



Comprehensive
National Coastal
Monitoring
Programme

COASTAL EROSION

A MONSTER THAT BECKONS

LAUNCH OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL COASTAL MONITORING PROGRAMME (CNCMP)

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| 5128 | The square kilometres comprising our twin island state. |
| 704 | The kilometres of coastline collectively between our twin island state. |
| 80 | The percentage of estimated socio-economic activities within our coastal zone. |
| 70 | The estimate percentage of our population located on our coast. |
| 8 | The percentage of all public and private infrastructure by value located immediately on the coastline. |

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.

Through the Ministry of Works and Transport's (MOWT), Coastal 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

The general public can monitor coastal areas that are susceptible to coastal hazards such as fallen trees, land slippage, cliff failures, retreating shorelines, threats to coastal infrastructure and assets, and coastal erosion and flooding. Become a #CoastalWatchTT Reporter either by:

- 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.

Have your say!

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.



Senator the Honourable Rohan Sinanan
Minister of Works and Transport



Councillor Kwesi Des Vignes
Secretary, Division of Infrastructure,
Quarries and the Environment



Mrs. Candice Gray-Bernard
Director Coastal Protection Unit, MOWT



Dr. Ahmad Khan
Director, Institute of Marine Affairs



Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Sonia Francis-Yearwood
MOWT, Signs Letter of Intent with Project Partners
IMA, DIQE and the THA



Senator the Honourable Rohan Sinanan and
Accompanying Stakeholders Open the MOWT Coastal
Erosion Photo Exhibition