

Topic 7: Obtaining and using resources (not just money)

Session Organiser: Nigel Crocker (UKOTCF Treasurer)

Introduction

The Invasive Species session concluded by identifying a requirement for a needs analysis. The Resources session will continue that theme, whilst identifying the challenges presented in Overseas Territories in obtaining resources to facilitate evaluation and delivery of solutions for those priorities. There are cross-cutting environmental issues to address – for example, implementation of charters and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), and invasive species often requiring rapid solutions and actions.

Contributions will be received from those engaged with biodiversity conservation in the Overseas Countries & Territories (OCTs) and Outermost Regions (ORs) of some of our European partner states, notably the Netherlands and France. These highlight similar challenges which they have faced and how these have been addressed, including access to funding from their metropolitan states and territory governments and agencies, and how these have shaped the biodiversity effort.

An overview of the recently formed Bioverseas initiative for biodiversity and environment in EU ORs and OCTs will be presented, enabling us to see how collaboration within the EU can assist in providing a unified approach to biodiversity conservation, especially where territories are grouped in a geographical area and share similar issues and challenges.

There will be an opportunity to discuss how these might be implemented elsewhere and whether there are lessons to be learned which could inform initiatives on behalf of UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. In particular, we will explore what additional support might be forthcoming from UK Government for ongoing implementation actions, building on the excellent seed-finance provided by OTEP.

Funding can arise from non-governmental sources, especially where there are financial and charitable bodies willing to support local initiatives. These may be supported by local territorial environmental taxation levied on tourists, but there is a need to ensure that those funds are directed to the acquisition of habitat under threat and support for ongoing conservation management.

Some resources are less easily defined in financial terms, although these are as important if not more so, especially when enthusiastically pursued by local activists with something to offer the community in return. Support from and to the community through involvement in local conservation, both inform and educate an appreciation of the environment and engender ownership of solutions.

Support from UK Overseas Territory Conservation Forum member organisations can take many different formats. We are aware of the excellent work carried out by RSPB and RBG Kew, as well as UKOTCF itself, on the ground in UKOTs, and we should be aware of the sabbatical scheme offered by RSPB and subject matter expert support from RBG Kew, as well as current pilot work by UKOTCF on deploying volunteers.

All of these presentations and the discussions that they generate will assist in informing the options available to UKOTs and CDs, as well as other territories, as well as in identifying solutions which might be sought to address issues and priorities for the future.

Resources for conservation and sustainable development in ORs and OCTs : integration in European strategies for Conservation and Research?

Philippe Feldman, Cirad, and Josiane Irissin-Managata, Réunion Regional Council



Feldman, P. & Irissin-Managata, J. 2007. Resources for conservation and sustainable development in ORs and OCTs : integration in European strategies for Conservation and Research? pp 246-248 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

Biodiversity in Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) is exceptional but most exposed to climate change, natural hazards and pressures of human activities. Biodiversity is a fundamental asset for economy in all ORs and OCTs. Nevertheless, this reality remains poorly known and understood, despite the visible importance and richness of ecosystems. For example, the French ORs and OCTs have 26 times more endemic plant species, 60 times more endemic birds, and over 100 times more endemic fishes than continental France. But ORs and OCTs also have to answer the immediate needs of a growing population, which means building infrastructure, increasing urbanization, strengthening economic activity. This situation leads to enormous challenges in terms of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.



Financial support to ORs and OCTs include regional, national or European funding and numerous fiscal advantages. Amounts and rules differ depending on the different statutes, but in most cases these financial tools have a major impact on development choices - and biodiversity. It is of crucial importance to take biodiversity into consideration in all development tools and projects, and that specific long term regional, national and European means can be identified for biodiversity conservation. A complete analysis of these issues in the French ORs and OCTs has been published in September 2006 by IUCN French national Committee, showing which proportion of funding is devoted to biodiversity conservation and the impacts of development policies and projects.

Networking research in ORs and OCTs is also fundamental to address the numerous questions and problems linked to biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development. Biodiversity policies in the EU are highly fragmented within and between the Member States. This situation is amplified in ORs and OCTs. Several critical barriers hinder cooperation of the overseas regions and territories between themselves, with continental Europe and with third countries, among which very long distances, isolation and time differences between these regions spread over the world, deficiency of resources and critical mass, lack of timely access to facilities, lack of awareness and difficult access to information.

A first initiative has been proposed at the European level to support the cooperation and coordination for research on biodiversity and sustainable development between all ORs and OCTs. This project called Net-Biome, intends to use the ERA-NET Scheme, which is a tool of the European Framework Programme allowing funding for Coordination Actions. This project is currently under preparation after a first positive evaluation during the Sixth Framework Programme. By substantially improving the knowledge and coherence of funding of both basic and applied research, Net-Biome aims at making an important contribution to improve RTD efforts across European ORs and OCTs and to support long-term perspectives in European research policies to address the need to prevent, avoid and remedy the serious impacts of climate change and anthropic pressures on tropical and subtropical biodiversity.

Finally, a coherent framework could be initiated on sustainable management of biodiversity, with adequate tools and means. It is important for ORs and OCTs to build it together, with the active support of the European Commission. Such framework could take the shape of a “European initiative for ORs and OCTs biodiversity”.

Philippe Feldman, Biodiversity Scientific Officer, Cirad, TA40/PS1, 34398 Montpellier Cedex 5, France. email : feldmann@cirad.fr;

Josiane Irissin-Managata, Research & Innovation Chief Officer, Réunion Regional Council, Réunion Island;

Why?

Understanding the interactions between ecosystems and human activities, especially specific agriculture, forestry and fisheries, is essential to ensure sustainable development in these areas.

Rationale

The seven RUP (French abbreviation for ORs) and the 21 PTOM (OCTs) are exceptional in terms of tropical and subtropical biodiversity. They are more fragile and threatened by global climatic changes and human activities than continental Europe. They are located in or near several biodiversity hotspots.

Due to the isolation and fragmentation of the ORs and OCTs, conservation and scientific activities are less developed. They have unique opportunities to develop regional and international collaborations for Europe.

Most of the proposals made at European level failed year after year due to lack of visibility and of “vision” (too much concerned by local preoccupations to be “understable” at European level).

Recommendations from a workshop on biodiversity and specific agriculture, Las Palmas, June 2002

It is necessary to bring together European teams with local political/scientists/environmentalists and small and middle-sized enterprises (SMEs) in one of the largest coordinated tropical and subtropical biodiversity network to date, including Macaronesian, Caribbean, Latin and South America and Indian Ocean countries.

How can the Framework Program help ?

Different tools:

ERA-NET Net-Biome:

Experience in building an ambitious partnership between most European OCTs and ORs.

Why should Europe be interested?

Because of its diversity, the whole European Overseas offer opportunities which are unique in Europe:

- Development of models for understanding the interactions between Man and Nature and the impact of global changes, which can be transposable
- Innovation in the means of local and global biodiversity management
- International cooperations

Need of a research programme meeting the stakes in the European Overseas

ERA-NET

Challenge: How can a general consensus be changed into an operational action plan (from diagnostic to action)?

How can the local actors be in the heart of the initiatives and projects? How can all the stakeholders interact efficiently at the regional, national, European and international levels?

Networking research activities conducted at the regional and national level, and ensuring their mutual opening Participation of the 7 Outermost Regions and of most of the tropical OCTs (11: FR, NL, UK, except Aruba, Mayotte, Wallis & Futuna).

Objectives

- Listing efficiently the local priorities with all stakeholders

- Stimulating the cooperation and coordination of the research programmes on integrated and sustainable management of tropical and subtropical biodiversity
- Identifying and removing the barriers to cooperation
- Promoting the widening of cooperation to the Third-Countries: development cooperation organised in sub-regions
- Implementing in the long term an ambitious European research programme

Beyond biodiversity research

- Contributing to the reinforcement of the research efforts in the European Overseas
- Developing the abilities of implementing a common project for research programming
- Improving integration in the EU
- Bringing visibility and a real acknowledgement of the importance and role of Overseas stakes in the Framework Programme and more widely for Europe
- Reinforcing the scientific excellence of Europe thanks to the ORs and OCTs

Today's situation

This is the first and unique example of collaboration widely associating the whole tropical and sub-tropical territories and regions of EU states Overseas.

Elaborating the proposal and the resulting eligibility demonstrated the ability to work together.

It is very important to maintain this dynamic and the quality of the confidence between all the parties involved - of which it enabled creation.

It has shown that building up an equitable network has permitted development of a project previously thought impossible, because it linked ORs with OCTs, research teams with conservationists and with politics, gathering fragmented and isolated regions and territories which applied for an ambitious competitive EC call and succeed.

Obtaining resources for conservation: a Dutch Caribbean perspective

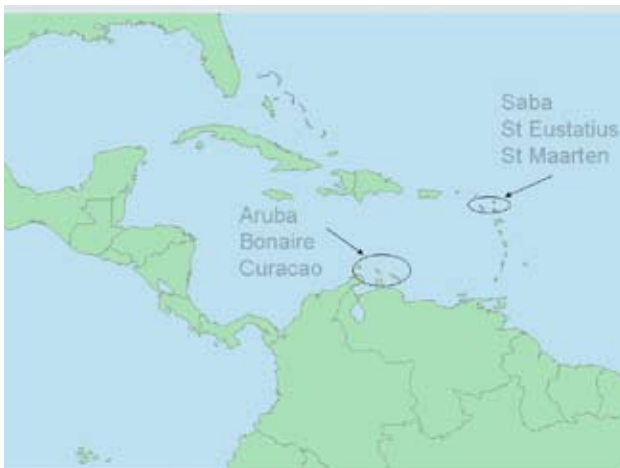
Kalli De Meyer, Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance



De Meyer, K. 2007. Obtaining resources for conservation: a Dutch Caribbean perspective. pp 249-252 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

Many protected areas have been created since the first on Bonaire in 1969, with designated areas on all islands subsequently containing high levels of endemism, yet all have few resources are under-staffed and under-funded. The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance was founded and mandated by central government to manage Important Nature Conservation Areas in the Netherlands Antillies. Whilst some central government funding is provided, DCNA has explored and been successful in obtaining further funding notably from the Dutch Postcode Lottery, whilst other European funding potential continues to be explored.

