

project in terms of outputs, lessons learnt and the sustainability of the impacts created by the project. It also assessed the relevance of the project activities to the national development reality, and the efficiency and effectiveness with which the project activities were delivered.

To facilitate project implementation, a Project Consultant was contracted to drive implementation and the work of the project was undertaken mainly by external project consultants. To offset potential challenges created by this, the Project Consultant identified government agencies that should be involved, what their roles should be, and the benefits that would flow from their involvement with the project, the agencies themselves, and the nation as a whole. The principal limitation to their participation was primarily time availability to participate, given their significant responsibilities in their principal posts. Nevertheless, the harmony fostered through this collaborative effort has helped significantly in the achievement of the project's goals. The Project Consultant also attempted to involve civil society in project implementation, but their principal role was as providers of traditional knowledge on biodiversity rather than a leadership role in driving the project. Given the collaborative approach with government agencies identified above, and the fact that the calibre of consultants used was high, the project delivered on its outputs and objectives in a high quality and effective manner.

The evaluation found that about 90% of the targets of the project have been achieved to date. The principal outcomes are:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment training that targeted the government and private sector and gave both groups the capacity to identify threats and take protective actions, both in construction and land management. This was accompanied by the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) tool to evaluate and mitigate threats to biodiversity;
- The sharing of information on potential livelihood opportunities within the communities. This has raised awareness of biodiversity and its economic value and has generated tangible outputs in the form of projects in livelihood initiatives; and

- The generation of the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* Conservation Strategies. If these can retain flexibility in the face of changing land use patterns, they can serve the country well in the context of conservation and management of biodiversity.
- Increased awareness of the value of traditional knowledge, particularly as it relates to biodiversity value, conservation and management, and the development of a database in this context.
- The preparation of the Second National Report on the status of Biodiversity in St. Kitts and Nevis and its submission to the COP.

The principal project deliverable that was not realised as envisaged in the project document is the Clearing House Mechanism. Financial constraints required that this be modified to become a repository of information housed in the Ministry of Sustainable Development. However, it is proposed that in the near future this will be transferred to a government information system which is more readily accessible by the public.

The principal lessons learned through the implementation of the present project are:

- Inter-ministerial collaboration and coordination is essential for the successful implementation of projects at a national level, since it allows all sectors of government and civil society to share information and share views.
- Projects that have relevance to livelihoods and poverty alleviation readily gain the attention of stakeholders and government and are good vehicles for transposing knowledge, attitudes and skills intended for sustainability.
- The involvement of local persons, particularly technical experts, in all phases of the project cycle results in stronger project outputs that bear meaning and significance to national

development and the way of life of the people. Future project development should consider a heavier use of local personnel.

- Current policies, legal frameworks and institutional arrangements for biodiversity management are inadequate in St. Kitts and Nevis. There is a significant need for upgrading the legal framework within which biodiversity is managed and conserved.

Table 1- Main Project Ratings

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		Rating
Project Formulation	Conceptualization	Satisfactory
	Stakeholder Participation	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Project Implementation	Implementation Approach	Satisfactory
	Monitoring and Evaluation	Satisfactory
	Stakeholder participation in implementation	Moderately Satisfactory
Results	Attainment of outcomes Achievement of objectives	Satisfactory
Sustainability	Financial resources	Moderately Likely (ML).
	Socio-political:	Moderately Likely (ML). There are moderate risks that affect this dimension of sustainability.
	Institutional framework and governance:	Moderately Likely (ML). There are moderate risks that affect this dimension of sustainability.
	Environmental:	Likely (ML). There are moderate risks that are likely to affect this element of sustainability.