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OAS REEFFIX Project Report 2018



Photo 1: Mangrove Planting at World Wetlands Day 2018



Prepared by Hugh Shim

Submitted on 12/10/2018

FOREWORD

The board of management and staff of the Montego Bay Marine Park Trust (MBMPT) greatly appreciate the support of the Organization of American State for their continuous support over the years. Stake holders and the public have been engaged and benefited from the project activities. Special thanks to Richard Huber and Joshua Bailey who was instrumental in getting the REEFFIX projects going.

In spite of some human resource challenges the main objectives were met in that the public events highlighted the importance of implementing environmental programmes and projects.

INTRODUCTION

REEFFIX is an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) tool that works with Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to support the effective management of coastal and marine resources. This Jamaican component of the project is located in the Montego Bay Marine Park.

Overview of the Montego Bay Marine Park

The Montego Bay Marine Park is located on the north-west coast of Jamaica. It surrounds the second city of Jamaica, and is labelled the tourist capital of Jamaica. Many hotels of all sizes are located along the coastline of the marine park. Fishing beaches and public beaches are also scattered along the coastline. The environmental education, research and monitoring aspects of the MBMPT need more resources to be effective at guiding the management of the Park. This requires a capacity-building push, to increase the number of persons as well as their level of technical training.

The Park is poised for more success, as some steady strides have been made by the Trust to effectively manage the Park. The infrastructure is present, and requires more support to reach its full potential.

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The project was based on the achievements of the following deliverables – below is a summary of activities as it relates to the deliverables.

DELIVERABLES

1. Our staff member Antoinette Green did an exhibition and contributed in the discussion at the Sustainable Development Goals Consultation held by the PIOJ on Tuesday, May 28, 2018. The group consisted of community representatives, stakeholders and Govt. Area Leaders (Counsellors).
(See appendix for the letter of invitation from The Planning Institute of Jamaica describing the event.)

2. World Wetlands Day is an international day as a result of the Ramsar convention. This international day is focussed on creating awareness on the importance of our wetlands all over the world. We organized a mangrove replanting and clean-up on the 10th of February to commemorate World Wetlands Day. Two hundred Mangrove seedlings were bought from the Discovery Bay Marine Lab where they have a mangrove nursery. Member of staff Christopher May, nurtured 18 mangrove seed which were ready to transfer by the date of our mangrove planting event. MBMPT collaborated with over 95 persons from community service groups, friends of the park, members of corporate environmental groups and school clubs to plant 218 mangrove seedlings. Over 100 bags of garbage were collected from cleaning up mangrove area. The mangroves are being monitored by the MBMPT for an 18-month period, after three months the survival rate was approximately 75%. *(See appendix for pictures)*

3. For Earth Day this year we organized a beach clean-up and a variety of competitions and Island Routes dedicated a tree to the beach. A beach clean-up was organized at the beautiful Old Hospital Beach starting 9 am. Close to 150 volunteers from different schools and organizations showed up to help clean the beach. In total almost 2000 pounds of trash was collected. We initiated 4 different competitions to promote this year's theme of Earth Day- "End Plastic Pollution". There was a "plastic to art" recycling competition where the competitors had to make a usable item for the home, office, or school from recycled plastic. There was also a poster competition where contestants were to make a poster about this year's Earth Day theme. The third competition was a poem/song competition. Challenging

the participants to create a poem or song about plastic pollution. The final competition was a photo competition. A photo had to be taken before the clean-up, during the clean-up and after the cleanup. These photos were sent to us to post on our social media page. The post with the most likes would be declared the winner of the competition. In this way people not only got involved in the clean-up, but awareness was also created with the competition products. For the winners there were great prizes from our sponsors. *(See appendix for photos)*

4. Lionfish research was ongoing averaging one cull dive per week where lionfish are removed and later dissected and analyzed. Lionfish have a great impact on fish population, which has a domino effect on fisher communities and the productivity of the coral reef ecosystems. We organized a Lionfish Culling and Cooking Competition which was held on the 25th of February 2018 unfortunately. The participants of the Culling Competition included fishermen, watersports operators, and an environmental officer. Only 30 lbs. of lionfish was caught and made available for the cooking competition and sampling. The weather did not permit the cullers to hunt as often as anticipated. The patrons consumed all the available lionfish dishes within three hours. *(See appendix for Lionfish Cooking & Culling pictures, the report is attached in the email.)*



Photo 2: Lionfish Culling Competition flyer

5. We purchased of five (5) sets of masks and snorkel gears, two (2) dive lights, one (1) PH Pen and one (1) Go Pro and its case to allow monitoring and research. *(See appendix for invoice)*



Photo 3: Some monitoring equipment that was purchased.

