

ENVIRONMENTAL ACCESS RIGHTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ORGANISATION OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES

The Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement): empowering societies for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Escazú Agreement Second Meeting of Signatories

Trade Winds Hotel, Dickenson Bay, Saint John's, Antigua

December 08 – 09, 2020



**Organisation of
Eastern Caribbean States**



SP# 1



Enable trade and business **anywhere** in the OECS to operate **everywhere** in the OECS



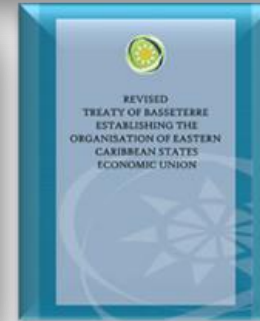
Enable every citizen of a MS to travel freely and without hassle with family for work, leisure or residence anywhere in the OECS



SP# 2

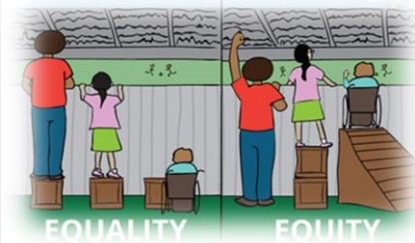


Be better able to adapt and recover quickly from adversity in climate and the environment, economic and social systems



A **Better Quality of Life** for the **People of the OECS**

SP# 3



Create avenues of fairness and impartiality



Use its cultural richness and turn its language differences to advantage

SP# 5

SP# 4



Use our international friendships to advance our development agenda



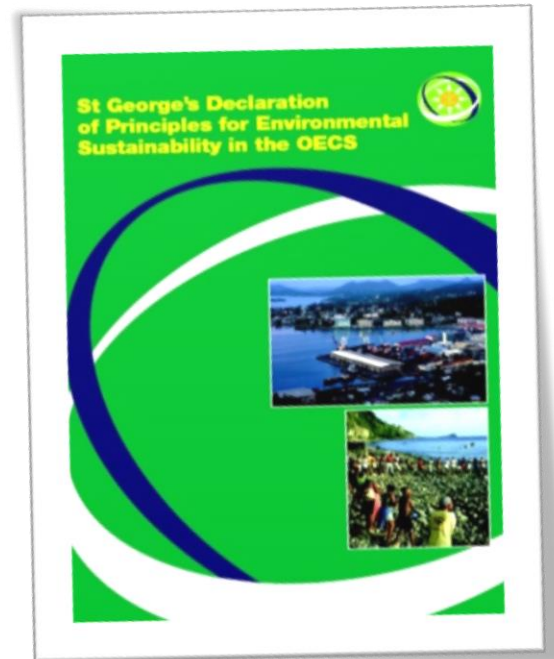
work smarter, reach further, deliver better

THE ST. GEORGE'S DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN THE OECS

(ARTICLE 24, RBT PROTOCOL)

Overall Aim: Foster Equitable and Sustainable Improvement in the Quality of Life in the OECS Region

- ❖ Principle 1: **Foster Improvement in the Quality of Life**
- ❖ Principle 3: **Improve on Legal and Institutional frameworks**
- ❖ Principle 4: **Ensure Meaningful Participation by Civil Society in Decision Making**
- ❖ Principle 5: **Ensure Meaningful Participation by the Private Sector**
- ❖ Principle 7: **Foster Broad-based Environmental Education, Training and Awareness**



OUR NEW AGENDA

Affirms that sustainable development in the Eastern Caribbean can be achieved only through a **broad alliance of people, governments, civil society, the private sector and international development partners**, all working together



The OECS Vision

A Better Quality of Life For The People Of The OECS

SGD 2040 Vision

A healthy and productive environment, supporting the well-being and aspirations of the Eastern Caribbean

SGD 2040 Values

Local priorities, collective action, global impact;
Balance, Shared, Responsible, Smart

