



# annual reports

1st may 2016 to 30th april 2018

**for a Greener, Cleaner & Healthier BVI**

[www.greenvi.org](http://www.greenvi.org)





## REDUCE | REUSE | RECYCLE

Green VI is a BVI not-for-profit organisation established in 2009 to further the greater good through environmental improvements.

## vision

A green, clean, healthy, and prosperous BVI, in which a balance is maintained between development and conservation of the natural environment.

## mission

To demonstrate the benefits of sustainable living through practical projects, education and innovation, with focus on waste, energy and water.

water • energy • waste • education

## executive director's letter

Green VI is proud to present our Annual Report for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial years. 2017 brought us a mountain of challenges, especially in light of the extraordinary storms and the sudden passing of my beloved husband. Helen Keller said, "What we have once enjoyed, we can never lose; all that we deeply love becomes a part of us."

We dedicate this report to the loving memory of the wonderful people upon whose shoulders we stand and, with deep respect and admiration, we acknowledge the strength, courage, and resilience of the people of the BVI who struggle each day to keep climbing and remain hopeful.

As recovery efforts continue, let's remember that the weather extremes we're experiencing are due to human activity - the way we consume our natural resources, the way we produce our energy and food, and the way we manage our sewage and waste.

As we rebuild the beautiful BVI, let's do so with wisdom. 2017 showed us what is important in life; it is now time to value, respect and nurture each other and the natural systems that keep us alive.

This report highlights our major achievements as we begin to recycle, clean up, find better ways to manage sewage and sargassum, create our own energy and grow our own food. Green VI continues to demonstrate that waste is a resource that, when managed in a sustainable way, improves the quality of life.

We extend a sincere thank you to the sponsors and supporters who make our work possible. By working together to sustain current projects and develop the next steps, we ensure a greener, cleaner and healthier BVI for current and future generations.

Please read, enjoy and share our Annual Report. It contains links to further reading and, of course, information is always available at [greenvi.org](http://greenvi.org).

Charlotte McDevitt  
Executive Director, Green VI





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## Waste/Materials Management

*research and advocacy*

### Plastic Ban Recommendations

In response to a request from the Ministry of Health & Social Development, Green VI submitted recommendations that styrofoam and other plastic Food & Beverage containers, along with straws and cutlery, be banned from the BVI, and that eco-friendly alternative products be exempt from import duty.

As we await helpful new legislation, we can all use our consumer influence and ask businesses to stop using styrofoam and other single-use plastics and support businesses who make the change to eco-friendly alternatives, which are now readily available on-island. In addition, Green VI aims to facilitate systems that will be able to compost eco-friendly alternatives.

# ban PLASTIC!

the choice is ours.

## 9 billion

tons of plastic made since the 1950s.

Plastics take thousands of years to photodegrade - the plastic breaks down to smaller fragments which soak up toxins and contaminate soil, water and living organisms

### In the BVI

Every square mile of ocean has about 46,000 pieces of plastic floating in it - the BVI has approximately 31,750 square miles of ocean

- 🐢 Plastic makes up the highest percentage of litter found in the BVI
- 🐢 Plastic contributes to blocking of drains and increased risk of flooding
- 🐢 Plastic kills marine life through strangulation and ingestion

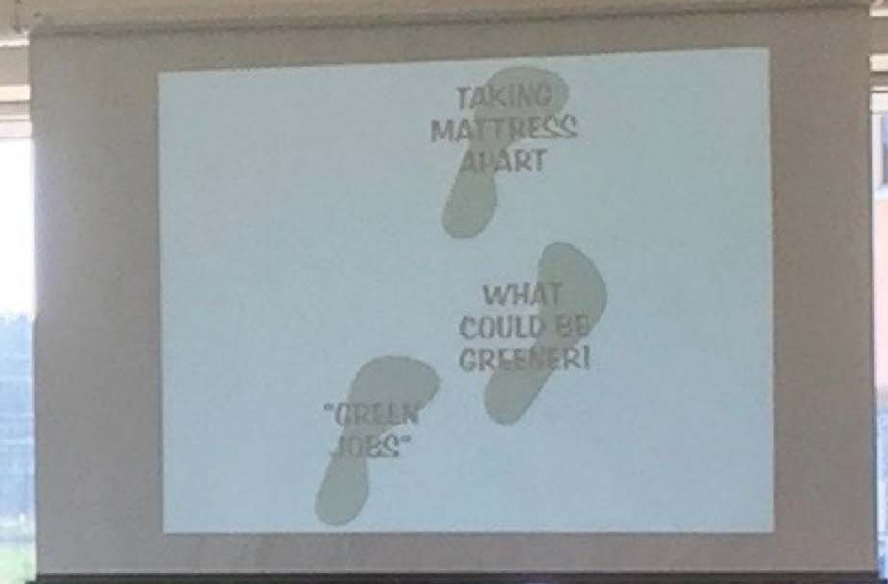




# Partnership Development International

Green VI attended, and presented, at the following international conferences to explore partnerships and information-sharing opportunities.

- St John Workshop with the USVI Recycling Partnership, May 2016
- Puerto Rico Conference, December 2016
- Zero Waste Ontario Conference, June 2017
- St John Plastic Free Month & Summit, July 2017
- Clinton Foundation Conference, March 2018
- Numerous site visits to international waste/recycling facilities



Clinton Foundation Miami



Touring Material Recovery Facilities Toronto



Recycling Summit Puerto Rico





## Virgin Gorda Partnerships

Partnerships are critical to the success of recycling, and so - with close collaboration and support from our donors - we created a Recycling Committee in January of 2017. This body brings together the BVI Department of Waste Management, our Project Managers, local Recyclers, Sponsors, and other stakeholders to help create a coalition of unity and purpose.



### Community

is a key partner in the Recycling System: The main roles of the Virgin Gorda Community include:

- Continuous clean ups
- Rinsing, sorting and correct disposal of recyclables

### Government

A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted between Green VI and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to facilitate:

- Collection
- Logistics
- Outreach

### Not-for-Profits

NPO's have come together to make recycling a reality in the BVI:

- Unite BVI provided seed funding for recycling equipment for entrepreneurs and fundraising
- Green VI is developing long-term funding mechanisms for recycling, such as a Recycling Fund & Bottle Bill and Education & Outreach Programmes

### Entrepreneurs

- Safe, efficient and organized processing of recyclables.
- Promotion and sales of products made from recyclables.
- Establishment of end markets for recyclables.
- Research and development of new products and processes.
- Education and Outreach





Photo credit: Green & Clean VI Ltd.

## Virgin Gorda Recycling Pilot

In 2016, Green VI brought together dedicated Government stakeholders, stalwart private Recyclers and generous Donors to create the Virgin Gorda Recycling Pilot. In January 2017, a Recycling Committee was established with the goal of diverting 30% of waste resources from the VG dumpsite - namely glass, aluminium cans, plastic and used vegetable oil. On Earth Day 2017, the Virgin Gorda "WE RECYCLE" project was launched.

