



**Government of St. Kitts and Nevis
2004**

**NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN FOR
ST. KITTS AND NEVIS
2004**

To the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)

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FOREWORD by the Minister of Health & Environment



As Minister with responsibility for Health and Environment I am pleased to demonstrate the Federation's commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), through development of this National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). St. Kitts and Nevis is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) that relies heavily on its natural resources for the maintenance of its economy, the preservation of its history and culture, and as a base for social interaction and the sustaining of all life.

The CBD was endorsed by St. Kitts and Nevis on June 12th 1992 and ratified on January 7th, 1993 and was essentially the culmination of efforts started in the 1970s to recognize that the conservation of natural and genetic resources is a priority area for environmental focus. This NBSAP is therefore the Federation's first step in fulfilling its obligation under the CBD. Within the National Strategy and Action Plan there is an inventory of the constituents of biodiversity in St. Kitts and Nevis; an evaluation of the root causes of biodiversity loss and degradation; a gap analysis; a number of proposed projects to safeguard biodiversity; and a framework for the implementation of a national strategy to guide the execution of the conservation, protection and preservation of the nation's biodiversity.

St. Kitts and Nevis would not have been able to carry out this enabling activity without the help of several international agencies, in particular the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). As a highly indebted SIDS, it will be a challenge for St. Kitts and Nevis to ensure that adequate resources are available to implement this strategy and others. The Federation will have to continue to depend on institutions such as (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for some time. With the continuing support of our regional and international partners, St. Kitts and Nevis will resolutely pursue the goal of environmental sustainability.

.....*Earl Martin*.....

The Honourable Dr. Earl Asim Martin
Minister of Health & Environment



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ACRONYMS

BSAP	Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan
CARDI	Caribbean Agriculture Research & Development
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CFB	Clarence Fitzroy-Bryant
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DOE	Department of Environment
ECCB	Eastern Caribbean Central Bank
EC	Eastern Caribbean
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessments
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GIS	Global Information System
GOSKN	Government of St.Kitts-Nevis
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
MARPOL	Marine Pollution(Convention on the prevention of Marine Pollution from ships)
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan
NCC	National Conservation Commission
NCEPA	National Conservation & Environment Protection Act
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NHCS	Nevis Historical & Conservation Society
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHC	National Housing Corporation
NPDP	National Physical Development Plan
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
PPD	Physical Planning Division
SEP	South East Peninsula
SKN	St.Kitts-Nevis
SSMC	St.Kitts Sugar Manufacturing Company
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
US	United States
WRI	World Resource Institute



GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

Biological resources – genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, populations, or any other biotic component of ecosystems with actual or potential use or value for humanity.

Ecosystems – a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

Endemic species – species which are found only in a given locality, country or region.

Ex-situ conservation – the conservation of components of biological diversity outside their natural habitats.

Fauna – animal population present in a certain locality, country or region.

Flora – plant population of a particular locality, country or region.

Genetic material – any material of plant, animal, microbial or other origin, containing functional units or heredity.

Genetic resources – genetic material of actual or potential value.

Habitat – the place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs.

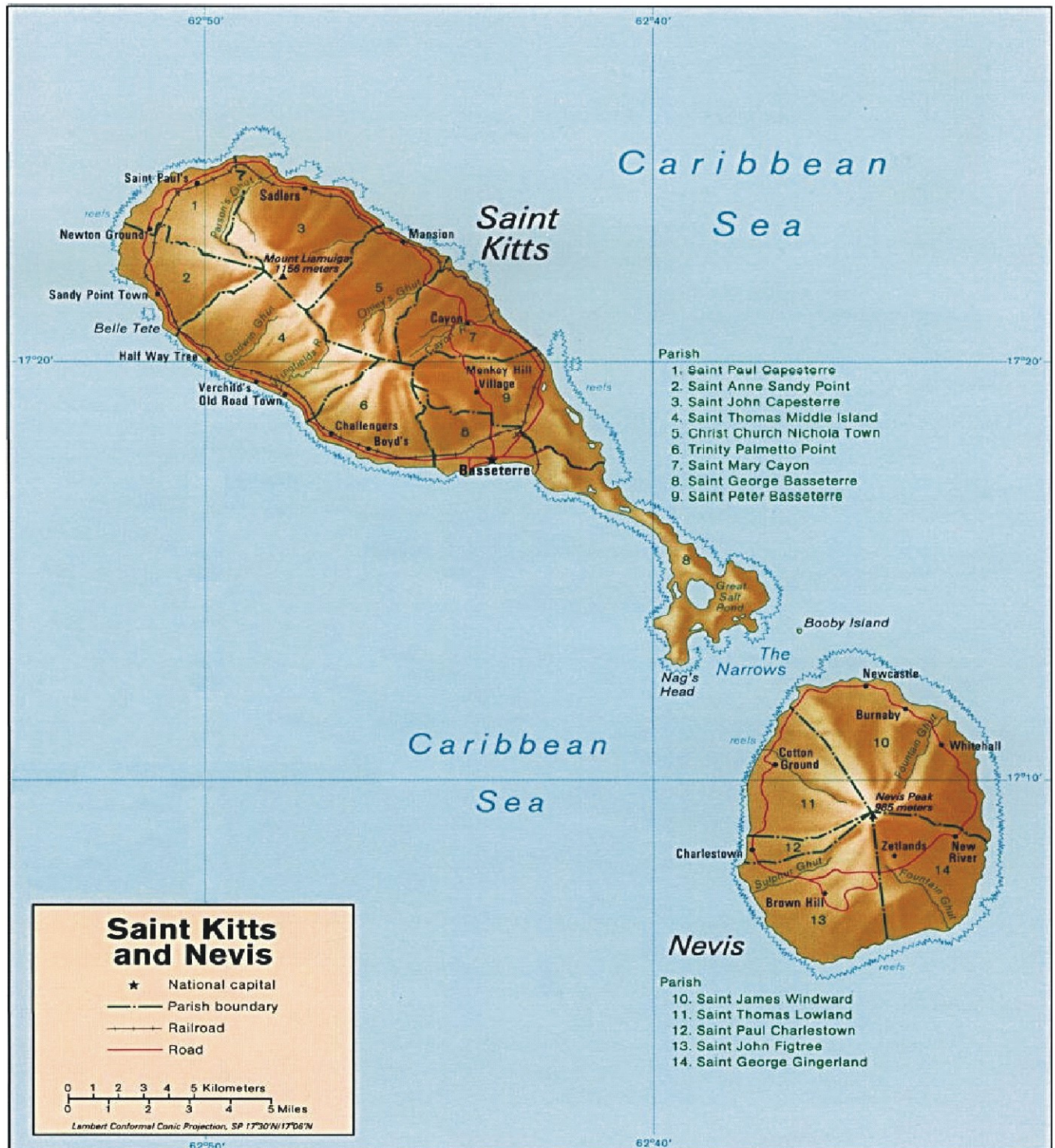
In situ conservation – the conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings and, in the case of domesticated or cultivated species, in the surroundings where they have developed their distinctive properties.

Protected area – a geographically defined area, which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives.

Sustainable use – the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.



St. Kitts and Nevis National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan



Source: www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/islands_oceans_poles/st_kitts_re196.jpg