

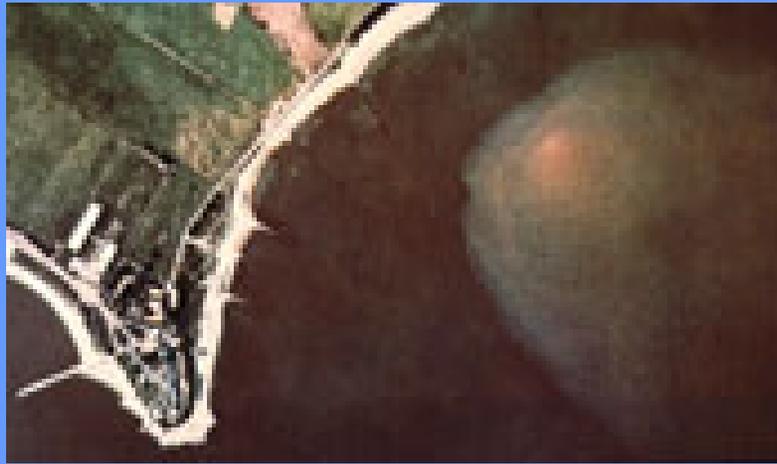
White Water to Blue Water: A WSSD Partnership Initiative

An Integrated Watershed and
Marine Ecosystem-based Management Approach



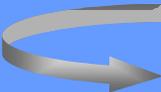
The Challenge

★ Sustainable development in WCR can only occur if there is integrated watershed and marine ecosystem-based management



- Limited future availability of funding for projects
- Progress will rely on leveraging existing funds and opportunities through the development of new partnerships

WW2BW

 **White Water to Blue Water aims to stimulate partnerships that will promote integrated watershed and marine ecosystem-based management in support of sustainable development**



Initial focus on the Wider Caribbean Region



Coastal ecosystems are undergoing large-scale changes resulting from human activities and multiple stressors



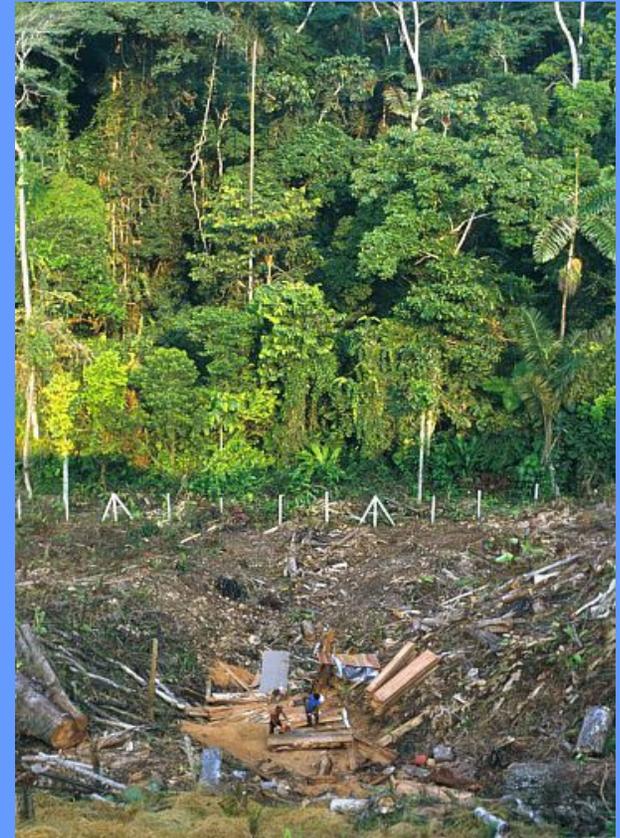
- Chronic nutrient and sediment input from land
- Die-off of an important algae eater
- Sustained heavy fishing
- Naturally occurring storms

This loss of ecosystem function has environmental, economic, and social impacts

In Watersheds...

⚡ Globally, 80% of marine pollution derived from land-based sources

- Increased sedimentation/nutrients from deforestation and agricultural practices
- Destruction of wetlands and habitats
- Urban run-off and wastewater



In Fisheries and Marine Ecosystems...

- **Overfishing**
- **Poorly managed aquaculture**
- **Destructive ecosystem practices**
 - Use of explosives
 - Unintentional bycatch
 - Bottom trawling
- **Loss of important habitats**

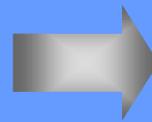


Courtesy Doug Perrine / Seapics.com



In Shipping/Maritime Transportation...

