



The CWWA InfoStructure

Caribbean Collaborations, Unified Solutions

Water Project Targets Demand, But Conservation Is Vital

St. Kitts - August 1, 2014

The Water Services Department (WSD) on St. Kitts is about to embark on a multi-million-dollar, deep-well drilling project to meet increasing demand for potable water.

The project is expected to increase supply by 2 million gallons of water per day. Included in the project are new distribution island-wide main pipes of six to eight inches in diameter.

The minister responsible for water utilities, Hon. Dr. Asim Martin, disclosed that the project is estimated at EC\$14 million, and that a request would be made to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF) for EC\$10 million of the total.

He said the project has become necessary because of increased growth and demand in the agricultural, domestic and commercial sectors. He indicated that the demand for water is beginning to outstrip supply, and that action was needed now to secure a continuous supply of potable water.

Information from the Water Services Department lists average production of water at approximately six million gallons daily (6MGD), while the average demand is 5.5 MGD. This is supported by a current storage capacity of approximately 8 million gallons.



The Basseterre Valley in the distance that contains a protected aquifer.

Mr. Denison Paul, manager/water engineer (Ag.), of the Water Services Department, has indicated that the additional 2 MGD would be adequate for about five years, “only if we continue to serve the domestic, industrial and commercial sectors at the same ratio, as a percentage, of the overall use.”

He highlighted several factors that must be considered, such as the agricultural sector, “which currently uses only 10 percent of the water we produce, since the closure of the sugar industry, but, with the thrust to diversify agriculture as a means of promoting food security, water for irrigation has been identified as a most critical issue. To meet the demand for agriculture and all other sectors, we will have to bring another 3 MGD on line in short time.”

Read full article here:

<http://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/2014/08/01/water-conservation.html>



The CWWA InfoStructure

Caribbean Collaborations, Unified Solutions

Two day workshop : Offshore Biological Wastewater Treatment Systems July 24-25

The CWWA partnered with I.G. Training and Consultancy Limited to deliver a two day workshop on Offshore Biological Wastewater Treatment Systems. The course was facilitated by Mr. Irwin Gill of I.G Training and Consultancy on the 24th and 25th July, 2014. Technical officers from Repsol and M-I Swaco who work in offshore platform operations were trained in the management of offshore wastewater treatment systems.

The opening remarks were delivered by Ms. Sara-Jade Govia, Chairperson Pro Tem of CWWA's T&T National Section. Ms. Govia outlined the importance of proper management of wastewater treatment systems and the need to integrate best management practices in the daily operations of these systems. The respective companies, Repsol and M-I Swaco were commended for recognising their role in cultivating a stimulating and progressive working environment for their staff involved in wastewater management. The role of CWWA as a professional organisation in providing a platform for training of technical personnel in the water, waste and wastewater sectors was also highlighted in the opening remarks.



A cross-section of the participants who attended the workshop listens to opening remarks from Sara-Jade Govia, Chairperson, Pro Tem, CWWA TT National Section

The course included an overview of wastewater treatment processes and the identification of unit processes. Participants were trained in the activated sludge process and operational control strategies. Safety in the wastewater environment was one of the key components covered in this course, in addition to troubleshooting methods. A practical component was also incorporated in the training through a site visit to an activated sludge plant. The participants were eager to apply the skills and theoretical concepts learnt from this course as they continuously strive to become exemplary practitioners in the wastewater sector.

MONITORING CORAL REEFS IN THE CARIBBEAN: Long-term solutions for protecting our "rainforests of the ocean"

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. -- The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) awarded YSI Integrated Systems and Services (a division of Xylem Inc.) a contract for five marine monitoring buoys that will collect high-quality data for researchers studying climate change in the Caribbean Sea, including the waters of Barbados, Belize, The Dominican Republic and Trinidad & Tobago.

"The Caribbean is a unique part of the world. Our waters are the 'bread basket' for the region, and we must be diligent in protecting and sustaining them. We are very excited to build our education and research infrastructure with the addition of this important technology project for addressing the impacts of climate change on the Caribbean ecosystem," says Dr. Kenrick Leslie, CCCCC Executive Director.

The customized YSI EMM 2000 buoys measure, record, and transmit in real-time meteorological and water quality data as the key components of a Coral Reef Early Warning System (CREWS).



