

First Draft Concept Note

Eco- Communities

The Eco-Communities project aims to empower and educate homeowners and residents on the impact of small actions in combating climate change through effective waste management.



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Summary

The project includes several key activities: engaging residents in workshops and training sessions, providing compost and recycling bins to 5% of households, and ensuring the weekly emptying of these bins, thereby creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be signed by the government and stakeholders to ensure smooth project implementation. Bins will be sourced through partnerships with international agencies, and each household will pay XCD 15.00 per month, added to their Antigua Public Utilities Water bill. Unique bar codes will be placed on each bin, matching the household's water bill number. The project cost will remain stable for ten years, with grant funding assisting with some costs.

The project will be launched with an extensive awareness campaign, including school tours, jingles, videos, pop-up stations, social media campaigns, flyers, posters, and billboards. The pilot phase will target three communities: Fitches Creek, English Harbor, and Villa. Data will be collected using various metrics, including the weight of different types of waste collected and the number of individuals with disabilities employed.

Expected outcomes include increased environmental awareness, improved waste management practices, and enhanced community engagement. The project also aims to reduce landfill waste, support sustainable agriculture through backyard gardening, and provide data to inform future environmental policies. Additionally, the project will create economic opportunities for individuals with disabilities and contribute to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through these initiatives, the Eco-Communities project seeks to create a cleaner, healthier environment while fostering social and economic development within the community.



Key information about the project

Eco communities are designed to empower and educate homeowners and residents about how small action can lead to global impact. The objective is to provide households with the necessary tools to combat climate change through proper waste management.

Activity 1

Engage homeowners and residents in workshops and training to educate them about how small actions multiplied can lead to global impact.

Activity 2

Provide 5% of households with compost and recycling bins

Activity 3

Empty bins weekly, thereby creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

- The government and all stakeholders involved will sign an MOA about the project
- Bins will be sourced in partnership with international agencies
- Each household will make XCD 10.00 per month, which will be added to the Antigua Public Utilities Water bill (APUA)
- Unique bar codes will be placed on each bin – These codes will match the household water bill number
- The cost of service will not increase for 10 years
- Grant funding will be acquired to assist with bins and pilot cost
- 60% of the individuals employed in the program should be a member of the disability community
- Data collection, storage, and reporting must be done with due diligence
- Households will receive soil from compost to start their yard garden
- Each household will be given a backyard garden starter pack (pepper, Thyme, rosemary, Chives)

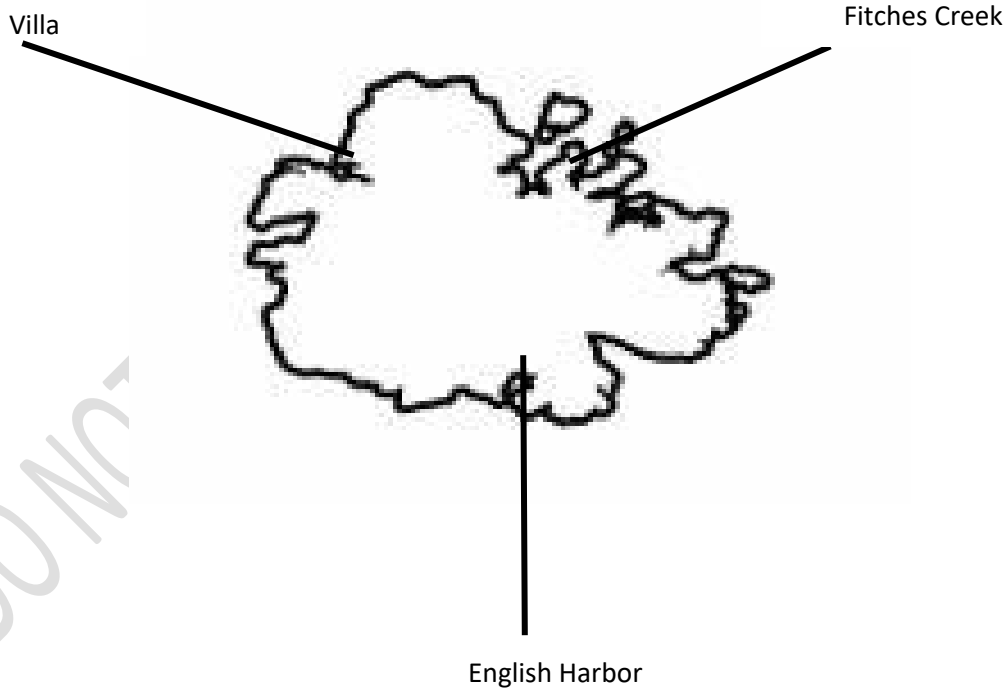


Launch

Before the project's launch, there will be several sensation camps to educate citizens about the project's benefits.

- School tour
- Jingle
- Videos
- Pop-up stations about the project
- Social media campaigns
- Flyers
- Posters
- Billboards
- Workshops

Pilot Communities



Bins



Data Collection

- Number of households in each community engaged
- The weight of plastic collected weekly
- Weight of glass collected weekly
- Weight of cans collected weekly
- Weight from compost bins weekly
- Number of individuals with disabilities employed
- Number of households not complying with new policy
- Data from pre-survey
- Data from the survey 6 months into the project
- Data from the survey 1 year into the project
- Number of students in communities engaged
- Number of participating in workshops
- Data from pre and post-surveys at workshops



Expected Outcomes

This section needs tangible and comparable markers for outcomes, for example, giving bins to 2100 homes.

- 5% of households given bins
- 5% of households engaged in workshops about project
- 5% of households using bins provided
- Students with households will take practices at home back to schools and encourage proper use of recycling bins in schools
- Citizens are sensitized about sustainable development goals
- Citizens actively engaged in meeting sustainable development goals
- Improved waste management practices
- Reduction of waste sent to landfill
- Data-driven environment decisions in the future
- Employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities
- The government should be able to produce documents with supporting data that can be shared across SIDS to get the population engaged in better waste management practices.

Expected Impact

Employment for individuals with disabilities in waste management operations will promote social inclusion and economic empowerment. Approximately 60% of the project's workforce will be from the disability community, creating job opportunities and fostering inclusivity. Households receiving compost soil and starter garden packs will be encouraged to practice backyard gardening, contributing to local food security and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. Students involved in the project will bring their learning home and to schools, fostering a culture of recycling and composting from a young age. This educational spillover can lead to long-term environmental benefits. Cleaner communities with proper waste management will experience fewer health issues related to pollution and waste, improving public health. Effective waste management and composting can significantly reduce methane emissions from landfills, contributing to the fight against climate change. Success in pilot communities (Fitches Creek, English Harbor, and Villa) can provide a model for replication across other communities in Antigua and Barbuda and potentially other Small Island Developing States (SIDS), amplifying the project's impact globally. By addressing waste management through a community-based approach, the Eco-Communities project aims to improve environmental conditions and foster social and economic development, creating a comprehensive impact on participating communities.