

**GRENADA, CARRIACOU & PETIT
MARTINIQUE**

SECOND NATIONAL REPORT

**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND
DROUGHT (UNCCD)**

**Ministry of Agriculture Lands, Forestry and Fisheries
April 2002**

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ART	Agency for Rural Transformation
DFID	Department for International Development
FNPDP	Forestry and National Parks Department
GOGCP	Government of Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique
NGO's	Non-Governmental Organizations
GRENCODA	Grenada Community Development Agency
MOALFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry and Fisheries
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOHE	Ministry of Health and the Environment
NAWASA	National Water and Sewage Authority
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NFAP	National Forestry Action Programme/Plan
OAS	Organization of American States
OECSNRMU	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Natural Resources Management Unit
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
NAPCD	National Action Plan to Combat Desertification
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
NPEDP's	National Physical and Environmental Development Plans
NSC	National Steering Committee
SDC	National Sustainable Development Council
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and/or Drought

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

National Plans and strategies: In 1993, a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) was prepared for the Government of Grenada. The environmental priorities as outlined in the NEAP are; Solid waste management, water supply and liquid waste management, land Use management, Coastal zone management, Water pollution, Forestry and protected areas and Natural hazards. All aspects of the plan are being implemented.

A Country Environmental Profile was developed in 1992. The document addresses the environmental problems, constraints, and policy directions. It also identifies and examines a variety of opportunities and planning tools for meeting environmental goals.

A National Forest Action Programme (NFAP) was developed for Grenada in 1995. One integrated forest management project was developed for Grenada and an integrated land use management project for Carriacou. Both projects have been implemented. Implementation of a second phase of the Forest Management project is in progress.

The Government also commissioned the development of National Physical Development Plans (NFDP) for Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique. The plans are intended to provide a framework for rational Utilization of the finite land resource to minimize adverse effects of socio-economic development on terrestrial, marine and atmospheric environments.

In 1978, a New Town and Country Act was drafted, with assistance from UNDP, to remedy the deficiencies of the 1968 Town and Country Planning legislation. Government had not accepted this plan.

The Government of Grenada and the Organization of American States (OAS) published a Plan and Policy for a System of Parks and Protected Areas in Grenada, in 1988. Some of the areas identified as national parks e.g. Levera had been approved by Cabinet, but not gazetted. FNPDP is working to get all forest reserve, National Parks and Recreation areas (new category) legally constituted.

The Governments Medium-term Economic Strategy Paper outlines the Government's thinking on environmental issues. The Government's main objective is to promote the sustainable economic and social development of Grenada an institute environmental protection programmes to ensure that economic and social development is physically and institutionally sustainable.

A New Forest Policy was approved by Government in 1999. The Policy gives FNPDP the responsibility to facilitate the implementation of the Policy.

The relevant policy objective outlined in the Tourism Master Plan, which was approved by Government in 1998 are to ensure that tourism development is consistent with the protection and conservation of the country's natural and cultural resources, built environment and the nations moral values

There is not an approved agricultural policy, however. Governments long-term objective for the sector are to increase exports of traditional and non-traditional crops, attain self-sufficiency in food production, promote efficient use of available land resources and develop the rural economy

Other Relevant Plans and Strategies: A proposed development strategy was submitted to Government in 1997, focusing on integrated economic expansion via planning for land use, urban design, housing construction, sanitation and public health, education and recreation. The plan was never formally approved, nor were its guidelines for development formally accepted.

The OECS Declaration of St. George's on principles that will guide the sustainability of the environment throughout the OECS islands involving all sectors involved in the environment was drawn up by Heads of government of the OECS in July 2000. Grenada ratified the declaration

National 'Physical Development Plans' have been developed for Grenada and Carriacou. The plan has three objectives in the area of environmental management

- Sustainable management of the natural environment while allowing for compatible and complementary forms of development activity
- Implement the system of parks and protected areas
- Effective management of the finite land resource and the type, location and sequence of development activity and Protection from environmental hazards and the impacts of climate change

MOALFF has developed a corporate plan for the period 2002 –2006. One strategic objective outlined in the plan is to promote the sustainable use of natural resources

FNPD has developed and is implementing a 5-year strategic plan. The Department has a vision for itself as: Grenada's leading natural resource management institution that ensures the optimum contribution of forests and cultural landmarks to environmentally-sound social and economic development:

Grenada became a party to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) in November, 1994 and has developed a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention,

Grenada is participating in the Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change Project (CPACC). The GEF-funded Project (1997-2001) was

executed by the Organization of American States in partnership with the University of the West Indies.

Grenada has signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety during the 5th Conference of Parties held in Nairobi, Kenya, May 2000. A multi-disciplinary committee was established for the administrative functions and issues related to the Protocol.

Scientific and Technical Desertification Control Activities; Elements of projects to be included in the NAP are in the areas of Agricultural practices (Transfer of appropriate technology to farmers and land owners), Reforestation of degraded lands and Agroforestry (use of windbreaks on private farms)

In the absence of the NAP, several Government Departments are implementing activities, which will impact directly on land degradation. Some of these activities include:

- A National Food Security Programme 2002
- Crop Diversification Project
- Irrigation and Drainage Project
- FNPD Forest Management Project Phase 11
- FNPD's Dry Forest Biodiversity Conservation Project in January 2002..
- *FNPD's* Watershed Management Research Project.
- Established of marine protected areas
- Farm Roads Development programme.
- Monitoring of the Kick'em Jenny volcano.
- The Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority (GSWMA) is implementing a National awareness solid waste programme.
- The Ministry of Education "Basic Education Reform Project".
- A Rural Enterprise Project
- "Water of Life Community Environmental Project"

No consultation procedures have yet been implemented with existing scientific and technical community. Mechanisms will be developed by the UNCCD National Coordinating Body to facilitate consultation.

Implementation of the Recommendations of the Committee on Science & Technology: Recommendations made by the CST in the use of benchmarks and indicators, traditional knowledge, early warning systems and training and field studies, will be applied in the development of the NAP.

