

THE JETTER

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EDITORIAL

Saying goodbye to JET

Last October, it was with mixed emotions I announced that after ten years working at the Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) I will be stepping down as CEO in 2020. Below is an excerpt from my letter to JET's members:

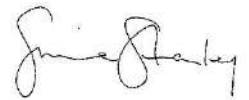
Being a part of this fantastic organization has been an eye-opening experience, and I am extremely thankful for everything that I have learnt and been able to accomplish while working here over the last decade. During my time with JET I have been responsible for the development and delivery of numerous environmental education programmes including Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica, one of my proudest achievements. As JET's CEO I have been actively engaged in advocacy on a broad range of environmental issues - most recently the Save Cockpit Country campaign - and have led an organization which is highly regarded by our members, donors and supporters, and which is widely recognized locally and internationally as the voice for Jamaica's environment. Resigning as CEO was a difficult decision for me, as I love everything JET stands for; however, I have determined this is the right time in my career to pursue other professional opportunities.

Since notifying the board of my resignation, we have developed and began implementing a transition plan which will see me giving up my role as CEO at the end of June 2020. The board and I are committed to ensuring that this progresses as smoothly as possible, to ensure the sustainability of the organization. I also personally remain

committed to helping JET in any way I can in the future. The details of the way forward for JET will be communicated as they arise over the next few months.

Thank you to all who have supported JET during my time with the organization, and over its 29-year history.

JET's important work towards the protection of Jamaica's natural resources continues in 2020. The upcoming decade is projected to be one of the most challenging in our planet's history, and environmental issues like climate change and plastic pollution are at the forefront of global consciousness. JET stands ready to tackle these challenges with the continued support of our longstanding members and benefactors. We are also excited at the prospect of welcoming new partners and team members to the JET team and look forward to the year ahead.



Suzanne Stanley
Chief Executive Officer
January 2020

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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Blast from the past! My first JET project was coordinating the launch of the Jamaica Environmental Action Awards on Earth Day in 2010.

L - R: Oliver Silvera, me (Suzanne Stanley), Carlette Falloon, Diana McCaulay, Tamoy Singh Clarke and Christine O'Sullivan



Tamoy Singh Clarke

THANKS T!

2019 marked the end of an era – November 30 marked Tamoy Singh Clarke's final day as a full-time staff member of JET.

A self-described “serial volunteer”, Tamoy began volunteering with JET sometime around 2001, nearly 19 years ago. Tamoy remembers being introduced to the organization by her friend and long-standing JET member, Aldane Maragh, when she visited a Student Environment Network display he was manning at the Chinese Benevolent Association in Kingston. “When he suggested joining JET at the expo, I remember thinking, yay – another place to volunteer!” said Tamoy in an interview with the Jetter in November last year. “I always like to be occupied – in high school I was in so many clubs and at UWI I would volunteer all over the place.”

Although it was her friendship with Aldane which ultimately led Tamoy to JET, she recalls her JET connection starting much earlier on. In sixth form, Tamoy, a geography student, spent much of her mornings in the library studying and reading National Geographic magazines. It was during that time that she discovered OpEds by former JET CEO, Diana McCaulay, and became a dedicated fan. She looked forward to

Diana's hilarious articles every week, as much a needed reprieve from her studies. “One day, the articles just stopped. I was devastated,” she lamented. Little did she know that just a few years later she would be offered a fulltime job by Diana as JET's Administrator.

Tamoy initially turned down the offer to work at JET. “I was afraid of Diana,” she explained, “even though I had been volunteering with JET for a few years, I mostly dealt with the project staff, and the image of Diana portrayed in the media was intimidating.” Never-the-less, after being reassured by Diana that her bark was worse than her bite, Tamoy decided to take up the post, a decision she hasn't regretted.

With a geography degree from UWI and hands-on experience building and maintaining hiking trails in the mountainous forest of the Pacific Northwest near Seattle, Tamoy soon came into her own at JET. Although initially employed in an administrative role, Tamoy took every opportunity to accompany the project staff out in the field to workshops and JET events. In 2010 Tamoy was promoted to Project Coordinator and was happy to finally get to focus on delivering JET's environmental education programmes.



