

RAC-IMA

Activities in Support of AMEP,
LBS Protocol for 2021-2022



Presented by D. Banjoo

Sixth Meeting of the Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee to the Protocol concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol) 1-3 February 2023.

What is IMA?

- The Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) is a government funded marine and environmental research institute in Trinidad and Tobago
- IMA was established by an Act of Parliament in 1976 following negotiations for an agreement signed between the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the United Nations in 1974.
- IMA has been operational since 1978 (45 years).
- IMA is mandated to collect, analyze and disseminate information relating to the economic, technological, environmental, social and legal developments in marine affairs and to formulate and implement specific programs/projects.
- RAC agreement officially signed 2018. Operated in principle since 2002.



Research Departments

- Oceanography and Coastal Processes
- Biodiversity and Ecology
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Environmental Quality
- Marine Policy and Governance
- Geomatics

Over 30 Research Staff out of 80 Total Staff

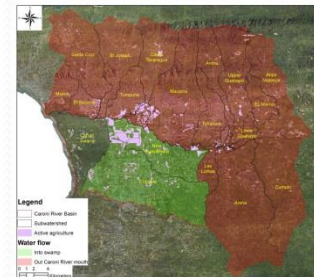


Overview of Activities During Period 2021-2022

- Assistance to UNEP CAR/RCU, attendance of meetings/national consultations concerning the assessment and management of pollution. UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.44/INF.5.
- SSFA CLME+ EBM/NBSLME Project (UNDP/GEF)
- SSFA Nutrient Strategy Project (UNDP/GEF)
- SSFA Standards and Criteria, Wastewater Classification..(GEF CReW+, ACP MEAs III, UNEP HQ)
- National Project conducted in Support of the LBS Protocol.

CLME+ EBM Project

Implementation of an **Ecosystem- Based Management (EBM)** approach for **addressing the Impacts of Land-based Sources of Pollutants on Critical Coastal Habitats** such as Mangrove Swamp in **NBSLME (SSFA -70kUSD)** .



- **Outcome 5: Site-specific technical communications on the ecosystem-based management process defining the step by step actions, strategies and outcomes while showcasing lessons learnt and recommendations towards regional governance frameworks**
- **IMA's 7th Community symposium at Warrenville, Cunupia on September 20th 2022.**
- **Training of farmers/demonstration site (fertilizer and pesticides reduction).**
- **Baseline nutrient sampling, testing fish pesticides, heavy metals in crabs, bacteria in water and oysters.**

WCR- Regional Nutrient Pollution Reduction Strategy and Action Plan (WCR-RNPRSAP) (SSFA -50kUSD)

- Coordinate review of the first draft of Chapter Five on the Nutrient Management Strategy with Consultants and Reviewers (January 2021).
- Coordination and assistance with Info graphics for Consultants of the nutrient strategy (February 2021).
- Coordination with Consultants in production of final report on Regional Nutrient Pollution Reduction Strategy (March 2021).

Standards and Criteria, Wastewater Classification..

(GEF CReW+, ACP MEAs III, UNEP HQ , SSFA 158 USD)

Project Activities	Budget (USD)
1. Develop Guidelines for classification of waters according to the LBS Protocol. Support from RAC CIMAB.	6000 (UNEP HQ)
2. Establishment of regional criteria and standards for N and P loads in domestic and industrial wastewater discharges. Support from RAC CIMAB.	10000 (UNEP HQ)
3. Host Regional Workshop on Index of Coastal Eutrophication & Harmful Algal Blooms.	30000 (UNEP HQ)
4. Support RAC CMAB to develop recommendations for amendments to the LBS Protocol to facilitate increased reuse of domestic wastewater including adoption of new criteria or standards for domestic wastewater discharges	40000 (GEF Crew+)
5. Review, Analysis and Report for developing a new Strategy or Protocol on the management of freshwater resources within the framework of the Cartagena Convention with a focus on freshwater and the regional level	30000 (GEF Crew+)
6. Promote LBS Protocol Ratification in Non-Contracting Parties (English Speaking countries), including development of promotional and awareness material for ratification.	10000 (GEF Crew+)
7. Implement a Training on innovative low-cost integrated water and wastewater management such as though webinars, MOOC, training programmes with the participation of civil society	10000 (GEF Crew+)
8. Update CReW clearinghouse mechanism on financial options, small- and large-scale wastewater treatment technologies, and wastewater and water management policies and practices developed.	10000 (GEF Crew+)
9. Develop one national pollution/nutrients reduction strategy and plan in one Spanish speaking country.	12000 (ACP MEA III)

