



Report Sandwatch Training Workshop, Grenada, 14-15 April, 2010

INTRODUCTION

Background

Grenada had been involved in some of the Sandwatch workshops over the past ten years, e.g. the Sandwatch Fair held in Trinidad and Tobago in December 2006, however for various reasons no national Sandwatch programme evolved in Grenada.

Curriculum Reformation

Starting in 2009, Grenada embarked on reforming their school curriculum in order to create a more "rounded" student, focusing on personal development as well as academic and technical skills. The plan is to introduce the reformed curriculum in September 2010. The curriculum reform is funded by the Government of Grenada, with some support from UNESCO-Japanese Funds in Trust.

The Secretary General of the Grenada National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Eugene Gittens heard about Sandwatch in 2009. The fact that Sandwatch had a developed methodology and manual which had been tested in several other countries around the world made it especially appealing for consideration as part of the reformed curriculum. Further information from one of the early Sandwatch developers, Dr. Sandra Gift, provided further information.

Piloting Sandwatch as part of the Reformed Curriculum

As a prelude to the possible introduction of Sandwatch into the school curriculum in September 2010, the Grenada National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Education proposed piloting Sandwatch in six primary and/or secondary schools starting in April 2010. A school coordinator is also to be identified.

Following a direct request from the Grenada National Commission for UNESCO to the Sandwatch Foundation a training workshop was held in Grenada from 14-15 April 2010. Support was provided for this training workshop by UNESCO. Six sets of Sandwatch equipment were purchased for the training workshop and copies of the revised draft "Sandwatch Manual: Adapting to Climate Change and Educating for Sustainable Development" were provided.

SANDWATCH TRAINING WORKSHOP

Though the request from Grenada was submitted in mid-March, 2010 all parties involved were able to quickly coordinate their efforts and organize an extremely productive workshop that served to launch a pilot project for the planned integration of Sandwatch into the National Curriculum for all schools, primary and secondary, within the country for the school year commencing September 2010.

Sandwatch was well publicised in advance of the workshop. The DVD "*Introduction to Sandwatch: An Educational Tool for Sustainable Development*" was played several times a day on local TV. This was an extremely effective tactic in creating awareness about Sandwatch.

The workshop was held at The Ministry of Education Offices April 14th, 2010; participants included principals and teachers from four primary schools and four secondary schools, Ministry of Education staff, community volunteers and staff from St. Georges College and the Peace Corps. A representative from Carriacou also participated in the workshop. Appendix 1 contains a list of the participants

Paul Diamond, Director, Sandwatch Foundation facilitated the 2-day workshop. There were 30 participants on the first day of the workshop, which consisted of background information on the programme and classroom training in the Sandwatch methods. Twenty participants took part in the second day of field training at Grand Anse Beach. The workshop programme is presented at Appendix 2. Several TV and radio interviews were also conducted during the two-day workshop to further publicise Sandwatch.

The involvement of several community volunteers from St. Georges College and Peace Corps in the training will serve to assist teachers with the actual implementation of Sandwatch especially in the initial piloting phase.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

The Sandwatch Foundation will be working the Grenada National Commission for UNESCO and the designated Sandwatch Coordinator, Ms. Crystal Bernal in the coming months to follow-up as follows:

Immediate follow-up

- Circulating the workshop report and posting it and photographs on the Sandwatch website www.sandwatch.ca/grenada_workshop.htm
- Personal emails to each participating school to offer advice and support as needed
- Creating webpages on the Sandwatch website for each school to showcase their activities www.sandwatch.ca/grenada.htm
- Posting several video interviews conducted during the workshop on the Sandwatch YouTube channel www.youtube.com/user/SandwatchFoundation
- Soliciting articles/photos from participants not only for the website but also for inclusion in the next issue of *The Sandwatcher*.

