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## CLIMATE-RESILIENT WATER SECTOR IN GRENADA (G-CREWS)

# RESILIENCY IN THE WATER SECTOR ON ITS WAY!

October 2024  
 Volume 1, Issue 1

### FIRST CONSTRUCTED WATER STORAGE TANK NEARS COMPLETION

A major project milestone is on the horizon as the 1st water storage tank to be constructed under the G-CREWS project is expected to be commissioned soon. The 300,000 gallons water tank is located at Tufton Hall in the parish of St. Mark.

The additional storage will enhance NAWASA's service to the surrounding communities from Duquesne to Maran, especially during the dry season.

Constructed by Florida Aquastore, the glass fused-to-steel tank is expected to be able to withstand a major category hurricane. The construction of the tank complements pipe replacement works which is still ongoing within the parish.

The water storage tank is one of several being constructed under the project whose objective is to increase climate resilience in Grenada's water sector. The additional storage system in this part of the island is excellent news for the lone water company NAWASA especially during the dry season.



Tufton Hall Water Storage Tank in St. Mark



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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- G-CREWS Water Ambassadors (GAWP) bring smiles to 5 homeowners
- Retailers pledge their support towards making Rain-water Harvesting materials available to customers

## BUILDING A RESILIENT WATER SECTOR STARTS WITH YOU



Marion Geiss, Head of Project  
GIZ Grenada

The journey of the G-CREWS project has been nothing short of remarkable, filled with triumphs, challenges, and

invaluable lessons that propel us forward towards a water sustainable future.

In our 1st edition of the project newsletter, we are thrilled to share with you the inspiring success stories emanating from our project. From climate resilient infrastructure initiatives to community-driven actions, these stories illuminate the transformative impact of our collective endeavors.

The initiatives undertaken by the tourism sector and farming community to put measures in place to ensure they

have enough water in times of drought are laudable.

Moreover, delve into the strides we've made in regional collaboration efforts, forging partnerships that transcend borders to confront the shared challenges of climate change head-on.

As we navigate the complexities of climate resilience, this newsletter also serves as a repository of invaluable tips and best practices.

Enjoy the read and share our success stories with others. We welcome your feedback. Thank you !

*“Together, let us celebrate our achievements, embrace our challenges, and recommit ourselves to the noble task of safeguarding our precious water resources for generations to come”*

*Marion Geiss, Head of Project, GIZ Grenada*

### WHAT IS G-CREWS?

The main climate impacts affecting the water sector in Grenada are changes in temperature, precipitation, tropical storms and sea level rise.

Under the G-CREWS project, the objective is to build climate resilience within the water sector.

Achieving this objective involves all citizens, businesses as water users, the public sector as provider of potable water and infrastructure and behavioural changes triggered through appropriate governance, regulation, economic incentives and raising awareness.

Listen to a few of the transformative approaches within the water supply system that are ongoing.

### HOTELIERS CHAMPION WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

**5 hoteliers** are now more conscious of their water usage thanks to initiatives implemented with financial support from the G-CREWS project.

Their actions could bring about potential water savings of 7,545,185 gallons per year (12,832.21m<sup>3</sup> per year) – this equates to the filling of approximately 11 Olympic size swimming pools.

Under a Challenge Fund for Tourism (CFT), hoteliers and guest house operators took advantage of grant financing to either retrofit their bathrooms with more water efficient devices or install rainwater harvesting systems to aid in their storage capacity.

With an upfront capital injection of 100%, hoteliers upon completion of their installation were refunded 90% of the monies invested.

One of the first recipients was Calabash Luxury boutique hotel. According to Adele Garbutt they have noticed a 30 percent reduction in their usage of water after taking advantage of the CFT.

Dr. Dessima Williams of Rainbow Inn said the CFT has allowed them to become more sustainable in water management.



*Alyson Julien of Rainbow Inn & Adele Garbutt of Calabash Hotel—1st recipients of CFT*



Workmen installing new pipelines in the parish of St. Mark

## SECURING OUR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FROM CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

The G-CREWS project is ensuring that the pipeline infrastructure and water storage tanks being installed are able to withstand floodings, landslides and other climate change impacts which are major above ground threats to water infrastructure.

