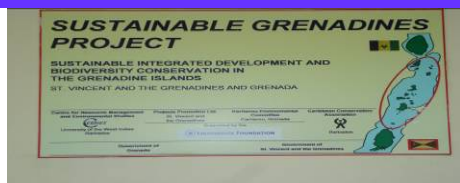


Sustainable Grenadines News

Volume 5 issue 1

In this issue:

Phase 3: SusGren or transboundary NGO?



The SusGren Project has been successful in its aim of strengthening the capacity of civil society in the Grenadines to contribute to sustainable development there. This has been done with an emphasis on conservation of the marine environment as the basis for development and livelihoods.

The challenge that faces all stakeholders in the project is how to maintain this initiative until it becomes self-sustaining. It is well known that initiatives such as this may take in order of 10 years to become self-sustaining. Therefore, our aim is to secure support for another period of five years, during which the emphasis will be on transitioning to an institutional arrangement that can be self-sustaining. The most obvious possible arrangement is the establishment of a transboundary NGO for the Grenadines with support from both governments and the international donor community.

Phase 3 of the SusGren Project will continue to pursue realisation of Goal 2 of the St. Georges Declaration which is to *'Incorporate the Objectives, Perspectives, Resources and Talents of All of Society in Environmental Management.'* It will be structured in such a way as to continue to facilitate the growth and development of Grenadines NGOs and their role in sustainable development. It will continue to build capacity at the level of the individual, the organisation and strategically at the level of the Grenadine Islands.

In order for there to be a viable Phase 3, SusGren will require core support in the form of an office and operating expenses. Both Governments (Grenada and St. Vincent) have expressed their satisfaction with the Project and already pledge continued support, which will be essential if other donors are to be attracted to provide core funding. This core funding is essential for the project to continue to play its role in developing proposals and seeking funding for projects and activities that will build capacity and make it possible for Grenadine NGOs to play the role that they can in sustainable development.

A PIF proposal was submitted to GEF representatives of both countries and is aiming to obtain funding for a medium size grant, over a 5 year period.

Phase 3: SusGren or transboundary NGO?	1
The Grenadines: a potential World Heritage Site	1
Charting the course for Marsis	1
Building Teams in the Grenadines	2
New Interpretive Centre for TCMP	2
SIOBMPA - Co-Management moves forward	2/2
Its so sad to say goodbye	2

Charting the course for Marsis

University of the West Indies PhD Student Kim Baldwin has plunged back into her work. In conjunction with the World Fish Center, Kim hosted a workshop in both St. Vincent and Grenada. The workshop's focus was to review, evaluate and better tailor the remaining MarSIS activities using the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) "Knowledgebase for Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs" toolkit.



The workshop was a great success, drawing participants from a range of backgrounds who assessed other similar projects. Groups gave input into the successes, shortcomings and lessons to be learned from these projects, which Kim will go on to use in the final stages of her research. Best of luck Kim!

The Grenadines: a potential World Heritage Site?

Do the Grenadine Islands possess Outstanding Universal Value? We believe so! And it is this very reason that SusGren gathered representatives from various groups across St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada to partake in a one day workshop to discuss the possibility of nominating the Grenadines to become one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites. Presentations by several experts on local natural and historical topics in the area gave background to the participants, who later were able to relive the St. Lucian experience of submitting a proposal for World Heritage Status from the



featured speaker of the day, Mr. Giles Romulus, of the Global Environment Facility in Barbados.

Workshop outcomes:

-SVG to submit their WHS tentative list to UNESCO.

-SVG and Grenada to confirm that both Countries are up to date in their contributions to the World Heritage Fund.

-SVG and Grenada formed working group to drive the process in their Countries.

-SusGren to form a GWHS internet discussion group

For more information on World Heritage Site status, please visit

<http://whc.unesco.org/>.



Building Teams in the Grenadines



NGO's and other community groups in the Grenadines are now no longer "groups", but "teams" after participating in a "Team Building" Workshop, organized by SusGren and facilitated by Mrs. Gloria Payne-Banfield and Ms. Loric Pascal.

