



Networking tropical and subtropical
Biodiversity research in OuterMost
regions and territories of Europe
in support of sustainable development



NET-BIOME as an effective tool for enhancing overseas regions and territories assets integration into European and international policies

*Contribution of Islands and Overseas Entities to biodiversity
conservation and the fight against climate change*

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Outline

- Background and main features
- First achievements towards science based biodiversity preservation and sustainable use in support of development
- Mid and long term mission
- Brainstorming proposals

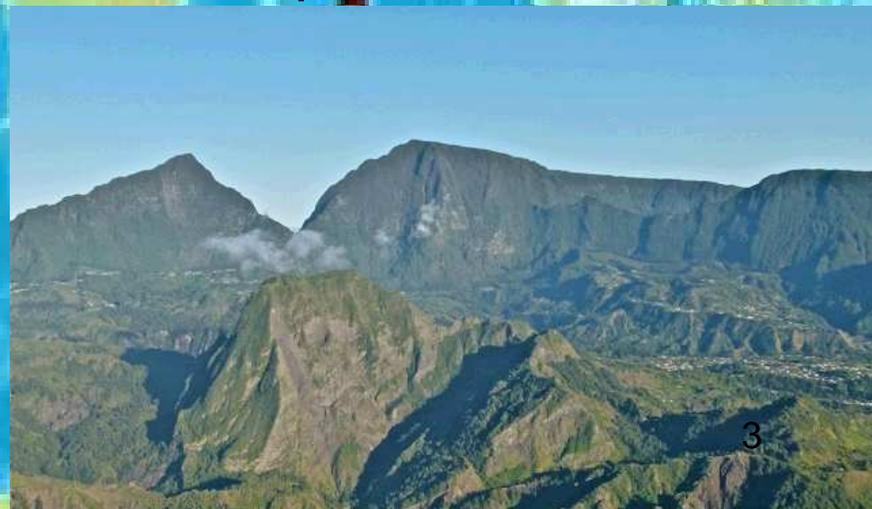




Background

- High level of biodiversity particularly threatened by climate change, human activities and natural hazards
- Biodiversity is fundamental for ORs OCTs economic, social and cultural development
- Current biodiversity research is fragmented and not recognised (poorly integrated in European Research Area)

Crucial need to translate an acquired consensus into an action plan on the basis of a shared and ambitious research programme