The above compounded by small cracks for example, can become a determinant

for a small island state like Grenada who is particularly vulnerable to climate change.

In July 2021 twenty-four (24) participants, drawn from nine (9) different stakeholder organisations sat together to understand the risks and propose responses to integrate climate resilience measures into the planned infrastructure un-

der the project. A comprehensive guide on climate-proofing measures was developed and can be viewed or downloaded [here](#).

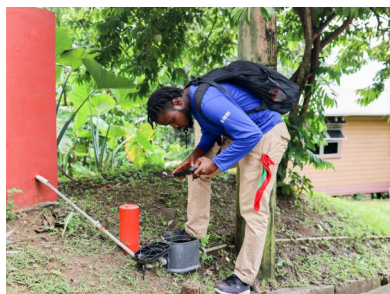
This guide identified the most relevant threats for water tanks, including changes in precipitation and water availability, landslides, windspeed increase and hurricanes.

## TACKLING WATER LOSS IN THE WATER SUPPLY SYTEM

In 2023, approximately 2 million gallons of water were loss per day. According to Acting General Manager at NAWASA Mr. Terrence Smith this represented 26 percent of the total amount of water produced.

Tackling water loss reduction is a key initiative for NAWASA under the G-CREWS project, as this will demonstrate the company's commitment to addressing its challenges while at the same time enhancing its overall revenue stream.

One measure involves the use of a Geographic [Information System \(GIS\)](#) to develop a map of its piped infrastructure including sewer systems, meters and wells across the island. The other measure is the setting up of a Non-Revenue Water (NRW) unit within NAWASA which will track and quickly implement measures to fix the leaks. The ultimate benefit in the long run will be decreased water losses, increased distribution and happier customers.



### THE WATER TEST

1. WATER STAND UP, WATER SIT DOWN — WHAT AM I?

2. IN WHAT YEAR DID NAWASA REPLACE THE CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION?

3. ON AVERAGE HOW MANY WATER TREATMENT PROCESSES ARE THERE.

NAME AT LEAST 3?

SEND YOUR ANSWERS VIA MESSAGE TO OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES AND GET THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE A G-CREWS MERCHANDISED ITEM

LISTEN TO THESE SHORT VIDEOS ON WATER.

[WHAT DOES WATER MEAN TO YOU](#)

[WATER MONOLOGUE BY AKINO ROMAIN](#)

## CATCH THE RAIN!

### Do you catch the rain or collect rainwater?

If no, then why not?

Did you know that rainwater harvesting is a centuries old tradition that has been used widely in the Caribbean.

A rainwater harvesting system can help **YOU** augment your pipe borne (potable) water supply, especially in challenging times — drought, valve regulation.

Click these videos to learn more on the importance of rainwater collection.

[Rainwater is FREE! Harvest it](#)

[Maintaining a rainwater harvesting system](#)

[Check the GCREWS link-tree page to learn more about rainwater harvesting](#)

## VISUAL WATER CONSERVATION APPEALS

**You are a Water Champion** —the key message continually highlighted during the G-CREWS project awareness, education and outreach events. This catch phrase is geared at evoking a sense of belonging and participation calling for each citizen to be water stewards.

Using visual appeals to connect our message, the project painted a mural which showed "[A Journey through time: The Evolution of Water in Grenada](#)".

This striking piece of artwork is clearly displayed at the NAWASA cash office located on the Carenage, St. George. Its vibrant colours and captivating imagery rekindles memories of community

gatherings and story telling around the standpipe while one fills their bucket, while showing the advancement of our water infrastructure.

The project also created another mural in the community of Mt Craven, St. Patrick using the [water treatment process](#) as a way of providing knowledge to all citizens.



*Water mural erected at NAWASA Carenage Office*



*A portion of the mural painted at Fond Playing Field in St. Patrick reminding citizens of the conservation practices*

## THE WATER SONG: FOLK STYLE

Its' infectious beat has you grooving from the moment you hear it.