3. Host Regional Workshop on Index of Coastal Eutrophication & Harmful Algal Blooms.

- ❑ To provide training, capacity building and greater sensitization in the region for the assessment of Eutrophication and Harmful Algal Blooms toward strategic actions leading to protection of marine habitats against nutrient pollution.
- ❑ Cartagena Convention Secretariat, RAC IMA, RAC CIMAB, SPAW RAC (Guadeloupe), OSPAR Commission (Europe), INVEMAR (Colombia), GEF-IWECO Project.
- ❑ The workshop was attended by national, technical and LBS Protocol focal points of the Cartagena Convention of the WCR.
- ❑ Workshop Report 25th -26th July 2022. UNEP CEP, 2022.
- ❑ The Cartagena Convention Secretariat, RACs and RANs must utilize an incremental and systematic approach in order to build capacity in the region for ICEP and HAB monitoring throughout Contracting Parties.



Hosting of Meeting on RACs/ RAN Network, Work Plan and Collaboration of the Cartagena Convention, July 2022, Institute of Marine Affairs.



- Identify Opportunities for Joint Activities,
 - Engage the expertise of the RACs/RAN and regional institutions.
 - RACs to assist with the implementation of externally funded projects SSFA.
 - RACs as a significant support element for providing capacity building to Contracting Parties.
- Reviewing the Recommendations and Action Plan for RACs/RAN Work Plan
- Work Plan 2021/2022 discussed for the SSFAs.

Development of RAC IMA six year Long Term Strategic Plan 2021-2026

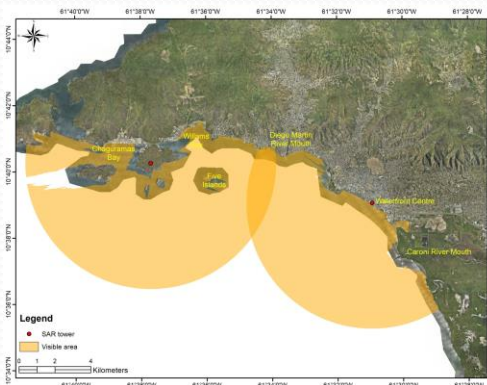
- Consultation with Cartagena Convention Secretariat January-March 2021.
- Development of first draft report in January 2021.
- Development of second draft document in July 2021
- IMA six year long term strategic plan 2021-2026 submitted to LBS COP and endorsed in meeting of July 2021.
- Finalized document with review and comments of Ministry of Ministry of Planning and Development in September 2022.
- Implementation of Strategic Plan by RAC IMA on going.

Caribbean Sea Oil Spill Satellite Monitoring

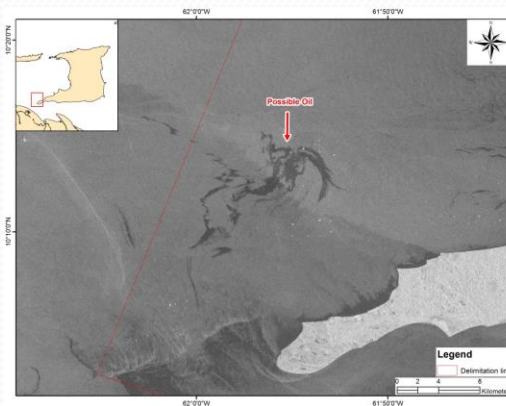
- May -June 2021, Training facilitated by IOCaribe, a pilot program for T&T was organised. Training conducted by NOAA Satellite Analysis Branch (SAB) on a variety of satellite platforms.
- 2021, Oil spills detection by radar system. Project between IMA and MEEI in Trinidad and Tobago (T&T).
- Pilot project to be expanded for the Caribbean Region. Collaboration on Oil Spill Tracking in the Americas (COSTA) programme.
- Memorandum of Agreement between SAB NOAA and MEEI /Government of Trinidad and Tobago in oil spill monitoring for Trinidad and Tobago.



