



CTA-036-Need for 1st Response Plan (Simpson Bay Lagoon)- St. Maarten

[How do we save coral reefs?](#)

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Call to Action Plan for the Need for 1st Response Plan (Simpson Bay Lagoon)- St. Maarten

[The recent oil spill in Simpson Bay Lagoon](#) brings to light the need for a national 1st Response Plan. The Nature Foundation St. Maarten has performed an OUTSTANDING response to the event and should be commended on their rapid response.

It is vital to establish a baseline of environment conditions, wind and ocean currents, water temperature, etc. to document conditions surrounding the event. Samples need to be taken and evaluated at the time of the spill. Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) data along with [satellite imagery to locate the origin and trajectory of the spill](#)* is essential to create an overall operational picture. This operational picture will be the living document or data repository and base line well into the future.

Satellite Imagery is needed to establish a base operational picture and to identify resources and potential threats to sensitive assets in the Lagoon.

*<http://www2.ucar.edu/terms-of-use>

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*The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing"....**Edmund Burke***