6. Summer camp was run through July 9th to 27th. There were 89 campers, 16 counsellors, and 14 staff that participated in the summer camp programme. The campers were between the ages of 8 and 16 and attended based on their age over the three week period. The Counsellors were mainly college students. Campers attended classes on the environment, engaged in swimming and snorkeling lessons, beach cleanup, field trip to the Montego Bay Fishing Village and Recycling sessions. A host of donors contributed to meals, boat tours, T Shirts, Training Material and per diem for the counsellors. *(See Summer Camp Report and Workbook attached in email)*



Photo 4: Campers using their summer camp workbooks

Summary of Public Education Activities from April to September 2018



Rangers Christopher May and Andre Mason with Outreach Officer Joshua Bailey posing with students from The Herbert Morrison Technical High School.

Public Awareness/Education and Public Involvement Programme

Presentations were mainly on the role of the Marine Park, the protection of marine life and the ways in which all can assist. Other presentations were specific to the needs of the students e.g. coastal development, water testing and coral reefs. Boat tours were glass bottom boat tours within the Marine Park to view corals and marine life. Some tours included a trip to the lagoons to view mangroves and sea birds.

Summary

- No. of presentations made: **17** ;
- Target groups: **Schools, Companies, Private Family and Friends** ;
- No. of boat tours conducted: **29** ;

Groups taken on tours: **Children ages 6-15 (for summer camp), Content Primary & Infant, Granville Reading & Art Programme, IUC Environmental Science group, Tech Support, Montego Bay High School Interact Club, Olympus Academy, University of Technology;**

- Visitors to Park Office: No. of visitors 268 ;
- Nature of visit: Summer Camp 2018, Presentations, Tours ;
- Number of newspaper articles: 13 ;
- Themes/Subject of newspaper articles: Dust vs Hurricanes, Summer Fun, Same Old Song, Where there's smoke, Medic!, People Get Ready Pt 5, Turtle Troubles, Getting Rid of Garbage, Big Shake, The Wildlife strikes back, Taking out the trash, Still taking out the trash, Ban the Bag ;
- Facebook views: 96 ; Facebook likes: 82 ; Facebook reach: 1,100 ; New Page followers: 8;
- Instagram views: 391 ; Instagram Post likes: 664 ; Instagram reach: 4,356 ; New Page followers: 114 ;
- No. and types of printed materials disseminated: 89 Summer Camp Workbooks ;
- No. of students assisted with park activities; 23 ;
- Types of activities: Summer Camp daily activities, boat cleaning, life jacket cleaning, lionfish dissecting, ICC preparation, Filing, entering information into database, surveys ;
- Participation in events and environmental Signature Days: UNESCO Ocean Literacy Workshop ;Opening of Alligator Head foundation, International Coastal Cleanup day ;

Appendix



THE PLANNING INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

16 Oxford Road, Kingston 5, Jamaica, W.I.
P.O. Box 634, E-mail: info@pioj.gov.jm
Telephone: (876)-906-4463/4, (876)-960-9339, Facsimile: (876)-906-5011



May 18, 2018

Mr. Hugh Shim
Executive Director
Montego Bay Marine Park Trust
Pier 1, Howard Cooke Boulevard
Montego Bay
St. James

Dear Mr. Shim,

Invitation to Exhibit at Consultation on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) invites you to be an exhibitor at its Consultation on the Sustainable Development Goals, under the theme: “**The Jamaica We Want: Vision 2030 Jamaica, Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, Leaving No One Behind**”. The event is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 29, 2018, 10:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.** at the Montego Bay Cultural Centre, Sam Sharpe Square, Montego Bay, St. James.

The target audience will comprise stakeholders from the tourism sector, fisher folk, farmers, and the general public. We anticipate that approximately 150 participants will be in attendance, including the Member of Parliament, Mayor, Custos Rotulorum and Councillors from the Morant Bay and surrounding environs.

Your organization will be provided with 10’x10’ booth space (indoor) which includes a trestle table and two chairs. There will be no cost to set up a booth. We are asking you to take along a table cloth in the colours representing your organization. Set up time will be between 8:00a.m. and 9:00a.m.

