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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APWC	Asia Pacific West Consultants
BAT	Best Available Technologies
EIA	Electronic Industries Alliance
IUCN	International Union for Conservation
IUCN ORMACC	International Union for Conservation of Nature, Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean
IW	Inception Workshop
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
PWFI	Plastic Waste Free Islands
Q&A	Questions and Answers
SIDS	Small Island Developing States

## **1. Workshop Overview**

### **1.1 Background**

PWFI is an IUCN global initiative that seeks to address plastic waste leakage from six (6) Small Island Developing States (SIDS), divided evenly between the Pacific and Caribbean regions. The main objective of the project is for target SIDS to make a significant, quantified reduction in plastic waste generation and leakage within the planned project timeframe of three (3) years.

In the Caribbean region, the project is being implemented by IUCN's Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean (IUCN ORMACC), alongside the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) who is acting as regional implementing partner. Project countries include Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and Saint Lucia.

To start the implementation of the PWFI project in targeted Caribbean SIDS, three (3) national Inception Workshops (IW) with project partners and stakeholders were held during the last week of January 2020:

In Antigua and Barbuda, the IW was held on January 27, 2020 in corporation with the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment.

Saint Lucia's IW was held on January 29, 2020 in corporation with the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development. Present were representatives of the OECS.

A third IW was held in Grenada on January 31, 2020 in corporation with the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment, Forestry, Fisheries and Disaster Management.

Workshop participants included representatives from government, private sector and civil society, who were engaged through presentations, group work sessions, plenary and group discussions. The different sessions aimed at ensuring participants' understanding of the project and its outreach, as well as obtaining their recommendations and input on strategic aspects that are relevant to project priorities, to be taken into consideration for the project's coordination and implementation.

### **1.2 Objectives**

The main objectives of the workshop were to:

Introduce project partners and stakeholders to the IUCN global and regional tea380.9rTJETQq0.0

Perform a rapid stakeholder identification and analysis exercise 1;  
Understand, from government and OECS perspectives, the national and regional context, policies and challenges related to plastic waste; and  
Coordinate next implementation steps with the national government agencies assigned to the project, as well as with regional implementing partner, OECS.

Perform a rapid stakeholder identification and analysis exercise

Presentation on Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis scope and methodology.

Group working session: participants divided into three (3) groups and

Questions on the scope of the planned plastic leakage assessments was a main topic across the countries, relating to the inclusion of marine debris, assessing waste generated from the yachting sectors and on the inclusion of microplastics. The IUCN team reiterated the boundaries of the planned leakage assessments. It was also noted that it was important to ensure civil society participation in the program, a key point in the planned activities.

A second area of focus for participants' general questions related to policies and regulations, with focus on the project's goals in terms of implementing and enforcing policies. It was noted that the project would work towards making recommendations and support the development of policies relevant to its goals, but will depend on the national governments to implement and enforce existing recommendations. It was also noted the project will not support governments on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) as it was outside the scope of the project.

Are there existing initiatives that support improving plastic waste management?

- If so, what can the project do to enhance that work?
- And if not, what needs to be done? Is this a priority?

Are there solutions and technologies being promoted to address non-recyclable plastic streams?

- If so, by whom and how can the project add value to the work
- If not, what might be the challenges to addressing solutions to nonologies beir



**3.2.2 Inputs gathered**

**Table 3: Summary of inputs gathered from group discussions**

<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	<b>Policy</b>	The groups identified three (3) specific product areas where policies and action are needed: plastic bottles, produce bags and miscellaneous single use plastic (e.g. cling film);
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Providing an alternative and be able to educate on that;

Incentives to return plastic bottles. Schools, for example, used to incentivise children to return their bottles;

Government should recognise existing skills in local groups, identify champions and work in coordination with them;

Tourism Destinations Stewardship Committee (NGOs, private sector) should be part of consultations; and

Create capacity within the country.



consumers when they return bottles after use, and rest goes into collection, sorting & recycling). However, you need strong political will.

Innovations can be too burdensome on inhabitants. Standard of living is seen as high already;

Need to educate how to separate for collection (this education costs money);

To ensure change, incentives need to have a financial implication for the population;

Transportation costs;

Alternatives need to be affordable and with good quality.