- Release of ballast water
- Discharges of waste and other substances
- Lack of port reception facilities
- Need for oil spill prevention and preparedness



In Tourism...

- Discharge of sewage and waste water into the marine environment
- Loss of habitat and biodiversity, and the removal of key plant species needed to inhibit erosion
- Damage to coral reefs and other resources related to a lack of management guidelines
- Need for water conservation and run-off control at coastal developments



Needed Actions

- **Awareness of the linkage between land-based activities and coastal health**
- **National and regional capacity to practice integrated watershed and marine ecosystem-based management**



- **Science-based decision making**
- **Coordination between local, regional, and international long term strategies**
- **Engagement of business partners to promote best practices and support regional activities**
- **Active promotion of successful strategies**

WW2BW Initiative

A catalyst for:

1. Improving collaboration between governments, IOs, NGOs, and the private sector

- national level
- regional level

2. Enhancing existing partnerships and promoting new partnerships

3. Capacity building/training

4. Promoting best practices

- integrated management procedures
- partnership models and principles



Partnerships

★ The initiative is designed to bring together new partners

- to build on existing partnerships, mechanisms, and organizations
- to promote active exchange of ideas
- to rely on lessons learned
- to improve collaborations and communication
- to identify gaps and new opportunities

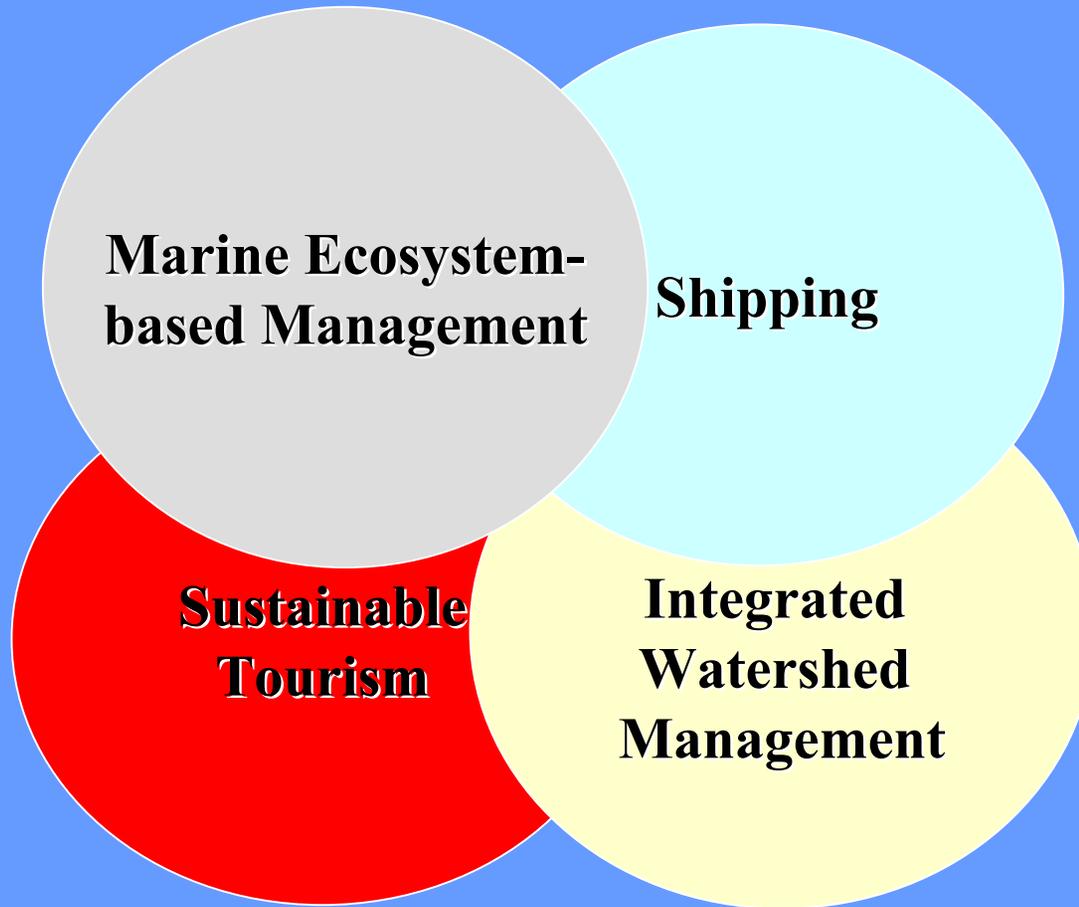


Miami Partnership Conference

- A key event for the *WW2BW* Initiative
- Gathering of diverse regional partners in the same location
- Channel for new partnership development
- Education and training opportunity