Kalli De Meyer, Executive Director, Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance, Kaya Grandi #20, Bonaire. Tel: + 599.717.5010 Fax: + 599-786.0675 email: kdm@telbonet.an www.DCNAnature.org



Netherlands Overseas Territories: locations, areas, human populations

Aruba	193 km ²	90,000
Bonaire	288 km ²	12,000
Curacao	472 km ²	130,000
Saba	13 km ²	1,500
St Eustatius	21 km ²	2,200
St Maarten	40 km ²	40,000

Overseas Countries and Territories: coral reefs

	Country and geographical locations	Reef Area (km ²)	% of world reefs
1	Republic of Indonesia	51,020	17.95%
2	Australia	48,960	17.22%
3	Republic of the Philippines	25,060	8.81%
4	France including: Clipperton, Mayotte, Réunion, Guadeloupe, Martinique, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Wallis and Futuna Islands	14,280	5.02%
12	United Kingdom including: British Indian Ocean Territory, Anguilla, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Pitcairn, Turks and Caicos Islands, British Virgin Islands	5,510	1.94%
60	Netherlands including: Dutch Caribbean islands	470	0.17%
	GLOBAL TOTAL	284,300	

Netherlands Caribbean Territories: lush rain forest



Netherlands Caribbean Territories: desert landscapes



Netherlands Caribbean Territories: dunes, salinas



Netherlands Caribbean Territories: coral reefs



Netherlands Caribbean Territories: mangroves



Netherlands Caribbean Territories: Saba Bank



Netherlands Caribbean Territories: 200 species of endemics (ABC islands)

marine snails (57sp),
beetles (27sp),
spiders (13sp),
birds (21 sub-species),
land snails (15sp)
reptiles (11sp) .



Dutch Caribbean islands are without a doubt the biodiversity hotspot within the Kingdom.



Protected areas

The earliest park was Washington Slagbaai Park on Bonaire, designated in 1969.

Today, every island has one or more protected areas.

Each Park is run by a local non-governmental, non-profit foundation.

Each Park has opted for a co-operative management arrangement with stakeholders.

There are five Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Bonaire and one of Aruba (see map on next page).

UNEP/ICRAN: Bonaire National Marine Park is recognised as a Demonstration Site, and Saba National Marine Park recognised as a Target Site.

Yet ...the parks have few resources, are under staffed and under funded. On St Eustatius, the parks had to close their doors in October 2003



activities in the Dutch Caribbean.

Trust Fund

Nature Forum (1998, 2000, 2002) mandated Central Government to execute a study of a Trust Fund for the Management of Important Nature Conservation Areas in the Netherlands Antilles.

The Trust Fund study started in 2003, and the Trust Fund Report published in 2005: www.DCNAnature.org/donations/trustfund.html

It concluded that € 18.9 million (in an endowment fund) is needed (revenue of 6%) to cover the basic management costs per island.

IUCN NL lobbying activities resulted in a motion being brought before the Dutch Parliament in 1998 requesting substantial financial support for the Trust Fund.

when there was simply no money left.

Challenge: the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba are not eligible for development aid because we are part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. However, we are not eligible either for most conservation funds in the Netherlands. We are also remote and small.

Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance

DCNA is committed to working together to safeguard biodiversity.

The Mission is to safeguard the biodiversity and promote the sustainable management of the natural resources of the islands of the Dutch Caribbean by supporting and assisting the protected area management organisations and nature conservation

In 2005 the Dutch Ministry of the Interior sent a 'Letter of Intent' and € 1 million, with a ten-year agreement for € 1 million / year.

Dutch Postcode Lottery supplied in 2005 project funding of € 500,000, and in 2006 special project funding of € 1.9 million. Further developments are in negotiation, including requesting beneficiary status.

The European funding potential is being explored in conjunction with our partners, including UKOTCF, in Bioverseas. This is explored further in the following presentation. However, it is worth recalling here also the challenge to the European Union from the Paris conference *Integrating Biodiversity into European Development Co-operation*:

Challenge 4 – Recognition of biodiversity in Overseas Countries and Territories:

The EU should develop a coherent framework for environment in OCTs to promote sustainable management of their important biodiversity areas, and also encourage joint efforts with Outermost Regions including adequate funding mechanisms.



Bioverseas: Initiative for biodiversity and environment in EU ORs and OCTs

Jean-Philippe Palasi, IUCN, Europe Regional Office



Palasi, J.-P. 2007. Bioverseas: Initiative for biodiversity and environment in EU ORs and OCTs. pp 253-257 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

With a secretariat in Brussels, Bioverseas seeks to provide a co-ordinated approach to European Union institutions for the several umbrella conservation bodies including UKOTCF and equivalents that come together via it. The Overseas Territories and Countries (OCTs) and Overseas Regions (ORs) occur in major biodiversity hotspots, including in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and South Pacific, as well as hugely important islands in temperate and arctic regions. Recent conferences in Nuuk, Greenland and Paris, linking with the Overseas Countries and Territories Association, provided a useful platform for OCTA to launch their report *From the Tropics and the Polar OCTs* to the EU and to build on this and Bioverseas initiatives. The challenge for the EU is to develop a coherent framework for environment in OCTs to promote sustainable management of their biodiversity, supported with adequate funding.

Jean-Philippe Palasi, Programme Coordinator, European Overseas Regions & Territories, Development cooperation, IUCN Regional Office for Europe, Boulevard Louis Schmidt 64, Brussels 1040, Belgium. jean-philippe.palasi@iucn.org

There are 20 Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs), of France, the United Kingdom, the Neth-

erlands and Denmark, which have a relationship with the European Union.



Initiative for biodiversity and environment in EU ORs and OCTs



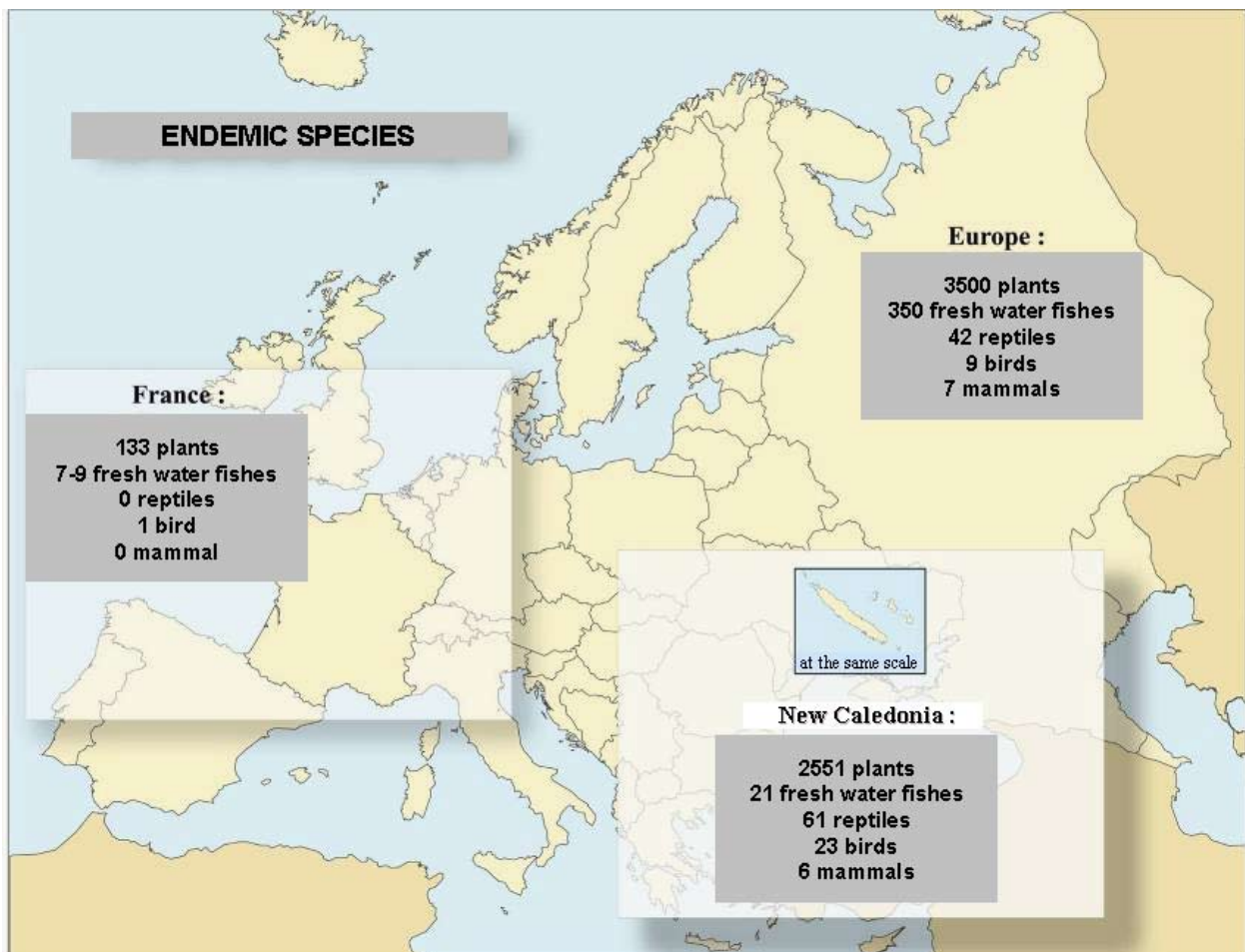


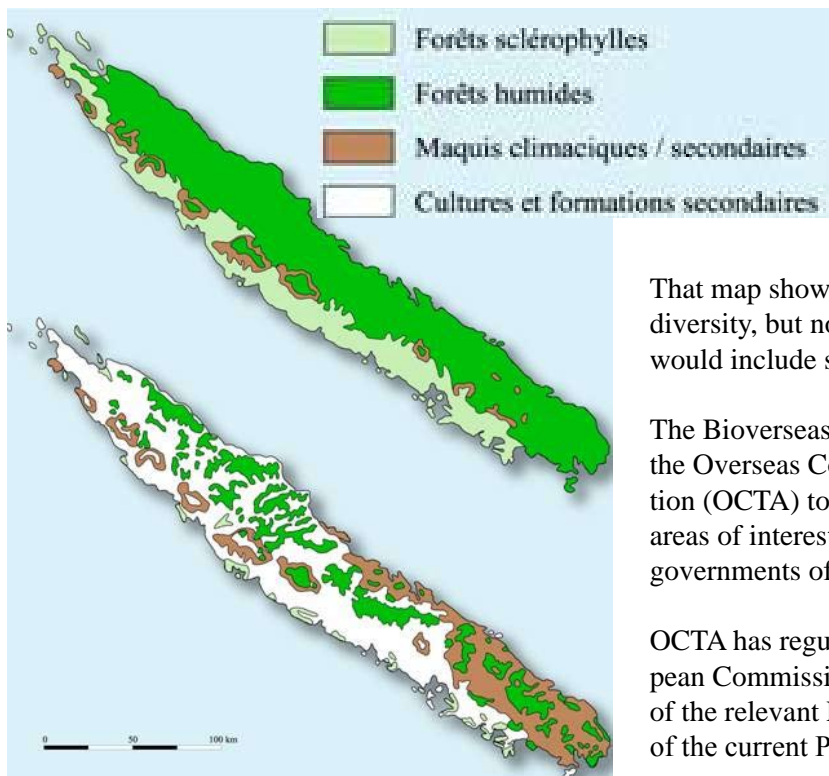
Seven Outermost Regions (ORs), French Guiana, Réunion, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Madeira, Azores and the Canary Islands, form part of the European Union.

