



ISSUE#1 VOLUME #1 December 2014

SGP's GREENREPORTER

"COMMUNITY ACTION GLOBAL IMPACT"

A Biannual Newsletter Highlighting Community Efforts

Seasons Greetings

The Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) would like to welcome you to the first issue of the SGP Barbados newsletter – The SGP's Green Reporter. Every six months we will provide you the latest news on the work of SGP Barbados, share lessons learned and best practices of various country initiatives.

The SGP Reporter will provide a mechanism for SGP grantees under the Grantees' Corner to introduce themselves to the wider community and share their innovative strategies in their quest to make a positive impact on the environment. Other stakeholders or partners will share their insights and expertise in the areas of climate change, management of chemicals, land degradation, biodiversity and international waters.



Letter from the National Coordinator

We hope that you will find this first issue informative and interesting so please share it within your networks, inclusive of partners, colleagues, friends and family. On behalf of the GEF SGP Barbados team, I would like to wish you all the best for this holiday season and we look forward to your continued support in 2015.

David Bynoe
National Coordinator



UN MAJOR GROUPS FORMED

CSO representatives gathered at the UN House for the CSOs' Consultation on SIDS and Post-2015 Development Agenda led by CYEN- Barbados Chapter.



CARIBSAVE's GREENING MSMEs

Businesses in coastal communities are encouraged to implement green technology

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UN Major Groups established through CSO dialogue

On July 30th 2014, the “Civil Society Organizations’ (CSOs) Consultation on Small Island Developing States and Post-2015 Development Agenda”, which was hosted by the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) – Barbados Chapter and funded by GEF SGP, led to the adoption of the UN Major Groups framework. Over 40 representatives of CSOs in Barbados participated in the dialogue session and provided meaningful inputs into the development of the national position for the upcoming Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States and Post-2015 Development process.

In 1992 the United Nations paved the way for CSOs to participate in achieving sustainable development at the global level through formalizing Major Groups under Section 3 of Agenda 21. These Major Groups (Business and Industry, Children and Youth, Farmers, Indigenous People, Science and Technology, Local Authorities, NGOs, Women and Workers and Trade Unions) create a mechanism to strengthen the role of CSOs in policy formulation and implementation at all levels. This will ensure real social partnership with the UN System and within government to support sustainable development.

During the dialogue, participants highlighted eleven priority areas for the implementation of the UN SIDS Outcomes which CYEN-Barbados Chapter will formally present on behalf of CSOs to the Government of Barbados in a comprehensive report. One of the key priorities was that “more inclusive

governance is needed to effectively engage civil society. Local governance also needs to be strengthened to enable effective delivery of actions at the community level”. Sustainable land management, greater utilization of alternative energy and climate change adaptation were among the major environmental priorities identified by CSOs.



“More inclusive governance is needed to effectively engage civil society...”



At the end of the consultation, eight UN Major Groups were formed to ensure that the voices of the all national stakeholders remain on the global agenda for sustainable development. Eight CSOs were nominated as focal points/chairpersons for each of the eight major groups. These CSOs have committed to facilitate the process and will seek to register under the UN Major Group framework within two to three months. However, the work does not end here, as follow-up sessions will be held with the constituents of the newly established Major Groups, with assistance from SGP Barbados. Click [here](#) for more.

CSO Dialogue



Opening Ceremony

CYEN's National Coordinator, Ms. Waynelle Collymore providing remarks to representatives of Civil Society Groups



The process

Mr. Travis Sinckler, Senior Environmental Officer of Policy Research, Planning and Information Unit, Ministry of Environment and Drainage providing an overview of SIDS and post-2015 process



CSO discussion

CSOs sharing their views on sustainable development

Nineteen CSOs awarded grants since 2013

Since the inception of the SGP country modality, SGP Barbados has awarded more than \$US 1 million in funding to 19 non-governmental organisations addressing critical environmental issues in the areas of land degradation, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation. The individual grant commitments range from \$US 2000.00 for planning grants to \$US 150,000.00 for strategic projects. This cash commitment is split between the SGP Core Grant Allocations for Country Programme (CORE funds), System for a Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR funds) and Australian Government Overseas Aid Program (AUSAID), with ten projects supported through CORE funds, ten projects support through STAR and two projects supported through AUSAID. Grantees have also solicited co-financing totaling over \$US 2 million for their projects. The list of approved grants are categorized by focal areas.



