



# BEST rationale

EU ORs and OCTs host an **exceptional biodiversity**

EU ORs and OCTs are amongst the **most vulnerable to climate change**

**Unlocking the local potential** is key - small and medium size projects can have significant impact

Need for a **dedicated funding mechanism**

# BEST objectives

- **conservation of biodiversity**
- **sustainable use of ecosystem services**
- **ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation**

**in the EU Outermost Regions (ORs)  
and Overseas Countries and  
Territories (OCTs)**

# BEST PA 2010-2017 6M€

Follow up to the *Message from la Reunion* (2008)

2 open calls for proposals ORs/OCTs 2011,2012 - 16 projects  
1 open call for tender 2013 - BEST III

*Message from Guadeloupe* (2014)

Call for a 'sustainable partnership'

Further investments :

- AFD 800 000€ 2 projects + Facilitating Project support (2012)
- B4LIFE - **BEST 2.0** 10M€: small/medium grants in OCTs (2014-
- EP pilot project - **BEST RUP**: 1M€ small grants in FR ORs (2017-  
inventories, MAES pilot

### Caribbean region

Coral reef construction and restoration  
 Marine reserves and protected areas  
 creation and management  
 Invasive species control and  
 management (lion fish, terrestrial  
 vertebrates)  
 Ecosystem services quantification:  
 agroecosystems, MPA  
 Native and endemic species  
 conservation: reptiles, bats and plants  
 Watershed and key biodiversity area  
 (KBA) conservation  
 Financing mechanisms  
 monitoring

### Polar/Sub-Polar

Seabird conservation  
 Community biodiversity monitoring  
 Sustainable fishing



VOLUNTARY SCHEME  
 FOR BIODIVERSITY AND  
 ECOSYSTEM SERVICES  
 IN TERRITORIES  
 EUROPEAN COMMISSION

### Polar/Sub-polar

### Global

Global partnerships  
 Multilateral agreements  
 Developing Regional Ecosystem  
 Profiles and Investment Strategies

A European initiative to foster action in  
 7 regions on biodiversity

### Macaronesia

### Caribbean

### Macaronesia

Ecosystem services of seagrass

### Amazonia

### Amazonia

Species monitoring

### Indian Ocean

Island dynamics following rat  
 eradication  
 Terrestrial and marine reptile  
 conservation  
 Environmental education  
 Fisheries by-catch mitigation  
 Forest protection  
 Seagrass conservation

### Pacific

Ecological restoration and maintenance of  
 ecosystem services  
 Capacity building and public engagement  
 Subvertebrates of ecophysiology and genetics  
 Remote land governance (terrestrial and terrestrial)  
 Environmental management strategies

### South Atlantic

Marine spatial planning  
 Climate change risk assessment  
 Strategic ecological  
 assessments

### Indian Ocean

Scattered Islands

### Polar/Sub-Polar

Identifying Important Marine Areas  
 Climate change impact monitoring  
 Whale and krill research

### Polar/Sub-polar

- EU Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs)
- EU Outermost Regions (ORs)
- African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of states and island states of the same regions

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the EU

British Antarctic Territory (BAT)