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GREEN REPORTER



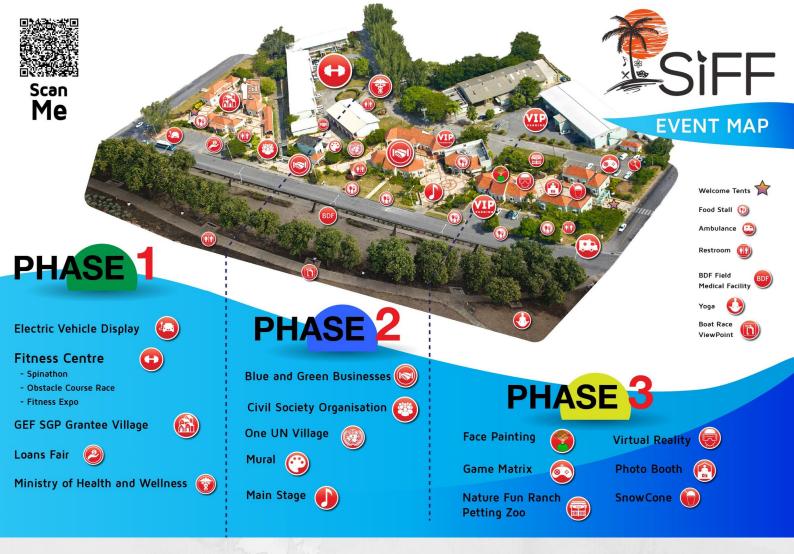


Overview of the Festival

Explore the Grantee and the One UN Villages

Where green met blue!

SDG 17 in full effect at SIFF



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MESSAGE HE NATIONAL COORDINATOR

DAVID BYNOE

Welcome to another special edition of the SGP's Green Reporter. This edition focuses on the inaugural Small Island Future Fest (SIFF), which has been conceptualised to address the awareness in environmental gap among the general public by promoting messages of environmental sustainability in an innovative and inclusive way - leaving no one behind. The festival integrated the sustainable development goals (SDGs) creatively to raise awareness and demonstrate practical ways that Small Islands can achieve a bright and prosperous future.

The SIFF is an evolution of our GEF SGP Green Knowledge Fair previously held in 2016 and 2017. This evolution facilitated greater public appeal and participation. Through food, fashion, film, poetry, music, dance, theatre, applied science and realworld live demonstrations, the SIFF impactfully showcased what it means to live sustainably in a Small Island.

Islanders who epitomise sustainable living and are actively involved in building the blue and green economies shared their experiences and knowledge.



This edition highlights clearly SDG 17 Partnership for Development through the many civil society, government, and private sector organizations that worked together to implement this monumental festival. These partnerships are captured within the newsletter and demonstrate the success of the SIFF in facilitating a whole society approach to sustainable development.

Thank you to all the contributors who submitted articles featured in this edition. We know that you will find this special SIFF edition informative and interesting please share it within your networks, inclusive of partners, colleagues, friends and family.

Let us partner together to ensure that Small Islands have a Big and Sustainable Future!

Overview of the Festival



Barbados' biggest environmental event was held on 28-29 June 2019 at Pelican Centre, Bridgetown, St Michael.



The Small Island Future Fest (SIFF) is the flagship initiative of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the Future Centre Trust and the Blue Green Initiative and other partners, including the Barbados Investment and Development Corporation (BIDC), and Ministry of Environmental and National Beautification.



The SIFF, under the patronage of Her Excellency Dame Sandra Mason, GCMG DA QC, Governor General of Barbados certainly lived up to expectations attracting more than 6,000 patrons over the two days. Patrons included students from over 13 schools, locals, cruise tourists, civil servants, fitness enthusiasts and the general public.



Over 80 exhibitors epitomised sustainable living through food, fashion, film eco-attractions and more. There were road tennis competitions, a Lion fish derby, weigh in and an exciting cook off.

During the Friday evening patrons were entertained by local acts Ch'An and Altered Fifth.

