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UNU-FTP / CRFM Fish Stock Assessment Course

INFORMATION NOTE

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Government of Iceland under its Island Growth Initiative Fund is providing sponsorship towards the establishment of a training course in fish stock assessment, to be customized to the needs of the Caribbean region and to be adopted formally for routine delivery within the region and by the region. The course is a collaborative effort of the United Nations University – Fisheries Training Programme (UNU-FTP), and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM).

Scheduled Date:	First Phase: 23 August – 3 September 2010 (completed) Second Phase: 19 – 30 September 2011
Venue:	First Phase: UWI (Cavehill Campus, Barbados) Second Phase: Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Participants:	National and regional technical and scientific fishery experts who have responsibility for conducting fish stock assessment activities and for formulating fishery management advice.

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES

(i) To establish a suitably adapted training course in fish stock assessment to serve the needs of fish stock assessment scientists in Caribbean States, and to formalize procedures for delivery of this course on a routine basis.

(ii) To provide a strong foundation in basic key principles of statistics, sampling, and fish stock assessment.

(iii) To develop and strengthen national and regional fishery scientists' in fish stock assessment.

3. PLANNED ACTIVITIES – PHASE 2

The first phase of the training course has been completed, and delivered basic training in biostatistics, fisheries ecology, and quantitative stock assessment techniques. Each participant was given a special inter-sessional assignment, to be completed prior to commencement of Phase 2 of the course.

Similar to Phase 1, Phase 2 will be conducted over a 2-week period. The second phase of the course is expected to involve consolidation of stock assessment skills developed during the first phase, and to address additional training needs identified during the course of completing inter-sessional assignments.

4. OUTPUTS

1. Completion of stock assessment training course.

2. National and regional fishery scientists' trained in essential biostatistics and fish stock assessment techniques.

3. Development of stock assessment training capacity in both national and regional fish stock assessment scientists, for guiding further course development and for regularizing delivery within the region and by regional personnel.

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