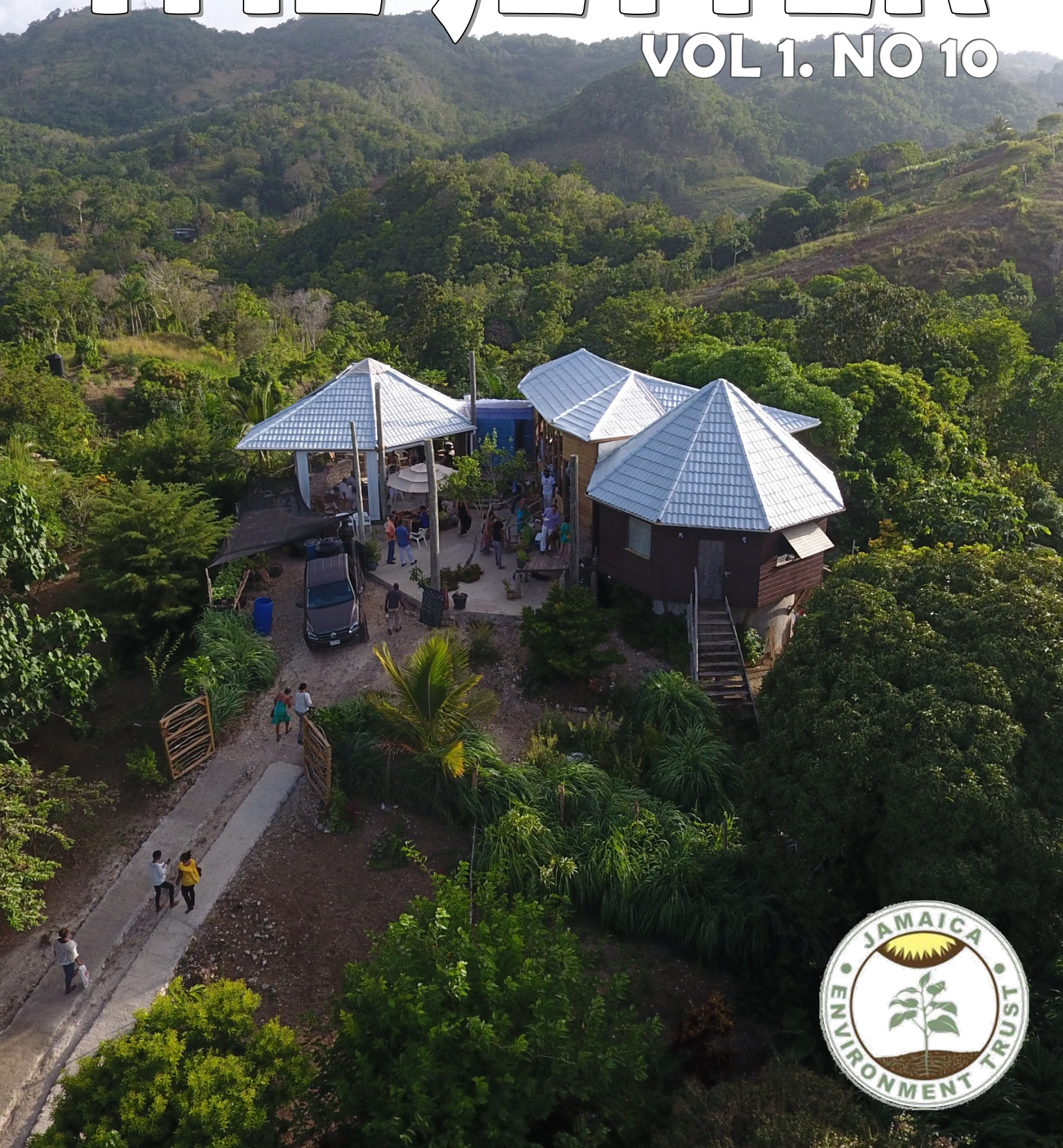


THE JETTER

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SPECIAL EDITORIAL

Saved by a Tweet

On September 22, 2016, our Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Andrew Holness, was attending a town hall meeting in New York City. In response to a direct question from a participant about the status of the proposal to build a large transshipment port or logistics hub near to the two Goat Islands in the Portland Bight Protected Area, the Prime Minister responded that while his government intended to pursue the logistics hub, the site would not be at Goat Islands. He then tweeted:



Andrew Holness
@AndrewHolnessJM

In essence, despite some media reports, the government will not be allowing a Port at Goat Island. That decision was made a while back.