Continued on page 5.

On Saturday night, Biggie Irie, Damian Marvay and Mikey wooed patrons. This was followed by an environmentally friendly fireworks display to the spectators' delight.

The SIFF was branded as a festival, but it was more than that, it was a celebration of the resilient nature of Caribbean people



Click here to watch the Small Island Future Fest Video

- 1: During the opening ceremony (first row, left to right), Her Excellency Dame Sandra Mason, GCMG DA QC, Governor General of Barbados and Patron of the SIFF and The Hon Trevor Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification; (2nd row, I-r), His Excellency Teruhiko Shinada, Ambassador of Japan in Barbados, His Excellency Anton Ojala, New Zealand High Commissioner to Barbados and Mr Aloys Kamuragiye, UNICEF Representative for the Eastern Caribbean Area; (3rd row, I-r), Mr Ugo Blanco, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative and Mr Floris Vermeulen (partially hidden), EIB Representative for the Southern and Eastern Caribbean.
- 2: A display in the One UN Village.
- 3: A grantee representative of the Addis Alem Cooperative showing off the range of nature juices and Falernum available in their booth.
- 4: Pupils of the St Giles Nursery School with teachers performing their song during the opening ceremony.
- 5: Students modelling their costumes during the Cosplay Competition.
- 6: In the CORALL booth; The Hon Trevor Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification and Mrs Susan Mahon, President of CORALL (Coral Reef Restoration Alliance).
- 7: Fireworks display (environmentally friendly) culminating SIFF 2019. (Photo credits: BGI)

SGP Grantee Village

Patrons of the Small Island Future Fest (SIFF) experienced tangible demonstrations of the sustainable development initiatives within the green and blue economy. The connections between environmental preservation and sustainable living were exposed and witnessed in the SGP Grantee Village.

Fifteen (15) Grantees showcased displays and presentations reflecting the the work of Small Grants Programme in Barbados over the past 6 years.

Grantee Exhibitors: Baird's Village Aquaponic Association, Barbados Marine Trust, Biocultural Education and Research Programme, Caribbean Permaculture Research Institute, Coral Reef Restoration Alliance, Healing Waters International, House of Re-Discovery, Live Earth, Nature Fun Ranch, Organic Growers and Consumers Association, Small Business Association, Young Nature Conservationist Association, Youth Equipped to Achieve, BlueGreen Initiative and Future Centre Trust.



(I-r): Mr Damian Hinkson of Baird's Village Aquaponic Association, grantee, explaining his aquaponics system to the Patron of the Small Island Future Fest, Her Excellency, Dame Sandra Mason, GCMG DA QC, Governor General of Barbados, Mr Ugo Blanco, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative and His Excellency, Gustavo Martinez Pandiani, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic in Barbados.

The Eco-lab Project

IAN DOUGLAS, HOUSE OF RE-DISCOVERY

The House of Re-discovery charity showcased its Eco-Lab project, various herbs, plants, edible flowers, sacred trees and indigenous knowledge at the Small Island Future Fest (SIFF).

The Eco-lab project is one of the tangible fruits which came out of engaging with the Global Day of the Drum (GDOD) initiative in 2011 which started the process of intermingling with the arts and its inquisitive connection to nature and agrosciences.

Some of the products which will be produced by the Eco-Lab include herbal tonics, male boosters, female hormone balancers and natural detox blends. The charity launched two products at SIFF; the Finger gro-male booster and Bongo Elson Tuk Sauce. The main locally grown herbs being studied for the production healing medicine and tonics are: Finger Gro FINGRIGOor (Zanthoxylum spinifex, Fagara spinifex), Seed under the leaf "Phyllanthus niruri", Miraculous Bush (Cerasee) "Momordica charantia", Fowl foot-grass or Bermuda grass "Cynodon dactylon", Aloe Vera "Aloe barbadensis", Scrunchineel "Nopalea cochenillifera" "Urtica and Nettle dioica".

