

# Technical assistance programme for effective coastal-marine management in the Turks and Caicos Islands (DPLUS119)

## Summary

This project builds the foundations for strategic and sustainable coastal-marine management in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI). Working with communities, decision-makers, and science professionals, the project delivers the technical tools and capacity building required to adopt and embed a natural capital approach into the new TCI Environment Strategy.

## Context

Socio-economic security in the TCI is threatened by the degradation of its coastal-marine habitats. This project responds to a request from the TCI Government (TCIG) to build local capacity for effectively managing the environment to support sustainable development and protect nature.

## Objectives

- To develop the evidence and tools required to deliver natural capital status assessments and support marine management decisions.
- To build local capacity for using, managing, and updating the natural capital tools through an effective knowledge exchange programme.
- To engage communities with the project purpose and deliverables.

## Outputs

- Natural capital evidence base and toolkit, including an asset register, asset-service matrix, ecosystem service delivery maps, and natural capital management tool.
- Natural asset status and vulnerability assessments for priority habitats including coral reefs, seagrass beds, and sandy basins.
- Two marine indicators to monitor changes to marine natural assets and support the adoption of a natural capital monitoring programme.
- Knowledge Exchange Programme to build TCIG capacity for natural capital approaches and raise public awareness of the project.
- Information management system for managing environmental data.

## Impact

The TCIG has the knowledge and capacity, and the public are engaged, to adopt a natural capital approach for sustainable coastal-marine management and improve security of nature and local livelihoods.

## Related Work

This project builds upon [JNCC's 2016/19](#) natural capital work in the UK Overseas Territories (OTs) and links with other projects in the TCI:

- [CSSF](#): Building environmental resilience and security in the OTs.
- [DPLUS094](#): Marine Spatial Planning for the TCIs (SAERI-led).
- [DPLUS108](#): Natural Capital Accounting in the OTs (eftec-led).



**Country:** TCI

**Period of work:** 2020 – 2023

### Partners:

TCI Government Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) and South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI).

**Funders:** The Darwin Initiative

**Contact point:** Megan Tierney  
[info@jncc.gov.uk](mailto:info@jncc.gov.uk)

### Webpage:

<https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/turks-caicos-islands-marine-coastal-management/>