Institutional Measures taken to Implement the Convention: A broader body to coordinate the development and implementation of the UNCCD's Action Programme will be formed. The body will consist of representatives from Governmental and non-governmental organizations, media, community Groups,

Women and other interested parties. A Submission was made to Cabinet for the appointment of this Committee.

The Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) has been overseeing the implementation of the UNCCD to date. SDC. The Council is composed of representatives from Governmental and non-Governmental Agencies, the Private Sector, Community groups, Environmentalists and the Public in general.

The primary function of the SDC is to analyze, evaluate and formulate sector and inter-sectoral strategies for the promotion of sustainable development and to appropriately advise policy makers in the public and private sector and community at large.

The *UNCCD Steering Committee* (SDC) was appointed by the SDC to plan and coordinated UNCCD activities. The Committee met several times during the period and was responsible for implementing the UNCCD National Awareness Seminar last July. The UNCCD Focal Point is the Chairman of the Steering and is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the UNCCD.

Institutional Framework for Coherent and Functional Desertification Control: The responsibility for land management in Grenada is dispersed among several Government Ministries and Departments: Land Use Division in MOALFF, Lands and Survey's Division, Forestry and National Parks Department, the Ministry of Health and the Environment, the National Water and Sewage Authority, the National Housing Authority, the Ministry of Communication and Works, the Industrial Development Corporation and the Grenada Ports Authority.

The need for mechanisms to coordinate and harmonize actions to combat land degradation was expressed at the UNCCD's national awareness seminar conducted in Grenada and Carriacou in July 2001..

Coherent and Functional Legal and Regulatory Framework: Analysis of the legislation on environment and related fields reveals that there are several types of legislation in Grenada with relevance to the environment.

The Forestry and National Parks Department coordinated a review of Forestry and related legislation. New legislation is being drafted.

A Physical Planning and Development Control bill (Bill 2002), which makes make fresh provision for the control of physical development, to continue the land development Authority, to require the preparation of physical plans for Grenada, to protect natural and cultural Heritage and for related matters, was submitted to Cabinet for approval (April 2002).

The participatory process in support of the preparation and implementation of action programme: A two days national awareness seminar was conducted in

Grenada and a one-day seminar in Carriacou last July.

Effective Support from International Partners for Corporation: Due to present stage in the preparation of the NAP, Government has not yet taken any measure to ensure the involvement of international partners in the process. The UNCCD Secretariat was instrumental in providing financial support for the seminars and the supply of documentation on the UNCCD.

The measures taken or planned within the framework of the national action programme and the partnership agreement : A diagnosis of experiences in implementation of the UNCCD was made by stakeholders during the awareness seminars. Constraints to the effective implementation of the UNCCD was identified and specific recommendations for the formulation of the Nap were made.

Established Technical Programmes and Functional Interrelated Projects to combat desertification: On-going natural resource management projects, primarily those being implemented by the Forestry and National parks Department, have been assessed and reviewed to keep in line with the principles of the convention especially the multidisciplinary approach and participation by local communities and women.

Proposals have not yet been developed to integrate ongoing projects into the NAP. The NCB will address this issue. Several actions have been proposed to combat desertification during the national awareness seminar: No specific actions to strengthen national capacity to combat desertification have yet been taken.

Measures for natural resource conservation: Measures for natural resource conservation are being taken by FNPD and the Fisheries Division in MOALFF. Several important forest ecosystems have been surveyed and demarcated to become forest reserves. Marine protected areas have also been declared.

The UNCCD has been incorporate in FNPD's Strategic Plan. The Department also has a newly formed Environmental Unit, responsible for educating the public on Forestry and related issue, including the UNCCD.

FNPD is in the process of putting systems in place for monitoring and evaluating its activities. A Consultant from the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute is providing assistance in developing the systems.

Adopted Financial Mechanisms: No financial mechanism for implementation of UNCD has yet been adopted, nor has measures been taken to facilitate the access of local actors to existing sources of funding.

NAP Financing: Some of the UNCCD activities are supported by use of resources in the FNP. No special allocation has been made in the budget specific to the UNCCD. The only external financial supporter of the process has been the UNCCD Secretariat/UNDP. The Global Mechanism and other funding agencies have not yet been approached.

Operational mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation: Currently there is no national mechanism in place to monitor and evaluate the environment. The various sectors of Government, which are concerned with the environment have their own system for monitoring and evaluating their environmental activities. The use of indicators to measure achievements is also common.

No national methodology for the elaboration of indicators has been planned. Grenada is expected to participate in the training on 'Bench marks and Indicators, organized by the UNCCD Secretariat in Surinam. It is hoped by the training will provide Grenada with knowledge on the use of indicators in the UNCCD Process.

1. INTRODUCTION

This is Grenada's second report to the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of the UNCCD. This is in accordance with article 26 of the UNCCD and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties (COP), particularly decision 11/COP.1, which requires each party of the Convention to communicate through the UNCCD Secretariat on measures taken to implement the UNCCD.

The format of the report is in compliance with that outlined in decision 11/COP.1, paragraph 10 as outlined below –

Section 2 deals with the strategic priorities established within the framework of sustainable development plans or policies while section three covers the institutional measures taken to implement the convention.

The participatory process in support of the preparation and implementation of the action programme is explained in section 4 and the measures taken or planned within the framework of the national action programme and the partnership agreement with developed country parties and other interested entities in section 5.

Section 6 focuses on the issue of financial allocations from national budget in support of implementation as well as financial assistance and technical cooperation and section seven, review of bench marks and indicators, utilized to measure progress and an assessment thereof

The information presented in the report were obtained from several sources -

From interviews with personnel of government and non-government institutions
Review of literature, including Physical development plans, Tourism Master Plan, Agriculture and Forestry strategic plans, National Awareness seminar report etc.

Since the submission of the first national report in 2002, Grenada has made slow progress in the implementation of the UNCCD. The main achievement is the National Awareness seminar, which was conducted in Grenada and Carriacou in July 2001.

One of the recommendations emerging from the seminars is the formation of a broad based committee to coordinate the development of the NAP and implementation of the UNCCD.

2. STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND OR/POLICIES

2.1 National Plans and Strategies available in other Economic and Social areas

2.1.1 National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP).

In 1993, a National Environmental Action Plan was prepared for Grenada. The plan identifies the environmental priorities, proposed policies and actions to address. The environmental priorities as outlined in the NEAP are:

- ❑ Solid waste management
- ❑ Water supply and liquid waste management
- ❑ Land Use management
- ❑ Coastal zone management
- ❑ Water pollution
- ❑ Forestry and protected areas
- ❑ Natural hazards

All aspects of the plan are being implemented by various Government Ministries, Departments and divisions.

2.1.2 Grenada Country Environmental Profile (GCEP)

A Country Environmental Profile for Grenada was developed in 1992. The document addresses the environmental problems, constraints, and the policy directions. It also identifies and examines a variety of opportunities and planning tools for meeting environmental goals.

2.1.3 National Forests Action Plan (NFAP)

A National Forest Action Programme (NFAP) was developed for Grenada from the Tropical Forests Action Plan (TFAP) exercise in 1995. The Division for International Development (DFID), provided technical assistance in project development. One integrated forest management project was developed for Grenada and an integrated land use management project for Carriacou. Both projects have been implemented. Implementation of a second phase of the Forest Management project is in progress.

2.2.1 Policy Framework

(A). Medium term economic Strategy – There is no environmental policy. The Government's Medium-term Economic Strategy Paper outlines the Government's thinking on environmental issues.

- ❑ The Government's main objective is to promote the sustainable economic and social development of Grenada.

- ❑ The Government will institute environmental protection programmes to ensure that economic and social development is physically and institutionally sustainable
- ❑ The Medium-term Economic Strategy emphasizes greater attention to environmental issues.
- ❑ Over the medium-term, the Government will continue to emphasize policies and actions designed to safeguard the environment.
- ❑ The Government will put mechanisms in place to ensure preservation of coral reefs and marine life, coastal forests and wetlands

(B). New Forest Policy - A New Forest Policy was approved by Government in 1999. The Policy gives FNPDP the responsibility to facilitate the implementation of the Policy. The strategic directions of the policy include:

- ❑ Maintenance of representative samples of all forest ecosystems
- ❑ Protection of all species, which are important because of the endemism, rarity or value
- ❑ Minimizing conversion of natural forests into plantations, especially in upland areas
- ❑ Minimizing and control of burning and wild fires in forested areas
- ❑ Building capacity of Grenadian institutions to participate in conservation and management of the country's forest resources
- ❑ Building awareness and appreciation of Grenada's forest and their importance
- ❑ Creation of incentives and other mechanisms to encourage the conservation of privately-owned forests
- ❑ Encouraging the participation of Government and community stakeholders in programmes of forest conservation

(C). Tourism Policy: The relevant policy objectives outlined in the Tourism Master Plan, which was approved by Government in 1998 are as follows

- ❑ To ensure that tourism development is consistent with the protection and conservation of the country's natural and cultural resources, built environment and the nation's moral values
- ❑ To foster the most appropriate form and scale of tourism development in harmony with the resource endowment of the islands and the aspiration of the people

(D). Agricultural Policy: There is no approved agricultural policy, however, Government's long term objective for the sector are to increase exports of traditional and non-traditional crops, attain self sufficiency in food production, promote efficient use of available land resources and develop the rural economy

2.2 National Plans and Strategies Developed before the UNCCD

2.2.1 *The Country and Town Planning Act*

In 1978, a New Town and Country Act was drafted, with assistance from UNDP, to remedy the deficiencies of the 1968 Town and Country Planning legislation. Government had not accepted this plan.

2.2.2 *The Plan for of System of National Parks and Protected Areas (PSNPPA)*

The Government of Grenada and the Organization of American States (OAS) published a Plan and Policy for a System of Parks and Protected Areas in Grenada, in 1988. The purpose of the plan was to identify and provide a course of action for the protection and use of the countries out-standing natural and cultural heritage. Some of the areas identified as national parks e.g. Levera, had been approved by Cabinet, but not gazetted. FNPD is working to get all forest reserve, National Parks and Recreation areas (new category) legally protected.

2.2.3 Policy Framework

2.3 Other Relevant Plans and Strategies

2.3.1 *The Physical Development Strategy (PDS)*

A proposed development strategy was developed for Grenada in 1997, focusing on focusing on integrated economic expansion via planning for land use, urban design, housing construction, sanitation and public health, education and recreation. This strategy was never formally approved, nor were its guidelines for development formally accepted.

2.3.2 *OECS Declaration of St. George's*

Heads of government in the OECS met in St. Georges in July 2000 to decide on principles that will guide the sustainability of the environment throughout the OECS islands involving all sectors involved in the environment. Each country is expected to prepare a national environmental strategy in response to the declaration by 2002.

Grenada ratified the St. George's Declaration of principles for environmental sustainability in the OECS in 2000. This forms part of the OECS environmental management strategy. The declaration contains 21 principles including the following

- Foster sustainable improvement in the quality of life (principle 1)
- Integrate social, economic and environmental considerations into national development policies, plans and programmes (Article 2) Improve on legal and institutional frameworks (Principle 3)

- ❑ Use economic instruments for sustainable environmental management (Principle 6)
- ❑ Foster broad-based environmental education, training and awareness (Principle 7)
- ❑ Ensure the sustainable use of natural resources (Principle 11)
- ❑ Protect and conserve biodiversity

Member states have agreed to recognize the objectives, commitments, and the interrelated principles enshrined in the declaration, and to take the necessary steps and adopt such measures as may be necessary to give effect to the provision of the declaration. Member states are required to develop an environmental strategy.

