INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMISSION
(of UNESCO)

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IODE NATIONAL REPORT ON OCEANOGRAPHIC
DATA MANAGEMENT AND EXCHANGE
FOR BARBADOS
1. **Name of (proposed) Data Centre:** Coastal Zone Management Unit

2. **National IODE Coordinator:**
   
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3. **Data Center Address:**  
   Coastal Zone Management Unit  
   Bay Street,  
   St Michael  
   Barbados

4. **Data Center URL:**  
   www.coastal.gov.bb

5. **IODE Data Center Designation Date:** Not designated officially

6. **Description of national data flow:**

   How does data flow operate in your country (if possible illustrate by means of one or more diagrams)? This should cover:

   1. **Metadata management:**  
      Currently, no contributions are made to any major data collection systems. Much of the data collected is used by Government only.

   2. **Data tracking:**  
      There are no such systems to track data collected within different agencies.

7. **What is the structure of marine data management in your country:**

   1. How many organisations are involved? Four

   2. Who does what? Coastal Zone Management Unit collects beach profile data, coral reef data (diseases, water quality, health), bathymetry, sediment type. Environmental Protection Department collects nearshore water quality data, outfall constituent data. University of the West Indies and Bellairs Research Institute conduct specific research projects in the nearshore, and at times produce any or all of the afore-mentioned data

   3. What data goes where? Currently, data is kept by each collecting agency
4. Are there data for which there is no home? No

5. What gets passed on to other organisations? No data is transferred except in special circumstances.

6. What regional links and data centres are there? None

8. **What are the strengths and problems of the present arrangements nationally, regionally and internationally?** Nationally, we need appropriate policy and legislation frameworks to manage adequately the flow of information. Policy-makers must determine what data will be freely available, as well as data that should never be made public. Because such a framework is not yet in place, researchers hold on to their data and information.

   Regionally, the small islands of the Caribbean need to build capacity in the area of data management. The vast diversity of capacity makes it difficult to advance regionally with data management.

9. **What improvements could be made nationally, regionally and internationally?**
   Capacity building and appropriate policy development are needed at the regional and national levels. At the international level, funding must be mobilized to assist developing countries, in particular, small island developing states, in accessing appropriate technologies and establishing data centres.

10. **What future national activities are planned?** Technology upgrades have been implemented and more upgrades are planned, with additions of wave recorders, current meters and tide gauges on order. Cooperation among researchers must be enhanced, so that persons are fully aware of the role of the NODC, and are confident to lodge their data with the centre.

11. **What national, regional or international projects is your NODC involved in (both IODE and non-IODE). Examples: Argo, GTSSPP, EDMED, EDIOS, Sea-Search, GODAR,...**
   None, but we would like to get involved where it is financially feasible