

## Section 12: Appendices

This section contains the following items:

Appendix 1. Final programme for the conference, with published amendments

Appendix 2. List of Posters and Displays

Appendix 3. List of Participants and their Organisations

Appendix 4. Feedback from Participants

Appendix 5. Friends of the UK Overseas Territories - the individual subscriber option for UKOTCF.



*The conference in formal session and at the National Trust for the Cayman Islands event  
(Photos in this section by Thomas Hadjikyriakou unless otherwise indicated)*



## Appendix 1. Final programme for the conference, with published amendments

### **Making the Right Connections: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories, Crown Dependencies and other small island communities – Grand Cayman, 30th May to 5th June 2009**

**Organised by:**

**UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum,  
with the support of the Overseas Territories Environment Programme,  
and hosted by the Cayman Islands conservation bodies**

**Aim: Drawing on similarities and differences in experience across the territories, to provide insights into common challenges, leaving participants better equipped to address local needs**

## **PROGRAMME**

**Please note: all content and timings subject to change**

All main programme sessions include time for discussion. This time is not for speakers to expand into.

For example, if there is a 20-minute slot, the speaker has only 15 minutes for his or her own use, allowing 5 minutes for questions on the presentation (in addition to the general session discussion).

We are trying to have a participatory conference, with presentations being in large part to inform and stimulate discussion.

<b>Saturday 30 May</b>	<b>Arrivals &amp; Registration</b>
Until 7pm	Setting-up of posters – please use only spaces allocated to particular exhibitors
	Self-organised dinner
<b>Sunday 31 May</b>	<b>Session A: Opening and introduction to Cayman experience</b>
7am - 8am	Buffet breakfast
8am	Field visits to terrestrial ecosystems in Grand Cayman, incorporating a presentation on current Cayman issues, etc. Will split into separate groups (see notes for participants).
12 noon	All groups meet at Botanic Gardens for lunch, followed by presentation on Cayman conservation issues, by Gina Ebanks-Petrie and Fred Burton
2pm	Possible opportunity for brief further walk in park
3pm	Coaches depart for hotel
4pm – 6pm	Further opportunity for setting-up of posters (in allocated spaces only)
4.30 - 5.30pm	Briefing meeting for student participants
5pm - 6pm	<b>Darwin Initiative</b> - open discussion with Eric Blencowe, Defra

6.30pm – 9pm	<b>Opening of Conference</b> , at a Reception at the Residence of the Governor, H.E. Mr Stuart Jack
	Self-organised dinner
<b>Monday 1 June</b>	
7am - 8am	Buffet breakfast
8.15am – 12.30pm	<b>Maintaining momentum - setting the scene and reporting progress since the Jersey conference</b>
<b>8.45 - 10.15am</b>	<b>(Short) Session B. Progress on Environment Charter implementation</b> <u>Co-ordinator</u> : Mike Pienkowski (UKOTCF Chairman)
8.45 - 9.05 am	<b>Updating of the UKOTCF-coordinated review of progress on implementing the Environment Charters.</b> Catherine Quick (UKOTCF Co-ordinator)
9.05 - 9.20 am	<b>Some lessons learnt in implementing a strategy for the Environment Charter: an example from St Helena.</b> Isabel Peters (Environmental Coordinator, St Helena Government)
9.20 - 10.15 am	<b>Discussion</b> , taking account of recent developments and remaining challenges
10.15 - 10.45 am	Break
<b>10.45 am - 12.30 pm</b>	<b>(Short) Session C. Environmental Education</b> <u>Co-ordinators</u> : Ann Pienkowski (UKOTCF Environmental Education Co-ordinator) & Clive Baker (Cayman Education Department)
10.30 - 10.45 am	<b>Introduction</b> (including output from Jersey, OTEP project, student input to this and later sessions and summary of draft document on development of an integrated curriculum for environmental education). Ann Pienkowski Followed by short presentations (see below) each ideally highlighting approaches that have worked and remaining challenges.
10.45 - 10.50 am	Questions
10.50 - 11.05 am	<b>The Marvellous Mangroves programme, and its place in the Cayman Islands National Curriculum.</b> Martin Keeley (University College of the Cayman Islands)
11.05 - 11.10 am	Questions
11.10 - 11.25 am	<b>The Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre as an example of co-operation and joint working.</b> Thomas Hadjikyriakou (Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre Manager, Cyprus Sovereign Base Area)
11.25 - 11.30 am	Questions
11.30 - 11.45 am	<b>Student comments</b> on experiences of environmental education
11.45 - 11.50 am	Questions

11.50 am -12.30pm	<b>Guided discussion What is needed for the future?</b> Facilitators: Ann Pienkowski (UKOTCF Environmental Education Co-ordinator), Clive Baker (Cayman Education Department) & Edgar Howell (Deputy Director of Education, Turks & Caicos Islands)
12.30 -1.30 pm	Lunch

<b>1.30 - 4.30 pm</b>	<b>Session D: Climate change – impacts and adaptation</b> <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Bruce Dinwiddy (UKOTCF Council) & Deborah Procter (Climate Change Advisor, JNCC)
1.30 - 1.33 pm	<b>Introduction.</b> Bruce Dinwiddy (UKOTCF Council)
1.33 - 1.55 pm	<b>Climate change and biodiversity conservation - impacts and adaptation</b> Deborah Procter (Climate Change Advisor, JNCC)
1.55 - 2.00 pm	Questions
2.00 - 2.15 pm	<b>South Georgia: Threats posed by climate change, and options for adaptation and mitigation.</b> Darren Christie (Environment Officer, Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands)
2.15 - 2.20 pm	Questions
2.20 - 2.35 pm	<b>Climate Change: A Case Study in Guernsey.</b> Andrew Casebow (States of Guernsey)
2.35 - 2.40 pm	Questions
2.40 - 2.55 pm	<b>A Cayman perspective.</b> Lisa-Anne Hurlston (Cayman Islands Department of Environment)
2.55 - 3.00 pm	Questions
3.00 - 3.15 pm	Break
3.15 - 4.30 pm	<b>Discussion</b>

<b>4.30 - 5.30 pm</b>	<b>Session E: Poster Reception Session</b> Posters will be on display throughout the conference. However, poster exhibitors are invited to be present in this session so that they may discuss their posters with those viewing them. Drinks will be provided.
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<b>5.30 - 7.30 pm</b>	<b>Session F: UKOTCF Wider Caribbean Working Group meeting</b> <u>Organisers:</u> Bruce Dinwiddy (WCWG Chairman) & Oliver Cheesman (WCWG Secretary)
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7.30 pm	Free for self organised dinner and ad-hoc meetings
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<b>Tuesday 2 June</b>	
7.00 - 8.00 am	Buffet breakfast

<b>8.15 am – 12.30 pm</b>	<p><b>Session G: Spatial Planning, Protected Areas and International Standards – assets or liabilities?</b>  <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Colin Hindmarch (UKOTCF Council) &amp; John Cooper (CORE Initiatives, Rondebosch, South Africa)</p> <p><u>Part 1 – Planning and Protected Areas – why bother?</u></p>
8.15 for 8.30 - 8.55 am	<b>Introduction/Overview: Protected areas: a new context and a sustainable future.</b> Colin Hindmarch (UKOTCF Council)
8.55 - 9.00 am	Questions
9.00 - 9.15 am	<b>The role of environmental democracy.</b> Euwonka Selver (Turks & Caicos Islands)
9.15 - 9.20 am	Questions
9.20 - 9.35 am	<b>The Marine Perspective on Spatial Planning, Protected Areas and International Standards.</b> Fiona Gell (Senior Wildlife and Conservation Officer – Marine, Wildlife and Conservation Division, Isle of Man)
9.35 - 9.40 am	Questions
	<b>The Chagos Archipelago: Its Nature and Future.</b> John Turner (Chagos Conservation Trust & Bangor University, Wales, UK)
9.40 - 10.10 am	<b>Discussion</b>
10.10 - 10.30 am	Break (and conference photograph)
	<u>Part 2 – Planning and Protected Areas in practice</u>
10.30 -10.55 am	<b>Declaring international protected areas in UK Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories: the role of the Ramsar and World Heritage Conventions.</b> John Cooper (CORE Initiatives and Animal Demography Unit, University of Cape Town, South Africa)
10.55 - 11.00 am	Questions
11.00 - 11.15 am	<b>Montserrat Centre Hills Plan: an example of planning and implementing protected areas at a site scale.</b> Stephen Mendes (Montserrat Department of Environment)
11.15 - 11.20 am	Questions
11.20 - 11.35 am	<b>Challenges for a small isolated island group - progress on the Pitcairn Islands environment management plan, designated protected areas and sustainable development.</b> Noeleen Smyth (National Botanic Gardens, Dublin, Ireland; for Pitcairn Islands Council)
11.35 - 11.40 am	Questions
11.40 - 11.55 am	<b>BVI's Systems Plan: an example of planning and implementing protected areas at a national scale.</b> Joseph Smith Abbott (Director, British Virgin Islands National Parks Trust)
11.55 am - 1200 noon	Questions

