



STOP

the invasion of alien species!



the Caribbean's rich biodiversity!

**Vital to Ecosystem Services.
Critical to our livelihoods, economic
development and social wellbeing.**

Be Our Partner

All stakeholders - policy-makers, private sector, environmental managers, NGOs, involved and concerned citizens - join the team and help protect our rich Caribbean biodiversity, especially in areas designated **Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)** by the the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF). Take advantage of CABI's vast experience and global reach and let's build a virtual network to:- advocate for effective policies; provide up-to-date information; and share experiences and best practices in protecting our region's biodiversity.



"Regional Networking and Strategy Development for Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in CEPF Priority Key Biodiversity Areas" CABI Project

As part of this project, CEPF is financing the facilitation of a Virtual Network of Stakeholders working in KBAs in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, The Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Saint Lucia.

In these 5 CEPF countries, CABI will use this project to:

- enable local and regional networking, sharing best practice in IAS management and control and capacity building;
- enhance cooperation for joint conservation actions among a wider group of stakeholders.

By April 2015, at the end of the project, we will have collectively:

- identified the major Invasive Species and their impacts on the KBAs highlighted potential IAS threats and pathways for their introduction to the KBAs;
- strengthened stakeholders capacity to passively and actively conduct surveillance for IAS threats;
- advocated appropriate action to curtail identified threats to important biodiversity that are found in the KBAs.

*We extend a special invitation to those working
in areas designated as Key Biodiversity Areas*

The project will undertake several key actions to establish a virtual network to strengthen biodiversity conservation by enhancing the capacity to mitigate the threats posed by IAS.

Some key actions will include:

- Establish an online skills register for experts working in IAS control and management to facilitate greater networking
- Host regular webinars and discussions forum to facilitate exchange of experiences among stakeholders across countries on managing IAS and protecting biodiversity
- Host five national stakeholder workshops to strengthen national networking among national stakeholders working in the KBAs
- Host a regional workshop to facilitate exchange of experiences as well as mainstream IAS issues at regional level.
- Identify skills gaps and address these via virtual training sessions
- Disseminate information on native biodiversity in the various KBAs.

All other eligible CEPF countries in the region, and by extension, the wider Caribbean, will also benefit indirectly, from this project, through the online networking and information sharing.

Key Biodiversity Areas of interest



Antiguan Racer
Snake (Jenny Daltry)

Antigua and Barbuda's Offshore Islands are a refuge for rare and globally important wildlife and habitats; home to numerous endemic and globally threatened species, including the critically endangered Antiguan Racer Snake

(*Alsophis antiguae*), the Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and the vulnerable West Indian Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna arborea*). Offshore islands along the northeast coast are considered to be the last retreat for some species that were in abundance on mainland Antigua and Barbuda.

The Bahamas: Graham's Harbour is under threat from the invasive Red Lionfish. Other KBAs -Booby Cay, Southern Great Lake and Allen Cay- are home to the native seabirds Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus Lherminieri Lherminieri*), Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis Rostrata*) and the Allen Cay rock iguana (*Cyclura cyclura* spp. *inornata*) are threatened by the invasive house mice.



Audubon's Shearwater
(Dominic Sherony)



Jamaican Iguana
(savegoatlands.org)

Jamaica: At Portland Ridge and Bight, habitat of the endangered Jamaican iguana (*Cyclura collie*), conservation management is minimal, threatened by development pressures and deforestation. At Hellshire hills, Cockpit country and Catadupa, threats include illegal cutting, mining, mongoose and feral dogs.

The Dominican Republic's Isla Cabritos situated in the Enriquillo Lake is home to two populations of threatened *Cyclura* rock iguanas: *Cyclura ricordi* (*Ricord's iguana*) and *Cyclura cornuta* (*Rhinoceros iguana*). Their habitat is threatened by donkeys and cattle. The lake supports the only viable population of American Crocodile in the Dominican Republic, in addition to a diverse array of water and land birds, including Caribbean Flamingo and West Indian Whistling-duck. Cats prey on the young iguana and native birds.



American Crocodile
(Wikimedia)

Saint Lucia's North East Coast is habitat to the endangered Saint Lucia iguana, under threat from the invasive alien green iguana and the mongoose. Bush fires and invasive plants threaten the biodiversity the Mandele Dry Forest and Point Sable. The Maria Island Nature Reserve is home to several endemic species such as the Saint Lucian Whiptail lizard (*Cnemidophorus vanzo*), Saint Lucian Racer Snake (*Liophis ornatus*) and critically endangered Dry Forest and Xeric Scrub.



Saint Lucian Whiptail
Lizard (<http://watchmehitmybirdwalk.files.wordpress.com/>)

Be A Partner

Government Ministries, NGOs and Agencies involved in biodiversity conservation and IAS species prevention and management in the KBAs in each country would be considered as a partner or stakeholder in this project and their input would be greatly appreciated. **Contact us** by completing and sending in the following form or by registering online on ciasnet.org

Name of Organisation

Contact Name: Dr. Mr. Ms. Mrs.

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