



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

FLYING TREE
PLASTIC LUMBER

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CEDAW COMMITTEE OF T&T



GEF SGP UNDP Trinidad and Tobago

Message From The Chairperson, National Steering Committee (NSC) Ms. Terry Ince



Civil Society has come to be known as the 'third sector' of society, distinct from government and business, and including the family and the private sphere. It has been my privilege to Chair the National Steering Committee which comprise representatives of Non-government organizations (NGOs), Public and Private sector institutions, and experience the phenomenal work of the diverse groups who successfully access grants - from concept to implementation.

The Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Program initiative implemented through the United Nations Development Programme office in Trinidad and Tobago, under the stewardship of its National Coordinator, Dr Sharda Mahabir, facilitates the space to ensure innovation, inclusion, creativity and success. Success that evident in communities through behaviour change.

I extend warm and heartfelt thanks to the dedicated committee members who willingly extend themselves and their expertise to ensure quality and innovative solutions are approved and implemented. To the grantees who continue to produce phenomenal solutions for addressing challenges in our environment. And to all stakeholders who continue to lend their support.

Congratulations to the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme Trinidad and Tobago on a successful and innovative year.

Programme Summary

Since its inception in 1995, GEF SGP has supported:



160
PROJECTS



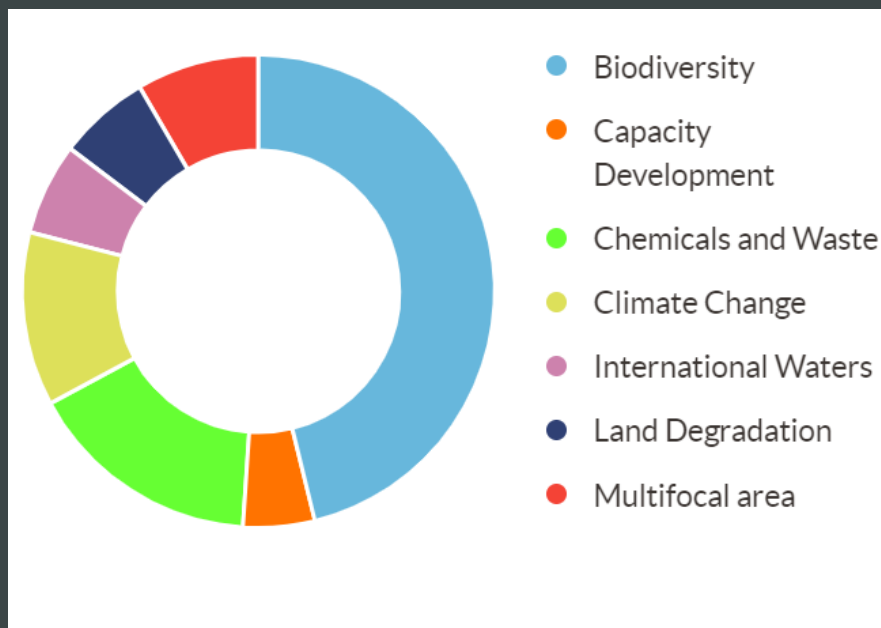
155
NGOs



Grants
4,495,988 USD



Cash and in-kind
5,276,008 USD



Country portfolio by project areas



Project site distribution

Programme Summary

2023 Snapshot



Grants
551,000 USD

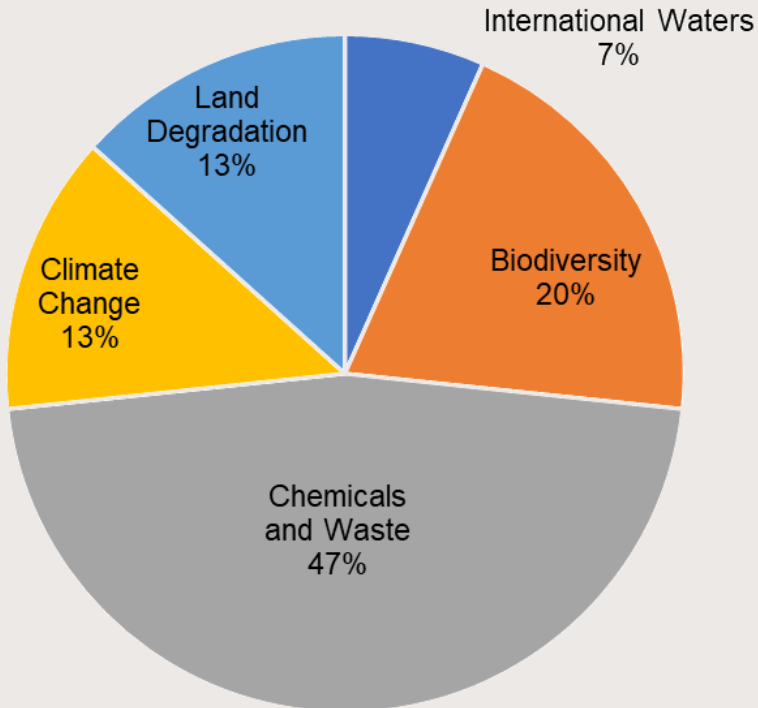


Cash and in-kind
1,004,972 USD



15 projects

2023 projects by focal area



687 persons trained



Over 20,000 people benefitting



2 reports completed
with government input



At least 45 livelihood
opportunities created benefitting
at least 150 people



Volume of plastic waste
prevented or reduced (kg):
25,196



At least 4 species of bee
pollinators conserved



Area of landscapes under
improved management to benefit
biodiversity (hectares): 3893 ha



Area of marine habitat under