12.00 noon - 12.30 pm	<b>Discussion</b>
12.30 - 1.30 pm	Lunch

<b>1.30 - 4.45 pm</b>	<p><b>Session H: Raising our profile - engaging policy makers and the public</b>  <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Bill Samuel (UKOTCF Council) &amp; John Cortes (Gibraltar Ornithological &amp; Natural History Society and UKOTCF Council)</p> <p><u>Part 1 – Engaging policy makers</u></p>
1.30 - 1.35 pm	<b>Introduction</b>
1.35 - 1.50 pm	<b>Economic valuation (as a tool for engaging policy makers): Total Economic Value of Bermuda’s Coral Reefs.</b> Samia Sarkis (Department of Conservation Services, Bermuda)
1.50 - 1.55 pm	Questions
1.55 - 2.15 pm	<b>Raising the Profile of the UKOTs in the UK Parliament.</b> Paul Keetch (MP and House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee)
2.15 - 2.20 pm	Questions
2.15 - 2.30 pm	<b>The Environment as an Election Issue: The Virgin Islands Experience.</b> Bertrand Lettsome (Dept of Fisheries & Conservation, British Virgin Islands)
2.30 - 2.35 pm	Questions
2.35 - 3.00 pm	<b>Discussion</b>
3.00 - 3.20 pm	Break
	<u>Part 2 – Engaging the public</u>
3.20 - 3.35 pm	<b>Campaigning - Buy Back Bermuda.</b> Jennifer Gray (Bermuda National Trust & Bermuda Audubon Society)
3.35 - 3.40 pm	Questions
3.40 - 3.55 pm	<b>How long a reprieve for the Grand Cayman Ironwood Forest?</b> Lilian Hayball (University College of the Cayman Islands)
3.55 - 4.00 pm	Questions
4.00 - 4.15 pm	<b>The Church as an Advocate for Conservation.</b> Rev. M. Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon. (Cayman Islands)
4.15 - 4.20 pm	Questions
4.20 - 4.45 pm	<b>Discussion</b>

4.45 - 5.00 pm	Break - to get people out of session, to rooms and reassemble for trip.
<b>5.00 pm</b>	Coaches depart from Westin for: <b>Session I: outside evening event</b> National Trust for the Cayman Islands to host dinner at one of their sites (probably the Mission House)
8.30 pm	Coaches depart to return to Westin, arriving back about 9.00 pm

<b>Wednesday 3 June</b>	
6.30 - 8.00 am	Buffet breakfast
<b>7.30 - 9.30 am</b> (Take early breakfast!)	<b>Session J: UKOTCF Southern Oceans Working Group meeting</b> <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Iain Orr (SOWG Chairman) & Catherine Quick (SOWG Secretary)
9.30 - 10.00 am	Break
<b>10.00 am - 1.00 pm</b>	<b>Session K: Invasive species</b> <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Oliver Cheesman (UKOTCF Development Director) & Karen Varnham (University of Bristol and UKOTCF Council)
10.00 - 10.10 am	<b>Introduction</b>
10.10 - 10.30 am	<b>The South Atlantic Invasive Species (SAIS) Project.</b> Andrew Darlow (St Helena SAIS Project Officer, RSPB)
10.30 - 10.35 am	Questions
10.35 - 10.50 am	<b>Lessons from the Caicos Pine Scale.</b> Bryan Naqqi Manco (Senior Conservation Officer, Turks & Caicos National Trust)
10.50 - 10.55 am	Questions
10.55 - 11.10 am	<b>Invasive species in the UKOTs and CDs – What’s new?</b> Karen Varnham (University of Bristol) and Tara Pelembe (JNCC)
11.10 - 11.15 am	Questions
11.15 - 11.30 am	<b>Invasive species: awareness-raising and education – getting rid of stuff that people like, with little or no money.</b> Mat Cottam (Cayman Islands Department of Environment)
11.30 - 11.35 am	Questions
11.35 am - 1.00 pm	<b>Guided discussion What is needed for the future?</b> Facilitators: Oliver Cheesman (UKOTCF Development Director) & Karen Varnham (University of Bristol)
1.00 - 2.00 pm	Lunch

<b>2.00 - 5.00 pm</b>	<b>Session L: Enhancing capacity - how on earth are we going to cope with the workload?</b> <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Dace Ground (Bermuda National Trust and UKOTCF Council) & Mat Cottam (Cayman Islands Department of Environment)
2.00 - 2.05 pm	<b>Introduction - format of the session,</b> Dace Ground
2.05 - 2.20 pm	<b>Introduction: Enhancing capacity - how on earth are we going to cope with the workload?</b> Frederic J. Burton, (Director, Blue Iguana Recovery Programme, Grand Cayman)
2.20 - 2.30 pm	<b>Bottlenecks in implementing action plans.</b> Colin Clubbe (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)
2.30 - 2.45 pm	Discussion
2.45 - 3.00 pm	<b>JNCC Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies Programme - Fundraising.</b> Nikki Chapman (Joint Nature Conservation Committee)
3.00 - 3.20 pm	Discussion
3.20 - 3.35 pm	<b>Mobilising local volunteers in support of environmental work: a Falklands Conservation Case Study.</b> Pierre Pistorius (Conservation Officer, Falklands Conservation) <b>Volunteers on Ascension.</b> Stedson Stroud, Ascension Island Government
3.35 - 3.50 pm	<b>The UKOTCF approach to volunteers.</b> Dace Ground <b>Notes from a non-traditional UKOTCF volunteer.</b> Steve Cheeseman
3.50 - 4.00 pm	<b>Summary of Member organisations' responses to the UKOTCF consultation re capacity building.</b> Oliver Cheesman
4.00 - 5.00 pm	<b>Discussion - What do we need? How can the Forum help?</b>
5.00 - 5.30 pm	Break
<b>5.30 - 7.30 pm</b>	<b>Session M: UKOTCF Europe Territories Working Group meeting</b> <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Liz Charter (ETWG Chairman) & Colin Hindmarch (ETWG Secretary)
7.30 pm	Free for self-organised dinner and ad-hoc meetings

<b>Thursday 4 June</b>	
7.00 - 8.00 am	Buffet breakfast
<b>08.15 for 08.30 am – 3.10 pm</b>	<b>Session N: Joined-up thinking – institutional arrangements for environmental management</b> How do key government and NGO players work together, engage with other stakeholders and manage their information base? <u>Co-ordinators:</u> Liz Charter (Chief Wildlife & Conservation Officer, Isle of Man), Farah Mukhida (Executive Director, Anguilla National Trust) and Mike Pienkowski (UKOTCF Chairman)



8.30 - 8.40 am	Introduction
	<b><u>Part 1 – Joined-up government and government-NGO co-operation</u></b>
8.40 – 8.55 am	<b>Government/NGO partnerships - successes and failures in Cayman.</b> Gina Ebanks-Petrie (Director, Department of Environment, Cayman Islands Government)
8.55 – 9.00 am	Questions
9.00 – 9.15am	<b>Working together for biodiversity on the Isle of Man.</b> Liz Charter (Chief Wildlife & Conservation Officer, Isle of Man Government and UKOTCF Council)
9.15 – 9.20 am	Questions
9.20 – 9.35 am	<b>The role of a Governor in environmental issues in the UK Overseas Territories.</b> Michael Gore (former UKOT Governor; former Council Member of UKOTCF & Chairman of the Wider Caribbean Working Group; Wildlife Photographer)
9.35 – 9.40 am	Questions
9.40 – 10.10 am	<b>Round-up/discussion on Part 1 of session</b>
10.10 – 10.40 am	Break
	<b><u>Part 2 – Joining up the conference conclusions and address by the UK Minister for Biodiversity</u></b>
10.40 – 11.30 am	<b>Summary of conference outputs</b>
11.30 – 11.50 am	<b>Address by Huw Irranca-Davies MP</b> (Minister for the Natural and Marine Environment, Wildlife and Rural Affairs, UK Government)
11.50 am – 12.20 pm	Questions
12.20 – 1.30 pm	Lunch
	<b><u>Part 3 – Information sharing</u></b>
1.30 – 1.45 pm	Mechanism for information/data sharing in-Territory: <b>Ascension Environmental Information Operations Utility (AEIOU): Integrated Information Management for Joined up Environmental Custodianship</b> Alan Mills (consultant)
1.45 – 1.50 pm	Questions
1.50 – 2.05 pm	Mechanisms for information/data sharing cross-Territory: <b>UKOTCF database.</b>
2.05 – 2.10 pm	Questions
2.10 – 2.25 pm	<b>Linking with other territories.</b> Short introduction from Dr Colin Hindmarh (UKOTCF) and presentation on NET-BIOME by Marimar Villagarcia (Instituto Canario de Ciencias Marinas, Canary Islands, Spain)
2.25 – 2.30 pm	Questions

2.30 – 3.10 pm	<b>Round-up/discussion on part 3 of the session</b>
<b>3.10 – 10.30 pm</b>	<b>Session O: Conference closing</b>
3.10 – 3.25 pm	<b>Student view on conference topics</b>
3.25 – 4.00 pm	<b>Closing comments</b>
4.00 – 4.45 pm	Break
4.45 pm	Short coach transfer to dock. Load conference participants on to 2 large catamarans for <b>evening cruise to marine ecosystems</b> (viewed from boat): North Sound sandbanks (stingray city) and mangroves; and on to closing conference dinner near NE shore of North Sound.
7.00pm	<b>Conference closing dinner</b> (Kaibo)
9.00pm	Catamarans depart from dinner location
10.30pm (approx)	Return to hotel from catamarans via short coach transfer
<b>Friday 5 June</b>	
7.00 - 8.00 am	Buffet breakfast
	<b>Departures</b>



*The conference's youngest "participant," Isla Wensink, the daughter of UKOTCF Co-ordinator, Catherine Quick*

