

CREATING PARTNERSHIPS TO PROMOTE THE CLEAN SEAS CAMPAIGN
VIA
THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN-UP
IN SAINT LUCIA



FINAL REPORT



NOVEMBER 2021

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OVERVIEW

Small islands, like Saint Lucia, depend on the ocean and coastal resources for food, sustaining ecosystems and biodiversity, offering opportunities for trade, transport and communication, and supporting tourism and recreation. But marine debris, especially plastics, is wreaking havoc on this precious resource! It is expected that, in just over 30 years (by 2050), plastic trash in the ocean will outweigh all the fish in the sea. In order to ensure the health and safety of our communities and future generations, it is imperative that we take the responsibility to care for the ocean.

On Saturday, 18th September, 2021, Saint Lucia commemorated International Coastal Clean-up (ICC) Day, the world's largest annual preservation and protection event of beaches and waterways. ICC was started by the Ocean Conservancy in 1986 to engage volunteers in collecting marine debris from the world's beaches and waterways. Since then, over 16 million volunteers have collected more than 340 million pounds of trash, including in Saint Lucia.

In observance of ICC Day 2021, stakeholders in Saint Lucia coordinated coastal clean-ups at four locations island-wide for that day- Castries (Bananes Bay), Dennery (Dennery Beach), Micoud (Anse Ger Beach) and Soufriere (Baron's Drive), with an estimated 1500 pounds of inappropriately discarded waste material being collected and properly disposed of at the Deglos Landfill. Plastics material featured in the waste collected, with 583 plastic bottles, 325 bottle caps, 220 plastic bags, 237 cups and plates and 638 plastic/foam pieces recorded on the Ocean Conservancy's Clean Swell® app on that day.

All clean-up activities were conducted in adherence of national Covid-19 protocols during and after the exercises, including the 4:00 pm curfew on that date.

The 2021 clean-up was undertaken with funding from the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), and with a partnership between the Department of Sustainable Development and the Saint Lucia National Conservation Fund (SLUNCF). The Caribbean Youth Environment Network contributed significantly to the organisation of this year's coastal clean-up in helping to coordinate the terrestrial clean-up and waste disposal efforts islandwide. The Saint Lucia Dive Association was also engaged to lead an underwater clean-up in Castries and in Soufriere on October 2, 2021, in collaboration with several certified divers and dive shops, aiming to collect and properly dispose of debris that has made its way into the ocean, to the detriment of marine ecosystems and wildlife.

A video documentary was produced to highlight the event, and to raise awareness on the issues affecting marine resources (particularly single-use plastic pollutants).

ACTIVITIES

Marine litter has been touted as a global environmental problem for its negative impacts on human and animal health, livelihoods, aesthetics, tourism and economies, to name a few.

This project aimed to promote effective marine litter management in support of the 2021 International Coastal Clean-up in Saint Lucia.

Undertaken by the Department of Sustainable Development, in partnership with the Saint Lucia National Conservation Fund, and leveraging support from the Caribbean Youth Environment Network and the St. Lucia Dive Association, and several other government and civil society organisations, youth, and private sector corporations who have participated in previous underwater and beach clean-ups in Saint Lucia, this project supported beach and underwater clean-ups in a bid to collect and properly dispose of debris that can, or has made its way into the ocean, to the detriment of marine ecosystems and wildlife. These activities were spearheaded by the Caribbean Youth Environment Network and the St. Lucia Dive Association and certified divers, respectively.

In summary, this project was successfully executed through the following activities:

2021 International Coastal Clean-up in Saint Lucia - Every year in September, Saint Lucia observes International Coastal Clean-up (ICC) Day, with. This activity is organised locally by the Saint Lucia Chapter of the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN), who encourages Saint Lucians to adopt and continue to practice healthy waste disposal attitudes and practices as part of their lifestyle. The event provides an opportunity for citizens island-wide to participate and contribute to this global movement, as the beach clean-ups take place simultaneously on several beaches around the island. It is a mass event to remove trash and debris from our beaches and waterways, identify the sources of that debris, and work towards changing the behaviours that result in inappropriate disposal practices.

2021 Underwater Clean-up in Saint Lucia - This activity, which has been executed successfully in Saint Lucia in the past, was organised in collaboration with the St. Lucia Dive Association, and was facilitated in a bid to collect and properly dispose of debris that has made its way into the marine environment.

For each activity, locations were identified and needed items were procured. Training was conducted in the use of the Ocean Conservancy's Clean Swell® app to record data collected during the clean-up activities; this data was incorporated in the Ocean the Ocean Conservancy's Annual ICC Report.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Funds for the International Coastal Clean-up were utilized as follows:

RECEIPTS				
		USD		XCD
24/08/2021	Amount Received from GCFI	7,500	Received USD7464.81 (Bank charges XCD95.10)	20,173.45
EXPENSES				
Date	Name		Memo/Description	Amount XCD
10/09/2021	Massy Stores Mega	Coastal	Trash bags, masks, reusable bottles, protein bars etc	5,463.50
13/09/2021	Marine Sports Manufacturing Inc	Underwater	Honeycomb gloves and chum nets for underwater clean-up	717.45
15/09/2021	Massy Stores	Underwater	Hand sanitizers and Storage slide bags for Under-water clean-up	183.17
15/09/2021	Massy Stores Mega	Coastal	Purchase of gloves and water for coastal clean-up	913.65
23/09/2021	Caribbean Aviation & Logistic (SLU) Ltd	Underwater	Shipping and Customs Duties for chum bags and gloves for underwater clean-up (GCFI-DSD)	546.59
23/09/2021	Bernard Saltibus	Coastal	Garbage collection from Soufriere to Deglos Landfill	450.00
23/09/2021	Green R US	Coastal	Garbage collection Dennery Valley and la Toc to the Deglos landfill on Sept. 18th 2021	400.00
23/09/2021	Veronica Brown	Underwater	Lunches for Under-Water Clean-up / Soufriere	1,260.00
29/09/2021	Nintus Magre	Coastal	Garbage collection from Anse Ger to Deglos	200.00
22/10/2021	Green R US	Underwater	Garbage disposal from Vigie to Deglos for Underwater Clean-up	200.00
22/10/2021	Soufriere Service Station	Underwater	Fuel for one boat operator (SMMA) for underwater clean-up	500.00
22/10/2021	Primneau Gajadhar	Coastal/ Underwater	Stipend for coordinating coastal clean-up and underwater clean-up on 18 September 2021 and 2 October 2021	1,200.00
22/10/2021	The Voucher Company	Underwater	Fuel for 3 boat operators for Underwater Clean-up on 2 October 2021	1,500.00
22/10/2021	Virginie Sealys	Coastal	Stipend for coordinating coastal clean up on 18 September 2021	1,500.00
22/10/2021	Donavan Brown	Underwater	Stipend for coordinating underwater clean-up on 2 October 2021	1,500.00
TOTAL				16,534.36
BALANCE ON HAND				3,639.09

In accordance with the Grant Agreement, a balance of US\$2,500.00 is outstanding.