7:36 PM · 22 Sep 16

The Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) first became aware of this proposal in August 2013, when it was announced by then Environment Minister, Robert Pickersgill, while on a visit to Beijing. For two years, JET worked with local and international partners to oppose the proposal. Many advised us that resistance was futile – the project was a “done deal”.

The Save Goat Islands campaign led by JET incorporated too many elements to list here, and there were activities undertaken by other NGOs, both here and abroad. As we reflect now on what worked and what didn't, we believe these were the important overall initiatives:

- 1) **Keeping the issue in the news.** This happened in many different ways, but for at least 18 months, the Goat Islands proposal grabbed headlines. To be sure, not all responses were in opposition to the port, but the campaign succeeded in getting the proposal discussed in the public domain. Without the public sensitization, it is doubtful the Prime Minister would have been asked about the project at the town hall meeting.
- 2) **Developing effective audio visual materials.** The campaign used a jingle, photographs, film and animated public service announcements (PSA) to allow those who had never visited Goat Islands to appreciate what was at stake. Photographs, time

and creativity were donated by numerous people, including internationally recognized photographers and film makers. The materials were disseminated using social media and paid television advertising, thanks to several funders.

- 3) **Support from international partners.** Many international conservation agencies working on the recovery of the Jamaican iguana assisted in diverse ways, including developing the Save Goat Islands website, garnering celebrity backing and mobilizing funding.
- 4) **The Goatillas - taking people to see the Goat Islands.** It was sobering how few people had any idea this place existed, or of its value. Once they had seen it, for the most part they became supporters of the campaign.
- 5) **Identification of alternative sites.** Both Smith Warner International and the Conservation Strategy Fund (for CCAM) proposed other locations.

The work is by no means over. The original plan for a sanctuary on the Goat islands for the Jamaican iguana and other vulnerable species needs to be reactivated, and JET hopes to engage with these efforts. But for now, we congratulate the Government of Jamaica for a decision made in favour of our irreplaceable natural assets. The future of the heart of the Portland Bight Protected Area no longer hangs in the balance.

*Diana McCaulay, Chief
Executive Officer
October 2016*



Formed in 1991, the Jamaica Environment Trust is a non-profit nongovernmental environmental organization in the island of Jamaica. We are a membership organization and anyone who supports protection of the environment can join. Our activities are focused on education and advocacy.

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An aerial photograph of a tropical island. The island is covered in dense green vegetation and is surrounded by a shallow lagoon with turquoise water. In the foreground, a coral reef is visible, with the water transitioning from a deep blue to a lighter turquoise. The text "GOAT ISLANDS SAVED" is overlaid in large, white, distressed capital letters. The background shows more islands and a hazy horizon under a clear sky.

GOAT ISLANDS SAVED

THE CLEAN COASTS PROJECT WRAPS UP PHASE II

In August 2014, JET launched the Clean Coasts Project (CCP) with funding from the Tourism Enhancement Fund. CCP entered its second phase in August 2015 and recently wrapped up project activities with a considerable number of notable achievements. Both phases of CCP included environmental education for adults and children along with practical strategies for tackling poor solid waste management and marine debris in Jamaica. Some of CCP's major achievements have been:

- **The Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica public education campaign** was launched in February 2015. The campaign has continued to gain support and momentum through social and traditional media and partnerships with the private and public sector and civil society - a photo story of Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica activities can be found on the next page.
- Over 1000 students from secondary schools in Kingston, Black River, Ocho Rios, Montego Bay and Negril benefited from **marine conservation themed field trips**.
- Ten sites in Ocho Rios, Montego Bay and Negril received **26 underwater cleanups** between October 2014 and April 2016.