SGD 2040 Goal

To promote and support effective management and sustainable use of the natural capital of the Eastern Caribbean by enhancing its integrity and strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity

SGD 2040 Strategic Priorities



Ocean and
Fisheries



Climate and
Disaster Resilience



Biodiversity and
Economic Systems



Land and Water
Resources



Sustainable
Energy



Chemicals, Pollution
and Waste



MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

SGD2040 ENABLING ACTIONS



Partnerships



Good Governance



Capacity Development



Education & Outreach



Research & Systematic
Observation



Data, Information &
Knowledge



Monitoring, Evaluation &
Learning



Regional Cooperation



Equity & Inclusivity

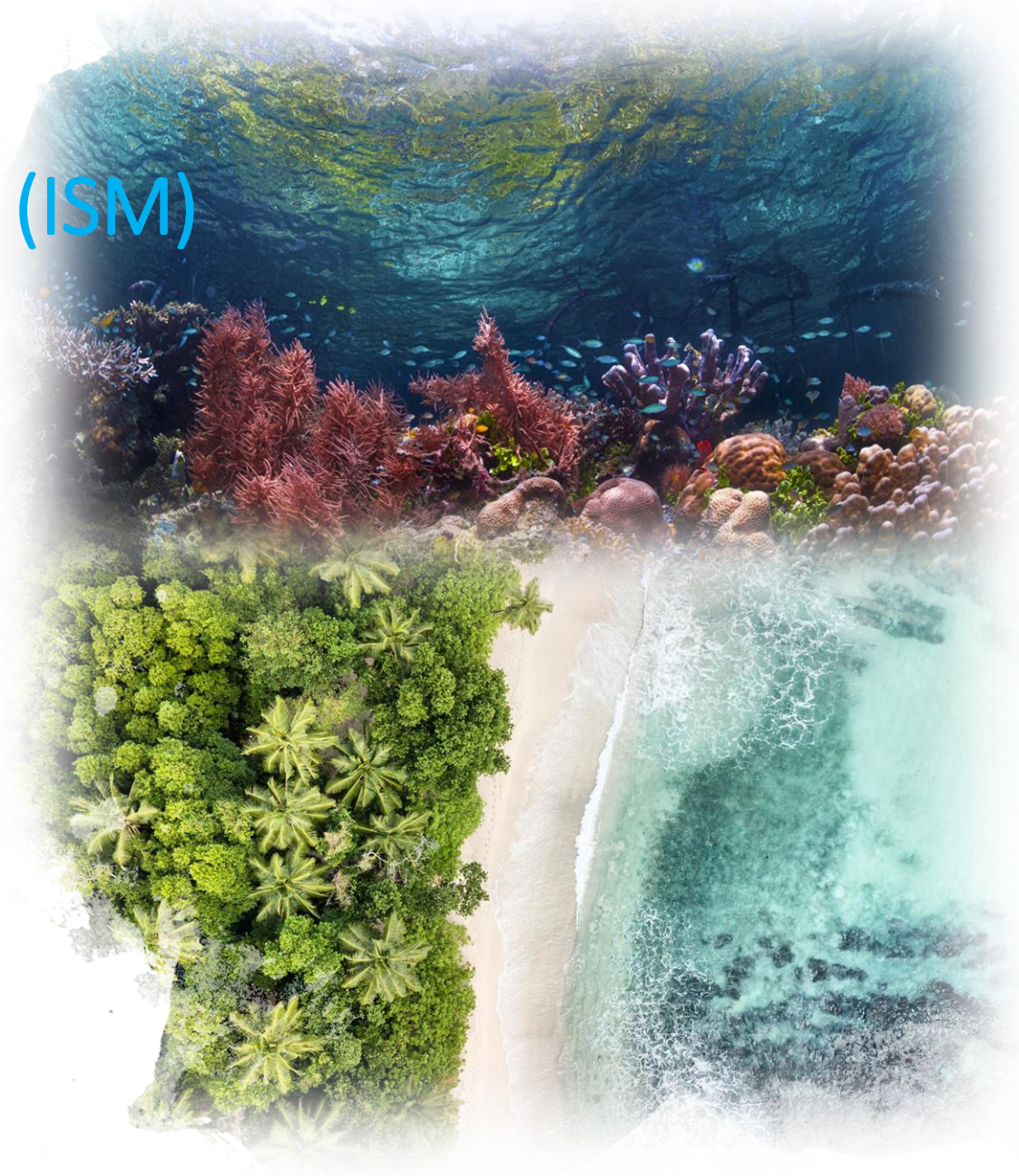


Innovative & Sustainable
Financing Mechanism

FOUNDATION:

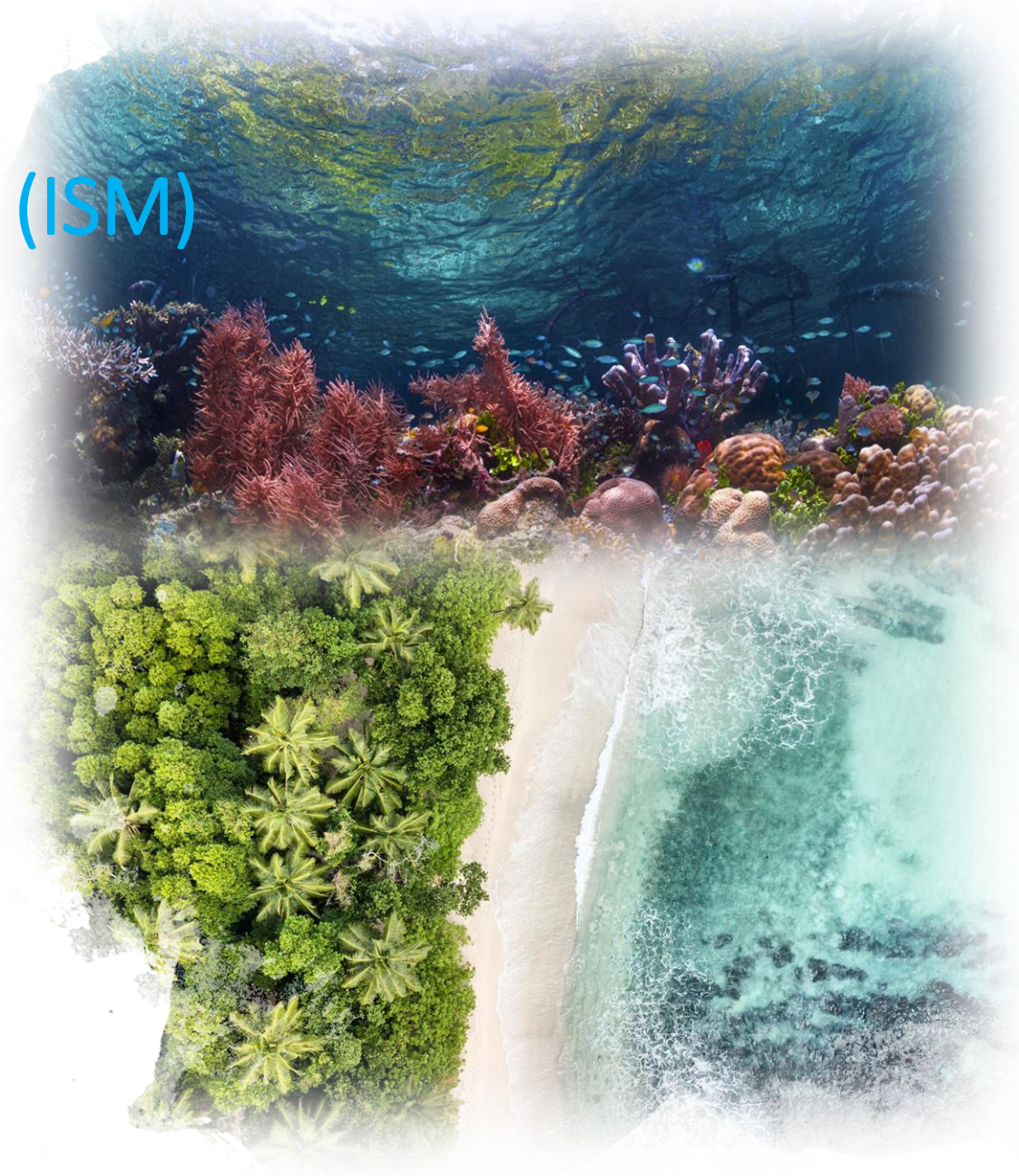
ISLAND SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT (ISM)