2.3.3 National Physical Development Plans (NPDP's)

National physical development plans have been developed for Grenada and Carriacou. The purpose of the plan is to provide a planning framework for spatial and physical development in Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique in order to

- Complement current socio-economic policies for national development
- Promote and guide development activity in a sustainable manner
- Facilitate more detailed level planning at the national and sub-national levels and
- Facilitate community participation in the planning and development process

The plan has three objectives in the area of environmental management:

- Sustainable management of the natural environment while allowing for compatible and complementary forms of development activity
- Implement the system of parks and protected areas
- Effective management of the finite land resource and the type, location and sequence of development activity and Protection from environmental hazards and the impacts of climate change

2.3.4 Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry & Fisheries (MOALFF) Corporate Plan 2002

MOALFF has developed a corporate plan for the period 2002 –2006. The plan consists of a Vision and Mission Statement and defines the role of the Ministry. The strategic objectives outlined in the plan are as follows –

- ❑ To provide leadership and policy direction in the Agricultural Sector
- ❑ To promote the sustainable use of natural resources
- ❑ To create the enabling environment for optimal Agricultural production and investment
- ❑ To foster the use of appropriate and relevant technologies and information
- ❑ To provide quality services and products to all stakeholders

The Sector's main areas of focus in 2002 are in

- ❑ National food Security –
- ❑ Agro-processing
- ❑ Irrigation and drainage
- ❑ Banana industry
- ❑ Farms roads development
- ❑ Policy development and implementation
- ❑ Organizational restructuring
- ❑ Human resource development
- ❑ Natural resources Management
- ❑ Improving the regulatory framework

Activities are being implemented by the various Departments and Divisions in the Ministry.

2.3.5 Forestry & Parks Department (FNP) Strategic Plan

FNP has developed and is implementing a 5-year strategic plan. The Department has a vision for itself as: Grenada's leading natural resource management institution that ensures the optimum contribution of forests and cultural landmarks to environmentally-sound social and economic development.

The Mission of the Forestry and National Parks Department is to sustainably manage (directly and indirectly) Grenada's forest resources and cultural landmarks in order to optimize their contribution to environmentally sound social and economic development.

Supported by the participation of, and in partnership with, institutional, community and individual stakeholders the Department will:

- Facilitate the development of linkages and partnerships
- Respond to the needs of its stakeholders
- Initiate the formulation of and ensure the enforcement of forest and cultural landmark-related legislation and regulations
- Inform and educate the public on forest and landmark issues
- Monitor and evaluate the wise use of forest resources

To fulfill this Mission a competent team will be guided by the need to be accountable, trustworthy, equitable and transparent in all its operations to

- ❑ Sustainably manage forest ecosystems, cultural landmarks and other key areas for social and economic development.
- ❑ Promote national public awareness and support advocacy programmes that will influence the management and use of forest ecosystems, cultural landmarks and other key areas.

- ❑ Strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to effectively manage forest ecosystems, cultural landmarks and other key areas.
- ❑ Develop an efficient and productive Department to fulfill its Mission.

FNPH has a new organization structure consisting of five units and three sub-units

- ❑ Forest Conservation Unit
- ❑ Tree Planting and establishment Unit
- ❑ Recreation Unit
- ❑ Watershed Management Unit
- ❑ Natural Heritage Unit
- ❑ Mangrove and Coastal woodlands Sub-unit
- ❑ Wildlife Management Sub-unit

2.3.6 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)

Grenada became a party to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) in November, 1994 and has developed a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention,

2.3.7 The Caribbean Planning for Adaptation to Global Climate Change Project (CPACC): Regional response to the threat of global climate change.

The GEF-funded Project (1997-2001) was executed by the Organization of American States in partnership with the University of the West Indies.

The Project's overall objective were to support Caribbean countries in preparing to cope with the adverse effects of GCC, particularly sea-level rise in coastal areas, through vulnerability assessment, adaptation planning and related capacity building.

Project Components include

- ❑ Design and Establishment of Sea Level/Climate Monitoring Network
- ❑ Establishment of Databases and Information Systems
- ❑ Inventory of Coastal Resources and Use
- ❑ Formulation of a Policy Framework for Integrated Adaptation Planning and Management
- ❑ Coral Reef Monitoring for Climate Change
- ❑ Coastal Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
- ❑ Economic Valuation of Coastal and Marine Resources
- ❑ Formulation of Economic/Regulatory Proposals
- ❑ Green House Gas inventory

Specific Achievements include:

- ❑ Establishment of a sea level and climate monitoring system
- ❑ Improved access and availability of data
- ❑ Increased appreciation of climate change issues at the policy-making level
- ❑ Meeting country needs for expanded vulnerability assessment
- ❑ Establishment of coral reef monitoring protocols
- ❑ Created a network for regional harmonization

2.3.8 Biosafety

Grenada signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety during the 5th Conference of Parties held in Nairobi, Kenya, May 2000. The Ministry of Finance has been designated the Focal point for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. A multi-disciplinary committee was established for the administrative functions and issues related to the Protocol; Cabinet has appointed a Committee in the Ministry of Agriculture to deal with biosafety.

An Environmental Management Unit may be established and attached to one of the Ministries. The possibility of a statutory body to deal with environmental issues is envisaged.

A proposal for funding will be submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) after receiving the green light from Cabinet. A work programme is being developed for the period 2002 – 2003.

2.4 Scientific and Technical Desertification Control Activities

The NAP for Grenada has not yet being developed. Elements of projects to be included in the NAP were identified during the national awareness seminar of stakeholders and other interested parties. These elements include

- 1) Agricultural practices (Transfer of appropriate technology to farmers and land owners)
- 2) Reforestation of degraded lands
- 3) Agroforestry (use of wind brakes on private farms)

The scientific and technical desertification control activities will be further developed by the UNCCD National Coordinating body, which will soon be appointed by Cabinet. The body will determine whether the proposed activities are in conformity with the principles of the Convention and make proposals for integrating the technical and scientific community in the NAP process.