# WE RECYCLE



PLASTIC



ALUMINIUM CANS



GLASS



USED VEGETABLE OIL

## RINSE RECYCLABLES

Partnering for a greener, cleaner and healthier BVI.

[greenvi.org](http://greenvi.org)

(284) 468 4934\*

(\*Department of Waste Management - office hours only)



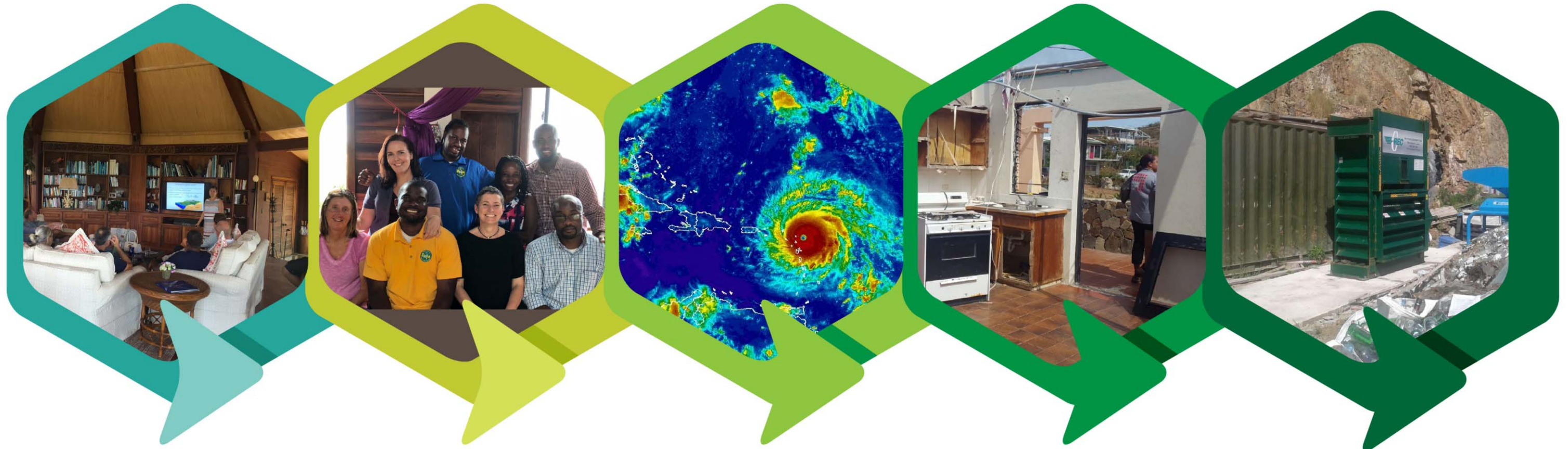


# TIMELINE



## Virgin Gorda Recycling Pilot

Despite the storms, floods and subsequent delays, the Virgin Gorda Recycling Pilot reached significant milestones:



### 2016

- Training
- Fundraising
- Planning
- Advocacy

### 2017 Pre Irma

- Recycling Committee established
- Recycling Equipment ordered
- Funding secured
- Legal Agreements drafted
- Education Programme launched
- Knowledge, Attitude & Perception Survey

### 2017 Storms

- 6 Aug. Floods
- 6 Sept. Hurricane Irma
- 21 Sept. Hurricane Maria

### 2017 Post Storms

- GreenVI and BugOut! teams assisted with Emergency Relief, Disaster Management, Clean Ups and Vector Control
- Recycling Equipment used to manage storm debris

### 2018

- Power restored
- First bale of aluminium cans (Feb 2018)
- Knowledge, Attitude & Perception Survey
- Memorandum of Understanding drafted for Ministry of Health
- Briefing Note for Ministry drafted to ban single use plastics
- Proposals for expansion



# Recycling Equipment on Virgin Gorda

Green & Clean VI Ltd. on Virgin Gorda who has been crushing glass to make aggregate for BVI roads and such for the past five years, now has additional recycling equipment on a lease to purchase agreement with Green VI.



Alligator Shears  
to cut up metal



Baler to bale aluminium,  
cardboard and plastic



Flipscreen to process glass  
aggregate and organics



Teletuck to move  
recyclables



Biofuel Equipment  
to clean used vegetable oil



# Recycling Equipment on Tortola

VI Plastics on Tortola, will soon be making furniture and polywood from discarded plastic using equipment purchased through a Green VI Loan Agreement.



Shredder to shred the discarded plastic & Extruder  
to form the plastic

REDUCE

REUSE

RECYCLE



# BINS

## The process



## Recyclables processed on Virgin Gorda (April 2018):

Aluminium Cans - 2 bales (approx. 25 000 cans)  
Steel/Galvalume - 1 bale  
Extruded Aluminium - 1 bale  
Marine Metals - 1 bale  
Lead Batteries - 14,000 lbs  
Plastic Bottles - 1 bale (approx. 50 000 bottles)  
Copper Sheetting - 6 bales  
Glass - 25 yards



Photo Credit: Green & Clean VI Ltd.



STEP  
01



STEP  
02



STEP  
03



To replace the Department of Waste Management's storm-lost recycling bins on Virgin Gorda, attractive and functional recycling bins are being locally made by artisans from used wooden pallets. As more recycling points are established, bins of varying types and sizes will be used, depending on the location.





# BugOut!

BugOut! is a community-driven initiative for conducting Integrated Vector Control efforts against the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito (the vector for Zika, Dengue, and other diseases) on Virgin Gorda. This includes the clean-up of breeding sites, the removal of standing water, and door-to-door public education and participation in the elimination of mosquito breeding habitats.

Vector Control Officers (VCOs) use technology and environmentally safe mosquito control methods to survey, monitor, collect data on and aggressively treat and control mosquito populations. The education and empowerment of the community to unite in reducing breeding site sources through cleanups is the cornerstone of this project.