- ✓ An adaptive management strategy which provides the necessary policy orientation to manage the complexities of the interaction between ecosystems from ridge to the outer limits of the EEZ and the anthropogenic impacts on them.
- ✓ It integrates and coordinates the initiatives of all sectors, both public and private, to ensure the achievement of common goals.
- ✓ Continuous and dynamic process by which decisions are taken for the sustainable use, development, and protection of an island's resources.



FOUNDATION: ISLAND SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT (ISM)

- i. Integration (inter-sectoral, intergovernmental, spatial ...);
- ii. Environmental stewardship;
- iii. Stakeholder participation;**
- iv. Use of sound science and best practice, inclusive of **local and traditional knowledge**;
- v. Precautionary approach;
- vi. Environmental liability;
- vii. Access and benefit sharing;**
- viii. Transboundary cooperation;
- ix. **Good governance, including transparency and accountability;**
- x. **Equality and inclusivity, including rights of marginalised and vulnerable stakeholders**



Enhanced Programme of Action on the ECAZU Agreement in the Eastern Caribbean (May 2020)



3.1. In order to achieve their common objectives, the OECS Commission and ECLAC envisage the possibility of undertaking the following activities at the regional, sub-regional and country level, as appropriate:

- a) Raise awareness about the Escazú Agreement in the Eastern Caribbean among OECS Member States, interested stakeholders and the general public;
- b) Undertake strategic advocacy and disseminate information and knowledge on the Escazú Agreement;
- c) Develop and conduct training programmes, workshops, seminars and associated projects, with specific emphasis on training of trainers and the promotion of the implementation of the Escazú Agreement;
- d) Elaborate joint studies, publications, reports, policy formulation and analytical work on the environmental dimension of sustainable development and the Escazú Agreement;