## **Appendix 2. List of Posters and Displays**

### **Planet Guernsey**

Andrew Casebow, States of Jersey

### **Fundraising sources for Overseas Territories Nature Conservation Projects**

Nikki Chapman, Joint Nature Conservation Committee

### **Conservation work of Isle of Man Government**

Liz Charter, Isle of Man Government

### **Fourth Albatross and Petrel Conference (August 2008)**

John Cooper, University of Cape Town

### **Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society**

John Cortes, Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society

### **Community conservation of basking sharks in the Isle of Man, British Isles**

Fiona Gell, Isle of Man Government

### **Marine Conservation in the Isle of Man**

Fiona Gell, Isle of Man Government

### **Plant Ecology on Ascension Island**

Alan Gray, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

### **Opportunities for collaborative projects: The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology**

Alan Gray, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

### **Plant Conservation in the UK Overseas Territories**

Martin Hamilton, Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew

### **Caicos Pine Recovery Project**

Bryan Naqqi Manco, Turks and Caicos National Trust

### **Introducing the International National Trust Organisation**

Oliver Maurice, International National Trust Organisation

### **JNCC Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies Programme**

Tara Pelembe, Deborah Proctor & Deanna Donovan, Joint Nature Conservation Committee

### **Invertebrate Conservation in the UK Overseas Territories**

Jamie Roberts, Buglife - Invertebrate Conservation Trust

### **Globally Threatened Birds of the UK Overseas Territories**

Sarah Sanders, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

### **Economic Valuation of Bermuda's Coral Reefs**

Samia Sarkis, Government of Bermuda

### **The endemic plants of the Pitcairn Islands**

Noeleen Smyth, Trinity College, Dublin

**Pitcairn Islands Environment Management Plan**

Noeleen Smyth, Trinity College, Dublin

**South Atlantic Invasives Project**

Clare Stringer, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

**The Chagos Archipelago: Its Nature and the Future**

John Turner, University of Bangor

**Jost van Dykes' Community-based Programme Advancing Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development**

Susan Zaluski, Jost van Dykes Preservation Society

**The Gough mouse eradication programme**

John Cooper

**Posters from the University College of the Cayman Islands:**

The Ironwood Forest by Lilian Hayball - aerial views, map, fauna and flora photos

The Ironwood Forest - fauna and flora - by Ann Stafford - "each one teach one" plant posters of Cayman Ironwood Forest.

The Ironwood Forest edge at UCCI - photos by Martin Royer and Alicia Connolly

Cayman QE II Botanic Park by Vanessa Holness - her own individual plant photos

Cayman QE II Botanic Park by Jessica Hurlston - covering Park ecosystems

Bats of the Cayman Islands by Shari Walters

Cayman Mangroves by Doris de la Cruz

Study of a Wetland [on Cayman] by Jhaneille Ennis

Observations in the Brac by Shari Walton

Coral Reefs in Crisis [around Cayman] by Athena Gregg

Little Sound [Cayman] ecology by Joseph Watler

Botanical Park colour gardens [Cayman] by Maria Aguayo

Botanical Park Fauna and Flora by Omar Clarke

The Woodland Trail [Cayman] by Sharissa McGloughlin

**MAPS:**

World topography showing location of Cayman.

Map of Cayman showing 'Tests of pH around Cayman soils' - by Bio101 students

Map of Grand Cayman 1773, Admiralty Collection copy



*Some of the places in the conference venue that the conferences organisers never reached  
(Photos: Dr Oliver Cheesman - from a distance)*



*The closing session on the  
catamaran at sunset  
(Photo: Catherine Quick)*

## Appendix 3. Participants

Surname	First Name	Title	Organisation	Position
Allen	Sushein	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Arthur	Steve	Mr	UK Department for International Development	Programme Manager
Austin	Timothy J	Mr	Department of Environment, Cayman Islands	Assistant Director - Research and Assessment
Ballance	Anna	Ms	UK Department for International Development	Environment Advisor
Baker	Clive	Mr	Cayman Islands Department of Education	Head of Curriculum Services
Bates	Chris	Mr	Government of Tristan da Cunha	UK Representative
Bates	Julie	Mrs	UK	
Bensusan	Keith	Dr	Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society	
Blake	Damarrow	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Blencowe	Eric	Mr	DEFRA	Head, International Biodiversity Policy Unit
Bodden	Alexis	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Bodden	Dustin	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands, Cayman Brac	student
Bothwell	John	Mr	Department of Environment, Cayman Islands	
Burton	Frederic J	Mr	Blue Iguana Project, Cayman	Director
Byrne	James	Mr	The Nature Conservancy, USA	
Casebow	Andrew	Dr	States of Guernsey	States Agriculture and Environment Advisor
Chapman	Nikki	Dr	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Overseas Territories Fund raising officer
Charter	Elizabeth	Ms	Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry	Chief Wildlife and Conservation Officer
Cheeseman	Mary	Mrs	UKOTCF volunteer in UKOTs	
Cheeseman	Stephen	Mr	UKOTCF volunteer in UKOTs	
Cheesman	Oliver	Dr	UKOTCF	Development Director
Christie	Darren	Mr	Government of South Georgia and South Sandwich Is	South Georgia Environment Officer
Christie	Pippa	Mrs	South Georgia	
Christie	Heather	Ms	Foreign and Commonwealth Office	Desk Officer Env. & Climate Change OTs Directorate
Clarke	Byron	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	staff
Clubbe	Colin	Dr	Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew	Head, Conservation Team
Coleman	Natalie	Ms	Cayman National Gallery	Director

<b>Surname</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Position</b>
Cooper	John	Dr	CORE Initiatives	
Corbin	Roger	Mr	National Trust for the Cayman Islands	Chairman
Cortes	John	Dr	Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society	General Secretary
DaCosta-Cottam	Mat	Dr	Department of Environment, Cayman Islands	
Darlow	Andrew	Mr	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	SAIS Project Officer Ascension & St Helena
David	Charles	Dr	La Société Guernesiaise	Immediate Past President
Dequito	Manuel	Mr	Dart Nursery & Arboretum, Grand Cayman	
Dinwiddy	Bruce	Mr	UKOTCF	Chairman of WCWG, Council Member
Donovan	Deanna	Dr	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Environmental Economist
Ebanks	Alson	Rev	Cayman Islands	
Ebanks	Aston	Mr	Cayman Islands	artist
Ebanks-Petrie	Gina	Ms	Department of Environment, Cayman Islands	Director
Fergus	Eudora	Lady	Montserrat National Trust	Director
Feuer	Elke	Ms	Dart Nursery & Arboretum, Grand Cayman	
Freeman	Mike	Mr	States of Jersey Environmental Division	Principle Ecologist
Gell	Fiona	Dr	Isle of Man Government, Wildlife & Conservation Div	Snr Wildlife and Conservation Officer, Marine
Gibbs-Williams	Ethlyn	Ms	Turks & Caicos National Trust	Executive Director
Gore	Michael	Mr	Wild Photographer	
Gray	Alan	Dr	Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, UK	
Gray	Jennifer	Ms	Bermuda National Trust	Executive Director
Green	Michelle	Ms	Dart Nursery & Arboretum, Grand Cayman	
Ground	Dace	Mrs	Bermuda National Trust/UKOTCF Council	Council Member of both
Hadjikyriakou	Thomas	Mr	Akrotiri Education and Information Centre	Manager
Hamilton	Martin	Dr	Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew	UKOTs Programme Coordinator
Hayball-Clarke	Lilian	Mrs	University College of the Cayman Islands	Associate Professor Science
Hindmarch	Colin	Dr	UKOTCF	Council Member
Howell	Edgar	Mr	Department of Education, TCI	Deputy Director of Education
Irranca-Davies	Huw	Mr	UK Government	MP & Minister for Biodiversity
Jackson	Jodiann	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student

<b>Surname</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Position</b>
July	Mark	Mr	Natural England	Senior Specialist Government and Communities
Jurn	Katrina	Ms	University of Cambridge	PhD Student
Keetch	Paul	Mr	House of Commons, UK	MP for Hereford
Keeley	Martin	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands	Director Cayman Brac Campus
Laing	Marnie	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands	
Lalor	Pauline	Mrs	UK	
Lettsome	Bertrand	Mr	British Virgin Islands Government	Chief Conservation & Fisheries Officer
Lewis	Tashara	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Cayman Brac	student
Manco	Bryan Naqqi	Mr	Turks and Caicos National Trust	Senior Conservation Officer
Manoosingh	Jasmin	Ms	John Gray High School, Grand Cayman	
Maurice	Oliver	Mr	International National Trusts Organisation	Honorary Director
McIntosh	Sarah	Ms	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)	Executive Director
McClellan	Alwyn	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Mendes	Stephen	Mr	Department of Environment	Environment Education Officer
Mills	Alan	Mr	Alan Mills Consulting Ltd	Director
Minto	Maureen	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Mukhida	Farah	Ms	Anguilla National Trust	Executive Director
Nickelson	Stephen	Mr	Cayman national Gallery	Intern
Orr	Iain	Mr	UKOTCF	Chair, Southern Oceans Working Group
Pelembe	Tara	Mrs	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Overseas Territories Officer
Peters	Isabel	Ms	St Helena Government	Environment Coordinator
Pienkowski	Ann	Mrs	UKOTCF	Environmental Education Coordinator
Pienkowski	Mike	Dr	UKOTCF	Chairman
Pinel	John	Mr	States of Jersey Environmental Department; and Société Jersiaise	Head of Countryside Management
Pistorius	Pierre	Dr	Falklands Conservation	Conservation Officer/ Acting CEO
Procter	Deborah	Ms	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Climate Change Advisor
Quick	Catherine	Miss	UKOTCF	Forum Coordinator
Roberts	Jamie	Mr	St Helena National Trust	Executive Director Designate
Samuel	William	Mr	UKOTCF	Council Member



