



**For Immediate Release**

## **Caribbean stakeholders invited to input into priorities for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund**

***Port of Spain, July 5, 2017*** – Stakeholders are invited to feed into the analysis that will inform the priorities for investment in biodiversity conservation in the Caribbean by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF).

The consultation process to update the CEPF ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands biodiversity hotspot is now underway. The ecosystem profile describes the conservation status of the region and will be used to create a new Caribbean investment strategy for CEPF. The process is being supported by an on-line tool developed by BirdLife International (BirdLife), one of the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute's (CANARI's) partners in the re-profiling effort.

Stakeholders across the region and interested parties are now invited to log on to review and comment on the current inventory of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), as well as to feed into the contextual issues that will inform the updated ecosystem profile. The tool is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

The ArcGIS-based microsite includes all KBA-related information and a desktop analysis carried out by BirdLife. Users have interactive maps at their disposal, which they can use to view: current KBAs within the Caribbean Islands biodiversity hotspot; the occurrence of globally threatened species; protected areas; and point location data for plant species.

Feedback on KBAs can be provided directly through the microsite by clicking on any KBA under the **KBA Inventory** tab and completing the feedback form linked to the pop-up box. Please submit feedback no later than 31 July 2017.

Users can feed into the analysis of the context for biodiversity conservation in the region that will inform the ecosystem profile by reviewing the discussion papers in the **Draft Chapters** section and answering any or all of the questions that appear at the end of each paper, or by providing additional information. Feedback can be sent via the comment box under the **Draft Chapters** tab or by email to [info@canari.org](mailto:info@canari.org) with the subject heading **CEPF Reprofiling**. All feedback should be received by 31 July 2017.

---

**About CEPF:** The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank. CEPF is a global program that provides grants to civil society to safeguard the world's biodiversity hotspot.

The project to update the CEPF ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands biodiversity hotspot is being led by [CANARI](#) in association with [BirdLife International](#) with support from [the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources](#) and the [New York Botanical Garden](#).

For more information on the project to update the CEPF ecosystem profile, please visit our [project page](#) on the CANARI website or download the project summary [here](#).

**About CANARI:** The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute is a regional technical non-profit organisation which has been working in the islands of the Caribbean for more than 20 years. Our mission is to promote equitable participation and effective collaboration in managing natural resources critical to development. Our programmes focus on research, sharing and dissemination of lessons learned, capacity building and fostering regional partnerships.

**Connect with us:**



**For further information, please contact:** Nicole Brown at CANARI at [nicolebrown@canari.org](mailto:nicolebrown@canari.org) or call: 1-876-818-4285 or 1868-626-6062