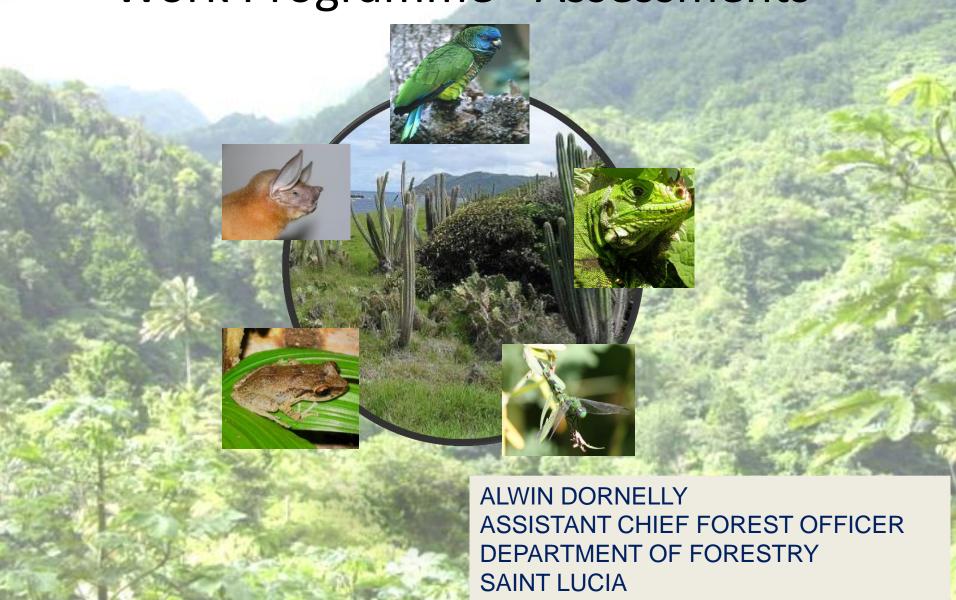
### IPBES Regional Consultation Work Programme - Assessments



#### Are we capable of supporting national assessments on biodiversity and ecosystems services?

- Limited expertise
  - Forest Management
  - Wildlife Biology and Management
  - Conservation Biology
  - Forest Engineering
  - Fisheries Biology



# Are we capable of supporting national assessments on biodiversity and ecosystems services?

- Institutional capabilities is lacking
  - No research institutions, Universities, etc.
- Capacity to do expert peer review of research work for publication is almost non-existent
- We depend on external agencies to conduct assessments – there is an urgent need to build capacity in this area
- Challenge of replacement for retired staff or to fill vacant positions

## Are we capable of supporting national assessments on biodiversity and ecosystems services?

- Limited skill set in NGOs and civil society
- Technology to do DNA analyses not available and very limited financial resources available
  - Heavy reliance on overseas expertise
- Reluctance to invest in areas that do not provide immediate employment (authorities may not necessarily invest in natural resources) spurred by difficult economic times
- Brain drain to developed areas

### Developing assessments in a way they can be scaled up at regional and global levels

- Working with regional or international agencies or organizations that monitor biodiversity
  - SCSCB (monitoring waterbirds and wetlands)
- Use GIS as a platform to work out indices and scale up to regional and international countries
- Through regional fora that encourage exchange of ideas and experiences:
  - SCSCB conference
  - Caribbean Foresters' Conference

#### What methodologies and metrics can be used

- Use standardized, rigorous methods generally accepted by professional institutions {from Universities and other reputable institutions}
- Use lay science approaches civil society scientist
- Using social media. For example taking photographs and sending out to general public for feedback

#### **Priorities for thematic assessments**

- Micro fauna and flora need assessing
- Entomology
- Need for carbon assessments
- Need to assess harvesting of specific species (animals and plants) from the wild