Above: Garbage removed from the sea during an underwater cleanup in Negril in April 2016



- A **Debris Containment Boom** to collect garbage at the mouth of the South Gully in Montego Bay was designed and deployed in mid-June 2015. The boom consists of a floating net placed at the mouths of the waterway to trap floating waste, preventing its release to the sea and other beaches.
- **Annual research day and competition** targeted at high school Tourism Action Clubs (TACs) with a Clean Coasts theme was held on Earth Day in 2015 and 2016
- JET's **Schools' Environment Programme (SEP)** received support from CCP and was successfully delivered in over 30 schools in the 2014/15 and 2015/16 academic years under the Clean Coasts theme.
- Qualitative research was conducted by JET examining the factors contributing to resort area gullies being used as garbage disposal sites. The **South Gully Research Project Report** was launched in July 2016 in Montego Bay at a stakeholders meeting and media tour.

JET is currently seeking funding to continue Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica and other selected project components from CCP.



Top: Students from Donald Quarrie High are taken on a field trip to the Port Royal Mangroves; Bottom: Michelle Clayton-Brown (TEF) and Suzanne Stanley (JET) examine the South Gully Research Project report at its launch in July 2016



Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica was launched in February 2015 under the TEF funded Clean Coasts Project. The campaign has brought together stakeholders from across Jamaica – schools, citizens, government, and tourism industry players to tackle the problem of poor solid waste management and marine debris in Jamaica.

Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica is geared at improving citizen's knowledge on where our waste goes, the impacts it has on public health and the environment and changing attitudes towards waste. The campaign has received a tremendous response from the public and private sector, civil society and ordinary citizens. Take a look at some of the things we've been up to in the past 18 months!

Right (top to bottom): Japan International Cooperation Agency Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica Earth Day Garbie Walkie in Gordon Town, April 2016; Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica branded National Bakery delivery truck, June 2016; Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica promo team at Bacchanal Jamaica Road March, April 2015; Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica Winnifred Beach Community Link & Think, December 2015; Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica Corporate Link & Think, Montego Bay, March 2016.

Don't forget to like/follow Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica on social media:

- Facebook (facebook.com/nuhduttyupjamaica)
- Instagram (@nuhduttyupjamaica)
- Twitter (@nuhduttyupja)
- YouTube



ANOTHER RECORD BREAKING TURNOUT FOR ICC JAMAICA IN 2016

International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day took place on September 17, 2016. This marks JET's 23rd annual beach cleanup in observance of International Coastal Cleanup Day, and our 9th as national coordinators of the event in Jamaica. The Ocean Conservancy in Texas, USA, started this activity in 1985 and we are celebrating the 31st anniversary of beach cleanup this year. ICC has fast become the largest one day volunteer event in the world with approximately 100 countries participating annually.

As national coordinator of Jamaica's ICC activities, JET works with the Ocean's Conservancy to coordinate activities on a local scale with the help of many different partners from across the island. International Coastal Cleanup Day Jamaica is funded by the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF).

An estimated 9,000 Jamaicans volunteered their time and efforts to clean the island's coastline on ICC Day this year. Included in that number are the 1,800 volunteers who assisted JET in the flagship cleanup of the Palisadoes Strip in Kingston which was sponsored by TEF and Recycling Partners of Jamaica. The flagship cleanup was attended by Minister of Tourism, Hon. Edmund Bartlett, and for the first time, a representative from the Ocean Conservancy, Allison Schutes, was also present.

Large cleanups were also led by the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) and the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) at the Hellshire Bay area in St Catherine and by the Montego Bay Marine Park Trust (MBMPT) and the Rotary Club of Montego Bay at various locations in Montego Bay, St. James.



