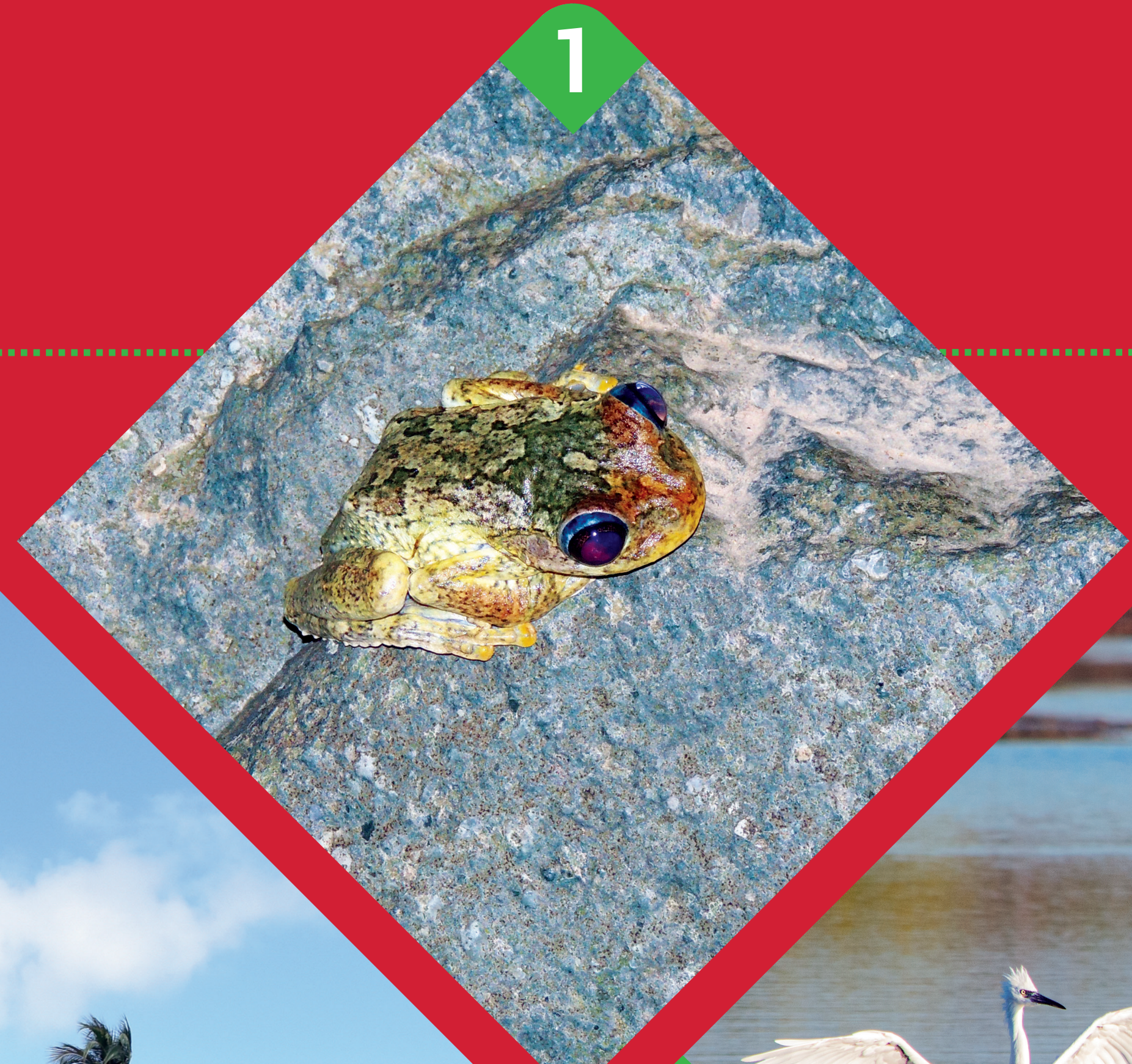




IWEco

Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management
in Caribbean Small Island Developing States

#CaringForOurFuture



Dominican Republic

- 1. Common name: Hispaniolan Giant tree Frog
- 2. Common name: Bay Cedar
- 3. Common name: Red-legged Thrush
- 4. Common name: Button mangrove
- 5. Common name: Reddish Egret

- Scientific name: *Osteopilus vastus*
- Scientific name: *Suriana maritima*
- Scientific name: *Turdus plumbeus*
- Scientific name: *Conocarpus erectus*
- Scientific name: *Egretta rufescens*



● Location of the National sub-Project

The biodiversity of the Dominican Republic is one of the richest in the world. To date, approximately 2,830 species of endemic fauna and 2,050 species of endemic plants have been identified. Much of this biodiversity is contained in the Higüamo River watershed and associated coastal zone, the geographical focus of IWEco.DR.

In the Higüamo River watershed and estuarine zone, five types of terrestrial and wetland ecosystems predominate:

- Semi-humid broadleaf forests,
- Humid broadleaf forests,
- Broadleaf shrubs,
- Mangroves and
- Marshes with brackish water dominated by herbaceous plants.

Two important protected areas are within the watershed's estuarine zone; both established in 2009: the Laguna Mullen Wildlife Refuge, in the estuary, protects many species of egrets, migratory ducks and other native and endemic species, and the Higüamo River Wildlife Reserve, which is dominated by mangroves that are habitat for a large number of native, endemic and migratory species of birds, as well as other estuarine, coastal and marine species. Of the 221 species of vascular plants identified in the Higüamo River Wildlife Refuge during a field study undertaken in April 2011, 196 are native species and 10 are endemic.

Photos courtesy of:
1 - Dario Flores
2, 3, 4, 5 - Jonathan Delance



For more info on species and photo credits

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