The NAP has not yet been developed however several Government departments are implementing activities, which will have direct positive impacts on the control of land degradation. Some of these activities include:

2.4.1 National Food Security Programme 2002.

This programme forms part of the second phase of the 'Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Agricultural Production and support Systems Project' for achieving food security in Grenada. The project was designed to:

- Strengthen farmers access to extension inputs with the introduction of participatory extension strategies and methodologies with particular emphasis on group extension approaches and gender equity factors.
- Strengthen the planning, organization and technical capacity of extension services and Agricultural services in Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique through staff training and the provision of effective extension planning execution and monitoring guidelines and manuals.

The programme is geared to increase Grenada's food security status through the increase in the production and utilization of locally grown foods including poultry, livestock and fish products. The main activities are

- Development of a master plan for improving national food security status
- Development of a domestic food production plan
- Implementation of the domestic food production plan
- Capacity expansion of the Tissue culture laboratory

Three types of farmers will participate in the programme, household farmer, semi- commercial farmer and commercial farmers. Each group will be targeted with different baskets of inputs and incentives

The specific objectives of the programme are to provide technical and material inputs for the establishment of 500 home gardens among rural and urban households in 2002; provide technical support and training to 200 semi-commercial and commercial farmers, produce and ensure access to planting material for crops identified and develop and implement an awareness programme.

2.4.2 Crop Diversification Project

The Agricultural Extension Division continues to provide support to the expansion of the non-traditional crops sector under the 'Agricultural Crop Diversification Project', which is intended to develop a focused agricultural diversification programme through which farmers, agro-processors and other actors are empowered. Activities in 2002 include the provision of assistance including development of business proposals to increase loans for increasing the acreage under passion fruits, guavas, mangoes, sapodillas and sour sop

2.4.3 Irrigation and Drainage Project

The project's objective is to enhance the irrigation and drainage services provided by the Ministry through the establishment of an irrigation and drainage

Unit. Efforts are under way to establish this unit, which will be supported by SFA funds

2.4.4 FNPD's Forest Management Project Phase 11.

FNPD is implementing a second phase of its "Forest Management Project". Phase 2 (FMP2) will complete the need for external support in the forest sector by building the capacity and will of the Forestry and National Parks Department (FNPD) and other stakeholders to implement the policy. In addition, FMP2 will finance surveying of the remaining priority areas identified as suitable for forest reserves and drafting of new legislation to support the new policy.

The goal of the project is maximize social and economic benefits of the forest resource in an environmentally sound way. The purpose is to enable Forestry and National Parks Department (FNPD) and other stakeholders to implement the National Forest Policy efficiently, effectively and equitably.

The expected impacts are the sustained provision of environmental services that are widely acknowledged to be key to sustained growth in Grenada's agriculture and tourism sectors. Direct impacts on poverty reduction through increased opportunities for the poor to use forests within their livelihoods' strategies will also be promoted. The main outputs of the project are as follows:

- FNPD organizational and staff capacity to fulfill its new role under Forest Policy enhanced
- FNPD staff understand how to implement collaborative management with partners
- Capacity of other key Government of Grenada and non-government partners in policy implementation enhanced.
- Final draft of new environmental legislation completed
- New proposed forest reserves surveyed

2.4.5 FNPD's Dry Forest Biodiversity Conservation Project

FNPD started implementation of a dry forest biodiversity conservation project in January 2002. The goal of the project is to improve management and conservation of Grenada's dry forest ecosystem and its component species of global significance through effective stakeholder participation in decision-making and conservation activities and through improved scientific understanding of the dry forest ecosystems.

The objectives of the project are to raise the awareness of key stakeholders of the importance of dry forest habitat, to provide scientific information for decision making, to strengthen the capacity of FNPD to sustainably manage the forests and to create partnerships with private land owners, developers, business, NGO's and the civil society to develop and promote conservation strategies.

- The project has four components –

- Environmental education and public outreach,
- Dry forest biodiversity research and monitoring,
- Capacity building and private sector partnerships for dry forest conservation.

The project will be implemented over a four-year period and will concentrate on dry forest areas in the south (Mt. Hatman, Perseverance) and north (Levera) of the country.

2.4.6 FNPD's Managing Watersheds for a Better Future (Project funded by the UK's Forestry Research programme) – Improved catchments methodologies to achieve poverty alleviation through better access to water

The objectives of the project are to:

- Test methodologies developed in the South African component of the project in the context of the smaller and differing catchments in Grenada
- Identify appropriate policy instruments which will improve the livelihoods of poor people, while protecting the base, e.g. The “ecological reserve” flow in rivers
- Develop policy and legislative briefing notes for Government and sectoral agencies responsible for water/forest resource management in Grenada

The project will focus on two watersheds on the island – Concord and Annandale

2.4.7 Fisheries-Establishment of marine protected areas

Two marine protected areas, one at Woburn, and the other at Moliniere and Bousejour, have been established to conserve, protect and recover marine habits that are critical to fisheries and tourism.

2.4.8 Farm Roads Division Roads Development programme

Farm Roads Development programme to improve the management to increase the output delivery of the farm roads programme. The main activity will be restructuring of the farm roads programme for the contracting out of its work.

2.4.9 Monitoring of Kick'em Jenny volcano

The National Emergency Relief Organization is presently coordinating the monitoring of the Kick'em Jenny volcano. Seismic stations have been set up at Rode Island, Mt. St. Catherine and Carriacou. One high dynamic range broadband seismometer, a digital recorder, a helicopter, telemetry devices and time synchronization equipment are located at Sauteurs.

2.4.10 The Grenada Solid Waste Management Project

The Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority (GSWMA) implemented the OECS Solid and Ship generated waste Management Project. A national awareness solid waste programme is also being implemented.

2.4.11 Basic Education Reform Project and School Feeding Programme –

The Ministry of Education completed the implementation of the first phase of a “Basic Education Reform Project” The project focused on the building and refurbishing of schools in Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique. A new Ministry of Education Headquarters and three secondary schools were constructed and six secondary schools refurbished.

In the area of capacity development several teachers were trained in curriculum development, school maintenance and teacher education.

- This programmed is aimed at under privileged children and provides a hot meal on a daily basis. Seventy-two schools (900 children, ages 5 – 11), are involved. Prior to 1990, the programme was funded by FAO. It is presently funded by Government.

