

Road map for the implementation in Grenada

of the Regional Agreement on Access
to Information, Public Participation
and Justice in Environmental Matters
in Latin America and the Caribbean

2026



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Escazú
Agreement



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Acronyms

CARICOM	Caribbean Community
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESIA	Environmental and social impact assessment
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SDC	Sustainable Development Council

I. Introduction

Grenada signed the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) on 26 September 2019 and deposited its instrument of ratification on 20 March 2023. It has been a Party thereto since 18 June 2023.

The objective of the Escazú Agreement is to guarantee the full and effective implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the rights of access to environmental information, participation in the environmental decision-making process and access to justice in environmental matters, and the creation and strengthening of capacities and cooperation, contributing to the protection of the right of every person of present and future generations to live in a healthy environment and to sustainable development.

Each Party to the Agreement is responsible for fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement through its national legal system. Parties are required to adopt the necessary measures, of a legislative, regulatory, administrative or any other nature, in the framework of its domestic provisions, to guarantee the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement. The Agreement provides for a flexible approach to its implementation, taking into account each Party's ability and national priorities (art. 13), while bearing in mind that implementation is to be guided by the principles set out in article 3, which include non-regression and progressive realization. In addition, article 10 of the Agreement establishes that, in order to contribute to the implementation of its

provisions, each Party undertakes to create and strengthen national capacities on the basis of its priorities and needs, including through training, awareness-raising and institutional strengthening. This comprehensive framework allows the Parties to consider a wide range of legal, regulatory, policy and administrative measures for the implementation of the treaty.

The implementation guide for the Escazú Agreement prepared by its Secretariat “aims to raise awareness of the Agreement, and to provide guidance, information and different implementation options to assist States Parties and other stakeholders in fully understanding and complying with the treaty provisions” (ECLAC, 2023a). Decision III/1, on national implementation, which was adopted at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement, invites all Parties to develop plans and road maps for the national implementation of the Agreement by 2026, or two years after the entry into force of the Agreement for that State Party, with support from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and with the significant participation of the public. In line with this initiative, ECLAC provides support to the Parties in the preparation of road maps outlining the required steps of a transparent and participatory process leading to the effective implementation of the Agreement, taking into account national capabilities.

The preparation of a road map is a dynamic, iterative process involving consultations with key stakeholders whose functions are integral to the implementation of the Escazú Agreement. Those steps are depicted in diagram 1.

Diagram 1

Steps included in the road map for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada



Source: Prepared by the authors.

A. Background

Grenada actively participated in the negotiation of the Escazú Agreement. It joined the negotiating committee for the Agreement in 2016 and adopted the text on 4 March 2018.

In preparation for the signing and ratification of the Escazú Agreement, Grenada held a two-day national consultation in St. George's on 20 and 21 June 2018.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development of Grenada is the national focal point for the Escazú Agreement and works in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy on issues pertaining to the Agreement on behalf of the Government of Grenada.

B. Methodology

The Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy established a steering committee to support and oversee the preparation of the road map for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada (see table 1). Consultative meetings were then held with the Steering Committee for the Road Map for the Implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada and representatives of key public authorities and civil society organizations over a six-month period.¹

A national stakeholder engagement session was conducted on 4 March 2025 to obtain participants' views on the status of access rights in Grenada and their recommendations for improvements. This was an essential step in ensuring that the road map's development would be a collaborative process that considered the national context and was sensitive to any existing capacity constraints. Desk reviews were done to substantiate information received through the consultative interviews and to obtain information on standards, procedures and regulatory frameworks related to access rights.

¹ The Office of the Ombudsman, the Office of the Attorney General, the Coral Cove Group, Grenada Land Actors, Ocean Spirits and the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy.

A second session was held on 15 January 2026 to obtain final comments on the road map.

In order to prepare the baseline assessment of laws, policies and practices relevant to the Escazú Agreement, consultations were held with the Steering Committee to verify the information that had been collected and to obtain additional information on practices and draft legislation or policies. The resulting baseline assessment takes stock of the progress made and identifies opportunities for future development. Proposals from the public for priority actions that the Government of Grenada can implement in the short-to-medium-term were considered. The national stakeholder workshop held on 4 March 2025 provided an opportunity for learning about participants' views on these priority actions and the baseline assessment.

The objective of the consultations was twofold: first, to obtain additional information that could feed into the development of the proposals on priority actions and, second, to obtain feedback on proposals for steps 1–5 of the road map. In addition, draft proposals were circulated to key stakeholders, who were then invited to submit comments. Oral and written comments received during the consultations were analysed and incorporated into the final proposals.

Table 1

Members of the Steering Committee for the Road Map for the Implementation of the Escazú Agreement

Steering Committee for the Road Map for the Implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada. Entities represented on the Steering Committee

Environment Division, Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment, and Renewable Energy

Central Statistical Office

Grenada Land Actors Platform

Source: Prepared by the authors.

The members of the Steering Committee and of the Grenada Sustainable Development Council (SDC) were consulted to obtain information on laws, policies and practices related to the provisions of the Escazú Agreement. SDC is composed of

over 200 stakeholders from the government, civil society, the private sector and academia and was established by the government as a mechanism for public engagement on environmental issues.

For the preparation of the stakeholder map, an analysis was undertaken of the relevant public and private actors (civil society organizations, academia and the private sector at the national, regional and local levels) that should participate in the implementation of the Escazú Agreement. These stakeholders were identified and classified into four categories based on specified parameters.

II. Baseline assessment of the laws, policies and practices related to the Escazú Agreement

This chapter presents an analysis of the national laws, policies and practices related to articles 2–10 of the Escazú Agreement. These laws, policies and practices were examined in relation to each applicable article of the Agreement in order to identify strengths and gaps in the legal framework and in current practices.

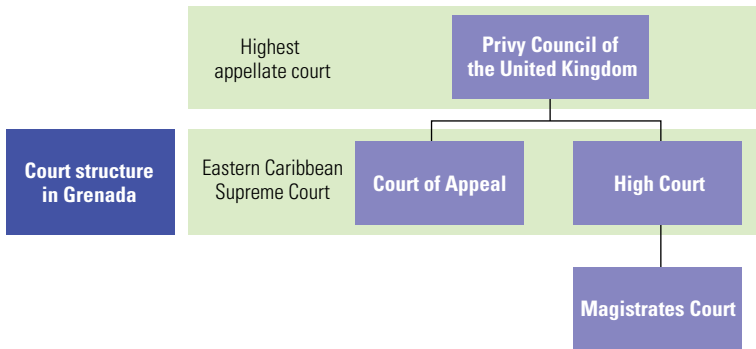
A. The legal system of Grenada

The legal system of Grenada is based on English common law. As a Commonwealth Caribbean country, Grenada inherited the English common law system. Common law is a body of laws based on court decisions. The principles embedded in these decisions are treated as legal precedents, and courts are likely to follow earlier decisions and rulings if the facts and issues of the cases are substantially similar. A court's decision is binding authority for similar cases decided by the same court or by lower courts within the State's court structure (see diagram 2). Decisions are not binding on higher courts but may be regarded as persuasive authority. The highest appellate court is the Privy Council of the United Kingdom. Decisions reached by courts of other countries, such as the United Kingdom and other common law countries, are considered persuasive authority if no local case has settled the point at issue and there is no applicable local legislation.

The common law system is complemented by statutory laws passed by the Parliament of Grenada. Grenada's environmental legislation and policies collectively comprise the legislative and regulatory framework governing access rights. A selection of legislation, policy instruments and common law jurisprudence is provided in annex A2.

Diagram 2

Court structure in Grenada



Source: Prepared by the authors.

B. Article 2: definitions

Article 2 of the Escazú Agreement defines the following terms: (i) access rights, (ii) competent authority, (iii) environmental information, (iv) public and (v) persons or groups in vulnerable situations.

As noted in the Escazú Agreement implementation guide, article 2 of the Agreement “expressly states that the definitions are intended for the purposes of the Agreement only. At the national level, a different term or concept may be used, or certain terminology may have a particular meaning. The Agreement is not intended to change the use or application of a certain concept or term at the national level, but rather to ensure that the content or substance of the definition included in the Agreement is uniformly applied and respected in all countries. ... However, definitions at the national level cannot limit the application of the Agreement” (ECLAC, 2022b, p. 67).

While the specific terms defined in article 2 of the Escazú Agreement do not appear in Grenada's legislation in every instance, there are references to other terms which have similar meanings.

“Access rights” in the Escazú Agreement means “the right of access to environmental information, the right of public participation in the environmental decision-making process and the right of access to justice in environmental matters” (ECLAC, 2022a, p. 14). In this sense, the Constitution of Grenada incorporates the three pillars of access rights. The Constitution includes freedom of information as an implied right in the right of freedom of expression² and establishes the right to freedom of assembly and association, which is essential to the right of public participation.³ Public participation is also a requirement in other laws. For example, Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016 requires public participation in the development of physical plans,⁴ in decisions to list buildings, monuments or sites of prehistoric, historic or architectural merit or interest⁵ and in the declaration of heritage conservation areas⁶ and environmental protection areas.⁷ With regard to access to justice, the Constitution provides for the right to apply to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court for redress for breach of constitutional rights.⁸

“Competent authority” is defined in relation to entities with powers, authorities and functions related to articles 5 and 6 of the Escazú Agreement on access to information. The Central Statistical Office of Grenada performs such functions in respect of article 6 of the Agreement as collecting and publishing environmental information pursuant to the Statistics Act.⁹ Public authorities also have a duty not to violate the right of freedom of expression under the Constitution. There is currently no law governing the procedure for accessing environmental information and designating competent authorities as defined in article 2. The Freedom of Information Bill was drafted in 2007 but has not been enacted to date.

² Section 10 (1) of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A).

³ Section 11 (1) of the Grenada Constitution Act CAP 128A.

⁴ Sections 12 (2) and 13 (1) of the Physical Planning and Development Control Act (No. 23 of 2016).

⁵ Section 40 of the Physical Planning and Development Control Act (No. 23 of 2016).

⁶ Section 44 (2) of the Physical Planning and Development Control Act (No. 23 of 2016).

⁷ Section 45 (3) of the Physical Planning and Development Control Act (No. 23 of 2016).

⁸ Section 16 (1) of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A).

⁹ Section 3 (b) of Statistics Act No. 30 of 1960 (chapter 311).

“Environmental information” is referred to in the Escazú Agreement primarily in relation to articles 5, on access to environmental information, and article 6, on the generation and dissemination of environmental information. The term is defined in the Agreement as “any information that is written, visual, audio, and electronic, or recorded in any other format, regarding the environment and its elements and natural resources, including information related to environmental risks, and any possible adverse impacts affecting or likely to affect the environment and health, as well as to environmental protection and management” (ECLAC, 2022a, pp. 14–15). Although the term is not strictly defined in Grenadian law, there is legislation which refers to information relating to certain elements included in the Agreement’s definition of environmental information. These include Statistics Act No. 30 of 1960 (chapter 311, section 3 (b)), which refers to information on “social, agricultural, economic, commercial, industrial and general activities and conditions of the inhabitants of Grenada”, and Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016 (sections 11 and 69), which empowers the Planning and Development Authority to prepare physical plans, including maps, plans, drawings and graphic representations related to proposed uses of land in Grenada, and to keep registers of applications for permission to develop land. Fisheries Act No. 15 of 1986 (chapter 108, section 6 (1) (a)) refers to the power of the relevant Minister to enter into agreements or arrangements with other countries in the region or regional organizations for the “harmonisation of systems for the collection of statistics, and the carrying out of surveys and procedures to assess the state of fisheries resources”.

In addition, public authorities such as the Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority are required to publish an annual report and financial statements.¹⁰ Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025 requires the establishment and maintenance of a publicly accessible information system. That law also states that regulations are to be put in place that will prescribe the contents of the system, which is to include relevant hydrological, hydrogeological, meteorological, climatological, water quality, and water storage, supply and use data, along with relevant information on potential water uses.

¹⁰ Section 1D (5) of the Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority Act No. 11 of 1995 (chapter 131A).