**Over the past 18 months, the program has achieved a:**

- 50% reduction of High Risk mosquito breeding sites
- 30% reduction in total island-wide risk level





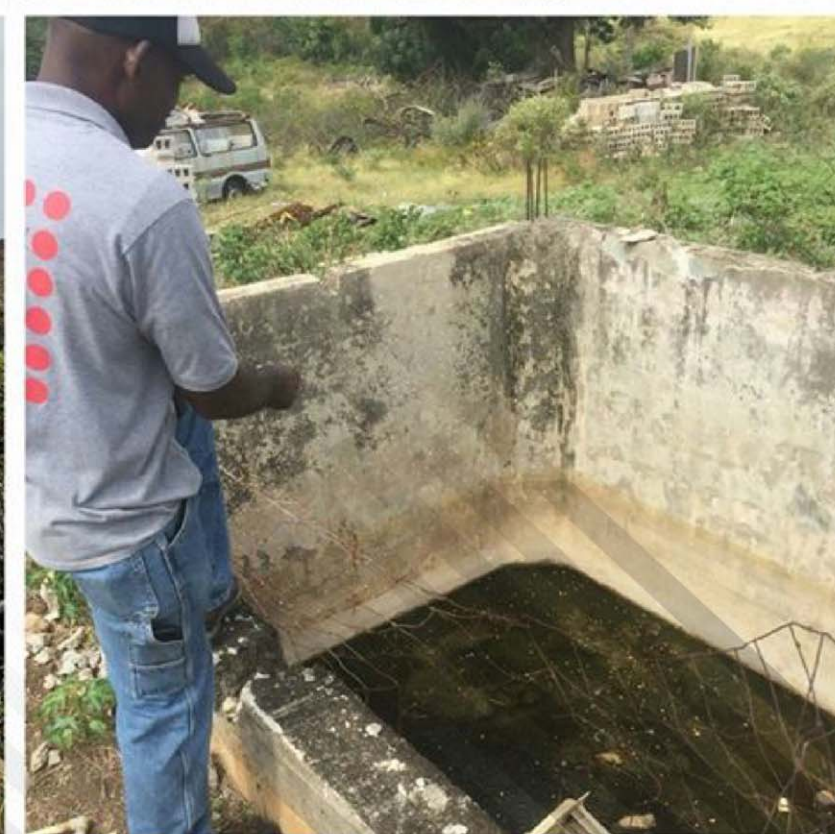


The BugOut Team was remarkable as it dealt with the post-storms landscape! Hurricane and flood impacts on potential disease outbreaks were minimised due to our exceptionally dedicated Vector Control Officers (VCO).

This is unprecedented in a post-disaster environment and goes to show the impact our program and the greater community can have! A week after the hurricanes, our VCO's implemented an Emergency Plan to assist residents and treat potential breeding sites that spanned the entire footprint of the island, such as:

- Blocked drains
- Abandoned homes and swimming pools
- Standing pools of water in playgrounds, mangrove swamps, etc.
- Breached cisterns
- Damaged boats and vehicles
- Storm debris catchments

The quick action of our team along with the support from local citizens helped prevent mosquito breeding before it got out of hand.



# BugOut Post Irma/Maria



## Impact of BugOut Community Engagement Programme



### Social Media

- Facebook Page Likes: 426 +
- Reached through Social Media: 2,000 +
- Media posts per month: 12

### Direct Outreach

- Precincts Engaged: 14/15 (1 Precinct has no residents)
- Employer Trainings: 5 +
- School Visits: 20 +
- Students Educated: 1000 +



- Parcels Inspected for Breeding Sites: 1548
- Original High-Risk Parcels 2016: 215
- Current High-Risk Parcels 2018: 80
- High-Risk Mitigations Since 2016: 135
- Traps Installed: 13
- Trap Visits: 160

### Cumulative Results (Nov '16 - July '18)

- High-Risk & Freakout Parcels: 63.26 % decrease
- Island-Wide Risk Level: 32.5 % decrease
- Average Parcel Score: Medium-Risk

**At the current rate of progress, the average risk score will have been reduced to Low by next year.**

The graphic below depicts data from one of 15 parcels. Note the decrease in Freakout and High-Risk parcels over time.

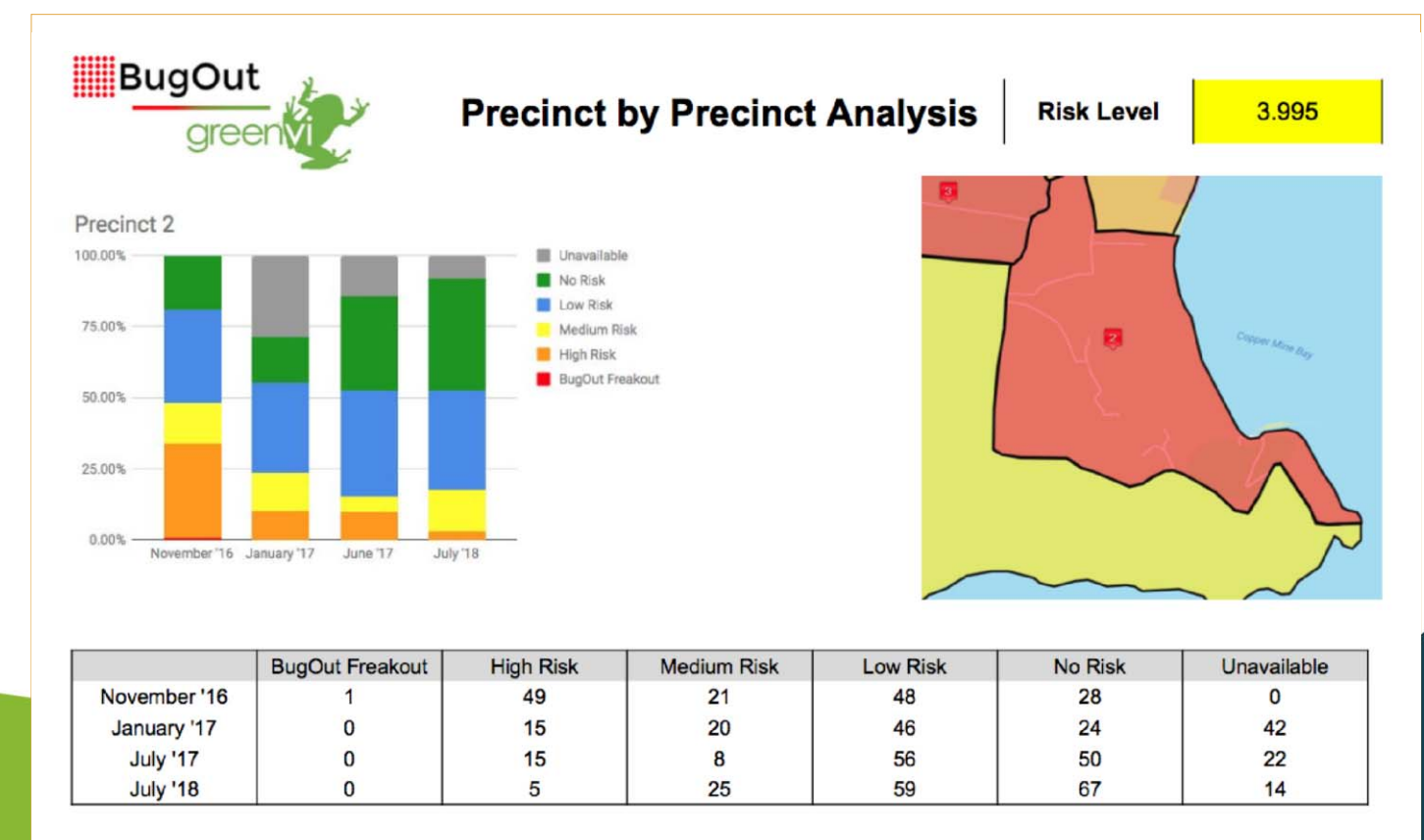






Photo Credit: Green & Clean VI Ltd.