Tamoy (centre) at a 2005 JET Earth Day event

During her tenure, Tamoy has been instrumental in developing and implementing countless administrative procedures and JET projects, including International Coastal Cleanup Day, the Building Appreciation for Nature in Children at Risk project, JET's sea turtle conservation programme, and a multitude of JET workshops and events. Arguably Tamoy's greatest success was her leadership of JET's Schools' Environment Programme (SEP) since 2014. Tamoy engaged teachers and students

with new SEP activities and topics, injecting new life into the decades old project. Then, in 2017, Tamoy was promoted to Programme Director, and she assumed responsibility for all JET's environmental education programmes.



Top: Tamoy presenting at an information exchange for a JET sea turtle project in Treasure Beach in 2011; Bottom: Tamoy with a student of Sandy Bay Primary, Hanover, during the 2013 SEP school judging exercise

"I have built a lot of relationships with JET's volunteers and staff over the years," said Tamoy, who has had a hand in training nearly ever staff member and volunteer who has passed through JET's doors since she began working with the organization. "One of the things I will miss most about working at JET is how well we all work together as a team towards a common goal, no one is ever trying to undermine anyone else." This, she says, is something she has never taken for granted, as well as the freedom of expression and creativity afforded to all JET staff.



Tamoy (right) instructs volunteers at a 2018 JET beach cleanup on the Palisadoes

As our longest serving employee (except for Diana), Tamoy's contribution to JET has been immeasurable and a vital part of our organization's success over many years. All the Jetters, past and present, wish her the best, knowing that she will be successful wherever life takes her. Commenting on her future plans Tamoy said "I won't be running marathons in the first few months, that's for sure; but of course, I'll still be here to help JET out in any way I can."



Tamoy and her son Zaden at a JET bird watching activity in Hope Gardens in 2011

RECORD BREAKING YEAR FOR INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP (ICC) JAMAICA!

On Saturday September 21, 2019, JET attracted an unprecedented number of volunteers to International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day activities in Jamaica – over 12,400 volunteers turned out to a record 182 beach cleanup sites across the island. The 2019 ICC events, which were supervised by 121 site coordinators, also collected a record amount of garbage – 9,225 bags of garbage weighing over 160,000 pounds.

In 2015, JET set a target to attract 10,000 volunteers to ICC Day, with the hopes that an increased turnout would land Jamaica among the top ten countries who participate in the event worldwide – and this year, that target was achieved! 2019 also marked JET's 12th year as national coordinators of ICC in Jamaica and our 26th year conducting cleanups along the Palisadoes Strip in Kingston. Once 2019 ICC statistics have been tabulated and reported by the global ICC coordinator Ocean Conservancy later this year, JET will know whether Jamaica's 2019 volunteer turnout landed us in the top ten participating countries. In 2018, Jamaica was ranked as the 17th largest cleanup in the world and the largest in the English-speaking Caribbean.

The garbage collected on ICC Day in Jamaica in 2019 continued to be dominated by single-use plastic packaging. Plastic beverage bottles remained the number one item collected on International Coastal Cleanup Day in Jamaica for the twelfth consecutive year. The number of plastic bottles collected in 2019 (261,282) increased by 0.1% when compared to 2018 (260,970). Despite Jamaica's ban on some single-use plastic items which began on January 1, 2019, plastic bags and Styrofoam continued to feature in the top ten items collected on ICC Day. The number of plastic bags collected by ICC volunteers in 2019 increased by 8% when compared to 2018 and Styrofoam increased by a little over 1%. The only banned single-use plastic item which declined in the number collected on ICC Day in 2019 was plastic straws, which decreased by 33.4% compared to 2018. In the future JET will continue to monitor annual ICC statistics as an indicator of the effectiveness of the single-use plastic ban.

ICC in Jamaica has been funded by the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF) since 2008. Recycling Partners of Jamaica (RPJ), Protex and the Jamaica Public Service (JPS) Foundation also joined TEF as sponsors of ICC Jamaica activities in 2019. JET is grateful to our ICC Jamaica sponsors for their continued support.



Scenes from JET's 2019 International Coastal Cleanup Day flagship event at the Palisadoes Go-Kart Track in Kingston





SEP IS 21

In the 2018/19 academic year SEP celebrated 21 years of delivering environmental education in Jamaican schools, thanks to funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) and several private donors, led by Total Jamaica. Thirty-two schools covering 14 parishes participated in SEP 2018/19.