Grantee	Project Title	Grant (\$US)	Co-funding
LAND DEGRADATION			
Barbados Vagrants and Homeless Society	Organic Farming: The Crossroad Project	50,000.00	25,000.00
Caribbean Permaculture Research Institute	The Operationalization of the Caribbean Permaculture Research Institute (CPRI)	50,000.00	90,151.00
Caribbean Centre for Food Security and Sustainability	Community Organic Greenhouse Agriculture Pilot Project (Planning Grant)	4,250.00	27,538.00
Caribbean Centre for Food Security and Sustainability	Community Organic Greenhouse Agriculture Pilot Project (Full Grant)	45,750.00	133,590.00
Junior Achievement Charity of Barbados	Regional Entrepreneurship & Agricultural Program (REAP)	150,000.00	264,953.00
Nature's Fun Ranch	National Environment Park (Planning Grant)	5,000.00	6,300.00
Nature's Fun Ranch	National Environment Park	45,000.00	302,759.00
Organic Growers & Consumers Association	Organic Certification for Organic Farmers in Barbados (Planning Grant)	4,215.00	4,050.00
Organic Growers & Consumers Association	Organic Certification for Organic Farmers in Barbados	45,785.00	29,635.00
River of Life Mental Rehabilitation Centre	River of Life Rehabilitation Project	50,000.00	49,074.00
Zion House of Israel Temple	Genesis Project Farm	49,586.50	102,067.50
CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION			
Caribbean Policy Development Centre	Greening Caribbean Farming Communities Barbados Sub-project	50,000.00	87,488.00
CaribSAVE	Building Climate-Resilient Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Coastal Communities in Barbados	150,000.00	150,000.00
Sola Grow	Community Based Solar Cooled Greenhouse	150,000.00	342,189.86
Caribbean Youth Environment Network - Barbados	Civil Society Consultation on SIDS in Barbados	6,485.00	4,075.00
Cultural Cross Roads Empowerment Barbados	Community Empowerment Environment Project	49,980.00	102,150.00
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION (AUSAID SIDS CBA)			
Weston Fisherfolk Association	Building Climate Change Resilience in Community Fisheries in Weston, St. James	50,000.00	30,000.00
St. George Farmers Marketing Cooperative Society	Using climate-smart agricultural practices to increase local food security and climate change adaptation in the St. George farming community	2,000.00	3,790.00
BIODIVERSITY			
The Barbados Institute of Environmental Professionals	Sustainable Utilization of Local Natural Fibres and Seeds by Craft Artisans for New Product Development.	150,000.00	68,965.00
Trekvoy Art and Literary Endowment for the Naturally Talented	Coastal Conservation Education: Protecting Barbados' Coral Reef	50,000.00	60,253.65
Barbados Beekeeping Association	The Development of the Apiculture Industry in Barbados through the revival and strengthening of the Barbados Beekeeping Association	50,000.00	50,000.00
INTERNATIONAL WATERS			
Project Discovery	Innovative strategies for Managing Organic Waste and Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices	50,000.00	659,400.00

GEF SGP awards grant to OGCA to facilitate the certification of organic farmers

GEF SGP awarded the Organic Growers and Consumers Association (OGCA) with a \$US 50,000.00 cheque to implement the project “Organic Certification for Organic Farmers in Barbados” during the official project launch on 15 September 2014 at the Bellairs Research Institute. The project seeks to implement a national organic inspection and certification system, giving recognition to the true organic farmers in Barbados. A major output will be a minimum of ten persons trained as organic inspectors.