2.4.12 Poverty Eradication Project

A rural enterprise project has been developed and funding being sought for implementation. Project goal is to reduce rural poverty in a sustainable and gender equitable manner. The purpose of the project are to:

- ❑ Diversify, improve and sustain client income earning activities
- ❑ Strengthen capacity and build confidence at the level of the rural community
- ❑ Strengthen rural service providers to meet community needs
- ❑ Promote efficient and environmentally sustainable production and processing activities
- ❑ Foster sector and market linkages

The project has four components

- ❑ Community participation and support
- ❑ Enterprise development
- ❑ Rural financial services
- ❑ Project coordination

The duration of the project is six years at a cost of over 6 million dollars

2.4.13 (ART) Water of Life Community Environmental Project’

The Agency for Rural Transformation Water of Life Community Environmental Project’ in the Soubise area in Grenville was implemented successfully. The objective of the project was to sensitize communities and groups on the concept of environmental protection and conservation through an environmental programme.

2.4.14 “Land Use and Forest Management Project”

Implementation of the three-year “Land Use and Forest Management Project” in Carriacou was completed in 2001. The stated objectives of the project were not realized.

Apart from the representation and involvement of the scientific and technical Community on the SDC, no other consultation procedures have yet been implemented with the existing scientific and technical community.

Mechanisms will be developed by the UNCCD National Coordinating Body to facilitate consultation.

2.5 Implementation of the Recommendations of the Committee on Science & Technology

Grenada is conscious of the recommendations made by the CST in the use of benchmarks and indicators, traditional knowledge, early warning systems and training and field studies. These recommendations will be applied in the development of the NAP. Expertise in these areas is presently lacking. The country will be represented at the workshop on benchmarks and indicators organized by the Secretariat.

No use has been made of experts from the roster of independent experts, which was drawn up by the Secretariat. There is need for urgent training in the area of Early warning systems for drought management, Traditional knowledge and field studies

3. INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION

3.1 Established and Functional National Coordinating Bodies and the role of National Focal Points

3.1.1 UNCCD National Coordinating Committee

One recommendation, which emerged from the National Awareness Seminar, was the formation of a broader body to coordinate the development and implementation of the UNCCD's Action Programme. The body will consist of representatives from the following Governmental and non-governmental organizations –

- Ministry of Agriculture Lands, Forestry and Fisheries
 - Land Use Division
 - Extension Division
 - Forestry and National Parks
- Ministry of Finance
 - Physical Planning Unit
 - Economic Affairs Division
- Government Information Service (GIS)
- Private AM/FM Radio Station
- NAWASA
- Farmers/Land owners
- Non-Governmental Organizations
 - Agency for Rural Transformation
 - Grenada Community Development Agency
- Community based Organizations (CBO's)
- National Youth Council
- Women's Organizations
- Chamber of Commerce
- Metrological Unit (Point Saline's)

The formation of this committee and its composition was endorsed by the Sustainable Development Committee. A Submission was made to Cabinet for the appointment of this Committee. The first Committee workshop is scheduled for May 2002.

3.1.2 Sustainable Development Committee (SDC)

Overseeing the implementation of the UNCCD to date has been the role of the SDC. The Council was established in 1996 under the Capacity 21 Project.

The Council is composed of representatives from Governmental and non-Governmental Agencies, the Private Sector, Community groups, Environmentalists and the Public in general. It presently has a membership of

about 25 persons from Government, Non-Governmental and Private Institutions and Organizations.

Although appointed by Government, the Committee has no independent legal basis for its operations. Its operations are based on forums where members meet to discuss and take discussions on a range of issues. Government usually requests the committee to carry out specific tasks.

The council has no financial autonomy, The Government of Grenada supports the council through in kind contributions, namely Office space, equipment and materials. The Ministry of Finance provides logistic support. The Council needs both financial and human resources support at the administrative and technical levels

The primary function of the SDC is to analyze, evaluate and formulate sector and inter-sectoral strategies for the promotion of sustainable development and to appropriately advise policy makers in the public and private sector and community at large. The Council's mandate is as follows:

- ❑ To ensure inter-agency co-ordination of policies and programmes geared to the attainment of sustainable development, to minimize duplication of effort, and to promote the greatest complementarity.
- ❑ To facilitate national level co-ordination mechanisms, for the adoption of a holistic approach to development, offering opportunities for the widest possible participation by all groups in the discussion of issues of national interest.
- ❑ To advise Government on measures required to integrate environmental and economic considerations in decision-making processes and on local, regional and global issues of sustainable development
- ❑ To promote greater understanding and public awareness of the cultural, social, economic and policy approached to attaining sustainable development in Grenada.
- ❑ To provide a forum for monitoring progress and recommendations made.

The Management body of the Council is located in the Ministry of Finance (MOF).

The SDC has a management team composed of six people, representing the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, and The Agency for Rural transformation, Chamber of Commerce and Natural Emergency relief Organization. Dr. Spenser Thomas from Finance is the chairman. The management team is supported by an Administrative Assistant and a financial and Accounting Officer.

The social and economic sectors relevant to combating land degradation that are represented on the Committee include the following

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Forestry and National Parks department
- Ministry of Tourism
- Agency for Rural Transformation
- Grenada Community Development Agency

Other relevant institutional and social categories represented include

- National Emergency Relief Organization
- Ministry of Finance
- Science and technology council
- ICCA
- CARDI
- Science and Technology Council
- Ministry of Communications and Works
- Chamber of Commerce
- Grenada Hotel Association
- Produce Chemist Laboratory
- Climate Change Coordinator
- Biodiversity Coordinator
- Biosafety Coordinator

- St. David's development Organization
- Friends of the Earth Grenada

Cabinet appointed the organizations represented on the SDC.

About 60% of SDC membership consists of Government and the civil society about 40%. The ratio of men and women varies from meeting to meeting, but generally, it is about 65% men and 35% women.

