**Caribbean Challenge Measures Summit:** Developing a Monitoring & Adaptive Management Framework for the Caribbean Challenge

**Date:** March 14-18, 2011 (March 14 and 18 are travel days)

**Location:** Paraiso Cano Hondo, Sabana de la Mar, Dominican Republic  
 <http://www.paraisocanohondo.com/>

**Objectives:** Establishing results-based measures has become an emerging priority at TNC. A Conservation Measures Business Plan has recently been adopted that encourages programs to quantify progress towards conservation objectives that have been set in the strategies and actions we are taking. The intent is to increase the return on investment of our conservation work, making strategy evaluation and adaptive management “business as usual” in TNC’s field programs and global teams. The Caribbean program has made significant progress in regional and national-scale protected area gap assessments, however our ability to track overall progress on protected area management effectiveness and sustainable finance at the varying scales remains weak because metrics have not been defined or collected. As an organizational-wide priority, the Caribbean program seeks to develop a robust monitoring and adaptive framework measures business plan in order to track Caribbean Challenge progress in the coming two years.

The objective of this workshop is to bring together the best minds for reviewing and providing input for developing a *systematic measures framework* that will inform progress on the protected area and sustainable finance strategies for the Caribbean Challenge with a specific focus on the Dominican Republic. This framework will be used to help inform our approach in the other seven Caribbean Challenge countries and beyond, outlining what should be measured, how they should be measured, who will be involved, and what level of capacity is needed to carry out this measures work. Participants will review draft versions of the protected areas and sustainable finance strategies, including key objectives, indicators, and monitoring plans, ensuring that these strategies consider relevant ecological, human dimensions, and business needs and are measured at adequate intervals and scales. Such a framework will enable TNC to quickly assess progress on protected areas and sustainable finance for the Caribbean Challenge.

**Outcomes:** This workshop will represent the first science/measures meeting the Caribbean Program has held since the launch of the Caribbean Challenge in 2008. Workshop attendees will learn and share experience about their respective measures programs and their effect on conservation practice. We plan to brainstorm on mechanisms for increasing monitoring capacity and identify barriers to successfully evaluating strategy effectiveness while searching for practical solutions that will work in a Caribbean context. During the 3-day workshop, we will briefly review existing measures frameworks (Micronesia; Costa Rica Forever; others), evaluate potential indicators, assess sampling methods, consider multi-scale issues, discuss partners and stakeholder involvement, and finalize locations for implementing the measures program in the Dominican Republic. A written Caribbean Challenge measures framework business plan document will be produced after the workshop and form the basis of informing our conservation operational activities (and the work plans of the 3 other GEF biodiversity projects) in all participating Caribbean countries over the coming year. This framework will also form the basis for stewardship reporting for major donors that have expressed interest in investing in the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF).

**Attendees:** This workshop will include staff from the Dominican Republic, the Caribbean conservation staff along with representatives from the Global Marine Team, Micronesia and Coral Triangle Programs, Latin America, Central Science, as well as a selected external people including representatives from other programs and volunteer leaders from the Conservation Committee of the Caribbean Program’s recently launched Board.