This coastal buoy supports a full array of water quality sensors, data acquisition systems, and meteorological sensors. Its hull and structure are rugged enough to withstand significant wind and wave activity in ocean applications in less than 75 meters of water depth.

Read more on this article:

<http://caribbeanclimateblog.com/2014/07/24/monitoring-coral-reefs-in-the-caribbean-protecting-our-rainforests-of-the-ocean/>



The CWWA InfoStructure

Caribbean Collaborations, Unified Solutions

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) has declared July 2nd, Caribbean Public Health Day.

The celebration of Caribbean Public Health Day on July 2 coincided with the anniversary of the legal establishment of CARPHA, which made it an opportune time to highlight the work of the Agency, sensitize Caribbean people about the importance of public health and the contribution it can make to the socio-economic development of the Region. For this reason, CARPHA marked July 2nd this year, Caribbean Public Health Day.

We encourage you to listen to the Message and also to share it with persons in your networks as the inaugural Caribbean Public Health Day is being celebrated!

Caribbean countries led the world to the historic UN High Level meeting in New York in 2011 resulting in a Declaration to prevent and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The expectation of leadership was shown at the 2014 July 10-11 meeting and addressed the global threat of NCDs

Watch the Caribbean Public Health Day message from the Executive Director, CARPHA, Dr. C. James Hospedales.
<http://caribbeanclimateblog.com/2014/07/02/caribbean-public-health-day/>



Caribbean
Public Health
Agency

CARPHA

“One for all, All for water”



Billions of people face major challenges to get the fresh water they need, caused by water shortages, poor water quality, lack of infrastructure or natural disasters such as floods or drought. An estimated 80 percent of women and men live in zones where water security is considered to be at high risk. Six hundred million people do not have access to clean drinking water. Forty percent of them live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

UNESCO is strongly committed to water issues and has been working for many years to help countries manage their water resources in a sustainable way. There are over 20 research centres on water affiliated to UNESCO around the world and a series of water-related Chairs and Networks.

UNESCO also boasts the IHE Institute for Water Education in Delft in the Netherlands, and leads the preparation of the UN-wide World Water Development Report, as well as the International Hydrological Programme. The rallying cry of the Yamoussoukro Forum - “one for all, all for water” - chosen by a group of young people from Cote d’Ivoire, rang out loud and clear at the start of the meeting, held in the conference room of the Houphouet-Boigny Foundation.

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/one_for_all_all_for_water/back/9597/



The CWWA InfoStructure

Caribbean Collaborations, Unified Solutions

WORKSHOP HELD TO MAP OUT POLICIES, REGULATIONS TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT OF GUYANA'S WATER RESOURCES

The Central Housing and Planning Authority (CH&PA) in collaboration with developmental partners such as the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CRew), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) hosted a workshop with a view to strengthening policies and institutional frameworks to ensure more efficient management and use of the country's water resources.

The workshop which was held at Red House, Kingston, engaged a number of private sector entities including the Georgetown Chambers of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI), the Ministries of Health and Local Government, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) among other stakeholders.

This Convention addresses water and airborne pollution, land-based pollution of the marine environment and sea bed exploitation. In 2010, Guyana acceded to the Cartagena Convention and its three accompanying Protocols dealing with combating oil spills in the wider Caribbean region, combating pollution from land-based sources and activities and pollution concerning protected areas and wildlife in the wider Caribbean Sea.

The Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities is commonly called the 'LBS Protocol'. This is a regional mechanism assisting the United Nations Member States in the Wider Caribbean Region to meet the goals and obligations of two international agreements: the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Global Plan of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities.

Under the LBS Protocol, Guyana is expected to ensure that measures are in place to prevent, reduce and regulate environmental impacts on its marine environment. The country has an obligation to regulate the final discharge into the Atlantic Ocean via internal drains and canals.

