

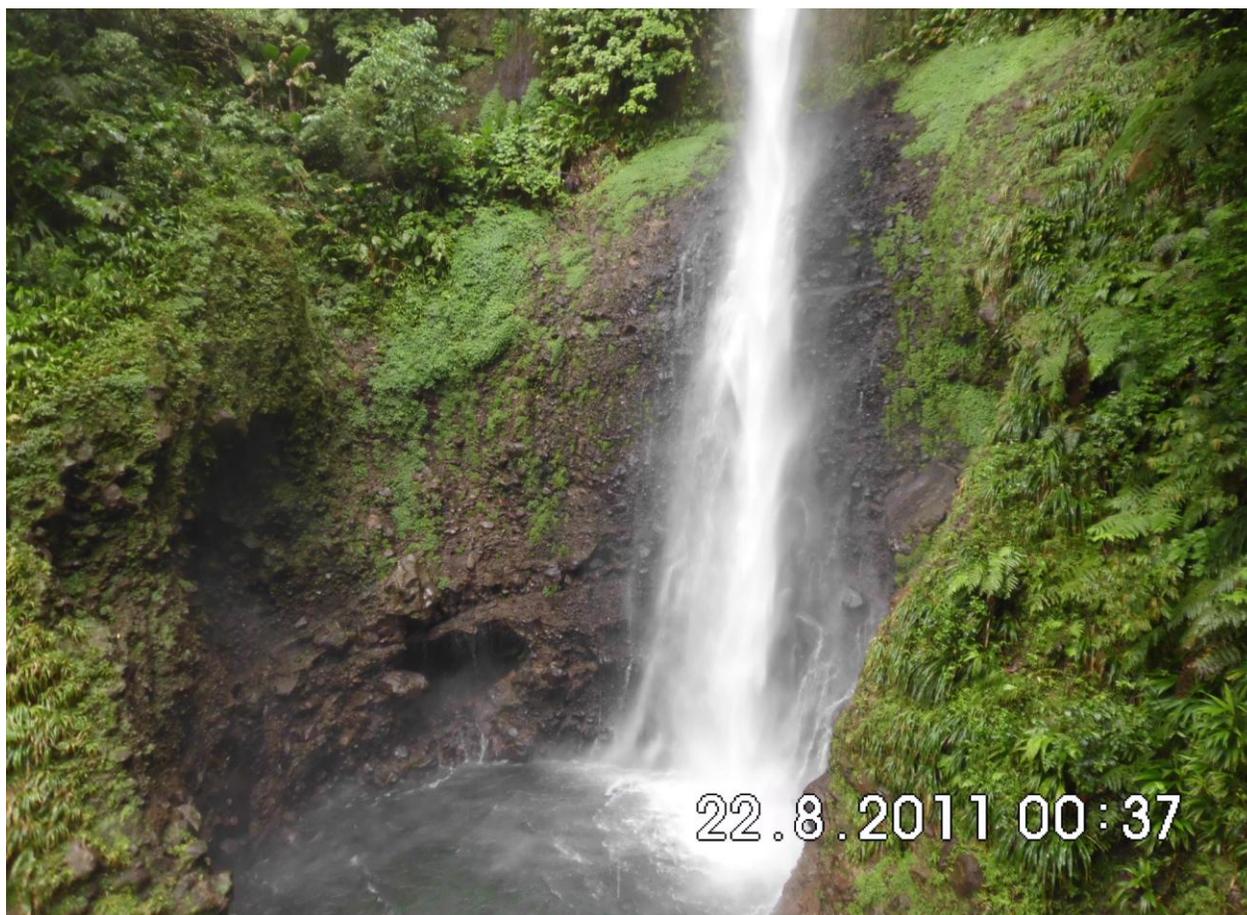
# GEF Civil Society Meeting Report - DOMINICA

8<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Prepared by

Brian James – GEF RFP Caribbean Representative

**Caribbean Forest Conservation Association**



Middleham Falls - Dominica

## GEF Civil Society Meeting – Dominica

The Caribbean Forest Conservation Association (CFCA) held its second Regional Focal Point (RFP) Civil Society meeting on the Global Environment Facility (GEF) on the 23rd August 2011 at the Catholic Social Centre, DOMINICA. The objectives of the seminar were to promote the GEF-NGO Network by communicating information to accredited NGOs and other stakeholders concerned with the GEF and benefits that can be derive by being a member of the GEF.

We had in attendance twenty six (26) civil society organizations as listed below, representing a wide cross section of NGOs from Dominica. We were ably assisted for this meeting by Mr. Atherton Martin who made all the meeting arrangement.