SEP continued its focus on professional development for teachers. Teacher training workshops were held on November 27, 2018 at the Wexford Hotel (Montego Bay, St. James) and November 28, 2018 at the Alhambra Inn (Kingston) under the theme Jamaicans for Clean Air and Water. The workshops looked at sources of air and water pollution in Jamaica, the impact on public health and the environment, and relevant laws and regulations governing Jamaica's air and water quality. Forty teachers participated in the workshops, as well as representatives from the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) and JET staff. Both workshops included a field trip. In Montego Bay, the Montego Bay Marine Park (MBMP) led a walking tour of the debris containment boom (DCB) at the mouth of the South Gully, and a glass bottom boat tour of the Montego Bay coastline to show teachers the impact of water pollution on the marine environment. In Kingston, the National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) led a walking tour of the Riverton Waste Disposal Site. The field trip gave teachers the opportunity to learn about the impact of air and water pollution associated with Riverton, and its impact on public health and the environment.

School supervision visits were conducted by JET to all SEP schools in March and April 2019 to assess their environmental programmes. Each school was awarded points for the environmental activities they had completed.

Workshops for students were held on May 7, 2019 at the Cardiff Hotel and Spa in St. Ann and May 14, 2019 at the Alhambra Inn in Kingston, under the theme Life with

Plastic – Not so Fantastic. Fifty-six students and 37 adults representing 28 schools, SEP sponsors and JET staff attended the workshops. The 2019 SEP student workshops included presentations and interactive sessions on single-use plastic and the recently implemented plastic ban. Student activities included making reusable shopping bags from old T-shirts and a plastic scavenger hunt. Students also completed a Primary Exit Profile (PEP – the national primary school exam) performance task question on the workshop theme. We Alter Eco also did a presentation on their biodegradable packaging products and provided samples for workshop participants.

The annual SEP Research Competition and Awards Ceremony took place on June 12, 2019 at the Knutsford Court Hotel in Kingston; 74 students participated in the competition. Other guests included SEP sponsor representatives, media representatives, and SEP teachers. The research competition featured an exhibition of environmental research projects from 15 top performing SEP prep and primary schools. Schools presented on a broad range of environmental topics, including the recently implemented plastic ban and its impact on Jamaican communities.

The 2019 SEP research competition was won by MarJam Prep from St. Ann, with second place being awarded to Pigsaw Primary from St. Elizabeth and third place going to Vista Prep from St. Ann. Holland Primary copped the top SEP honour for the second consecutive year and was awarded 2019 Champion SEP School prize.

Guest speaker at the awards ceremony, the Honorable Daryl Vaz, Minister without portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, commended the students on a job well done and encouraged them to continue their work. He described the students as “budding researchers, ecologists, scientists and climate change specialists”. In his remarks, Minister Vaz also pledged his support for SEP and recommitted NRCA funding for the 2019/20 academic year.

This year SEP is being delivered in 31 schools across Jamaica. Both the SEP teacher training workshop and student workshop will be held in 2020 with a Cockpit Country theme. JET is grateful to all our SEP donors for their support and we look forward to another successful academic year.



Scenes from the 2018/19 academic year (clockwise from top left): Maryland All Age's Environment Club, Hanover; 2018 SEP Teacher Training Workshop; 2019 SEP student workshop; 2019 SEP summer workshop; Minister Hon. Daryl Vaz with JET's CEO Suzanne Stanley and SEP 2018/19 Champion School Holland Primary; judging during the 2019 SEP Research Day and Competition

2018/19 SEP AWARDEES	
Champion SEP School	Holland Primary, St. Elizabeth
First Place Best Display	Mar-Jam Prep, St. Ann
Second Place Best Display	Pisgah Primary, St. Elizabeth
Third Place Best Display	Vista Prep, St. Ann
SECTIONAL AWARDS	
Best Spokesperson	Morgan Williams, Vista Prep and Dejonie O'Connor, Pisgah Primary, St. Elizabeth
Most Creative Display	Vista Prep, St. Ann
Most Knowledgeable Students	Pisgah Primary, St. Elizabeth
Best Solid Waste Research	Mar-Jam Prep, St. Ann
CAMPUS BASED AWARDS	
Garbage Management	Mount St. Joseph Prep, Manchester
Garbage Management	Holland Primary, St. Elizabeth
Greening Your School	Pisgah Primary, St. Elizabeth
Environment Club	Holland Primary, St. Elizabeth
Environment Club	Mar-Jam Prep, St. Ann
Environment Club	Maryland All Age, Hanover

Thanks to our 2018/19 SEP Donors!





LOG ON TO BIG UP WI BEACH!

