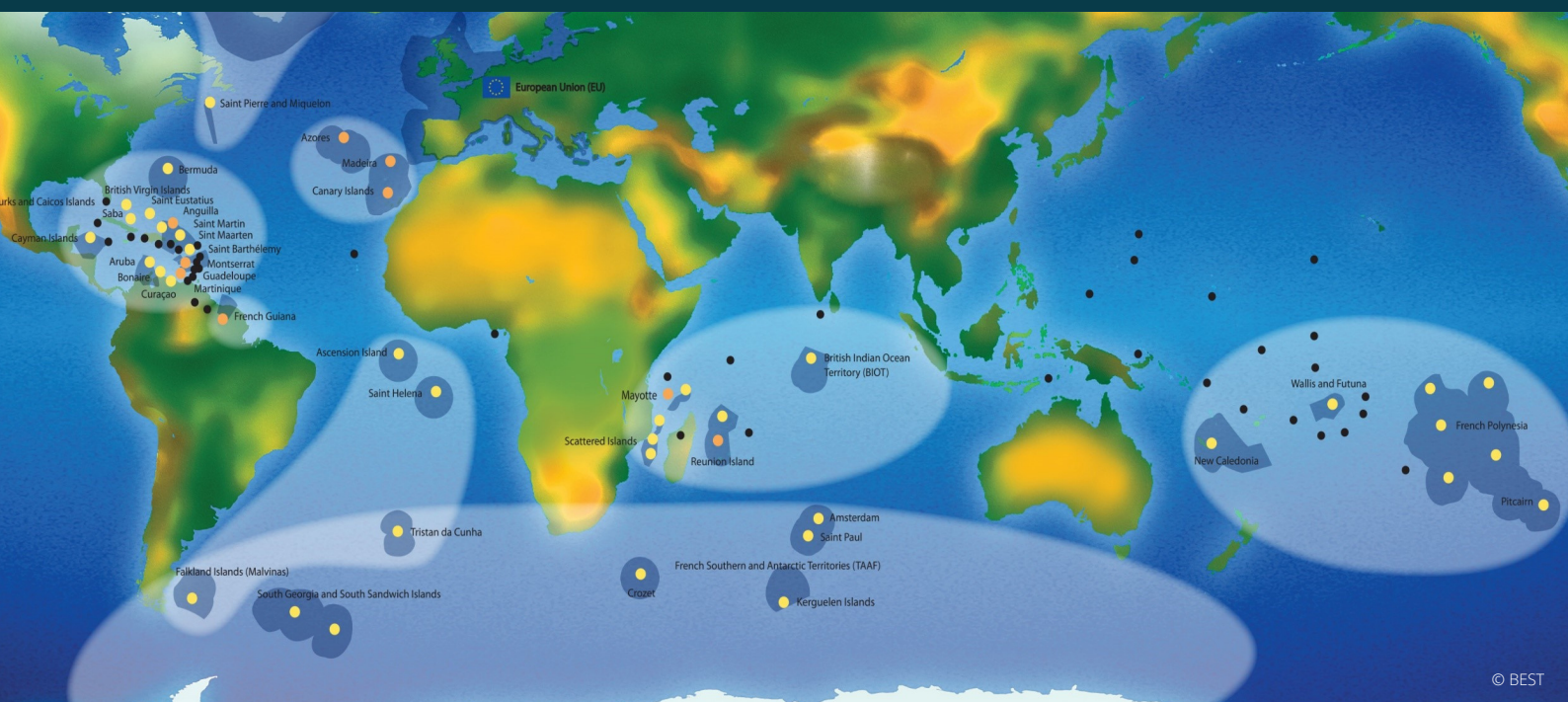


BEST

VOLUNTARY SCHEME
FOR BIODIVERSITY AND
ECOSYSTEM SERVICES
IN TERRITORIES OF
EUROPEAN OVERSEAS

BEST GLOBAL IMPACT FACTSHEET

2015-2019



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BEST MAKING AN IMPACT WORLDWIDE