For additional information and confirmation of your participation, please contact Ms Delecia Wisdom at telephone no. 935-5192 or by email at dwisdom@pioj.gov.jm or Ms Stacy-Ann Robinson at telephone no. 935-5170 or by email at srobinson@pioj.gov.jm.

Your participation will greatly enhance the success of this event.

Yours sincerely,

Toni-Shae Freckleton (Mrs)
Director, Population and Health Unit



Appendix 2: Planting mangroves on World Wetlands Day



Appendix 3: Mangroves planted





Beach Clean up for
EARTH DAY
2018

OLD HOSPITAL BEACH
SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018
9 AM TO 11 AM
BEACH LYME AFTER

ACTIVITIES:
 >Glass bottom Boat Tours
 >Final judging of song, poem
 & poster competition

Entertainment by
 >Jamaica Drums 4 Peace
 >Friends of the Park

✉ outreachmbmpt@gmail.com 📷 @mbmpt_official ☎ (876) 952-5619







EARTH DAY 2018
COMPETITIONS
APRIL 21, 2018
ALL AGES!!!

FREE ADMISSION

RECYCLE
 POSTER
 SING/POEM
 PHOTO

JUST SAY **NO**
TO PLASTIC BAGS!

'End Plastic Pollution' is the theme for Earth Day 2018.
 Amazing prizes to win;
 - Private 2-hour glass bottom boat tour
 - Dinner for 2 at Hard Rock Café
 - \$3000 gift card for Fabric Smart
 - \$1000 gift certificate Sweet Cooke's
 - Many more gifts..
 For More info and rules check out our social media;

🌐 www.mbmpt.org 📷 @mbmpt_official ☎ 952-5619



WIN A BOAT CHARTER!
GIFT BASKETS, GIFT VOUCHERS & MORE!

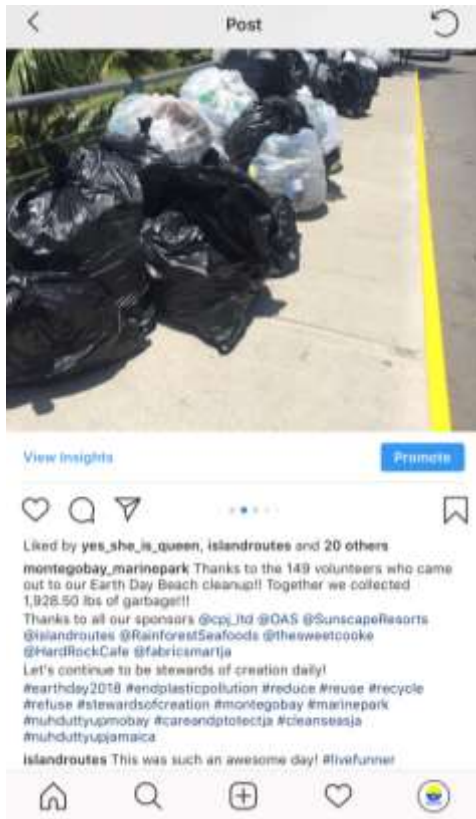
How to enter the "End/Reduce Plastic Use" Photo Competition:

1. Submit three photos of the clean up site- Old Hospital Beach
 - (a.) One taken prior to the start of Earth Day Beach Clean-up 2018
 - (b.) One capturing the activities
 - (c.) One after clean-up event
2. All submissions should be sent to outreachmbmpt@gmail.com for validation by **April 25, 2018**
3. Top 5 entries will be posted on our Instagram page [@mbmpt_official](https://www.instagram.com/mbmpt_official)
4. Entrants **MUST FOLLOW** us on Instagram and get at least 10 persons to follow us.
5. Entrant with the most likes by **May 1, 2018** wins.



🌐 www.mbmpt.org 📷 @mbmpt_official ☎ (876) 952-5619 ✉ outreachmbmpt@gmail.com

Appendix 4: Various Flyers created for Earth Day



Appendix 5: Instagram posts for Earth day. You can check out our Instagram page @montegobay_marinepark



Appendix 6: Instructors and Competitors going out on the hunt for Lionfish.



Appendix 7: Some of the Lionfish that were caught



Appendix 8: Judging of the Lionfish Cooking competition



Appendix 9: Summer Campers smiling away on their Catamaran Boat Tour in their T-Shirts