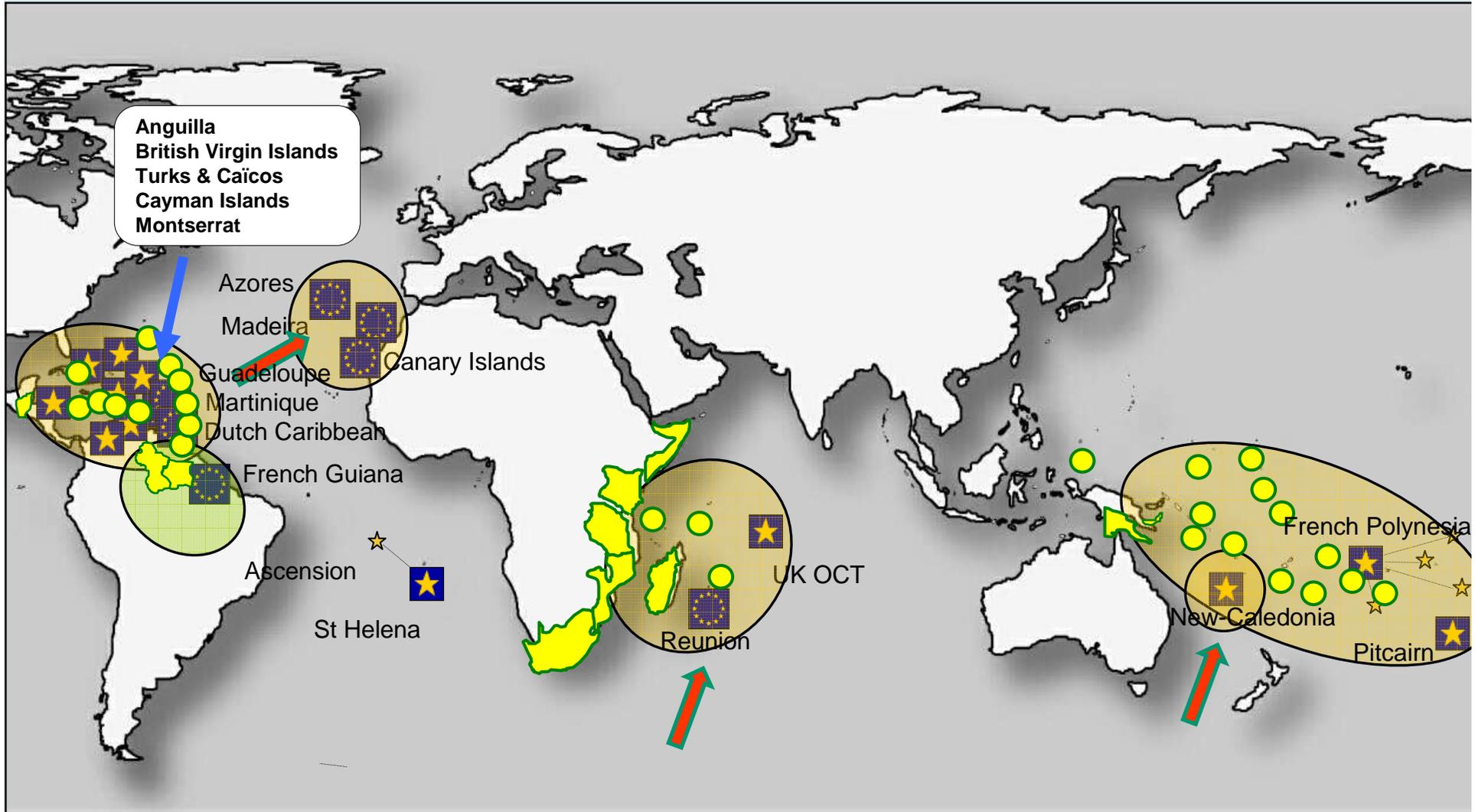


Definition and participants

- Networking of tropical and subtropical biodiversity research activities and stakeholders in Overseas regions and territories of Europe in support of sustainable development
- A **regional ERA-Net** project funded under EC FP6, **March 2007-End of February 2012** (2.5 M€)
- The first large biodiversity partnership **initiated by ORs and OCTs**, uniting most OCTs and ORs



Several hotspots & World natural heritage sites and many other realities and assets ...including very high potential for international cooperation





Overseas unity as Net-Biome first asset

Unite actors from different cultures and countries towards a common subject is possible thanks to:

- Common recognition of **responsibilities** towards ORs and OCTs populations and those of the rest of the world (largely under-estimated at European level)
- Common **will** to tackle the effects of global change on biodiversity
- Common **awareness** of ORs and OCTs assets





Objectives

- Coordinate research efforts from ORs and OCTs
- Mobilise bottom-up expertise on local research needs and promote Science-Policy interactions
- Design and implement common research strategy for T&ST biodiversity in support of sustainable development
- Open the network to Europe and the geographical regions concerned, promoting broad international cooperation
- Promote visibility and acknowledgement of the overseas regions and territories key role





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Net-Biome First Research Joint Call

Towards Biodiversity Management in support of Sustainable
Development in Tropical and Subtropical European Union

- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
- Enhance Land Management and Integrated Coastal Zone Management
- Promoting knowledge of biodiversity (from gene to ecosystem level and through to landscape)

Interdisciplinary cooperation, integration
or focus on Human & social sciences





First results

- 10 funding partners including 2 national funding agencies and 8 Net-Biome partners (own funds)
- 3.14 M€ virtual common pot, 8.11 M€ as total costs of the funded projects (leverage effect)
- 20% rate of success: **7 projects**
- **7** funded out of 35 submitted
- 52 research teams involved