**2011 Caribbean Challenge Measures Summit**

**AGENDA**

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|  | **MONDAY, MARCH 14** | | | |
| 4:00pm | Bus scheduled to leave SDQ airport – Look for Yisal Wazar & Kasia Grazela holding TNC sign when exiting the airport Customs & Immigration area. | | | |
| 6:30pm | **ARRIVAL** check-in Paraiso Caño Hondo, Sabana de la Mar <http://www.paraisocanohondo.com/> | | | |
| 7:00-7:30pm | Welcome Cocktail at home of Tony de Leon & Rosanna Selman, owners of eco-lodge | | | |
| 7:30-8:30pm | **DINNER** atDon Clemente Restaurant on property  Guest speaker: Tony de Leon – Heritage and History of Samaná Bay | | | |
| **DAY 1** | **TUESDAY, MARCH 15**  **Objective:** Present introduction, review of existing plans, and assess indicators/objectives and monitoring plan for *Protected Areas* and *Sustainable Finance* strategies at site and national scales. | | | |
| 6:00-7:00am | Optional Field Activity:Guided sunrise kayak tour (pay on own) $10 per person | | | |
| 8:00-9:00am | **BREAKFAST** served in Bambu Terrace | | | |
| 9:00-9:30am | **Measures Summit in Kayuko Building** - Welcome, Introductions, Review of Agenda and Summit Objectives | | | Kimberly John |
| 9:30-10:30am | Caribbean Challenge   * Introduction and Overview * Brief review of strategies * Assumptions, indicators of success, and expected outcomes | | | Phil Kramer  Steve Schill |
| 10:30-11:30am | Lessons learned from Micronesia/Coral Triangle and Forever Costa Rica | | | John Knowles James Byrne |
| 11:30-12:30pm | Presentation of model for the DR - National and site level | | | Marianne Kleiberg Kasia Grasela |
| 12:30-1:30pm | **LUNCH** served in Bambu Terrace | | | |
| 1:30-5:00pm | **Assessing Strategy Effectiveness Measures Indicators and Monitoring Plan -** Focusing on refining the protected area and sustainable finance strategies at site and national scales | **Break-out groups** | | **Facilitators** |
| 1. Protected Areas (Site) | | James |
| 1. Protection Areas (National) | | Jensen |
| 1. Sustainable Finance (Site) | | George |
| 1. Sustainable Finance (National) | | Kristin |
| 5:00-6:00pm | Report back in plenary | | | |
| 6:30-7:00pm | Cocktail Social | | | |
| 7:00-8:00pm | **DINNER** atDon Clemente Restaurant | | | |
| 8:00-10:00pm | Optional Field Activity: Guided hike to ashy faced owl (pay on own) $60 group fee MAX 10 | | | |
| **DAY 2** | **WEDNESDAY MARCH 16**  **Objective:** Review human dimension and ecological indicators and complete the measures framework’s regional design and roll up at site and national scales. | | | |
| 5:30-7:30am | Optional Field Activity: Guided hike - Hispaniola Hawk (pay on own- MAX 10, fee $100 = $10 each) | | | |
| 6:00-7:00am | Optional Field Activity:Guided sunrise kayak tour (pay on own) $10 per person | | | |
| 8:00-9:00am | **BREAKFAST** served in Bamboo Terrace | | | |
| 9:00-9:30am | Recap of Day 1 & Agenda Review | | | Kimberly John |
| 9:00am-12:00pm | **Assessing Human Dimension and Ecological Responses -** Identifying socio-economic and ecological indicators at site and national scales  Human Dimension Lead: Matt McPherson  Ecological Lead: Phil Kramer | **Break-out groups** | | **Facilitators** |
| 1. Human Dimension | | Kristin |
| 1. Human Dimension | | Jensen |
| 1. Ecological (Site) | | James |
| 1. Ecological (National) | | George |
| 12:00-1:00pm | Report back in plenary | | | |
| 1:00 -2:00pm | **LUNCH** served in Bambu Terrace | | | |
| 2:00-5:00pm | **Finalizing the Measures Framework –** Regional Design and Indicator Roll Up: “*How do we roll up indicators across multiple scales?”* | **Break-out groups** | | **Facilitators** |
| 1. Protected Areas (Site) | | James |
| 1. Protection Areas (National) | | Jensen |
| 1. Sustainable Finance (Site) | | George |
| 1. Sustainable Finance (National) | | Kristin |
| 5:00-6:00pm | Report-back in plenary | | | |
| 7:00-8:00pm | **DINNER** atDon Clemente Restaurant | | | |
| 8:00-10:00pm | Optional Field Activity: Guided hike - Ashy Faced Owl (pay on own) $60 group fee MAX 10 | | | |
| **DAY 3** | **THURSDAY MARCH 17**  **Objective:** Explore opportunities for rolling out the indicators, getting buy-in from external partners, and incorporating the measures framework into the business plan. | | | |
| 5:30-7:30am | Optional Field Activity: Guided hike - Hispaniola Hawk (pay on own- MAX 10, fee $100 = $10 each) | | | |
| 6:00-7:00am | Optional Field Activity:Guided sunrise kayak tour (pay on own) $10 per person | | | |
| 8:00-9:00am | **BREAKFAST** in Bambu Terrace | | | |
| 9:00-9:30am | Recap of Day 2 & Agenda Review | | Steve Schill | |
| 9:30-11:00am | **External Affairs: Opportunities for Institutionalizing Measures Framework (Plenary)** Identifying and integrating audiences - **“***How do we get buy in from Caribbean Challenge countries and roll the indicators out?”* | **Protected Areas**  (e.g. national/regional GEF projects) | **Leads:** Kasia Grasela, John Knowles, Steve Schill | |
| **Sustainable Finance**  (e.g. national protected area trusts) | **Leads:** Rob Weary, Kimberly John, John Myers | |
| 11:00am-12:30pm | **Incorporating the Measures Framework into the Business Plan**  *Who is the audience and what and how do we report?* | | | |
| 11:00-11:30am | Update on TNC overall business plan | | Andrew Soles | |
| 11:30-12:00pm | Update on Caribbean Challenge business plan | | John Myers | |
| 12:00-12:30pm | Linking the measures plan with the Caribbean OU strategic plan | | Phil Kramer | |
| 12:30-1:30pm | **LUNCH** in Bambu Terrace | | | |
| 1:30-2:30pm | **Wrap Up: Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Measures Framework** (founding board and advisory members invited) | | Phil Kramer  Steve Schill | |
| 3:00-4:00pm | Science meeting – debrief on where we are going with measures, other science initiatives | | | |
| 4:00pm | **FIRST DEPARTURE** (ground transportation provided to Quality Inn Airport, Santo Domingo) | | | |
| 7:00pm | **Cocktail Social poolside** - Dominican Night | | | |
| 7:30-9pm | **DINNER poolside -** Dominican Night Dinner with Caribbean Trustee Founders & Advisors Board | | | |
|  | **FRIDAY MARCH 18** | | | |
| 7:30am | **SECOND DEPARTURE** (ground transportation provided to SDQ) | | | |