



# **IWEco.StLucia**

*Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management  
in Caribbean Small Island Developing States*

*#CaringForOurFuture*

## Name of Project:

- ▶ Addressing Problems of Land Degradation and Ecosystem Degradation in the Upper Reaches of the Soufriere Watershed in Saint Lucia

## GENESIS

- ▶ Its genesis stemmed from the recognition that climate change will affect SIDS more directly than other regions of the globe in terms of scope and intensity of impact, hence governments must continue to hasten the process to safeguard the natural resource base so as to make communities and ecosystems resilient to the impacts of climate change.

## APPROACH

- ▶ **(IWEco)** will apply a “Ridge to Reef” approach integrating watershed and coastal areas management in small islands for addressing the multiple challenges of sustainable water, land (including forests) and biodiversity management and conservation within the spatial framework of the watershed unit.

## OBJECTIVE

The main objective is to mitigate the poor biophysical conditions (due in particular to unsustainable land management practices) in the Soufriere Watershed, which have impacted sustainable livelihoods of the population.



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## EXECUTING AGENCY

- ▶ Division of Forest and Lands Resource Development within the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Cooperatives;

## BUDGET

▶ GEF	USD729,685
▶ CO-funding	USD1,475,761
▶ Total	USD2,205,446

## COMPONENT 1

- ▶ To develop and foster the implementation of targeted Innovative, climate-change resilient approaches to Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Integrated Coastal Zone management (ICZM) and enhanced management and maintenance of ecosystem services within the Soufriere Watershed;



## COMPONENT 2

- ▶ To strengthen Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Integrating Water Resources Management (IWRM) and ecosystems Monitoring and Indicators frameworks in Saint Lucia;

## COMPONENT 3

- ▶ To strengthen policy, legislative and institutional reforms and capacity building to support Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Integrating Water Resources Management (IWRM) and ecosystem services management taking into consideration climate change resilience building in Saint Lucia;

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## COMPONENT 4:

- ▶ To enhance knowledge exchange, promotion of best-practices, replication and expanding stakeholder involvement in the Soufriere watershed and at the national level.

## Achievements

- ▶ A diagnostic analysis undertaken; awaiting results of the restoration plans to complete;
- ▶ Inception Workshop held in January 2018;
- ▶ Project community launch held on 8th April 2017;
- ▶ Assisted the Fond St. Jacques Development Committee in submitting a proposal to GEF SGP UNDP on an **Agro-Tourism Park**;
- ▶ Held meeting with over 70 farmers from the upper watershed in Jan, 2018;
- ▶ Approx. 77 farms have been assessed in order to be restored;
- ▶ Contracted 17 workers from the target community to engage in farm assessment, tree planting and nursery operation;

## Achievements (Con't)

- ▶ Contracted an additional 20 laborers for a short term to assist with tree pruning and planting; attempts are being made to collaborate with Ministry of Social Equity and NSDC to secure more sustainable employment
- ▶ Trained contract workers in farm assessments and nursery operations;
- ▶ Funded the Jacques Eco Camp for approximately 35 children;
- ▶ Community nursery constructed and operational;
- ▶ Commenced stabilization work along river banks and slopes;

## Achievements (Con't)

- ▶ Hosted a art competition for students on a healthy watershed and produced calendars with the artwork;
- ▶ Collaborated with SLSWMA to conduct a composting workshop with IWEco workers;
- ▶ Conducted a meeting with farmers to provide a status on the slope stabilization component;
- ▶ Conducted a meeting with unemployed and underemployed youth to advised them on opportunities available in agro forestry and agro tourism

## Activities planned to be undertaken in 2019

- ▶ Set up of at least three demonstration plots in the upper Soufriere watershed
- ▶ Train farmers, foresters and extension officers in sustainable land management practices
- ▶ Continuation of slope stabilization
- ▶ Continuation of community nursery operations
- ▶ Continuation of farm assessments
- ▶ Negotiate and set up a community forests park (community forestry) with only native forest species e.g pencil cedar that will have to be propagated through tissue culture
- ▶ Assist the community to implement the agro-tourism park



## Activities planned to be undertaken in 2019 (con't)

- ▶ Document experiences including production of a series highlighting different aspects of the process e.g Vol. 1 - Community Mobilization and awareness, Vol. 2 - Nursery Operation and Management ; Vol.3 - Organic Alternatives etc.
- ▶ Assist in setting up of at least five groups to access available funding and participate in lucrative businesses associated with agro forestry (e.g. cut flower production, edible mushrooms, tour guiding, farm to table, bottled water at the source etc.)

# Inception workshop



# Community launch



# Meeting with farmers



# Jacques Eco Camp



# Training of contract workers



# Community Engagement

