

ABOUT US

The Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme (CRSTDP) is funded by the European Commission under the 8th European Development Fund in the amount of €8 million..

The CARIFORUM Tourism Programme Unit (CTPU), established in Barbados, is charged with the management of the CRSTDP.



A Meeting of Great Minds

The Policy Review Board (PRB) which gives policy direction to and monitors the implementation of the Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme (CRSTDP) met at the Accra Beach Hotel and Resort in Barbados on November 14, 2005 to review the status of the programme's activities and to consider a preliminary draft of the March 1, 2006 – February 28, 2007 Work Programme.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Percival Marie of the CARIFORUM Secretariat who in his opening remarks alluded to the importance of the Programme given the importance of the tourism sector to the Caribbean region.

The meeting received a presentation by the Programme Director, Ms. Alison Brathwaite, on the status of implementation of the decisions taken by the PRB at its last meeting held on April 21, 2005. Progress reports were also given on the status of implementation of activities by the implementing agencies (Caribbean Hotel Association, Caribbean Tourism Organization and Pontificia Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra), as well as on the CARIFORUM Tourism Programme Unit's (CTPU) activities.

Several key decisions were made during the course



Group Photo of the Policy Review Board

of the meeting including the format for presentation of status reports to the CTPU; agreement that the consultants contracted under the programme should be invited to attend meetings of the PRB as observers; and a deadline set for the official submission of the March 1, 2006 – February 28, 2007 Work Programme by January 15, 2006.

The Director of the CARIFORUM Secretariat took the advantage of having key persons under the programme gathered to introduce the issue of sustainability of activities after the EU funding for the programme expires. The meeting authorized the CTPU to begin dialogue with the EC Delegation discussing the possibility of obtaining financing for a small technical evalua-

tion to determine the desirability of sustaining the programme after its expiry and the options available to the region for sustaining it.

The PRB comprises CARIFORUM/CARICOM, the Delegation of the European Commission in Barbados, Deputy Regional Authorising Officer (Barbados), Caribbean Hotel Association, Caribbean Tourism Organization, Pontificia Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the National Authorising Officers of the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and one representative each from Suriname and Guyana.

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For further information on the programme, please visit www.caribtcp.org



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TOURISM STATISTICS WORKSHOP

St. John's, Antigua



The Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism of Antigua & Barbuda addressing the ceremony.

Ms. Alison Brathwaite outlined the importance of such a workshop to the programme given the underlying theme in the CRSTDP activities, of the enhancement /development of the region's human resources.

From 10 – 14 October 2005 a Tourism Statistics & Information Management Workshop was convened in Antigua at the Jolly Beach Hotel and Resort. The workshop was facilitated through resources allocated to the Caribbean Tourism Organization's (CTO) Research and Development component under the Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme (CRSTDP).

The workshop, with the objective of enhancing participants' knowledge and understanding of existing, new and emerging tourism statistical and research methodologies, as well as to share country experiences and study best practices in tourism information management, statistics and research, was attended by sixty regional participants from not only the CARIFORUM countries but also from the wider Caribbean.

One of the consultants contracted under the CRSTDP – Mr. McHale Andrew, Research and Development Advisor – served as one of the main resource persons at the workshop, while another CRSTDP consultant, Mr. Paul Ridoutt, Information Technology Advisor made a brief presentation on his

component. Presentations were also given by Messrs Arley Sobers, Winfield Griffith, Sean Smith and Sharon Coward of CTO; Mr. Brian Garnett, Managing Director & Internet Consultant with Eco-International; and Mr. Adam Sacks of Global In-

for the hosting of the workshop there. Ms. Brathwaite outlined the importance of such a workshop to the programme given the underlying theme in the CRSTDP activities, of the enhancement/development of the region's human resources.

The workshop's opening ceremony was addressed by the Hon. Harold Lovell, Minister of Tourism of Antigua & Barbuda and the Programme Director, Ms. Alison Brathwaite. The Hon. Harold Lovell welcomed the participants to Antigua & Barbuda and invited them to take the opportunity while there to visit one of their 365 beaches. In his address to the meeting he outlined the importance of tourism to Antigua and expressed his appreciation

All of the CARIFORUM member states were invited but only twelve were represented at the workshop, with the Dominican Republic, Haiti and St. Vincent & the Grenadines not sending representatives. The non-CARIFORUM Caribbean countries represented were Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Curacao, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, St. Maarten and Turks & Caicos.



Tourism Statistics Workshop Group Photo

WORKSHOPS PLANNED FOR 4th QUARTER

DECEMBER 1, 2005 – FEBRUARY 28, 2006

Regional Sustainable Tourism Policy Development and Intersectoral Planning Workshop (Grand Barbados Hotel, Barbados 1 – 3 December 2005)

This Workshop is being held by CTO under the Sustainable Tourism Policy Development component of the Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme in, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, Barbados at the Grand Barbados Beach Resort, Barbados from 1 – 3 December 2005. The theme of the workshop is "Towards a Regional Sustainable Tourism Policy for the Caribbean".

The workshop is intended to assist in the development of the regional sustainable tourism policy framework, an important deliverable of the Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme, through consultation and feedback. It is expected to also enhance national tourism policies, while fostering sustainable tourism strategies, promoting linkages within the region and facilitating the transfer of policy-making and implementation know-how.

Key topics include: Tourism Policy Making Cycle; The Role of Research in Sustainable Tourism Policy; Information, Communications and Technology; Human Resource Development; Health, Safety & Security.