Left: JET's cleanup at Fort Rocky on the Palisadoes in Kingston. Top to bottom: Volunteers at JET's cleanup behind the Palisadoes stone revetment unearth a tyre on the beach; Volunteers at the Montego Bay Marine Park Trust's cleanup of Old Hospital Beach in Montego Bay weight their waste haul; Volunteers with the Rotary Club of Black River cleanup the Black River coastline.





JET CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN THE BUSH

On Sunday, July 24, 2016 JET and STUSH in the BUSH hosted a fundraiser in celebration of our 25th anniversary at Zionites Farm in St Ann. The *Love Where you Live* lunch featured guest chef Conroy Arnold from Hermosa Cove, wine by Select Brands and live acoustic music by Wayne Armond. A toast to Diana McCaulay, JET Founder and CEO, was led by the Jetters, and commemorated her immeasurable contribution to the organisation and Jamaica over the past 25 years.



25 Years
1991-2016





SEP 2015/16 IN REVIEW

JET implemented its flagship environmental education programme, the Schools' Environment Programme (SEP) in the 2015/16 academic year. SEP continues to be funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) which has been the main donor since 2012. Funding was also received from the Tourism Enhancement Fund and several other corporate sponsors.

Thirty-three schools across 12 parishes were selected to participate in the programme. SEP was delivered under four thematic areas - greening, solid waste management, environmental club and environmental research. Each school had two visits from their SEP supervisor in the Christmas and Easter Terms, and were invited to participate in workshops, judging and an awards ceremony in June 2016.

The theme for the teacher training workshop series in November 2016 was 'Stan Up! Talk Up! An Introduction to Environmental Campaigning'. Two workshops were held in Kingston and Montego Bay on November 25 and 27, 2015 respectively. Fifty persons in total attended both workshops, representing 26 schools, as well as NEPA and JET staff representatives. The workshop also included a field trip to the Jamaica Observer in Kingston and the Western Mirror in Montego Bay.

The SEP student workshop was held on May 5, 2016. Participants in the workshop were treated to a staging of the play 'Of Plastic Things and Butterfly Wings' hosted by the Edna Manley School of Drama. There were 99 persons in attendance, representing 23 schools, SEP sponsors and JET staff. The students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the play and gave rave reviews. One teacher commented 'A commendable effort on your part. The use of drama to convey such a message was very refreshing. My students truly enjoyed the experience as they learnt about environmental ills and their solutions'.

Following the student workshop in May 2016, ten schools were selected to be judged. First, second and third place prizes were awarded along with sectional prizes for schools that did not place in the top three. The winners were invited to the annual SEP Awards Ceremony on June

23, 2016 in Kingston where they displayed their research projects.

2015/2016 SEP Awards Winners
First Place - Maryland All-Age (Hanover)
Second Place – Marjam Prep (St. Ann)
Third Place – Vista Prep (St. Ann)
<i>Sectional Prizes</i>
Sustainability – West Indies College Prep (Manchester)
Greening - Holland Primary (St. Elizabeth)
Knowledgeable Students – Liberty Learning Centre (Portland)
<i>Merit Awards</i>
Mt. St. Joseph Prep (Manchester) & St. Jago Cathedral Prep (St. Catherine)

SEP pilots a new format in 2016/17

In April 2016 JET submitted our 2016/17 proposal for SEP funding to the NRCA with a revised format for delivery; NRCA approved funding in May 2016. The new format will see a change in the required four thematic areas to be completed. Schools will be required to undertake activities in a minimum of two thematic areas, one being the now compulsory environmental club component. Schools can then choose between greening and garbage management as their main focus area. The new programme will be divided into three elements:

SEP core school programme will be delivered in 20-25 of the existing top performing SEP schools. These schools will be given less supervision and will continue to benefit from the teacher and student workshops.

SEP new school programme will be delivered in 15 new schools which have expressed an interest in the environment. These schools will receive the customary two school supervision visits in the Christmas and Easter Terms, including a presentation on the environment and SEP to their teachers in the Christmas Term.

SEP Research Competition and Awards Ceremony will replace the campus based judging exercise. The 40 participating schools will be invited to submit a research topic and plan. Submissions will be shortlisted by JET and schools will be invited to participate in the competition. If a new school does well in the research competition they will be invited to join the core school programme in the following academic year.