<b>Surname</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Position</b>
Sanders	Sarah	Ms	RSPB	International Officer
Sangan	Piers	Mr	Plymouth University, UK	student
Sarkis	Samia	Dr	Department of Conservation Services, Bermuda	Protected Species Coordinator
Schulterbrandt	Sheila	Mrs	Virgin Islands Environment Council	President
Selver	Euwonka	Ms	Turks & Caicos Islands	
Shereves	Kevin R	Mr	Cayman Net News	Staff Writer
Smith	Noel	Mr	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Smith	Shandi	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Smith-Abbott	Joseph	Mr	British Virgin Islands National Parks Trust	Director
Smyth	Noeleen	Dr	Rep for Pitcairn Islands, Trinity College, Dublin	Conservation Botanist
Stringer	Clare	Mrs	RSPB	South Atlantic Project Manager
Stroud	Stedson	Mr	Ascension Island Government	Assistant Conservation Officer
Thomas	Rob	Mr	Royal Zoological Society Scotland	Conservation and Research Manager
Turnbull	Lindsey	Mrs	The Cayman Islands Journal	Editor
Turner	John	Dr	Chagos Conservation Trust/Bangor University	Executive Committee Member/Senior Lecturer
Tydeman	Chris	Mr	The Herpetological Conservation Trust	Chair
Vamham	Karen	Ms	Bristol University	Postgraduate Student; UKOTCF Council
Villagarcia	Marimar	Dra	Instituto Canario de Ciencias Marinas (ICCM)	Researcher
Watler	Lakeisha	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Whorms-Harvey	Amanda	Ms	University College of the Cayman Islands, Grand Cayman	student
Zaluski	Susan	Ms	Jost van Dyke Preservation Society	Programme Director

## Appendix 4. Feedback from participants

We heard from you !

Conference participants were asked to complete a feedback form, which could be anonymous or otherwise, as the participant preferred. The preamble to the feedback form said:

“This conference depends on a substantial amount of funding from the sponsoring bodies, the time (both paid and very largely volunteer) of organizers, and certainly not least the time and effort of all the participants. We are anxious to assess how useful this was and any lessons that can be learnt. We also want to capture any ideas that you have for future priorities for our joint efforts in relation to conservation in the UK Overseas Territories & Crown Dependencies and related countries. We would be grateful for your views. To help you in recalling aspects and to help us analyse the results, we have included some questions here, but do not feel the need to answer all of them, and please feel free to add any other points.”

Most participants responded, and we are grateful to them for their comments. These responses are summarized below, with the original questions given as the section headings. In a few cases, the comments have been moved to the sections to which they better relate.

It is worth noting first several general points that affect the analysis:

1. Most comments ask for more content, but few say what could be dropped. Although presenting a difficulty in respect of budgeting for any future conference, this seems to indicate that most elements were valued.
2. Many suggestions effectively commit time of other people which may simply not be available.
3. Some comments were based on assumptions about how funds were deployed which were not correct.
4. Some comments were internally contradictory. For example, one respondent asked, at one point in the questionnaire, for more structure within the programme, but complained that it was too structured at another point in the same document.

Generally, these points do not affect the summary conclusions below.

**1. Please indicate, for any of the following sessions, any aspects that you found useful for your work (especially if you think that they will change how you approach aspects of it). Please indicate also any parts of the sessions that you thought were of little value to you.**

### A) Posters and displays

The most common phrases used were: “excellent, good selection, good space, interesting, well arranged”.

The student posters were very popular and some thought that they should have had a greater prominence in the room and more widely encouraged from all Territories. The JNCC display boards were admired as were the UKOTCF posters in the plenary room. The posters were seen by some as a really useful way of learning how things are done in order territories, what their problems are, and how they are being overcome.

As many commented on the value of being able to take material away, the suggestion of a “project fair” instead of (or as well as) posters could be valuable. This could help to encourage sharing of outputs of OTEP and other projects. Often results and outputs such as field guides are not widely disseminated across the UKOTs, despite the offer from, and efforts of, the UKOTCF web-site to help in this regard. The conference is an excellent additional opportunity to do so.

Here are some of the other thoughts:

*“[The] poster room wasn’t ideal for session due to dining tables, but perhaps unavoidable.”*

*“It was all of interest and much of it was directly useful, especially house mouse removal from Tristan”.*

*“The UKOTs [were] very interesting. [The] government agencies [were] less so as too familiar”.*

*“As with previous conference, poster/display area seemed like an afterthought and didn’t provide for a nice experience for presenters or audience”.*

[The situation was actually the reverse; a great deal of planning and effort went into this. The real problem lay in that relatively few poster-presenters responded in full to the organizers’ repeated requests for details of the space they needed.]

[At the end, those posters available were taken

by Stedson Stroud, Conservation Officer Ascension Island, for the new OTEP project on Green Mountain where they will be used to educate local children about the UKOTs.]

## **B) Introduction to Cayman experience and conference initiation by field visit**

All delegates thought there was a good choice of trips (Pedro St James, Botanic Gardens and the Mastic Trail) and they were clever ice-breakers. Those hiking the Mastic Trail thought it was excellent. The assistance and guides were very knowledgeable, which enhanced the experience and while being educational it was also very enjoyable.

Some felt that they would have liked to have heard more about island economics, infrastructure, rubbish, water supply, social issues, waste management, power etc, as a case study, rather than the questions-and-answer session - which, although a good session, a few felt ran into time spent at the gardens and pressed the two speakers unnecessarily. Others felt that this constituted one of the best discussion sessions of the conference. (Previous experience by the conference organisers, working both with UKOTCF and other organisations, has indicated that discussions in field situations can be very successful. They are, however, very difficult to orchestrate.)

Here are some of the other thoughts:

*"[It was] good to re-visit some sites to see progress made since my last visit and to learn of programmes working successfully".*

*"I felt a bit rushed".*

*"Enjoyed and found useful; Cayman conservation presentation was excellent; lunch in Botanic Gardens meeting Blue Iguana was magical illustrating the importance of conservation".*

*"It was a nice walk for a Sunday morning and will never forget the cannibalistic racers. I came away feeling very knowledgeable about the immediacy of the Trail but ignorant of the wider on-the-ground issues facing Cayman. Perhaps that would have been unrealistic".*

*"As a National Trust member, I was particularly impressed with the apparent strength of the Cayman Trust. I would like to establish links with this Trust to aid in our local Trust's identification / management and marketing of own UKOT heritage product."*

*"[The coach tour was a] very useful introduction to the island and its history at Pedro St James. [I] had a very valuable discussion about selling black*

*coral and CITES. This could have been included in the day as a formal element before people bought earrings as gifts for family".*

## **C) Short session on Progress on Environment Charter implementation**

Overall, the participants thought that this was a useful and informative session with a clear summary. While several mention that there could have been better way of communicating the progress instead of reeling off data, others thought that the presentation of detail in the conference handbook, with a brief spoken summary, was very effective. Generally, the case study was thought to be excellent and a model for other UKOTs to work from.

One suggestion for follow-up was that perhaps an information paper or memo could be sent to UKOT's governments reminding them of their responsibilities, but at the same time confirming UK Government's commitment (financially and otherwise ) to the cause. However, this would need the same commitment from UKG, which is not generally thought to be the case.

Another was that, for countries like Montserrat and Anguilla which are also party to agreements on a regional level, the charter should be re-examined in order for the country to service both agreements, but at the same time avoid double reporting requirements. (This has been discussed at previous conferences, with general agreement that simple "translation" lists between the two forms of agreement should be easy, so that the benefits of both agreements could be enjoyed, without lots of effort into extra reporting. UKOTCF has previously indicated its willingness to help with this on an individual UKOT basis if that would be helpful.)

Here are some of the other comments:

*"This does make a valuable yardstick for CDs as well as UKOTs. Yes we will get this up to date. We will also be working on an IOM Environment Charter".*

*"It may have been more useful if the group could have been split so that individuals could discuss gaps/filling them in".*

*"A mechanistic, measuring inputs approach (number of publications, number of plans etc) without any weighting of which indicators are the most important, does not seem the best way of assessing progress against a broad set of aspirations. Apart from putting a lot of red squares against TCI, I don't think that a clear analysis of overall*

*trends (or their causes) in each UKOT can be derived from this.*”

[Such an exercise is inevitably a compromise between the obtaining of the best information and the practicability of doing so. UKOTCF held a wide consultation over many months before settling on the measures used. There is no suggestion of attempting to develop a single indicator score.]

*“Interesting, as it highlights the fact that not all reports are to be taken seriously as they do not always capture situations as they really are”.*

*“All charters [this probably should read strategies or plans to implement the Charters] should contain within them the human financial resources needs for them to succeed and be audited against actual capacity”.*

Several have mentioned the need for a mechanism to be put in place where funding can be made available to fulfil directly obligations under the charter. Other mechanisms should also consider long-term capacity-building in order to sustain effectively viable management of the environment.