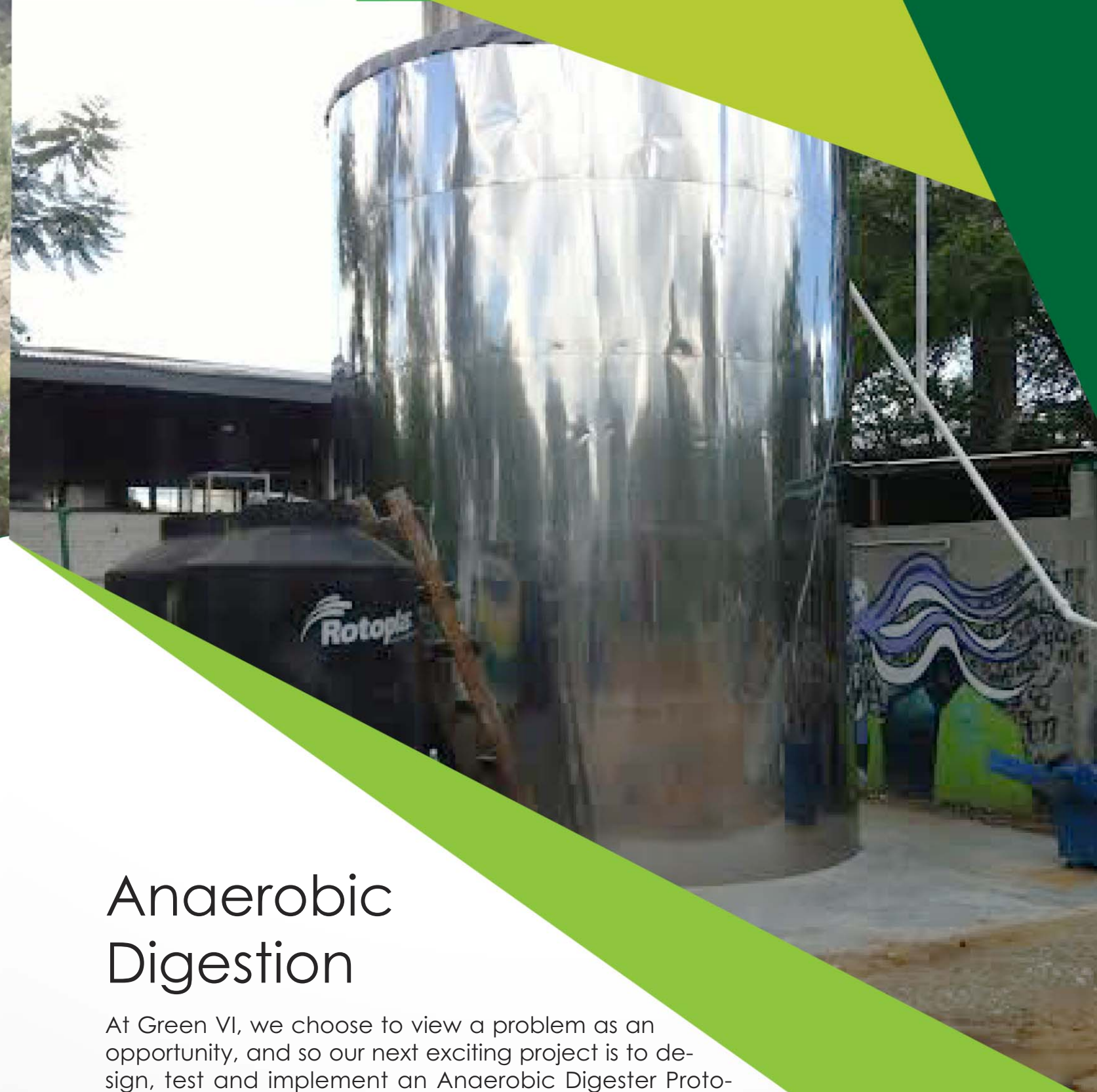
## Garden Projects

Green VI was proud to support a sister island outreach programme at Virgin-Gorda Schools in May and June 2016. In collaboration with Green & Clean, activities included School Gardens, Lesson Plans and environmental Field Trips. We will continue to establish Garden Projects and are developing Lesson Plans specific to the BVI. See more on page 42.

Enriched education through gardens will help students and community members to be mindful of their environment and social history as they practice sustainable living and take an active role in promoting health and well-being. A gardening experience

is of particular value in the post-storm situation to help rebuild, restore and recover. School Gardens are shown to:

- Significantly increase academic achievement across the curriculum
- Reduce organic waste through composting
- Address food security
- Improve nutrition knowledge and food choices
- Instill a lifelong appreciation for nature and the environment
- Improve life skills, including working with groups and self-understanding
- Have a positive impact on mental health and behaviour



## Anaerobic Digestion

At Green VI, we choose to view a problem as an opportunity, and so our next exciting project is to design, test and implement an Anaerobic Digester Prototype. An Anaerobic Digester can convert a mixture of organic waste, sewage, and possibly sargassum (invasive seaweed), into methane - a form of energy that is perfect for powering our Glass Studio furnace. In April 2018, a grant was awarded to Green VI for an Anaerobic Digester Prototype to test the viability of this technology as a renewable energy source. See more on page 43.





Photo Credit: Carolina Ansaldo

# make it local BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS Education



Photo Credit: Dame Peters Photography

## 2017 Earth Day Events

### Tortola

We partnered with Bounce VI to organize a fun, beach day at Cane Garden Bay, Tortola. Activities included:

- Lionfish Hunt
- Eco Market
- Clean Ups
- Eco Talks
- Eco Film
- Eco Bar with no straws
- Locally Made Cocktails
- Fire Show, Volley Ball & Live Music

### Virgin Gorda

We launched the WE RECYCLE education and public relations campaign. Teams from Bregado Flax, Rotaract, Teens for the Ocean and the BugOut! Vector Control Team went from door to door to speak with residents in The Valley. Residents of Virgin Gorda were visited to update them and provide information on how they can get involved in reducing mosquito breeding sites as well as what and where they can recycle.





Photo Credit: Carolina Ansaldo

## 2018 Earth Day Events

Earth Day this year was a lively, festival-style community event held in the Queen Elizabeth Park in Road Town and attended by 400 people of all ages. Under the themes "Ending Plastic Pollution" and "Replanting the BVI", activities included Trash to Treasure Workshops, Seed Planting, a Park Clean Up, a Trash Relay Game, and several booths on waste, pollution and how to Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Visitors engaged with local Farmers, Recyclers, Restaurants, Alternative Energy companies, Entrepreneurs, Landscapers, and other green activists at their booths. Also, on display was the new, locally-constructed recycling bin. It was a great day for a greener BVI and it lifted post-storm spirits.