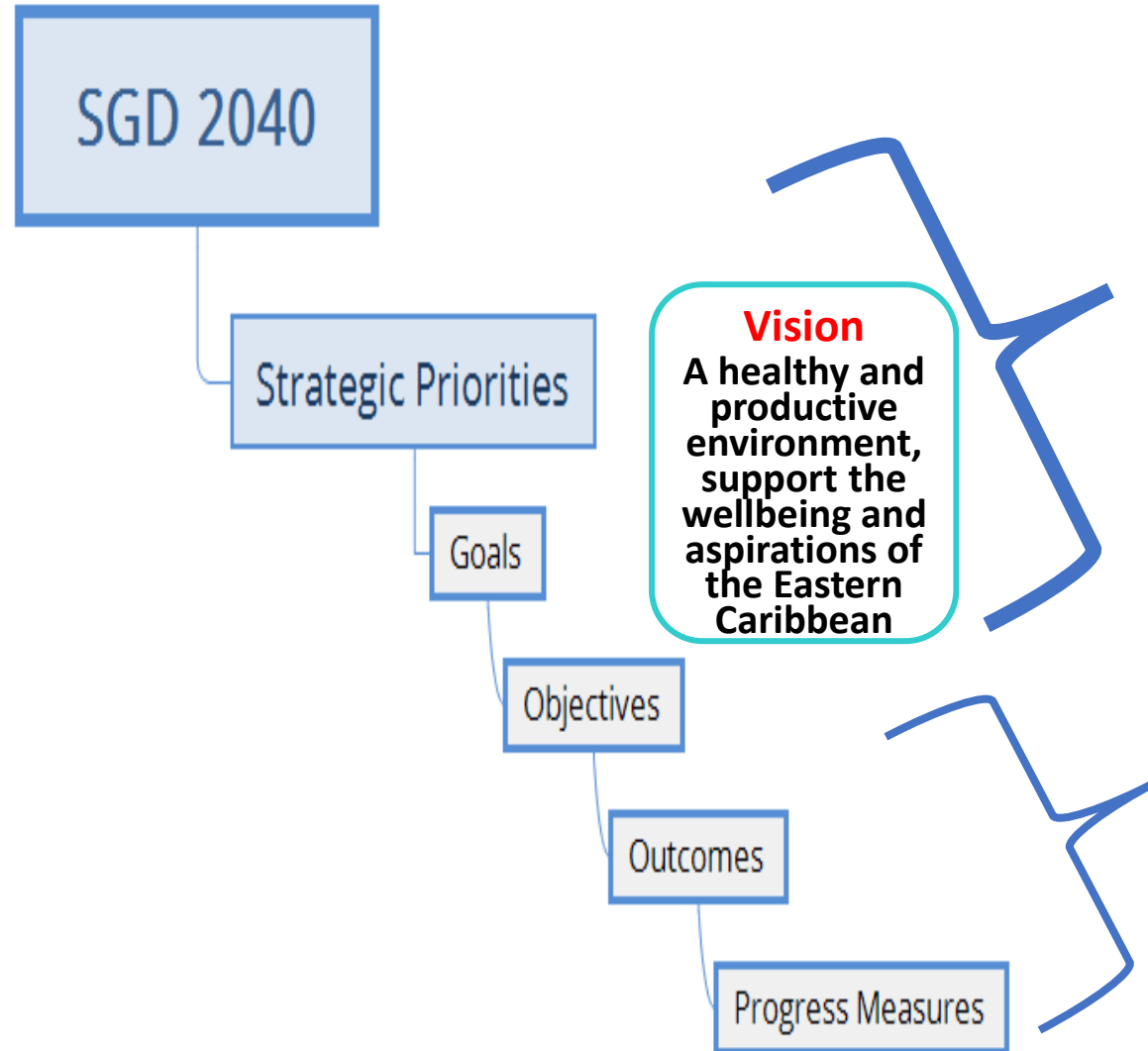
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**CONSULTANCY SERVICES:
Enhancing the generation, collection
and systemization of environmental
information in the Eastern
Caribbean: Environmental
Information Systems (Oct 2020)**



- **Stocktaking** on existing or proposed environmental information systems.
- **Review** the frameworks related to access to environmental information.
- **Identify** gaps, strengths and opportunities in environmental information systems, including in terms of capacity, training, resources, institutional arrangements, monitoring, reporting, assessment, private and civil sector engagement, cross-sectoral integration, access and application of information, communication and outreach.
- **Survey** identifying the needs and priorities on developing a regional environmental information system for the Eastern Caribbean region.
- **Structure** of a sub-regional environmental information system, including suggested content, technical requirements and reporting, institutional, operational and governance guidelines and arrangements.

SGD 2040 REPORTING FRAMEWORK



LEVELS

Level 3 builds on Levels 1 and 2, providing comprehensive in-depth analysis of progress made towards the Vision, Goals and Objectives of **SGD 2040** as well as recommendations for the future consideration.

Level 2 builds on Level 1, providing more in-depth interpretation of data and analysis of specific Strategic Priorities.

Level 1 Member States report against specific "Progress Measures" designed to show their level of progress for each of the Outcomes defined in **SGD 2040**.

THANK YOU



CHAMBERLAIN EMMANUEL

Director, Environmental Sustainability Division
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

chamberlain.emmanuel@oecs.int
escluster@oecs.int