In 2017, JET will celebrate 20 years of delivering SEP in Jamaican schools. We are proud of this achievement and look forward to celebrating with students, teachers and donors that have been committed to SEP over the years.



Clockwise from top left: Participants in the SEP teacher training workshop visit the Jamaica Observer in November 2015; A student of Mar Jam Prep in St Ann talks with the SEP judges in May 2016; Students of St Michael's Primary and Suzanne Stanley discuss a poster on deforestation at their school; First place winners of SEP 2015/16, Maryland All Age in Hanover, pose with their award and Dionne Rose, Manager - Public Education and Corporate Communication Branch National Environment & Planning Agency (second from right)

THANKS TO OUR 2015/16 SEP DONORS!





LAW & ADVOCACY UPDATE 2016

Coal-fired plant for Jamaica?

At a press conference on July 28, 2016, the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) announced the sale of the old Alpart bauxite plant at Nain in St. Elizabeth to Jiuquan Iron & Steel (Group) Company Limited (JISCO). The Minister of Transport and Mining, the Hon. Mike Henry, and the Minister of Science, Energy and Technology, the Hon. Andrew Wheatley, were both present at the press conference. They described a US\$2 billion investment in an industrial zone, powered by a 1000 megawatt (MW) coal-fired plant, creating 3,000 jobs. The project would include bauxite mines, an aluminium refinery, a local electricity network, rolling wire mills and "other enterprises". Since then, the GOJ has not spoken further on the matter, except to say that no application has been received and a final decision is many months away.

Coal is a fossil fuel formed under the earth's surface and is mined just like any other rock or mineral. It is not the same thing as charcoal, which is produced by slow heating of wood or other vegetation. Coal-fired plants have several negative impacts on public health and the environment. Emissions can cause respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular disease, asthma attacks, brain damage and cancer. They affect the environment by creating acid rain, depleting surface or ground water and contribute to global climate change.

JET has produced two briefs on coal as an energy source and they are on our website:

Fact Sheet 1: <http://tinyurl.com/coalJAfactsheet1>

Fact Sheet 2: <http://tinyurl.com/coalJAfactsheet2>

We have also started a petition calling on the GOJ to:

- Refuse the proposal to construct a 1000MW coal-fired power plant in Jamaica
- Abide by their commitments to the Paris Agreement of December 2015, which requires phased reduction of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)
- Continue the transition to a new energy future for Jamaica as outlined in many government documents, including the National Energy Policy 2009 and Vision 2030, which emphasize energy conservation, renewables and liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a transitional fuel for Jamaica.

The petition will be delivered to the Prime Minister after it has gained 10,000 signatures.

Dunrobin Park Citizens Association's community park under threat

In April 2016, JET was approached by the Dunrobin Park Citizens Association because their community park had been leased by the KSAC to Macau Enterprises to be used for motor vehicle parking. JET continues to work with the community and other NGO partners to defend green space in cities. Several meetings have been held without a satisfactory resolution. At the time of writing, it is likely that this matter will end up in court.

North South Highway Link

JET continues to monitor the impacts to communities and the marine environment from the North South Highway Link. Some remedial work has been done by China Harbour Engineering Co. Ltd., but in rain events silt and garbage-laden runoff continues to pour into the sea.



Old Fort Bay, St Ann, January 26, 2016

On the heels of the completion of the Inter American Foundation (IAF) funded project “Strengthening the Capacity of Jamaican Communities to Protect their Environmental Rights”, JET has begun two new projects under our Law & Advocacy Programme:

Jamaicans for Clean Air & Water (JCAW)

The Jamaicans for Clean Air & Water Project, or simply JCAW, is funded by the Commonwealth Foundation and is a build on the recently completed IAF funded project, “Strengthening the Capacity of Jamaican Communities to Protect their Environmental Rights”. In that project, communities conducted pollution testing, and discovered that despite their ill health, national air and water quality standards had not been exceeded. One of the project’s major findings was that Jamaica’s air and water quality standards are outdated resulting in them being higher than some international standards, particularly the standards set by the World Health Organization. Jamaica’s air quality standards have not been updated since 1996 and our water quality standards have not changed since 2009. During final evaluation meetings communities expressed the desire to work together to improve these standards.