Entertainment



Go Green



Local Farmers



Bruce the Mongoose



Local NPO's



Photo Credit: Carolina Ansaldo

Educational Activities



## Earth Day Events

Green VI continues to join the world-wide celebration of Earth Day and highlight all things "green" in the BVI.

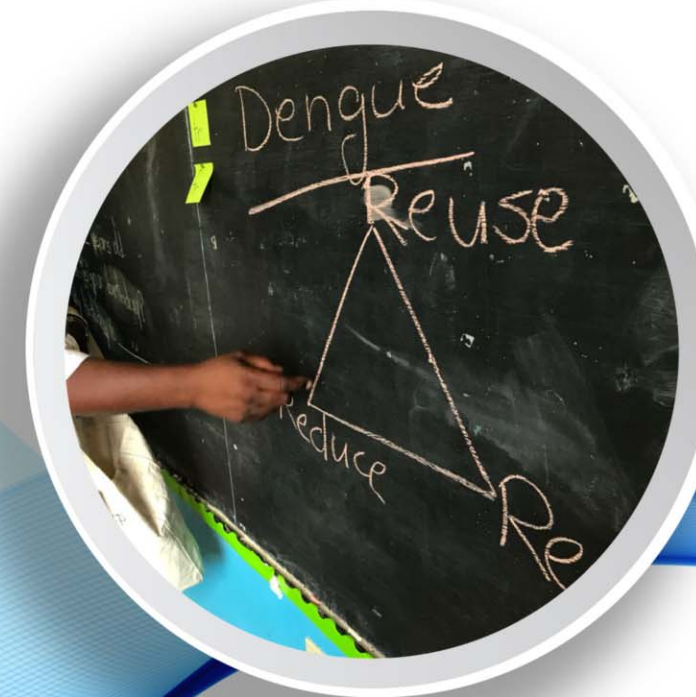


# Virgin Gorda Outreach

hands on learning



community and school presentations



workshops & lesson plans



door to door engagement



setting up recycling stations



experiential field trips



Outreach on Virgin Gorda is varied and interactive.





## Clean Ups

We support organisations wanting to facilitate local Clean Ups by providing tips and equipment. Monthly Clean Ups continue on Virgin Gorda, as the community is actively involved in cleaning up litter and debris, reducing mosquito breeding sites and recycling. On Tortola, we have been working with clean up groups, such as the Wombles, to provide technical support and foster collaborations.



An exciting new addition to community Clean Ups is the Recycling Bags we use. The Bags are made of a unique polymer that bacteria eat, so the bags, although plastic, can truly biodegrade in landfills and Anaerobic Digesters.

They're 100% recyclable and infused with mint and citronella. This gives them a fresh scent and helps repel common household pests, such as ants, roaches, mice and rats.

## Recycling Bags







## Public Relations

Some examples of our public relations include:

"We Recycle": Property & Yacht Guide April 2018

BugOut! Social Media

Green VI Social Media

BugOut! PSA

Quarterly Newsletter: January 1st

"Waste Not, Want Not" Press Release January 30th

BugOut Press Release January 3rd

Welcome Magazine July 2016

## How to Green Events

Green VI helps organizers and businesses implement the best Green Practices for demonstrating the "4 R's" - Rethink, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle - at their events. We have assisted the Moorings Interline Regatta and the BugOut! and Wombles Clean ups to demonstrate what is possible in the BVI when it comes to reducing waste and recycling. One example is Water Stations that reduce plastic waste, as single use plastics are replaced by reusable bottles, which are refilled. Furthermore, recyclables are separated and sent to recyclers.





# National Recycling System

As Government develops the regulatory framework and legislation to guide Waste Management in the BVI, Green VI's role is to facilitate a BVI Recycling System. This System will include an Eco-Park, where a hive of activities transform waste into locally-made products and provide a rich environment for “growing” more BVI businesses, Material Recovery Facilities on each island and sustainable Education & Outreach Programmes. Green VI's main activities toward the realization of this vision are to:

- Expand and strengthen the Virgin Gorda Recycling Pilot to all BVI islands.
- Advocate for implementation of ban on single use plastics submitted to Government, as well as a ban of organics to landfill
- Implement a voluntary plastic bag ban
- Develop and implement sustainable funding mechanisms for recycling, such as a Recycling Fund and Bottle Bill. These initiatives will ensure the sustainability of our Recycling System beyond the seed funding provided by our generous donors.
- Implement Green Strategies for businesses, churches, schools, institutions, and government. This will be complemented by a Green Certification Programme and recycling system.

## 2018 and beyond . . .

Our Strategic Plans have been updated to the post-storm situation and we have worked diligently to ensure that most of the projects below will be ready for implementation in the latter half of 2018.







# Green Strategies

Green VI is currently working on strategies to “green” businesses, churches, schools, institutions and government agencies, and has begun to work closely with some of these sectors to tailor our recommendations to individual operations and budgets. We will assist those who contribute to a Recycling fund with:

- Green Policy and Action Plan development
- Recycling System and Weekly Collection set up
- Regular Training Sessions
- Green Certification in partnership with Conservation and Fisheries

## Expand BugOut

**Tortola Expansion:** BugOut was recently asked by the BVI Government to expand BugOut’s Virgin Gorda program to Tortola. We are thrilled at the opportunity. BugOut’s core mission and purpose will not change, and we will continue to focus on:

- Implementing safe, targeted vector control
- Providing education, engagement, and empowerment to activate citizens and communities

**This expansion will focus on:**

- **A Collaborative Approach:** BugOut plans to join forces with existing Government vector control and a not-for-profit for greater effectiveness.
- **Better, Smarter, Data:** We will be launching a new set of applications and web tools for both our team and the public. This will give us the ability to share important public health data with the BVI government, regional health authorities and, most importantly, the community of the BVI.