Also on display were publications of the Agricultural and Metaphysical Calendar which Magazines series were first published in 2015 for Agrofest and now it is in 6th publication being prepared for Agrofest 2020. The print and online versions of the magazine are part of the GDOD cluster projects which pursues retraining and re-educating people about the linkages between agricultural sciences and bio-spiritual ecology. Growing up in my community in Barbados, there was not such a dependency on pharmaceuticals but natural remedies were available in our parents and grandparents kitchens while backyard farming was complemented by the fruit available in the villages. Without a doubt there is a spike in interest in local medicinal herbal products among young people and the older folk are again inquiring.



(I-r): Dame Sandra Mason taking a closer look at a Bongo Elson Tuk [pepper] sauce while Mr Ian Douglas, House of Rediscovery and Mr David Bynoe, National Coordinator, GEF SGP Barbados look on.

Coral conservation and restoration 6

SUSAN MAHON, CORAL REEF RESTORATION ALLIANCE (CORALL)

The Coral Reef Restoration Alliance (CORALL) stands for the restoration of CORAL reef ecosystems for the well-being of ALL. CORALL's 200 volunteers work together in Barbados - to restore reefs. Dr David Vaughan is CORALL's renowned mentor and guide.

CORALL's projects focus on physical restoration and on addressing the underlying causes of We actively engage community deterioration. members in the "Ridge to Reef (R2R)" approach. In July 2019, CORALL hosted a R2R Assembly at UN House, followed by a public Expo at Southern Hotel. **Palms** The R2R Assembly involved decision-makers in sustainable environmental stewardship and focused on the blue and green economies. The R2R Expo engaged members of the public in interactive exhibits that featured CORALL's approach.

CORALL's activities focus on out-planting coral fragments and monitoring their health at three pilot sites on the west coast of Barbados. We now plan use Dr. micro-fragmentation to Vaughan's technique to prepare fragments for nurseries at Folkestone Marine Reserve. These nursery-reared fragments will eventually be used to restore Barbadian reefs. So far, after 14 months of outplanting, CORALL's fragments of brain coral and a few fragments of elkhorn coral have demonstrated good survivorship and growth.



Mrs Susan Mahon, President of Minister CORALL with Environment and **National** Beautification in the CORALL booth.



CORALL members, Zoe Lisk, Lucy Agace and Michel Loustric, recording information about coral outplants on an underwater slate, at Port St. Charles during February 2019. (Photo credit: CORALL)

Secure Your Future

Save Your Seeds with Us

JOHN HUNTE, ORGANIC GROWERS AND CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION



The Organic Growers and Consumers Association (OGCA) was registered as a grass roots CSO out of a need for representation of Crop. organic farmers.

Click here to learn more about **OGCA** Seed Catalogue.

Click here to visit the Growers Organic and **Consumers Association** website.

The Organic Growers and Consumers Association (OGCA) launched its seed catalogue at the Small Island Future Fest (SIFF). In our booth, patrons had the chance give seed and/or cash deposits and open savings accounts. With these accounts, persons can borrow seeds and repay in seeds at harvest, or in vegetables. Investors can also open an account even if they do not farm. They can consider a risk management account where they put in a sum as a short, medium or long term futures investment based on a crop. They can recover their investment in fruits or vegetables at maturity of the

The main idea is:

- To get people to open branches of these seed banks in each community or parish.
- To reduce the risk of seed scarcity, to build an awareness and participation in food sovereignty and security.
- To establish a central seed bank in each Caribbean territory and to trade in suitable organic and heirloom varieties throughout the region.
- To preserve seed types that can be displaced by natural disasters. Eventually a regional central bank and data base will be formed, which becomes the basis for a parallel truly green economy.

Empowered Youth •

Grow Smart Youth Farm

FRANZ HAREWOOD-HAMBLIN, EMPOWER YOUTH INTERNATIONAL

Grow Smart Youth Farm focuses on growing organic produce using climate smart agro-ecological techniques while endowing the agri-entrepreneurial skills of young persons.