During the opening address President of the OGCA, John Hunte, noted that the term “organic” has become a buzz word among vendors and even conventional farmers. The term can be used as a marketing tool which can mislead consumers into purchasing non-organic products.

He stressed, “The use of the term, without any qualifying certificate of verification, undermines the value and integrity of true organic growers and the whole system by which that grower assists in sound environmental practices.”

Mr. Hunte revealed that the Barbados National Standards Institute (BNSI) has already adopted a version of organic standards based on the internationally recognized CODEX guidelines for organic farming but a system for delivery of inspections and certifications has not yet been developed.

“The system for award of a certificate of compliance also has to be above repute and therefore calls for an entity, other

than OGCA to organize and conduct inspections, review inspection reports and offer a certificate with a logo and design that can be used for packaging or at points of sale,” he added.

Meanwhile David Bynoe, the National Coordinator of the GEF SGP, noted that the event marked another step in the development of local organic agriculture and coincided with the 20 year anniversary since SGP made its first grant to the organic farmers located at Codrington College, St. John.

During his speech, he outlined that the initiative would serve as a conduit to facilitate the protection of the environment of Barbados from the negative impacts of conventional agriculture and create an authentic organic industry with functional economic earning capacity that provides a double dividend of creating and saving precious foreign exchange

He anticipates that the initiative also has the potential to lead to the emergence of an organic industry in Barbados.

Other key stakeholders endorsing the programme included Ena Harvey, Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA) representative for Barbados and Management Co-ordinator for the Caribbean Region; Roosevelt King, Secretary General of the Barbados Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (BANGO); and Susan Mahon, Academic and Managing Director of the Bellairs Research Institute of McGill University (BRI).

PROJECT LAUNCH



Cheque awarded

David Bynoe, National Coordinator awards Mr. John Hunte (OGCA) with a \$50,000 cheque to implement their project



OGCA Steering Committee

Members of OGCA Steering Committee were in attendance



Key Speakers

During Stakeholder Address (From Left To Right, Ena Harvey (IICA), David Bynoe (GEF SGP), Susan Mahon (BRI) And Roosevelt King (BANGO)

Grantee Tip # 1:



How to identify a project

Identifying your project should be a participatory process involving all or key members of your group who will bring constructive ideas and information.

Feel free to include external persons if your organisation does not have the technical capacity to undertake the project.

Now ask yourself four critical questions:

- What are the problems/needs?
- Which problems should your organization tackle?
- What is the overall objective for you to solve the problem?
- How will you solve the problem?

These questions can be answered using a handy tool called a Problem Tree Analysis which allows you to develop solutions based on a cause and effect relationship between the problems.

It's Time to Work

By Corey Lane, Founder & Chief,
Nature Fun Ranch

Back in 2009, The Nature Fun Ranch (NFR) sought to transform its Base Site into an Environmental Park. Step one was to conceptualize and seek assistance. At that time we recognized the general lack of appreciation for the environment. Littering, dumping, clear-cutting, poor or no sorting of garbage, heavy dependence on utilising chemical farming solutions etc. are all clear evidence of this.

Land degradation and slippage in our area of the Scotland District is a priority. We definitely saw the need for positive ecosystem management. This includes proper food production techniques in growing crops and livestock, proper biomass production and ensuring correct land cover. Also included is the use of agro-ecosystem friendly techniques such as organic and permaculture methods.

At the start of 2014, thanks to GEF SGP



Zoning Plan for Nature Fun Ranch

Barbados, we were enabled by way of a Planning Grant to do the following: project research, related meetings, workshops or seminars, photographs and video footage, a strategic planning exercise - review of vision, mission and values, objectives and creation of a road map on how to get there. Also there was the preparation of a zoning plan, conceptual drawings, landscaping plan and a phased development plan, the creation of project artist impression and a scaled model of the proposed completed project and of course the Full Grant Project Proposal. From Concept to Plan, we are out for now because It's Time to Work.