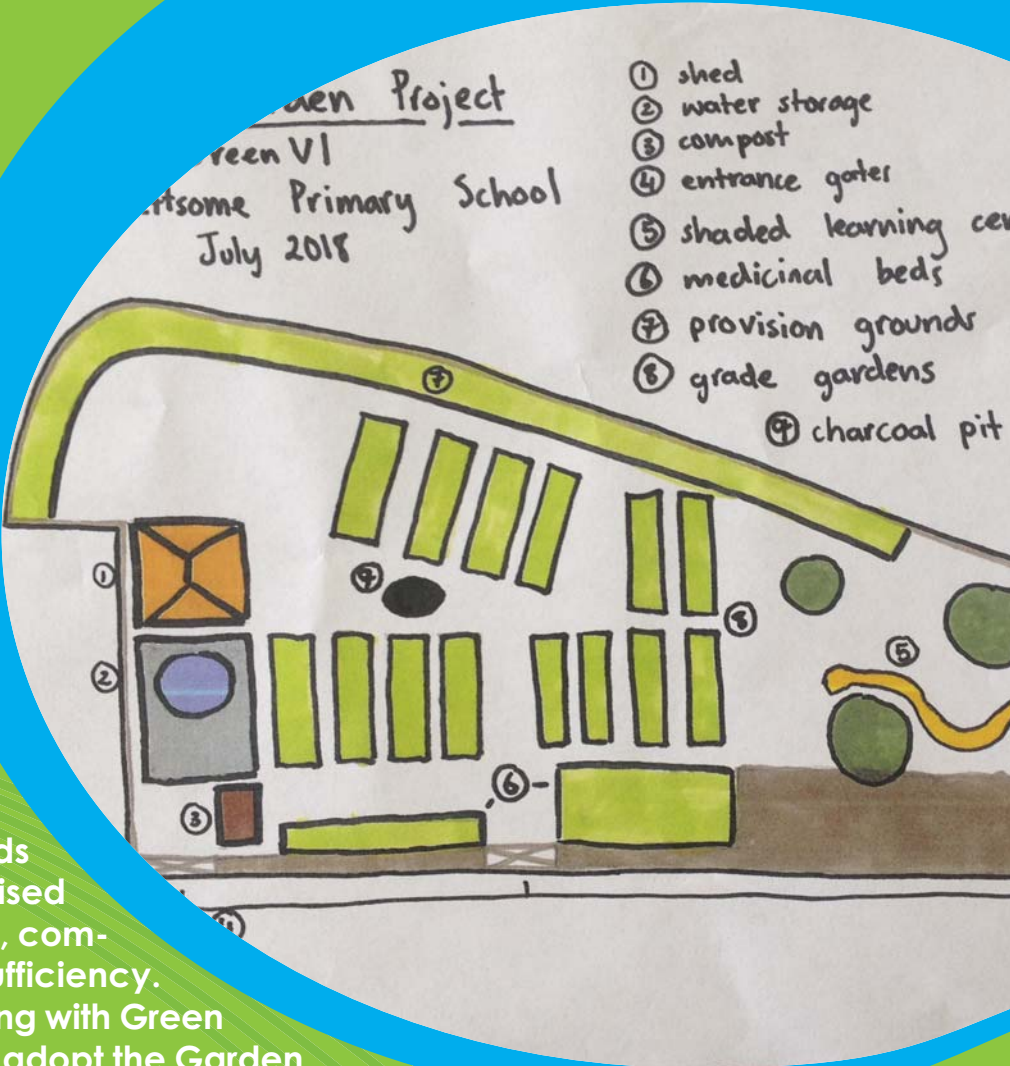
# Garden Project

The Garden Project includes building and planting garden beds at schools, paired with a specialised curriculum on farm management, composting and skills for food self-sufficiency. Currently, three schools are working with Green VI to create School Gardens and adopt the Garden Project Curriculum:

- Bregado Flax Educational Center, Virgin Gorda
- Ebenezer Thomas Primary, Sea Cow's Bay, Tortola
- Francis Lettsome Primary, Greenland, Tortola

Work will begin at Bregado Flax and Francis Lettsome schools in August, and ground will also be broken soon at Ebenezer Thomas. Additional gardens throughout the BVI are scheduled to follow, with these first three gardens serving as inspiration and templates for best practices.

Under our Garden Project, Green VI is currently developing curricula to integrate agricultural education into BVI schools. These studies will augment students' hands-on work in the school gardens with academic insight into garden and farm management. A specific emphasis will be on composting to reduce waste and growing food to achieve food self-sufficiency. In addition, Green VI has developed Lesson Plans for Waste & Water Management for all BVI schools to give students the tools to become pioneers in our transition to Zero Waste.



# Anaerobic Digestion

As a first step, our Anaerobic Digester will be housed at our new Innovation Lab at H. Lavity Stoutt Community College's Marine Centre. The Lab will involve students in the exciting process of exploring the energy potential of land and sea-based sewage and sargassum - an invasive seaweed. We will be working with leading international experts to transfer skills and develop local applications for creating renewable energy from existing waste streams.

The second step will be to design and implement a Full-Scale Anaerobic Digester for our Glass Studio, based on results gathered from the Lab. This will demonstrate alternative energy sources and significantly reduce the Studio's carbon footprint and operational costs.



Sargassum -  
invasive seaweed





# Glass Studio Relocation

Due to the impact of the 2017 hurricanes, the relocation of Green VI's Glass Studio to Virgin Gorda is on temporary hold, and we hope to be "hot" for the 2019 season.

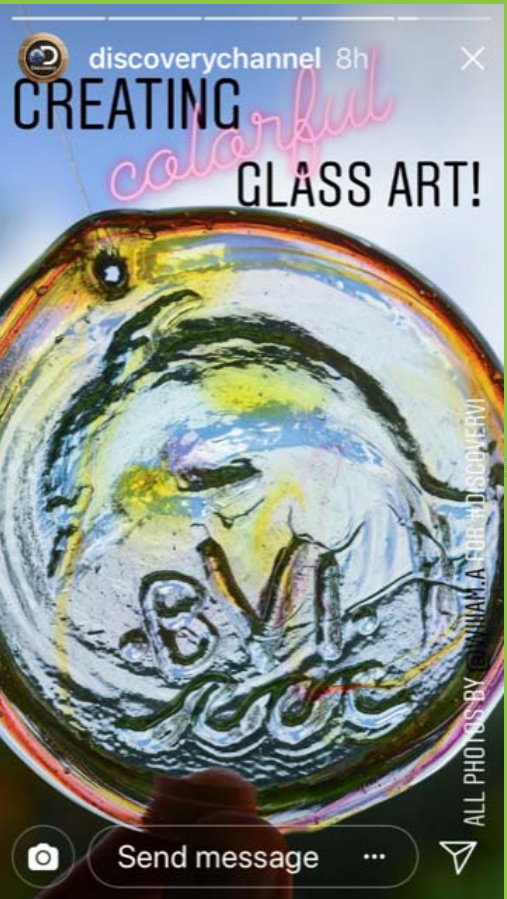
The Glass Studio, our most well-known project, exemplifies our mission by making environmental issues fun and engaging. A popular field trip for BVI students, visitors, government officials and VIP's, it is an excellent way to raise awareness about Waste Management and Renewable Energy.