improved practices to benefit
biodiversity (hectares) 67,000 ha

GEF SGP has supported projects in beekeeping and stingless bee surveys

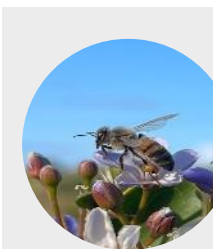
Biodiversity

The species which were conserved are:

- Africanized bees (*Apis mellifera scutella*)
- European bees (*Apis mellifera mellifera*)
- Stingless bees (Meliponini)



Apis mellifera scutella
(Africanized Honeybee)



Apis mellifera mellifera
(European Honeybee)



Melipona favosa
(Erik, Moko, Chiquita)

5

Biodiversity



Project Achievements

Africanized / European bees



100 persons (youths and youth club leaders) trained



5 apiaries established for youth development



Sustainably produced products: soaps, lip balms, candles

Stingless bees



80 persons trained locally



2 new bees found in Trinidad and Tobago



Manual on stingless bee sampling created

Bees pollinate 80% of food crops.
Agriculture contributed 1.08% of the national GDP in 2022 (202,984.90 Million TTD).
As such, bee pollinator services in 2022 is estimated at 175.38 Million TTD.

Biodiversity launches

6



Minister of Planning and Development, EU Ambassador and Resident Representative, UNDP at the launch of The Bee House, the first community-led queen rearing facility made from plastic lumber



Chief Secretary, THA visits the Police Youth Club Apiary in Tobago

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



15 LIFE ON LAND



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



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Biodiversity projects supporting youth



Graduation ceremony held for Police Youth Participants in Tobago



Graduation ceremony held for Police Youth Participants in Trinidad

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QUALITY
EDUCATION

5

GENDER
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15

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FOR THE GOALS

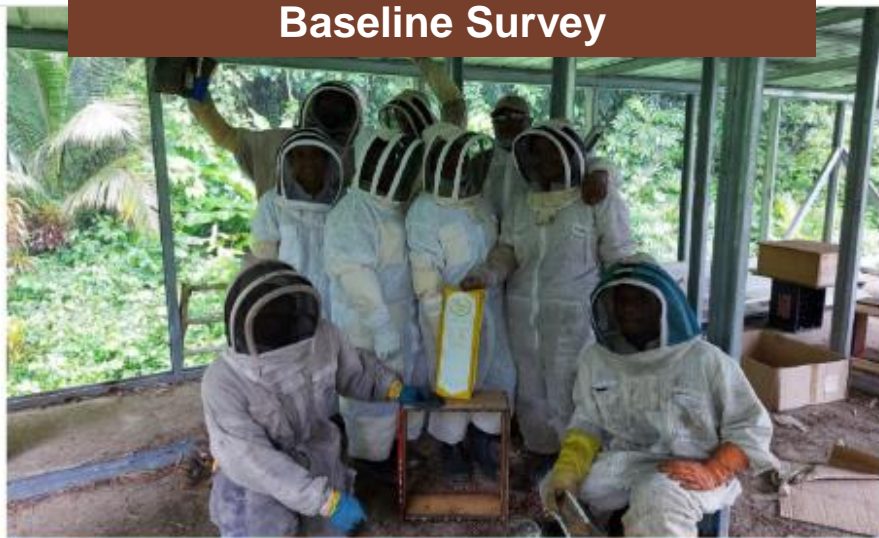


Regional South-South Exchange



In 2020, GEF SGP developed a south-south exchange to improve the apiculture sector in 9 Caribbean countries. This project completed the first baseline survey of apiculture in the participating countries; developed the first Caribbean Online Beekeeping Course; the first Caribbean Beekeeping App; trained over 300 people in theoretical beekeeping and 100 in practical beekeeping and established apiaries in all the countries and set up 1 apiary in each of the participating countries.