The project is in its second year and was funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to provide employment opportunities for youth in the organisation who were struggling academically but were skilled in farming and poultry rearing.

For us, one major achievement was the added publicity that we were able to capitalise on during the Small Island Future Fest (SIFF). We highlighted the work of Grow Smart Youth Farm and promoted the concept of Climate Smart Agriculture to patrons. We successfully engaged our volunteers, youth and the public in promoting Climate Smart Agriculture through the use of our selfie-board and social media sites.





Mrs Franz Harewood-Hamblin (right) with Empower Youth International (EYI) volunteers promoting the Grow Smart Youth Farm at the Small Island Future Fest (SIFF). (Photo credit: EYI)

At the SIFF, Empower Youth International was able to recruit volunteers to work with organisation on its sustainable agriculture project and additional youth signed up to take part in our agri-entrepreneurship programme which took place in July 2019. We are very pleased that from a promotional and educational perspective, we were able to meet our goal and value the opportunity that SIFF provided to highlight **Empower** Youth International and its projects!

Empower Youth International (EYI) volunteers in the Grow Smart Youth Farm booth. (Photo credit: EYI)

Waste management at SIFF

STEVE PORTER, CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, LIVE EARTH



During SIFF, Live Earth volunteered and was responsible for waste management during the event.

The purpose of Live Earth's engagement was twofold. The primary focus was, of course, ensuring that a festival focused on sustainability did as much as possible to handle the waste in the most sustainable fashion.

The secondary focus was the gathering of data as to how receptive Bajans would be to separated-waste in a festival setting. Our experience at the festival was, for lack of a better description, extraordinary and transformative for the Live Earth team. By simply setting up differentiated waste disposal stations, having a few quick chats with vendors to help them guide their clients on disposal, we found a tremendous rate of "doing the right thing". Our contamination rate was below 15%. This is a level at or above what would be expected in countries that have mandatory waste separation.

Through the efforts of the team and visitors we were able to reduce the 20yr CO2 equivalent emissions of greenhouse gases by nearly 1 tonne! The organic diversion rate was over 88% which is a tremendous figure, aided by the plastics ban cutting down on common contaminants to that stream.

All-in-all we consider the festival to be a resounding success and we look forward to being involved in future iterations, where we can continue to demonstrate proof-of-life concepts and practicality of sustainable resource management.

Live Earth helps companies and organisations of all sizes to design, implement, practice and continuously improve sustainability initiatives that benefit both the bottom line and the environment. They partner with other organisations as needed to provide a full range of services including waste/resource management, renewable energy, smart conservation technology, training, auditing and more.

One UN Village

The One UN Village showcased the work of the Agencies of the United Nations in Barbados and the OECS.













Where Green met Blue!

The collaboration of green and blue was simply exceptional! The BlueGreen Summits hosted by the UNDP Blue Economy Accelerator Lab brought together young activists and other local leaders to speak on the issues in the blue economy and to further harness the collective intelligence in the space. It also provided a platform for the youngest and brightest minds to share and verbalise their concerns, ideas and solutions.











Brianna Williams - Renewable Energy & Implications for the Caribbean



Kemar Codrington & Mikhail Eversely -Oasis Lab's Journey

Zachary Hoyte - The Changing Face of Agriculture in the 21st Century







Dr Thérèse Yarde - What we talk about when we talk about the environment; Ms Nikola Simpson - Plastics: The Impact on Barbados and; Mark Hill - The Design Economy

Environment Month 2019

Living sustainably is...Thinking circular...Repair don't just replace.

School Engagements by the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Barbados, the Ministry of Environment and National Beautification, UN Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), and the BlueGreen Initiative to promote the Environmental Expressions performing Arts Competition/Showcase.