Visitors are entertained and educated as they watch glass blowers transform old bottles into works of art, thereby seeing first-hand how waste is a resource. As the heat needed to make the pieces is generated from discarded vegetable oil, visitors also witness a concrete example of sustainable materials management. These illustrations will be further enhanced



at the new Glass Studio with the inclusion of an Anaerobic Digester that can derive energy to fuel the furnace from food waste, sewage and, hopefully, Sargassum (a seaweed that inundates our beaches). The Glass Studio will then be integrating our four areas of focus - Waste, Energy, Water and Education - into one powerful demonstration project:

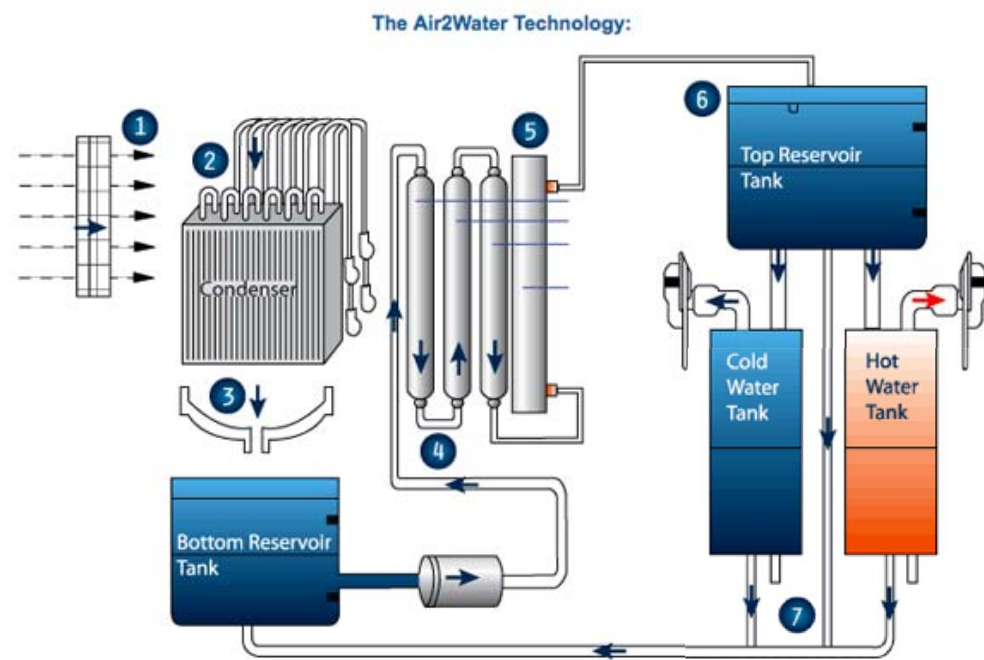
- glass waste = art
- textile waste = packaging
- cardboard waste = packaging
- used vegetable oil = biofuel
- sewage = biogas
- organic waste = biogas
- Sargassum = biogas











# Grid Tie Pilot

Grid Tie is a system whereby alternative energy, such as energy from solar panels, is fed into our existing power grid to offset energy costs. This would help mitigate the utility company's peak load and add efficiency and assurance to the electrical system as a whole. Our Pilot Grid Tie Solar Installation would be used to evaluate the new BVI energy regulations and train technicians and youth.

# Water Stations

Green VI will pilot a Water Generator at Bregado Flax Primary School. The Generator will convert moisture in the air to cold, clean drinking water for students. Coupled with this, students will be given reusable water bottles, thereby decreasing the pollution from single use plastic water bottles.



# How to Help

To sponsor a specific project, or make a general donation to Green VI, please email us at [greenviorg@gmail.com](mailto:greenviorg@gmail.com), or simply make a donation online at [www.greenvi.org](http://www.greenvi.org). No donation is too large or too small, and we are always grateful for ideas, suggestions and the sharing of skills.

If you are interested in hosting a Clean Up, please contact Green VI by email at [greenviorg@gmail.com](mailto:greenviorg@gmail.com), or send a message on Facebook and we will help you get set up with all the appropriate logistics and supplies.



## Appreciation

None of this important work is possible without family, friends, individuals and organisations who give their time, encouragement, wisdom, skills, resources, respect and love. With sincere gratitude, we extend special thanks to those whose generosity of spirit helps us advance environmental sustainability in the beautiful BVI.





# sponsors



THE FAILE  
FOUNDATION



unitebvi  
FOUNDATION



Greater Milwaukee  
FOUNDATION  
*greater together*

Muriel van Wyk



THE GUANA FUND



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The Moorings  
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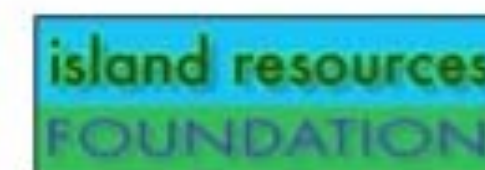


## Earth Day sponsors:

Unite BVI, National Parks Trust, the Faile Foundation, Tool Town, Dame Peters Photography, DJ Sandfly, Speedy's, Fort Garden Center, Captains Kitchen, Elizabeth Cox,



# Partners



## Special thanks to all Earth Day Partners & Participants in particular:

Wombles, Association of Reef Keepers (ARK), HLSCC Science Club, Sounds of Steel, BVI Tourist Board, Hands On volunteers, Ecoscapes, Full Belly Farm, Mentoring Anointed Leaders (MALE) group, Firebird Dancers, TICO, Ogier & CIL.



# board of directors



**Abigail O'Neal** brings to the Board her experience in sailing and the dive trade, both key markets for BVI Tourism and also sound knowledge of the overall BVI product and leadership skills gained through a variety of industry-related projects. Ms. O' Neal has set up Green Technology, through which she markets plant-based biodegradable products as an alternative to disposable plastic containers.



**Clarence Faulkner**, founder and Managing Director of Pension Management Interactive, has worked in the Pension and Investment field for nearly twenty years. Prior to PMI, he served as Investment Manager of the BVI Social Security Board. Mr. Faulkner's expertise and passion in the areas of professionalism are recognised locally, regionally and internationally, and he currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Bank of the Virgin Islands.



**Henry Creque** is the General Manager of BVI Electricity Corporation and an active member of community betterment groups. He combines his extensive experience and knowledge of the BVI's electrical energy sector with an intense dedication to the protection of our Territory's beautiful natural surroundings, and a firm commitment to promoting economically and environmentally sound solutions.



**Kareem Rhymer**, working with his wife and brother, established Myett's Restaurant in beautiful Cane Garden Bay in 1992. The small place enjoyed immediate success and gained a reputation among tourists and locals as being one of the Caribbean's best. Born in Cane Garden, Kareem ventured from his tiny village to study and work, spending many years in San Francisco. Kareem serves on the Green VI Board because of his passion for conserving the BVI environment. He would like future generations to experience the beauty of the islands, as he did while growing up in this idyllic setting.



**Vanessa King** is Managing Partner and head of O'Neal Webster's Commercial Department. Her practice focuses principally on Trusts, Banking and Finance, and Corporate and Commercial Law. She currently serves as Chair of the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners (STEP BVI) and is the recipient of their prestigious ninth annual Founder's Award. Vanessa is also a member of the BVI Financial Services Institute Advisory Council, the BVI Bar Association, and the Financial Services Business Development Committee of the Premier's Office. In 2017 she was elected to serve a three-year term on the BVI Finance Limited Board of Directors. A member of the BVI Red Cross Executive Committee, she now joins Green VI's Board because she'd like her child to experience the joy of the natural environment as she did when growing up.

