



- An arm of personnel within the police force and the judiciary to ensure that environmental laws are upheld;
- Properly trained and committed resource persons within conservation and environment management;
- Small forest staff to implement management plans or regulate activities;
- Coordination between entities with regard to assigned activities, objectives and responsibilities.
- A functioning body that will coordinate all marine related activities that have very serious implications for further development within the marine environment and for the preservation of the biological diversity.
- Appropriate technology for the management of natural resources eg. GIS equipment, computers, aerial photographs etc.
- Functioning entities; there are a number of entities (statutory bodies/departments) assigned with the responsibility for managing various aspects of the coastal and marine biodiversity. It must be noted here however, that many of these do not function.
- The establishment of an environment learning center.

CONCLUSION

The gap analysis recognizes current weaknesses in actions; institutional and human capacity; policy; local information and the legal structure. These inadequacies preclude any efforts towards initiating a successful programme of biodiversity conservation in any country. It is these foundation areas that deserve attention within the Federation. To this end strategic recommendations, have been selected for implementation to cover these gaps, *see Appendix 8.*



CHAPTER 7 KEY ELEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The management and organization of the overall National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan implementation process, should be conducted independently of the implementation of the **specific** project activities. Though the process of implementing the individual strategy projects will enlist the participation of numerous local, national and international organizations and agencies; the lead agency within the Federation however, will be the Ministry of Environment. Co-ordinating the NBSAP process will be the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Development. It is suggested here that the role of the Ministry of Environment in the implementation of the NBSAP could encompass the following:-

- Ensuring that the NBSAP process encompasses and includes all the environmental policy and institutional frameworks;
- The coordination of enlisted institutions
- Aid in obtaining international funding for strategy activities
- Supervise the promotion of the strategy at the national and international level
- Administer the monitoring & evaluation process

Apart from the Ministry of Environment, the following ministries & institutions/agencies within the Federation will assume key roles in implementing the NBSAP:-

- Ministry of Finance, Planning & Development
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Cooperatives, Lands & Housing
- Ministry of Natural Resource, Planning & Environment (Nevis)
- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Legal & Justice
- Nevis Historical & Conservation Society
- The Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park Society
- Ministry of Public Works, Utilities, Transport and Post
- Biomedical Research Foundation
- Curriculum Development Division
- Chamber of Industry & Commerce
- St. Christopher Heritage Society
- Inland Revenue
- Electricity Department
- National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
- Dive Boat operators



The above lead institutions should be in charge of implementing various projects identified in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan which fall within their sphere of influence. To assure effective communication and coordination between these institutions their arrangement will have to be orchestrated through the forming of the four following sub-committees.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee will be made up of relevant senior officials from all the lead institutions (Ministers, Directors etc.), respected individuals representing all major sectors eg. Government, business, academia, NGOs etc. Their function will be to provide advice, expertise and guidance to the NBSAP process and to promote the NBSAP within the sector they represent.

Responsibilities:-

- Identify project partners
- Provide high level support for the NBSAP
- Co-ordinate NBSAP activities and development between sectors
- Oversee timely implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan
- Guidance to the NBSAP process through regular meetings to review the NBSAP progress
- Provide feedback to the co-ordinating unit
- Identify new actions to be undertaken
- Increase awareness of the NBSAP within different sectors
- Identify co-funding groups
- Provide overall direction

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The **Technical Advisory Committee** will be a multidisciplinary one. It will comprise of professionals with the most appropriate technical expertise (scientists, biodiversity



managers, media representatives etc.) from all major institutions involved in the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan.

Responsibilities:-

- To collaborate with the co-ordinating unit, to assess information on implementation of activities and evaluate progress on an on-going basis, initiate remedial actions;
- To evaluate and report directly to the steering committee on technical aspects of implementation;
- To conduct an annual review of progress on the NBSAP, identifying activities completed, and gaps and lessons learnt in the implementation of the NBSAP;
- To annually up-date activities or priorities in relation to activities achieved, lessons learnt & changing situations.

TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS

Technical Specialists will be made up of a range of consultants available to work on short-term, specific contracts. These experts would be available to supplement the general project management skills of the co-ordinating team with specific skills, not available elsewhere in the implementation groups. Their duty will be to provide specialist expertise wherever necessary to the co-ordinating team, particularly with respect to fundraising & technical aspects of implementation.

Responsibilities:-

- Gathering information within the given field of expertise
- Independently monitoring & evaluating NBSAP progress in specific areas,
- Providing general overviews, and recommendations in specific areas,.
- Providing direct training in relevant activities, including writing grant proposals & monitoring implementation in support of the co-ordinating unit.



AN NBSAP CO-ORDINATING UNIT

The NBSAP coordinating unit will act as a focal point for the implementation of the NBSAP. The unit will comprise of a small group of people who are not involved in implementing any of the NBSAP activities. However, they will possess a range of skills in project management, information management, and networking. They should be closely linked to the respective implementing organization(s), but maintain enough independence to be able to provide objective reviews and monitoring.

Responsibilities :-

- Motivate and support implementing organisations in finding funds and undertaking activities;
- Promote contact between implementing organisations and appropriate financial mechanisms;
- Identify needs, and help provide specific training or technical input, in support of implementation;
- Gather and update all information relevant to the NBSAP;
- Co-ordinate assessment of this information;
- Monitor and evaluate progress of the NBSAP, on an ongoing basis, in collaboration with a Technical Advisory Committee;
- In collaboration with the Technical Advisory Committee, provide an annual review of progress on the NBSAP, and to up-date the plan where necessary;
- Report to relevant groups on progress of the NBSAP;
- Disseminate and publicise information on the NBSAP;
- Facilitate and widen co-operation and exchange between all groups involved in the NBSAP.

OTHER ISSUES IN IMPLEMENTATION

LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

The implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan will rest primarily on the appropriate and effective enforcement of related legislation. Implementation will require:-



- Involvement of law enforcement institutions in matters of biodiversity management and conservation;
- An acceptance by the judicial system of the importance of biodiversity issues;
- Demonstrating behaviour by Government Agencies, NGOs and communities abiding by rules of biodiversity protection so as to ratify associated laws;
- Drafting and passing of specific regulations when the need arises.

FINANCING

The ability to mobilize finances on an on-going basis will be crucial to the successful implementation of this NBSAP. It is the financing which will greatly contribute towards it becoming a sustainable process. Suggested means are as follows:-

- It has been seen to be promoted, the idea of opening the position, on a long-term basis, of a Fund Raising Specialist. This person will develop strategies and activities for raising financial resources, liaise further with various donor organizations, local government, private sector & NGOs. S/he will interact considerably with the implementing agencies, community groups etc. to ensure that their activities have access to funding effectively;
- Creating a Fund into which biodiversity monies earned, for example, from an incentive system, can be deposited. These include fees, grants, taxes, permits for the use of biodiversity resources;
- The international Community will have to play a vital role where appropriating funding is concerned. As a Small-Island Developing State, the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis cannot shoulder sole responsibility for financing the NBSAP.

REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

According to the CBD, implementation of the NBSAP will require effective collaboration with an array of regional & international partners. The purpose of this collaboration will be:

- To facilitate the sharing of skills;



- To garner support for national activities & institutions in areas of training, research & information management & project implementation;
- To ensure that the country's efforts are in sync with those of other countries and regions.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

As crucial as finance availability, the implementation of the NBSAP requires that all participants in the process have the comprehensive capacity to execute their functions effectively. Therefore training activities will have to be a precursor to a number of projects stipulated in the NBSAP. Such training will be aimed at:-

- Governmental agencies in areas of participatory planning, conflict management, protected area management, research and resource monitoring and conservation;
- Community based groups and NGOs in areas of resource monitoring, technologies for sustainable use, enforcement & public education. These groups must have efficient access to the technical expertise available within governmental agencies;
- The private sector with regard to technologies for sustainable resource use.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Work in support of the NSBAP implementation includes raising awareness. It is agreed that successful implementation of the Strategy will be determined in part, by the degree to which all parts of society subscribe to sustainable development and its principles. In the end, the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biological resources will require the cooperation and involvement of individual citizens, local communities, government, conservation groups, business and industry, education and research institutions.



The Monitoring and Evaluation phase of the NBSAP should be executed using existing structures and readily available information so as to avoid delays. The following procedures should be employed for this phase:

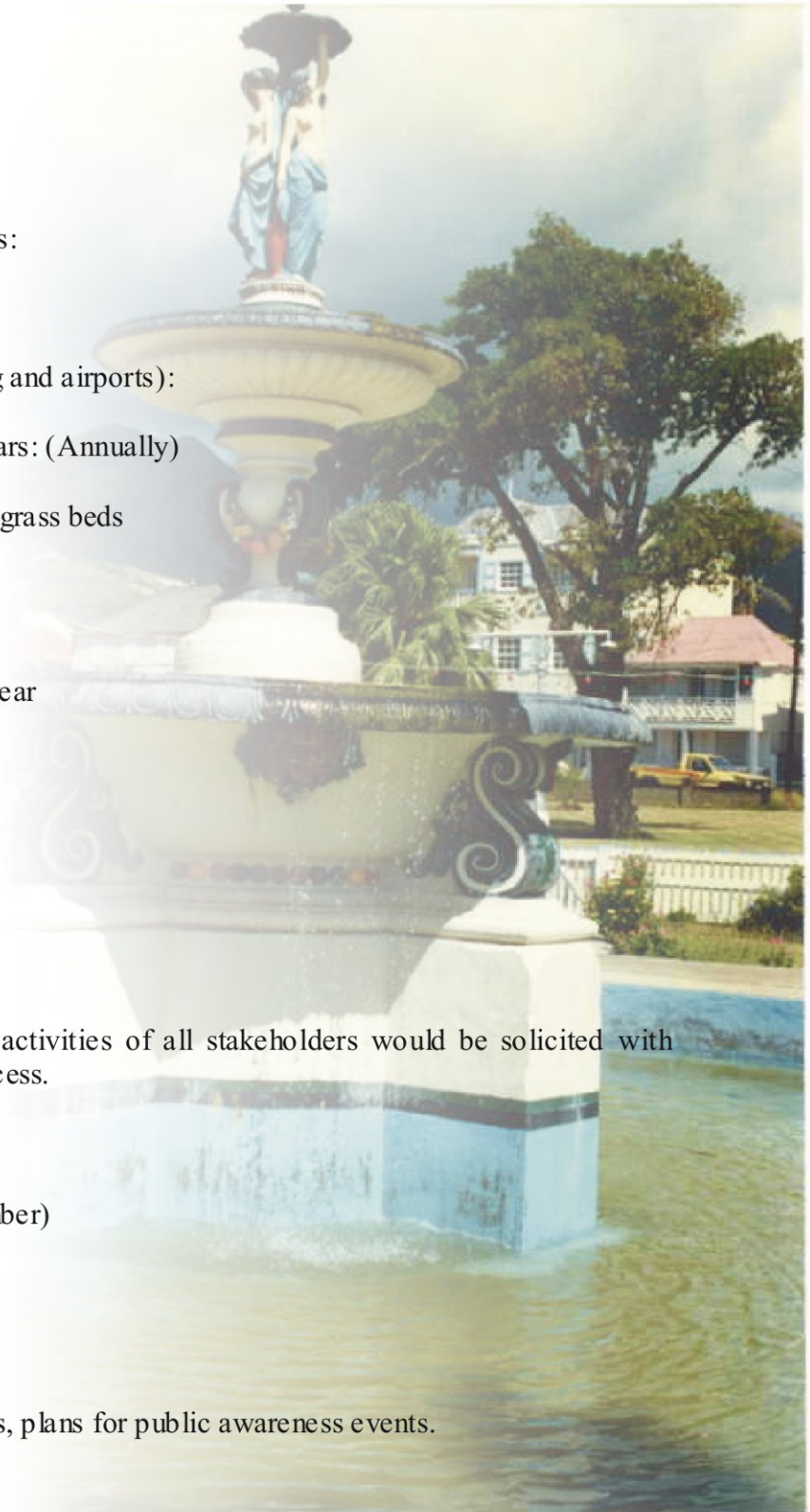
- The monitoring and evaluation of a specific activity should be the responsibility of the implementing organization, using the existing structures within. Progress therein will be mapped against the NBSAP outputs and objectives;
- The NBSAP co-ordinating unit should be responsible for gathering information on the implementation of the various activities from the respective implementing organisations. This via the submission of regular reports and interviews;
- The NBSAP co-ordinating unit should compile the information gathered in order to provide an overall review of the NBSAP progress;
- In order to ensure an effective system of NBSAP implementation the **technical advisory group** in collaboration with the **steering committee**, would have to provide an independent source of monitoring and evaluation;
- The results of the monitoring and evaluation should then be disseminated to the relevant stakeholders of a specific NBSAP activity eg. implementing organizations and constituents of civil society;
- These results will then be used to update the NBSAP by making changes with regards to marking off completed activities, identifying gaps and lessons learnt, which may then result in the re-design of current activities and design of future projects.

Essential, will be the periodic production of reports on the implementation of the NBSAP, to be delivered to a number of stakeholders, so that there is an ingrained system of accountability. These would range from regular reports on the progress of an activity to an annual public report to those relating specifically to the process of the NBSAP implementation.