#### **D) Short session on Environmental Education**

Participants thought this session was: “useful, well-organised, important”.

Several participants mention that it would have been a useful extra to have some form of round-up and general buy-in to what happens next among all the territories. One suggestion was to have more demonstrations rather than lectures (which would have been the case if time for a full session had been available). Another initiative could be to produce a (How To) handbook for environmental education in the UKOTs. This could include a comprehensive communication strategy that covers all sectors of society to include class sessions, public meetings, policy briefs, organising lunches, dinner or cocktail session furthermore a strategy for TV/ radio spots.

Here are some of the other thoughts:

*“The most important part for me since is my field of work. It was great to see examples from other territories, identifying opportunities for networking”.*

*“Very useful session; received quite a number of interests from persons regarding Turks and Caicos National Trust’s summer camp. It is always good to share successful programmes and projects with others as there could be opportunities to adapt ideas and implement new approaches to improve*

*services”.*

*“Student involvement really made the conference”.*

*“Useful and interesting to see what is being done but feel there is still too much reinventing the wheel”* [to overcome which is why the new UKOTCF web-database module on Environmental Education resources has been developed].

#### **E) Climate change – impacts and adaptation .**

The most frequent comments were: “too familiar, general, interesting, fascinating”.

Most thought that the presentations were very good, but that the discussion never took-off. Most acknowledged that much needs to be done in this area in all territories.

Some suggestions are that a hand-book could be developed to assist in identifying various adaptation initiatives that could be employed in the UKOTs/CDs. This could link UKOTs to developers/firms that offer alternate energy solutions. Generally, participants felt that, for small territories, “overcoming the potential dangers (such as sea changes, storm, fires, etc) are too great and expensive to be taken by islands only.” A regional approach to this problem is essential and the EU-funded South Atlantic Invasives project should be taken as a model.

Here are some other thoughts:

*“I would like to have seen updates on adaptations from each territory on where they are with their national adaptation plans”.*

*“[I] appreciated the emphasis of cost effective adaptations”.*

*“As this subject would have been very familiar to most, a workshop to build on this knowledge would have been more useful”.*

*“[This is] something we can’t go on ignoring on [our island; it is] especially relevant in relation to invasives. [It was] useful to hear Guernsey’s paper”.*

#### **F) Spatial Planning, Protected Areas and International Standards – assets or liabilities?**

Some of the phrases used here were “passionate, thought-provoking”.

The thoughts from this session were very mixed. Whilst some thought the presentations were interesting, relevant and helpful, others thought that this session could have been more coordinated and bet-

ter prepared with clear conclusions and outcomes. One suggestion was that a future session might attempt to “compare and contrast” the different issues in site protection between those parts of territories with inhabitants and those with none by comparing for example: Falklands with SGSSI; Caribbean with BIOT and within UKOTs: Tristan with Gough; Pitcairn with Henderson. This could be in a format more like a debate.

Another is that as papers are sent some time prior to the conference. Perhaps some feedback to the authors would help cater to the overall theme of the sessions. (The organisers note that there is great difficulty in getting papers in advance.)

Some other thoughts were:

*“Some presentations too long and so discussions could not take off”.* [This was due to some speakers greatly exceeding the agreed time, and chairpersons failing to stop them.]

*“Good UKOT presentations – would be great to have a database of good UKOT examples as suggested but should check first to see if more appropriate to include in already existing databases.*

*“[Some of the young people] were compelling speakers, and I hope their talent can be nurtured”.*

*“[This session] highlighted the wealth of information that can be shared to make informed decision making. There is a need here to build capacity in this area, identify data deficiencies and promote the use of spatial planning throughout all sectors. Recommendations need to be forwarded to local Governments in order for strict data collection and protocols to be followed, and possibly explore ways this can become a revenue making service”.*

*“Excellent session could have made this a whole day, given its importance for the future.* [This could, of course, be said of all topics – and, indeed, largely was. Equally, there was enormous pressure to include more topics – but the two demands are incompatible.]

*“[This] really needed a facility approach”.*

### **G) Raising our profile - engaging policy makers and the public**

Some of the most used phrases were: “worthwhile, inspiring and valuable”.

It was suggested that this session should be a feature of future conferences (but this conflicts with the popular demand before the conference that priority be given to those topics not addressed at the immediately preceding conference).

Here are some other thoughts:

*“Appreciate time spent on governor’s role and their limits, and they are still influential if interested in doing so.”*

*“A workshop might have generated more ideas on how to deal with this important area.”*

*“A handbook for dummies could be published to best address how one should negotiate / engage policy makers and the public. It is critical here to identify someone within the hierarchy of the HMG / The Crown / entertainment industry and the press to assist to champion the cause.” Another suggestion was a summarising paper to join all six presentations together.*

*“ [The] economic evaluation of natural resources is a good way to raise appreciation for the natural heritage and influencing decisions ”.*

*“[I] value the session with Paul Keetch adding useful and stimulating Westminster dimension”.*

*“Some ideas will be well worth implementing at home”.*

*“Inspirational stuff from Bermuda in particular”.*

*“I believe this is very strategic issue for the territories; island people are very proud of their local/regional landscape, flora and fauna and this fact can be used to engage the locals into key matters affecting land conservation, biodiversity, invasive species”.*

*“This session brought out the need for UKOTs to be more united and to speak with one voice to be able to make a lasting impression on HMG”.*

### **H) NTCI evening event**

Overall, the participants all enjoyed this event and paid tribute to the warm welcome by the National Trust and for all their hard work that had gone into its preparation. Most described it as “excellent, lovely, enjoyable, and wonderful”.

A few expressed concern over the environmental impact of the event and felt that this should have been taken into consideration, given the subject matter discussed during the day.

A suggestion made by some of the participants was that this type of event should be a feature of all conferences, given the success of the hosts in communicating their history and character. Furthermore, an exchange programme could be set-up for territories to learn from each other and use the Cayman Islands as a good example.

Here are some other thoughts:

*“[There] should have had a doggy bag to collect*

*more fluffy dumplings!”*

*“[I] enjoyed the cultural feel. Stimulated new ideas for our cultural awareness and preservation programme. Appropriate for National Trust representatives to experience cultural heritage of Grand Cayman as well as conversations during the sessions. Personal commendation on Chairman, staff, volunteers for an excellent display of culture and keep up the good work”.*

*“[I] enjoyed the charmingly produced play and meeting local people. [It was] also great to see bat emergence and nighthawk.*

#### **I) Enhancing capacity - how on earth are we going to cope with the workload?**

Most participants thought that, while trying to cover many topics, the presentations from the territories were excellent.

Most agreed that it was good to see different approaches to a volunteering programme in several territories. One suggestion was to create volunteer policy for territories to use so that they have objectives, and goals are managed and have an understanding of protocol and guidelines. One idea is that this session should be made at the highest levels to convince policy makers of its importance.

Here are some other thoughts:

*“Other capacity options could have been included such as sponsorship and secondments.” [UKOTCF is actually including these in its current considerations about taking this forward.]*

*“We look forward to UKOTCF further developing the volunteer coordination system.”*

*“Some guidance should have been given on which funding sources are most promising sources.”*

*“Makes me realise how behind we are in local capacity on human resources management”.*

*“One of the sessions where “Making the right connections” lived up to its billing”.*

*“Colin Clubbe’s presentation on “how to make a good plan” was also strong and practical”.*

*“More could have been made of Mat DaCosta-Cottam’s framework document “The goose that laid the golden eggs” which was rather buried away in the conference pack, and not discussed in plenary”.*

*“ [It] didn’t necessarily tackle the problem of living within a non-volunteer culture”.*

#### **J) Invasive species**

Most of the comments were “excellent, useful,

progress, relevant”.

Many believe that much more work needs to be carried out in this field but that significant progress has been made through the EU-funded SA Invasives project. One suggestion was that this session could have been used to create some concrete outputs such as a “Top 10 invasives” for each of the territories.

Here are some other thoughts:

*“The comment from Martin Hamilton regarding invasive species and native plant nurseries encouraged me to stay on course in trying to establish a nursery on Providenciales and gave me ideas for public awareness activities”.*

*“[This] brought about a lively discussion, particularly about the image of invasives and now to market eradication programmes to the public”.*

*“[I] was left feeling very positive about the new OTEP funded-Invasives databases and awareness-project”.*

*“[This is] clearly something that is developing at a regional level with UKOTs and has a degree of momentum although threatened by a lack of resources”.*

*“[It had an] excellent breadth of material. More costed remediation evidence and cost/benefit studies could inform this subject”.*

#### **K) Regional Working Group meetings**

Most participants thought that the working group meetings are a unique opportunity for territory representative to meet face-to-face, and to form plans on how to work together.

However, a few felt disappointed with the venue, as it was not intimate or inclusive, and some sessions were unproductive as too many formal procedures were followed. One suggestion was that an informal regional discussion could take place earlier in the week, with a more formal working group meeting later on. Another was that the session could have been used to fine-tune project proposals that are identified beforehand. Another was that a one-page note on goals, previous conclusions, structure of group within the forum, council, and the role of the UK etc on screen at beginning of session to give some background. What certainly became clear was that, for some organisations involved in UKOTCF Working Groups, their regular representatives need to do more to disseminate discussions within their organisations. UKOTCF will consider ways in which it might help repre-

sentatives to do that.

Here are some other remarks:

*"[The session] was disorganised;*

*"The opportunity to capture issues rather than report on them was wasted"*.