Through JCAW, JET will empower residents of two to four communities to advocate for improvements in air and water quality standards and promote public engagement in relevant public processes. The project also seeks to animate community members to engage with the Jamaican government and private sector to improve proactive disclosure of air and water quality data. J-CAW will review the current policy and regulatory framework, establish a community-led advocacy network and implement a public awareness campaign to improve knowledge of the public and environmental health impacts of poor air and water quality.

Under JCAW, we will continue to work with the two communities involved in the IAF project, Bull Bay in St. Andrew and Hayes in Clarendon, and will also seek to identify two others with similar issues.

Better Beaches for Jamaicans

JET has received funding from the Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation (IAPF) to deliver the Better Beaches for Jamaicans (BBFJ) project. BBFJ seeks to improve the management and ecological health of three Jamaican public beaches. To achieve the objectives of this project JET will deliver workshops to train local community groups on their legal rights to access beaches, basic business administration, customer service, environmental conservation, beach safety and sanitation. We will also be reviewing the beach control legislation and policy framework with a view to recommending improvements. A simple Beach Management Manual will also be produced and disseminated to community groups.



Alligator Pond, Manchester

Between August and September, JET carried out scoping visits to seven public beaches. Three beaches were chosen: Alligator Pond Beach, Manchester; Winnifred Beach, Portland and Duncans Bay Beach, Trelawny. We also identified local community groups we will be working with, assessed the management status of the beaches and determined the major challenges. Common problems identified were insufficient garbage disposal facilities, turtle poaching, funding for beach maintenance, beach erosion and in some instances, illegal sand mining. The project will also begin a ‘Big Up Wi Beach’ network on social media to promote good beach practices by beach users.



MEET THE JETTERS

NASTASSIA ROBINSON



In March 2016, JET welcomed a new member to our small team – Nastassia Robinson. Nastassia is our new Legal Officer and has been working on JET's law and advocacy programme and associated projects.

Where were you born?

Spanish Town, St. Catherine

Where did you go to school and what did you study?

I attended Jonathan Grant High School and St. George's College. And then to the University of the West Indies, Mona where I studied International Relations (major) and Economics (minor). On completion of my first degree I was offered a place as a Direct Entrant to the Law Faculty at UWI, Cave Hill, Barbados after which I attended the Norman Manley Law School.

How did you learn about JET?

I became aware of JET and its work during the Save Goat Islands campaign.

How did you become interested in working at JET?

I've always been very passionate about human rights advocacy. A clean and healthy environment is a right that is too often taken for granted or ignored. The Save Goat Islands campaign highlighted how little value is placed on environmental protection and I wanted to be part of the group that stood up and fought for the right to have our environment and natural resources protected.

What do you think is the most interesting part of your job?

Since I started working at JET I have travelled to corners and crevices of Jamaica that I never knew existed. I have learnt so much about Jamaica's landscape and natural resources. I truly look forward to the many more communities and discoveries I'll make about Jamaica while working at JET.

What environmental issue in Jamaica is of greatest concern to you?

My greatest environmental concern is essentially the management of our natural resources. I think we take our resources for granted and for that reason we don't give much thought to the trees we cut down, or the park spaces we transform into parking lots, or the fact that our mining resources are not infinite.

Tell us something that we should know about you

I'm a very light-spirited person. I love life and laughter and I try to keep my energy very positive and light. But, my lightness should never be interpreted as weakness. I am also very strong-willed and fierce.

Name one word that describes JET and the reason for using that word?

Intense - but not in a bad way. Working at JET forces me to grow and mature faster than I knew possible. It has been an incredible learning journey and I'm grateful that I get to work here and learn from everyone on the team.