These include superb natural areas, as we saw in the previous presentation. I show some photographs here from New Caledonia.

New Caledonia supports the same order of endemic species as the whole of Europe, despite being much smaller. It is shown at the same scale on the map below.

In common with many other islands, it has suffered large losses in natural ecosystems since human settlement, including almost total loss of dry forest



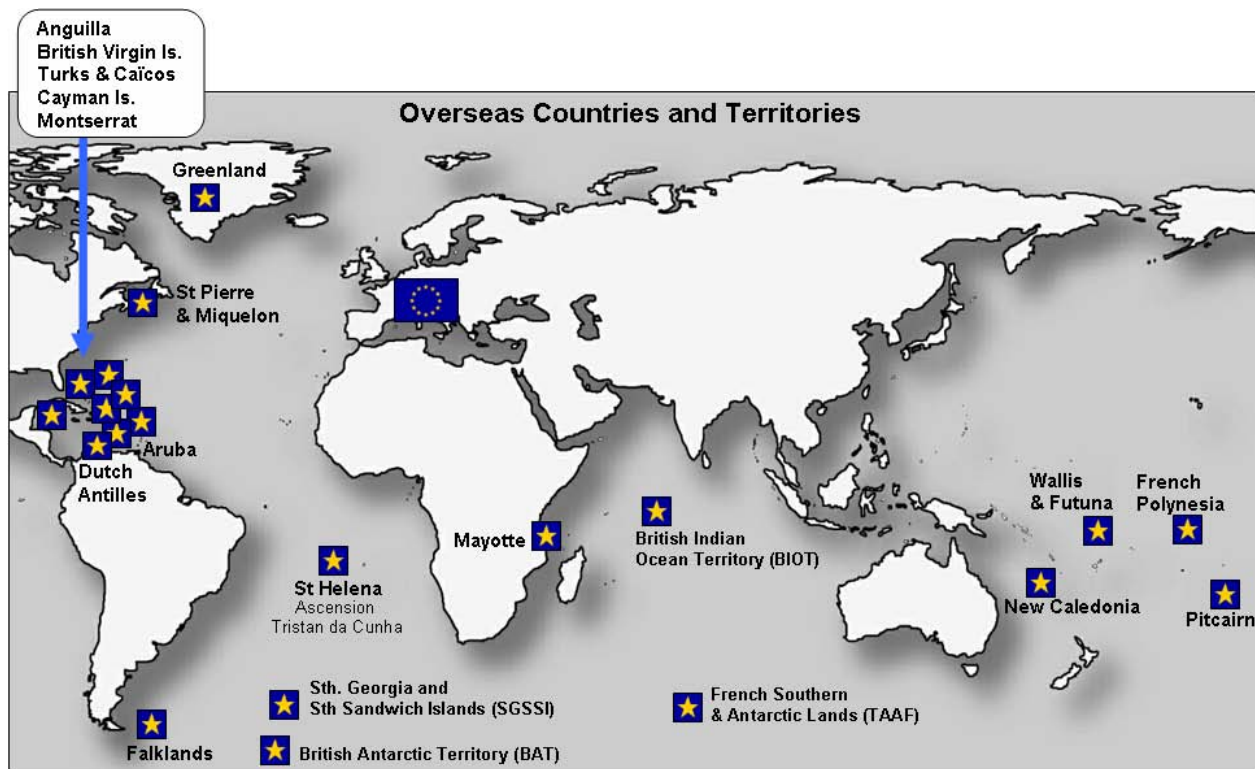


Evolution of natural ecosystems on New Caledonia since human beings arrived

That map shows also some of the centres of bio-diversity, but not the endemic bird areas, which would include some of the temperate islands.

The Bioverseas Initiative has been liaising with the Overseas Countries and Territories Association (OCTA) to explore and take forward common areas of interest. OCTA is an association of the governments of the territories.

OCTA has regular joint meetings with the European Commission, attended also by representatives of the relevant European Union Member States and of the current Presidency State.



and huge reductions in wet forest.

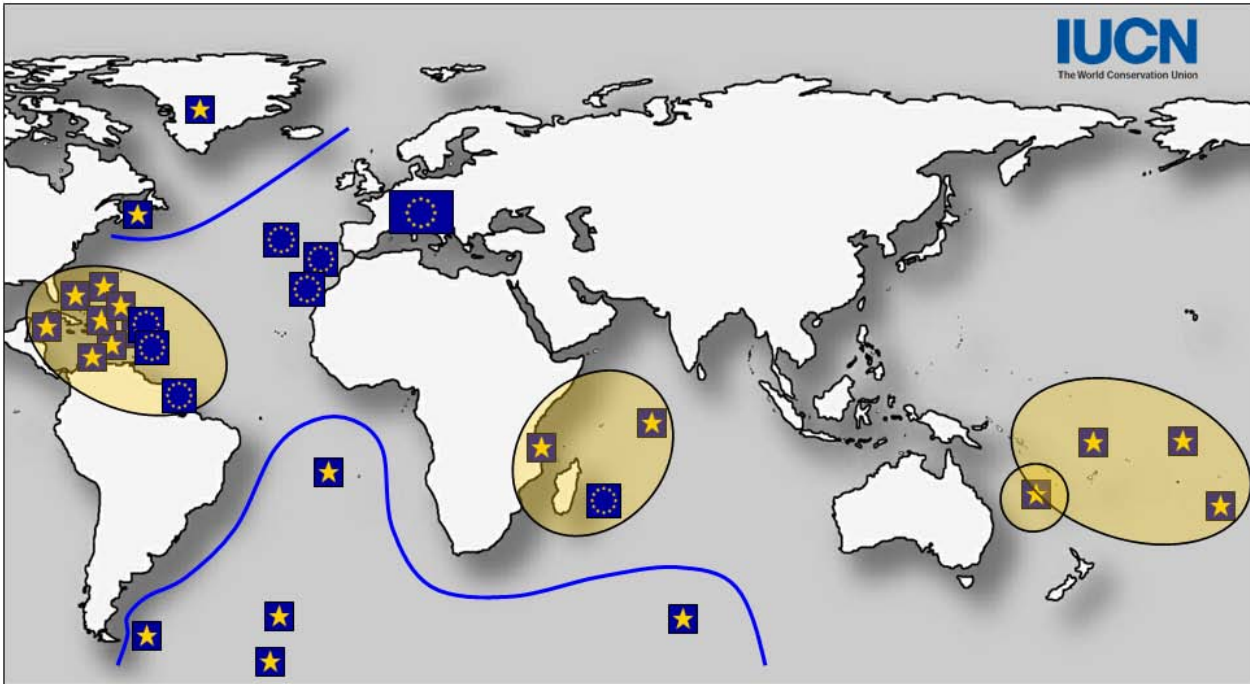
The Overseas Countries and Territories of France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are spread around the world, as shown in the map above.

The map on the next page adds the Outermost Regions of the European Union, the overseas parts of metropolitan France, Portugal and Spain.

At the instigation of the governments of Greenland and French Polynesia, representatives of Bioverseas were invited to the regular OCTA/European Commission meeting at Nuuk, the capital of Greenland in September 2006. Mike Pienkowski of UKOTCF and Jean-Philippe Palasi of IUCN filled these roles.

Apart from presentations from Bioverseas, the conference received also an update from the

A major potential for European action
and regional cooperation



★ OCTs ■ Outermost Regions (ORs)

OCTs / EC forum
Nuuk, Greenland, 5 - 7 sept 2006



Challenge 4 of this message is:

Recognition of biodiversity in Overseas Countries and Territories

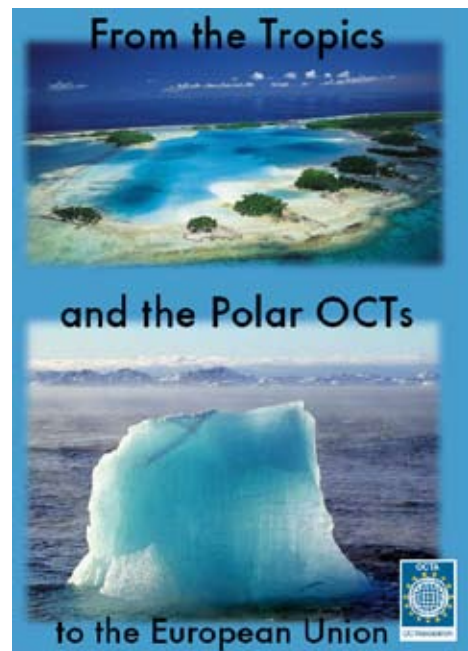
The EU should develop a coherent framework for environment in OCTs to promote sustainable management of their important biodiversity areas, and also encourage joint efforts with



consultants retained by the European Commission to develop environmental profiles on the OCTs. There was also a launch and presentation of OCTA's own report *From the Tropics and the Polar OCTs to the European Union*.