*"WCWG was useful... though I always think it is a shame that these group meetings seem to be slotted in at the end of the day when folk are feeling tired – I think more time could be made for these meetings"*.

#### **L) Joined-up thinking – institutional arrangements for environmental management**

Participants thought this session gave an excellent account of the arrangements in the Cayman Islands. One suggestion was to hand over the entire session to the host to chair, as well as to share experiences, as this would have given them more time to explore the relationships and give more guidance as an example to other UKOTs. (However, this idea does not really recognise the heavy loading already on host organisations.)

Here are some thoughts:

*"It would have been good to have a workshop for the EU-funded Net-Biome project where further explanation could have been given and guidance on how to complete the questionnaire."*

*"I didn't feel that much came out of these sessions, possibly because many people were preoccupied with the Ministerial session to come. The lesson being - put the Minister first on the bill next time."* [Sadly, this suggestion is impracticable; we have to fit in with Ministerial diaries; we cannot set them.]

*"[This was an] interesting concept. [It was] very necessary for smaller countries where resources are limited."*

*"This approach could particularly assist Montserrat in creating a centralised Lab/ research station that could be patronised by various organisations"*.

*"[It was] particularly relevant and interesting for comparing and contrasting between UKOTs and guiding practice"*.

#### **M) Cruise to view marine ecosystems from boat: North Sound sand-banks and mangroves; and on to closing conference dinner**

Although most participants would have liked to have seen more of the ecosystems and heard more from the locals regarding the challenges facing the Cayman Islands, they thought the event was "per-

fect, brilliant and a great experience". The informal closing helped to forge and strengthen relationships and overall a great networking opportunity.

Here are some other thoughts:

*"Magical and wonderfully self-indulgent"*

*"Wonderful.....nuff said!!"*

*"After hearing about mangrove swamps and the destruction by man for human purposes for many years, the chance to see this in reality was somewhat exhilarating, and these swamps definitely need to be conserved for future generations"*.

#### **N) Other elements (e.g. Opening, Conclusions session, informal meetings, etc)**

Aside from the "excellent organisation", the most popular comment was that the informal meetings were the most important thing that came from the conference and more time was needed as they help to form the working relationships. To this end the conference may have helped in "making the right connections".

Suggestions were to reduce the content of the sessions to allow for this and not all lecture style. (This, of course, conflicts with many other suggestions, reported above, for longer sessions. Also, it is important to note that workshop-style sessions - whilst undoubtedly valuable in many situations - generally take more time than discussions triggered by presentations. The series of conferences has varied its style continually, but the organisers recognise that perfection is impossible because of constraints of time, funding etc. They will keep trying.)

Some other comments:

*"Some UKOT participants were barely 'used' by the meeting."* [In fact, a lot of effort was put into making sure that Territory speakers (and in other roles) were the majority, and from as wide a spread as possible. Where necessary, the conference organizers provided help with their preparation.] *"Break up the sessions with an informal day [as] discussion sessions improved as the conference went on, because more people felt at ease expressing themselves"*. [This was one reason why the organisers held the informal day at the start, and reinforced it, a couple of days later, by the evening hosted by the National Trust of the Cayman Islands.]

*"The Minister's presence was important with an encouraging speech albeit against a very uncertain political backdrop."*

Several participants would have liked to have seen the students more involved and included by the chair in every session as *“their questions are likely to be honest and searching without the political baggage most of us carry”*. [Something nearer this had been originally planned, but local constraints on the students themselves limited the sessions in which they could be involved, and also prevented the planned involvement of a small number of students from other Caribbean UKOTs.]

Many participants thought that the availability of the internet was a good thing; however *“having it in the conference room meant that some people were checking emails rather than listening to talks/ taking part in discussions”*. [It is quite clear, from previous experience and the range of comments, that internet access is highly valued, and worth the considerable effort that the organisers put into providing it. It is probably wrong to assume that persons working on laptops during the sessions were necessarily checking their emails, rather than, for example, taking notes. Even if they were checking emails, the organisers do not see it as their role as monitoring the way participants organise their work, except where that is disruptive to others.]

*“For the conclusions, a slide of each session really summarising may have been more constructive than reading them out.”* [The organisers agree – but, in practice, the task of preparing these summaries was difficult enough for the people doing them, without imposing additional constraints.]

A few participants expressed an interest in receiving a participant list, with contact details. (There are, unfortunately in some ways, now legal constraints on publishing contact details. Participant lists were provided in the conference handbook and updates supplied to participants at registration, and are in these proceedings.)

**2. The choice of session topics was the result of a wide consultation around those working in conservation in the UKOTs and similar areas as to which topics they would find most useful. We tried to accommodate as many of these topics as possible (combining them under broader themes, where appropriate) but could not include them all. If another conference were organized, what topics would you like to see addressed (whether included this time or not)?**

Here are some initial suggestions for future topics :

- Creative fundraising for conservation thinking outside of the box
- Climate change
- Conflicts of infrastructure with/complements environmental conservation
- Economic crisis. How will UKOTs cope with a new UK Government?
- Economic Valuation
- Environmental Audits
- Environmental Education
- Grant Applications
- HMG and Environment Charters
- Invasive Species
- NGO human resourcing; motivating staff on extremely low salaries; keeping up moral and protecting staff from poverty also general human rights issues in staffing.
- Power generation (maybe private sector involvement).
- Protected area management (marine and terrestrial)
- Software training (economic valuation, spatial planning, geo-referencing competition)
- Spatial Planning: Dealing with the drip-drip of routine development planning/ application/ control and its impacts (e.g. soil erosion)
- Territory Standards
- Training opportunities; workshops, associates, MSc's, Post-docs, scholarships, short courses, leadership, project management, HRM
- Volunteerism the key to success and the value of gifts for time.
- Waste management

(This will continue to be explored in the interim before any future conference.)

**3. At the Jersey conference (2006), we experimented with parallel sessions. Feedback strongly suggested that delegates preferred not to have parallel sessions, which were consequently not a feature of the Cayman conference. What are your views on parallel sessions in a conference of this type?**

Most participants were against the idea of parallel session as they can be “confusing” and they mean that delegates miss certain sessions and the group become fragmented. However, a few suggested that workshops would be more helpful to facilitate productive discussions. A combination might be ideal but in a way where if someone wants to attend all sessions/workshops then they can. (The



conference made it clear to session co-ordinators at an early stage that the session format was not fixed, and various formats have been used in different sessions in previous conferences. Most session co-ordinators have tended to conform with the participant view repeated this time that using the whole group as a big workshop is desirable.)

A few have suggested additional regional meetings for example in the Caribbean, Oceans and Europe.

#### **4. Did you make any important links in previous conferences that have aided your own work? If so how do you think they have helped?**

Overall, participants report that these conferences organised by UKOTCF have helped to “foster and maintain” relationships which have “immensely aided work”. The links help to provide technical support for projects funding to attend workshops which provide new ideas and contacts to enhance and strengthen programmes.

Here are some general comments:

*“[The] knowledge and new contacts will be helpful, especially as I work on my own. Suspect many of the benefits become evident over the next few months”.*

*“I make good links at every UKOTCF conference. In Jersey I met Soggy from CSL, and we worked together on a pilot cat eradication project in Little Cayman as a result”.*

*“As a result of past conferences, Montserrat was able to make links and move forward with the economic valuation of the Centre Hills. We were also able to make significant linkages to strengthen planning for an upcoming invasive species project.”*

*“This is my second conference of this type, and I found it very interesting and useful this time. It has helped not only in direct contacts for work, but also in further understanding the UK’s role in the UKOT’s [with regards to] environment, and has generated several ideas on how to implement some of the work required in our territory with collaboration from UK groups. Thank you for inviting me, and I believe this will create a push forward for us.”*

*“[There are] too many to list. The face-to-face with UKOTs personnel is invaluable, especially as many of the territories are so remote and still lack good communication”.*

#### **5. Do you think that a conference of this nature is sufficiently useful that another might be organized somewhere and, if so, after how many years’ interval? Or do you think that the resources would be better deployed in another way? (Although it cannot be guaranteed, of course, that funds not used for a conference would actually be available for other conservation uses)**

Overall, participants felt that these conferences are extremely important and useful and that if funding can be sought then they should take place at 2-3 year intervals to allow continuity.

