



MANAGEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



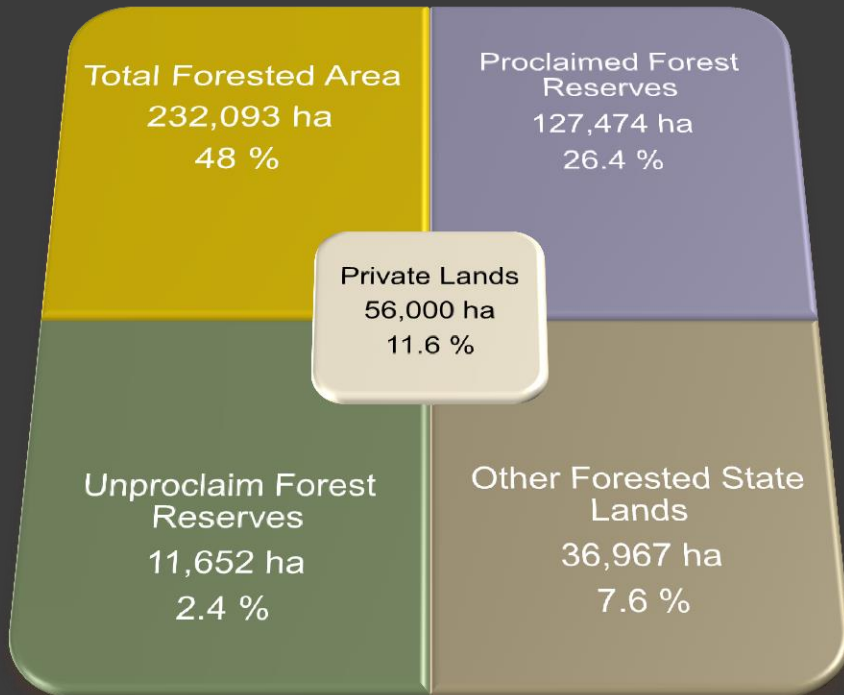


Twin-island State of approx 5000 sq.km

Located north of Venezuela on the South American coast

Southernmost islands of the Caribbean archipelago.

Trinidad has a Total Land Area of 482,600 ha



Pioneer in Western Hemisphere



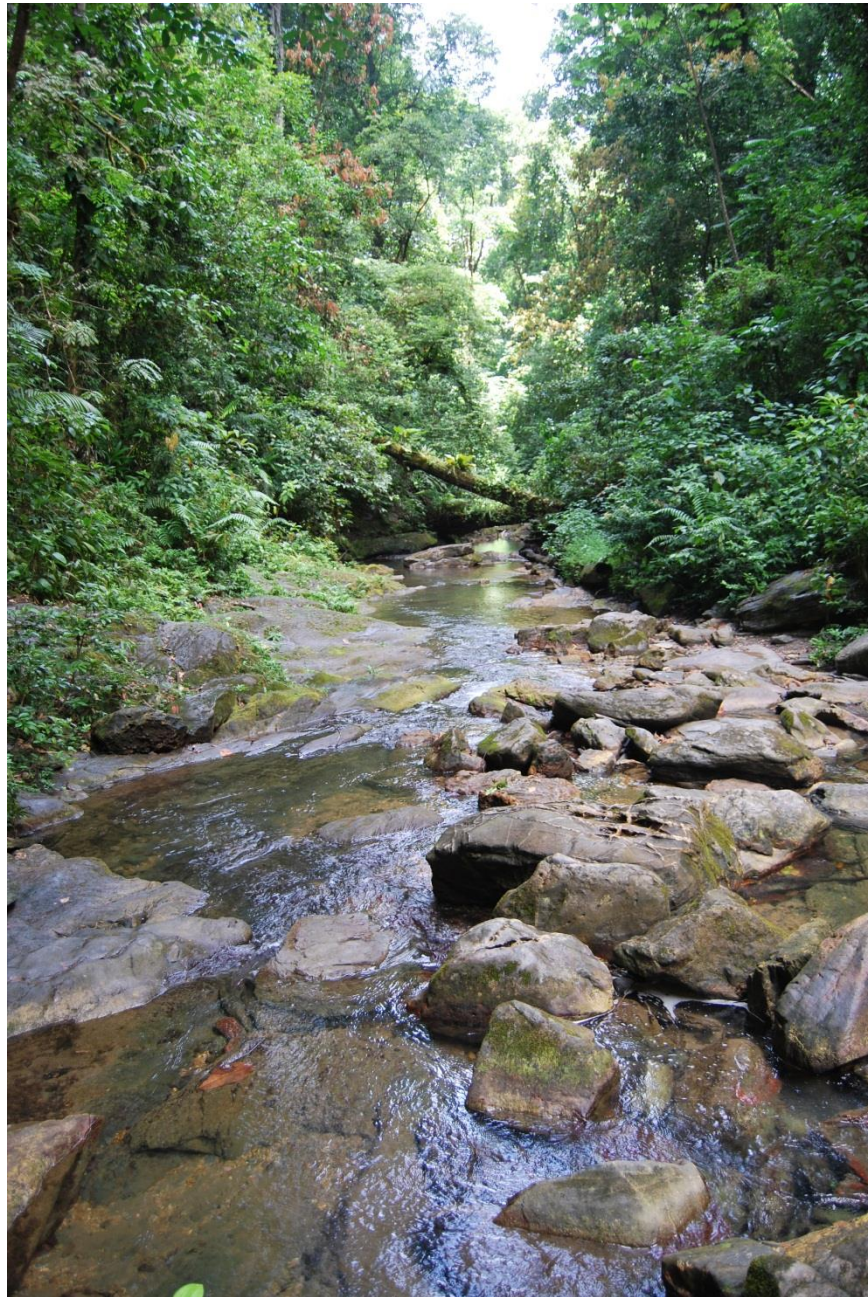
- Main Ridge Forest Reserve
- Proclaimed 1765
- “for the protection of the Rains”