OCTA mandated its members, Greenland and French Polynesia, to take its environmental message to the conference *Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation* in Paris from 19 to 21 September 2006.

The conference developed the *Message of Paris: Integrating biodiversity into European development cooperation*.



**Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation
Paris, 19 - 21 sept 2006**



Outermost Regions including adequate funding mechanisms.

The conference amplified this with more detailed points:

While building the spirit of the 2006 OCT-EU Forum in Nuuk (Greenland), and recognizing the global importance of their biodiversity as well as taking into consideration the special responsibility of the EU for its OCTs, and Outermost Regions (ORs):

Participants encourage the European Commission and Member States to:

- Develop a coherent framework for environment in OCTs, aiming, among others, towards a sustainable management of important biodiversity areas, and allowing joint efforts with Outermost Regions as they are the entities with the most similar stakes within the European Union;
- Ensure that adequate funding is given to environmental and biodiversity issues in the OCTs, including an outsourced small grants facility and improved access to European programmes for local bodies and NGOs in

coordination with the local authorities;

- Develop joint research programmes focusing on the biodiversity of OCTs and ORs, and also strengthening joint efforts with regional partner countries;
- Strengthen both the OCTs and the EU positions in the international debate on climate change, by making use of the worldwide and diverse network of OCTs and ORs to evaluate the interactions between ecosystems, climate change and local communities.

Discussion

A panel of the three speakers from other EU states were joined by Erik van Zadelhoff, of IUCN Office for Europe and Bioverseas Secretariat, to discuss the issues raised in those presentations and to garner views from others present.

Eric Blencowe of Defra, on behalf UK Government representatives present, answered a question on endowment funding to say that thinking had progressed since the time of total opposition, but a special case would need to be made that endowment was warranted in a particular situation. This might result in a lengthy and unproductive process.

The panel were questioned on the issue of involvement of IUCN, rather than direct representation from OCTs and ORs in the Bioverseas initiative. It was noted that it is still early days. IUCN, with the other partners, provides a common international perspective, but nothing can be achieved without full cooperation and involvement of OCTs and ORs, including UKOTs.

On the question of involvement of Crown Dependencies, there was a commitment to cooperate, whilst recognising that there were issues relating to legalities that needed to be addressed.

On the question of the possibility of access to UK Lottery monies being organised via the Forum, it was agreed that there was a need to investigate and press for a different response from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) which has previously regarded the Forum and UKOTs as being outside its scope, possibly on the basis of misunderstanding.

Suggestion was made that funding bodies be invited to future conferences to enable them to understand priorities, their urgency and speed up funding applications. It might even be productive to invite representatives from HLF.

It was noted that approaches to high net worth individuals with large villas or land holdings in Caribbean territories might be a worthwhile source of funding, especially if they are directly involved with the project on their doorstep.

Local corporate funds are accessible in some UKOTs; these are often enhanced by good public relations and personal relationships between OT NGOs and local corporations. Similarly, charitable trust grants are sometimes available through partnerships at an international level. In each instance OT NGOs should consider whether corporate financial assistance is from an ethical origin. There is also a need to share resources between territories with similar issues, for example in the Caribbean.

It was noted that it could be beneficial to acquire a contact MEP how would speak on issues affecting UKOTs and champion their cause in the European Parliament.

The Blue Iguana Recovery Programme

Fred Burton, Blue Iguana Recovery Programme



Burton, F. 2007. The Blue Iguana Recovery Programme. pp 259-262 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

The Blue Iguana, endemic to Grand Cayman, was reduced to 10-25 individuals in 2002, an estimated 90% decrease over 9 years. In effect, in 2002, the Blue Iguana became functionally extinct in the wild. Invasive species and habitat lost were major factors in this decline. This project has used captive breeding and re-introduction to increase numbers and establish viable breeding populations. A major focus has been on using the Blue Iguana as a flagship species to protect a meaningful area of Grand Cayman's unique xerophytic shrubland. The Salina reserve, of 625 acres, includes 100 acres of xerophytic shrubland, and has 90 iguanas, with over 100 more joining them by December 2006. The pilot project has proved the success of this strategy. Funding remains a critical concern, and it is crucial that long-term sustainable finance is secured, along with habitat protection.

Fred Burton, Blue Iguana Recovery Programme, P O Box 10308, Grand Cayman KY1 - 1003, Cayman Islands. fjburton@blueiguana.ky



xerophytic shrubland of Grand Cayman's east interior.

The Blue Iguana is a perfect flagship species for that xerophytic shrubland, which is badly under-represented in the Cayman Islands' protected area system. It is big and spectacular, its behaviour is easy to relate to and, above all, it goes bright blue when it wants to be noticed.



Status

In 2002, we estimated that between 10 and 25 individuals survived, from the wild population, down 90% from the only comparable previous survey 9 years before. The survivors were dispersed, breeding was restricted to one location and, even there, the offspring were not surviving to adulthood.

Background

The Blue Iguana Recovery Programme has grown from efforts which began on Grand Cayman in 1990. I am going to describe the time-frame mainly from 2002, which was the year the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana's remnant wild population hit the point of functional extinction.

The Grand Cayman Blue is a west indian rock iguana. This is the genus *Cyclura* which has radiated across the Caribbean, and is in serious trouble almost throughout its range.

Cyclura lewisi is endemic to Grand Cayman, where it once occupied coastal habitats now taken over by humans, but also the floristically diverse





Fire ant damage on dead hatchling



Blue iguana "Slugger" killed by a dog

The Park's Blues are breeding. So are the captive founders we are managing in our expanding captive and head-starting facility. We have been head-starting hatchlings from captive and Park nests, rearing the young to two years old. This has given us enough numbers to start repopulating a much larger protected area.

The Salina Reserve is 625 acres, of which about 100 acres is xerophytic shrubland, i.e. iguana habitat. There are 90 iguanas restored there now, and 114 more going out this coming December.



"PRP" with radio transmitter

Human resources

As the programme transitions from pilot project to full scale population restoration, our recurrent budget is growing towards US\$ 200,000 per annum. This figure would be far higher but for major voluntary resources which we are fortunate to be able to access.

Our human resources include only two full-time employees on Grand Cayman, currently working

Invasive species are a big part of the problem here, as everywhere. Fire ants and rats attack nests and hatchlings. Cats kill young up to about 2 years old. Dogs kill adults, especially nesting females.

Habitat destruction is the other big issue. Current projections suggest the Cayman Islands will have no natural areas left by the end of this century, except for those areas brought under protection in the next few years. We could save the Blue Iguana on golf courses, resort grounds and such-like, but that really is not the point: we should be able to use this species to protect a meaningful tract of Grand Cayman's unique xerophytic shrubland.

Recovery programme

So far, we have developed, tested and proved our conservation strategy from a biological and practical point of view. Our pilot project in the QE II Botanic Park now has 30 free-roaming Blues with permanent territories in the Park (e.g. picture here of "Gorgeous George" in 2006).



under a full-time volunteer director. Our core staff is supplemented by international volunteers during major fieldwork periods, seasonally swelling the project personnel to as many as 12 at a time, at negligible additional cost. Local volunteers, especially local service clubs, are another significant source of short-term manpower.

Overseas, the International Reptile Conservation Foundation (www.ircf.org) created and maintains the programme's web site (www.BlueIguana.ky), handles all program publications, assists in recruiting and coordinating international volunteers, raises funds, manages US purchasing of equipment and supplies, and promotes the programme throughout the USA.

The Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (www.durrell.org), based here in Jersey, is the programme's other key partner, raising major funds, providing skilled personnel support, and assisting in strategic programme planning.

The US zoo community is also involved, with personnel and technical assistance coming especially from San Diego Zoo, Fort Worth Zoo, the Wildlife Conservation Society, Houston Zoo, Milwaukee County Zoo, and Indianapolis Zoo.

The International Iguana Foundation has also channeled grants to us from the American Zoo Association Conservation Endowment Fund, and the Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund.



Aerial view of Captive Breeding Centre

Financial resources

To date approximately 50% of the programme's annual expenditure has been met by local corporate grants. The balance has been met from overseas

grant sources, especially those channeled through the programme's overseas partners.

Local corporate grants that we have been able to access typically run in the range US\$ 5,000 to 20,000 per grant, and it is extremely difficult to get serious consideration for applications in excess of \$100,000. In recent years we have been raising between \$50,000 and \$150,000 per annum from these sources. Charitable residues of Special Purpose Financial Vehicles, which are a notable element of the Cayman Islands' offshore financial industry, are one key source. Corporate sponsorships, linked to branding and publicity, are also important. In accessing these funds we are always in competition with other local charitable initiatives, especially socially oriented charities. However, personal contacts with the key decision-makers (often a single person or a very small group) are the critical factor in securing these grants.

Ultimately, we need about 1,000 Blues in the wild, from at least 20 different founder lines. We are on course to achieve that, but only if we can protect enough shrubland habitat to support that many. The Salina's shrubland just isn't extensive enough.

We are looking at two options, hoping to leverage the small amount of Crown land that we might be able to incorporate. For the rest, we will have to raise the funds to buy privately owned land. It is the only real option in the Cayman Islands social and legal framework, and it is going to cost some millions.

This substantial capital expenditure is beyond the scope of the funding options we currently have access to. There are no UK government grant sources in this league, local corporate grants rarely exceed tens of thousands of dollars, and many major international grant sources are not simply available to UK Overseas Territories, as a result of constitutional relationships. The Cayman Islands Government's so-called "Environmental Protection Fees" should be the primary source of this kind of funding, but to date they have been variously misused to substitute for government's recurrent expenditure, and have rarely been applied to conservation land purchase. Discussions earlier in this session about changing policies in the EU, and the possibility of UK/France/Netherlands collaboration to bring EU funds to bear on conservation in their respective territories in the Caribbean, are therefore of great interest.



Tour with "Forrest"

Sustainability

Long term, once the capital costs of land protection are met and the population restoration of Blue Iguanas is complete, there will still be ongoing costs to be met. The causes of the original decline of the Blue Iguanas are still present, and any large protected area with Blue Iguanas must have ongoing management. In particular cats and dogs must be permanently excluded or at least continually controlled.

