

Seagrass Restoration Workshop

Location:

Blue Mahoe Suite, Courtleigh Hotel, Kingston

Address:

Courtleigh Hotel,

85 Knutsford Boulevard

Kingston 5, Jamaica

Date: Thursday 5th and Friday 6th February 2026

Time: 09:00 – 17:00

Chair: Susana Perera Valderrama (Cartagena Convention Secretariat)

Facilitators: Cristina Vina-Herbon, Joe Kenworthy, Sophie Boulter, Miles Holden (JNCC)

Objective of the workshop: Discuss with experts and stakeholders the current proposal for the development of regional guidance, and associated evidence products, and discuss how stakeholders can participate in decisions making and restoration projects

This is a two day workshop covering the following topics:

1. Development of a Regional guidance for restoration of seagrass ecosystems in the Caribbean: progress so far and how to improve
2. How to assess effectiveness of restoration
3. Links with blue economies, ecosystem services provided by seagrass and Opportunities and barriers for voluntary markets
4. Case studies to discuss decision-making related to restoration of seagrass

Day 1:

Item	Content
Welcome and Introduction to the project (plenary) 9:00 – 9:50	Health & safety Introductions and Expectations Links to the Cartagena Convention and the SPAW Protocol Project description and background
Overview of the day (plenary) 9:50 -10:00	Objectives of the workshop Overview of the agenda and timetable
Introducing the Regional Guidance (plenary) 10:00 – 10:30	Presentation of the draft regional guidance
Q&A 10:30-11:00	Q&A
Coffee break 11:00 – 11:30	
Breakout groups on the current draft 11:30 – 12:30	The group will be split into breakout groups to discuss the guidance and address the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which sections are most important? 2. What areas can be improved? 3. What are the barriers and opportunities? 4. Where should we focus our efforts?
Feedback from breakout groups 12:30- 13:00	Each group to provide some feedback on the questions highlighting the main points
Lunch 13:00 – 14:00	
Introducing ecosystem services 14:00 – 14:30 (plenary)	Presentation on ecosystem services matrix, benefits etc
Q&A 14:30 – 15:00	
Introducing Economic work areas/carbon markets 15:00 -15:30	Presentation on Voluntary Carbon Markets Related to Seagrass: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Knowledge: What we know so far • Opportunities: Benefits and global trends • Limitations: Key challenges and constraints • Potential Next Steps
Q&A 15:30-16:00	
Flipchart session 16:00-16:45	Interactive session to cover Ecosystem Services and Economics presentations
End of day One Reflections 16:45 - 17:00	

Day 2

Item	Notes
Welcome and recap of the day 09:00 – 09:15 (in plenary)	A short summary of the discussion from previous day and discussions to be had today
Case studies (plenary) 09:15 – 9:45	Presentation providing an overview of case studies, highlighting how seagrass restoration and recovery are integrated into decision-making processes.
Q&A 9:45-10:00	
Breakout groups on the current draft 10:00 – 11:00	The group will be divided into breakout groups to review the case studies and consider whether similar situations could arise in the future. The discussion could focus on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What worked well 2. Which elements can be strengthened to improve decision-making? 3. What information or components are missing? 4. What communication approaches could help support better decisions?
Coffee 11:00 – 11:30	
Breakout continues 11:30 – 12:00	
Feedback from breakout groups and plenary discussion 12:00 – 12:30	Each group to provide some feedback on the questions highlighting the main points
Lunch 12:30 – 13:30	
Introducing the monitoring and assessment report (plenary) 13:30 – 14:00	Presentation of the draft report
Q&A 14:00-14:15	
Breakout groups on the current draft 14:15 – 15:30	The group will be divided into breakout groups to discuss monitoring and assessment of seagrass recovery and restoration, focusing on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can we effectively assess successful recovery? 2. What are the main barriers to recovery and restoration? 3. What opportunities exist to enhance success?

Feedback from breakout groups (plenary) 15:30-16:00	Each group to provide some feedback on the questions highlighting the main points
Summary of both days 16:00-16:15	Short overview of both days
Next steps and wrap up 16:15-16:30	Reflections and next steps till March 2026