Baseline Survey



APICULTURE: A CATALYST FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

Baseline Survey Of Management Practices In The Apiculture Industry In Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & The Grenadines, Samoa & Trinidad And Tobago

Richard A. Matthias

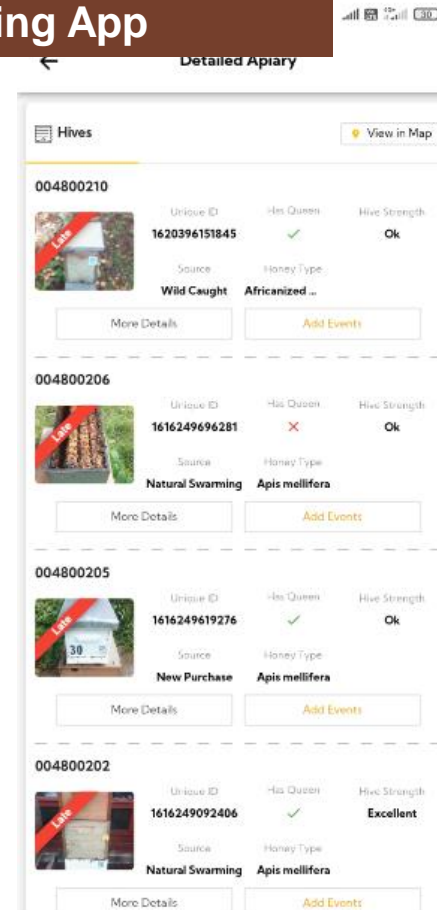
01/06/22



Beekeeping App



**Hive Keep In
Caribbean**



Graduates of the Caribbean Online Beekeeping Course

Country	TOTAL
Anguilla	18
Antigua & Barbuda	22
Dominica	18
Grenada	27
St. Kitts & Nevis	28
Saint Lucia	87
Samoa	10
St. Vincent & Grenadines	24
Trinidad & Tobago	85
TOTAL	319

Climate Change

Under climate change, the GEF SGP supported the installation of solar in Matelot Police Youth Club.

Toco, Grande Riviere and Matelot suffer from regular electricity outages. This project provided electricity which now supports classes in music, carpentry and computing.



1 community center received solar power (Matelot Police Youth Club)



3 skills building workshops held, benefitting 10 people



200 people with increased resilience



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7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



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Climate Change supporting PWDs

10

The Autistic Society received a grant to construct the first plastic lumber shade house for persons with Autism (PWAs), which will be outfitted with hydroponics. The PWAs will be trained in climate smart agriculture and employed in the shade house.

Trinidad and Tobago estimated over 50,000 persons with disabilities, most of whom cannot find steady income and must depend on external support.



1 shade house built using plastic lumber



20 persons with autism to benefit from skills development and livelihood opportunities



At least 100 persons with increased resilience



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Land Degradation



10 farms trained and engaged



Moruga Hill rice is now available
in the US



20 acres of sustainable
agroforestry developed in Moruga
(Moruga Hillrice)