We are looking at expanding commercial activities, such as guided tours and retail products, to generate the sustainable funding that will be needed to maintain this effort indefinitely. Maintenance costs, such as staff salaries, are always the most difficult to meet by short-term grants, and this will only become even harder once the iguanas cease to be so critically endangered. An endowment is the only credible alternative (or supplement) to commercial activities set up to fund the programme.

Conclusion

So that is where we stand today – the Blue Iguana is a species we can certainly save. The question is: how effectively can we leverage this successful conservation story to preserve the habitat this species belongs in, with all the biodiversity values that go along with that?



Yearlings eye

Support through volunteers

John Cortes, Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society



Cortes, J. 2007. Support through volunteers. pp 263-268 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

There is a need for both resources and resourcefulness. Resources are needed to obtain 'the four Ps' – People, Premises, Projects and Props – but some of these can be obtained without funds. Use of local resources is essential, be it schools, clubs, societies, military or other volunteers. Engagement is at the heart of all these activities, especially if local conservationists are to gain respect and influence. Resources are there to be used and small organisations in small places should be willing to use more resources than they have – even if they are somebody else's.



Dr John Cortes, Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society, P O Box 843, Gibraltar. jcortes@gonhs.org



4 birdwatchers and a £250 budget, no staff and no premises, to a Society with about 400 members, a (largely restricted funding) budget of about £200,000 pa, seven staff and 5 premises. This happened due to commitment to move forward, without waiting around for the resources to appear.

Funds are needed to obtain "the four Ps", People, Premises, Projects and Props. Some of these can be obtained without funds, however.

People can be volunteers. Premises can be allocated (in Gibraltar we have obtained former MOD premises for our use). Projects can be volunteer-run. Props can sometimes be do-

The aims of nature conservation NGOs include the achievement of environmental stability, biodiversity conservation and enhancement, and scientifically based species and habitat management. In order to achieve this, and more, we need both resources and resourcefulness.

In the example of Gibraltar, we are faced with a small territory (7 km²), with 28,000 inhabitants. This means both limited resources and tremendous pressure on space. The Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society (GONHS) has grown, in the 30 years since its foundation in 1976, from a small club with





- Continuous monitoring of seabird migration
- 44,401 birds ringed up to end of 2005



- Thorough knowledge of nesting bird community
- Full inventory of higher plants
- Ongoing cataloguing of invertebrates.

nated, but is perhaps the “P” that most depends on financial resources to acquire.

Non-funding, activity-based resources can include the use (not abuse) of schools, clubs, societies, the military, other volunteers. But is this always practical? They often have so much else to do, and in any case, is it enough, and are they really going to take our aims in the direction we want?

The best volunteers are those who will work within the NGO’s structure. They don’t need to be many, but it is best if they are good at:

- running the organisation
- running activity groups
- providing data
- keeping in the public eye.

You can come to depend on them (although this in itself can become a problem when one day they are not there).

Some of what has been achieved in our situation over the years includes:

- Continuous monitoring of raptor migration since 1967



One inexpensive and vital form of non-funding resources is Influence, which, among its many representations can include:

- Networking
- Getting around
- Knowing who to talk to and talking to them
- Using the media
- Using active websites

Influence is useful when tackling other resources that we seek, such as:

Support from

- the Public
- Organisations
- Authorities/Government
- International bodies
- the Membership
- Business, including developers and the like (even if they are sometimes the “enemy”!).

Influence is something that must be worked on. It helps if key organisation members are well known – appear in the local media, including TV, radio and newspapers, give talks to schools and associations, etc. It also helps if the organisation has one notable success which catches the public eye. In Gibraltar, convincing the planning authorities after a lengthy public campaign, to deny a wealthy developer from building a funicular railway to the top of the Rock gained GONHS great respect and credibility.

Once respect has been gained, it is important to engage with those entities which may either help

the organisation, or against whom you may have a battle to fight (e.g. a development planned for a sensitive wildlife area). The same entity may fill both roles on different occasions.

Their respect is important because they have to take you seriously. There must be no empty threats or your bluff will be called and you will be left looking silly.

Let them in particular worry about their public image:

- they must know you will embarrass them if you have to.
- make them realise that they can become your friends.
- never compromise on principles, only on those things you are genuinely willing to concede in the first place.
- use the public.

Engage with the authorities (usually the local Government, but in some territories also others, such as the Ministry of Defence):

- Be able to provide a service that they will find useful. This will often be expertise in the field of ecology. Be willing to offer genuine advice in good faith – even if this is free.
- Genuinely gain their confidence.
- Be available to offer advice and support.
- Congratulate them when they act positively.
- Convince them there is no-one better to have on side (and make sure there isn't)!
- Be willing – and let them know you are – to work on and make the most of public support.
- Be serious about your priorities and principles and never compromise on them. They will then know you'll go to the Press, or take them to Court if you really have to.

When considering a project from which you want practical results:

- Never be afraid of the scale of your project.
- If it is important, do not hold back through lack of funds.
- Do it yourself, or get someone else to do it for you.

Engage with businesses, make good use of friends and kindred institutions and organisations (including Museums, Botanic Gardens, etc.).

Credibility is helped, and sound conservation practice requires, a good scientific base. Small territories often do not have sufficient people with

the right training, experience or qualifications. NGOs should encourage members and other local or locally-based people to acquire such knowledge, but much can come from outside. Contacts are often readily available from institutions in the UK, or elsewhere, depending on the territories' location. Gibraltar often works with European universities, some South Atlantic territories work with South African institutions, etc. In order to attract students and others to work in the territory, the following are useful:



- Premises for accommodation and as a base for field work
- A small but fairly well-stocked library concentrating on local species/habitats and on the disciplines of interest or that are being worked on.
- Basic laboratory facilities
- Easy access to field locations
- Interesting subject matter
- Collaboration agreements.

Collaboration agreements in particular are vital. They must clearly set out the terms under which all research is carried out. We recommend joint ownership of data and full rights to use these, even if unpublished, if they will assist in achieving conservation aims. Co-authorship of publications, if appropriate, should also be covered.



Some cases from Gibraltar

The Great Sand Slopes of Gibraltar's Mediterranean coast



Water catchment sheets covering the East Side sand slopes 1989 (above)



Part of sheets removed. Regeneration of vegetation under way - 1999 (above); All the sheets removed and matting laid down
Regeneration of vegetation progressing well - 2003 (below)



Vegetation covering the entire surface of the slopes
The matting is degrading rapidly - 2005

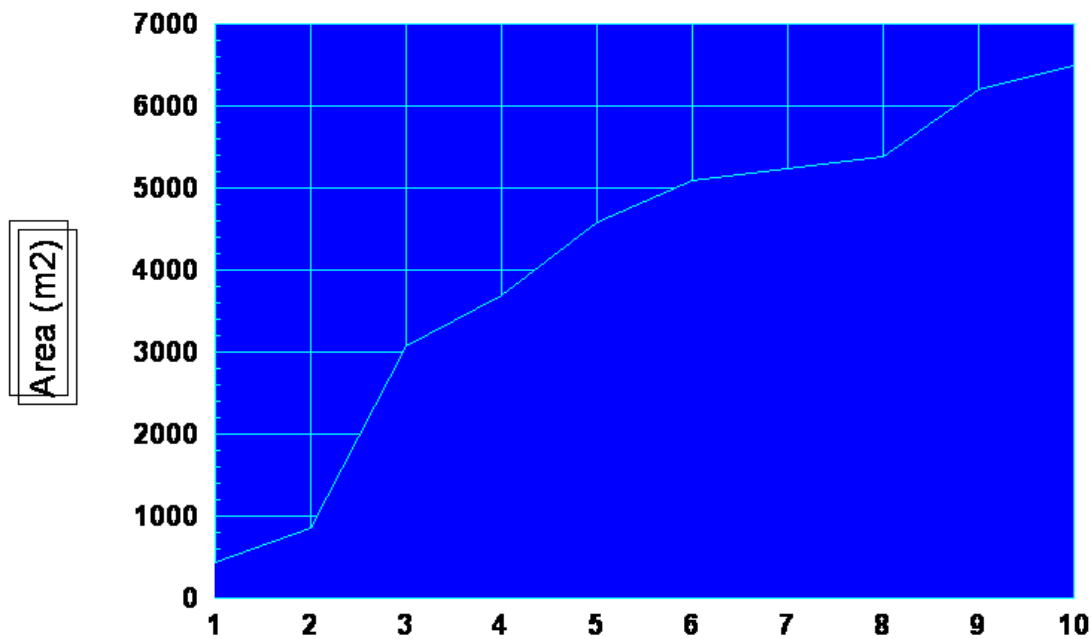


Regenerated East Side sand slopes from below

The Artificial Reef of Gibraltar's south-western coast



Growth of the Gibraltar Artificial Reef to 1995



What will result from the use of the resources?

Knowledge
Practical conservation achieved
More support

In Gibraltar, this success has led, for example, to:

- Representation in Committees/Commissions
- Ongoing consultation
- Getting on their minds, and hopefully under their skin,

leading to:

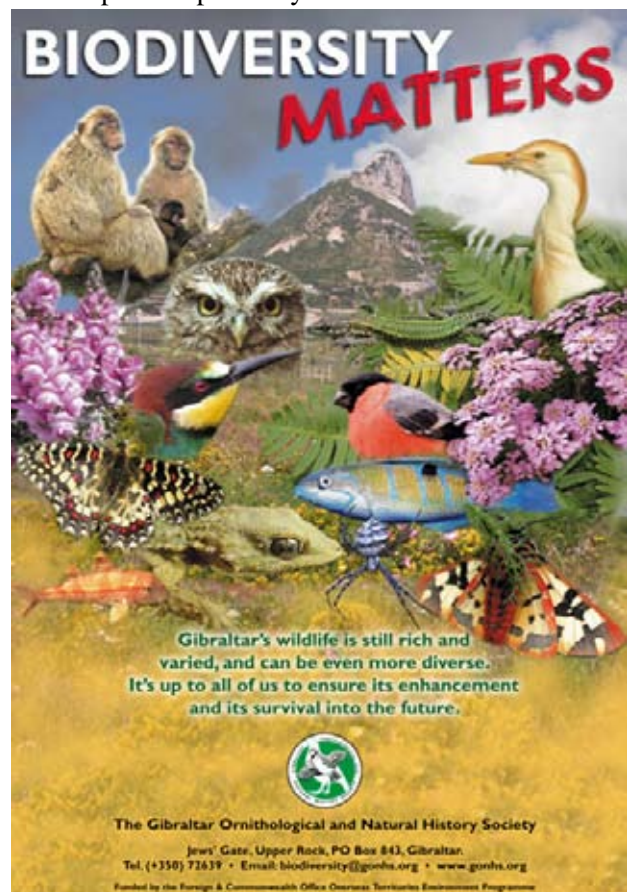
- Government contracts
- EU structural funds (ERDF) £97,000 + £30,000
- EU INTERREG FUNDS (Gibraltar-Morocco) (£150,000)
- OTEP funds (Gibraltar Biodiversity Action Plan)
- Important Bird Areas (IBAs)
- Natura 2000 Candidate Special Areas for Conservation (cSACs) under the EU Habitats Directive
- Gibraltar's Environment Charter (a different arrangement to those for other UKOTs).