With regard to the definition of “the public”, the term “person” is used in a broad collective sense in Grenada. In relation to access to information and public participation, the rights of freedom of expression and freedom of association and assembly apply to “every person”.¹¹ With respect to access to justice, the Constitution provides for the right of access to justice for “any person” to claim redress for a violation of that person’s constitutional rights.¹² Under the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules, any person, body or group with a sufficient interest may file a claim before the Court. This includes those directly affected, those acting on behalf of affected persons, those representing members’ interests, those demonstrating public interest and expertise, and those having a statutory or constitutional right to be heard. These terms in Grenada’s legislation are broader than the definition of “the public” provided for in the Escazú Agreement, which refers to nationals or those persons who are subject to the national jurisdiction of the State Party.

In terms of “persons or groups in vulnerable situations”, which are defined in the Escazú Agreement as those “that face particular difficulties in fully exercising the access rights” recognized in the Agreement, section 1 of the Grenada Constitution Act ensures the fundamental rights and freedoms provided for in the Constitution (including freedom of expression and assembly) for all persons, whatever his or her race, place of origin, political opinions, colour, creed or sex. Vulnerable groups are also identified in policy instruments. The Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025 promotes a dynamic, gender-sensitive, integrated and participatory approach to water management, requiring that suitable institutions be established with appropriate stakeholder and gender representation to ensure that the State’s water resources are managed, developed, conserved and used for the benefit of present and future generations (sections 3, 4 and 10).

Furthermore, national planning instruments explicitly call for the use of vulnerability assessments to identify persons and groups in vulnerable situations. Outcome No. 3 of Grenada’s National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035 is “a resilient, inclusive,

¹¹ Section 1 of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A).

¹² Section 16 (1) of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A).

gender-sensitive, and peaceful society”. In this respect, the Development Plan emphasizes that building resilience and reducing inequality require strengthening the capacities of the most vulnerable groups—including women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and socially excluded populations—and ensuring their participation in decision-making and development processes. It proposes the implementation of a risk and resilience assessment to identify the most vulnerable groups and to analyse laws, policies, regulations and institutional practices; access to and control over assets and resources (especially land); cultural norms and beliefs; and patterns of power and decision-making that impact social, economic and environmental resilience.

C. Article 3: principles

Article 3 of the Escazú Agreement enshrines a number of principles that should guide States Parties’ implementation. A few of these principles are expressly incorporated into Grenada’s Constitution, policy instruments and legislation (see table 2). For example, Grenada’s Constitution recognizes the principle of non-discrimination. The principles of transparency and accountability appear in Grenada’s National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035, in the Strategy for the Implementation of the National Forest Policy 2018–2028 for Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique and in the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

Several of the principles included in article 3 of the Escazú Agreement are well-known principles of international law and are found in other international instruments applicable to Grenada (see table 3). For example, the principle of intergenerational equity is expressed in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (art. 3), the Convention on Biological Diversity (preamble, art. 2) and the World Heritage Convention (art. 4), among others.

Table 2
Selected principles in national legislation and policies in Grenada

Escazú principle	National instrument
Precautionary principle	Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025, part II, section 5 (2) (a) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2015), p. 15
Principle of equality and principle of non-discrimination	Grenada Constitution Act, sections 13 (1)–(3) Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025, part II, sections 5 (1) (d) and (h)
Principle of transparency and principle of accountability	Grenada's National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035, p. 39 Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025, part II, sections 5 (1) (d) and (g) and 5 (2) (d) Strategy for the Implementation of the National Forest Policy 2018–2028 for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, p. 12 Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2015), p. 15
Principle of intergenerational equity	Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025, part II, section 5 (1) (i)

Source: Prepared by the authors.

Table 3
Selected principles in international instruments applicable to Grenada

Escazú principle	International instruments
Principle of intergenerational equity	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, article 3 Convention on Biological Diversity, preamble, article 2 World Heritage Convention, article 4
Principle of equality and principle of non-discrimination	Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 1 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, articles 2.1, 3 and 26 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities American Convention on Human Rights, article 1
Preventive principle	1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, article 4.2 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, article 2.2 (b) 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity, article 3 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, article 2

Escazú principle	International instruments
Precautionary principle	Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, article 3 (3) Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, articles 10 (6) and 11 (8) Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, articles 1 and 8.7 (a)
Principle of <i>pro persona</i>	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights American Convention on Human Rights, article 29

Source: Prepared by the authors.

D. Article 4: general provisions

Article 4 of the Escazú Agreement establishes general provisions entailing several obligations for States Parties, including the obligation to guarantee the right of every person to live in a healthy environment, to ensure that all rights in the Agreement are freely exercised, to adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the implementation of the Agreement, to provide information to the public to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge on access rights, to provide guidance and assistance to members of the public to facilitate the exercise of their access rights, to guarantee an enabling environment for the protection of the environment and to encourage the use of new information and communications technologies.

A number of laws and policies in Grenada incorporate the obligations included in article 4 of the Escazú Agreement. Although the right to a healthy environment is not established in its Constitution or other laws, Grenada has ratified the Paris Agreement, which calls on parties to “respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights” when taking action to address climate change. Grenada has also endorsed General Assembly resolution 76/300, which recognizes the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

Other human rights related to the Escazú Agreement are enshrined in the Constitution of Grenada, such as the right to life (section 2), the right to liberty (section 3), the rights to freedom of expression (section 10) and peaceful assembly and association (section 11) and the right to protection from discrimination (section 13). These constitutional rights support an enabling environment for all persons and groups that protect the environment. Certain tax exemptions are one example of measures for promoting an enabling environment for the work of all persons and groups that protect the environment. In Grenada, the revenues of non-profit organizations are exempt from tax if not derived from for profit business activities.¹³ Approved non-profit organizations can apply for a refund of the value added tax (VAT) paid on goods and services.¹⁴

In terms of measures to provide guidance and promote knowledge acquisition related to access rights, the National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035 (p. 109) calls for the expansion of “spaces and opportunities ... for citizens to influence public policies and programmes through intensive and extensive stakeholder consultations, structured development dialogues, and other engagements between Government and citizens”, as well as for the expansion of public education programmes at the community level on social, economic and general public policies and the development of civic skills and expanded opportunities for communities to meet and discuss solutions for local problems in their neighbourhoods. It also calls for greater emphasis to be placed on increasing citizens’ understanding of public policies.

E. Article 5: access to environmental information

Article 5 of the Escazú Agreement establishes the obligations of States Parties to apply certain standards and principles in connection with the exercise of the right of the public to access environmental information. The article protects the right of every person to obtain information held by a public authority, subject only to limited exceptions

¹³ Section 25(1)(q) of Income Tax Act No. 36 of 1994 (chapter 149).

¹⁴ Section 51 of Value Added Tax Act No. 23 of 2009 (chapter 333A).

specified in national law. It also includes standards for handling requests, such as responding within 30 business days, assisting persons and groups in vulnerable situations in making requests, notifying the applicant of the decision, providing reasons for any refusal, informing applicants of their rights to appeal and establishing at least one independent and autonomous oversight body to ensure compliance with the rules governing access to information.

The Constitution of Grenada guarantees the right of freedom of expression,¹⁵ which includes the right to receive information, and provides that persons may seek redress for violations of this right.¹⁶ However, the exercise of this right may be subject to restrictions established by law:

- (i) In the interests of defence, public safety, public order, public morality or public health;
- (ii) For the protection of the reputations, rights and freedoms of others or the private lives of persons involved in legal proceedings;
- (iii) For preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, maintaining the authority and independence of the courts or regulating the technical administration or operation of telephony, telegraphy, posts, wireless broadcasting or television;
- (iv) That impose such restrictions upon public officers as are reasonably justifiable in a democratic society.

There is currently no legislative or policy instrument which includes these standards, as the draft Freedom of Information Bill of 2007 has not yet been adopted or enacted into law. In 2023, however, Grenada enacted the Data Protection Act, which establishes a comprehensive legal framework for the protection of personal data. The Public Service Staff Orders of 2010 prohibit the disclosure of classified documents and require public officers to obtain formal authorization from the Permanent Secretary or head of department to make any document, paper or information that is in their possession in their official capacity publicly available.¹⁷

¹⁵ The Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A), section 10 (1).

¹⁶ The Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A), section 16 (1).

¹⁷ Public Service Staff Orders 2010, part 1 and section 2.7 (1).

F. Article 6: generation and dissemination of environmental information

Article 6.1 of the Escazú Agreement mandates States Parties to generate and disseminate environmental information in a “systematic, proactive, timely, regular, accessible and comprehensible manner” (ECLAC, 2022a, p. 20). Obligations under this article include having at least one up-to-date environmental information system, taking steps to establish a pollutant release and transfer register and an early warning system, ensuring the immediate disclosure and dissemination of all pertinent information in the event of an imminent threat to public health or the environment, disseminating information in a manner that will facilitate access by persons and groups in vulnerable situations, considering suitable formats for information and channels of communication, publishing and disseminating a state of the environment report at least once every five years and ensuring access to consumer-related information on the environmental qualities of goods and services and their effects on health.

Some public authorities with regulatory functions dealing with various aspects of the environment are required by law to collect information related to their work. They include the Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority¹⁸ and the Central Statistical Office, whose functions include collecting, compiling, analysing and publishing statistical data relating to the social, agricultural, economic, commercial, industrial and general activities and conditions of the inhabitants of Grenada.¹⁹

Water resources legislation also provides for the establishment of a public information system. Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025, section 10 (2) (f), provides that the Water Resources Management Unit, in consultation with the institution responsible for national statistics, is to establish and maintain a publicly accessible information system. The content of that system is to be prescribed by regulatory instruments and is to include hydrological, hydrogeological, meteorological, climatological, water quality, storage, supply and use data, as well as information on potential water use.

¹⁸ Section 11 (c) of the Grenada National Solid Waste Management Authority Act No. 11 of 1995 (chapter 131A).

¹⁹ Section 3 (b) of Statistics Act No. 30 of 1960 (chapter 311).

Several policies are designed to promote the proactive dissemination of various types of environmental information and the creation of information systems in accordance with articles 6.1 and 6.3 of the Escazú Agreement. Table 4 lists sectoral policies that promote the generation and dissemination of environmental information through the creation of databases and environmental information systems. In addition, Disaster Management Act No. 2 of 2023 provides for the development of a disaster management information system and an electronic database on disaster-related information.²⁰

Table 4

Policy instruments for the generation and dissemination of environmental information

Policy instrument	Reference
Grenada National Water Policy 2020	A national water information database (p. 22) (available to the public on request and with the approval of the Permanent Secretary)
Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2015)	A coastal management database on all ecosystems and natural processes (p. 23) (to be developed)
National Climate Change Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2017–2021)	A centralized greenhouse gas emissions data and information management system
Strategy for the Implementation of the National Forest Policy 2018–2028 for Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique	An online database of forest management information that is to be located within “the public domain in multiple media formats suitable for all stakeholder groupings” (p. 14)
Grenada National Land Policy (2025)	A natural resource information system to support and facilitate climate change hazard mapping and the building of climate change resilience in ecosystems and vulnerable communities (p. 20) A land information system with geophysical data on soils, land use, water and other resources (p. 18) (available to the public on request and with the approval of the Permanent Secretary)
National Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2017)	A database with information specific to individual marine protected areas for the purpose of collecting and analysing information on the Molinière-Beauséjour, Woburn and Sandy Island marine protected areas (pp. 45 and 50)
Grenada Climate Finance Portal	The Grenada Climate Finance Portal is a publicly accessible platform for climate change initiatives and finance in Grenada

Source: Prepared by the authors, on the basis of national policy instruments.

²⁰ Section 17 (1) (w) and section 23 of Disaster Management Act No. 2 of 2023.

Limited use is made of environmental information systems for the disclosure of information on environmental licences and permits. The Planning and Development Authority is required by law to maintain a register of planning applications, decisions of the Authority and enforcement notices. The register may be kept in an electronic data storage and retrieval system, and the public is entitled to access it free of charge and to obtain copies on payment of the prescribed fee.²¹ The Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority must keep a register of all waste haulage permits and waste management licences, and the public is entitled to inspect that register for a fee.²² In addition, section 55 (1) of Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025 authorizes the Minister responsible for public utilities, acting on the advice of the Water Resources Management Unit, to issue regulations to support improvements in the achievement of the objectives of the Act, including provisions on the establishment and maintenance of registers of licences and permits granted under the Act.

