The “Golden Tide” phenomenon has been affecting the Caribbean region since 2011, becoming a recurring threat over recent years, particularly for the Eastern Caribbean islands. Sargassum mats inundate coastlines, cover beaches and block fish landing sites, impeding activities in tourism, fisheries and everyday life for coastal communities. Although the region has been making strides in increasing awareness and research on Sargassum origination, tracking, forecasting, usage and management, there are still a lot of unknowns surrounding the issue. In order to sustainably manage these sargassum influxes, the region needs to develop national and regional interventions for reducing its impacts and improving adaptation.

One such intervention is the “Adapting to a new reality: Managing responses to influxes of sargassum seaweed in the Eastern Caribbean as ecosystem hazards and opportunities (SargAdapt)” Project led by the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (UWI-CERMES). This sub-regional project seeks to address sargassum management and adaptation through knowledge mobilisation, capacity development and institutionalisation of adaptation plans. The project is taking place in Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines over the next three years. The project is funded by the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund Ecosystem-based Adaptation Facility through financing assistance from the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety International Climate Initiative (IKI) through the KfW. It will be implemented by UWI-CERMES and project partners: Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), Marine Spatial Information Systems, University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) and St. George’s University (SGU).

CANARI has been contracted by the UWI-CERMES to provide technical assistance for the SargAdapt project with activities focused on the development of communications strategies for project countries, capacity building of stakeholders for improved management and adaptation to sargassum influxes and the development and coordination of mechanisms for engagement nationally and regionally.
Key activities and outputs for CANARI’s component include:

**Conduct desk reviews and scoping of the five project countries to identify key stakeholders in 10 target communities (2 in each of the five countries) and the impacts of sargassum influxes on tourism, fisheries and other key sectors.**

**Design and conduct a stakeholder analysis and KAP survey in each of the target communities to gather data on stakeholder capacities and resources needed for sustainable management and adaptation to sargassum influxes and produce a stakeholder database and reports summarising the findings of the stakeholder analysis KAP surveys in the 10 communities.**

**Develop Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategies using the information gathered from the KAP surveys to enable outreach and awareness efforts on sargassum impacts and adaptation actions tailored to stakeholder needs and the local context.**

**Establish a Sargassum Action Network to build a community of practice at the community level to support management and adaptation to sargassum influxes in the Eastern Caribbean.**

**Establish and coordinate a Regional Sargassum Action Learning Group of change agents for knowledge exchange, problem solving and capacity building for management and adaptation to sargassum influxes in the Eastern Caribbean, including the development of a Terms of Reference and reports of group activities.**

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