Main Conference Themes



- Recognizes the overlapping natures of the topics
- Promotes new approaches of integrated management

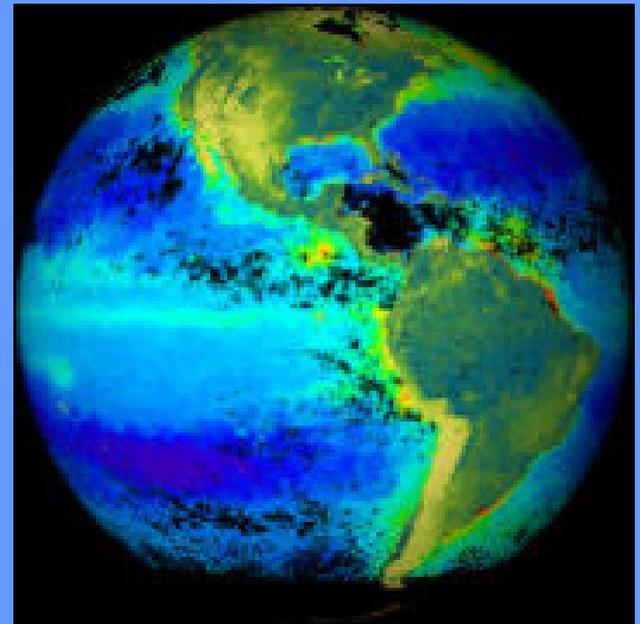
Conference Planning

Steering Committee: Made up of Partner representatives

Conference Co-Chairs: CARICOM/ UNEP CEP/ U.S. Government

Sub-committees:

- Integrated Watershed Management
- Marine Ecosystem-based Management
- Shipping and Maritime Transportation
- Sustainable Tourism
- Education and Training
- Green Markets
- Climate Change & Natural Hazards
- Marine Science
- Partnerships
- Private sector Outreach
- NGO Outreach
- Foundation and Donor Outreach



Conference Secretariat: US Government/UNEP/CARICOM

Indicative Representation on the Steering Committee

Governments

Governments of the region
(including the US, UK,
NL, France), and Canada

Universities

- University of the West Indies
- University of Delaware
- University of Rhode Island
- University of Miami

International Organizations

- UNEP-CEP
- UNEP-GPA
- CARICOM
- IBRD
- UNDP
- IOC-CARIBE
- OAS
- CCAD
- PAHO
- CEHI
- FAO
- IMO

NGOs, Private Sector and Others

- IUCN
- Oceana
- EcoLogic
- Conservation International
- The Nature Conservancy
- Wildlife Conservation Society

Consultations

Multi-stakeholder International Visitor Teams (ITVs)

- Visit countries prior to the conference
- Inform interested parties
- Work to identify points of contact in each country
- Obtain feedback on conference goals and objectives
- Assist in-country preparations for conference



National Country Teams

A country's interagency delegation* possibly comprised of representatives from

- **Ministries of**

Finance	Environment
Forestry	Fisheries
Water	Ports
Planning	Education
Health	Tourism
Agriculture	

- **Civil Society Organizations**
- **Universities**
- **Private Sector Business**



- **Conference will sponsor at least 2 representatives from each country**
- **Asking government to sponsor additional members**
- **Currently exploring opportunities to sponsor additional representatives**



Country Team Concept

Responsibilities/Objectives:

1. Identify needs and national plan gaps prior to conference
2. Showcase existing partnerships
3. Explore new ways to link management strategies from the tops of mountains down to coastal environment
4. Develop new cross-sectoral partnerships for action
5. Provide post-conference feedback for use in future efforts in different regions
6. Work to remain engaged in activities and continue to advocate for integrated watershed management strategies



Pre-Conference

Conference

Post-Conference

- Steering committee
 - Design of meeting
 - Consultations/ IVTs
 - Formation of Country Teams
 - Identification of priorities
 - Partnership Website
- Partnership formation
 - Best management practices discussions
 - Coordination and strengthening
 - Training and site visits
 - High level opportunities
- Country Team deliverables
 - Follow-on activities
 - Website to facilitate continued partnerships
 - Strategy for next steps
 - Incorporation of lessons learned for future regional approaches



More on Post Conference Phase ...

- ❖ Enhancement of partnership website and development of new partnerships
- ❖ Focus on national implementation to compliment regional objectives
- ❖ Launching of new partnerships
- ❖ Continued promotion of watershed focus

