

Observing Network of the Caribbean region on ocean acidification and harmful algal blooms



Mr Carlos M. ALONSO-HERNÁNDEZ
Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente
Centro de Estudios Ambientales de Cienfuegos
CUBA

The marine environment is the most important natural resource for Caribbean countries, approximately 60% of the Gross National Product (GNP) depends on the exploitation of its resources.

Tourism is responsible for more than 34% of the GNP and generates about 14 million jobs. The Caribbean receives the 50% of the cruises of the world.

Fisheries, aquaculture and transport are activities related to the coastal areas, which come very high on the agenda for the strategic planning of the countries development in the present, near and far future.





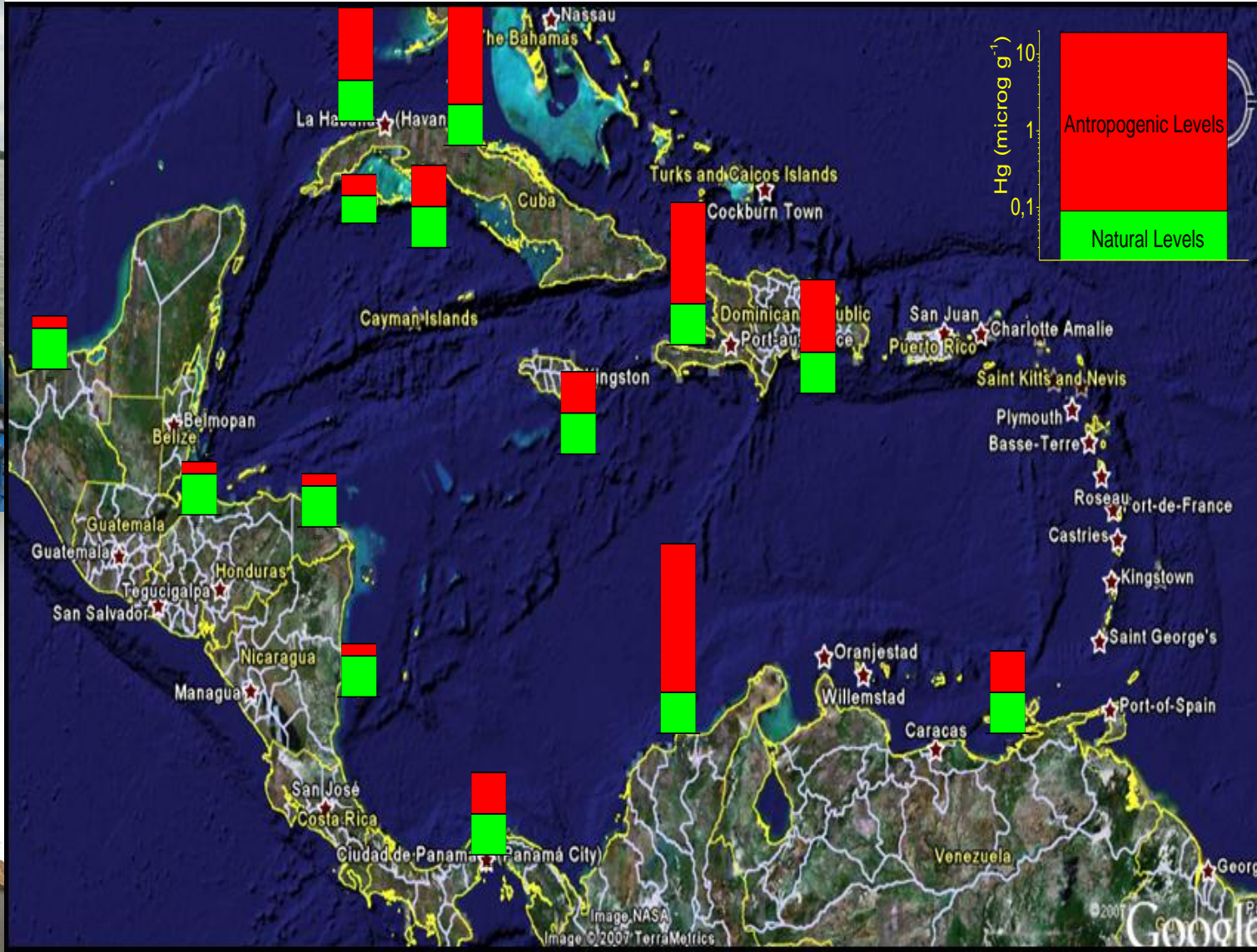
- Loss of habitat and biodiversity
- Pollution
- Harmful algal bloom (Ciguatera)
- Loss of biodiversity
- Hurricanes
- Erosion
- Increase of the sea levels
- Climate change



Mercury concentration (mg/kg) in sediments

Caribbean Sea

Project IAEA-RLA/7/012



Ocean acidification

- Many species of fish, crustaceans and molluscs at the Caribbean sea are in risk.
- Coral reefs: the most vulnerable ecosystems.



We are inviting all institutions, agencies or donors present here and having projects in the Caribbean region to make synergies with this initiative, to integrate all the efforts and resources to reach the same objective, to give to our future generations a

Blue Planet