More here.... <http://news.caribseek.com/index.php/caribbean-islands-news/guyana-news/item/86398-workshop-held-to-map-out-policies-regulations-to-improve-management-of-guyana-s-water-resources>



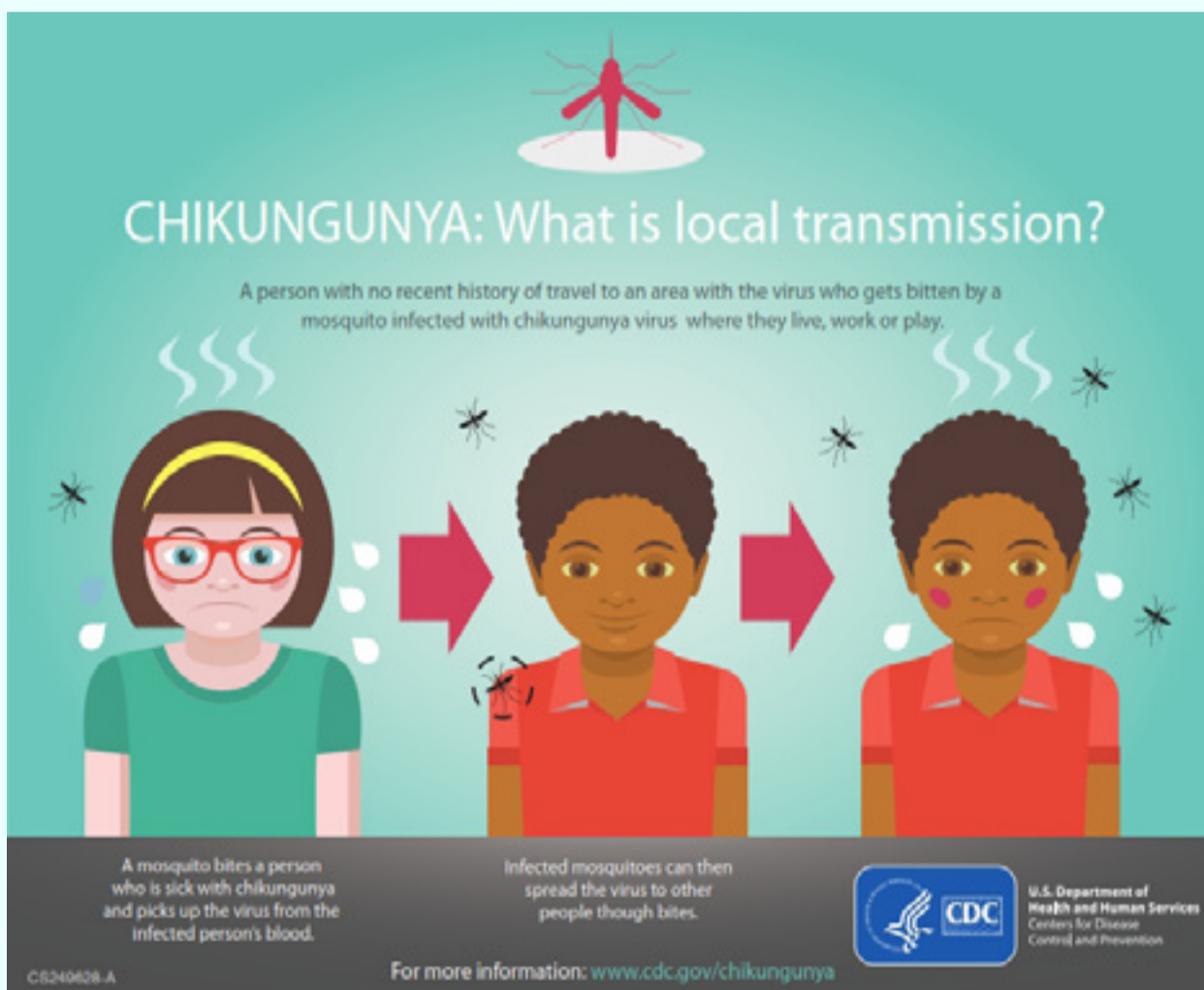
Participants listen attentively at the CRew/ CH&PA workshop in Guyana.



The CWWA InfoStructure

Caribbean Collaborations, Unified Solutions

Chikungunya in the Caribbean



What is the current situation?

In December 2013, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported local transmission of chikungunya in Saint Martin.

Local transmission means that mosquitoes in the area have been infected with chikungunya and are spreading it to people. This is the first time that local transmission of chikungunya has been reported in the Americas.