The SDC meets monthly. Members are sent a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting. Individuals coordinating various initiatives usually make presentations.

The SDC has a medium-term work programme. Work plan. The primary medium-term objective includes

- Stimulating public awareness of sustainable development issues
- Institutionalization
- Fostering collaboration and corporation
- Building capacity

The Focus areas for the year 2002 are

- World summit on Sustainable Development

- ❑ Climate Change
- ❑ Biodiversity and Biosafety
- ❑ Desertification
- ❑ National Physical Development plan
- ❑ Environment management structure
- ❑ Disaster management
- ❑ Solid waste management

The council has no budget, however in 2001 the Council secured 25000US\$ (UWI/World Bank Grant) for institutional strengthening. The resources were made available by the World Bank for regional capacity building for environmental management. The funds were spent on Administrative support, Workshops (13), Consultancies on Public Awareness Design, Public Awareness Implementation, Database Development and Documentation.

The work of the Council is supervised, controlled and evaluated by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of finance, the Management team and members of the SDC at different levels. Reports on all meeting are submitted to the Permanent Secretary.

The Council has a Computer. The specific database, which is maintained by the SDC, includes information on the activities.

Other databases in the country with relevance to desertification includes the Ministry of Agriculture GIS on Agricultural land use, Physical planning GIS system on land use and development and Cadastral Survey's database on land ownership

Exchange of information among SDC members is achieved mainly through monthly meeting, which members attend.

3.1.3 UNCCD Steering Committee

The UNCCD Steering Committee (made up of a representative from Land Use and Extension Divisions, Agency For Rural Transformation, the Ministry of Finance and Forestry and National parks Department) was appointed by the SDC to plan and coordinated UNCCD activities. The Committee met several times during the period and was responsible for implementing the UNCCD National Awareness Seminar last July.

3.1.4 Focal Point

The UNCCD Focal Point is located in the Forestry and National Parks Department. He is the Chairman of the Steering and is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the UNCCD.

3.2 Institutional Framework for Coherent and Functional Desertification Control

The key institutions concerned with land management in Grenada are as follows:

- The Land Use Division in MOALFF plays a role in agricultural land use planning and zoning. The Division performs an advisory role with reference to soil and water conservation on private and non-forested state lands.
- The Lands and Survey's Division in the MOALFF is responsible for development control, management and use of all state-owned lands including crown lands.
- The Forestry and National Parks Department manages forests on state lands and Grenada's outstanding natural and cultural heritage
- The Ministry of Health and the Environment is responsible for solid waste management, wastewater treatment and the health of the population.
- The National Water and Sewage Authority (NAWASA), manages the nations water and liquid
- The National Housing Authority has the authority to undertake housing development without the consent of other agencies.
- The Ministry of Communication and Works is responsible for government 's construction and maintenance activities, for the building of roads, for beach protection and granting approval for the mining of aggregates.
- Other include the Industrial Development Corporation and the Grenada Ports Authority

The need for mechanisms to coordinate and harmonize actions to combat land degradation was expressed at the UNCCD's national awareness seminar conducted in Grenada and Carriacou last July. The need for a larger multidisciplinary body was expressed by stakeholders. The composition and formation of the body was endorsed by the SDC. The formation of the larger body will ensure participation by local actors.

In the absence of the NAP, the Forestry and National Parks Department. is developing its capacity and that of its stakeholders to implement the new forest policy, through the DFID Forest Management Initiative. Soil and water conservation is a priority issue addressed by FNPD.

3.4 NAP's as part of national economic and Social Development and Environmental plans

In the absence of the NAP, UNCCD activities are already being incorporated in national strategies. Efforts are also being made to synchronize activities of the UNCCD with that of other relevant Conventions to which Grenada has acceded to, namely Biological Diversity and Climate Change

3.3 Coherent and Functional Legal and Regulatory Framework

3.3.1 Analysis of the legislation on environment and related fields

An analysis was conducted on the various types of environmental legislation. The analysis reveals that there are several types of legislation in Grenada with relevance to the environment. The main ones are as follows:

- ❑ *Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Act, Cap. 116 (1949)*
- ❑ *National Parks and Protected Areas Act, Cap. 206 (1990).*
- ❑ *Grand Etang Forest Reserve Act, Cap. 124 (1906).*
- ❑ *Birds and Other Wildlife (Protection) Act, Cap.34. (1957).*
- ❑ *National Water and Sewage Authority Act, Cap. 208 (1991).*
- ❑ *Land Development Control Act, Cap. 160 (1968).*
- ❑ *Town and Country Planning Act, Cap. 322 (1946).*
- ❑ *Prohibition of Birds Exportation Act (1991)*
- ❑ *Protection from Disease (Plants) Act, Cap. 258 (1925).*
- ❑ *Land Settlement Act, Cap. 161 (1933).*
- ❑ *Carriacou Land Settlement and Development Act, Cap. 42 (1955).*
- ❑ *National Trust Act, Cap. 207 (1967).*
- ❑ *Crown Proceedings Act, Cap. 74 (1959).*

The Forestry and National Parks Department coordinated a review of forestry and related legislation. A one-week Forest Legislation Consensus workshop, involving a wide cross section of stakeholders was conducted in March 2002 to discuss key forest legislation issues for drafting of new forest legislation.

Participation of stakeholders in Forest management decision-making process is a requirement addressed in the New Forest Policy.

The first draft of the Forest, Parks and Wildlife legislation will be produced at the end of May for review by stakeholders. The final document is scheduled for completion in July 2002. A public awareness programme on the new legislation is being conceived.

The Department is developing a code of practice for the harvesting of timber products on public lands (Forests and Agricultural estates). This will be completed by end of July 2002.

A Physical Planning and Development Control (Bill 2002) bill was developed and will be submitted to Cabinet for approval this month (April 2002). The bill makes fresh provision for the control of physical development, to continue the land development Authority, to require the preparation of physical plans for Grenada, to protect natural and cultural Heritage and for related matters.

