Table S1. Constraints perceived by contributors for all phases of the CLME initiative

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Phases** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** |
|  |  |  |  | **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** |
|  |  |  |  |  | **FSP1** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Constraints** | 1. Lack of synergy between agencies involved in oceans governance and national priorities
 | 1. Limited interest of donors including the GEF to support oceans projects in the Caribbean.
 | 1. Lack of understanding of importance of oceans governance and the LME Approach among some decision makers and advisors at the national level.
 | 1. Predominance of sector-based planning approaches and lack of integrated development planning.
 | 1. Lack of appreciation of importance of input from civil society and private sector by national governments and IGOs
 | 1. Lack of an accepted regional vision for the Wider Caribbean Region with limited interregional interaction and harmonized regional targets
 |
| **Constraint Category** | Institutional | Awareness Building | Awareness Building | Institutional | Institutional | Leadership |
| **Stages of the policy cycle affected** | Monitoring limited primarily to the status of the resource and even when stressors were monitored, linkages and integrated solutions based on a complete policy cycle were seldom monitored |  | Mainly analysis & advice and decision making | Data & information, analysis & advice and decision making occurred but with a very sector-based focus.  | Data & information from local knowledge holders and private sector not documented and valued for use in analysis and advice to inform decision making | Lack of functional policy cycle at regional level affecting decision making and implementation  |
| **Vertical and lateral linkages** | Weak lateral linkages among national agencies and among IGOs | Weak vertical linkage between national, regional and global levels | Weak lateral linkages among national agencies and between sectoral agencies in different countries | Weak lateral and vertical linkages and mechanisms to facilitate integrated management at all jurisdictional levels  | Weak lateral and vertical linkages and mechanisms to facilitate effective engagement of civil society and the private sector in national and local governance | Weak lateral and vertical linkages especially at national and regional levels |
| **Stakeholder involvement** | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level, with some support from academia |

Table S1 continued. Constraints perceived by contributors for all phases of the CLME initiative

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| **Phases** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** | **PDF-A** |  |
| **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** |
| **FSP1** | **FSP1** | **FSP1** | **FSP1** | **FSP1** |  |
| **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** |  |
| **Constraints** | 1. Limited capacity of countries to uptake and internalize results from regional projects or implement regional policies and relevant agreements
 | 1. No harmonized regional targets addressing fisheries, pollution and habitat degradation/bio-diversity
 | 1. Weak networking and collaboration among the civil society organizations nationally and across the region
 | 1. Weak mechanisms for interactive governance at national and regional levels
 | 1. Diversity in culture, capacity, human development, etc. among the countries in the region
 | 1. Lack of integration across the main transboundary issues of fisheries, marine biodiversity and pollution at national and regional levels
 |
| **Constraint Category** | Capacity Building | Legal | Capacity Building | Institutional | Socio-cultural | Institutional |
| **Stages of the policy cycle affected** | All stages | Decision making and implementation  | Data & information, analysis & advice and decision making occurred but not shared between organizations | Stages of the policy cycle limited to governmental input. Evaluation was almost completely absent especially when evaluating the impact of any policy response |  | Need for data & information being recognized but still weak and affecting subsequent stages of the policy cycle |
| **Vertical and lateral linkages** | Weak vertical and lateral linkages at national and regional levels | Weak lateral linkages among countries and vertical linkages between national and regional levels | Non-existent to weak lateral and vertical linkages between civil society organizations | Weak vertical linkages between local, national and regional jurisdictional levels | Weak lateral and vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak lateral and vertical linkages among national agencies and subregional/ regional organizations |
| **Stakeholder involvement** | National agencies and IGOs | Currently government agencies, along with data available from IGOs and big international NGOs (BINGOs) | Limited to individual civil society organizations (CSOs) | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level |  | Mainly Regional IGOs but efforts being made to have more of the sub-regional organizations at the governance engaged as well such as CARICOM, CRFM, OECS, OSPESCA, CCAD |

Table S1 continued. Constraints perceived by contributors for all phases of the CLME initiative

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Phases** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PDF-B** | **PDF-B** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **FSP1** | **FSP1** | **FSP1** | **FSP1** | **FSP1** |
|  | **FSP2** |  |  |  | **FSP2** |
| **Constraints** | 1. Lack of awareness and understanding of full implications of transboundary issues and the need to adopt an LME approach as a national priority
 | 1. Lack of capacity to effectively implement regional and global commitments relating to oceans and environment in general
 | 1. Limited national intersectoral coordination mechanisms and resources to facilitate TDA/SAP generation
 | 1. Lack of effective engagement of civil society and lack of regional mechanisms and resources to facilitate interactive governance
 | 1. Major focus on fisheries, lacking full integration of pollution, fisheries and marine biodiversity issues and low level of research needed to inform integrated decision making
 | 1. Increasingly poor sharing and accessibility of data and information
 |
| **Constraint Category** | Awareness Building | Capacity Building | Institutional | Institutional | Institutional | Institutional |
| **Stages of the policy cycle affected** | All stages | Implementation stage not functional for some countries | Potentially all stages but mainly decision making | Stages of the policy cycle mostly limited to government input. Evaluation was almost completely absent especially when evaluating the impact of any policy response | Mainly data & information and analysis & advice | Affects data & Information, analysis & advice and monitoring & evaluation leading to poor decision making |
| **Vertical and lateral linkages** | Weak lateral and vertical linkages among national agencies and subregional/ regional organizations | Weak vertical and lateral linkages among national agencies and global organizations | Weak vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak lateral and vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak lateral and vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak lateral and vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels |
| **Stakeholder involvement** | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level with some support from academia | Limited to national governments with support from IGOs mostly at the technical level | Mainly national agencies with mandates for fisheries and environment Limited academic, private sector, civil society and IGOs | Mainly national departments and IGOs mostly at the technical level. Limited involvement of civil society | Limited to national departments and IGOs mostly with some support from academia | Mainly national agencies with mandates for fisheries and environment, IGOs, BINGOs and development agencies |

Table S1 continued. Constraints perceived by contributors for all phases of the CLME initiative

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| **Phases** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **FSP1** | **FSP1** |  |  |  |  |
| **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** |
| **Constraints** | 1. Varying interest in improving already weak science-policy interface at national and regional levels
 | 1. Limited succession uptake and planning as committed regional and national experts age/retire
 | 1. Limited national intersectoral coordination and clarity of roles as well as poor documenting by NICs, relying on in-person communication
 | 1. Weaknesses within the national governance framework (e.g out-dated and conflicting legislation as well as a lack of clear policies and management plans)
 | 1. Lack of appropriate regional coordinating mechanism for oceans governance and full integration across all stakeholders including engagement of civil society and private sector
 | 1. Low national level understanding of the challenges and opportunities for blue or ocean-based economy approaches
 |
| **Constraint Category** | Political | Social capital | Institutional | Legal | Institutional | Awareness Building |
| **Stages of the policy cycle affected** | Affects analysis & advice and decision-making |  | Potentially all stages but mainly decision making | All stages | All stages | All stages |
| **Vertical and lateral linkages** | Weak national and regional lateral and vertical linkages | Weak lateral and vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak lateral linkages among different national agencies | Weak vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak vertical linkages at all jurisdictional levels |
| **Stakeholder involvement** | Limited to national level decision makers with limited input from knowledge holders | Little to no discussion held among stakeholders in government, IGOs, academia, civil society or private sector | Mainly national agencies with mandates for fisheries and environment; limited academic, private sector, civil society and IGOs | Limited to technical and policy making stakeholders | Mainly national agencies with mandates for fisheries and environment; limited academic, private sector, civil society and IGOs | Limited mainly national agencies and IGOs with little to no inclusion of civil society and private sector |

Table S1 continued. Constraints perceived by contributors for all phases of the CLME initiative

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| **Phases** |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |
| **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** | **FSP2** |
| **Constraints** | 1. More clarity needed on how various national and regional sector strategies, sub-strategies and the SAP contribute to a broader development vision for the region
 | 1. Inadequate implementation of communication strategy and plan for targeting and messaging key stakeholders at all levels
 | 1. Inadequate strategy for engagement and implementation with private sector at all levels
 | 1. Growing but still limited coordination among countries and IGOs to address transboundary issues due to resistance to change and other competing priorities within bureaucracies
 | 1. Possibility of unequal exercise of power and influence by some countries in crafting mechanisms to address regional ocean governance
 |
| **Constraint Category** | Leadership | Capacity Building | Capacity Building | Institutional | Political |
| **Stages of the policy cycle affected** | Efforts to transform data & information into decision-support tools ongoing but not there yet | All stages | All stages | Decision making implementation and monitoring & evaluation | Analysis & advice and decision making |
| **Vertical and lateral linkages** | Improving involvement of multiple agencies and sectors supporting cross-sectoral collaboration vertically and laterally | Weak vertical and lateral linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak vertical and lateral linkages at all jurisdictional levels | Weak vertical and lateral linkages at national and regional levels | Weak vertical and lateral linkages at national and regional levels |
| **Stakeholder involvement** | Regional and national public sector agencies and civil society but private sector engagement still lacking | Dependent on Project Coordinating Unit | Little to no engagement with private sector | Mainly national government agencies, IGOs but also industry, e.g. IUU fishing practices | Mainly national government agencies and IGOs |