The workshop took place at the Seawave Upper Level in Carriacou, on March 28 & 29, 2009, and attracted participants from the

Grenadine Islands of Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, Union Island, Petite Martinique & Carriacou.

Discussions were held in areas such as definition, features and advantages of teams and team work, development of team spirit, leadership, appraising and improving your teams, the team in action, identifying and overcoming negative emotions.

Role plays were also used to further strengthen the points brought across on teams in action, building trust, conflict resolution and leadership .



Teams in Action—Building trust

New Interpretive Centre for TCMP



The Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) turned it's first sod on Friday, January 16, 2009 to officially mark the beginning of construction of the new Interpretive Centre. The new Centre, built

in collaboration with the OECS/OPAAL Project, is an extension of the Marine Park's current administrative building located in Clifton, Union Island. In his opening ceremony speech, Fr. Andrew Roache, Chairman of the TCMP, described the vision for the new centre, which is expected to showcase marine life found in the Cays in aquariums. Also to be found in the Centre is a small library, an audio visual room, and information on the history and natural resources of the Park. Construction moving along with great speed and we look forward to seeing the finished product in the near future!

SIOBMPA - Co-Management moves forward

Carriacou's newest Marine Protected Area (MPA) was busy with activities for the first quarter of 2009. Stakeholders of the Sandy Island/Oyster Bed (SIOB) MPA met on several occasions as they attempt to design a management model for the area and implement the OECS-USAID communications strategy and moorings installation projects. The Fisheries Division gave the SIOBMPA comanagement process high praise and attempt to follow this model for managing MPAs on the mainland of Grenada.

In April 2008 SusGren organized a "Designing a Co-Management Model for SIOB MPA" Workshop to recommend a preferred institutional arrangement and develop an action plan for the area.

With co-management, it is expected that communities and other organizations on Carriacou will partner with the Government to manage the area.

The "Drivers" which are selected organizations that sit on the Co-management Committee went a step further and formed a steering committee (SC) which has responsibility for spear heading the co-management process and to chair all matters related to the SIOBMPA.

The SC organisations are the Ministry of Carriacou and Petite Martinique Affairs, Fisheries Division, Carriacou Historical Society, Carriacou Environmental Committee, Port Authority, Dive Operators and Carriacou and Petite Martinique Water Taxi Association. The SC which meets monthly are now charged with the responsibility to decide on the legal instrument for the SIOB MPA, complete the co-management memorandum of understanding (MOU) for submission to Government and decide on an interim arrangement for the management of the

SIOB MPA.

The implementation of the OECS-USAID project also moves into high gear for the SIOB MPA.



A visiting team of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Officials and local counterparts conducted a mooring assessment to determine a procurement list which the OECS would use to purchase needed moorings for the SIOB MPA. TNC is also assisting in developing a detailed map of the SIOB MPA indicating the names of areas, locations and amount of boundary and other moorings needed. This map will then be submitted to Fisheries and the Ports Authority for approval. The communications strategy workshop is scheduled for April 7-8 which will start the development of promotion materials for the SIOB MPA.

of the Sandy Island Oyster Bed Marine Protected Area (SIOBMPA).

As with all good things, her internship has come to an end and SusGren sadly says goodbye to Tara, and "hats off" for a job well done in the Grenadines. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Its so sad to say goodbye!!

Canadian Intern, Tara Sawatsky, completed her 6 month internship in the Grenadines with SusGren in February 2009. Tara arrived in Union Island in September 2008 and was assigned to Carriacou to assist in the development and capacity building of community groups on the Island. Her enthusiasm and drive propelled the revamping of the Carriacou Environmental Committee (CEC) and the Carriacou and Petite Martinique Water Taxi Association (CPMwTA). She was also very instrumental in the coordination of activities related to the Co-management



The Sustainable Grenadines Projects 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 primarily by The Lighthouse Foundation, Germany. The Project office is located in Clifton, Union Island, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Tel.: (784)-485-8779 E-Mail: susgren@vincysurf.com



Supported by the  LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION