



## Mainstreaming Biodiversity Considerations into Sustainable Tourism Development & Land Use Planning

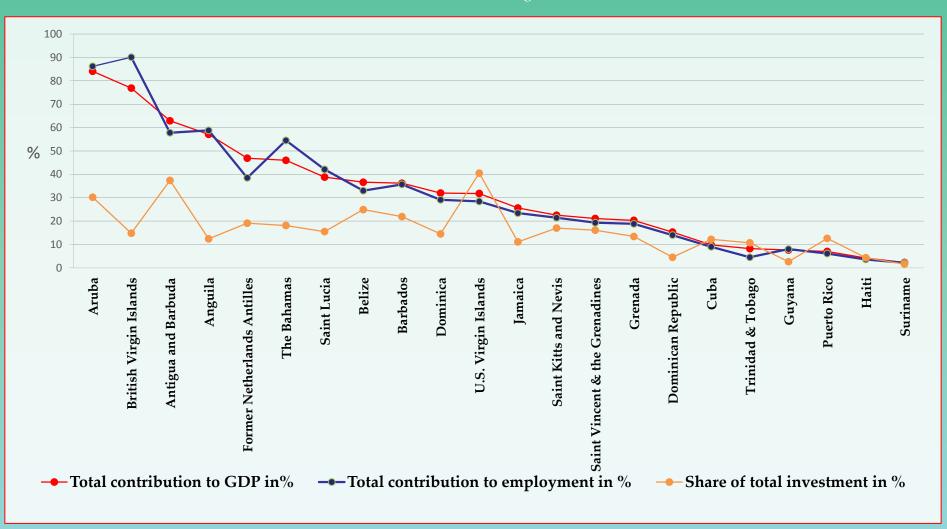
Deirdre Shurland – Coordinator Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism UNEP Division of Technology, Industry & Economics, Paris

CBD COP12: Tourism & Biodiversity Business & Biodiversity Forum Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014

# The Importance of Tourism in Caribbean SIDS



Source: www.wttc.org





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### Tourism Life Cycle

#### Value Chain





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# Main Regional Biodiversity Threats



#### **Caribbean SIDS:**

*Biodiversity 'hotspot' and "one of the world's greatest centers of biodiversity and endemism"* 

#### **Specific threats to biodiversity:**

- Invasive alien species
- Residential, commercial development
- Severe weather, climate change
- Habitat loss & fragmentation
- Agriculture
- Over-exploitation of living resources
- Pollution of coastal areas

#### Southern Africa:

"Centre of Biodiversity richness & endemism"

#### **Specific threats to biodiversity:**

- Invasive alien species
- Rapid development
- Climate change
- Habitat loss
- Mining
- Illegal harvesting
- Trade of wildlife, forest resources
- Over-harvesting of select species

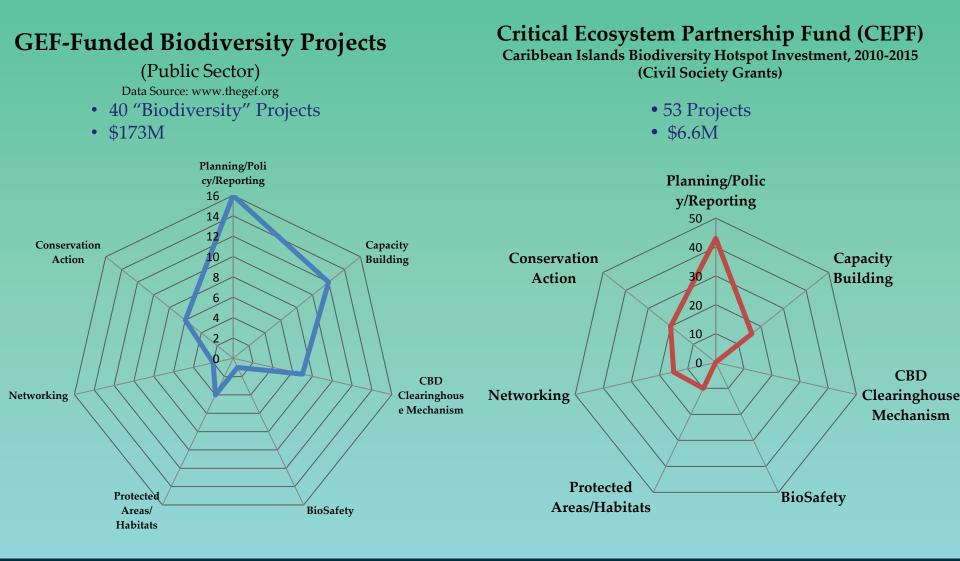
#### Can tourism provide solutions for better planning & collaboration?