Zana Tackles the Coral Reef

By Aisha King, President, T.A.L.E.N.T

The non-profit group Trekvoy Art and Literary Endowment for the Naturally Talented (T.A.L.E.N.T) continues its journey with the Zana Series, this time partnering with the Coastal Zone Management Unit in an effort to raise awareness about the plight of Barbados' coral reef. Thanks to the GEF SGP we will now have the ability to do just that through more storybook publications, storytelling sessions, the creation of game apps, workshops and the creation of an animated pilot episode for the series, all targeting primary school children and teachers.

T.A.L.E.N.T was formed in July 2011 by Aisha King, Juliette Ste. Rose and Kebra Smith with the objective of using art to promote and maintain a safe, clean and

culturally rich society that encourages full participation by and respect for all Barbadians and play a meaningful role in developing the cultural and creative expressions of Barbadians through education, cinematography, broadcasting, and entertainment.

Since its inception, creating the Zana Series has been one of the main focal points of the group which now boasts three publications; Zana and the Amebians (renewable energy), The Funny Little Mystery at Zana's Back Door (recycling) and Zana Drives to Town (air pollution). All are available in print and for Kindle.



T.A.L.E.N.T members

Members of T.A.L.E.N.T at the project inception workshop [from the left] Ian Bourne, Jeremy Marshall, Na La, Alexander Matthews, Raashid Ifill, Kebra Smith, Aisha King, Deborah McCollin and Juliette Ste. Rose.

Greening Micro, Small, Medium-sized Enterprises in Coastal Communities in Barbados

by Nikki Hassel, Project Officer,
The CARIBSAVE Partnership

Small businesses in Barbados are carbon-intensive in their operations, producing greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to global climate change. Due to the high cost of imported fossil fuels, these businesses also often have very limited profit margins.

Small businesses are somewhat aware of renewable energy technology and energy efficient alternatives available in Barbados; however, investment in these is often prohibitive. To a large degree, some operators feel they have little choice but to use the readily available yet expensive fossil-fuel sources.

The overall goal of the "Greening Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in Coastal Communities in Barbados" project is for small businesses in Barbados to implement low-carbon technologies and behavioural changes in their business practices which reduce their business' overall GHG emissions and facilitate livelihood changes that are economically and environmentally sustainable.

The project directly benefits MSME operators in the sub-sectors of tourism, fisheries, craft and agriculture in Weston, Holetown and Oistins communities. However, lessons learned and new approaches tested will also be shared with MSMEs in other communities.

This year, two Awareness Raising Workshops were held which introduced MSMEs to the project; increased their awareness about climate change, the importance of reducing greenhouse gas



Weston fishing community

Representatives of CARIBSAVE meet with Weston fisherfolk

(GHG) emission, and how they could do this. The workshops also trained the MSMEs in using a simple and business-appropriate Carbon Emissions Calculator methodology, to measure the GHG emissions from their operations.

The CARIBSAVE project team has conducted site visits to the beneficiary's places of business. These visits allowed CARIBSAVE staff to collect detailed information about each business' operations, and provided the operators with flexibility in terms of meeting at times that fit into their work schedules.

The data collected during these visits enabled the calculation of baseline GHG emissions for 25 businesses. These results, along with information on each business' specific energy needs were compiled in personalised case studies, which will be used to derive specific recommendations for how each business can reduce their carbon emissions and save money, where possible.

The project's beneficiaries were trained in the application of renewable energy technologies and energy efficient practices by experts in the various areas of renewable energy. The next phase of the project will offer microfinancing to MSMEs. CARIBSAVE designed a microfinancing mechanism through which financial

support will be given to MSMEs that meet specific criteria, through a mix of a grant and a small loan. This support will allow MSME operators to invest in activities which reduce their emissions. Such interventions will relate to reducing emissions from agricultural practices, electricity generation, transportation and waste management.

