

## CARIBBEAN MARINE BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM



**T**he Caribbean Marine Biodiversity Program is a five-year project (2014-2019), funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and The Nature Conservancy, that aims to achieve sustained biodiversity conservation, maintain and restore critical ecosystems and realize tangible improvements in human and community wellbeing. Operating in five target countries—Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica and St. Vincent & the Grenadines—the Program focuses on creating and effectively managing marine conserved areas and establishing and promoting sustainable fisheries. By addressing direct and indirect threats to coastal and marine biodiversity, the Caribbean Marine Biodiversity Program works to ensure a sustainable future where nature and people can thrive.

### Caribbean Marine Biodiversity Program in Haiti

The North Coast of Hispaniola seascape covers approximately 200,000 hectares, and includes the northeast coast of Haiti and the area of Monte Cristi, along the northwest coast of the Dominican Republic. This rural area is characterized by extreme poverty, with limited livelihood and income options. Over 2,000 fishers rely on this seascape, using small wooden boats to fish for virtually all species available, including juvenile fish. With this kind of intense pressure, fish stocks have sharply declined, and the loss of some key fish species has adversely impacted the health of coral reef ecosystems.

In 2014, the Government of Haiti created Three Bays National Park, which encompasses approximately 80,000 hectares and contains some of Haiti's most extensive and healthy coral reefs and mangroves. The Nature Conservancy and the Foundation for the Protection of Marine Biodiversity (FOPROBIM), along with collaborating partners, are focused on strengthening the management of conserved areas, increasing community outreach, implementing sustainable fishery demonstration programs and promoting cross-border fisheries governance within the seascape shared by Monte Cristi and Three Bays.

### PROGRAM GOALS ACROSS FIVE TARGET COUNTRIES

- Establish effective, functional marine conserved areas and sustainable fisheries
- Protect and successfully manage at least 3.9 million hectares of nearshore coastal and marine habitat
- Establish reliable funding for marine and coastal conservation through the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund—an endowment fund providing long-term financial support for conserved area management today and into the future
- Demonstrate sustainable fishing practices and alternate livelihoods to benefit hundreds of fishers and community members
- Establish relationships with key private sector companies that promote ecotourism in support of marine conservation efforts





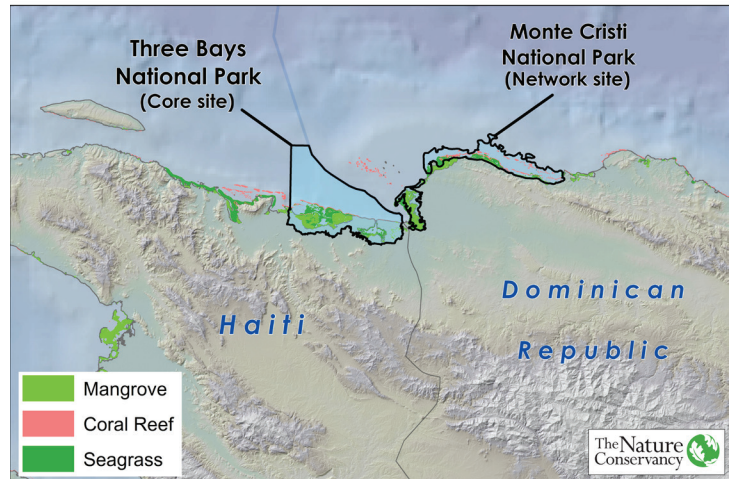
## PROGRAM GOALS IN HAITI

- Support the commitment made by Haiti to protect at least 20% of its marine and coastal areas by 2020 as part of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative—a collaborative effort in the Caribbean to achieve unprecedented, lasting conservation goals throughout the region
- Help establish a National Conservation Trust Fund for Haiti, which will provide reliable, long-term funding for on-the-ground conservation projects and conserved area management
- Support and help strengthen the ANAP, the national government’s protected areas agency
- Support national fisheries policy action, including shifting from “open access” to managed fisheries
- Design and promote sustainable fisheries and alternative livelihood demonstration projects that help reduce threats to marine biodiversity
- Carry out training programs and awareness initiatives for fisher associations and other local community groups, empowering them to support sustainable fisheries and marine conserved areas
- Support development and establishment of a management plan for Three Bays National Park, including trained wardens, boat patrols, monitoring of coral reef and fisheries health and extensive community outreach programs

## PARTNERS

- Foundation for the Protection of Marine Biodiversity (FOPROBIM)
- Government of Haiti
- National University of Haiti - Limonade Campus
- Local community groups and fisher associations

### Marine Conserved Areas - North Coast of Hispaniola Seascape



FRONT PAGE LEFT TO RIGHT The community cleans the day’s catch of mainly juvenile parrotfish in Caracol. © Tim Calver; Red Mangrove grows along the edge of Baie de Fort Liberté. © Tim Calver THIS PAGE CLOCKWISE Mangrove seedlings are grown in nurseries before being replanted in areas along coastlines to protect against erosion. © Jean Wiener for FOPROBIM; Collecting and selling salt is an alternative livelihood option for communities near Caracol. © Jean Wiener for FOPROBIM; Coral is surveyed near Baie de Fort Liberté. © Tim Calver MAP Marine conserved areas supported by the Caribbean Marine Biodiversity Program in the North Coast of Hispaniola seascape



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