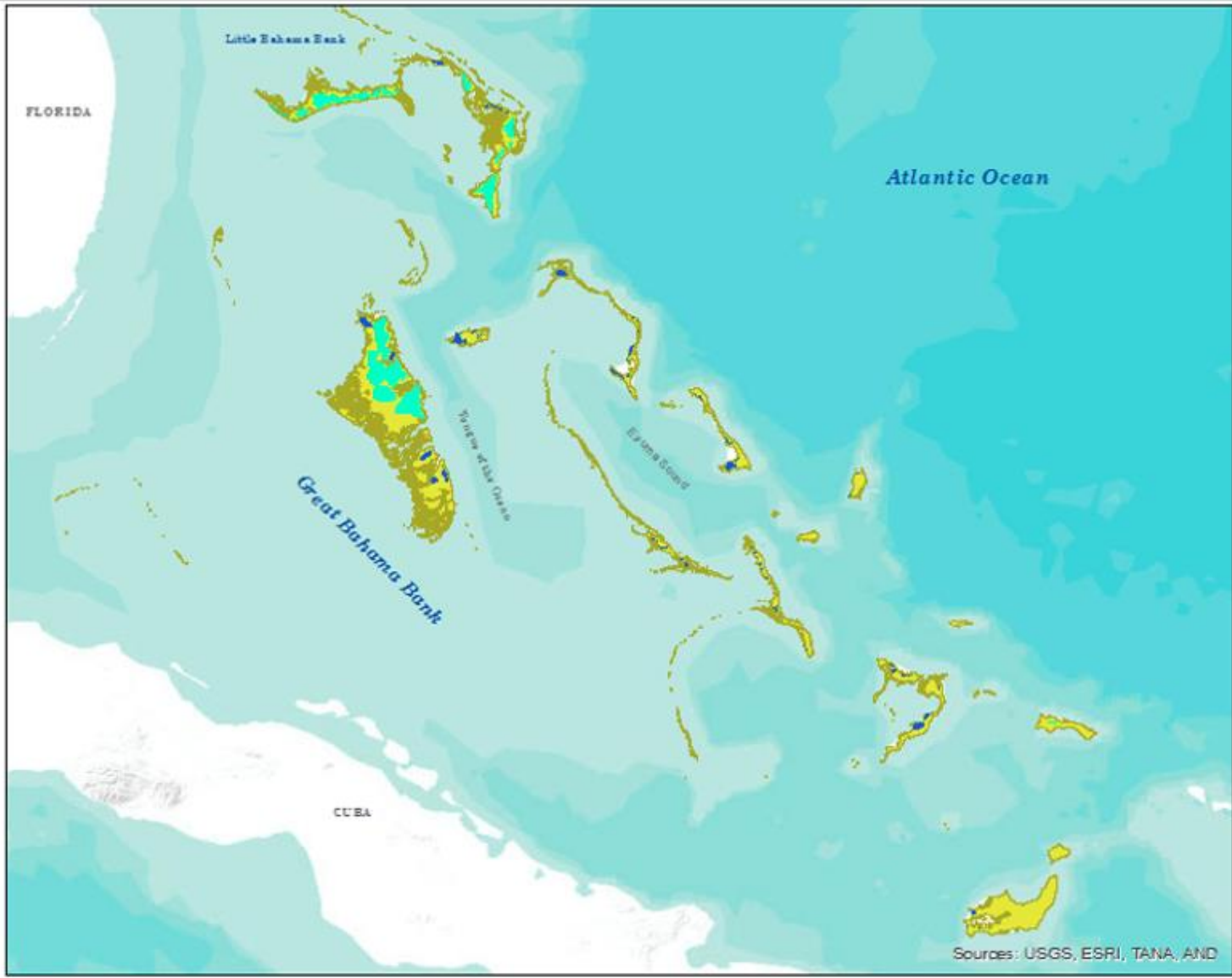


Study of The Bahamas – Degree of IWRM Implementation

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THE BAHAMAS

Groundwater

- Generally Plentiful
- Locally Plentiful
- Bahama Islands



Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 18N
 Projection: Transverse Mercator

GEF Full Size Project:
Building a Sustainable Protected Area System
in The Bahamas



Prepared by:
 HD Wells Professional Planning Service
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 Data Sources:
 Bahama Islands (TNC)
 Stratification Units (TNC)
 Protected Areas (TNC, BNT, DMR)

Sources: USGS, ESRI, TANA, AND

IWRM

WSC

Water service provision;
regulation of other service
providers

DEHS

Regulation of bottled water
providers

DEPP

Management of water as a
natural resource; oversight of
other water management
agencies

Forestry Unit

Management of forest
reserves and groundwater
aquifers and wellfields on
those reserves

2007 IWRM Plan – Policy Objectives

Area	Policy Objective
Efficient Use	To maximize the efficient use of water resources.
Health	To improve overall water quality through ecologically sound water management practices.
Pollution Prevention & Control	To control water extraction, use and water pollution.
Environment & Biodiversity	To improve the overall environmental health of The Bahamas, and promote the health of wetlands and the terrestrial environment through ecologically sound water management practices.
Water Supply	To ensure a safe, reliable and cost-effective water supply into the future for municipal, agricultural, industrial and other uses.
Public Awareness & Outreach	To implement programmes to educate the public on water consciousness and promote its participation.
Disaster Preparedness & Flood Management	To look for opportunities for partnerships, incentive programmes and other voluntary measures to implement an action plan for disaster preparedness and flood management.



Enabling environment

Policies, plans and laws to support IWRM.



Institutions and participation

Capacity, participation and coordination at all levels.



Management instruments

Instruments to monitor and manage water resources and ecosystems.



Financing

Budgets and revenue raising for IWRM and infrastructure.

Source: UNEP-DHI Centre, 2017

Recommendations for ECLAC's Intervention to Advance IWRM in The Bahamas

1. Development and approval of an IWRM National Policy with 2030 goals as well as an associated action plan for implementation.
2. Increase of the resilience of its groundwater resources to climate change as well as exploring and implementing green alternatives to freshwater production.
3. Ensure synergies across Government agencies.
4. Replicate the Abaco Sunny Waters project and associated 'WASH in Schools' program in all islands of The Bahamas to increase communication and outreach as well as stakeholder engagement in IWRM.

Recommendations for ECLAC's Intervention to Advance IWRM in The Bahamas

5. Development of a groundwater monitoring program that will be incorporated into the spatial decision support system (SSDS) being developed by DEPP.
6. Development and implementation of a Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) demonstration project as a means of climate change adaptation for The Bahamas.
7. Development of a Groundwater Management Manual or Guideline for Crop Production on the islands of The Bahamas.