POLICY FRAMEWORK

- First Forest Policy -1942
- Convention on Biodiversity- 1996 (ratified by T&T)
- National Environmental Policy -2006
- National Tourism Policy- 2010
- New National Forest Policy- 2011
- National Protected Areas Policy- 2011
- National Climate Change Policy - 2011



ROLES OF FORESTRY DIVISION

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Wildlife Conservation
- Watershed Management
- Ecosystem Services
- Control of Climate Change
- Recreation and Ecotourism
- Environmental Education
- Timber Production
- Non-timber Forest Products
- Community Forestry
- Enhanced Food Production

Biodiversity Of Trinidad And Tobago



- 3,100species of plants (59 endemic)
- 433 species of birds
- 100 species of mammals
- 98 species of reptiles
- 38 species of amphibians
- 659 species of butterflies
- 1051 species of fish
- 523 species of marine invertebrates

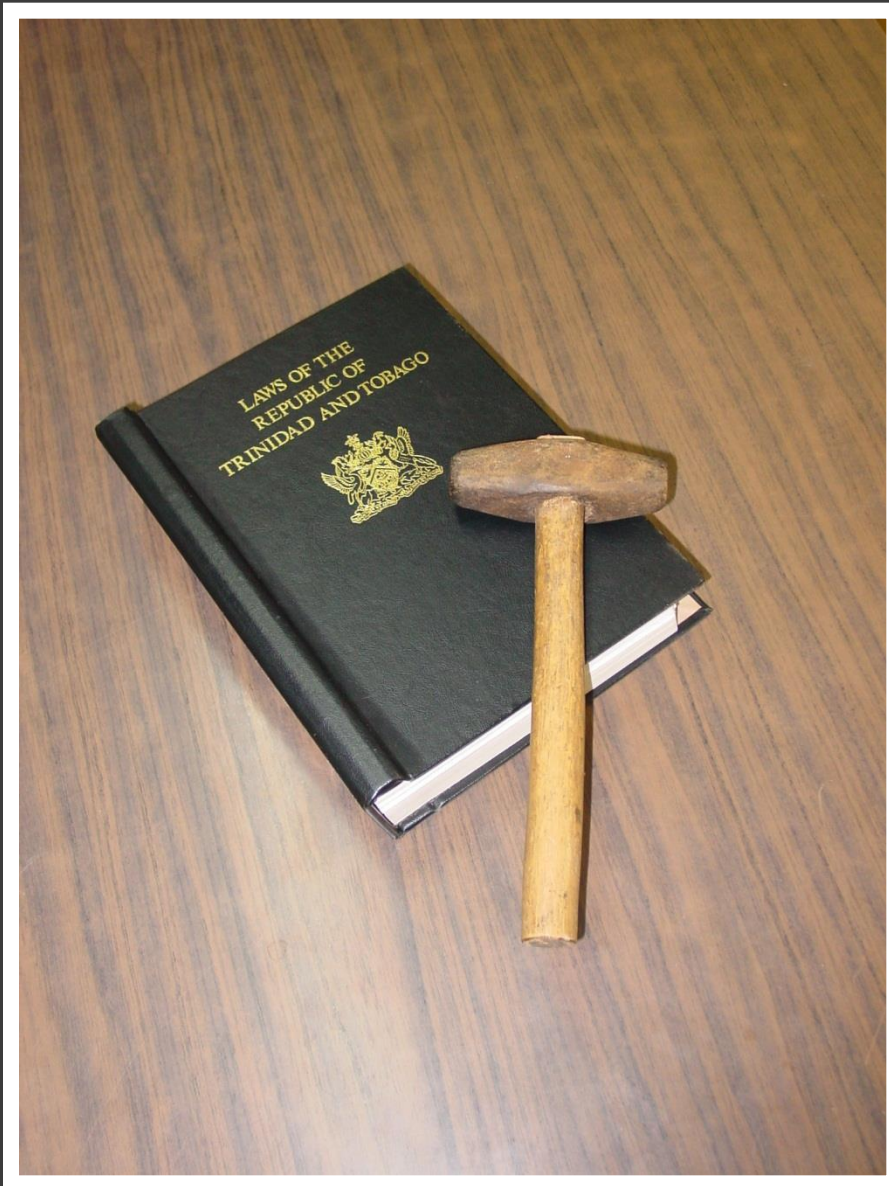
National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan 2001

