

THERE WERE 28 PRIMARY contributors to the project. Unfortunately, some experts were unable to attend the workshop, though all contributed detailed information.

More than 700 different sources were cited. The number used for each country varied from three to 181. A low number of sources does not necessarily translate into poor data. While it is true that there were areas such as the Lesser Antilles for which the low number of sources reflects the small amount of data available, other areas are well studied and all the requested data were already collected in a few texts.

To evaluate the quality of the information provided, each indicator was given a value of A (complete and reliable data according to the best available resources), B (reliable, but geographically incomplete data), and C (uncertain data). While there clearly were information gaps, the majority of the collected data were judged to be in the A and B categories.

## Mapping Descriptions

### *Coastlines and Political Boundaries*

Derived from ESRI's Arc/Info. version of the Defense Mapping Agency's Digital Chart of the World, the nominal mapping scale for coastlines and political boundaries is 1:1,000,000. This dataset was used in the compilation of the coastline lengths for provinces and ecoregions.

### *Hydrology*

Hydrology information was derived from ESRI's Digital Chart of the World, at a nominal mapping scale of 1:3,000,000. This dataset was used as a visual reference of the drainage patterns in the study area.

### *Mangroves*

This information is from the World Wildlife Foundation's mangrove database. The dataset was used in the compilation of area and coastline length of mangroves in each province and bioregion. The nominal mapping scale is 1:1,000,000.

### *Bathymetry*

The data for Latin America is from the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) world bathymetric database, and has a nominal mapping scale of 1:10,000,000. The data for the Caribbean is a combination of the GEBCO dataset and bathymetric data from National Geographic maps, ranging in scale from 1:250,000 to 1:1 000,000. This dataset was used for calculation of the shelf area for provinces and bioregions.

### *Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs)*

Exclusive Economic Zones for Latin America were derived from *The maritime political boundaries of the world: a handbook on national legislation* (Prescott, 1985). EEZs for the Caribbean were derived from *Maritime jurisdiction in the wider Caribbean* (Ratter, 1993). Nominal mapping scales vary across the study area. This dataset was used in the calculation of political responsibility for province and ecoregion areas and coastlines.