Local transmission of chikungunya is now being reported in other countries in the Caribbean. As of July 30, 2014, the following Caribbean countries have reported cases of chikungunya:

- » Anguilla
- » Antigua
- » Aruba
- » Barbados
- » British Virgin Islands
- » Cayman Islands
- » Dominica
- » Dominican Republic
- » Grenada
- » Guadeloupe
- » Haiti
- » Martinique
- » Puerto Rico
- » Saint Barthelemy
- » Saint Kitts
- » Saint Lucia
- » Saint Martin (French)
- » Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- » Sint Maarten (Dutch)
- » Turks and Caicos Islands
- » US Virgin Islands

CDC recommends that travelers to the Caribbean protect themselves from mosquito bites. Some travelers may be more likely to get chikungunya, have severe disease, or be at higher risk for other reasons. CDC advises travelers in high-risk groups to discuss their travel plans with their health care provider. These groups include the following:

- » People who have arthritis
- » People with serious underlying medical conditions (such as high blood pressure, heart disease, or diabetes)

Read full article here: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/chikungunya-saint-martin>



Sector News

HEALTH FACILITIES TO GENERATE ENERGY FROM SEWERAGE SYSTEM

KINGSTON (JIS) -- In another 19 months, six health facilities across the island will be able to generate energy from the upgrading of their sewerage system through anaerobic technology developed by the Scientific Research Council (SRC), and funded with a \$389 million grant from the National Health Fund (NHF).

Read more here: <http://news.caribseek.com/index.php/caribbean-islands-news/jamaica-news/item/86531-health-facilities-to-generate-energy-from-sewerage-system>

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY 2015 – 2019: REPOSITIONING CARICOM

Why a new strategic plan and what do we hope to achieve.

A wide canvassing of views across the Caribbean Community told a clear message that there needs to be a refocussing, redirecting and reorganizing of the Community to move it forward and reignite the flames of integration. The Strategic Plan outlines the Strategic repositioning of the Community. The Caribbean Community to which we aspire over the next five years: The Vision.

A Caribbean Community that is integrated, inclusive and resilient; driven by knowledge, excellence, innovation and productivity; a Community where every citizen is secure and has the opportunity to realize his or her potential with guaranteed human rights and social justice; and contributes to, and shares in, its economic, social and cultural prosperity. A Community which can be a united force in the global arena.

The Strategic Priorities to 2019...

<http://news.caribseek.com/index.php/caribbean-islands-news/caribbean-region-news/caricom-news/item/85519-strategic-plan-for-the-caribbean-community-2015-2019-repositioning-caricom>

RECYCLING DEMAND MOUNTING

GEORGE TOWN, Grand Cayman (CNS) -- A private waste removal project which began as a subsidized recycling programme for plastics, cardboard, paper, glass and aluminium is being overwhelmed with the amount of recyclable goods being placed in bins at local supermarkets.

With government recycling only cans, Junk, began a pilot project in partnership with supermarkets and local service clubs to create drop-off points but the demand is tremendous and the small business, which is underwriting much of the cost, is struggling to keep up with collections. Meant to be a once a week pick-up, Junk has had to increase these free community collections to three or four times a week but it's still not able to collect the quantity of sorted waste being left at stores as quickly as it would like.

More here: <http://news.caribseek.com/index.php/caribbean-islands-news/cayman-islands-news/cayman-news-service/item/85883-recycling-demand-mounting>

AT THE CRUCIAL NEXUS OF WATER AND ENERGY

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Global institutions are still in the learning phase when it comes to successfully managing water and energy in an integrated manner as part of the quest for sustainable development.

According to World Bank official Daryl Fields, understanding the water-energy nexus is critical for addressing growth and human development, urbanisation and climate change, but many policy-makers are finding it challenging to transform this concept into a reality.

Fields, who is also a Technical Committee member of the Global Water Partnership, was speaking at a recent meeting of the GWP Consulting Partners, held in Trinidad for the first time.

“We are left with a lot of opportunities and many questions and a fair amount of work to do,” she said.....

more here: <http://news.caribseek.com/index.php/caribbean-islands-news/trinidad-and-tobago-news/item/85811-at-the-crucial-nexus-of-water-and-energy>