caribbean Islands Phase II Programme is promoting collaborative social accountability (CSA) frameworks as a way of tackling conservation problems in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot.

This is the first time that CSA is being applied to biodiversity conservation worldwide.

[Read more](#)



*Community Meeting, Antigua &  
Barbuda  
© Integrated Health Outreach*



### **Lessons for Locally-Led Adaptation: The CEPF Caribbean Islands Programme**

Check out the new video developed by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) under the *Scaling-up Support for Locally Led Adaptation* project, which highlights innovative models and lessons for supporting locally led adaptation and building resilience regionally under the CEPF Caribbean Islands Programme and features the Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano (CAD).

## Approved grants

To date, CEPF has issued eight large and small grants totalling **over US\$1.3 million** under its second investment in the Caribbean region.

Four small grant investments, ranging from US\$47,143.71 to US\$50,000, were added to the CEPF Caribbean Islands Phase II portfolio in December 2022.

Explore our interactive map of current CEPF-funded projects in the Caribbean:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6b2618e2a26649dc8041af7f12ead197>

For more details on the grants that have been issued, click [here](#).



Cockpit Country, Jamaica  
© Nicole Brown

## Meet Liliana Betancourt, CEPF Country Coordinator for the Dominican Republic

Liliana is a trained biologist and researcher with more than 25 years' experience in environmental management in the Dominican Republic.

She has worked as consultant for a wide range of national agencies and international organisations, including UNDP, The Nature Conservancy and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Dominican Republic).

In her role as country coordinator, Liliana will support the monitoring and oversight of the CEPF large and small grants awarded in the Dominican Republic by providing strategic guidance to, and facilitating partnerships between, local grantees.



Liliana Betancourt

## About the CEPF

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. The Phase II investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot is financed through the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund –

Caribbean Hotspot Project of the World Bank, using funds provided by the Government of Japan.

## About CANARI

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) is a regional technical institute which has been working in the islands of the Caribbean for over 30 years. Our mission is to promote and facilitate stakeholder participation in the stewardship of natural resources in the Caribbean.



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