## Executive Director



**Charlotte McDevitt** previously worked for the Waste Management Department in Cape Town, South Africa, where her main focus was the development, implementation and monitoring of educational strategies to reduce litter and illegal dumping, and also to reduce waste going to landfills. Her Master's Degree in Industrial Administration (University of Cape Town) was based on an exploration of waste reduction and resource management in the BVI. Charlotte moved to Tortola from Bequia with her husband and infant son in 2006 and founded Green VI in November 2009.



## Deputy Director



**Sarah Penney** As a citizen of the BVI, Sarah takes the collective responsibility for the well-being and development of the Territory to heart. She channels her energy, know-how and connections to essential civil society organisations, and ardently cultivates the Performing Arts. In addition, she has provided operations management to the finance industry for ten years. Sarah's cultural and social immersion in the BVI translates to a valuable working knowledge of the landscape, and her studies in the USA and Europe - where she earned degrees in International Government and Theatre Arts - have strengthened her natural ability to find alternative approaches to challenges and innovative strategies for success.

## Virgin Gorda Project Manager



**Sally Ann Riley** With over 25 years working experience in audit, accounting and business advisory services, Sally is Bug Out's most recent recruit, joining as VG Project Manager in March 2017. A Chartered Accountant by profession, with a strong interest in the environment, she has worked with a variety of entities - including start-ups and not-for-profits - on three Caribbean islands. This Barbadian native, wife, mum, positive community promoter, Lenny Kravitz fan and Serena Williams wannabe is actively pursuing her Brown Belt in Martial Arts.

## Virgin Gorda Outreach Director



**Greg George** is passionate about the cross, his country and his community. Pastor Gregory Alvino George, a native Virgin Islander, is married with three children and is an entrepreneur and community activist at heart. A Ministerial Studies graduate of Hobe Sound Bible College, with a minor in Counseling, he has served in ministry for over eleven years. He is also a licensed commercial pilot. As Community Engagement Director of Green VI, he leads the charge in educating the Virgin Gorda community on the critical importance of reducing, reusing and recycling.

## Garden Coordinator



**Nea Talbot** was born on Tortola and has worked in both agriculture and education in the Territory. She began this journey by being immersed in gardening and the natural environment as a child. After earning a B.Sc. in Sustainable Development & Agroecology at Appalachian State University in North Carolina, she returned home, established a small family farm and began teaching at the Primary level. Six years later, she has expanded her Full Belly Farm and feels blessed to join the Green VI team as Garden Project Coordinator; fulfilling her dream of bringing children, education and agriculture together for a better BVI.

## BugOut! Vector Control Officers



**James Alexander** is from beautiful Dominica and is affectionately known as Uncle Sam. Music is his life and passion, and he has been a music teacher for over 20 years. He receives a great sense of satisfaction and pride seeing his students succeed. James feels this same sense of accomplishment with the BugOut! Programme. He loves Virgin Gorda and gives 101% to ensure that this community wins the fight against mosquitoes.



**Johanna Gibson** is a Virgin Islander with an Associates Degree in English from the H. Laverty Stoutt Community College. She is passionate about creating a greener and more sustainable Earth for the generations that will come after her, as well as alleviating the effects of mosquito-borne diseases that affect many every year.



**Vernessa Bellot** is a Dominican national, and has been residing in the BVI for over fifteen years. Her educational background includes studies in Civil & Environmental Engineering, Geography and Environmental Management. She is also a trained educator. Her interests include environmental conservation and education, and her keen interest in sustainable living makes her passionate about performing her job in an enthusiastic manner.

## Administrator



**Sophia Alexander** hails from beautiful St Lucia, holds a diploma in Business Administration, and is completing a degree in Accounting. Sophia provides administrative and operational support for Bugout!. She believes that educating people about the three R's is paramount and that recycling must become our everyday lifestyle, as only then will we begin to see a greener, healthier earth. The earth is a precious gift, Cherish it!



# green vi advisors

## Advisors



**Simon McDevitt (1972 - 2017):** *Simon was, undeniably, the best man I've ever known. I loved his humour, his intelligence, and his integrity. I could not have asked for more in a husband or father for our son. Simon made this Green VI journey possible by providing emotional, financial and advisory support from day one, and he believed strongly in the importance of this work. When so much is given, much is required. Thank you, honey. I love you always.* Charlotte McDevitt



**Joanne Penney** arrived in Tortola 40 years ago as crew on boats sailed from North Carolina to BVI charter yacht companies. Her community work has included founding and directing the Community Agency on Drugs & Addiction (CADA), The Cada Players Drama Group, and (with daughter Sarah) Firebird Performing Arts. She has served the Girl Guides, the Crisis Intervention Team and many other greater good organisations, chaired the National Drug Advisory Council and presented to the UN General Assembly. Joanne has mentored Green VI since its founding, including loaning the Executive Director her shoes, editing in the midnight hours and donating the meagre profits from The Cada Player's annual stage shows.



**Toni Lyerly** is a teacher, political activist, volunteer, philanthropist and president of The Faile Foundation. Her work with Habitat for Humanity International created programs in the US and Zambia that empower girls and women to build their homes and become financially independent. Toni grew up on a sailboat traveling the BVI and USVI, learning early in life from her father John B. Faile to love the environment and to practice philanthropy. Toni believes if we follow our path in life and share our unique abilities, people come into our lives who can carry our dreams forward. After learning Charlotte McDevitt's vision for Green VI, Toni committed to making this a reality. Her diagnosis with Parkinson's disease led her to discover that connecting with and empowering others is as powerful a way to fulfill her purpose as doing things herself. Toni is pleased to be one of the many people helping Green VI achieve their dreams.



**Danica Zupic** is the Executive Director of the Faile Foundation. She earned her Master's of Science in Natural Resource and Environmental Management from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2011. Dani worked as an Education Fellow for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Bay Watershed Education and Training Program, which focused on outdoor education programs for kindergarten through high school seniors and training for teachers in the Hawaiian Islands. She has also worked with several watershed focused projects on coastlines in the United States, and with island communities in St. Croix USVI.



**Elizabeth Cox** is a nonprofit leadership and fundraising consultant who believes strategic planning and implementation is the best way to effect social change that creates a better world. After careers as an educator, advocate and nonprofit executive director, her work now focuses on environmental, social justice and poverty issues. A Philanthropic Advisor to family foundations and the nonprofits they fund, Elizabeth specializes in planning for sustainability and capacity building. This work led to her involvement with Green VI since 2014. She is a Certified FundRaising Executive (CFRE), has a certificate in fundraising management from The Center of Philanthropy at Indiana University, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of South Florida.



**Michael Jooste** is the Executive Director of VectorStars, a USA non-government organisation that develops innovative systems, technologies, and models for empowering communities to build scalable, autonomous and sustainable initiatives worldwide. He serves in several key leadership and advisory roles in the fields of entrepreneurship, clean-tech, and humanitarian emergency response and management, and is a graduate of the University of Washington's Foster School of Business. While a student at the UW, he launched a company that brought sustainable energy to rural Africa, which kickstarted his interest in working with rural, remote, and underserved communities.