In practice, information on environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) and planning applications are not disclosed in the public register. This has prompted civil society organizations and individual citizens to file claims before the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court challenging the narrow interpretation made by the Planning and Development Authority of the statutory requirements pertaining to the register. The claimants are also asserting that the information recorded in the register is insufficient.²³ Other entities that may generate and disseminate environmental information include the Environmental Health Department and the National Water and Sewerage Authority (which monitors water quality), as well as the future Water Resources Management Unit to be established under the new Water Resources Management and Regulation Act.

Grenada does not have a pollutant release and transfer register, although legislation exists that could support the creation of one. The Minister responsible for waste management is required

²¹ Section 69 of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

²² Section 48, Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A).

²³ *Grenada Land Actors Inc. v. The Planning and Development Authority*, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court judgment No. GDAHCVAP2022/0008, delivered 29 March 2022; *Roger England v. Planning and Development Authority*, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court judgment No. GDAHCV2024/0284, filed on 17 July 2024.

to prepare a waste management strategy, which should classify the premises where waste is generated and the different types of waste for the purposes of its disposal and treatment.²⁴

Disaster management legislation requires that a public declaration be issued in the event of a national disaster. The Disaster Management Act calls for the use of early warning systems and specifically a national multi-hazard alert system that is to include a national emergency broadcast system and siren warnings.²⁵

Legislation exists to protect consumers by promoting the use of environmental labelling and certification. Pursuant to Standards Act No. 6 of 1989 (chapter 310), the Minister responsible for this area can declare the establishment of a compulsory standard, on the Bureau of Standards' recommendation, to protect consumers or users against danger to their health or safety or to prevent fraud or deception arising from misleading advertising or labelling, or can require that adequate information be given to the consumer or user.²⁶ The public is entitled to inspect these standards, and the Bureau of Standards is required to publish new standards or changes to existing standards in the official *Gazette* or other publications as the Minister directs.²⁷

In Grenada, a National Ecosystem Assessment was prepared in 2023 that provided a comprehensive scientific analysis of biodiversity, ecosystem services and environmental governance. The Assessment constitutes an important step towards fulfilling the commitment assumed under article 6.7 of the Escazú Agreement and serves as a valuable foundation for the future development of reports on the state of the environment and for the integration of ecosystem and biodiversity data into national environmental information systems.

²⁴ Sections 5 (3) (f) and (g) of Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A).

²⁵ Section 53 of Disaster Management Act Disaster Management Act No. 2 of 2023.

²⁶ Section (18) (1) of Standards Act No. 6 of 1989 (chapter 310).

²⁷ Section 17 (3) of Standards Act No. 6 of 1989 (chapter 310).

G. Article 7: public participation in the environmental decision-making process

Article 7 of the Escazú Agreement requires States to ensure the public's right to participate in environmental decision-making, to guarantee mechanisms for public participation in decision-making regarding projects and activities and in other processes for granting environmental permits that have or may have a significant impact on the environment, and to promote participation in decision-making processes related to environmental matters of public interest. Several standards regarding public participation are outlined in article 7 as well. In addition to the disclosure of information related to decisions, States Parties are required to ensure that participation takes place in the early stages of such processes, afford reasonable time frames for public participation, provide an opportunity for public comments, give due consideration to the outcome of the participation process, inform the public of decisions made and the reasons for those decisions in a timely manner, ensure that there are favourable conditions for the participation of the public and that those conditions are adapted to the social, economic, cultural, geographical and gender characteristics of the public, and make an effort to identify persons directly affected by projects and activities that have or may have a significant impact on the environment and persons or groups in vulnerable situations and eliminate barriers to their participation in order to engage them in the process in an active, timely and effective manner.

1. Public participation in projects and activities

Grenada does not yet have legislation that requires public participation in projects and activities and other processes for granting environmental permits that have or may have a significant impact on the environment. There are laws that do provide, however, that the Minister responsible for the area in question may issue procedural regulations providing for public participation in the ESIA process and for public scrutiny of any ESIA report submitted to the Authority.²⁸

²⁸ Section 25 (4) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

In practice, public participation is undertaken at the discretion of the Planning and Development Authority and is often not required even in circumstances where an ESIA has been prepared. It does not appear that ESIA reports for projects, decisions relating to those projects or the reasons for those decisions are posted online or otherwise disseminated to the public, although the relevant planning legislation provides that the register can be kept in an electronic data storage and retrieval system.²⁹

Notwithstanding these gaps, the Planning and Development Authority is legally required to take into account all relevant material considerations when deciding whether to grant or refuse permission for the development of any tract of land. Material considerations include the ESIA report and any representations submitted by persons who may be affected by the proposed development.³⁰ In practice, these representations are generally submitted in writing, either by email or by post.

A draft administrative manual on the ESIA process has been prepared to support the implementation of the Physical Planning and Development Control Act.³¹ This document was posted on the website of the Government of Grenada from March to May 2023 for comments and remained open for feedback for over a year. According to the Ministry of Climate Resilience, challenges include human and technical capacity constraints on efforts to follow up on and finalize the document in collaboration with the Planning and Development Authority. Capacity-building measures are also needed in order to sensitize the public and public officials regarding the contents of the document. The current draft of the ESIA administrative manual (2022) incorporates some of the standards set out in article 7 of the Escazú Agreement, notably those contained in paragraph 4 regarding early public participation in environmental decision-making. Public involvement during the scoping stage is provided for; at that time, stakeholders may be invited to submit their concerns regarding a proposed development project at a public hearing convened either by the ESIA Review

²⁹ Section 69 of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

³⁰ Sections 23 (1)–(7) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

³¹ This draft administrative manual on ESIA outlines the administrative process to be followed in conducting an ESIA process in Grenada. It is also intended to inform stakeholders with an interest in the matter, the public and others about the ESIA process in Grenada.

Committee or the Environment Division of the Ministry. These inputs are to be included in the terms of reference for the project. At the end of the scoping phase, a scoping report and an ESIA are to be prepared. However, the draft manual does not require the public disclosure of all relevant information, such as the finalized ESIA report detailing the environmental impacts of a proposed project, nor does it provide for inviting public comments on an ESIA. It also lacks specific instructions on ensuring favourable conditions for participation or on the dissemination of decisions and the reasoning behind them to the public.

While these administrative efforts represent significant progress towards operationalizing procedural rights under the Escazú Agreement, the direct incorporation of such standards into legislation would establish clear and enforceable obligations. In the absence of any legislative requirements, common law principles have been applied to support the establishment of requirements for public participation. For instance, the principle of legitimate expectation could arise where an affected person has a reasonable expectation that he or she would be entitled to a hearing before a decision is made.³² Legitimate expectation can be express, based on official statements that have been made, or implied, based on practice. The principles of fairness and natural justice have also been applied in other common law Caribbean courts that have held that, where claimants are adversely affected by a planning permission, they are to be consulted.³³ The Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal, for example, has ruled that section 47 of the Nevis Physical Planning and Development Ordinance is to be interpreted to mean that the planning register must be in a form that allows the public to have access to sufficient information to enable members of the public to make a proper assessment of the proposed development.³⁴

Common law jurisprudence also contains rulings that, where there is no statutory duty to consult, any consultation process voluntarily undertaken should follow minimum standards for

³² *Council of Civil Service Unions v Minister for the Civil Service* (22 November 1984), AC No. 374.

³³ *Ulric 'Buggy' Haynes Coaching School et al. v. Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development*, High Court of Trinidad and Tobago No. 198 (16 June 2015).

³⁴ *Director of Physical Planning v. Anne Hendricks Bass* (SKBHC VAP2017/0002).

consultation based on the common law Gunning principles.³⁵ These minimum standards are:

- (i) Consultation must be undertaken at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage;
- (ii) Sufficient reasons for particular proposals should be provided to allow those consulted to give intelligent consideration and an intelligent response;
- (iii) Adequate time must be given for this response;
- (iv) The product of that consultation must be conscientiously taken into account when arriving at the ultimate decision.

Local case law reflects such common law principles (see box 1).

Box 1

Selected national case law on access to information and public participation in environmental matters

Roger England v. The Planning Development Authority

A resident in Grenada filed a claim for judicial review of the Planning and Development Authority's decision to refuse public access to information on planning applications, including the application plans and environmental impact assessments concerning a proposed boatyard in Mount Hartman Bay. The respondent filed no submissions, and the Court ruled that the public should have access to the information requested.

This case reflects the standards established in paragraphs 2, 4 and 8 of article 7 of the Escazú Agreement, which guarantee public participation in environmental decision-making processes related to projects with potential environmental impacts, require that early access to relevant information be ensured and require that decisions and the grounds for those decisions be made public.

Grenada Land Actors Inc. v. The Planning and Development Authority

In March 2024, leave was granted for Grenada Land Actors Inc., an NGO, to file a fixed-date claim for judicial review to challenge the decisions of the Planning and Development Authority to grant planning permission for the La Sagesse development in Saint David,

³⁵ *R. v. North and East Devon Health Authority, ex parte Coughlan*, Queen's Bench Division (QB) No. 213 (2001); *Belize Alliance of Conservation Non-Governmental Organizations Appellant v. The Department of the Environment and Belize Electric Company Limited*, Privy Council Appeal No. 47 of 2003 (29 January 2004); *Northern Jamaica Conservation Association (The) et al. v. Natural Resources Conservation Authority and the National Environmental Planning Agency*, Supreme Court of Jamaica, High Court Civil claim No. 3022 of 2005.

the Levera development in Saint Patrick and the Mount Hartman development in Saint George's. Grenada Land Actors also sought a judicial review of the Authority's failure to maintain a publicly accessible register.

This case is closely related to paragraphs 2, 7 and 9 of article 7 of the Escazú Agreement, which require States Parties to establish mechanisms for public participation in decision-making processes regarding projects likely to have significant environmental impacts, to ensure that public observations are duly taken into account before decisions are made and to disseminate final decisions and supporting information effectively by appropriate means.

Source: *Roger England v. The Planning and Development Authority*, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court judgment No. GDAHCV2024/0284; *Grenada Land Actors Inc. v. The Planning and Development Authority*, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, claim No. GDAHCV2021/0126.

2. Public participation in other environmental matters of public interest

Public consultations are required in the preparation of draft physical plans,³⁶ draft integrated coastal zone management plans³⁷ and the National Waste Management Strategy of Grenada,³⁸ and in decision-making processes regarding the listing of buildings, monuments or sites of prehistoric, historic or architectural merit or interest³⁹ and the declaration of environmental protection areas,⁴⁰ heritage conservation areas⁴¹ and restricted and prohibited coastal areas.⁴²

The conditions and standards for public participation in these decision-making processes vary. There are specified time frames for public comments on decisions regarding draft integrated coastal zone management plans, draft physical plans and proposals to declare restricted or prohibited areas in the coastal zone. In the case of the declaration of environmental protection areas, heritage conservation areas and restricted and prohibited coastal areas, and the listing of buildings, monuments or sites of

³⁶ Section 12 (5) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

³⁷ Section 5(1) of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

³⁸ Section 4 of Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A).

³⁹ Section 40 of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

⁴⁰ Section 45 (3) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

⁴¹ Section 44 (1) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

⁴² Section 14 of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

prehistoric, historic or architectural merit or interest, there are no specific timelines for public participation, although the law requires that people must be given “adequate opportunity” to make any objection or representation.⁴³ On the other hand, the public has eight weeks to submit comments on physical plans⁴⁴ and at least 30 days but no longer than 45 days to submit comments on the draft National Waste Management Strategy.⁴⁵

Overall, the law requires the public to be provided with information related to environmental decisions as part of the public participation process. For draft physical plans, the public has to be notified of the places and times when the draft physical plan can be inspected.⁴⁶ The law only states that there should be “adequate publicity” of the proposal to declare environmental protection areas and heritage conservation areas.⁴⁷ At least two weeks’ notice of the date of public consultations must be given in relation to draft integrated coastal zone management plans and proposals to declare restricted or prohibited coastal areas, and that notice must be published in the *Gazette* and in at least one newspaper.⁴⁸ The requirements regarding public notification of information related to decisions to approve a waste management strategy are more comprehensive. The public must be told where copies of the draft strategy can be obtained and the address where comments should be submitted, and must be notified of the closing date for making submissions. The notice must be published in the *Gazette* and for two consecutive weeks in at least one newspaper and must be broadcast on at least three occasions by at least one radio station in Grenada.⁴⁹

In the case of draft physical plans, draft integrated coastal zone management plans, the listing of buildings, monuments or sites of prehistoric, historic or architectural merit or interest and the declaration of heritage conservation areas, environmental protection areas, and restricted and prohibited areas in the coastal

⁴³ Sections 40, 44 (2) and 45 (3) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016; section 14 (2) of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

⁴⁴ Section 12 (6) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

⁴⁵ Section 6 (1) of Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A).