3,200 lbs or 1451.5kg of hill rice
produced sustainably

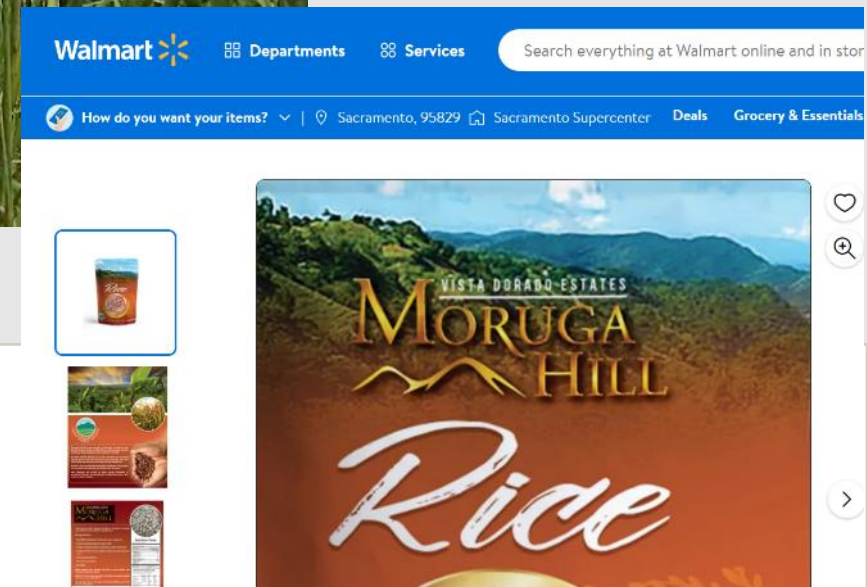


No slash and burn
Saves water

Moruga Hillrice Organic Producers (MHOP) has increased production of indigenous hillrice and as a result, it is now available in Walmart and from their website.



Moruga hillrice planted
in forested areas in an
agroforestry model



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Land Degradation

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Environmental Research Institute of Charlotteville (ERIC) received a grant to complete the management plan for the NE Tobago UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserve. This plan will be available from a website soon <https://www.tobago-biosphere-region.com/>



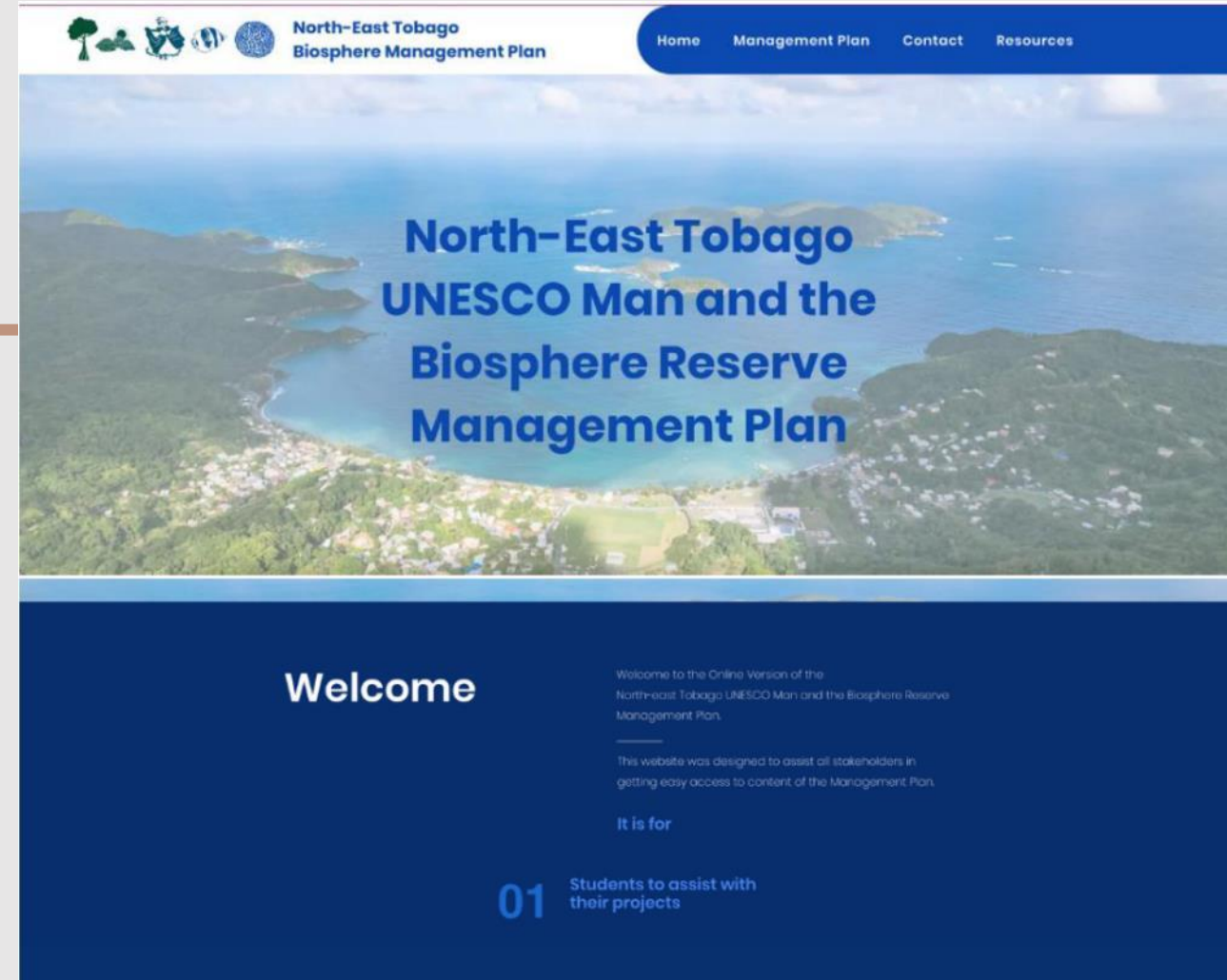
Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares): 9,600ha



Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (hectares; excluding protected areas) 67,000 ha



Number of beneficiaries with improved livelihoods and well-being: 12,000



International Waters



30 persons trained



3 boat operators certified



First boat operators in the English Speaking Caribbean to receive Blue Flag Certification



1 Public-Private Partnership supported



4 businesses developed

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



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11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Green T&T received a grant to support the Green Flag Certification for three boat operators in Tobago. Other countries have reported increased tourism because of their certification.



Funded by:



In partnership with:



Tobago beyond

International Waters



GEF SGP supported the development of smoked fish in NE Trinidad to create value-added products from by-catch



22 Rural persons trained smoking of fish



20 smokers were built



Smoked fish



Packaging of smoked fish

International Waters South-South Exchange



15

GEF SGP TT and GEF SGP Saint Lucia supported the training of 20 youths in river assessments in Soufriere, Saint Lucia. This project was in conjunction with the Adopt A River Programme, Water Resources Agency, WASA and MyWaterway, an NGO in Saint Lucia.



20 persons were trained in water quality testing



Water quality assessment of the Soufriere River was completed



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Trinidad and Tobago

Sustainable Plastic Waste Management in Trinidad and Tobago



GEF SGP and UNDP Accelerator Lab Plastics Innovation Stakeholder Consultation | March 2023

Plastic Innovation Challenge

In 2021, GEF SGP TT received 240,000USD to implement a Plastic Innovation Challenge. TT was one of fifteen countries chosen for this initiative.



1 national report completed with government input



6 projects implemented



Investing 240,000USD in plastic innovation



All the projects fell within 3 focal areas:

- plastic collection
- plastic alternatives
- upcycling of waste plastics

Chemicals and Waste

The six projects address plastic pollution based on the following three criteria:

Development of plastic alternatives



Cashew Gardens created an edible spoons

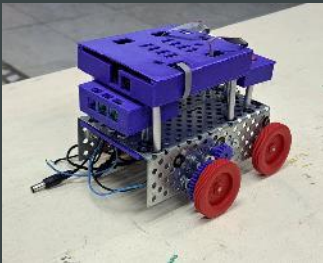


Alliance of Rural Communities created coconut bowls, bamboo spoons, etc.

Upcycling of waste plastics



CCoTT installed plastic lumber benches with gender messaging in public spaces



The UWI 3D printed parts for a STEM Robotics kits using waste plastic filament



NCPD 3D printed tools for persons with disabilities using waste plastic filament

Plastic Collection



Rotary Club of POS West installed a boom on the Maraval River to prevent marine plastic pollution



Chemicals and Waste Workshop

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The Sustainable Plastic Waste Management Report was launched by the Minister of Planning and Development, Mrs. Penelope Beckles-Robinson and the Minister of Public Utilities, Mr. Marvin Gonzales



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Chemicals and Waste Workshop



Representatives of the 7 NGOs which were part of the Plastic Innovation Challenge

