What do these numbers mean?

Trinidad and Tobago must face the undeniable truth. Its coastline is at risk. As a Small Island Developing State Trinidad and Tobago has always and will continue to rely on our coastal and ocean resources. As a nation we have made significant strides towards developing and implementing new policies pertaining to management of the coastal zone. However, we remain vulnerable to impacts of climate change such as sea level rise, storm surge and other hazards.

Important trends regarding waves, tides, currents, sediments and bathymetry are lacking, and pose a challenge to informed decision making with regard to shoreline management. Consultants commissioned by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago through the Ministry of Works and Transport, dating back to the early 1990s have recommended the need for a comprehensive system that can bring together coastal datasets and policy decisions with respect to shoreline management.

Protection Unit (CPU), the Comprehensive National Coastal Monitoring Programme (CNCMP) was launched on May 24th 2019. It is a Multi-phased strategy for addressing, in a planned way, the impacts of coastal erosion and flooding. Through this platform the Ministry intends to bridge the gap between science and decision-making as it pertains to efficiently addressing Coastal Erosion.

Ultimately the CNCMP will:

1. Promote the adoption of environmentally and economically sustainable solutions to preserve and protect the coast.
2. Equip coastal managers with relevant information to assess overall risk.
3. Inform sustainable shoreline management decision and policy making
4. Mitigate the risks of coastal erosion.

In partnership with the Tobago House of Assembly (THA), Division of Infrastructure, Quarries and the Environment (DIQE), and the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA), this project will achieve innovation by providing a tangible and efficient service that delivers value to a wide cross-section of Trinidad and Tobago’s society.

The Coastal Protection Unit envisions a future where coastal data and the means to analyse it are available at the click of a button to a cross section of stakeholders – coastal managers, planners, researchers, secondary school studies and decision makers.

Get involved - Here's how:

#CoastalWatchTT

• Posting photo and/or video content on social media networks using the hashtag #CoastalWatchTT
• Submitting email reports to CoastalWatchTT@mowt.gov.tt
• Submitting telephone reports to the CPU at (868) 623-6797

#Haveyoursay

Join in the discussion about our coasts and how we can better monitor, manage and preserve them.

Register to receive updates and join the community engagement and consultation activities of the Comprehensive National Coastal Monitoring Programme (CNCMP) at: bit.ly/CNCMPRegister2HaveYourSay

Share your thoughts and experiences via the CNCMP Coastal Social Survey at: bit.ly/CNCMPCoastalSocialSurvey.

The square kilometres comprising our twin island state.

5128

The kilometres of coastline collectively between our twin island state.

704

The percentage of estimated socio-economic activities within our coastal zone.

80

The estimate percentage of our population located on our coast.

70

The percentage of all public and private infrastructure by value located immediately on the coastline.

8