

## Snapshot of the

Sandy Island/Oyster Bed Marine Protected Area (SIOBMPA)

& the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP)

### SIOMBPA

The SIOMBPA was officially launched in 2010. It is located on the island of Carriacou in Grenada. SIOMBPA covers an area of 6.5 km<sup>2</sup>, including small offshore islands. It is considered as the largest, most biologically diverse marine protected area (MPA) in Grenada.

### TCMP

The TCMP was officially declared a marine park in December 1997. Located in the southernmost waters of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG), it comprises 66 km<sup>2</sup> of mostly marine but also coastal areas, including the island of Mayreau and a number of uninhabited cays.



1

### Did you know?

SIOMBPA and TCMP were both founding members of the Grenadines Network of MPAs, launched in 2011, to ensure transboundary cooperation and share experiences to reinforce management and conservation between Grenada and SVG



2



3

### How is SusGren engaged?

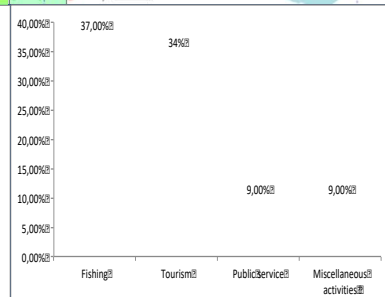
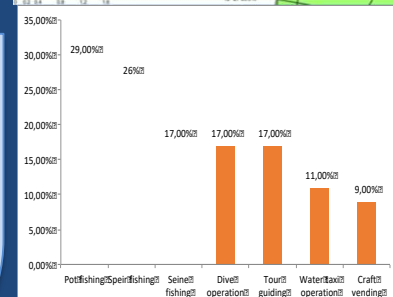
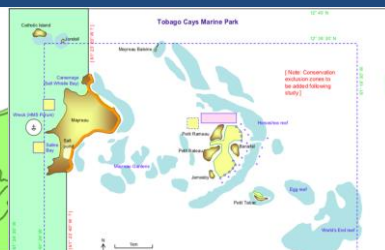
The Sustainable Grenadines Inc. (SusGren) is a not-for-profit environmental organisation that co-manages both MPAs in collaboration with governmental entities.

SusGren implements various activities such as environmental education and public awareness work (1), capacity building of civil society group such as fisherfolks to ensure the sustainable use of marine resources (2), conservation, restoration and monitoring of critical ecosystems (e.g. coral reefs) and species (e.g. sea turtles and birds).

## SIOMBPA



## TCMP



Charts title: Livelihood activities observed amongst the respondents of SocMon study in 2013

Source: Charts data and SIOMBPA map: Socio-economic Monitoring by Caribbean Challenge MPA Managers, CERMES 2014, Report 5 & 10. TCMP map (Tobago Cays Marine Park 2007-2009 Management Plan)

**SIOMBPA**  
(Carriacou island:  
Lariston, L'Esterre, Harveyvale)

**TCMP**  
(Mayreau island)

Main types of natural resource based Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

Fishing - Harveyvale is the largest fishing community on the island; Different fisherfolk cooperatives and associations  
Tourism - water taxis and dive shops (usually not locally owned)  
Boat building

Tourism is the primary source of income for communities within the MPA. This includes:

- Scuba diving
- Boat day tours
- Local vendors

Fishing is also a livelihood and income source

### Vulnerable groups and capacity building priorities

In both MPAs, local communities need training to benefit directly from tourism, including ecotourism. Disadvantaged groups, such as fisherfolk, are a priority for training in the different activities listed below.

Water taxi/ shuttle service  
Sport fishing for tuna and marlin (catch and release)  
Diversification of fisheries type with sustainable offshore fisheries (potentially more lucrative)  
Maintain and modernise boat building tradition

Sea moss farming  
Tourism, including safe food handling and vending practices, tour guiding and scuba diving, and development of local accommodation (e.g. through hosting on Airbnb)

### Socio-cultural values related with natural resources conservation

Although local communities are well aware of the existence of both MPAs, there are conflicts and issues with compliance related to marine parks and fisheries regulations in both cases. This highlights importance of improving their engagement and potential to benefit from the MPA.

### SIOMBPA

### TCMP

### Ecosystems & Species of interest

Coral reefs - Mangroves - Seagrass beds - Sandy beaches and Offshore islands - Grenadian Bank Tree Boa (*Corallus grenadensis*) - Mangrove Oyster - Hawksbill and Green sea turtles

Largest coral reefs formation in the country - Sea grasses - Iguana (*Iguana iguana*) - Red-necked pigeon (*Colomba squamosa*) - Hawksbill and Leatherback sea turtles - Migratory bird species

### Key Threats

Overfishing - Invasive species - Pollution, especially from land based sources - Inappropriate boat use - Clearing of mangroves and coastal vegetation and damage to beaches (e.g. turtle nesting sites) - Potential effects of climate change

Invasive species and white band disease - Overfishing - Inappropriate yachting and boat activity - Damage from inappropriate snorkeling and diving behaviour among visitors - Storms and storm surge



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SusGren is partnering with CANARI to implement the **Powering Innovations in Civil Society and Enterprises for Sustainability in the Caribbean (PISCES)** project from 2017-2020 to improve conservation and sustainable livelihoods in the SIOMBPA and the TCMPA.