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Carine fevrier	NYC	<a href="mailto:nyc_dom@hotmail.com">nyc_dom@hotmail.com</a>
Lolell Williams	Dominica national council of women	<a href="mailto:Williams-lol@hotmail.com">Williams-lol@hotmail.com</a>
Al mills	Can't make out the handwritng	<a href="mailto:arlcebev@gmail.com">arlcebev@gmail.com</a>
Frederick baron	Omni services	<a href="mailto:omniservices@cwdom.dm">omniservices@cwdom.dm</a>
Dawn francis	D-Smart fram/ eco Balance ING	<a href="mailto:d-smartfarm@hotmail.com">d-smartfarm@hotmail.com</a>
Elizabeth Alfred	Giraudel /Eggleston flower growers inc. & Geo Tourism Stewardship council	448-2458 295-1622
Austin Harris	D/ca fishermens co-op	448-2903
Bert Paul	Western district youth council	277-1904 <a href="mailto:shankarpaul@hotmail.com">shankarpaul@hotmail.com</a>
Collins Lloyd	Blossom hives	<a href="mailto:Collofari76@hotmail.com">Collofari76@hotmail.com</a>
Henry Shillingford	Nyabinghi	<a href="mailto:hmshillingford@yahoo.com">hmshillingford@yahoo.com</a>
Herbert Sabaroche	St. Peters fisheries co-op ltd	<a href="mailto:herbertsabaroche@gmail.com">herbertsabaroche@gmail.com</a>
Deanella Daley / Rawlings Jemhott	National workers union	<a href="mailto:icss@cwdom.dm">icss@cwdom.dm</a>
Phillip white	Dominica football	<a href="mailto:Philfoot045@hotmail.com">Philfoot045@hotmail.com</a>

	association	
Delroy Williams	DYEO Inc/ NAYA inc	Cimi26 or <a href="mailto:ciri26@hotmail.com">ciri26@hotmail.com</a>
T. Alexander	Lifeline ministries & SLIC	<a href="mailto:lifeline@cwdom.dm">lifeline@cwdom.dm</a>
David Toussaint	Social centre	<a href="mailto:captainivb@hotmail.com">captainivb@hotmail.com</a>
Norma cyrille	Social Centre	<a href="mailto:Social_centre@cwdom.dm">Social_centre@cwdom.dm</a>
Cedric Joseph	Pure Blossom Hives	<a href="mailto:dwain27@hotmail.com">dwain27@hotmail.com</a>
Austelle lockhart	Child fund caribbean	<a href="mailto:alockhart@caribbean.childfund.org">alockhart@caribbean.childfund.org</a>
Arundel thomas	D/Ca public service union	448-2101
Anthony Inglis	Garraway hotel	<a href="mailto:garraway@cwdom.dm">garraway@cwdom.dm</a>
Agnes Esprit	GEF/Small grants programme	<a href="mailto:agnese@unops.org">agnese@unops.org</a>
Olu Obonyo	DOAM	<a href="mailto:Olu.obonyo@gmail.com">Olu.obonyo@gmail.com</a> & <a href="mailto:inquiry@doamdominica.org">inquiry@doamdominica.org</a>
Floyd Neckles	CFCA	<a href="mailto:floyd.neckles@utt.edu.tt">floyd.neckles@utt.edu.tt</a>
Francis Joseph	Secf & Nango	<a href="mailto:t_joseph44@hotmail.com">t_joseph44@hotmail.com</a>
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The main focus of the meeting was a presentation done by Brian James the Regional Focal Point representative on the role and function of the Global Environmental Facility and benefits that can be accrued from being a member of the GEF. The presentation was well received by all with a lively discussion that took place at the end of the presentation.

From the discussion we gathered that:

- Many of the NGOs were not aware of the family of NGOs in Dominica with some of them being introduced for the first time.
- There was some disagreement as to who should represent the main voice of NGOs in Dominica

- There was consensus that there should be one common voice coming from the group of NGOs on projects, if they wish to engage the GEF for funding.
- The groups weren't clear as to who the operational focal point was and whether the political focal point and the operational focal point were one of the same.
- Many NGOs did not have the necessary resources to prepare proposals for accessing fund whether it be from the Small Grants Programme (SGP) or GEF.

In conclusion, there was consensus on four main actions for the way forward:

1. Seek to Improve relations among the network of NGOs in Dominica in agreeing on the way forward
2. Seek to access funding from the GEF Medium-sized Grants Program.
3. Meet with the GEF Operational Focal Point in Dominica to explore the prospects for improved access to GEF resources
4. Meet with the GEF Political Focal Point, The Minister for Environment, to ensure support for the proposed strategies.

Finally we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Atherton Martin for making all the arrangements for our meeting in Dominica. We are certainly looking forward to following up with him on the outcome of the proposed action items they identified and facilitating NGOs present in joining the GEF NGO Network.

Sincerely,  
**CARIBBEAN FOREST CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION**

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