Conclusions

In conclusion, then:

Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, page 267

- Know your aims
- Keep to your principles
- Be totally and relentlessly devoted
- Do not forget your roots
- Keep in the public eye



- Gain recognition and respect
- Do not hesitate – go for it!

And finally, some thoughts to ponder on:

- Resources are there to be used, not stored or banked where they will invariably expire or lose value.
- Large organisations in large places tend to have more resources and work within these, always needing money in the bank.
- Small organisations in small places cannot afford to wait or to store. They should be willing to use more resources than they have – even if they are somebody else's!



RSPB's Sabbatical Programme

Sarah Sanders, RSPB



Sanders, S. 2007. RSPB's Sabbatical Programme. p 269 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

After working at the RSPB for 7 years, all RSPB employees qualify for a four-week sabbatical on full pay. It can involve doing a project that specifically supports the work of the RSPB or is more broadly conservation related.

When thinking about potential sabbatical projects, remember that RSPB staff are not all ornithologists. There are a range of skills that can be drawn upon. These include fundraising, marketing, membership, advocacy, strategic planning, GIS, environmental education and so on.

Previous RSPB sabbaticals in the UK Overseas Territories have included:

- a. Bird Monitoring in Anguilla
- b. Wardening at Volunteer Point, Falklands
- c. Computerising David Wingate's fieldnotes, Bermuda.

Although RSPB staff can receive up to £750 to assist with the costs of a sabbatical, it does help if the Territories can offer support with local transport and accommodation as these costs tend to be much higher than other parts of the world.

It is much better to be proactive rather than responsive. There is considerable interest at the RSPB to visit the UK Overseas Territories so please do send in your ideas for sabbaticals (project outline, costs, timing and skills required). They will then be advertised in the RSPB sabbatical catalogue. This is illustrated in the following **example**:

The Project: Falklands Conservation have one or two spaces available for assistants on a rat eradication programme. This would involve all of August in the Falklands, based initially in Stanley and then going out to offshore islands to undertake baiting (warfarin based) programmes to clear islands of introduced rats. Most trips around 1 week involving camping in often cold and uncomfortable conditions (mid-winter) on uninhabited islands.

Additional Information: You would need to be fit and generally operate well in field conditions joining a team of two FC researchers and other local volunteers in carrying out the work so you must be able to fit into a small team and able to 'muck in' in a field situation. Minimum of four weeks would be required, although five would be ideal. Top-up funds for flights and accommodation to the Falklands would be provided.

When: August / all year round

*Contact: <mailto:grant.munro@conservation.org.fk>
www.falklandsconservation.com*

Sarah Sanders, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 3JH, UK. sarah.sanders@rspb.org.uk

Capacity Building at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Colin Clubbe, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew



Clubbe, C. 2007. Capacity Building at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. pp 270-271 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

For over two centuries, staff at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew have been actively committed to sharing information and expertise with colleagues from other botanical institutions around the world. As the need for specialist skills in botany, horticulture and conservation increased, RBG Kew responded by establishing a series of international diploma courses to provide training in identifying and conserving biodiversity and in using it sustainably. The continuing need to build capacity for the conservation of plant diversity is highlighted in two key commitments made by global conservation community of the end of the twentieth century: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). Article 12 of the CBD and Target 15 of the GSPC highlight this need to help build capacity to conserve, sustainably utilize and manage our botanical resources. These have become the two key drivers for the further development of Kew's capacity building programme at home and internationally.

The summer school programme at Kew is now well established and four courses are regularly run at Kew over our summer period (July-August):

- Plant Conservation Strategies
- Botanic Garden Management
- Herbarium Techniques
- Botanic Garden Education

Full details can be found on our website at: <http://www.kew.org/education/highered.html> We actively encourage applications from UK Overseas Territories and will help to try and locate funding to attend these programmes.



Course leaflets

The international diploma programme at Kew is now well established and 377 practitioners from 103 countries have participated in this programme over its 20-year history. This in itself is an important contribution to Target 16 of the GSPC –“networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels”. Designed to provide specialist training for people working in botanic gardens, arboreta, herbaria and other conservation organisations, these courses bring together participants from around the world. Through lectures and workshops with staff from RBG Kew and other international conservation bodies and visits to other UK organisations, they explore a wide range of topics related to their chosen disciplines. Specialist options and projects enable each participant to become more confident in developing plans for implementation at home. By exchanging ideas and sharing problems amongst themselves, participants from different countries often discover common solutions. Funding for participation in this programme remains a challenge, but solutions are being found. For some participants, their home institution is able to sponsor participation either from core funds, directly from a Government Ministry or as specified in a technical training budget line of a project. Recent examples of the latter are within Darwin Initiative funded projects (www.Darwin.gov.uk). Others have been successful in gaining Winston Churchill traveling fellowships (www.churchilltrust.com.au), or grants from educational charities. We strongly encourage applicants to register their interest for course participation early so that help in securing funding can be provided.

Long after a course ends, the links between its participants remain strong through individual contacts and through the wider network of International Diploma alumni and its regular newsletter OnCourse (www.kew.org/education/highered.html).

In recent years we have been responding to requests for developing regionally-based training programmes in collaboration with in-country partners and most recently to specifically address the implementation of the GSPC. Courses have been held recently in Uganda and Montserrat.

Dr Colin P. Clubbe, Head, Conservation & Higher Education, Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3AB, UK. c.clubbe@kew.org



The graduating class of 2007 Plant Conservation Strategies course

Major Project Needs Requiring Resources both Financial and Non-Financial – a framework

Nigel Crocker, UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum



Crocker, N. 2007. Major Project Needs Requiring Resources both Financial and Non-Financial – a framework. pp 272-281 in *Biodiversity That Matters: a conference on conservation in UK Overseas Territories and other small island communities, Jersey 6th to 12th October 2006* (ed. M. Pienkowski). UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, www.ukotcf.org

There is an urgent requirement to prepare a biodiversity inventory and threat assessment to inform discussion and solutions relating to priority needs in each of the UKOTs. This is especially so when considering the high level of endemism and unique habitats and ecosystems represented in the UKOTs, and threats to their future existence and conservation management. There are numerous cross-cutting environmental issues which provide focus for project needs in the UKOTs, which may be classified under broad headings, whilst appreciating that there are a wide range of underlying needs specific to individual territories. Nevertheless, there are opportunities for synergies and leveraging of resources. To inform decisions on scoping, planning and implementing future projects there is a need to understand the scale. Whilst precise costing may not be possible at the outset there is an urgent requirement to identify priority needs so that the Forum can look for synergies and economies of scale that enable approaches to be made to UK Government and others to lobby for future funding.

Nigel Crocker, Treasurer, UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum, Salida, The Street, Ubley, Bristol BS40 6PN, UK. nigelberylcorax@btinternet.com

Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to record and highlight the major project needs in the UK Overseas Territories (UKOTs) and Crown Dependencies, and discuss ways and means of finding resources to perform the actions required to meet those needs. (For simplicity, this document does not specifically include Crown Dependencies at each mention of UKOTs, but we assume that most references are relevant to include them; we welcome specific guidance from Crown Dependency colleagues.)

It is important that the document addresses broad conservation needs, and does not limit its scope to those few which can be covered by existing funding mechanisms. If there is to be any chance of securing new funding sources, it is essential that the scope of resources needed is assessed and (as far as possible) costed. The estimated costs for each programme need not to be too precise initially, but can become increasingly so with time. It is intended that this will be a living document in that it will commence with what is initiated at the conference in Jersey and will be available subsequently to be

supplemented and enhanced with other needs as and when they arise.

The Resources session at the conference will therefore concentrate on collation of the initial information on needs. It will also aim to learn from the experience of those who have found resources to meet specific needs, and look at the problems of securing resources. There will be links here with the environmental education session where, in considering good practice in environmental education, opportunities offered by wider human and other resources will be explored.

Biodiversity inventory and threat assessment

The high level of endemism and unique habitats / ecosystems represented in the UKOTs makes it imperative that we have an increasingly complete knowledge of local biodiversity and the threats that it faces. Ideally, this information would be held in a database, which could act as a central reference point that is easy to update and access, especially when issues arise within each UKOT. It is appreci-

ated that some work has already been undertaken in this area, and the database on the Forum website is evidence of this, but we must ensure that this does not become a time capsule, but is updated regularly and expanded.

There is an urgent need to fill the gaps in our understanding of what natural and other heritage resources exist (and their status) across the UKOTs. To this end, baseline biodiversity surveys are still required for many taxa in most UKOTs, simply to provide checklists of species which occur there. Even for better studied taxa, there is a need for more detailed information on status: initial data on distribution and abundance, on-going monitoring to assess changes in status, and assessment of factors driving changes in status – particularly threats. Such information underpins formal status assessments, such as the compilation of Red Lists. There is also a need for greater understanding of the ecology of species, particularly those whose status give cause for concern. To prepare any management plan for species recovery, for example, there is a need to understand specific habitat requirements and other factors critical to the survival of the species in question.

In summary, the following are key headings for information needs on species. These should be reproduced under broad taxonomic headings (i.e. the following are all required for i) plants, ii) birds, iii) reptiles, iv) beetles, v) fungi, etc., etc.:

- Occurrence (which species are present?)
 - o Trends (which species have become extinct, or arrived only recently?)
- Distribution (where does each species occur?)
 - o Trends (is the range of each species stable / increasing / decreasing?)
- Abundance (how many of each species occur?)
 - o Trends (are populations of each species stable / increasing / decreasing?)