The following indicators for monitoring the implementation of the projects have been proposed:-



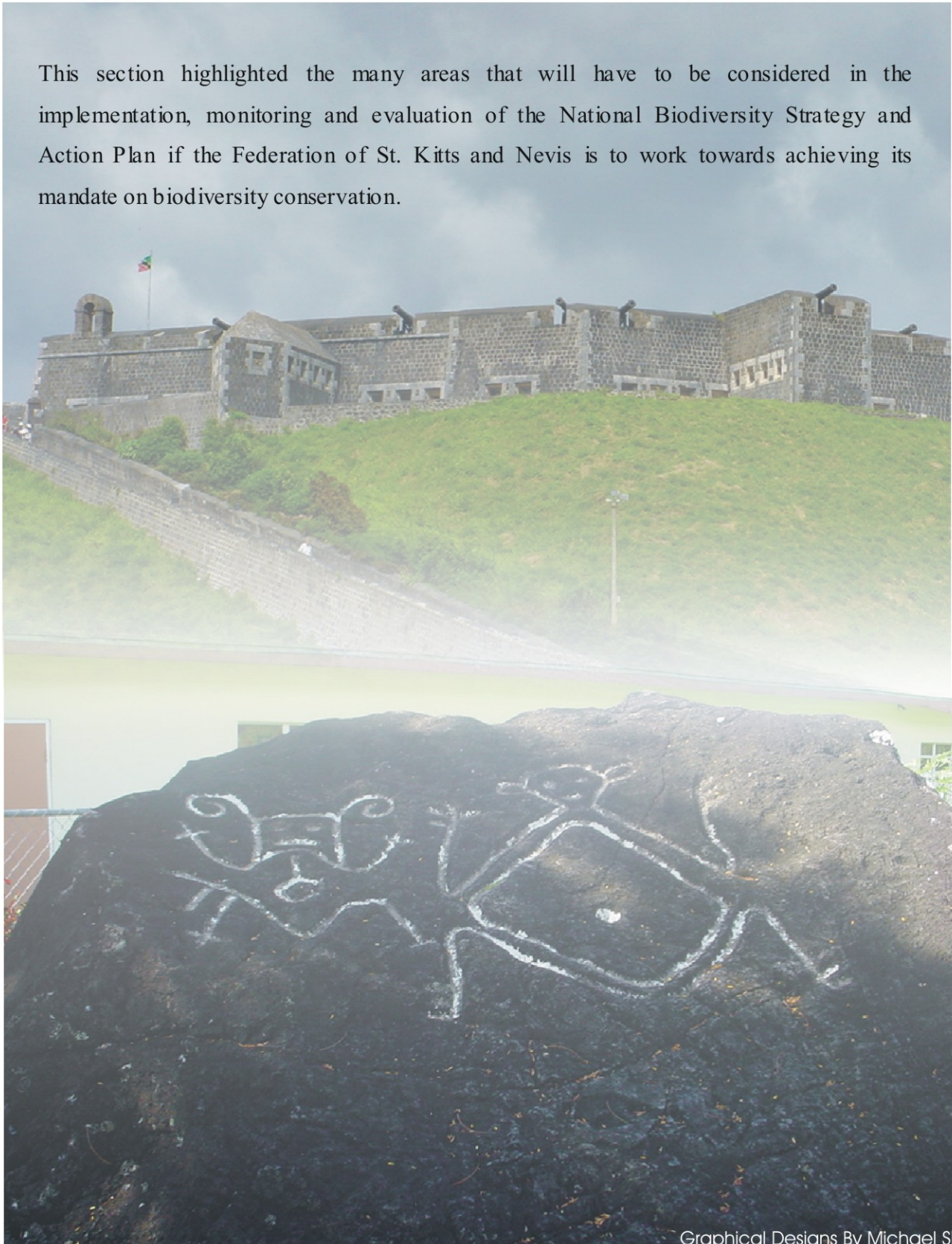
- Industrial
 - Commercial
 - Tourism
 - Forest cover
 - Protected areas
 - Natural areas
 - Wetlands & Areas
 - Coral reefs/ seagrass beds:
 - Agriculture
 - Recreation & Areas
 - Rehabilitated areas
 - Transport (road, shipping and airports):
- (a) National Expenditure in dollars: (Annually)
- Management of wetlands
 - Management of reefs/seagrass beds
 - Management of forests
 - Pest control
 - Public awareness
- (b) Chemical use in tonnes per year
- Pesticides
 - Fertilizers
- (c) Species count in numbers
- Fauna
 - flora,
 - endangered,
 - endemic
- (d) Biological diversity related activities of all stakeholders would be solicited with respect to the evaluation process.
- (e) Consultations (number)
- (f) Training activities held (number)
- (g) Number of persons trained
- (h) Annual Budget
- (i) Policy, legislation, incentives, plans for public awareness events.





CONCLUSION

This section highlighted the many areas that will have to be considered in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan if the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis is to work towards achieving its mandate on biodiversity conservation.



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