

# FisherFolk Net

# The CNFO Eastern Caribbean Committee Members



Horace Walters (Saint Lucia) Royan Isaac (Grenada) Winston Hobson (SKN) Huron Vidal (DOM) Winsbert Harry (SVG) Mitchell Lay (Antigua & Barbuda)

The CNFO Eastern Caribbean Committee was formed to facilitate active and consistent participation and engagement of fisherfolk in ECMMAN project. The committee wants to ensure the inclusion of fishers concerns in ongoing initiatives. They are focused on ensuring sustainability of their livelihoods with sustainable utilisation and management as a critical factor. Below are the ECMMAN projects! As a fisher are you profiting from ECMMAN projects?

- <u>Saint Lucia</u>: Strengthening the Pointe Sable Environmental Protection Area along the South-East Coast of Saint Lucia.
- <u>Grenada</u>: Strengthening the management of the marine protected areas (MPA) by improving enforcement and building understanding of their role in protecting coastal ecosystem services to the people of Grenada.

- <u>St. Kitts and Nevis</u>: Establishment of two Marine Managed Areas, The Narrows and the Narrows Fishing Priority Areas.
- Dominica: Developing an effective and sustainable community-based management regime for Cabris National Park in Dominica.
- <u>Saint Vincent and Grenadines</u>: Strengthening Management Capacity at the South Coast Marine Conservation Area and the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) in SVG.
- <u>Antigua and Barbuda</u>: A multi-faceted approach to strengthening management of the NEMMA.

The next face-to-face CNFO-EC committee meeting is scheduled for September 9-11, 2015, Dominica.

#### ECMMAN Livelihood Support Fund

A small grants fund, the OECS-ECMMAN Livelihood Support Fund facility, has been established to finance interventions that will:

- (a) Successfully demonstrate innovative and sustainable livelihood opportunities within coastal communities, and
- (b) Impact positively on the coastal resources.

The objective of the LSF is to support the undertaking of livelihood activities and micro-enterprises that would impact positively on the targeted Marine Parks of the six Eastern Caribbean countries.

This provision recognizes that not all stakeholders in the areas targeted may have access to adequate finance in order to capitalize on their existing or new livelihoods. The LSF fund will therefore assist in the building and strengthening of the livelihoods assets of the potential beneficiaries.



# **Caribbean Fisherfolk Day**

#### **By Nadine Nembhard**

Since 1987 the Caribbean region has recognized June 29 as Caribbean Fisherfolk Day. This year the day was celebrated under the theme:

#### "The Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy: breaking the cycle of poverty in fishing communities."

We gathered some photographs from across the region to share with our readers: In Belize as part of their celebration an award ceremony was held to acknowledge the winner of the Punta Fuego outstanding fisher of the year. Five fishers were awarded on that day (picture above). In Barbados, included in their celebration was a Sargassum beach clean-up. Guyana and Jamaica hosted workshops and meetings. In Saint Vincent and Grenadines they celebrated all month in May. Trinidad and Tobago had some fishing competitions and festivities. Other Caribbean countries also celebrated. Common to the week of activities is a church service.

Similarly, on November 21 each year is celebrated as World Fisheries Day. This has been celebrated since 1997 with the formation of the World Forum of Fishers People (WFFP) founded on November 21, 1997.



Beach Clean-up in Barbados



Meeting in Guyana



Workshop in Jamaica



Saint Vincent & Grenadines Opening Ceremony display



Trinidad & Tobago Competitions in Tobago

#### St. Lucia Fisherfolk Co-operative Society Ltd hosting of Exchange

#### By: Alva Lynch, Dexter & Winston

The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of the UWI organized, on behalf of FAO a Workshop on-Strengthening Organizations and Collective Action in Fisheries in Barbados from 4-6 November 2014. As a follow-up activity FAO provided CERMES with funds to implement a fisherfolk organisation learning exchange.

The exchange was for one fisherfolk leader from Grenada (Dexter Miller) and one from St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Winston Hazelwood), endorsed by the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO), to travel to Saint Lucia for three days (April 28-30, 2015) to learn from the successes and other experiences of the fisherfolk organisations there. CERMES collaborated with the CNFO and the Caribbean

#### ECMMAN UP-COMING FISH-ERS' EXCHANGE

TNC, in conjunction with Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Secretariat and the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations (CNFO) will organize this activity so the fishermen from (Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & Grenadines, the Eastern Caribbean can share their experiences and engage in discussions with fishermen from sites visited on issues related to the management of marine managed areas and sustainable fishing practices including new and innovative fishing techniques.