**What potential interventions for the reduction of plastic waste would you suggest to be compared to understand their respective costs and benefits?**

Cruise ships do not visit Saint Lucia as regularly as other islands in the Caribbean. Associations will need to align with different islands to raise the head tax collectively;

Education is needed before you implement change (start with schools, use different awareness and communication campaigns, including vendor relations);

Use local, fresh produce, unpacked;

Chairs, tables, soaps, different amenities locally produced and from recycled content;

Recycle plastics into construction material;

Use bottle-to-bottle recycling or refill. It's hard to compete with the low price of virgin bottles, taxation methods could be used to even that out;

Collection needs to be improved;

Funding mechanisms are needed to help sustain an innovation;

In the draft environmental management bill, the importance of involving several players is stressed. This project can try to bring them together









## **4. Achievements and next steps**

### **4.1 Achievements against objectives**

Achievements against workshop objectives are presented in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Workshop achievements**

<b>Workshop objective</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
Introduce project partners and stakeholders	

	Record was made of all participants' comments to incorporate in the "Stakeholder Mapping & Analysis" consultancy deliverables.
Understand, from government and OECS perspectives, the national and regional context, policies and challenges related to plastic waste	Participants understand the main aspects relating to marine plastic litter in their respective countries. Recommendations obtained from participants on aspects relevant to the project in the areas of economy, policy, communication/engagement of stakeholders, and learning.
Coordinate next implementation steps with the national government agencies assigned to the project, as well as with regional implementing partner, OECS	Post-workshop wrap up session held with national government focal point and the OECS, next steps discussed and agreed.

#### 4.2 Next steps

Inception Report to be made available, electronically, to workshop attendees.

Global consultancies for Quantification and Qualification of plastics, led by Asia

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# **Annexes**

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## **Annex 2: Questions and Answers**

### **Antigua and Barbuda**

Mr Ruleo Camacho, Marine Ecologist from the National Parks Authority, inquired how the project plans to handle and audit the yachting sector, considering its significant impact on the country of Antigua & Barbuda, and particularly considering the amount of goods imported to satisfy this sector. Dr Amardeep Wander, Project Director from APWC, answered that waste from the yachting sector will be collected, to then be sorted and characterised, interviews with actors within the sector will also be facilitated.

Mrs Ruth Spencer, Founding Member of Zero Waste Antigua and Barbuda, mentioned that the







Following presentations from the IUCN global and regional teams, the floor was opened for a second discussion. Discussions started with a question by Mr

resource. We are thinking of zero (0) waste, but the idea of putting the necessary infrastructure, the necessary capacity for zero (0) waste, was not within our grasp.

their citizens to embrace the responsibility of preserving the environment, I dare say not so in Antigua and Barbuda.

I think that we have turned the corner in terms of the citizenry and the consciousness of the importance of preserving our environment and I want to commend the people of Antigua and Barbuda and for the record, I would appreciate it if you would give yourself a round of applause. We in here have also embarked on national efforts to demonstrate that the holistic approach embraces everyone; every community as I stand here, the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with other ministries has undertaken an island wide clean up of derelict vehicles in Antigua and Barbuda. I know many of the communities of Antigua and Barbuda welcome this because interestingly we cannot separate the effort to clean up from the issue of health.

The fact is that we have millions of tires all over Antigua and Barbuda that provide room for mosquitoes and the spread of dengue. We have thousands of abandoned cars that are home to mosquitoes and rodents and so when we think of our work in the environment we should also

Welcome:

I am happy to be here today at the launch of the PWFI Initiative!

I am pleased to see a wide range of stakeholders here for this important dialogue, many who were involved in our blue growth stakeholder consultations, Styrofoam and plastic handle bag meetings and discussions.

Consultations such as this launch help to continue the national dialogue on Blue Economy, while supporting environmental protection and offering green jobs and livelihood opportunities for sustainable blue growth.

I hope that we can continue to count on the support of local stakeholders who are essential partners in this process.

Introduction:

We are here today, because Grenada wants to ensure we have clean plastic free oceans and we are not alone in this vision, as the marine sea that separates us, in fact, unites us in addressing this challenge in a unified manner.

In this decade of “Ecosystem Restoration” we recognise the daunting and urgent need to address marine pollution and especially to focus on how to reduce the





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25	Kiana Edwards	Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment	Registry assistant	-		X	
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