⁴⁶ Section 12 (5) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

⁴⁷ Sections 44 (2) and 45 (3) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016.

⁴⁸ Sections 5 (3) and 14 of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

⁴⁹ Section 6 (1) of Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A).

zone, representations made during the public participation process must be taken into account.⁵⁰ The law also entitles any person who has an interest in an area or a local community or authority to propose a draft coastal management plan for that coastal area.⁵¹

There is no legal requirement for notification of the reasons for decisions regarding the finalization of physical plans or integrated coastal zone management plans, the listing of buildings, monuments or sites of prehistoric, historic or architectural merit or interest, or the declaration of environmental protection areas, heritage conservation areas or restricted or prohibited coastal zone areas. Decisions related to the declaration of these areas and the finalization of these plans must be published in the *Gazette*, to which the public has access.⁵² Only physical plans and the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan must be made available for inspection at offices or, in the case of the latter, via an official website of the Government of Grenada.⁵³

In addition, Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025 incorporates the principle of public participation in the development of water resource management policies, plans and processes (section 5 (2) (d)).

Public participation is also embedded in other governance processes. Members of the public may attend meetings of local government authorities and committees but are prohibited from taking part in, disturbing or interfering with those meetings.⁵⁴ By-laws passed by a local district council must be printed and exhibited in a prominent public place in that district and must be open for inspection at the office of the Council.⁵⁵ In addition, stakeholder consultations are required on all Cabinet submissions related to decisions that require their approval, which include Cabinet submissions for the preparation of environmental legislation or policies.

⁵⁰ Sections 40, 44 and 45 of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016; sections 6 (1) and 14 (4) of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

⁵¹ Sections 4 (3) of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

⁵² Sections 13 (4), 13 (5), 45 (2) and 44 (1) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016; section 7 (3) of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act. No. 8 of 2019.

⁵³ Section 7 (3) of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act. No. 8 of 2019.

⁵⁴ Section 86 of District Councils Act No. 16 of 1995 (chapter 83A).

⁵⁵ Section 46 (4) of District Councils Act No. 16 of 1995 (chapter 83A).

3. Forums and spaces for public participation in environmental matters

Both laws and policies exist that call for the formation of multi-stakeholder advisory bodies, which are to include members of civil society, to consult on specific environmental issues.

The Natural and Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee is to advise the Planning and Development Control Authority on all matters pertaining to the protection of the natural and cultural heritage of Grenada. Its membership includes civil society representatives, such as the Grenada National Trust and the Grenada Historical Society, the Willie Redhead Foundation, the Grenada Architects Association and the Grenada Institute of Professional Engineers, and a person appointed following consultation with the principal non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in community service activities.⁵⁶

The Fisheries Advisory Committee must include at least three professional fishers appointed by the Minister to represent the views of members of that profession.⁵⁷

The National Parks Advisory Council must include three members appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of the Grenada National Trust, the Grenada Tourism Authority and the Grenada Hotel and Tourism Association.⁵⁸

The members of the Coastal Management and Ocean Governance Committee are appointed to advise and make recommendations to the relevant Minister.⁵⁹

The National Climate Change Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2017–2021) calls for the establishment of the National Climate Change Committee, which is to meet on a regular basis. The Committee's functions at the national level involve working with the private sector, community-based organizations and NGOs (with special attention devoted to youth and gender groups).⁶⁰

⁵⁶ Section 39 (1) of Physical Planning and Development Control Act No 23 of 2016.

⁵⁷ Section 2 of Fisheries Act No. 15 of 1986 (chapter 108).

⁵⁸ Section 8 of National Parks and Protected Areas Act No. 42 of 1990 (chapter 206).

⁵⁹ Section 29 of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019.

⁶⁰ National Climate Change Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2017–2021).

The Government of Grenada has also established and maintained the Grenada SDC, which comprises over 200 stakeholders, including representatives of academia, civil society, community-based organizations, government agencies, trade unions and the diaspora. It was launched in February 1996 by the Government of Grenada and meets monthly to share information and discuss environmental matters, including Grenada's participation in international negotiations and the implementation of national environmental projects and programmes. SDC meetings are livestreamed on the Government Information Service Facebook page.

These provisions are consistent with articles 7.12 and 7.13 of the Escazú Agreement, which encourage States Parties to promote public participation in national and international environmental forums and to establish or strengthen consultative spaces that include different groups and sectors.

H. Article 8: access to justice in environmental matters

Under article 8 of the Escazú Agreement, States Parties are required to guarantee the right of access to justice in environmental matters. The article sets standards for this right that include ensuring that the public has access to judicial and administrative mechanisms to challenge and appeal any decision, action or omission related to the right to access environmental information, and ensuring public participation in any environmental decision-making process that affects or could affect the environment adversely or violate laws and regulations related to the environment.

Parties to the Agreement are required, taking their circumstances into consideration, to guarantee the right of access to justice in environmental matters by having ensured the presence of competent State entities with access to expertise in environmental matters; timely, public, transparent, impartial and affordable procedures; broad, active legal standing in defence of the environment in accordance with national legislation; the ability to order, inter alia, precautionary and interim measures to prevent, halt, mitigate or rehabilitate damage to the environment; measures to facilitate

the production of evidence of environmental damage when appropriate; mechanisms to execute and enforce judicial and administrative decisions in a timely manner; and mechanisms for obtaining redress. States must also establish measures to minimize or eliminate barriers to access to justice and have support mechanisms for persons and groups in vulnerable situations.

The Constitution of Grenada and the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules include conditions for access to justice which are aligned with the provisions of article 8 of the Escazú Agreement.

The ability to seek access to justice in relation to violations of access rights or adverse impacts on the environment is dependent on whether the claimant can show sufficient interest to establish legal standing. There is a tendency in case law to interpret such private interest flexibly, allowing groups acting in defence of the environment to be deemed to have sufficient interest.⁶¹ Challenges can be lodged by submitting an application for judicial review or a constitutional claim with the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. The procedure for doing so is stipulated in the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules: “Judicial review allows every citizen or group of citizens to challenge the actions of the state, statutory bodies or inferior tribunals to see if they have acted in accordance with the powers granted by law and in a reasonable and fair manner. In performing its role in judicial review, the court examines the decision or action of the body being reviewed to see if that body acted outside the powers granted to it by law, has acted unfairly or has acted irrationally or unreasonably. Judicial review does not grant the Applicant or the court the power to determine whether or not the body made the correct decision but rather whether the decision made was permissible in law.”⁶²

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure rule 56.2 (2) provides for broad legal standing for judicial review applications. The persons, groups and bodies that may bring such actions include any person who has been adversely affected by a decision, any

⁶¹ ECLAC and Caribbean Court of Justice Academy for Law (2018).

⁶² Per Justice L. Pusey in *Downer Hamilton, Erica and Discovery Bay Community Development Committee Limited et al. v. National Environment and Planning Agency et al.* (2019), Supreme Court of Jamaica, Civil Division claim No. SU2019CV01422.

body or group acting at the request of such person or persons, any body or group representing the views of its members who may have been adversely affected by a decision, any body or group that can show that the matter is of public interest and that the body or group possesses expertise in the subject matter of the application, any statutory body for which the subject matters falls within its statutory limit, and any other person or body who has a right to be heard under the terms of any relevant enactment or Constitution. The Privy Council—which also serves as the court of final appeal in Grenada—has taken a broad approach to the interpretation of legal standing and has held that, where an application for judicial review involves issues of environmental concern, it is not necessary for the applicant to demonstrate expertise in the subject matter. All that is required is for the applicant to demonstrate some knowledge of or concern for the subject. In the case of *John Mussington and another (Appellants) v. Development Control Authority and others (Respondents)* (2024) in Antigua and Barbuda, the Court ruled that the applicant had sufficient interest in a decision to grant planning approval for the construction of an airport in Barbuda based on his scientific background, his knowledge of the flora and fauna in the area, his status as a local resident and his experience in conducting environmental assessments. The court indicated that such an approach is consistent with Antigua and Barbuda's international obligations under the Escazú Agreement.⁶³

With respect to violations of the right of access to environmental information, section 16 of the Grenada Constitution Act states that the public has the right to secure access to the courts to obtain relief in civil actions and due process before the courts in relation to violations of constitutional rights, including freedom of expression (the right to receive information). For constitutional claims, a person must show that he or she has been aggrieved in a manner that directly affects his or her constitutional rights.

⁶³ Although the case of *Mussington v. Development Control Authority and another (Appellants) v. Development Control Authority and others (Respondents)* (2024) originated in Antigua and Barbuda, its relevance to Grenada lies in the fact that both States fall under the jurisdiction of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court and that the Privy Council serves as their final appellate court. The decision therefore provides persuasive guidance on the interpretation of legal standing under the same procedural framework.

In regard to violations of the right to public participation, people have the right to challenge the participation process by submitting an application for judicial review, provided that they can show that they possess a sufficient interest under part 56 of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules (revised edition) of 2023.

Judicial review applications may also be lodged in connection with an action or omission that affects or could affect the environment adversely or violate laws or regulations related to the environment. Complaints may also be submitted to the Office of the Ombudsman, which has wide-ranging powers to investigate complaints, summon public authorities to provide information and enter premises in order to retain documentation. Sanctions are limited to providing recommendations to the public authority and reporting to the relevant Minister and Parliament.

The Supreme Court can provide a wide range of remedies for constitutional claims and applications for judicial review, depending on the facts of the case and the damage or loss suffered. Pursuant to rule 56.1 (4) of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules, the types of relief that the Court can order in judicial review cases include damages, restitution or the return of property to the claimant. However, an applicant for an injunction may be required to give an undertaking for damages in cases where the applicant could be required to compensate the other party for any economic losses incurred as a result of the injunction in the event that the applicant's substantive claim is not successful. This requirement is seldom waived in public interest matters and poses a deterrent to anyone seeking interim relief. This could thus adversely affect the ability to prevent harm in the interim, especially where cases take a long time to be heard.

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules provide timelines for legal actions before the Court, and rule 1.1 (2) (d) states that one of the overriding objectives of the Civil Procedure Rules is to ensure that cases are dealt with justly (which includes dealing with cases expeditiously). In practice, there are delays in hearing matters and in handing down decisions, in

part owing to the Court's limited capacity in terms of both staffing and expertise in specialized cases. Enforcement mechanisms can also be slow and costly.

With respect to measures to facilitate the production of evidence, the Supreme Court can order a party that has access to information which is not reasonably available to the other party to arrange for expert witness reports and to provide them to the other party pursuant to Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure rule 32.12.

In regard to measures to support persons and groups in vulnerable situations and to eliminate barriers to justice, under Ombudsman Act No. 24 of 2007 (chapter 218B), the Ombudsman has a duty to receive and investigate complaints concerning the actions of public authorities that are found to be instances of mismanagement or that resulted in injustice, abuse or injury.⁶⁴ The Office of the Ombudsman's jurisdiction and powers are limited, however. Its scope of authority does not extend to the actions of private individuals, and it can make recommendations only to the public body found to be at fault and cannot compel compliance, give interim relief or punish or award damages or compensation. In addition, there is no legal aid available for constitutional or judicial review matters. A privately run NGO programme—the Legal Aid and Counselling Clinic—has limited resources, and there are only a few lawyers willing to provide legal representation in environmental matters.

There are limited measures in place to aid persons with disabilities, in particular those who are physically challenged. For example, many of the buildings housing the courts and court offices can be accessed only via staircases, and even the office of the Supreme Court is not readily accessible to persons who are physically challenged. Limited physical accessibility to court buildings may hinder the effective exercise of access rights for persons with disabilities, who are recognized under article 7 (14) of the Escazú Agreement as persons in vulnerable situations.

⁶⁴ Ombudsman Act No. 24 of 2007 (chapter 218B).

The Supreme Court operates an e-litigation portal to facilitate the filing and hearing of cases. While that portal is a step forward, it also poses a serious impediment for in-person litigants, as many cannot access the e-portal if they lack technical skills, legal know-how and/or access to the Internet. A further complicating factor is that Internet access is not readily available throughout Grenada and its islands (Carriacou and Petite Martinique).