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Selected projects (7)

Acronym	Title	Consortium
FRAG&BINV	Consequences of forest fragmentation and conditions for biological invasions: the case of Caribbean birds	France , Martinique, French Guiana, Portugal, United Kingdom (Montserrat)
Island-Biodiv	Understanding biodiversity dynamics in T&ST islands as an aid to science based conservation	Canary Islands , Reunion, France, Azores
MOVECLIM	Montane vegetation as listening post for climate change	Reunion , Guadeloupe, Azores, French Polynesia, Canary Islands, France, South Africa, Switzerland, Germany, Malaysia
SEAPROLIF	Diversity and functioning of coastal marine biomes under siege: implications of seaweed proliferations across three oceans	New-Caledonia , Reunion, Guadeloupe, Portugal, France, Azores



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Selected projects (7)

Acronym	Title	Consortium
SafePGR	Towards Safer Plant Genetic Resources through improved viral diagnostics	Guadeloupe , France, Reunion, Azores, Madeira
VABIOME	Characterisation, Protection, Sustainable use and valorisation of Vanilla Biodiversity in Tropical EU	Reunion , French Polynesia, France, French Guiana, France, Guadeloupe, Mayotte
POMARE	Polynesian, Martinique's, Reunion's marine benthic invertebrates: interactions and chemodiversity evaluation for a sustainable use	French Polynesia , Reunion, Martinique, Nederland, United-Kingdom, France



Net-Biome mid and long term mission

Further to the first Joint Call:

- Develop high level quality management of research supported towards effective translation of findings in biodiversity preservation and sustainable use
- Address the limits shown to fully use of ORs and OCTs' assets alongside demonstration of high potential and will of overseas actors to unite their capacities





Net-Biome mid and long term mission

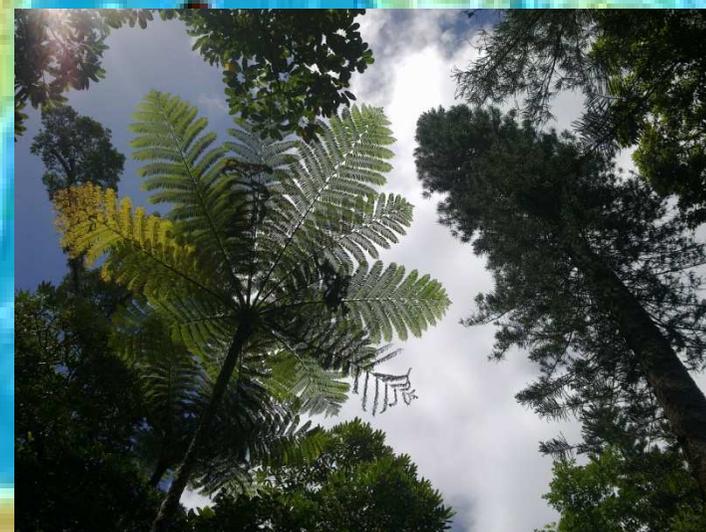
- Acknowledgement of ORs and OCTs' research strategic plan by the MS and integration in European initiatives (e.g. Horizon 2020)
- Enhance research networking on T&ST biodiversity and reinforce research of excellence through other joint activities
- Pave the road for a long-term and coherent programme for tropical and subtropical biodiversity research addressing ORs and OCTs
- Continue to implement several EC communications and strategies as well as the « Message of Reunion Island » set up with Net-Biome participation





Brainstorming proposals

- Adequate research funding: a new tool towards associated ORs and OCTs
- Proper funding mechanism and legal framework for cooperation between ORs and OCTs and their neighbouring countries
- Governance framework gathering all stakeholders from local to international level
- Representation of the ORs and OCTs' stakeholders in relevant European, international and regional fora
- Use Net-Biome as ORs and OCTs' common voice at global level





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Coordinated efforts are the key to efficiency
As shown by nature itself



Taking full benefit of Net-Biome growing overseas network
to integrate European and international biodiversity policies

Thank you for your attention