

Sustainable Grenadines News

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Management Effectiveness Workshop for Tobago Cays

The inception workshop on 'Enhancing the management effectiveness of the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP)' was held at the Sustainable Grenadines Project office in Union Island December 19th – 20th, 2005. The workshop is part of a regional project by the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), UWI, funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The project will evaluate marine protected area (MPA) management effectiveness at three MPA Caribbean sites: TCMP, the Sapodilla Cays in Belize and Negril in Jamaica.



TCMP Board and several non-governmental organisations.

Participants worked together to identify the goals and

objectives of a management plan and select indicators to measure how well the objectives are being met. They outlined a number of biophysical, socio-economic and governance activities to be carried out in the next year and developed budgets for them. Most of the activities will be implemented by persons from St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The information gathered will be used to further develop the long-term management plan for the TCMP.

The workshop was conducted by Drs Robert Pomeroy and Patrick McConney using the methods in the World Conservation of Protected Areas/World Wildlife Fund (WCPA/WWF) guidebook, "How is your MPA doing?". Workshop participants were from the St. Vincent and Grenadines Fisheries Division, the

Greening Water Taxis

Two one-day workshops on "Greening of Water Taxi Operations and Services" were conducted in Petite Martinique and Carriacou on Nov 17th and 18th, 2005. Participants were from the Southern Grenadines and Carriacou and Petite Martinique Water Taxi Associations and the wider community in Union Island, Carriacou, and Petite Martinique.

The workshops allowed participants to learn and interact with each other, while they refined a check-list of 'green' activities. These will enable the water taxi operators to distinguish themselves by environmentally-sound practices and services. The check-list will be included in a 'best practices' book for the operators. They were prepared by Dominique Lizama, a student of the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) in her MSc degree study, based on discussions with the water taxi operators.

The workshops were funded by the European Commission as part of the Caribbean Coastal Co-management and Coral Regeneration Programme (4Cs programme) of Counterpart Caribbean.



Leadership Training for NGOs

The Sustainable Grenadines Project and the Water Taxi Project conducted a two-day leadership workshop in Carriacou on October 20th-21st, 2005. The workshop was facilitated by Martin Barriteau of the Caribbean Regional Environmental Programme (CREP). The 34 participants were from Grenadines non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs), including the Carriacou and Petite Martinique and Southern Grenadines Water Taxi Associations.

The workshop techniques centred on Neuro Linguistics Programming [NLP], which guided participants to use their sensory and other intrinsic capabilities to enhance their leadership potential. Participants were exposed to a wide range of individual and group exercises and practiced leadership tools in self knowledge; foundation skills for leaders, heightened communication skills, information gathering, generating effective behaviours, motivational state and motivational profile.

Participants identified what they hoped to achieve from the workshop: Identifying strengths and weaknesses, learning leadership qualities and skills especially with children, motivating others, professionalism and helping others to operate more efficiently, were some of their expectations.

Mr. Barriteau noted that more capacity enhancing workshops on topics such as, self-esteem enhancement, change management, team building, performance management and strategic planning were needed for the further development of NGOs in the Grenadines.



Stakeholder Meetings Completed

Stakeholder meetings for the Sustainable Grenadines Project were conducted throughout the month of October. Groups from each island were brought together and the progress of the project was discussed with special emphasis on its impact on the respective islands. Participants gave suggestions for group development that they felt were needed and these were used by the Project staff to develop the annual work plan for 2006.

Groups were encouraged to develop proposals for mini-projects for 2006 which were considered in the annual Steering Committee meeting held on

December 2nd, 2005 in Carriacou. 15 mini-projects were submitted representing 13 groups from across the Grenadine islands. Mayreau was the only island not submitting a mini-project proposal.

Project staff also visited Mustique and held discussions on the project. Participants were encouraged to share their current environmental practices with the rest of the Grenadines. PIU staff acquired an environmental information brochure which highlighted the goals of the Mustique Environmental Committee, safe cleaning and laundry products and natural alternatives to various household products.

UNEP Sweetens the Pot

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) has joined the US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in funding the "People and Corals" project for Grenadines Primary Schools. Training for teachers is expected to commence in February 2006. The Sustainable Grenadines Project will be assisting in the project.

Mini-projects 2005

Three mini-projects were implemented by NGOs in 2005: 'Project Hope', Union Island, 'The Jeff Gregg Waterway Rehabilitation Project', Bequia, and the 'Bay a Leau Big Pond Amenity Enhancement Project', Carriacou. Each group reported on problems encountered and lessons learned from the process. The three groups recognized that community involvement and education were important for the success and sustainability of the projects.

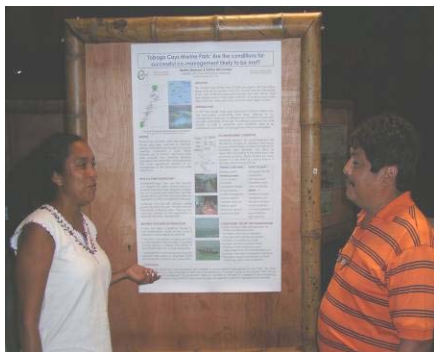
Project Hope

Project Hope was implemented by the Young Help Striders 4-H club from Union Island. 15 children were involved along with community members

The project sought to bridge the generation gap and to teach skills related to fishing, namely rowing and fish pot building. This was achieved through the involvement of adults from the community. A boat was constructed and the youths were taught how to fish responsibly with fish pots.



Grenadines Represented in Colombia



Two studies from the Grenadines were presented at the 58th meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) in Colombia in November. CERMES masters students Alexcia Cooke and Bertha Simmons submitted posters entitled 'A

Livelihoods analysis of the water taxi operators in the Grenadines' and *Tobago Cays Marine Park: are the conditions for successful co-management likely to be met?* with the assistance of supervisors Patrick McConney and Robin Mahon. The posters were based on the research conducted in the Grenadines last summer. The research will be published in the GCFI proceedings.



CEC Institutional Strengthening

The Carriacou Environmental Committee (CEC) is making good progress with constructing its new office at the Market Yard in Hillsborough. This comes in the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan which destroyed their office in 2004.

The CEC received assistance from several sources: The Government of Grenada provided the land; the 40 ft container was given by Mr. John 'Oscar' Blair; door, windows, insulation, and AC unit were from Mr. Peter Peat of the Tyrrel Bay Marina; and office equipment includ-

ing a computer from the Sustainable Grenadines Project. The latter contribution was provided as an institutional strengthening input, especially considering the role of the CEC as a national umbrella NGO partner for SusGren and its role as implement agency for the Water Taxi Project.



The Sustainable Grenadines Project is implemented through collaboration among:

- The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), UWI, Barbados
- The Carriacou Environmental Committee, Grenada
- Projects Promotion Lt., St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- The Caribbean Conservation Association, Barbados
- The Governments of Grenada and St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Numerous Grenadines NGOs.

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