DONNA KING-BRATHWAITE, NATIONAL COORDINATOR, PAGE (BARBADOS)

As part of the celebrations for Environment Month 2019, the Embassy of the Argentine Republic in Barbados, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment UN PAGE Barbados, and BlueGreen Initiative (BGI), selected four primary schools to be part of an initiative to engage students in a discussion on the effects of marine pollution and to encourage expressions of environmental awareness through the arts. The Embassy was supported in this activity by Staff of the Ministry and the BGI, whose members accompanied the Ambassador, His Excellency Gustavo Martinez Pandiani, on visits to each school to give presentations on littering and the impacts of plastics on the marine environment. Belmont Primary, Blackman and Gollop Primary, St. Paul's Primary and Holy Innocents Primary were visited on June 7, 11, 18 and 25, respectively.

At each school, the Ambassador and his team were warmly welcomed by the Principals, staff and students after which he gave an introductory strengthening presentation on the relationship between Argentina and Barbados and the need for a collective effort in preserving the environment. The members of the BlueGreen Initiative then followed with an interactive presentation to engage the students on the topics: "What environment?", "What is littering?" and "The ban on single-use plastics in Barbados".





Environmental Expressions
Promotional Poster



Click here to learn more about the coverage in the media.

As young environmentally conscious professionals, members of the BGI also sought to sensitise the students about the potential impacts of polluted beaches and seas on people's livelihoods. They utilised videos which showed how ordinary Barbadians use the island's coastal and marine environments as their 'classrooms' and in the promotion of the 'beach culture' way of life. The Ministry of Environment and National Beautification was represented during each school visit by, Project Coordinator, Gina Belle who spoke on the theme for environment month and the importance of adding the Repair 'R' to the more widely promoted 3R's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.





Presentation by the BlueGreen Initiative (left) and the delivery of the Vote of Thanks at Blackman and Gollop Primary (right). (Photo credit: BGI)

On June 28, as part of the Small Island Future Festival, students of the Belmont Primary, St. Paul's Primary and Holy Innocents Primary performed dramatic pieces during the Environmental Expressions Arts Showcase, sponsored by PAGE and facilitated by Donna King-Brathwaite, National Coordinator for PAGE Barbados, which fittingly conveyed messages to promote environmental protection, awareness and stewardship. Blackman and Gollop Primary also contributed to the showcase with poems and visual arts pieces.

The Honourable Trevor Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification and The Honourable Kirk Humphrey, Minister of Maritime Affairs and Blue Economy assisted with the presentation of a 'Myth Busters' board game, donated by the Ministry of Environment, to each school, as an expression of appreciation for their outstanding participation in this initiative, as part of Environment Month.





Students of the Holy Innocents Primary (left) and Belmont Primary (right) performing at the Environmental Expressions Arts Showcase during the Small Island Future Festival. (Photo credit: BGI)



Presentation of the Myth Buster's Board Game to Belmont Primary to close the Environmental Expressions Arts Showcase during the Small Island Future Festival. (Photo credit: BGI)



Students of St. Paul's Primary viewing the visual art at the Environmental Expressions Arts Showcase during the Small Island Future. Festival (Photo credit: BGI)



Students accompanied by The Hon. Kirk Humphrey (left) and The Hon. Trevor Prescod (right) after at the Environmental Expressions Arts Showcase during the Small Island Future Festival (SIFF).

Lion Fish Derby

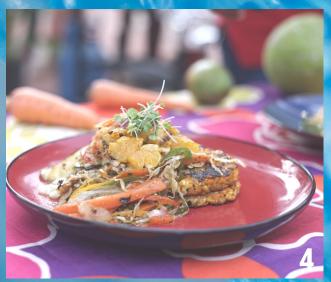




- **1:** A diver showing off his catch during the lionfish derby and weigh in competition.
- **2:** Prize winners of the lion fish derby and weigh in competition pose for a group photo. (Photo credits: BGI)

Cookoff





3-4: Chefs prepared mouthwatering dishes to the delight of patrons who were able to sample the epicurean delicacies. (Photo credit: BGI)