4. THE PARTICIPATORY PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME

4.1 Effective Participation of Actors in Defining National Priorities

A two days national awareness seminar was conducted in Grenada and a one-day seminar in Carriacou last July.

The objectives of the seminar were to create national awareness of the UNCCD, to lay basic guidelines for the development of an action plan to combat desertification and drought and to identify emergency priority areas for action.

The seminars were organized and coordinated by the UNCCD Steering committee with financial assistance from the UNCCD Secretariat. Both private and Government information services were invited to participate in the seminars. Both TV and Radio stations were utilized. The media was also instrumental in publicizing the seminars and part of the proceedings.

The seminars were attended by representatives from all relevant sectors including farmers, communities and other interested parties. The campaign achieved its objectives.

During the seminar, documentation concerning the UNCCD process was distributed to participants in their own language (English). Some of this documentation was received from the UNCCD Secretariat.

The involvement of women in the process is equal to that of men. Representation by women was about 50% in the seminars. Some of the institutions e.g. the NGO's, Government institutions, and women groups are Directed by Women, hence women played a major part in the decision making process.

Since the NAP has not yet been developed, there are not yet any activities targeting specific groups of women, youths, private sector and the scientific/academic and media.

The coordination of the seminar was done by personnel in the Forestry and National Parks Department. The organization was done by the UNCCD Steering Committee comprising of representatives from Agriculture, Finance, The Agency for Rural Transformation and Forestry and National parks

The seminars were facilitated by the Grenada Community Development Agency (GRENCODA). This is a non-governmental organization, which deals with community development issues. The Agency was also contracted to prepare a report on the seminars.

The present systems that exist for exchange, circulation, transfer and dissemination of information are by letters, SDC meetings and workshops.

The sole mechanism adopted to ensure that stakeholders are involved in the process to provide information as well as to benefit from information is through the involvement and participation in decision-making. This is accomplished mainly through meetings and workshops.

The UNCCD Steering Committee was responsible for brainstorming the list of stakeholders to be involved in the process. Participants at the seminar made recommendations for the formation of a broader National Body to coordinate implementation of the UNCCD

4.2 Effective Support from International Partners for Corporation

To date the Government has only requested assistance from the UNCCD Secretariat in the process. Due to present stage in the preparation of the NAP, Government has not yet taken any measure to ensure the involvement of international partners in the process. The UNCCD Programming Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, Dr. Richard Cox, contributed to the planning of the awareness seminars, attended them and made presentations on the UNCCD. The UNCCD Secretariat was instrumental in the supply of documentation of the UNCCD.

The recommended National Coordinating body has not been officially formed hence; there is not as yet any established consultative mechanism among partners. The existing consultative mechanism is through the SDC.

5. THE MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME AND THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES AND OTHER INTERESTED ENTITIES.

5.1 Diagnosis of past experiences

A diagnosis of experiences in the implementation of the UNCCD was made by stakeholders during the awareness seminars. Constraints to the effective implementation of the UNCCD was identified and specific recommendations for the formulation of the nap were made

Established Technical Programmes and Functional Interrelated Projects to combat desertification

On-going natural resource management projects, primarily those being implemented by the Forestry and National parks Department, have been assessed and reviewed to keep in line with the principles of the convention especially the multidisciplinary approach and participation by local communities,

women. The assessment was conducted by FNPD's Management Team and Projects consultants.

Proposals have not yet been developed to integrate ongoing projects into the NAP process. The NCB will address this issue. This will not only involve forestry projects, but also projects, which are being implemented by other natural resource agencies.

Several actions have been proposed to combat desertification during the national awareness seminar

- Public education and awareness
- Reforestation
- Establishment of wind brakes on private farms
- Livestock management and control
- Development of communal pastures
- Policy and legislation review
- Training

Apart from recommendations to form a broad based National Coordinating Committee to coordinate implementation of the UNCCD, no specific actions to strengthen national capacity to combat desertification have yet been taken.

No specific training as well as technical and scientific programmes have been formulated or adopted.

Measures for natural resource conservation

Measures for natural resource conservation are being taken by FNPD and the Fisheries Division in MOALFF. A New Forestry Policy has been developed with stakeholders. Several important forest ecosystems (Mt. St. Catherine, Anandale Watershed, Mt. Gazo forest, Richmond Hill forest, Mt. Moritz and Grand Bra have been surveyed, demarcated. This area will become forest reserves.

The UNCCD has been incorporate in FNPD's strategic plan. The Department also has a newly formed Environmental Unit, responsible for educating the public on Forestry and related issue, including the UNCCD.

FNPD is in the process of putting systems in place for monitoring and evaluating its activities. A Consultant from the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute is providing assistance in developing the systems.

Desertification and drought

6.0 FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FROM NATIONAL BUDGET IN SUPPORT OF IMPLEMENTATION AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNICAL CORPORATION

6.1.1 Adopted Financial Mechanisms

No financial mechanism for implementation of UNCD has yet been adopted, however, already has connections with international funding agencies including GEF, World Bank, DFID, and UNDP etc. No measures have yet been taken to facilitate the access of local actors to existing sources of funding neither are there methods to mobilize internal and external resources

6.1.2 NAP financing

Some of the UNCCD activities are supported by use of resources in the FNPDP. No special allocation has been made in the budget specific to the UNCCD.

The only external financial supporter of the process has been the UNCCD Secretariat/UNDP. The Global Mechanism and other funding agencies have not yet been approached,

7.0 REVIEW OF BENCH MARKS AND INDICATORS, UTILIZED TO MEASURE PROGRESS AND AN ASSESSMENT THEREOF

7.1.1 Operational mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation

Currently there is no national mechanism in place to monitor and evaluate the environment. The various sectors of Government, which are concerned with the environment, have their own system for monitoring and evaluating their environmental activities. The use of indicators to measure achievements is also common.

No national methodology for the elaboration of indicators has been planned. Grenada is expected to participate in the training on 'Bench marks and Indicators, organized by the UNCCD Secretariat in Surinam. It is hoped by the training will provide Grenada with knowledge on the use of indicators in the UNCCD Process.