This project will produce a portfolio of knowledge products which will be shared with MSMEs in other communities, so they too can benefit from greening their operations.



Sustainable Business Development & Renewable Energy Technologies Training Workshop

Farmers workshop was held on August 19th, 2014, Barbados Agricultural Society Headquarters

SGP welcomes interns from Bellairs Research Institute



Twenty-five students of the Bellairs Research Institute visited the UN House to learn more about the programme and seek internship opportunities as part of the annual summer programme.

This was a great opportunity for SGP Barbados to build partnerships with other civil society groups including academia while students liaise with SGP grantees and other civil society organisations.

Currently eight students are currently on internship focusing on two SGP projects: (i) utilization of organic farming as a means to rehabilitate persons with mental health issues and (ii) the development of a solar onion dryer that is adapted to the needs of local farmers.

A special thanks to Bellairs student Adrienne Murphy as one of the photographers for the session.



New Strategic Direction for OP6

The GEF SGP implementation arrangements for GEF-6 were established during the 46th GEF Council Meeting held from 25-27 May 2014 in Cancun, Mexico. These arrangements reflect a new programmatic approach with multi-focal themes, allowing SGP to leverage its ability to foster synergies among the focal areas. It also accommodates for the reduction of grant making funds in OP6 and better promotes mainstreaming and up-scaling.

GEF Operational Phase 6 (OP6), SGP will utilize a three-pronged approach focusing on globally recognized ecosystems, institutional and financial support mechanisms while systematically building the capacity of civil society stakeholders.

SGP will mainly be centered on four multi-focal strategic initiatives (e.g. Community Landscape and Seascape Conservations, Climate Smart Innovative

Agro-ecology, Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits, Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions) rather than the six focal areas (Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation, International Waters, Chemicals, Land Degradation and, Sustainable Forest Management). While these four areas will be SGP's priority for grant funding, 30 percent of the funds will still remain available for initiatives under the focal areas.

National Coordinators will adopt the Grantmakers+ role to initiate support mechanisms for communities to access new funds, establish civil society organisation - government policy dialogue platforms, develop a dedicated window for indigenous people, expand support for gender equality and women empowerment

Click [here](#) for more information on the GEF SGP implementation arrangements. for GEF-6.



"New thematic areas and the adoption of the Grantmakers+"



New video sensitizes Barbadian public on GEF SGP

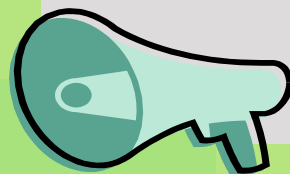
The Barbadian community is now better aware of the GEF SGP and its work in addressing key environmental issues in Barbados as the local agency, the Government Information Service (GIS), featured SGP Barbados in its latest television programme. The programme featured the innovative strategies of four SGP grantees/partners including CARIBSAVE, Solagrow Incorporated, Baird's Village Association and Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA)/Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) that promoted food security, sustainable livelihoods, improved marine protected area management and climate change mitigation.

We hope that this video will be a great tool to sensitize the Barbadian community on how they can leverage the necessary resources to take community action while building their capacity. Thus far, the general public, development partners and CSOs have responded very well to the television programme and we have received several calls inquiring about the various aspects of work highlighted in the documentary. Don't worry, if you have missed this GIS feature, just click [here](#) to access the radio feature.



Damian Hinkson of Baird's Village Aquaponics Association conducting a tour of the project site with students

CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Stakeholder Workshops

GEF SGP proactively seeks to increase the capacities of vulnerable groups (women, youth, and poor) and civil society organisations that work with them to develop proposals as well as to implement projects successfully and sustainably. While every project supported by SGP should have capacity development components, stand-alone capacity development projects targeted at larger groups of community and CSO stakeholders are also supported. The purpose of Capacity Development Grants is to "enhance and strengthen capacity of communities and civil society organizations to address global environmental challenges".

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact SGP Barbados for further information.

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