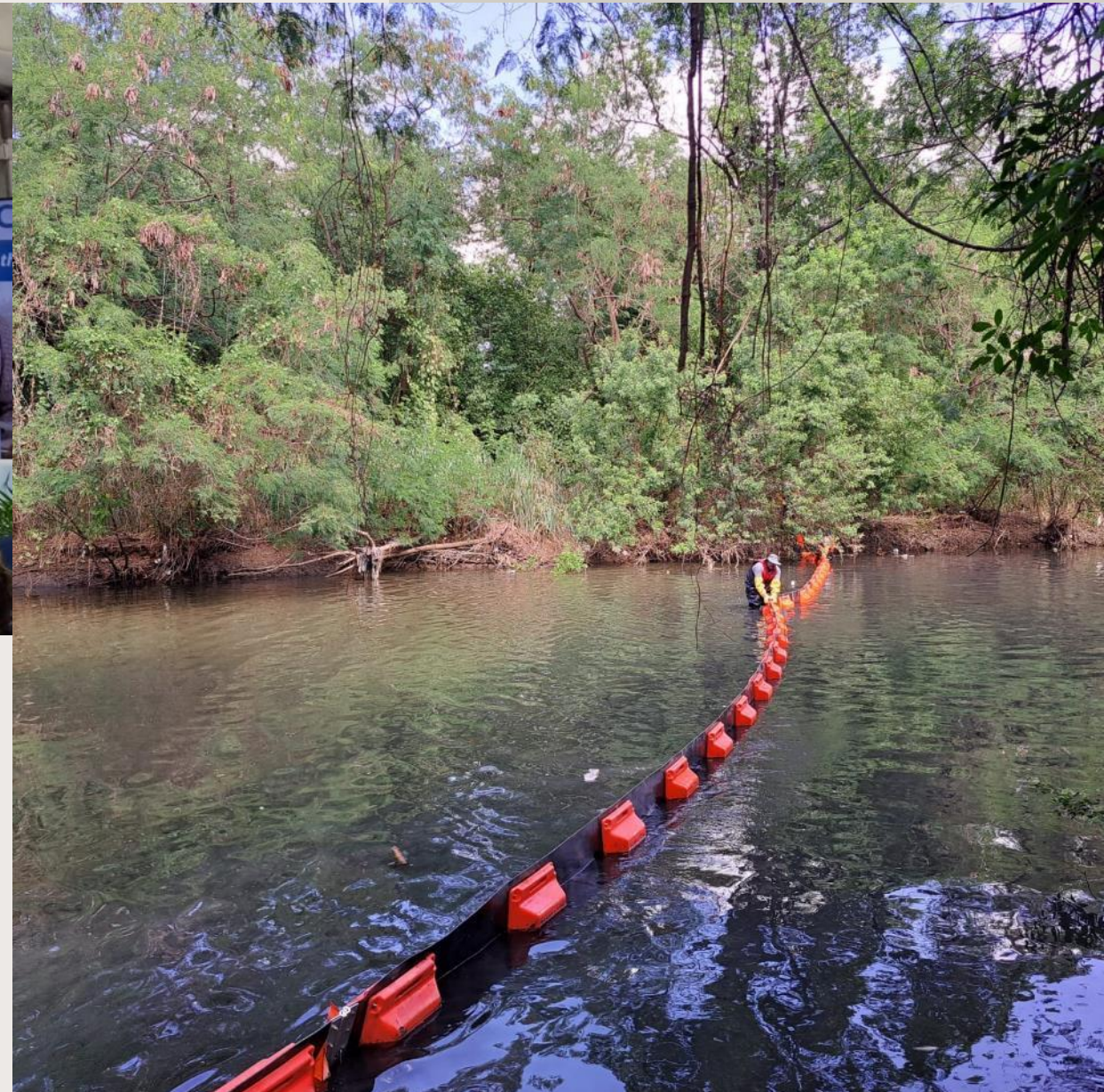
1. Alliance of Rural Communities of Trinidad and Tobago
2. Cashew Gardens Community Council
3. CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago
4. National Centre for Persons with Disabilities
5. Rotary Club of Port of Spain West
6. SHIFT! Caribbean
7. The University of the West Indies, Department of Electrical and Chemical Engineering.



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Chemical and Waste Launches



Minister of Planning and Development addressing the audience at the launch of the Rotary Club of Port of Spain West Project.

This project installed a boom on the Maraval River to remove riverine plastic pollution.

Summary for OP6 Plastic Innovation Challenge Projects



No. of persons trained in plastics management:

317



Volume of plastic waste prevented or reduced (kg):

25,196



Number of waste management or plastic alternative facilities installed:

6



Number of persons who have reported behavior changes:

2,564



Number of plastics alternatives created:

11



Number of persons with increased and/or diversified income:

131



Number of persons with disabilities included:

16



Number of youths included in projects:

244

5 GENDER
EQUALITY



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Capacity Development

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GEF SGP also provides capacity development for NGOs. In 2023, the Programme was able to support the following:



125 persons trained received training in:

- Strategic planning
- Proposal writing via Problem Tree Analysis
- Monitoring and Evaluation



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Local Action, Global Impact



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