1 (First row, left to right): Mr Esworth Reid, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy, The Hon Trevor Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification, Her Excellency, Dame Sandra Mason, GCMG DA QC and Mr Didier Trebucq, UN Resident Coordinator; (2nd row, I-r), His Excellency Teruhiko Shinada, Ambassador of Japan in Barbados, His Excellency Anton Ojala, New Zealand High Commissioner to Barbados and Mr Aloys Kamuragiye, UNICEF Representative for the Eastern Caribbean Area (partially hidden), Major Julia Dabreo, Aide-de-camp to Governor General (hidden), His Excellency Gustavo Martinez Pandiani, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic to Barbados; (3rd row, I-r), Mr Ugo Blanco, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Mr Floris Vermeulen, EIB Representative for the Southern and Eastern Caribbean, Dr Adrian Cashman, Member of SGP Barbados NSC and Mr Lionel Weekes, Chairman of SGP Barbados NSC.

- 2: The Hon Kirk Humphrey, Minister of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy presenting a prize to a student of Belmont Primary School.
- **3:** Mr Didier Trebucq, UN Resident Coordinator with a pupil of St Gile's Nursery during the sand ceremony.









4 (I-r): Mr Ugo Blanco, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative.

5 (I-r): Mr David Bynoe, National Coordinator (GEF SGP Barbados), His Excellency Gustavo Martinez Pandiani, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic in Barbados, Empower Youth International (EYI) volunteer and Mrs Marilyn Rice-Bowen, Member of SGP Barbados NSC.

6: Mr Travis Sinckler, Senior Environmental Officer, Ministry of Environment and National Beautification and Member of SGP Barbados National Steering Committee.

7: Mrs Donna King-Brathwaite, National Coordinator of PAGE Barbados in conversation with The Hon Trevor Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification.



- **8:** Mr Mohammad Nagdee, Managing Director of BlueGreen Initiative (BGI) and Dr Shelly-Ann Cox, SIFF Event Coordinator.
- 9: Mrs Sue Trew of Best of Barbados Gift Shops.
- 10: Ms Dominique Tudor of Eco Rebel Barbados.
- 11: "Venom" during the road tennis exhibition games.



11: Entertainers Ch'An, (12) Damian Marvay and (13) Michael 'Mikey' Mercer.

SDG 17 in full effect at SIFF

KAREN BARKER, PROGRAMME ASSISTANT, GEF SGP BARBADOS

The Small Island Future Fest (SIFF) was simply emblematic! It lived up to expectations and delivered to the over 6,000 patrons who attended the two-day festival. It not only delivered greater awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sustainable living, but it delivered a tangible showcase of partnerships for goals.

It was the ultimate demonstration of SDG 17 as the festival brought together over 80 exhibitors from the private and public sector, civil society and development organisations.

Without partnerships, the SIFF would not have delivered on its ambitious target. All partners and sponsors shared in the vision of the SIFF and we hope to grow the festival into a model for other Small Island Developing States (SIDS) both regionally and internationally with the message of living sustainably by working together and directing resources to one goal, OUR FUTURE.

We wish to specially thank our sponsors and partners who participated and supported the 2019 Small Island Future Fest.

17

Partnership for goals!

Partners/Sponsors











Ministry of Environment and National Beautification

































Partners/Sponsors



UNITED NATIONS BARBADOS AND THE OECS

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CONTACT US

GEF Small Grants Programme - UNDP UN House, Marine Gardens, Hastings, Christ Church, Barbados

David Bynoe

National Coordinator (246) 467-6011 david.bynoe@undp.org

Karen Barker

Programme Assistant (246) 467-6013 karen.barker@undp.org

Websites:

https://sgpbarbados.org https://sgp.undp.org

PRODUCER

Karen Barker

EDITORS

David Bynoe Faith Richards Karen Barker

CONTRIBUTORS

David Bynoe
Donna King-Brathwaite
Franz Harewood-Hamblin
lan Douglas
John Hunte
Karen Barker
Dr Shelly-Ann Cox
Steve Porter

FOLLOW@GEFSGPBarbados