Injunctive relief is a remedy available in the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. This remedy is based on the common law principle laid down in the *American Cyanamid v. Ethicon* case.⁶⁵ In order to secure injunctive relief, an applicant must show that there is a serious issue to be tried and, if this is shown, the Court must consider whether the balance of convenience lies with the applicant or respondent. Obtaining injunctions can be challenging for claimants, as the Court can require them to give an undertaking for damages. In such cases, the claimant, if unsuccessful at trial, would be required to compensate the other party for any financial loss suffered as a result of the injunction.

In relation to the publication of procedures for access to justice and decisions, rule 4.3 provides that practice directions and guides must be published in the *Gazette* for each member State and territory and must be displayed and made available in every court office. The public can obtain official transcripts of Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court hearings for a prescribed fee ranging from 5 Eastern Caribbean dollars (EC\$) for written transcripts to EC\$ 150 for digital video recordings.⁶⁶

Lastly, Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure rule 25.1(h) allows the Court to encourage parties to use any appropriate alternative dispute resolution mechanism, including, in particular, mediation, if the Court considers it appropriate. The Court can adjourn case management conferences to facilitate alternative dispute resolution procedures (rule 27.7 (2)).

While there are no fees for submitting complaints to the Ombudsman, claimants are required to pay a fee to file documents with the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. These fees range from EC\$ 10–EC\$ 50, depending on the type of document.⁶⁷

⁶⁵ *American Cyanamid v. Ethicon* (1975) Appeal Case 396.

⁶⁶ Recording of Court Proceedings Act No. 10 of 2024.

⁶⁷ Rule No. 22 of the Supreme Court Fees (Court Proceedings Fees) (Amendment) Rules of 2022.

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Civil Procedure Rules (revised edition) 2023 allow parties to file applications to enforce judicial decisions (rule 53).

I. Article 9: human rights defenders in environmental matters

Article 9 of the Escazú Agreement includes specific provisions for the protection of the rights of human rights defenders in environmental matters. States are obligated to:

- (i) Guarantee “a safe and enabling environment for persons, groups and organizations that promote and defend human rights in environmental matters, so that they are able to act free from threat, restriction and insecurity”;
- (ii) Take “adequate and effective measures to recognize, protect and promote all the rights of human rights defenders in environmental matters, including their right to life, personal integrity, freedom of opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, and free movement, as well as their ability to exercise their access rights”;
- (iii) Take “appropriate, effective, and timely measures to prevent, investigate, and punish attacks, threats, or intimidations that human rights defenders in environmental matters may suffer” (ECLAC, 2022a, p. 29).

Section 1 of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A), specifically provides that every person in Grenada is entitled to the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual, whatever his or her race, place of origin, political opinions, colour, creed or sex. The exercise of these rights and freedoms, which include freedom of expression and the right to life, liberty, security and the protection of the law, is subject to respect for the rights and freedoms of others and the public interest. These rights are to be enjoyed by all persons, including human rights defenders in environmental matters. Constitutional obligations can be enforced only in respect of the government and government entities, not private individuals.

The regulatory framework governing NGOs and non-profit organizations in Grenada can pose practical challenges for civil society engagement in environmental governance. Registered NGOs and non-profit organizations must comply with corporate and anti-money-laundering legislation, which may be particularly burdensome for organizations with limited administrative or financial capacity, including those working in the area of environmental protection or advocacy. These entities are required to register with the Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office and to file annual returns and financial statements; failure to do so can cause them to be struck off the register.⁶⁸ Reinstatement requires the submission of audited financial statements, which can be costly. NGOs are also required to register with the Anti-Money-Laundering Commission and comply with anti-money-laundering requirements, and non-compliance is subject to criminal penalties. These obligations, while important for transparency and accountability, may pose administrative and financial barriers that diminish the ability of environmental NGOs to operate effectively and to participate in public decision-making processes.⁶⁹

Although there are no specific legal or policy measures that address the protection of human rights defenders in environmental matters, every person is entitled to life, liberty, security of the person and the protection of the law under the Constitution of Grenada.⁷⁰ The Constitution states that no person shall be treated in a discriminatory manner by any person acting by virtue of any written law or in the performance of the functions of any public office or any public authority.⁷¹ The State is therefore required to investigate and punish those who are found guilty of attacks or threats directed at any person or persons, including human rights defenders in environmental matters. However, the onus is on the person who is aggrieved to take steps to obtain redress, which, given the costs of litigation, can be challenging when government entities are the alleged offenders.

⁶⁸ Companies Act No. 35 of 1994 (chapter 58A).

⁶⁹ Proceeds of Crime (Anti-Money-Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Guidelines No. 6 of 2012, sections 4 and 5.

⁷⁰ Section 1 (a) of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A).

⁷¹ Section 13 (2) of the Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A).

There is no readily accessible documented information concerning threats or attacks against human rights defenders in environmental matters.

J. Article 10: capacity-building

Article 10 of the Escazú Agreement requires States Parties to strengthen their national capacities based on their priorities and needs. The Agreement provides a non-exhaustive indicative list of capacity-building measures that can be undertaken by States Parties. These measures include the provision of training for authorities and civil servants on environmental access rights; awareness-raising and capacity-building programmes for, inter alia, members of the public, judicial and administrative officials, members of national human rights institutions and jurists; providing competent institutions and entities with adequate equipment and resources; and developing specific measures for persons or groups in vulnerable situations, such as providing interpreters or translators.

Several laws and policies empower public authorities to implement capacity-building measures for the public in order to educate people and raise awareness about access rights and to strengthen the capacity of public authorities. These laws and policies include: Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025, Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A), Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019, the National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035, the Revised Forest Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2018), the 2014–2024 National Environmental Policy and Strategy, the Grenada National Water Policy (2020), the National Environmental Summary for 2010 and Disaster Management Act No. 2 of 2023.

One of the strategies listed under national outcome 6 on modern climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure of the National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035 focuses on undertaking fundamental reforms in the Physical Planning Unit to improve its efficiency. These reforms should be geared towards strengthening governance and institutional arrangements, building human and

technical capacities, mainstreaming technology in operations and improving monitoring, evaluation, enforcement and accountability. Another strategy of the National Sustainable Development Plan, which is listed under national outcome 7, involves building the capacity of disaster management professionals in analysing and managing risk situations concerning the most vulnerable groups and building capacities and increasing hazard risk awareness among disaster management professionals and service providers.

Other policy actions include building the capacity of the Forestry Department and other relevant actors in the area of forest inventory methodologies, supporting the acquisition of other skill sets to enhance their ability to protect forest species and empowering and building the capacity of all stakeholders to participate in the conservation and management of the country's biodiversity.⁷²

K. Conclusions

Generally speaking, the legal and regulatory framework for access rights in Grenada is coherent and well aligned with the Escazú Agreement. However, several areas for improvement remain. Steps to help to address those areas are set out below.

⁷² Objective 1 of the strategy for the implementation of the National Forest Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinique: conserve species, ecosystems and genetic diversity.

1. Article 2: definitions

- (i) Specify which authorities are empowered to provide access to environmental information, guidance materials and administrative instruments.

2. Article 5: access to environmental information

- (i) Enact a general law on freedom of information or specific regulations applying to environmental information that incorporate the standards of the Escazú Agreement, including those regarding clear-cut procedures for handling information requests, defined response timelines and provisions for assisting persons and groups in vulnerable situations seeking to exercise their right of access to information.
- (ii) Develop guidance materials for public authorities to ensure that all authorities respond to requests for information in accordance with the standards set out in the Escazú Agreement.
- (iii) Implement a public awareness programme to educate the public about the procedures for making and responding to requests for environmental information, including applicable time frames and appeal mechanisms, in accordance with the standards specified in the Escazú Agreement.

3. Article 6: generation and dissemination of environmental information

- (i) Conduct an assessment to determine the steps needed to establish a pollutant release and transfer register system and the associated requirements.
- (ii) Ensure that the Physical Planning Authority makes available all relevant information related to proposed developments in publicly accessible registers and, where feasible, posts this information on its official website. This should include, at a minimum, applications and supporting documentation, ESIAAs or other environmental assessments and the decisions of the Authority concerning development permits and planning consent.
- (iii) Have the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy prepare an up-to-date state of the environment report at least once every five years, in accordance with article 6.7 of the Escazú Agreement.

4. Article 7: public participation in the environmental decision-making process

- (i) Revise the draft ESIA administrative manual (2022) to incorporate measures and procedures consistent with the standards established in article 7 of the Escazú Agreement.
- (ii) Disseminate relevant information concerning projects and activities that have or may have a significant impact on the environment in a publicly accessible online registry. That information should include the ESIA and any revisions, the final decisions on each project and an explanation of how the public's inputs were taken into consideration during the decision-making process.
- (iii) Ensure that, at a minimum, the information provided to the public on projects with a potentially significant environmental impact is consistent with article 7.17 of the Escazú Agreement.
- (iv) Provide adequate public notice concerning ESIA's and information related to the public participation process using culturally appropriate forms of communication, including online media and daily newspapers.
- (v) Provide the public with an adequate opportunity to submit comments on ESIA's and proposed projects prior to a decision being taken.
- (vi) Conduct training and awareness sessions for public officials, in particular those responsible for environmental permitting, on the standards of the Escazú Agreement.
- (vii) Identify and promote good practices consistent with the Escazú Agreement in connection with the implementation of public consultations; the preparation of draft physical plans, draft integrated coastal zone management plans and the National Waste Management Strategy for Grenada; and the decision-making process regarding the listing of buildings, monuments or sites of prehistoric, historic or architectural merit or interest and the declaration of environmental protection areas, heritage conservation areas, and restricted and prohibited coastal areas.

5. Article 8: access to justice in environmental matters

- (i) Implement education and awareness programmes for the public on the procedures for accessing justice in environmental matters, including non-judicial mechanisms such as those made available by the Office of the Ombudsman.
- (ii) Ensure that the State provides greater accessibility to courtrooms and technical aids for persons with hearing impairments and persons with other types of disabilities.
- (iii) Promote non-judicial and other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. Strengthening the role of the Ombudsman and expanding the use of mediation could significantly reduce barriers to justice and provide faster, less costly solutions for environmental conflicts. Legislative or policy measures could clarify the Ombudsman's authority to issue recommendations in environmental matters and promote collaboration with the judiciary for follow-up on environmental complaints.

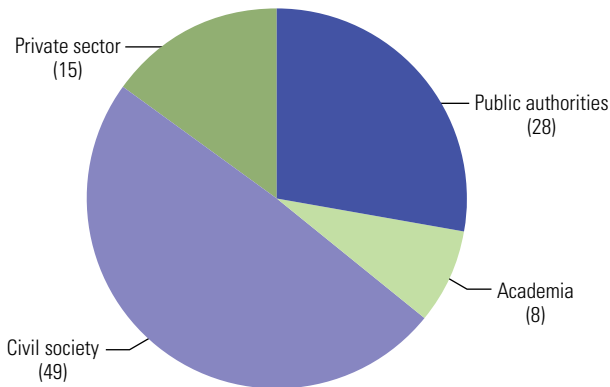
6. Article 9: human rights defenders in environmental matters

- (i) Conduct an assessment of the situation of human rights defenders in environmental matters in Grenada to inform public policy.
- (ii) Develop specific policies and measures for the protection of environmental human rights defenders.

III. Stakeholder map

This section maps out the stakeholders that are integral to the implementation of the Escazú Agreement. These stakeholders comprise representatives of the government, civil society, academia, the private sector and other sectors (see figure 1). The relevant stakeholders have been identified and categorized on the basis of their existing roles and possible functions related to the future implementation of the Agreement.

Figure 1
Percentage distribution of stakeholders in the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada



Source: Prepared by the authors.

A. Public authorities

Many different public authorities have functions and duties related to various provisions of the Escazú Agreement. In order to prepare this stakeholder map, the duties and functions of these public authorities were analysed to ascertain which entities are aligned with one or more pillars of the Agreement: access to environmental information, public participation in environmental decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters, as well as the protection of human rights defenders in environmental matters. The public authorities who play a critical role in the preparation and/or implementation of legislation and policies relating to key obligations under the Agreement are also identified.

A description of the public entities responsible for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement is presented in table 5.

Table 5

Public authorities involved in the implementation of the Escazú Agreement

Public authority	Functions related to the Escazú Agreement	Access rights		
		Access to information / generation and dissemination of environmental information	Public participation	Access to justice / human rights defenders in environmental matters
Ministries				
The Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy	Has operational responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the Agreement (focal point); chairs the Steering Committee for the road map for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada; has portfolio responsibility for the management of natural resources and climate change; generates and disseminates environmental information on biodiversity	X	X	

Public authority	Functions related to the Escazú Agreement	Access rights		
		Access to information / generation and dissemination of environmental information	Public participation	Access to justice / human rights defenders in environmental matters
Ministries				
Ministry of Infrastructure and Physical Development, Public Utilities, Civil Aviation and Transportation	Is responsible for physical planning and provides data on petroleum imports and sales	X	X	
Ministry of Economic Development, Planning, Tourism, Creative Economy, Culture, Agriculture and Lands, Forestry, Blue Economy, Marine Resources and Cooperatives	Provides data on fish landings and marine protected areas and furnishes agricultural census data	X		
Ministry of Health, Wellness and Religious Affairs	Provides information on environmentally related diseases and medical professionals	X		
Ministry of National Security, Home Affairs, Public Administration, Information and Disaster Management	Has portfolio responsibility for the draft Freedom of Information Bill	X		
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development	Serves as focal point for the Agreement; is responsible for the execution of foreign policy and bilateral or multilateral relations with other States and with regional and international organizations	X		
Ministry of Carriacou and Petite Martinique Affairs and Local Government	Is responsible for local government affairs		X	
Ministry of Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs	Is responsible for the review and drafting of legislation	X		X

Public authority	Functions related to the Escazú Agreement	Access rights		
		Access to information / generation and dissemination of environmental information	Public participation	Access to justice / human rights defenders in environmental matters
Agencies, departments and other public bodies				
Environment Division	Collects and disseminates baseline data on the environment (including biodiversity)	X		
Planning and Development Authority	Manages the planning permitting process, which can include public consultations (public participation is required in the development of physical plans and the declaration of heritage conservation areas and environmental protection areas)	X	X	
Government Information Service	Provides official information issued by the Government of Grenada	X		
Fisheries Division	Manages fisheries and marine protected areas; collects and analyses fisheries and marine data	X		
Forestry Department	Manages forestry resources; collects and analyses environmental information related to forests	X		
National Disaster Management Agency	Coordinates disaster preparedness and response activities; collects information on environmental trends, hazards and risks; disseminates information concerning disasters	X		

Public authority	Functions related to the Escazú Agreement	Access rights		
		Access to information / generation and dissemination of environmental information	Public participation	Access to justice / human rights defenders in environmental matters
Agencies, departments and other public bodies				
Grenada Bureau of Standards	Creates and enforces product certification standards	X		
Central Statistical Office	Collects and disseminates official statistics related to demographics and to social, environmental, economic and general activities in Grenada	X		
Land Use Division	Collects data on land use	X		
National Water and Sewerage Authority	Collects data on water production	X		
Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority	Collects data on waste; develops the National Waste Management Strategy, which requires public participation	X	X	
Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (High Court)	Has jurisdiction over civil and criminal matters and appeals from lower courts			X
Office of the Ombudsman	Receives and investigates complaints related to wrongdoing on the part of public authorities	X		X

Source: Prepared by the authors.

B. Civil society organizations

Table 6 includes civil society organizations that work in the environmental field or that represent the rights of marginalized groups, such as young people, women, and persons with vision impairment and other disabilities.

Civil society stakeholders include the following:

- (i) National or regional NGO networks working on environmental, human rights and sustainable development issues;
- (ii) Networks of local/community organizations (both those with and those without legal personality) working on environmental, human rights and sustainable development issues;
- (iii) NGOs working on environmental, human rights and sustainable development issues;
- (iv) Local/community organizations (with or without legal personality) working on environmental, human rights and sustainable development issues.

Table 6
Civil society organizations

Classification	Civil society organizations
Environmental NGOs	St Patrick's Environmental and Community Tourism Organization Friends of the Earth – Grenada Caribbean Youth Environment Network - Grenada Chapter Willie Redhead Foundation Grenada Green Group (G3) Kipaji Development Initiative Inc. Grencoda Grenada Education and Development Program North-West Farmers Association North-East Farmers Association Gaea Conservation Network Grenada Organic Agriculture Movement Ocean Spirits Environmental Protection in the Caribbean Kido Foundation Grenada Scuba Divers Association Grenada Fund for Conservation Grenada Land Actors Platform Sustainable Grenadines, Inc. Education Conservation Outreach L'Anse aux Epines Association Grenada Sustainable Development Trust Fund Coral Cove Group

Classification	Civil society organizations
Organizations that represent persons and groups in vulnerable situations	Legal Aid Counselling Clinic – Grenada Grenada Community Development Agency Limes Development Committee Grenada Education and Development Programme Woburn Woodlands Development Organization St. Patrick's Youth Organization Uprising La Sagesse Development Group La Tante Development Organization National Water and Sewerage Authority St. Andrew's Development Organization Victoria Praise and Deliverance Sanctuary Vincennes Sports and Cultural Club Agency for Rural Transformation/Inter Agency Group of Development Organizations Calivigny Community Development Organization River Road/ Darbeau Development Committee Beaulieu Community Development Organization

Source: Prepared by the authors.

C. Private sector

Table 7 lists organizations, including membership-based and media organizations, that represent the private sector.

Private sector stakeholders include the following:

- (i) Associations of members of production sectors linked to natural resources (e.g. fishing, mining, energy and forestry);
- (ii) Companies and associations of companies engaged in work relating to access rights and sustainable development;
- (iii) Environmental engineering consultants in charge of preparing ESIA's;
- (iv) Media organizations and communications agencies that advise companies on community relations, communication strategies and related topics.

Table 7
Private sector organizations

Classification	Private sector organizations
Associations of members of production sectors linked to natural resources	Grenada Development Bank Grenada Technical and Allied Workers Union Grenada Trades' Union Council Grenada Hotel and Tourism Association Grenada Marina Taxi Association Grenada Industrial Development Corporation Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce Grenada Electricity Services Ltd.
Associations engaged in work on access rights and sustainable development	Grenada Bar Association
Environmental engineering consultants	Grenada Architects Association Grenada Institute of Professional Engineers
Media and communications organizations	Media Workers Association of Grenada

Source: Prepared by the authors.

D. Academia

Table 8 lists stakeholders in academia.

Stakeholders in the academic sector include the following:

- (i) Universities and tertiary institutions offering courses related to environmental law;
- (ii) Observatories and research institutes focusing on environmental, human rights and sustainable development issues;
- (iii) Academics who specialize in subject matter related to environmental law and human rights.

Table 8
Academic organizations

Classification	Academic organization
Universities and tertiary institutions	TA Marrison Community College University of the West Indies, Grenada Open Campus St. George's University University of Manitoba
Observatories and research institutes	Science and Technology Council Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation

Source: Prepared by the authors.

IV. Inter-institutional coordination and the governance system

This section outlines the mechanisms for inter-institutional coordination among public entities responsible for implementing the Escazú Agreement and the governance system for interactions between public entities and private, social, academic and other stakeholders, which guides stakeholder participation in the implementation of the Agreement in Grenada.

Inter-institutional coordination mechanisms determine the scope and type of coordination that takes place between public institutions with key roles in the implementation of the Escazú Agreement. The public entities responsible for the implementation of the Agreement in Grenada have been identified on the basis of their areas of legal competence relating to access to information, participation, justice, defence of the environment and environmental capacity-building.

On the basis of this analysis, two groups can be identified: a core group (the future Escazú Agreement implementation committee), which will be responsible for developing and steering the plan for the implementation of the Agreement, and an extended group composed of public authorities and other stakeholders (the Grenada SDC), which can make recommendations and assist with the dissemination of information on the Agreement. What follows is a list of the public entities that will be part of the core and extended groups, together with a description of their objectives and functions and the periodicity of their meetings.

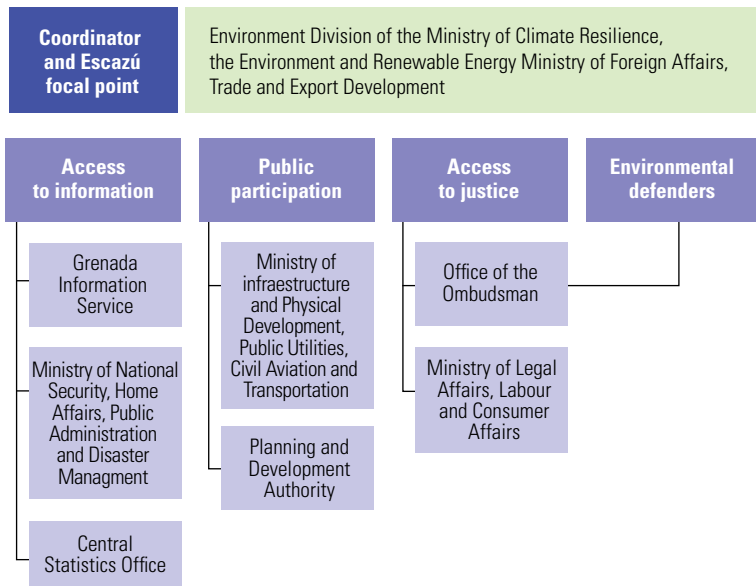
A. Core group (a committee to be designated as the Escazú Agreement implementation committee)

The core group can include 12-14 members: two representatives from civil society, one to two from the private sector, one from academia, and eight to nine government stakeholders that have roles central to the implementation of the Escazú Agreement, including the preparation and implementation of laws and policies on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters. The non-governmental members will be elected by their peers by means of a transparent voting mechanism that will be detailed in the respective application process and will be developed by the Environment Division of the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development or by consensus.

Diagram 3 shows the public entities that will be part of the core group.

Diagram 3

Public authorities in Grenada to be part of the Escazú Agreement implementation committee



Source: Prepared by the authors.

Once the committee for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement has been established, it will be responsible for developing the plan for the implementation of the Agreement in Grenada and will have the following tasks:

- (i) Finalize the implementation plan for the Agreement, incorporating the priority actions presented in this publication and the input gathered during the implementation of the second stage of the information and participation strategy;
- (ii) Engage with key stakeholders, including those participating in the extended group (SDC), and the public on matters related to the Agreement while ensuring the timely provision of information;
- (iii) Monitor and review the implementation plan for the Agreement;
- (iv) Recommend measures for financing the execution of the implementation plan.

This committee will promote collaboration between public and private actors in sharing information on proposals and strategies as inputs for the implementation plan, whose development will involve significant public participation.

The Environment Division will be responsible for organizing the meetings of the implementation committee and coordinating its work on the development and execution of the implementation plan. The committee will meet regularly to monitor and report on the progress made by the members' respective institutions and to take decisions concerning the coordination of actions where necessary.

B. The extended group (the Sustainable Development Council of Grenada)

The extended group will be composed of the members of the existing SDC of Grenada. The members of this extended group will include the public authorities and private, civil society, academic and trade union stakeholders included in the stakeholder map (step 2 of the road map). The functions of this group will be to make recommendations and provide support to the implementation committee to assist it in carrying out the priority and other actions

included in the implementation plan. These entities will not be directly involved in the implementation of the Agreement, but they can provide support in their areas of legal competence in accordance with their interests and expertise.

The Grenada SDC has a long history of engagement with civil society and broad membership. SDC was established by the Government of Grenada in 1996 as a forum for dialogue between the government and non-governmental actors concerning a wide range of environmental matters. SDC comprises over 200 stakeholders, including representatives of academia, civil society, community-based organizations, government agencies, trade unions and the diaspora. Members meet monthly to share information and discuss environmental matters, including Grenada's participation in international negotiations and the implementation of national environmental projects and programmes. SDC meetings are livestreamed on the Facebook page of the Government Information Service. SDC is coordinated by the Environment Division of the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy and has already been endorsed at the ministerial level.

The Environment Division will be responsible for organizing the SDC meetings on a regular basis.

V. The information and participation strategy

The information and participation strategy will define the measures to be taken to ensure a meaningful dialogue at the national level with the various stakeholders (representing civil society, academia, the private sector, trade unions, community-based organizations and others) with a view to obtaining recommendations for the development of the plan for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada.

The Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of the information and participation strategy. SDC will be a key partner in supporting the implementation of the strategy through its relationships with its members and networks.

This information and participation strategy has two stages. The first stage was implemented in March 2025, when a national stakeholder consultative workshop was held to share the findings of the baseline assessment and to obtain recommendations on priority actions to be included in the road map. The second stage of the strategy will be implemented as soon as funding becomes available for carrying out the following activities starting in 2025. These activities have been organized into the three phases described in the following sections.

The measures for engagement will be guided by the standards derived from the obligations set forth in article 7 of the Escazú Agreement concerning public participation in environmental matters (see annex A1). This will ensure effective public participation in the process of developing the implementation plan. Broadly speaking, these measures will:

- (i) Provide opportunities for members of the public to submit their views in writing or through other avenues, such as public hearings or forums;
- (ii) Ensure the transparency of the decision-making process regarding the development and execution of the implementation plan by providing information on the overall process, including opportunities for engagement, so that the public can see how decisions are being made and can provide input at every stage;
- (iii) Ensure that interested members of the public are involved in the decision-making process regarding the implementation plan from the early stages onward in order to allow them to shape the implementation plan to address their needs and ensure that it will be responsive to their concerns;
- (iv) Ensure inclusivity so that the public, including the broadest range of vulnerable groups and those who are directly affected (e.g. rural or remote communities faced with environmental problems, environmental organizations, human rights defenders in environmental matter and people in poverty) have opportunities to engage in the process. This will allow the government to obtain the fullest possible information from those who will be most affected by the policy.

Specific strategies will be outlined to ensure the participation of priority individuals and groups, such as rural or remote communities dealing with environmental issues, residents of the islands of Carriacou and Petit Martinique, environmental organizations, human rights defenders in environmental matters, people in poverty and other people or groups in vulnerable situations.

A. Preparatory phase

During the preparatory phase, the Government of Grenada will adhere to the established standards for participation by ensuring that:

- (i) The participation process is convened in an open and inclusive manner;
- (ii) All necessary information related to all opportunities for participation is proactively disseminated, taking into account the sociocultural characteristics of the various actors;

- (iii) Conditions conducive to the public's participation are established, taking into account any relevant issues related to political, social, economic or territorial characteristics of the public and stakeholders and any socioenvironmental conflicts and environmental issues that are of concern to the population;
- (iv) Efforts are made to identify people and groups in vulnerable situations.

The preparatory phase for public participation will focus on ensuring the dissemination of information to the public and to stakeholder groups identified in the stakeholder map in an open and inclusive manner.

This phase will also entail publicizing opportunities for participation, including for the submission of written comments and attendance at public and stakeholder forums. Various forms of audio and print media and other methods of dissemination will be utilized to reach the public, including vulnerable groups, such as those experiencing illiteracy or hearing and vision impairment. Special measures may be needed to disseminate information through channels and methods that are accessible to residents of Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

To promote transparency, facilitate the dissemination of all relevant information, encourage wider participation and coordinate the systematization of public comments, information relating to the process will be posted on the Ministry's website and social media accounts.

1. Dissemination of information

An executive summary of the baseline assessment of Grenada's laws, policies and practices as they relate to the Escazú Agreement has been prepared and drafted in non-technical language to ensure it will be easily understandable for a wide range of people. The executive summary outlines the purpose and objective of the baseline assessment so that people will understand the reason for conducting the assessment and how the output stemming from their participation will be used to inform priority actions for inclusion in the implementation plan for the Agreement.

The executive summary and full baseline assessment will be disseminated to the public and will be accessible on the Ministry's website. Copies have also been emailed to members of SDC, stakeholder groups and other organizations and associations identified in the stakeholder map for further dissemination to their members and networks.

2. Public notification

Notice of the availability of the executive summary and full baseline assessment, as well as invitations to participate by submitting written comments or attending events, will be disseminated with adequate advance notice to the public by the following means:

- (i) Posting electronically on the Ministry's website and, where feasible, on various social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram and YouTube;
- (ii) Posting in local community spaces, (e.g. libraries, local council offices), including in Carriacou and Petite Martinique;
- (iii) Circulation on at least two occasions in newspapers;
- (iv) Announcements in radio and television advertisements;
- (v) Announcements by local town criers;
- (vi) Dissemination to representatives of stakeholder groups and to other organizations and associations identified in the stakeholder map for further dissemination to their members and networks.

Members of the public and stakeholders will have the opportunity to submit their comments in writing to the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy and will be given a minimum of 30 days from the date of the most recent public or stakeholder forum, whichever is later, to do so. This will ensure that those who are unable to attend the public or stakeholder forums will have adequate time and opportunity to present their feedback for consideration.

Notices of all public forums and stakeholder forums open to the public will be provided at least two weeks in advance and contain the following information:

- (i) The meeting date, time and duration, and venue;
- (ii) The methodology for the event, including an explanation of the objective of participation, the reason for the baseline assessment and how the feedback will be utilized in the development of the implementation plan;
- (iii) The location where the baseline assessment (including the executive summary) can be accessed;
- (iv) Contact information for the Ministry;
- (v) Any other information regarding the events deemed necessary to ensure participation.

B. Execution phase

During the public participation process, the Government of Grenada will adhere to the following standards to ensure that there are ample opportunities for meaningful and informed participation:

- (i) Public participation is to occur at an early stage when no decisions have yet been made and when comments and proposals can be received for consideration in a timely manner in advance of the decision-making process;
- (ii) There are to be reasonable deadlines for participation, in particular for the submission of comments, to encourage informed participation. This involves considering the circumstances of the public and stakeholders and recognizing that there may be groups that require longer periods to read and understand the information that has been provided and to prepare or present oral or written submissions;
- (iii) An opportunity is to be provided to submit comments in writing, orally or by other means, either in person or remotely;
- (iv) Support is to be provided for people and groups in vulnerable situations wishing to participate.

1. Forums for engagement

A variety of forums will be made available in order to engage stakeholders during the course of the preparation and execution of the implementation plan (e.g. town hall meetings, community

meetings and stakeholder meetings). Special measures will be taken to ensure the participation of persons and groups from Carriacou and Petite Martinique. All information to be shared will be expressed in non-technical, easily understandable language. Adequate time will be provided during these engagements for the public to ask questions and receive answers.

(a) Public town halls

Face-to-face public meetings will be held in regional districts on the mainland of Grenada and on Carriacou and Petite Martinique to present the findings of the baseline assessment, along with the priority actions already included in the road map, and to receive feedback. To ensure the participation of persons with vision or hearing impairment or other disabilities during the meeting, information will be shared in a variety of formats, including visual and audio presentations, and sign language interpretation will be provided when possible.

In addition, the meetings will be broadcast virtually on social media, and the public will have the opportunity to submit oral or written comments through this avenue.

(b) Stakeholder meetings

Face-to-face and virtual stakeholder meetings may be held with representatives of specific groups, including, in particular, vulnerable groups and Indigenous Peoples identified in the stakeholder map. These stakeholder meetings may be organized in a focus group format to ensure that members are able to provide inputs relating to the pillars of the Escazú Agreement that are most relevant for their sector.

(c) Community meetings

Face-to-face meetings may be held with communities, in particular those whose residents are largely composed of marginalized groups or could be considered to belong to groups in vulnerable situations, such as rural, fishing and farming communities and residents of Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

(d) Strategy for identifying vulnerable groups

The Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy will liaise with members of the Escazú Agreement

implementation committee and with other public authorities and civil society organizations that are part of the governance system in order to identify any other affected vulnerable groups whose representatives should be included in the stakeholder and community meetings.

Where feasible, the Government of Grenada will provide people with transportation or other forms of support to help them to attend meetings in person in cases where their circumstances would otherwise make it difficult for them to do so.

To allow ample opportunity for people to consider the information presented and to freely voice their opinions, electronic and paper templates will be prepared to allow the public and stakeholders to submit comments either at the town hall, stakeholder or community meetings or up to 30 days afterward.

(e) Online survey

An interactive online questionnaire will be prepared as a useful tool for receiving feedback from members of the public and stakeholders. This survey will include a link to the summary of the baseline assessment, explain the objective of participation, and invite responders to rank the recommended actions and to submit their own recommendations for the implementation plan.

C. Closing phase

During the closing phase, once the opportunities for participation have been concluded, the Government of Grenada will adhere to the following standards:

- (i) Due account is to be taken of the outcomes of the participation process;
- (ii) The public is to be informed in a proactive and timely manner about the decisions taken;
- (iii) The government is to report on the reasons and grounds for the decisions and to explain how the observations were taken into consideration;
- (iv) Decisions and the accompanying background information are to be made public and readily accessible.

D. Analysis of the output from public participation

The Escazú Agreement implementation committee, under the leadership of the Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy, will analyse the feedback received from the public and stakeholders through such avenues as the town hall meetings, stakeholder meetings and online survey, along with any other comments received orally or in writing by other means. All comments received will be compiled in a document which will be publicly accessible on the Ministry website.

An evaluation exercise will be undertaken to examine all inputs and to determine whether and how to incorporate the various proposals into the implementation plan. This will be done to ensure that due weight is given to all the contributions. In reviewing these proposals, the government will consider their relevance to the overall objective of ensuring compliance with the Escazú Agreement and the technical, financial and administrative feasibility of their implementation.

Reasons for the incorporation or rejection of public proposals will be provided in writing using non-technical language and made publicly accessible in an easily understandable and timely manner on the Ministry website.

VI. Participatory activities implemented

As previously discussed, the implementation and participation strategy comprises two stages: a national workshop held in March 2025, and a stage to be implemented by the Escazú Agreement implementation committee going forward.

In the first stage, a national stakeholder workshop was held in St. George's on 4 March 2025 for representatives of public authorities and civil society organizations. The objective of the workshop was to obtain input for the baseline report and to receive recommendations for priority actions for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada.

In preparation for the workshop, stakeholders received an executive summary of the baseline assessment of Grenada's laws, policies and practices as they relate to the Escazú Agreement. The summary was prepared in non-technical language to ensure that it was easily understandable for a wide range of people. It outlined the purpose and objective of the baseline assessment so that people could understand the reason for conducting the assessment and see how the outputs stemming from their participation would be utilized to inform priority actions in the implementation plan for the Agreement.

Participants were divided into breakout groups based on the relevant provisions of the Escazú Agreement. The confirmed list of participants was used to organize the different groups so as to align the participants' areas of work and expertise with the relevant provisions of the Agreement.

The breakout groups focused on:

- (i) Access to environmental information;
- (ii) Generation and dissemination of environmental information;
- (iii) Public participation in environmental decision-making;
- (iv) Human rights defenders and access to justice.

Possible priority actions derived from the findings of the baseline assessment were presented to the breakout groups, after which the participants in those groups discussed the following points:

- (i) Agreement or disagreement with the findings and recommendations of the baseline assessment;
- (ii) Additional recommendations, if any;
- (iii) Possible challenges foreseen for implementation;
- (iv) Capacities needed for implementation.

The breakout groups analysed the recommendations made in the baseline assessment, which they approved, as well as additional recommendations that they had received. It is important to note that all the stakeholders agreed with the baseline assessment recommendations.

A multi-criteria analysis was used to evaluate the recommendations from the baseline assessment received from stakeholders who attended the workshop. These recommendations were rated using a set of criteria designed to determine which of those recommendations could become priority actions. The criteria used were:

- (i) Applicability to meeting the obligations assumed under the Escazú Agreement (relevancy and impact);
- (ii) Feasibility of implementation given existing technical, administrative and financial capacities;
- (iii) Length of implementation period (short-term (up to 1 year), medium-term (1–3 years) or long-term (over 3 years)).

A second session was held on 15 January 2026 to obtain final comments on the road map.

VII. Priority actions for inclusion in the implementation plan for the Escazú Agreement

On the basis of the above analysis, the recommended priority actions that could be implemented within 1 to 3 years are listed in table 9.

Table 9

Priority actions for inclusion in the implementation plan

Priority actions for implementation in 1–3 years	
Access to and generation and dissemination of environmental information (arts. 5 and 6)	Responsible authority
1. Establish guidance materials for public officials which incorporate the standards set out in articles 5 and 6 of the Escazú Agreement and outline the procedure to be followed when receiving a request for environmental information.	Ministry of Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs
2. Revise the Public Service Staff Orders (2010) relating to the provision of information to ensure alignment with the Agreement.	Ministry of National Security, Home Affairs, Public Administration, Information and Disaster Management
3. Review the Freedom of Information Bill to ensure it aligns with the standards set out in articles 5 and 6 of the Agreement.	Environment Division, Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy
4. Conduct an assessment to determine the requirements and steps needed to establish a pollutant release and transfer register system.	