Integrating Sandwatch into the Curriculum

- Liaising, and assisting where appropriate, with the Head of Curriculum at the Ministry of Education and the Curriculum Consultant about opportunities and subject areas where Sandwatch can be integrated into the curriculum
- Facilitating exchanges between Grenada and the Cook Islands (Sandwatch was integrated into the Cook islands curriculum in 2003-2006)

Appendix 1 List of Participants

Volunteers

Crystal Bernal – (cmbernal82@yahoo.com) Designated Sandwatch Coordinator (Peace Corp)
Sonia Baird (Soniamariebaird@yahoo.ca) 458-4456----- Westmorland School
Michelle Nanney (michelle@nanney.net) 449-6026----- St. Rose Modern Secondary School
Aria Johnson (ariajohnson@gmail.com)(pamgda@spiceisle.com) 440-0002----Alpha Junior
Dr. Clare Morrall (cmorrall@sgu.edu) 444-4175 x3360-----St. Georges University
Myrna Julien from GSWMA (mjulien@GSWMA.com) 444-2019 c 415-1674----- St. Andrews Catholic School
Jacqueleen Zamora (jacqueleen.zamora@gmail.com) ----Bonair, St. Marks secondary school
Amanda Dombach (amandadombach@gmail.com) St. David's Catholic Secondary School

1. St. Andrews Roman Catholic School

Martha Bowen (joma_bo@hotmail.com) w 442-7827 c 415-1034
Lucy Gabriel (gabsluce2005@hotmail.com) w442-7827 c 404-0353

2. St. Joseph's Covenant St. George's

Sister Maureen Alexander (sjepo@spiceisle.com) w440-3284 c 409-1743
Tommy Duncan (tommyduncan99@yahoo.com) w440-5882 c 420-2948

3. Belair Govt

Elizabeth Peters (belairschool@gmail.com) w442-7831 c 403-7921
Ken Pope (bushlyng@hotmail.com) w 4427831 c 456-1668 teacher

4. St. David's Catholic Secondary School

Elvis Morain@hotmail.com w 444-7384 c 406-9943
Merly Mahon (mermahon75@hotmail.com) 444-7431/ 444-6462

5. St. Mark's Secondary School

Alexander (smssgrenada@yahoo.com) c 444-8216
Kevin Samuel (beefstarterfigo@hotmail.com) w 444-9065 c 5371635

6. St. Rose Modern Secondary School

Natasha Charles (fantastic_pet@hotmail.com) c444-8842 c 4201328

7. Bonair Government School

Carrie Forsyth (d_game1@hotmail.com) w 4370182 c 4176638

8. Telescope Primary

Patricia Adoris w 4428441 c 456-9109

9. Alpha junior

Barbara Sylvester (magdalene50gd@yahoo.com) w 440-1236 c 414-4939

10. River Sallee Govt

Ian James (donjamie2@hotmail.com) 442-2002

Emerald Gordon (emerdigi@yahoo.com) 442-2002 c 420-8562

11. Westerhall Secondary

Zaneshia Philbert (zanni_1@hotmail.com) 443-2129

12. Westmorland School

Victor Ashby (ashbyvictor@yahoo.com)(westmorland@spiceisle.com) 440-2548, 435-0025, c407-3839

Appendix 2

Sandwatch Training Workshop, Grenada, 14-15 April 2010 Programme

14 April, 2010

- Background to Sandwatch
- General overview of the Sandwatch methodology
- Presentation on the Sandwatch website and how it can be utilized
- Presentation on the programme's newsletter "*The Sandwatcher*" and how to contribute and use it as a teaching and public awareness tool
- Introduction to the revised "Sandwatch Manual: Adapting to Climate Change and Educating for Sustainable Development", with emphasis on how Sandwatch relates to climate change and the development of community based climate change adaptation activities suitable for specific local beaches and issues

15 April 2010

- Demonstration of Sandwatch methods at Grand Anse Beach, including:
 - Sketching aspects of beach,
 - Measurements of beach width, wave heights, longshore currents, conducting questionnaire surveys of beach users, beach debris, water quality
- Analysis of data:
 - Compilation of data tables, and graphs
 - Reference to Sandwatch database to be established by end 2010
 - Emphasis on how Sandwatch can be readily integrated into existing curriculum: mathematics, English, art, science etc
- Assisting workshop participants with the establishment of web pages to record their follow-up activities
- Suggestions on how to publicize and network their efforts via the use of the local media, writing press releases, using local community TV and radio access, inviting participation of guest speakers and other stakeholders and the use of new communications technologies such as YouTube, FaceBook and Google Earth.