Alternatively, these needs could be expressed in terms of activities and outputs:

- Biodiversity surveys for the compilation of checklists of species present
- Biodiversity surveys and monitoring programmes for the preparation and updating of distribution maps for species
- Biodiversity surveys and monitoring programmes to obtain and update population estimates for species

‘Preparation of Red Lists’ could be taken as an over-arching activity/output, as a comprehensive

Red List requires all three elements of species-level information noted above, and points the way to targeted species recovery programmes. Once species in particular need of conservation attention have been identified, additional information is required for the development of a species recovery programme, such as:

- Threats to the survival of the species
- Ecological requirements of the species

Similar levels of baseline information (i.e. on occurrence, distribution, abundance and threats) are required for habitats, and ideally for ecosystems (although species assemblages may be a more practical alternative). The concept should also be extended to consider, for example, geological and landscape features, and might be further expanded to take account of built (as well as natural) heritage features.

Effective conservation of biodiversity demands that acquiring such baseline information, and on-going monitoring, is conducted in a more or less systematic fashion. This requires that significant local infrastructure and information management capacity is in place. As such, another over-arching activity/output which should be considered here is ‘Establishment of an Environmental Records Centre’ for each UKOT. In general, where project implementation relies heavily on technical input and expertise from elsewhere, opportunities should be taken to enhance local infrastructure and capacity as part of the project’s core activities.

Cross-cutting environmental issues

A range of cross-cutting environmental issues provide further foci for project needs in the UKOTs. These include broad headings such as:

- Implementation of Environment Charters
- Establishment/management of Protected Areas
- Environmental education
- Environmental legislation
- Environmental democracy
- Climate change
- Habitat loss/restoration
- Invasive species
- Sustainable use of biodiversity
- Institutional capacity for conservation

Under each of these (and other) broad headings, a wide range of specific needs may apply in any given UKOT. A first requirement may be the development of a local strategy (such as that required under the Environment Charters) through which to

address the cross-cutting issue. The development of such a strategy will help to identify particular needs (as well as existing assets in the relevant area). Individual projects can then be identified which address specific, priority needs. For example, sub-headings for needs under the broad heading of 'Invasive species' might include:

- Information/awareness
 - baseline data on invasive species already present and their impacts
 - data on potential invasive species threats
 - co-operation with regional/international bodies
 - awareness-raising at all levels of society
- Prevention/detection
 - identification of key pathways for introductions
 - risk assessment
 - implementation of monitoring/surveillance measures
 - cross-sectoral communication
 - co-operation with regional/international bodies
- Control/eradication
 - identification of priority species for control/eradication
 - implementation of control/eradication measures
 - habitat restoration following control/eradication

As with biodiversity inventory needs, infrastructure and technical capacity are key considerations when addressing needs under cross-cutting environmental issues. Taking invasive species as an example again, there may be a need to establish a central co-ordinating body to oversee development and implementation of strategy, as well as (for example) infrastructure to screen goods arriving at ports of entry, and even a native plant nursery to provide landscaping material as an alternative to suppliers of imported, exotic species. As noted above, projects which rely on external expertise should include capacity building as a core component, to enhance prospects for long-term sustainability of project outputs (and potential for increasingly locally-led activities in related areas).

Opportunities for synergies and leveraging of resources

As well as defining the range of projects which are needed, we need also to look at opportunities for synergies with existing activities, and for leveraging resources using existing assets. In other words,

how can much needed projects be enhanced, and made more attractive to prospective funders, through linkages to existing infrastructure, local (and wider) demand, and global priorities?

Examples of considerations in this area include:

- local government planning policy and its integration with conservation and sustainable use
- local education policy and programmes
 - schools / colleges
- public awareness of conservation issues (e.g. species under threat of extinction, the threats posed by invasive species)
- self-help – local community commitment through ownership and guardianship
- sustainable development which enhances biodiversity conservation - enabling local people to live within an economy that supports their way of life, whilst recognising the need to manage resources for the future benefit of the community and the environment, e.g.:
 - widespread conservation of mangrove belts to provide hurricane protection in the Caribbean
 - links to food, forestry and farming e.g. sheep farming in Falkland Islands and some farming and forestry in St Helena
 - water-catchment management, for which natural vegetation has been shown to be very important
 - sustainable nature-based and cultural tourism
 - links to fisheries (fishing represents a major source of income for the South Atlantic UKOTs, as well as some local fishing within the Caribbean UKOTs) - our knowledge on the sustainability of these activities is insufficient given issues such as:
 - o impact of long-line fisheries
 - o impact of rise in ocean temperatures leading to redistribution of fish into other waters or becoming unsustainable
 - o impact of fishing on sea-birds, especially albatross and petrels in South Atlantic both direct and indirect
 - o impact of variable annual cycle (eg South Georgia)
 - o impact of foreign vessels fishing in UKOT waters
 - o need to maintain a system of management that ensures the future of ocean and sea bird biodiversity
- external education opportunities (e.g. for rangers / wardens via schemes such as those run by Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) Kew)
- species recovery / restoration (see above)
- bird monitoring surveys as undertaken in UK,

but not currently widespread in UKOTs – British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) surveys might be used as a framework (note also the bird monitoring workshop after this conference)

- use of volunteers to carry out survey / conservation work – UK examples from BTO / County Trusts / Conservation Volunteers
- use of visiting tourist volunteers – many visiting eco-tourists already keep records of what they see, but these records are not always copied to local organisations / recorders
- ensuring that there is a local recorder to collate records of all reported flora and fauna
- greater liaison between UKOT NGOs and UK based organisations to share expertise and assist in the training and encouragement of local UKOT participants
- UKOT governments note the financial plus attached to these activities particularly from visiting tourists adding to the local economic purse – use of taxation to build a resource for sustainable management of the environment

A key consideration in maximising synergies and leveraging resources is local community involvement. In some cases, the initial call for particular projects arises from within local communities themselves (as with the on-going biodiversity management and eco-tourism initiative in TCI). Advocacy in support of projects is particularly powerful when it involves non-scientists informing other parts of the local community of the underlying need, and highlighting the value of a diverse environment in which to live. If local people generally (as well as conservation NGOs and departments) understand the problem, and the consequences of inaction, they are more likely to support interventions and own the solution, if not provide some of the resources to resolve underlying issues. In this respect, public awareness-raising is analogous to technical capacity building, and elements of environmental education (in the broadest sense) should be included in most, if not all, projects.

Scoping, planning and implementing projects

Projects must be scoped to address these issues as a matter of urgency. Some work may be capable of being done largely by self-help (but will still need some resourcing) whilst others might involve costly, externally funded programmes. The bird restoration programme on Ascension Island is a case in point, where very major funding and expertise were required to ensure a successful feral cat

eradication and rat control programme.

When projects advance from scoping to planning (and development of concrete proposals, grant applications, etc.), careful consideration must be given to project design and management, to enhance prospects for funding and to ensure that all projects are implemented in a manner that will ensure their success. There will be many common issues, processes and experiences that can be shared across UKOTs in this respect, and lessons to be learned which will provide a general framework for project planning and implementation. Establishing that framework will ease the task of calculating the resource requirement for each project, and (to an extent) assist in identifying the sources from which resources might be drawn. Once again, this is fundamentally an issue of infrastructure and technical capacity (this time for project management in general), and opportunities to enhance these should be taken wherever possible as part of the process of designing and implementing individual projects.

Government support: UK and UKOT

Financial support specifically for the UKOTs is provided through OTEP, but this is only seed finance and there is still a requirement for UKG to provide additional funds to support a range of projects and activities. UKOT Governments also provide financial support for some conservation activities, for example, through environmental taxes levied on tourists which are subsequently used as a resource to address environmental needs. Where they do not already exist, it may be appropriate to develop stakeholder forums locally to assist UKOT Governments in identifying priority needs for such financial support.

As well as contributing to financial support, UKOT Governments often play a vital role in implementing conservation projects and enhancing local community involvement and ownership, although such activities often fall to small, local NGOs. Ideally, such activities are undertaken in partnerships between governments and NGOs (and, in some cases, the private sector). The example of the Bahamas is a case in point, where the government transfers ownership of all protected areas to the local National Trust (NT) for the NT to manage. There is a clear example here to UKOTs also to establish NGOs as the primary custodians of protected areas, in partnership with government, as part of a wider portfolio of responsibilities. Strong partnerships of this kind are dependent on (government and NGO)

institutional capacity, and on UKOT governments' willingness to make use of civil society in all its richness. The Forum and its member organisations can play a crucial role in helping UKOT governments and NGOs to maximise the value of partnerships.

Counting the cost

Whilst we have identified that some self-help might be possible in some instances, in reality all projects do require financial resourcing at some level. Whether this is provided within UKOTs locally or from external sources will to a large extent depend on the size and complexity of the project.

Each UKOT will have a number of specific needs and there will be other core needs (i.e. in relation to infrastructure and technical capacity) that might affect all or a number of UKOTs. The following section provides the means to build a matrix of the need areas and to identify where needs are specific to given UKOTs or common across a group of UKOTs with close geographical, habitat-based or other links.

Needs might be easy to identify, although their costs may be unknown. The sharing of knowledge and experience can assist in extrapolating the cost of a similar project elsewhere, to arrive at a cost calculation of the resource requirement, which can be progressively refined from order-of-magnitude to costed project.

Please see appendix which attempts to provide a structure to quantify and summarise actions and costs and includes some examples for guidance and comparison with similar situations in other UKOTs. These are by no means exhaustive, so please feel free to add to each of these matrices and to add any additional matrix that you feel should be included.

Conclusion

This is only the beginning of what might become a point of reference and resource for UKOT NGOs and others who are seeking to plan, and seek significant resources for, environmental projects. Please be involved in the process. You and others will be glad you did.

Additional notes concerning completion of the Appendix to Major Funding Needs Requiring Resources – a framework arising from discussion with participants of the Wider Caribbean Working Group in Jersey 11th October 2006

The Resources Session at the conference introduced a template as the appendix referred to above. As discussed this is a living document and its use will develop and change over time in response to the needs of individual and collective territories. Those needs will vary from large scale projects, where it might be possible to leverage some common approach involving more than one territory, to smaller tasks which can be addressed locally, either financially, through practical help or both. The template should therefore be used for all projects and is to be considered as inclusive of the small as well as the large.