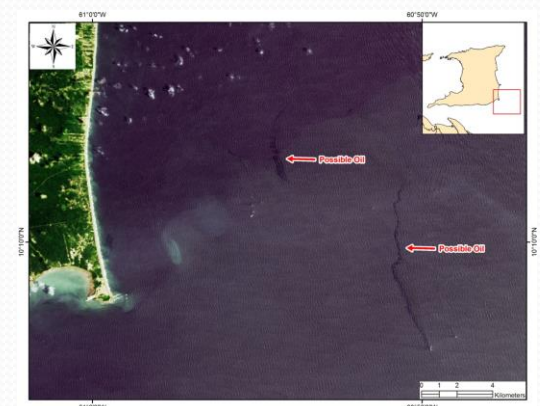
Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Tower mounted



Sentile 1 SAR imagery



Landsat8 optical imagery



ISO/IEC 17025 Laboratory Accreditation

- To gain ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation for the scope-nitrates and nitrites.
- Work commenced in December 2018 to December 2022.
- Initial Accreditation date 14th December 2022. Expires on 13th December 2025.



SCHEDULE OF ACCREDITATION

NOTE: The purpose of this document is to provide ready access to the current schedule of accreditation through the scan of the QR Code on this document.

INSTITUTE OF MARINE AFFAIRS
Testing Laboratory No.: LAS-012

is an accredited Laboratory which fulfils the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, and has demonstrated competence to carry out tests for:

CHEMICAL TESTING

as specified in and at locations identified in this schedule. This document may be revised from time to time based on accreditation requirements. The most current issue is available on TTLABS website: <https://gotlbs.com/ttlabs>

While this schedule remains valid, the Accredited Laboratory named above is authorized to issue TTLABS-endorsed certificates.


Karlene Carolyn Lewis
Manager, TTLABS

"Recognised as the official national laboratory accrediting body by the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago."

Initial Accreditation date: 14th December 2022 This schedule expires on: 13th December 2025

This schedule was issued on: 14th December 2022

"This accreditation demonstrates that the laboratory fulfils both the technical competence and management system requirements for it to consistently deliver technically valid test results. The language of the management system requirements in ISO/IEC 17025 is written to be relevant to laboratory operations and are generally in accordance with the principles of ISO 9001. (Refer to joint ISO-IAC-IAF Communiqué dated April 2017)"

LAS-F031 – Schedule of Accreditation QR code (2022-Nov-17) R0 Schedule No: LAS-012/01 Page 1 of 2

National Projects Conducted (Funding from the Govt. T&T)

- Environmental Monitoring and Assessment of Hot Spot Areas in Trinidad (USD 10,000 per year).
- Bacteriological water quality at popular recreational water-use areas in Trinidad (USD 10,000 per year).
- Monitoring of coral reef and seagrass beds in Trinidad and Tobago (CARICOMP) (USD 20,000 per year).
- Preparation of State of Marine Environmental Report (2020) for Trinidad and Tobago with DPSIR frame work (USD 6,000 per year).

Activities in Support of LBS Protocol.

- Participation in open ended working (OEWG) LBS protocol (2021-2022).
- Attended meetings with RCU CAR/UNEP, RAC-CIMAB and RAC-IMA on way forward of the small scale funded agreement (Standards and Criteria, Wastewater Classification ..GEF CReW+, ACP MEAs III, UNEP HQ) during period.
- Participated in meetings of Pre LBS STAC (8th and 9th March 2021), LBS STAC (March 15-17), 5th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS COP5) (26 July 2021), 11th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW COP 11) (27 July 2021), 19th Intergovernmental Meeting and 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (IGM 19/COP16) 28 – 30 July 2021.
- Participation as key note speaker on the topic of “ Snapshot of Marine Pollution in the Western Tropical Atlantic Region” on the virtual session of the UN Decade Ocean Western Tropical Atlantic series “A Clean Ocean,” where sources of pollution are identified, quantified and reduced, and pollutants are removed from the ocean” on 31st August 2021.

Muchas Gracias

Thank You!



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