

ANALYSIS OF TOURISM SETTINGS AND MANAGEMENT IN CARIBBEAN MANGROVES: CASE-STUDIES IN THE FRENCH ANTILLES AND IN JAMAICA

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Anthropogenic pressures have become so many that mangroves ecosystems are in great peril world-wide (Duke *et al.*, 2007). Various factors contribute to this threat, one of which is tourism. We are interested in investigating which kind of activities could be destructive and how we can reverse this trend for mangroves. Often touristic activities in the vicinity of mangroves have negative impacts on the mangrove forest. However, could tourism not be organised in such a way that mangroves can be preserved and protected? This research sets out to respond to this question and to compare two Caribbean areas in their coastal zone management: Baie Fort-de-France in Martinique and Grand Cul-de-Sac marin in Guadeloupe, both part of the French Antilles, and the Black River Lower Morass in Jamaica. We investigated leisure and touristic activities in mangroves, their environmental impact, their implications for the local inhabitants, and finally, the perception on mangroves by different local stakeholders. Our sampling was primarily done based on individual and group interviews with the respective stakeholders (local authorities, commerce and communities), but we also collected local reports, theses, and other publications as secondary sources.

References

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