JET has been working on beach health and beach access issues for over two decades. In recent years, this work has been delivered under the Better Beaches for Jamaicans (BBFJ) Project which was launched with funding from the Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation in 2016. BBFJ seeks to improve the management and ecological health of Jamaican public beaches, and the first phase of the project was successfully completed in 2017.



Thanks to the renewed support of the Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation, JET relaunched BBFJ in 2018 and the project is set to continue until 2021. During BBFJ Phase I, JET discovered that the status of most of the island's public beaches was uncertain, and many

Jamaicans do not know their location or condition; BBFJ Phase II has sought to address this. Between November 2018 and May 2019, together with ten local partners, JET completed an islandwide survey of 132 publicly accessible beaches in Jamaica to determine their management and environmental status. JET published [a report on the survey's major findings](#) in August 2019 on the Big Up Wi Beach website (www.bigupwibeachja.org), which displays profiles of all the beaches surveyed. The launch event included an exhibit of some of the best photos from the beach survey and took place at the Y-Knot marina in Port Royal on August 29, also kicking off 2019 International Coastal Cleanup Day activities in Jamaica.

BBFJ Phase II also continues to engage with community managed beaches, providing community groups managing their local beaches with training on beach access issues, basic business administration, customer service, beach conservation, safety and sanitation. Three community-managed beaches who received this training under BBFJ phase I – Winnifred Beach in Portland, Alligator Pond in Manchester, and Duncans Bay in Trelawny – have been joined by five new beaches in Phase II. These were selected from the beaches surveyed - Wickie Wackie on the Reef, St. Andrew; Belmont Fishing Beach, Westmoreland; Rio Nuevo, St. Mary; Treasure Beach, St. Elizabeth; and Red Cross and Allosa Beach, Discovery Bay, St. Ann. Between November 2019 and January 2020, the JET team delivered interactive beach education workshops to all new BBFJ partners.



JET Project Coordinator Ashley Codner (foreground, left) speaks with fishermen during the BBFJ workshop at Rio Nuevo in St. Mary in December 2019

JET will continue to offer guidance to all BBFJ community beach partners through follow up visits in 2020 and 2021. Also coming up in 2020 and 2021 will be the expansion of the Big Up Wi Beach social media campaign on beaches. Please follow Big Up Wi Beach JA on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)) to stay up-to-date on upcoming BBFJ project activities and new campaign productions.

JET would like to thank the Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation for making BBFJ possible and the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW) for their technical support.





L - R: JET Project Coordinator Lauren Creary with representatives of Xaymaca International, Bacchanal Jamaica and Xodus Carnival

NUH DUTTY UP JAMAICA GAINS MOMENTUM IN 2019

Following its successful relaunch in December 2018, the Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica campaign gained momentum throughout 2019, with a host of events and new content promoting good solid waste management among Jamaicans. This undoubtedly contributed to the impressive results of an external evaluation of Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica which found that the campaign has attained universal campaign awareness since its launch in 2015. The August 2019 evaluation found that 99% of Jamaicans surveyed knew the Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica campaign and understood its messaging.

Jamaica's ban on single-use plastic packaging including plastic bags, plastic straws and Styrofoam containers featured heavily in the Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica campaign last year. JET leveraged its popularity to educate Jamaicans about the ban on single-use plastic shopping bags, straws and imported Styrofoam containers, which started on January 1, 2019. Two new Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica public service announcements (PSAs) were produced which highlighted the ban, and the reasons why reducing the use of single-use plastics is important for public health and the environment.

In April 2019, Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica partnered with Xodus Carnival, Xaymaca International and Bacchanal Jamaica to promote good solid waste management during the carnival season. The 2019 carnival campaign featured a new PSA production, a Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica promotional tour of carnival fetes and costume distribution centres. Reusable ChicoBags, stainless steel straws, reusable water bottles, and special edition Nuh Dutty Up Di Road tumblers were handed out to revellers with a reminder to Nuh Dutty Up Di Road. JET also partnered with Carnicycle, a social enterprise group based in Trinidad, to promote costume recycling following the festivities.

Next up on the calendar was our inaugural Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica Road Trip to educate Jamaicans on the plastic ban and promote alternatives to single-use plastic packaging. The Road Trip was staged in partnership with MegaMart Jamaica, with stops at their Mandeville, Portmore and Montego Bay stores in August 2019. Through the Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica *Bring a Bag a Bokkle* initiative, members of the public who brought in 30 or more plastic bottles for recycling to Road Trip stops received gifts from Wisycno ECO and Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica. Twenty-five jumbo garbage bags full of plastic bottles weighing over 250 pounds were collected during the Road Trip. Social media personality RushCam hosted

spin-and-win activities at each Road Trip stop, giving shoppers the chance to win Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica branded reusable promotional items.

