

Sustainable Grenadines News

History and Nature Come Together in Carriacou

The Sustainable Grenadines Project was recognised for its contribution to the development of the Bayaleau Development Committee (BDC), Carriacou at the launch of their Tibeau Limlair Historical Ruins Rehabilitation Project. The Project Administrator made remarks on behalf of the SGP in which she noted that the SusGren Project was delighted to have played a part in the group's development and assured them of the Project's continued support. She informed the Committee of the Project's plans to further improve groups throughout the Grenadines through the use of an institutional self-assessment tool for NGOs. She told the gathering that 'the SGP is committed to developing the NGOs of the Grenadines.'



Minister for Carriacou and Petite Martinique Affairs the Hon. Elvin Nimrod, the President of the BDC, Mr. Cuthbert Cyrus, the Vice President Mr. Trevor Patrice and Mr. Bernard McIntosh from the Agriculture Department, also gave remarks at the launch.



Mr. Patrice gave the background of the project and outlined some of the activities the group would undertake in the project. He noted that the project aimed to preserve the cultural heritage of the area and create jobs for villagers in tourism. The Committee sees this as a part of its mandate in serving the community. The project will include the development of trails and the historical sites in the area.

In this issue:

History and Nature in Carriacou	1
World Ocean Day	1
New Face in SusGren	1
Making Safety a Priority	2
Grenadines MarSIS: What is it?	2
Bequia Youth Fight Litter	2
Skills for Our People	2
ISA in Carriacou	2

New Face in SusGren

Martin Barriteau is the new Project Manager for the Sustainable Grenadines Project. Previously he was manager for the Caribbean Regional Environment Programme (CREP) Sandy Island Oyster Bed Marine Protected Area project in Carriacou and was a Forestry Officer for the government of Grenada for over 10 years.



Environmental Attackers Observe World Ocean Day

The Union Island Environmental Attackers led a coastal clean-up to celebrate World Ocean Day on June 5th. They were joined by members from Christ is the Answer Youth Group, the Gospel Hall Church and the Seventh Day Adventists Pathfinders Club.



to rehabilitate the Ablo Beach in Clifton. They have adopted the beach and will clean and enhance it. They are also committed to getting the community involved by hosting the 'best village competition' in October.



The target areas were Clifton Harbour, Ashton Harbor, Ablo Beach and Campbell Beach. Two volunteers from a yacht participated in the clean-up on their one-day visit to the island. This is significant because involvement of the yachting industry is integral to maintaining the marine environment of the Grenadines.



The Environmental Attackers were awarded a mini-project from the Sustainable Grenadines Project this year

The Attackers are especially concerned about the large volume of plastics collected. They want the public to think about where all this plastic goes and the sustainability of their current practices. Their focus is not only on cleaning up the environment but also increasing awareness about the impact of indiscriminate garbage disposal to the marine environment and to human health.



Martin brings wide knowledge and experience to the project. His particular expertise is in sustainable use of mangrove resources. He has also had considerable training and experience in participatory management processes. We are sure that the project will be considerably strengthened by his expertise.

Making Safety A Priority

The Water Taxi project continues to provide operators with the training and information they need to make



their livelihoods sustainable and safe. The project, funded by the GEF and implemented by the Carriacou Environmental Committee, held the 'Safety at Sea' training workshop on May 24th and 25th in Carriacou and on the 28th in Union Island. Roland Baldeo of the Grenada Fisheries Division delivered the workshop. He demonstrated the correct use of basic

safety equipment that operators should have.



The sessions were well attended by the operators and the public who gathered in Hillsborough and Mulzac Square in Clifton, for the demonstrations. Operators were actively engaged in the demonstration when they were asked to participate in deploying the flares. This gave them the opportunity to ask questions and to become familiar with the latest equipment. Operators were encouraged to take safety more seriously.

Bequia Youth Fight Litter

Grade 3 students from the Bequia Anglican Primary School were involved in an anti-litter art project as part of the Bequia Youth Litter Project. The children painted litter bins donated by the St. Vincent Electricity Limited (VINLEC) which were then adopted by businesses around Port Elizabeth. The project addresses the persistent



problem of indiscriminate garbage disposal around the island. It was organised by the Marine Education and Research (MER) Center and supported by vari-

ous local businesses as well as a grant from Sea Services Ltd (Martinique). The project was seen as a success with students taking joy and satisfaction in seeing their bins being used. It was reported that one student declared 'this is the most fun I have ever had in my whole life' as they completed the task of painting the bins. The hope is that this project will effect change in the attitudes of Bequians and other Grenadine islands will undertake a similar project to combat this problem that is evident in each island.



Institutional Self Assessment in Carriacou

The Sustainable Grenadines Project carried out Institutional Self-Assessments with three groups in Carriacou in May: Bayaleau Development Committee; L'Estre South Striders Social Club and the Carriacou and Petite Martinique Water Taxi Association. The executive committee members were interviewed, a report was produced and the groups met to discuss the report and to prepare a work plan for their future development.

The groups will start work on the areas within their capacity and additional support will be provided by the Project in other areas identified for strengthening. Some executive committee members shared that they had been uncertain



about participating but that after meeting to discuss the report and seeing the results of the process, they felt that the assessment had provided valuable guidance.

Areas for development across the three groups pertained to the development of a strategic and financial plan, strengthening leadership and the need for better financial accounting systems.

Grenadines MarSIS: What Is It?

PhD candidate Kim Baldwin presented her project proposal on a Marine Space Information System (MarSIS) for the Grenadines to government officials in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Carriacou from March 6th -16th. MarSIS is an associated project of the Sustainable Grenadines Project and will bring together information on the abundance and distribution of key marine resources, marine resource users and the patterns of use throughout the Grenadines. The availability of this information in a readily understandable and accessible form is critical for planning in relation to the use of marine space and resolution of conflicts.

The Grenadines MarSIS will be integrating social, economic and environmental information into a single interactive and visual framework to enable effective marine resource management and sustainability of livelihoods.

Skills for Our People

The Sustainable Grenadines Project in conjunction with the GEF-SGP Water Taxi Project hosted the Conflict Management and Negotiation Skills workshop in Carriacou from May 16th -17th, 2006.



Thirty people attended the workshop from the Water Taxi Associations, various non-governmental organizations and a few civil servants. The workshop was based on the Neuro-Linguistics Approach which seeks to build awareness of how people think and how problems can be resolved if our thinking is reformed. Participants shared experiences and learnt skills and steps necessary for productive negotiation.

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.

It is funded by The Lighthouse Foundation, Germany

The Project office is located in Clifton, Union Island, St. Vincent and the Grenadines: tel. 784-485-8779; susgren@vincysurf.com