#### Snapshot of Biodiversity Projects in Caribbean SIDS Opportunities for biodiversity conservation via tourism?









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## Caribbean Proposal Ideas UNEP & the Global Partnership



# Build upon regional cooperation platforms e.g. in tourism sector & energy efficiency gains

- Sustainable energy standards sector modernization, technology markets, consumer awareness & demand
- Mainstreaming resource efficiency: water, waste, land, food supply/sources
- □ Preserving capacity
  - Biodiversity conservation
  - Sustainable consumption & production
  - Natural & cultural sites and attractions



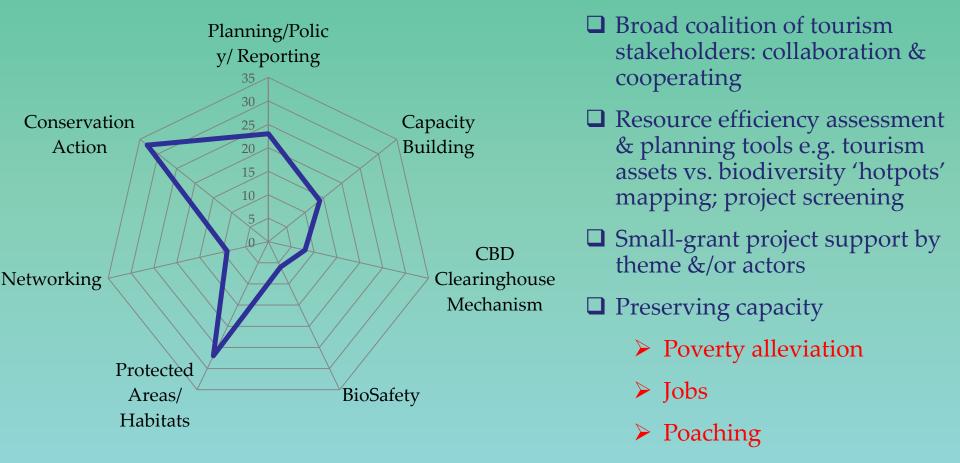
## **Snapshot of Biodiversity Projects in Southern Africa**

**Opportunities for biodiversity conservation via tourism?** 



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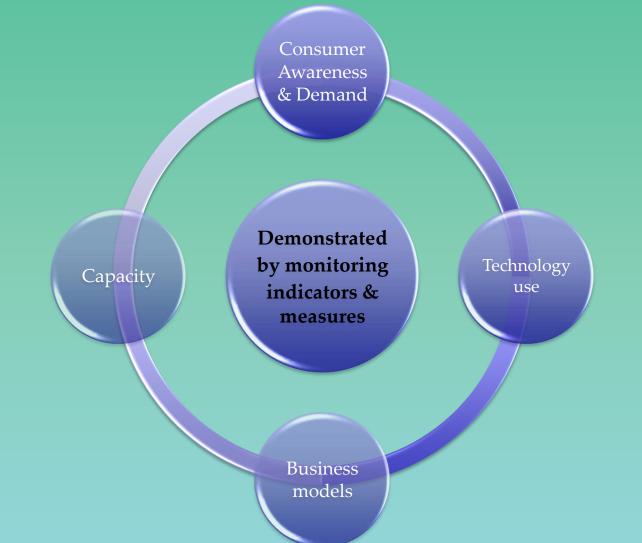
- 88 GEF-funded "Biodiversity" (Public Sector) Projects
- \$1.3B





# **End result:** Establishing "A Virtuous Cycle" *of sustainability*







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THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

**The United Nations** led international initiative dedicated to promoting **sustainable tourism** practices around the world

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