Here are some comments:

*“Another conference is useful. It would be wise to have Ministerial representation as best as possible from the UK EU and UKOTs present so they have a better understanding of our needs”.*

*“To have a conference like this one that brings all territories together whether the reprehensive have good or bad stories to tell has got to be a way forward”.*

*“Definitely worth repeating in 2012.”*

*“I have found them very useful. Please continue these conferences”.*

*“To have conference in 3 years time would be useful.”*

*“The conference is useful as an opportunity for Territory practitioners to meet each other and their UK equivalents.”*

*“I think that such conferences are good and should be continued as long as the resources are available. It is a good forum to catch up with friends and colleagues, to exchange successes and challenges, to learn from each other and to hear of new approaches to problems, new funding sources, training etc.”*

*“Conferences should be held every two years ideal for continuity.”*

*“Three-year interval seems good, so 2012”.*

*“Conferences should continue to happen but think it might be worth exploring regional conferences at 18 month intervals (e.g. Caribbean in 18 months and then South Oceans 18 months later. Would cut size and distance of travel and possibly mean more participation from UKOTs”.*

*“I welcome the opportunity to be around similar minded people and experience the ideas raised and discussed.”*

*“It was evidently very valuable to bring OT people together to share experiences and understanding.”*

*“Three year intervals are good since you could*

*amass enough new experiences and information to make the sessions meaningful.”*

*“It is very valuable to get together with other territories. I would certainly welcome another conference. Every 3 years is just right.”*

*“I believe the possibility of seeing faces and being able to have interact directly, provides better opportunities to have a good feeling of what is going on in the different UK Territories and Crown Dependencies.”*

*“Yes. Three years. I think the conference is worth the expenditure.”*

*“I think it right that the Forum should meet every three years in a different Territory so that members sharing similar interests and concerns can meet to discuss them.”*

*“Value [of the conference] lies in forging a community of island conservationists.”*

*“Three years is a good time frame”.*

*“[Conferences held every] three years is ideal.”*

*“[Conference is useful] in three year intervals.”*

*“To have a conference like this one that brings all territories together whether the representatives have good or bad stories to tell has got to be a way forward. [We are able to] share problems with other territories for answers.”*

*“A conference every 2 years I believe that would be more efficient, allowing better continuity of persons and issues.”*

*“ These conferences still have several useful functions: stock take and planning, sharing experience and focusing a unique voice for UKOT environmental matters so it is important to hold them every three years.”*

## **6. What would be the most helpful things that the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum could try to do to help its Member and Associate organisations, and other conservation partners (including governments), in the UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies?**

Some suggestions include:

- Advocate for improved policies and resources at UK level in a consultative fashion – e.g. by assisting Member and Associate organisations to respond to consultations.
- Develop and implement the ideas for a volunteers system already piloted to some extent, as outlined in the conference.
- Assist with grant applications and project support.

- Collate information on professionals who might form a pool of expertise that could be utilised by the UKOTs.
- Continue to make good links to assist with funding and communicating to the UK government.
- Continue lobbying EU/UK Gov department’s information and experience sharing.
- Encourage funding applications to be simplified.
- Encourage more networking between territories directly.
- Encourage skills-sharing – mentor local/Territory people in relation to chairing/facilitating, and reporting back. Raise awareness of biodiversity value of UKOTs. Raise awareness of CBD “bang-for-buck” of biodiversity conservation in UKOTs.
- Further develop its communication with its Member and Associate organisations but also more regular contact with island councils. This can be done in several ways: developing the website and blogs.
- Identify a funding stream of an institution willing to support a person to obtain a degree/postgraduate study in an area relevant to biodiversity conservation/management.
- Identify human resources that can be shared in the UKOTs.
- Lobby for an MP in parliament that will represent the overseas territories and ask questions in parliament.
- More initiatives to raise public and business awareness.
- Promote UK Gov facilitation of spatial planning development control and legislative fundamentals for common standards across UKOTs.
- Provide a more direct channel for funding from donor agencies
- Support channelling of more funds from UK to UKOTs.
- Try to facilitate more face-to-face and virtual communication between neighbouring territories.

Here are some additional thoughts:

*“Promote reduced competition between UKOTs for limited funds – otherwise the most biodiverse and threatened will continue to compete against the most biodiverse and threatened. UKOTs should compete against the UK not each other”. [On the other hand, most approved the idea of ear-marked funds for UKOT work.]*

*“[We need] help with links to government agen-*

cies, as Guernsey has no links with JNCC in particular”.

“If emails are not getting a response – call someone and talk about the issues”.

## **7. What would be the most helpful things that the UK Government could try to do to help environmental NGOs and other stakeholders (including governments) in the UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies?**

Some ideas were:

- Allocate sufficient resources on a programmatic rather than a project basis
- Apply pressure to local governments on various issues such as waste management
- Make better use of the expertise and network of UKOTCF as a resource
- Assist Governors with knowledge of environmental matters and best use of funds
- Assist with regional linkages
- Create a channel for direct two-way communication for NGOs to report concerns to the government.
- Enable OTs representation in UK parliament with own MP
- Encourage NGOs/ Stakeholders and local Gov. to sign MOUs
- Ensure good governance and serious and active policing of local government function to be sure funds are allocated and reach their destinations and land transfers happen
- Extend legislation and provide support to implement
- Facilitate international site nominations
- Fulfilment of obligations under the Environment Charters
- Greater commitment based on recognition of UKOTs biodiversity importance and resource constraints
- Improve departmental responsibilities with a clear single lead department
- Increase maritime patrols, e.g. Tristan da Cunha.
- Increase visible tangible support to stakeholders/NGOs and support action plans
- Press the local Governments to recognise importance of and actively save the environment
- Promote/aid take-up of standards across the UKOTs
- Provide assistance in financial management/ project management to strengthen NGO capacity

- Provide funding for large projects (e.g. mouse eradication on Gough)
- Provide resources that are readily accessible to the UKOTs and effective representation
- Provide key posts dedicated to long term programs such as the Charters.
- Provide training from UK (e.g. scientists)
- Recognize extra support needed by small UKOTs (Pitcairn, Tristan da Cunha)
- Recognise the UKOTs as “jewels of the crown” and provide more direct participation and funding
- Thorough knowledge of the constraints faced by very remote UKOTs with small populations

## **8. Has the conference given you ideas and inspiration in order to deal more effectively with challenges in your work? If so, what were they? What do you think that you will do differently as a result of attending this conference?**

Overall, participants have made important and strong links and a deeper understanding of the issues at the Cayman Conference, as well as previous UKOTCF-organised conferences attended.

Some of the ideas that participants will follow up are: formalising volunteer assignments; linking with volunteer coordination by UKOTCF; increasing volunteer involvement; raise public awareness and further heritage conservation; fundraising; work towards a “pay back to the environment” and use fees to support conservation; further networking cooperation between groups; argue strongly for an increased educational role.

One participant listed personal outcomes from the conference:

*“Launched the OTEP invasives species databases and awareness project, received requests for copies of Cayman’s Biodiversity Action Plan from other UKOTs, received project suggestions towards reaching specific NBAP targets (for Ghost Orchid), seen the results of a cross-territories GSPC initiative in which we partnered with Kew, received the offer of expert assistance to establish a National Collection of insects, met with partners to advance the UKOT regional ENTRP EU bid, obtained exposure for my book.”*

Here are some further comments:

*“I think it may be a little difficult for government entities to revolutionise their way of thinking overnight, but certainly for NGOs, they could be in-*

*spired to be more proactive”.*

*“[I] am inspired to press for more volunteer workers obviously this will be difficult also to look into new options for fundraising (the QEII Botanic Park nursery does over 100k in annual sales)”.*

*“Conferences such as this are useful networking opportunities. I feel the conference did allow a platform for some local issues to be aired; it allowed me to expand my network of contacts.”*

*“[The conference] was very useful for a non-specialist to get to know professional colleagues from around the UK as well as UKOTs. [I have a] deeper understanding of the challenges facing the UKOTs and the quality of local personnel wrestling with them. [I have] renewed conviction that UKO-TCF has a uniquely important role.”*

*“[Following the conferences I have] kept up with international partners”.*

*“[The conference has helped aid own work] as seeing how other countries approach problems. I will follow up various things to do with Red Data books and biodiversity strategies. I find these conferences useful in meeting people from small islands many of whom face similar problems to [mine] even though the political set-up is different. Individual pieces of work I have found out about at the conferences, often not on the programme, have influenced the way I work.”*

*“The knowledge and new contacts will be helpful especially as I work on my own. [I] suspect many of the benefits will become evident over the next few months. [I have a] greater awareness of [the] need for all to work together.”*

*“The linkages/connections have been thought provoking. I am prepared to challenge the powers more often”.*

*“[I have made several links in previous conferences] to aid in technical support for projects and funding to attend workshops which provide new ideas and contacts to enhance and strengthen programmes.”*

*“Useful discussions with delegates only previously known through correspondence, e.g. Martin Hamilton from Kew. [There was] an advantage in meeting UKOT experts and inhabitants”.*

*“[Important links were made] through information sharing. I will argue strongly for an increased educational role of our department. [I will also] develop and formalise contacts with other NGOs and Government departments. [The conference] was invigorating and inspiring. It can be quite isolating working in conservation in small islands and it has been great to realise that there is actually a network of people in similar situations.”*

*“I have made some important links at this confer-*

*ence. [I have gained] knowledge of projects and work elsewhere and especially key people involved. [I] will work with wider groups of people [and I have seen] opportunities for collaborations.”*

*“Relationships continue to be fostered and matured through various conferences which have immensely aided our work.”*

*“[I have made] Too many [links] to list. The face-to-face with UKOTs personnel is invaluable, especially as many of the territories are so remote and still lack good communication.”*

*“As [in previous conferences] learning about how common problems are handled. [I] recognised the value of education and the need to enhance it.”*

*“[The conference enables] good links and good cooperation. I have made a lot of links in the OT island community.”*

*“[I now have a] greater understanding of challenges and key contact individuals.”*

*“This is my second conference of this type, and I found it very interesting and useful this time. It has helped not only in direct contacts for work, but also in further understanding the UK’s role in the UKOT’s with regards to environment, and has generated several ideas on how to implement some of the work required in our territory with collaboration from UK groups.”*

*“[I made] contacts with direct participants in our Darwin project and their government partners will help to inform the design. [The] commitment and advice from organisations which will be part of our Steering Committee [was] also very valuable.”*

*“The networking at these conferences is just as important as the conference themselves.”*

*“Much background knowledge gained and many inspiring people met. Both will directly inform my day to day programme management work.”*

## **9. If you attended the Jersey conference, what did you do differently as a result? If you can remember, was it what you said in answer to the previous question last time?**

Most participants who had attended the previous conferences have reported that, through the meetings, they have established international partners and they offer an opportunity to meet and discuss future activities and develop proposals.