CTO HRD Common Core Curriculum Evaluation Workshop

(CTO Headquarters, Barbados, 8 – 9 December 2005)

This Common Core Curriculum (CCC) Workshop is being held by CTO under the Human Resource Development component of the programme. The objective of the workshop is to review and fine-tune the CCC programme, to identify any difficulties encountered and to collectively seek to address the pertinent issues. The Associate Degree Common Core Curriculum (CCC) programme in Tourism/Hospitality Studies was developed by CTO/Caribbean Tourism Human Resource Council (CTHRC) as a component of the Caribbean Tourism Learning System (CTLS) project.

Caribbean Blue Flag Meeting

(Dominican Republic, 8 – 9 December 2005)

The Sustainable Tourism Pol-

icy Advisor attached to CTO assisted in the organization of the Meeting/Workshop of National Coordinators of the Caribbean Blue Flag Campaign in the Dominican Republic from 8 – 9 December 2005 in collaboration with Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism (CAST), the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) and the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). Specific topics to be address include: The Future Role of the Blue Flag Caribbean Consortium; Future for Caribbean Blue Flag Coordinators; New Blue Flag Beach Criteria 2006/07; and Caribbean Blue Flag Operators Manual.

Workshop on Managing Internships Effectively

St. Lucia (February 2006)

A two day workshop will be conducted as a pilot for future regional workshops on internship management. The objectives of the workshop are:

- To devise new ways of assuring the best results from an internship experience
- To review Tourism Internship Exchange System (TIRS) manuals and procedural policies
- To test and define contents and methodology for

the expanded regional workshops

- To contribute to the strengthening of TIES
- To contribute to the cooperation and collaboration between the CRSTDP human resource development sub-components

The target audience will include: National Hotel and Tourism Associations; Sir Arthur Lewis College personnel; TIES National Coordinators; Human Resource personnel from the hotel and tourism industry; National Tourism Authorities; and National Education Authorities.

TIES NEWS

The Tourism Internship Exchange Programme had recorded a total of ninety-four interns placed by the end of September 2005. Following is some news on outstanding achievements made by three of the interns participating in programmes with the American Hospitality Academy (AHA) during the quarter September 1 – November 30, 2005:

Margaret Codrington:
Trainee Achievement Award

Mrs. Margaret Codrington from the Hospitality School from St. Kitts received the Trainee Achievement Award for Fall 2005 - Food Service in recognition of her outstanding performance during her internship in the United States. This is an award issued on a quarterly basis to one student that has gone above and beyond during her internship and Margaret won it!

Minerva Gaskin:
Hilton Head Stars of Service Winner

Ms. Minerva Gaskin (St. Kitts) received the National Star of Service Award for November 2005. At her property she did an outstanding job by being able to learn all the procedures and policies very quickly. Ms. Gaskin has proven that hard work,

consistency and dedication are the qualities needed to get the job done.

Delano Liburd
Hilton Head Stars of Service Winner

Mr. Delano Liburd (St. Kitts) was the National Star of Service Winner for the month of September 2005. The AHA has noted that since Mr. Liburd arrived on the programme he has displayed a very positive attitude and the willingness to make the most out of his internship experience. He has displayed throughout his excellent guest service skills and extremely consistent work ethic.

The internships with the AHA were made possible through the cooperation between the Pontificia Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra's TIES programme and the American Hospitality Academy. Under this arrangement the AHA has sponsored interns from the region who would have been screened and selected by the TIES programme management.

Please join with the programme management and staff in congratulating Messrs. Codrington, Gaskin and Liburd on their achievements.

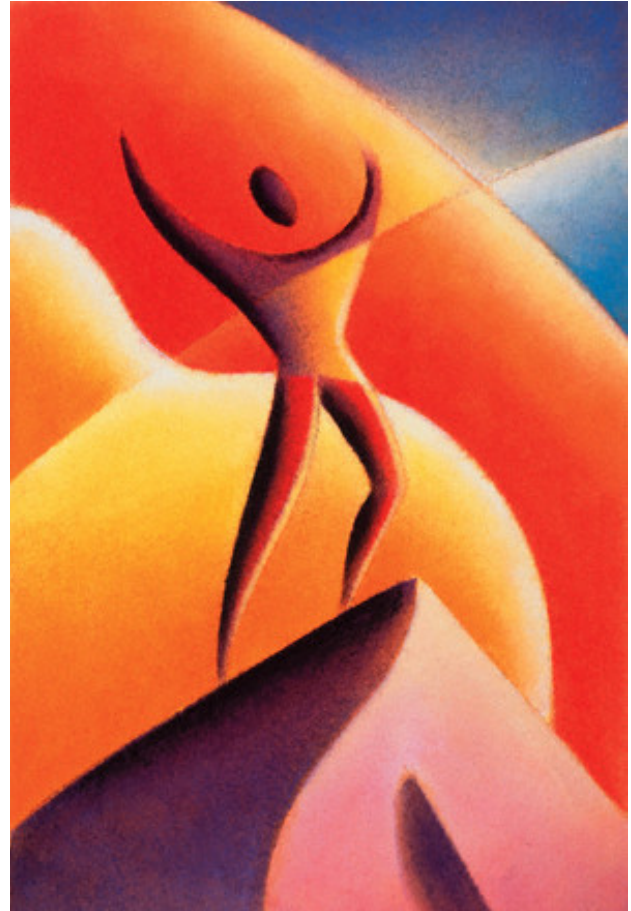


Image by Bob Commander

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Other Relevant links to the programme:

<http://www.onecaribbean.org>

<http://rties.intranets.com/login.asp?loc=&link=>

<http://www.chatraining.org>

<http://www.caribbeanhotels.org>