STRENGTHENING LOCAL CONSERVATION AT A GLOBAL SCALE

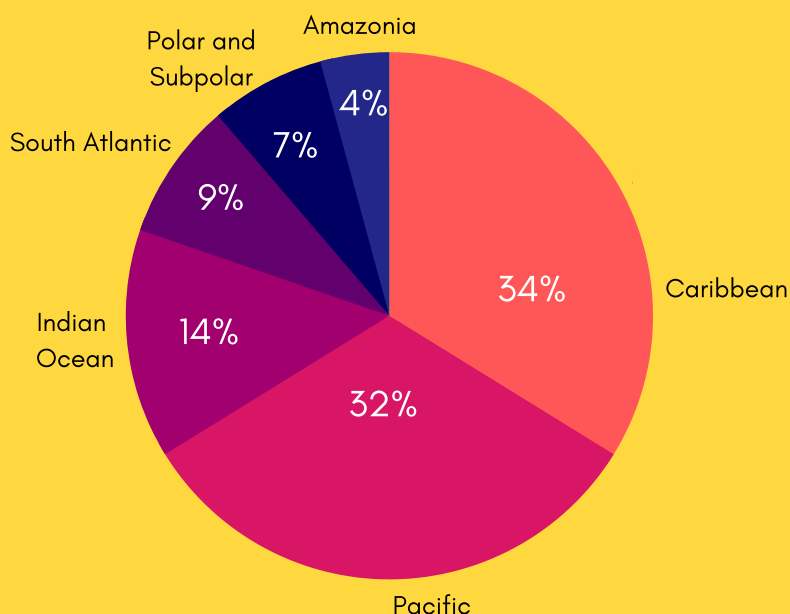
From 2015 to 2019, the BEST programmes supported field actions to empower and strengthen local stakeholders committed to local development, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of ecosystem services.

71 projects - worth more than €8 million in total - were supported by BEST in 6 regions: Amazonia, Caribbean, Indian Ocean, Pacific, Polar and Subpolar, and South Atlantic.

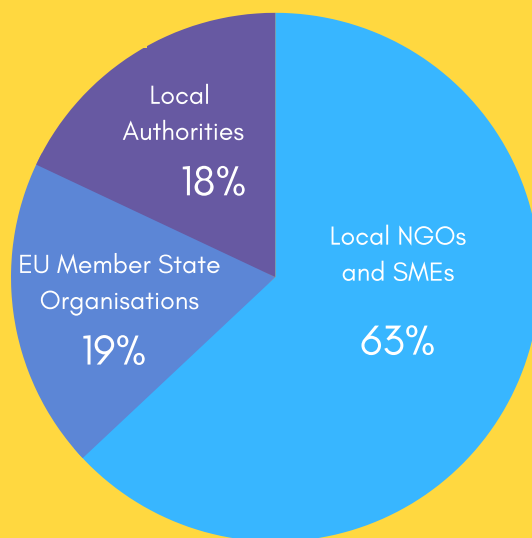


OVERALL FIGURES

Geographical Scope of Projects



Grant Beneficiaries



PROJECT RESULTS

**CONSERVATION OF
BIODIVERSITY, SUSTAINABLE
USE OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES,
CLIMATE CHANGE**



- **15% of project beneficiaries** developed new practices on the sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystem services.



- More than **1,700 species** were studied.
- **12 new species** discovered.
- **150 endangered species** benefited from protection action, of which **43% are endemic**.



- **25% of projects** contributed to climate change mitigation or adaptation.

PROJECT RESULTS

CAPACITY BUILDING, SUSTAINABILITY, AND VISIBILITY



- Around 120 jobs were supported.
- More than 900 volunteers mobilised.
- Over 1,500 people trained.



- More than 500 awareness-raising events were organised with more than 50,000 individuals sensitised.
- 380,000 people reached through (social) media.



- Close to 400 collaborations were initiated or strengthened at local, regional, and international level.
- 58 projects extended their activities beyond the lifespan of the BEST grants.

ABOUT BEST

Since 2011, the BEST Initiative has supported the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of ecosystem services, including ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation, in the 9 EU Outermost Regions (ORs), and 25 Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs), through more than 100 projects.

BEST 2.0 and BEST RUP are programmes respectively financed by the European Commission (EC) – DG DEVCO (B4Life) and DG ENV (LIFE Programme).

The IUCN French Committee, the Regional Activity Centre for the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife for the Wider Caribbean Region (RAC-SPA), the French Southern and Antarctic Land (TAAF) and the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI) were partners to BEST 2.0. BEST RUP was supported by the French Museum of Natural History (MNHN) and WWF France.



This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of IUCN and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

For more information on the BEST Initiative:

<https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/best>

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/our-work/eu-overseas/good-better-best>

In 2020, BEST 2.0+, and LIFE4BEST programmes took over, following the end of BEST 2.0 covering the OCTs and BEST RUP covering the ORs. To learn more, visit:

<https://www.best2plus.org>

<https://www.life4best.org>