Some interesting remarks:

*“I would say that I don’t do things differently as a result of the conference – I do things which I could not do at all before – e.g. the cat control project. Before Jersey, I did not know how to do this so I*

*did not do it - at Jersey I networked to find someone who could help. With low capacity, things which I cannot do I tend not to do at all, rather than try to do them badly. As such the conference helps me do more rather than do better.”*

*“I have become more aware of some of the restrictive systems that certain organisations have to work with. I do hope that by the next conference, the NGOs in Montserrat would have a greater support base, as they have the mandate to protect, and conserve the environment and heritage for future generations.”*

## 10. Any other comments

These included:

- Increase the number of microphones (some of discussion inaudible).
- More student involvement (sponsorship for students from all UKOTs to attend). (See above for comment that there was a lot of effort put into this for this conference, but local constraints on the students eventually limited this. That will not stop future attempts.)
- Attract more environmental stakeholders by invitation.
- Avoid thick paper reports except for records. (This is already done for Proceedings. It was considered for conference papers but, unfortunately, many participants are not yet able to deal with this format.)
- Utilise more sound bites, blogs, YouTube, Facebook and Twitter.
- More direct contact and dialogue is needed.
- Be sure to capture student testimonials as they will be useful for fundraising to raise support for “youth forum”. (See elsewhere in these proceedings.)
- Need to try harder gain next time to make sure speakers stick to allocated time and consider allocated/targeted questions between presentations. (This is a continual problem for conference organisers, and one whose implementation makes them very unpopular! In fact, this conference was much better in this respect from some earlier ones, but we will continue to strive.)
- Was excellent that the Minister was there. Hope follow up with dialogue will result.
- Transparent accountancy- carbon off-setting etc. (The organisers sought information pre-conference from UK Government agencies as to whether currently available off-setting programmes really do offset, rather than be either

ineffective or environmentally damaging, but these bodies were unable to confirm that.)

- Shorter sessions – more time to mingle with colleagues.
- Longer sessions to cover the topics more fully.
- Side-meetings need to happen, and are generally seen as the most valuable part of these large meetings.
- It would be great to use a venue with more “green” credentials next time. [The organisers agree. The problem is that those venues with the facilities to host a conference tend to be the “up-market” ones. If one follows the option of separating the accommodation and the meeting location, extra costs (in terms of money, time and energy usage) come into play, so that the conference may become less cost-effective, rather than more.)
- Field visits could be used to help important conservation work in the future, a positive way forward. e.g. endemic plant census, monitoring, clearing invasive species animals and plants etc. (This has been done in previous conferences, and is always borne in mind in the planning, although it is not always appropriate.)

Finally a big thank you to all those that made the conference possible!



*“I’m sure that we can get this projector to work...!”*

*(Photo: Rob Thomas)*

## **Appendix 5. Friends of the UK Overseas Territories**

Friends of the UKOTs is the way that individuals can subscribe to, and support, UKOTCF and its network of conservation bodies. A membership form is on the following page.

# Friends of the UK Overseas Territories

## Four good reasons to become a Friend:

1. You know how valuable and vulnerable are the environmental treasures held in the UK Overseas Territories.
2. You understand that the only way to guarantee their protection is to build local institutions and create environmental awareness in the countries where they are found.
3. You care about what is happening in the UK Overseas Territories and want to be kept up to date by regular copies of *Forum News* and the Forum's *Annual Report*.
4. You understand that the UK Overseas Territories are part of Britain, and therefore are not eligible for most international grant sources - but neither are they eligible for most domestic British ones, so help with fundraising is essential.

**EITHER: I wish to become a Friend of the UK Overseas Territories at the annual support level:**  £15  £50  £100

£.....

**OR: I wish my company to be a Corporate Friend of the UK Overseas Territories at annual level:**  £150  £500  £1,000

£.....

Name of individual Friend or contact person for Corporate Friend: .....

Company name of Corporate Friend (if relevant) : .....

Address: .....

Telephone: ..... Fax: ..... Email: .....

**Please complete one of options 1 to 4 below. UK taxpayers are requested to complete section 5 also; this will allow UKOTCF to benefit from the tax you have paid, at no additional cost to you.**

**1. UK cheque:**  I enclose my UK cheque made out to UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum for this amount.

**2. Standing Order form:** To: The Manager, Bank Name: ..... Branch Sort-code .....

Bank address: ..... Bank postcode: .....

Please pay: UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum at NatWest Bank, 9 Bank Court, Hemel Hempstead HP1 1FB Sort-code: 60-10-33 Account number 48226858 the sum of £..... now and a similar sum thereafter on this date annually.

My account number: ..... Name .....

Address: ..... Postcode: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

**3. Standing Order instructions sent:** I confirm that I have sent instructions directly to my bank for a standing order as per option 2 above.

**4. Credit or charge card:** Please charge the amount indicated above to my card now \*and thereafter on this date annually. [Delete the words after \* if you wish to make only a single payment] (If you are based in another country, your card company will handle the exchange and include the equivalent in your own currency in your regular statement.)

American Express,  Delta,  JCB,  MasterCard,  Solo,  Switch/Maestro,  Visa Expiry date: / (month/year)

Card number:     Security number (3 digits, or 4 for Amex) .....

If used: Start date: / If used: Issue number:..... Signature: ..... Date: .....

**5. UK taxpayers** are requested to sign the following section to allow UKOTCF to recover tax paid:

I want this charity to treat all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

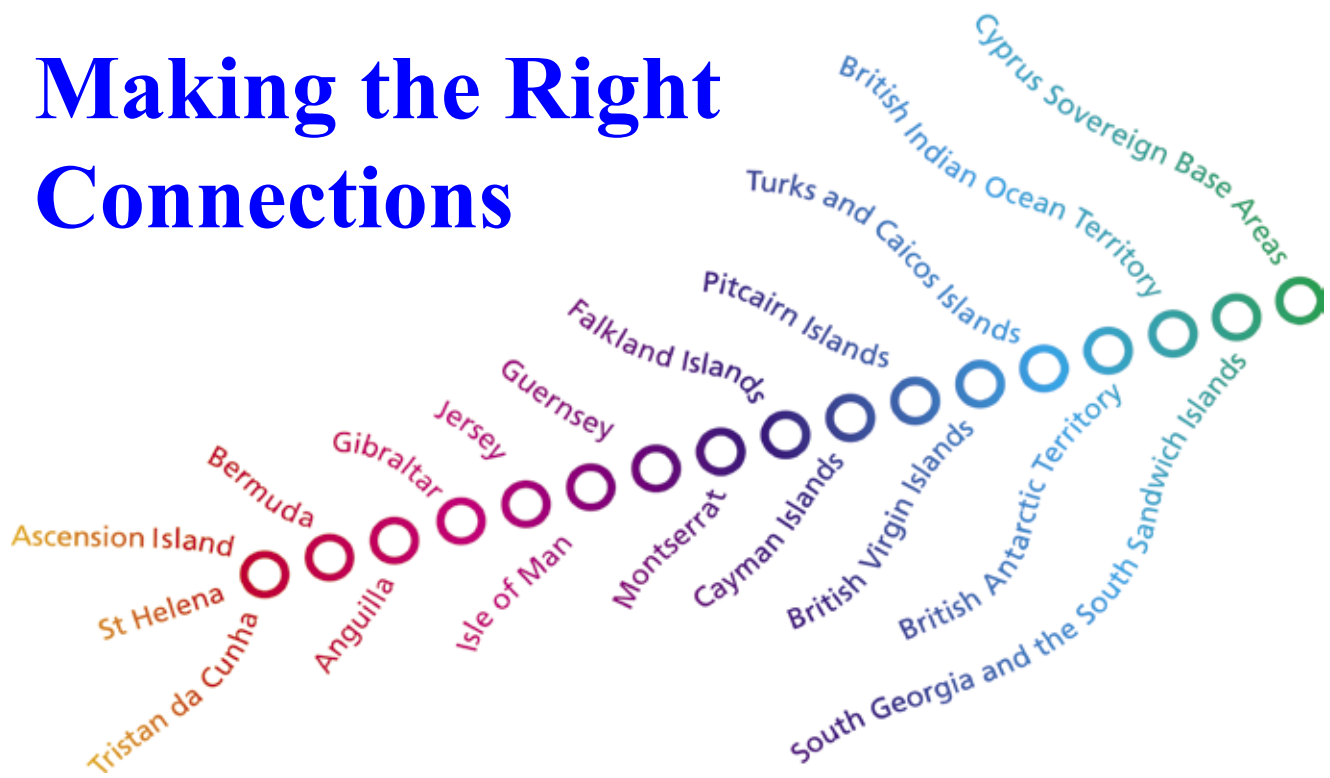
Signature: ..... Date: .....

**Send to UKOTCF, Icknield Court, Back Street, Wendover, Bucks. HP22 6EB, UK;  
if using options 3 or 4, you can fax to +44 2080 207217**

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*This blank form may be copied for others to use.*

# Making the Right Connections



A conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories, Crown Dependencies and other small island communities

**Grand Cayman 30<sup>th</sup> May to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009**



Foreign & Commonwealth Office



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