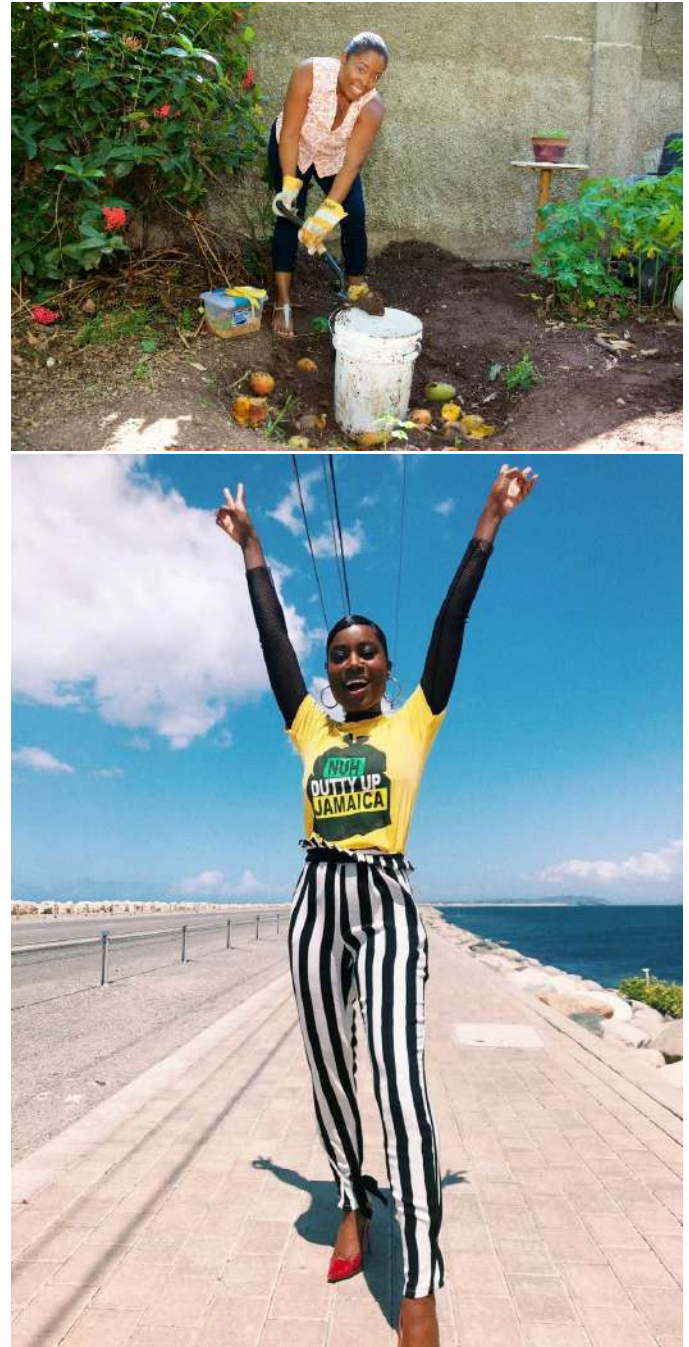


Top: RushCam with shoppers at MegaMart in Montego Bay during the August 2019 Road Trip promotion; Bottom: Shoppers brought plastic bottles for recycling to Road Trip stops in exchange for gifts from Wisynco and Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica

In 2019, Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica also released a two-part PSA on the importance of composting and dispelling composting myths. The PSA series featured media personality Patria Kaye Aarons – an avid composter herself – giving step-by-step instructions on how to create and maintain a compost heap.

This year Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica will continue to highlight Jamaica's single-use plastic ban, with a focus on the alternatives to Styrofoam containers, which were completely banned on January 1, 2020. The Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica Cleanup Network will also expand its reach in 2020. The cleanup network facilitated 20 community cleanups across the island in 2019 and is set to facilitate 30 cleanups in 2020.

Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica was funded by the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF) and Wisynco in 2019. The campaign continues to be funded by TEF in 2020. We are grateful for the support of our campaign donors and the numerous supporters and partners from the private and public sector and civil society.