Having ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity the Government of Trinidad and Tobago drafted The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), in order to carry out the objectives of the Convention.

The five main focal areas of the NBSAP project are as follows:

- Education and Awareness
- Policy and Commitment
- Legislation and Enforcement
- Information and Research and
- Institutional Capacity

PRIORITY – LEGAL FRAMEWORK



- Drafting of new law in progress - Protected Areas, Wildlife Conservation, and Forestry Bill 2012.
- Formulation of Wildlife Policy in progress
- Revision of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

PRIORITY - NEW INSTITUTION



Forest and Protected Area Management Authority is being developed to promote:

- flexibility in responding to forest management needs;
- development of the necessary multi-disciplinary capacity for forest management;
- human resource management that is suitable to the special demands of managing natural areas; and
- independent access to and management of funding



PRIORITIES -

GEF project on Protected Areas Management

Collaboration with Research Institutions to be encouraged

Mainstreaming approach for implementation of standards

Project for Ecosystem Services 2010-2014 in progress

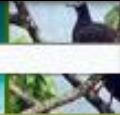
National Forest Inventory to be conducted soon.

INFORMATION SHARING



- Clearing House Mechanism
- Program of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) under CBD
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
- National Reports
- Reports on Research Projects

Government of
Trinidad and Tobago



Home | Diversity | Protected Areas & Species | Key Organizations | Policies & Legislation | National Plans & Reports | For Students | Gallery



Field research in Aripo Savannas



WHO'S ONLINE

We have 5 guests online

Consultations on the Draft National Wildlife

The public consultation period on the Draft Wildlife Policy for Trinidad and Tobago ended on March 31, 2011. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Forestry Division and the Tobago Environment Agency thank all who participated in the public consultations and submitted comments and suggestions to improve and finalise the Draft National Wildlife Policy.

For more information about the Draft National Wildlife Policy, click [here](#).



Collaborating Network of Partners Facilitating Scientific and Technical Cooperation

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the variety of living organisms considered at all levels of classification including the genetic, species, and higher taxonomic levels, and the variety of habitats and ecosystems, as well as the interactions occurring therein. Biodiversity is not simply recognized as plants, animals and microorganisms – it encompasses people and our need for food security, medicines, clean water, shelter and a clean and healthy environment.

Tobago's Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)

Tobago's CHM is an information mechanism geared towards bringing together the providers of goods, services or information that is relevant to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). More specifically, the CHM aims to promote and facilitate scientific cooperation on biodiversity within Trinidad and Tobago, as well as with the Caribbean community. In so doing, the human and technological network necessary for the implementation of the CHM process would be enhanced.

Sharing and Incorporation of Data

- <http://www.biodiversity.gov.tt/home/>
- All the aforementioned policies and conventions are located on the aforementioned website.
- National Biodiversity Information System Initiative - Technical Assistance from CONABIO (Mexico).
- <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=tt>
- <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/tt/tt-nr-04-en.pdf>
- <http://www.biodiversity.gov.tt/home/legislative-framework/legislation/primary-legislation.html>



CHALLENGES

Lack of Biodiversity baseline data

Insufficient applied research

No systematic monitoring and measurements

Insufficient dialogue amongst researchers

Weak science-policy interface

No evaluation of policy effectiveness



Requirements for successful management of Biodiversity in Trinidad and Tobago

- Strong Political Priority across sectors
- Sustainable Financing Mechanisms
- Capacity Building Initiatives – human and technological
- Effective Coordinating Mechanism



THANK YOU

Carlton Roberts

Director Forest Resource Inventory and Management
Forestry Division

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources Trinidad
and Tobago

1 868 622 5858, (M) 460 0022

Email: edric45@hotmail.com