Public participation in environmental decision-making (art. 7)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Physical Planning Authority should ensure that the public has access to the pertinent information on applications for proposed developments in public registers. Where feasible, such information could be posted on the Authority's website. This information would include, at a minimum, the application and supporting documents, the ESIA or other environmental assessments and the decision of the Authority regarding the development permit and planning consent. 2. Revise the draft ESIA administrative manual to include measures consistent with the standards of the Escazú Agreement: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Disseminate relevant information concerning projects and activities that have or may have a significant impact on the environment in a publicly accessible (online) registry. Information must include the ESIA and any revisions, and the final decisions on projects, including a description of how the public's inputs were taken into consideration during the decision-making process. (b) Provide adequate public notice of the ESIA and information related to the public participation process using culturally appropriate forms of communication (e.g. posting online and publication in daily newspapers). (c) Provide the public with an adequate opportunity to submit comments on ESIA's and proposed projects prior to a decision being taken. (d) Have procedures for publicizing projects, such as advertising in newspapers for a number of weeks and placement of information on noticeboards in affected communities. 3. Conduct training and awareness sessions for public officials, in particular those responsible for environmental permitting, on the standards of the Agreement. | <p>Ministry of Infrastructure and Physical Development, Public Utilities, Civil Aviation and Transportation</p> <p>Planning and Development Authority</p> <p>Environment Division, Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy</p> |
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Access to justice (art. 8)

Implement education and awareness programmes for the public on the procedures for accessing justice in environmental matters, including non-judicial mechanisms such as those made available by the Office of the Ombudsman. Training should also be provided for judicial officers, including magistrates; the staff of court offices, the Ombudsman's Office, the Attorney General's Chambers and the Solicitor General's Department; personnel of the Director of Public Prosecutions Department and the Royal Grenada Police Force; and legal practitioners. Disseminate information through the relevant ministries, schools and the Government Information Service in collaboration with civil society groups.	Ministry of Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs Office of the Ombudsman
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Human rights defenders in environmental matters (art. 9)

Conduct an assessment of the situation of human rights defenders in environmental matters in Grenada as a means of informing public policy.	Ministry of Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs Office of the Ombudsman
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Source: Prepared by the authors.

VIII. Regional cooperation

This section outlines the measures for collaboration between the Government of Grenada and other States Parties to support the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in other countries.

The proposed activities will contribute to the implementation of article 11 of the Escazú Agreement, on regional cooperation, whereby States Parties undertake to cooperate to strengthen their national capacities while giving particular consideration to the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Escazú Agreement also encourages partnerships with States in other regions, with intergovernmental, non-governmental, academic, private sector and civil society organizations and with other relevant stakeholders. Collaborative activities may also include capacity-building measures, such as training, technical assistance and technical visits.

There are opportunities for Grenada to support capacity-building measures for Caribbean States Parties to the Escazú Agreement with actions aimed at implementing the Agreement through information-sharing and knowledge exchange. Grenada and other Caribbean countries share similar bodies of common law jurisprudence and are fellow members of regional political associations that are supported through shared institutions, such as the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Caribbean Court of Justice and the University of the West Indies. Two areas of opportunity for learning exchanges are described below.

- (i) Information-sharing to support the development of implementation plans for the Escazú Agreement in other countries

Within the Caribbean subregion, Grenada can participate in capacity-building and cooperation missions to other countries. Lessons have been learned in the process of preparing the road map and starting to develop the implementation plan that can be shared with other States Parties embarking on the process of assessing compliance with the Agreement.

- (ii) Collaboration with regional bodies to support information-sharing and knowledge exchange with a view to strengthening access rights in the Caribbean subregion

There are opportunities to work with the Caribbean Court of Justice and the University of the West Indies to explore judicial training programmes and sensitization sessions dealing with environmental law, access rights and the Agreement.

Through collaboration with regional bodies such as OECS, the University of the West Indies and CARICOM, Grenada can share information regarding methodologies for the development of environmental information systems. Grenada and other Caribbean countries can also share data collection, management, standardized reporting and user accessibility methodologies.

The Government of Grenada, through regional environmental justice initiatives, can work with other OECS member countries to review the model OECS Freedom of Information Bill in the context of the standards set out in article 5 of the Escazú Agreement.

Regional capacity-building programmes can be organized, including joint training sessions for government officials, civil servants and members of civil society on the implementation of the Escazú Agreement, and information can be shared concerning the development of educational materials and public awareness campaigns to promote environmental rights and responsibilities.

Bibliography

- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and Caribbean Court of Justice Academy for Law. (2018). *Ensuring environmental access rights in the Caribbean: analysis of selected case law* (LC/TS.2018/31).
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. (2022a). *Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/PUB.2018/8 /Rev.1).
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. (2022b). *Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean: Implementation Guide* (LC/TS.2021/221/Rev.1).
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. (2025). *Observatory on Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean*. <https://observatoriop10.cepal.org/en>

Annexes

Annex A1 Transparency, participation and accountability standards for the governance system

Standards for transparency and access to information:

- Information about the co-creation process must be delivered sufficiently in advance to ensure the participation of the largest possible number of community members.
- All content developed must be clearly expressed (avoiding technical language as much as possible) and delivered in the appropriate languages and formats so that it is readily understandable to the various actors concerned.
- The communication style should be welcoming and attractive so that no one feels intimidated or demotivated.
- The information must be truthful. This standard implies not only the absence of deception, but also that the information provided is sufficient for participants to form an opinion for themselves concerning the topics being discussed. Partial information, even if it does not contain falsehoods, can mislead by omitting necessary background information and can therefore be lacking in transparency, thus hindering participation.

- Information must be transparent and must be kept up to date to avoid creating discrepancies between the background information that has been delivered and the actual situation, since this could give rise to ill-informed judgments.

Participation standards:

- Efforts must be made to ensure the inclusion of the various territorial actors. Inclusion measures are needed where population groups have historically found themselves marginalized, underrepresented or self-excluded from participation processes. In order to ensure genuine inclusiveness, participation arrangements must also be appropriate for the cultural, social, economic and political circumstances of community actors.
- Participation in co-creation should be organized in such a way as to ensure equal opportunities for all groups participating in the forum, whether directly or indirectly. Everyone needs to be able to describe their needs and present their proposals so that the implementation plan will fully reflect the actual situations and needs of all the territories concerned.
- An ongoing dialogue should be facilitated, using a variety of spaces and platforms appropriate to the context of the relevant territories and their inhabitants.
- Participation must be voluntary and the result of genuine conviction, never of coercion or threats. This is essential in order both for the results to be authentic and for participants to commit to the implementation of the plan.
- Effective participation occurs when actors are willing to actively listen to and consider others' points of view. This calls for a special effort on the part of the authority seeking to promote a co-creation process to engage in dialogue with a view to understanding and incorporating the opinions of the different groups in the community. Governmental, civil society and other stakeholders must recognize one another as being co-responsible for the process and must undertake the work together. Active listening is reflected in a genuine consideration of the community and how it is impacted in the course of the preparation of the action plan.

- As in all participatory processes, it is not always possible to incorporate all the suggestions and demands of the community. To legitimize the process, therefore, it is necessary for the authority or group making decisions about what is and is not incorporated into the plan to deliver an informative and timely report on the decisions taken. It is advisable for the authority to try to include proposals that could not be incorporated into the implementation plan for the Escazú Agreement into other local government programmes.

Accountability standards:

- Exercises in accountability should be regular and frequent. It is recommended that progress be reported at the end of each phase of the action plan co-creation process.
- During these exercises, the highest relevant authority and those responsible for the co-creation of the plan must be present to clarify doubts and receive comments on the process. Their participation helps to legitimize and build trust in the process.
- All the information provided must be up-to-date and supported by evidence in order to ensure that it is relevant and meaningful.
- The information provided must be readily understandable so that the community can make an informed assessment of the actions that have been carried out and their results. Clear information must be provided on the level of compliance, the progress made in the co-creation process towards the objectives initially set and the factors that influenced any changes or modifications.
- Truthfulness is a fundamental part of accountability in the process of building an action plan and entails delivering all the elements that the participants need in order to form an opinion about the progress and current status of the plan.
- The information delivered during accountability exercises should be disseminated through normal media channels used by the community to stay informed. In addition, special efforts must be made to reach the members of the community who have the greatest connectivity difficulties.

Annex A2

Selected legislation

- Anti-Money-Laundering (Amendment) Regulations, Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 6 of 2021
- Carriacou and Petit Martinique County Council Act No. 20 of 1995 (chapter 42A)
- Grenada Constitution Act, Subsidiary Legislation No. 2155 of 1973 (chapter 128A)
- Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office (CAIPO) Act No. 19 of 2009 (chapter 69A)
- Disaster Management Act No. 2 of 2023
- District Councils Act No. 16 of 1995 (chapter 83A)
- Emergency Powers Act No. 17 of 1987 (chapter 88)
- Fisheries Act No. 15 of 1986 (chapter 108)
- Forest, Soil and Water Conservation Act No. 34 of 1984 (chapter 116)
- Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority Act No. 11 of 1995 (chapter 131A)
- Income Tax Act No. 36 of 1994 (chapter 149)
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management Act No. 8 of 2019
- National Disaster (Emergency Powers) Act No. 15 of 1984 (chapter 203)
- National Parks and Protected Areas Act No. 42 of 1990 (chapter 206)
- National Water and Sewerage Authority Act No. 25 of 1990 (chapter 208)
- Ombudsman Act No. 24 of 2007 (chapter 218B)
- Petroleum and Natural Gas Deposits Act No. 22 of 1989 (chapter 240)

- Physical Planning and Development Control Act No. 23 of 2016
- Public Health Act No. 40 of 1981 (chapter 263)
- Statistics Act No. 30 of 1960 (chapter 311)
- Standards Act No. 6 of 1989 (chapter 310)
- Value Added Tax Act No. 23 of 2009 (chapter 333A)
- Waste Management Act No. 16 of 2001 (chapter 334A)
- Water Resources Management and Regulation Act No. 1 of 2025

Selected policies

- Grenada National Land Policy (2018)
- Grenada's National Sustainable Development Plan 2020–2035
- Grenada National Water Policy (2020)
- Grenada Protected Area System Plan (2009)
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2015)
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2016–2020
- National Climate Change Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2017–2021)
- National Environmental Policy and Management Strategy (2005)
- National Environmental Summary Grenada 2010
- National Strategic Development Plan (2007)
- Revised Forest Policy for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique (2018)
- Strategy for the Implementation of the National Forest Policy 2018–2028 for Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique

Selection of common law jurisprudence

- *Belize Alliance of Conservation Non-Governmental Organizations Appellant v. The Department of the Environment and Belize Electric Company Limited*, Privy Council Appeal No. 47 of 2003 (29 January 2004).
- *Council of Civil Service Unions v. Minister for the Civil Service* (22 November 1984), AC No. 374.
- *Downer Hamilton, Erica and Discovery Bay Community Development Committee Limited et al. v. National Environment and Planning Agency et al.* (2019), Supreme Court of Jamaica, Civil Division claim No. SU2019CV01422.
- *Northern Jamaica Conservation Association (The) et al. v. The Natural Resources Conservation Authority and The National Environmental Planning Agency*, Supreme Court of Jamaica, claim No. HCV 3022 of 2005.
- *R. v. North and East Devon Health Authority, ex parte Coughlan*, Queen's Bench Division (QB) No. 213 (2001).
- *Ulric 'Buggy' Haynes Coaching School et al. v. Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development*, High Court of Trinidad and Tobago No. 198 (16 June 2015).

This document contains a road map for the implementation in Grenada of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement). The purpose of this road map, which was prepared by the Government of Grenada with the support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), is to provide a practical, normative analysis of access rights in Grenada and to map out an approach for systematizing information on the progress made and the gaps that remain.

Consultative workshops were held with a number of stakeholders, including public officials, to discuss legal issues and develop proposals on priority actions for implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Grenada. This document outlines those priority actions and details a governance system for the implementation of the Escazú Agreement in the country.



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