The exchange is planned for Sept 28 – Oct 2, 2015 and will take place in Tobago Cays, St. Vincent and Grenadines. Natural Resources Institute (CA-NARI) to link the learning exchange to ongoing initiatives. Several key lessons and recommendations were shared including:

- We have a lot in common in the three islands and there is the need for the harmonization of fisheries regulations especially in the OECS since many islands share marine space and resources.
- We need to develop linkages between fisherfolk organisations in the region to protect and increase livelihood opportunities in the industry.
- Exchange programmes like this should be promoted to help share best practices and experiences especially since some islands fisheries are more advanced than others.

- Cooperative Departments need to encourage fishers to build small ice boxes in their boats to ensure that their catch is of a higher quality.
- Many of the fish landing facilities are under-utilized so there is the need to develop a way to share resources among the different cooperatives for better efficiency.
- Fisherfolk co-operatives need to look at employing renewable energy systems to reduce their utility bills.
- Managers should be strongheaded for effective functioning of the co-operatives. When organisation members are elected, they need to know what their roles are in order for them to function effectively.
- There should be insurance (including medical) for fisherfolk.



Mr. Dexter Miller (of Petit Martinique, Grenada), Mr. Winston Hazelwood (of St. Vincent and the Grenadines), and Registrar of Cooperatives, Ms. Sherill St. Cartherine of St. Lucia.

# FAD's in SVG

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) formed a national FAD fishers group at a two day workshop held at the Fisheries Division Conference Room on the 12th &13th May 2015. (Picture on right)

The workshop was held by the National Joint Coordinating Committee which was a collaboration between J.I.C.A. and the Fisheries Division. The aim of the meeting was to set up a FAD Management Group and to Plan the way forward for the remaining life of the JICA FAD Project (3yrs).

SVG now has a new J.I.C.A representative Mr. Minoru Tamura who replaced Mr Nariaki Mikuni and a J.I.C.A Volunteer Mr. Takamitsu Furumoto.

First objective of the group is to build 10 FAD's for deployment in July 13th. -17th. Furthermore, a Drop Line Training will be conducted on August 20th - 24th.

On Friday May 15th 2015 SVG celebrated JAPAN day at the fisheries division compound. It was part of fisherman day activities 2015.

# Insurance Product for Fishers

Some of our CNFO members participated in a survey that is aimed at developing an insurance product to help the fisheries sector in times of natural disasters. This process was initiated by the CARICOM governments, with support of World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and the Caribbean Regional Mechanism (CRFM).

Funding is already available for the insurance scheme and premium discounts will be incorporated in the insurance scheme. The first fisheries insurance policy is expected to be issued in October 2015 in time for the 2016 hurricane season.



Participants of FADs Workshop in Saint Vincent & Grenadines May 12-13, 2015

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#### UPCOMING NOTABLE DAYS & EVENTS

- Goodwill Fisherman's Cooperative AGM (SVG Aug. 30, 2015)
- Shrimp & Groundfish Fisheries Investment Workshop (Barbados Sept 7-8, 2015)
- ECMMAN face-to-Face (Dominica, Sept. 9-11, 2015)
- OECS Fishers Exchange (SVG Sept 28-Oct 2, 2015)
- USER RIGHTS (Rome Oct 2015)
- CWA (OCT 2015)
- CANARI ALG (OCT 2015)
- 17<sup>th</sup> session Oceans & the Law of the Sea (Spain, Nov 2015)
- GCFI & Caribbean Billfish management (Panama, Nov 9-13, 2015)

## Seaweed Mari-



## culture

Our Nevis fisher Mr. Winston Hobson also member of the CNFO-EC committee speaks about his interest for seaweed growing in the near future.

He plans to increase his earnings by adding seaweed mariculture to his livelihood.

Edible seaweed are algae that can be eaten and used in the preparation of food. It typically contains high amounts of fiber and they contain a complete protein. They may belong to one of several groups of multicellular algae: the red algae, green algae, and brown algae.