Ramsar in Antigua and Barbuda Implementation of the Convention and Priorities for This Year /Triennium

A Synopsis

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At
Wetlands Caribbean Initiative
Santo Domingo, DR
4 – 6 February 2010
Presentation Outline

- Introduction and Context
- Wetlands Management Objectives
- Simplified Management Structure
- Convention Implementation Strategy
- Priority Issues for 2010 / Triennium
- Conclusion: Challenges for the future
Introduction and Context

- Codrington Lagoon designated Ramsar Site
- Variety of Wetland Uses
- Management of Wetlands shared by several agencies
- Protected Areas Projects contribute to Ramsar Activities
Wetlands Management Objectives

- Maintain biodiversity and preserve coastal water quality, scenic and natural beauty
- Promote scientific and socio-economic research and monitoring
- Public education and awareness
- Promote and manage tourism and recreational uses as well as the economic and social benefits at the community and national levels
- Sustain traditional uses and livelihoods and appreciation of the heritage of wetland areas
Simplified Management Structure

Ramsar Head Office Through CREHO

Fisheries Division

Stakeholder Regulatory & Resource Management

Ramsar Management Partnership

Informal Relationship / Projects
Government Agencies
Private sector interests
NGOs
Community organizations
Convention Implementation Strategy

Programme areas designed to help realize the objectives (2010 and the Triennium) include:

- Conservation
- Education and Public Awareness
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Sustainable use

Each programme area may have associated sub-programmes and activities which may vary over time.
Priority Issues for 2010 / Triennium

2010

- Legal deficiencies in the implementation of Protected Areas (PAs) management objectives
- Education and Public Awareness
- Finalize Pas Systems Plan for Antigua and Barbuda
- Finalize Wetland Inventory for Antigua and Barbuda
- Regional cooperation

Triennium

- Additional Ramsar Sites
- Education and Public Awareness
- Regional cooperation
Conclusion: Challenges for the future

The major challenge will be for agencies to maintain focus on protecting wetlands for the future. This will require:

- Appropriate legislation and associated administration
- Continued funding
- Applied research