In the first instance it was agreed that all territories should define their top three priorities within their territory in the short to medium term. These might include:

- Urgent action to control / eradicate invasive species
- Restoration of habitat
- Species recovery
- Environment charter commitments / implementation
- Education initiatives
- Local initiatives for reserve management
- Core activities of local NGO
- Others – (this is only a suggested list to inform thoughts and is not exclusive)

Secondly, consider how those three priority areas may be resourced:

- Local funding from territory Government, corporate or NGO source
- Application for funding to UK Government (eg OTEP)
- Link to similar issues in other territories (this will inform UKOTCF Council in considering what might be possible through partnership with other EU member states, as well as considering further approaches to UK Government and other funding bodies where applicable)
- Use of local volunteer assistance (NGO personnel – members / enthusiasts)
- Use of educational activity linked to volunteer

assistance –schools and adults

- Use of informed eco-tourists to provide data on species sightings etc.

Having identified the three top priorities for your territory, this information should be fed to the Forum Treasurer Nigel Crocker preferably by e-mail – nigelberylcorax@btinternet.com, to enable him to begin to collate a database of projects with a common theme, and to identify key needs areas within each territory. Please use the template as far as possible to enable information to be collated in a standard format, but please feel free to change the detail to fit individual circumstances.

As an example of common interests, you will recall that JNCC has already prepared a detailed database of invasive species for overseas territories, and it is possible that we might consider a similar unified database for indigenous species, collating information already available and filling the gaps in our collective knowledge.

Appendix to Major Funding Needs Requiring Resources - a framework
Counting the cost of addressing major project needs and financial resources required
Biodiversity inventory and threat assessment

Project	Taxa to be recorded (for example - there will be others)			Cost
	Birds	Plants	Invertebrates	
Recording status of all taxa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occurrence (which species are present?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Trends (which species have become extinct, or arrived only recently?) • Distribution (where does each species occur?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Trends (is the range of each species stable / increasing / decreasing?) • Abundance (how many of each species occur?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Trends (are populations of each species stable / increasing / decreasing?) 	Initial identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist • Species distribution maps • Population estimates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist • Species distribution maps • Population estimates 	
Through the implementation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity surveys for the compilation of checklists of species present • Biodiversity surveys and monitoring programmes for the preparation and updating of distribution maps for species • Biodiversity surveys and monitoring programmes to obtain and update population estimates for species 	establish and implement surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outputs • Up-dated checklist • Records of distributional changes • Records of population trends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outputs • Up-dated checklist • Records of distributional changes • Records of population trends 	
Design monitoring programmes and management plans Ongoing activities and management	ongoing monitoring and management planning ongoing monitoring and management implementation			

Cross-cutting environmental issues

Project		Project specific actions (for example)		
Broad environmental issues	Action	Invasive species	Environment Charters	Cost
<p>Broad environmental issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Environment Charters • Establishment/management of Protected Areas • Environmental education • Environmental legislation • Environmental democracy • Climate change • Habitat loss/restoration • Invasive species • Sustainable use of biodiversity • Institutional capacity for conservation 	<p>development of a local strategy through which to address the cross-cutting issue</p>			
<p>(by example for 'Invasive species' actions might involve):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information/awareness • baseline data on invasive species already present and their impacts • data on potential invasive species threats • co-operation with regional/international bodies • awareness-raising at all levels of society • Prevention/detection • identification of key pathways for introductions • risk assessment • implementation of monitoring/surveillance measures • cross-sectoral communication • co-operation with regional/international bodies • Control/eradication • identification of priority species for control/eradication • implementation of control/eradication measures • habitat restoration following control/eradication 	<p>development of a local strategy through which to address this issue and its resolution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of invasive species present • List of key species • List of key pathways <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early detection of new species • Updated list of key species • Updated list of key pathways 		
<p>Design monitoring programmes and management plans</p> <p>Ongoing activities and management</p>	<p>ongoing monitoring and management planning</p> <p>ongoing monitoring and management implementation</p>			

Opportunities for synergies and leveraging of resources

Project	Action	Local education policy and programmes – schools / colleges	Project specific actions (for example) Public awareness of conservation issues	Cost per annum
<p>Local government planning policy, and its integration with conservation and sustainable use</p> <p>Local education policy and programmes – schools / colleges</p> <p>Public awareness of conservation issues (eg. species under threat of extinction, the threats posed by invasive species)</p> <p>Self-help – local community commitment through ownership and guardianship</p> <p>Sustainable development which enhances biodiversity conservation - enabling local people to live within an economy that supports their way of life, whilst recognising the need to manage resources for the future benefit of the community and the environment</p> <p>External education opportunities (e.g. for rangers / wardens via schemes such as those run by Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) Kew)</p> <p>Species recovery / restoration</p> <p>Bird monitoring surveys as undertaken in UK, but not currently widespread in UKOTs – BTO surveys might be used as a framework</p> <p>Use of volunteers to carry out survey / conservation work – UK examples from BTO / County Trusts / Conservation Volunteers</p> <p>Use of visiting tourist volunteers – many visiting eco-tourists already keep records of what they see, but these records are not always copied to local organisations / recorders</p> <p>Ensuring that there is a local recorder to collate records of all reported flora and fauna</p> <p>Greater liaison between UKOT NGOs and UK based organisations to share expertise and assist in the training and encouragement of local UKOT participants</p> <p>Facilitate UKOT governments in noting the financial plus attached to these activities particularly from visiting tourists adding to the local economic purse – use of taxation to build a resource for sustainable management of the environment</p>	<p>Initial planning to define scope of work involved - many of the self-help / volunteer effort needs to be supported by an infrastructure that provides tools that sustain these activities even if only to the extent of providing recording methods and document. Others such as species recovery and restoration will require greater levels of funding, some of which will be required from external sources</p>	<p>Awareness-raising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education programme (schools) • Review of current activity <p>Leading to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated programme 	<p>Awareness-raising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education programme (public) • Review of current activity <p>Leading to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated programme 	<p>Cost per annum</p>

Project	Action	Project specific actions (for example)			Cost per annum
		Local education policy and programmes – schools / colleges	Public awareness of conservation issues		
<p>(by example - some funding needs have been identified for the conservation of seabirds in parts of the South Atlantic and assumes a 10 year programme; this is based on preliminary workshop conclusions, and should not be taken as necessarily reflecting the views of the Government of SGGSI or others)</p> <p>South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing Protected Area (Managed Area) system, re-evaluate existing Protected Areas (and prepare management plans for each), reassess and revise the present Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) system with stakeholder consultation. HIGH priority, 1+ person-year • Eradicate rats and reindeer at, as a minimum, key white-chinned petrel breeding sites. LOW priority (for ACAP species), high cost (£10-15 million) • Continue investigation of potential threats (e.g. impact of visitors and fur seals) to ACAP species at key sites (e.g. Albatross and Prion Islands) and where appropriate, develop management plans. HIGH priority; medium cost (£100,000 per annum) Maintain BAS annual monitoring schemes and decadal all-island counts of selected ACAP species at Bird Island. HIGH priority, £200,000 per annum • Maintain (and extend to further species) annual monitoring of breeding numbers and success of wandering albatross, light-mantled sooty albatross, northern giant petrel, southern giant petrel and white-chinned petrels at Albatross and Prion Islands. HIGH priority, £100,000 per annum • Count breeding numbers of wandering albatrosses at Annenkov Island every 5 years. MEDIUM priority, £20,000 on assumption of above • Photo-survey black-browed and grey-headed albatrosses every 5 years at sites other than Bird Island to confirm population trend. MEDIUM priority, £100,000 • Census southern giant petrels at the South Sandwich Islands LOW priority; medium cost (c. £100,000). • As an adjunct to Albatross and Prion Island monitoring programme, determine population trends and breeding success of white-chinned petrels in areas with and without introduced mammals (rats and reindeer), (e.g. fieldwork at Maiviken and Husvik) every five years. HIGH priority, £15-20,000 • Take advice on demographic monitoring by French, South African and Australian researchers and consider a full demographic monitoring programme for white-chinned petrels. HIGH priority, low cost (first step only) 	<p>see note at the end of this appendix regarding phasing of activities and resources</p>			<p>£15-20,000</p> <p>£10-15 million</p> <p>£200,000 pa</p> <p>£100,000pa</p> <p>£4,000 pa</p> <p>£25,000 pa</p> <p>£100,000</p> <p>£3-4,000 pa</p> <p>£1,000</p>	
<p>Design monitoring programmes and management plans</p> <p>Ongoing activities and management</p>	<p>ongoing monitoring and management planning</p> <p>ongoing monitoring and management implementation</p>				

Government support: UK and UKOT

		Project specific actions (for example)		Cost
Provision of financial support and sources		Development of stakeholder forums - Regional cooperation	UKOT Government/NGO conservation projects	
UK Government support through use of OTEP funding as seed financing	liaison with UKG to support continuation of OTEP and expansion of funding for projects and activities	Regional network		
UK Government support to address identified needs for additional financial funding to support a range of projects and activities		Ongoing activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information exchange • Regional training Leading to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early detection of threats • Enhanced capacity 		
UKOT Government support for example through the use of revenues from environmental taxes levied on tourists				
Development of stakeholder forums locally to assist UKOT Governments in identifying priority needs such as financial support	liaison between UKOT Governments and NGOs to develop local strategies for managing and funding local initiatives			
Partnership between UKOT Governments and NGOs in implementing conservation projects and enhancing local community involvement and ownership				
Design monitoring programmes and management plans	ongoing monitoring and management planning			
Ongoing activities and management	ongoing monitoring and management implementation			

NB: - whilst some of costs will only be incurred once or periodically say every 5 year, there is a need to understand the potential annual cost in order to ensure adequate provision is made on an accruing basis - in all cases it is necessary to evaluate the time required to complete each phase of an activity (e.g. - initial survey/feasibility study, planning activities to be undertaken, implementation, subsequent monitoring and management). This will assist in assessing the timing as well as the size of resource required, as well as how and when it can be undertaken.



UKOTCF Wider Caribbean Working Group meeting