Top: Patria-Kaye Aarons is featured in the Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica PSA on composting; Bottom: Singer Sevana strikes a pose during a shoot for the Nuh Dutty Up Jamaica PSA on reducing the use of single-use plastic





SAVE COCKPIT COUNTRY 2.0

JET's work to protect Cockpit Country continued in 2019, as advocacy towards conserving this important Jamaican landscape attracted high levels of national support throughout the year. Our ***Advancing the Protection of Jamaica's Cockpit Country*** project expanded the Save Cockpit Country public education campaign on social media and facilitated meetings with key Cockpit Country stakeholders.

Between April and June 2019, JET launched three new Save Cockpit Country public service announcements (PSAs) on social media. The short films are narrated by Amirah Dixon, an SEP student environmental leader from MarJam Prep School in St Ann. Episode one of the three-part series highlighted the ecological and cultural significance of Cockpit Country, and the importance of its conservation; while episode two focused on the Cockpit Country Protected Area (CCPA) ground-truthing process, and why every Jamaica should be following it closely. The third and final episode was released in June in tandem with JET's participation in Green Expo under a Save Cockpit Country theme. Episode 3 featured testimonials from residents of Gibraltar, St. Ann, located on the outer boundary of Cockpit Country. In recent years, Gibraltar has been negatively impacted by bauxite mining, which has degraded land and air quality and polluted the community's water supply which is stored in open rainwater catchment tanks. JET's release of the PSAs coincided with the staging of community consultations by Noranda Bauxite in sections of Cockpit Country outside of the protected area which fall under their new mining lease (Special Mining Lease 173). This resulted in a significant increase media coverage of the issue and community led advocacy in the latter half of 2019.



A man with a sign during a peaceful protest against bauxite mining in Cockpit Country in Heroes Park on September 17, 2019

Stakeholder meetings with Cockpit Country community leaders and representatives of civil society were hosted by JET in 2019 on May 16 in Gibraltar, St. Ann and on September 13 in Falmouth, Trelawny. JET also participated in two peaceful protests against bauxite mining in Cockpit Country coordinated by Cockpit Country community groups and other NGOs on July 22 in Albert Town, Trelawny and on September 17 in Downtown, Kingston. JET was also represented at Save Cockpit Country Day 2019 by our Board Chair, Diana McCaulay. The event took place in Stewart Town in Trelawny on September 20, coinciding with the Global Climate Strike, and hosted students from Cockpit Country schools who engaged with each other and the media on issues related to Cockpit Country's protection in the context of the global climate crisis.

On September 16, 2019 a group identifying themselves as employees of Noranda Bauxite staged a protest outside JET's office against what they described as 'lies and

misinformation' they perceived as being directed at their company by Cockpit Country stakeholders. JET's CEO, Suzanne Stanley, met with a Noranda Bauxite representative during the protest, who admitted that although JET was not guilty of spreading misinformation, its high profile was viewed as an opportunity to attract attention to the workers' concerns. Ms. Stanley suggested that a meeting between the Noranda Bauxite employees, JET and other Cockpit Country stakeholders would offer an opportunity for more constructive dialogue between the parties; however, JET has received no further communication from the bauxite company in this regard.

In November 2019, JET successfully secured funding to continue the ***Advancing the Protection of Jamaica's Cockpit Country*** project in 2020 thanks to the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW) and generous donations from two private donors. This year JET will continue to advocate for the protection of the Cockpit Country and follow the process towards the declaration of the CCPA.



MEET THE JETTERS

ROCKEL MOODIE



Rockel Moodie joined the JET team as our Office Manager in February 2019. Self-described as a lover of all things positive, Rockel is a past student of Campion College and the University of the West Indies, Mona. She holds a BSc in Management Studies with a Marketing major. Rockel came to JET with over seven years' experience as an Office Manager; she also has professional experience as a Production Assistant and Model.

What is the one thing/view that has changed since you've started working at JET?

I get to see how, and the many reasons why, JET educates Jamaicans about the importance of the environment and advocating for its protection.

What have you enjoyed the most about working with JET so far?

I am definitely happy with my coworkers and enjoy working with each and every one of them. I appreciate how well they treat each other, and every single person they interact with. I also enjoy learning more about how important it is to protect our environment and the many ways we can do so. I have started a mini environmental campaign at home, we no longer use disposable containers and we no longer throw compostable items in the trash.

What environmental issue are you most passionate about?

Since working at JET, my interest in Cockpit Country and what the area represents has grown tremendously. I have seen how important Cockpit Country is to Jamaica and Jamaicans and how important it is to keep the area protected.

A fun/weird fact about yourself.

I love to sketch and paint.