

PAMEC 2024

The Recruitment of Ocean Thermal Resources in the Jamaica and the wider Caribbean <u>Talking Points</u>

1. Quote:

"The Caribbean Sea, around which approximately 115 million people live, accounts for 1% of the global ocean area and 14% of the global ocean economy. Partnership on the Blue Economy is therefore significant for our region."

- Vice-Chancellor Hillary Beckles, University of the West Indies (UWI)

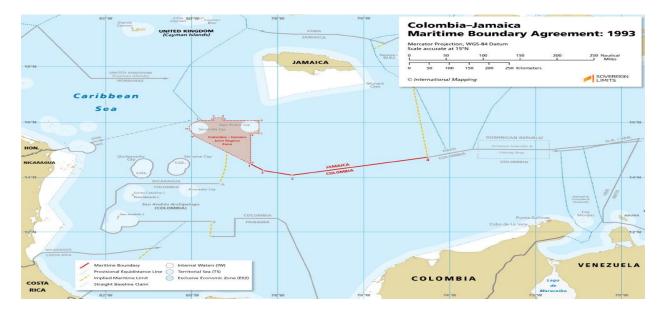
2. Jamaican Context:

Jamaica is an archipelago and as a result has a 181,190 Sq. Km. Exclusive Economic Zone, *18 times* the size of our land area. See: <u>https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/57677.pdf</u> Furthermore, Jamaica boasts the Pedro Banks are area of shallow water that is approximately the same size as the Jamaican mainland which is a resource rich ecosystem supporting acres of seagrass, Queen Conch, lobster, fish, bird life and approximately 300 shipwrecks.



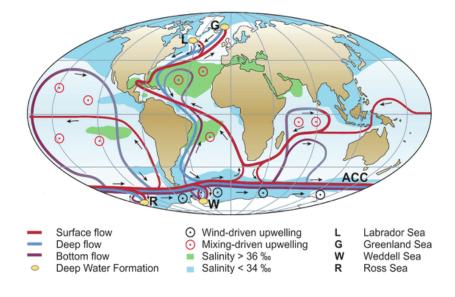
3. Jamaica and Columbia Joint Regime Area:

The northernmost area of the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve (which is in the southwestern side of the Caribbean sea) is jointly managed by Columbia and Jamaica.



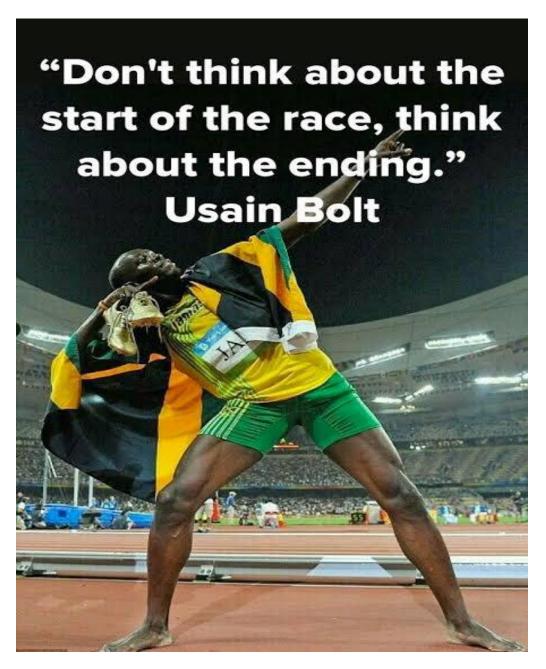
4. Marine Energy in Jamaica and CARICOM Caribbean:

While wave and tidal energy, for example are not well understood or exploited in the English speaking Caribbean, ocean thermal opportunities in the region underpinned by the thermohaline currents pass through the Caribbean are being researched and advanced by both the public and private sectors. In 2015 the CAF Latin American Development Bank did a scoping study that shortlisted the DR and Jamaica as two countries that viable SWAC project sites were identified and in 2023/24 the World Bank commenced a new scoping study that analyzed the potential of SWAC in several islands and the results are expected to be published by the middle of 2024.



5. Vision, Collaboration and Partnership:

This will be essential for success; especially with LAC regional players. And as Jamaica's Usain Bolt advises:



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