The [G-CREWS Water Song & Music Video](#). This compelling song promoting water conservation is performed by Andrew 'Hitz Phillip, Thamara 'Songbird', and the Presentation Brothers College Choir.

These melodious voices echoes the importance of water as a finite resource in the tri-island state, beckoning our citizens and leaders to adopt actionable water-saving measures now before its too late.

This creative initiative aligns with the project's goal of cultivating water-conscious users in response to climate change impacts on the nation's water supply.

## BUILDING YOUTH CAPACITY IN RAINWATER HARVESTING DESIGN

One of the key principles of the G-CREWS project is to empower citizens, particularly young people, to take action on water related issues. During a period of 6-8 months, 6 young people were extensively trained on how they can make water systems more sustainable. One of the solutions was rainwater harvesting (RWH). These young people learnt about its vital importance as a complimentary source of water to the potable supply; designing of a system and received the chance to install the system on 5 houses across the country. Through this capacity building approach, a cadre of young people are now knowledgeable on water resource management.

For the 5 beneficiaries of the storage tanks, they applauded G-CREWS for the additional storage capacity received.



Members of GIZ & GAWP installing spouting on recipient home



A GAWP Member installing spouting on a recipient home

## HARDWARE RETAILERS PLEDGE THEIR SUPPORT TO MAKING AVAILABLE RAINWATER HARVESTING MATERIALS

Hardware retailers have pledged to give their unwavering support to NAWASA and the G-CREWS project in building a sustainable and water efficient future. Their pledges followed a retailers workshop held in June 2024 to discuss the importation of more water efficient devices; the reduction or curbing the importation of inefficient devices and securing a commitment from suppliers to import a substantial stock of materials to enhance water storage and rainwater harvesting systems. These retailers are:

- ACE Hardware
- Aces Sanitary Ware INC
- Kalico Trading
- M & N Hardware
- Norris James, NBS Ltd
- On the Spot hardware Ltd

2024 posed significant challenges for NAWASA, with drought-like conditions severely impacting water supply availability. Acting General Manager, Mr. Terrence Smith, emphasized the situation should serve as a wake-up call for everyone, as climate change is an enduring issue that cannot be ignored.

*“Your involvement will send a clear message to the citizenry that suppliers recognize the need for individuals and businesses to increase their water storage capacity, and thus through promotions and other incentives, they too should take advantage of securing themselves to avoid any future water crisis.”*



The G-CREWS project remains a crucial initiative for ensuring the sustainability and resilience of Grenada’s water resources amidst the challenges posed by climate change. Head of Project (GIZ) G-CREWS, Ms. Marion Geiss, emphasized the necessity of a collaborative approach in having the tools necessary to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the water supply.

*“One means of addressing this is through having additional storage capacity which can be drawn from individual rainfall collection and at the same time reduce our water usage by increased water efficient appliances, such as toilets, showerheads and faucets”.*

When purchasing a water efficient device, one should look for the water efficiency label and the amount of gallons per use represented by (gpf - gallons per flush for toilets, gpm gallons per minute for showers and faucets).

## G-CREWS WAS CREATED BY US, FOR US!



As we draw the curtains on our first insightful edition of this newsletter, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering support and engagement. Your enthusiasm fuels our passion, and your commitment strengthens our resolve as we navigate the ever-evolving landscape of climate resilience in Grenada.

I urge you to seize this moment to share the stories, insights, and knowledge gleaned from these pages with your peers, colleagues, and networks. Together, let us amplify the impact of our collective efforts and inspire others to join us on this journey towards a more sustainable future.

Remember, our journey does not end here. As we bid farewell to this edition, let us eagerly anticipate the next, brimming with fresh perspectives,

innovative solutions, and compelling narratives. In the meantime, stay connected with us through our various communication channels (@gcrews473), and continue to champion the cause of climate resilience in your communities.

Until we meet again in the pages of our next edition, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to safeguarding our precious water resources for generations to come.

**ADDRESS:**  
Climate-Resilient Water Sector  
in Grenada  
(G-CREWS)  
NAWASA Building, Carenage  
P.O. Box 3269, St. George's  
Grenada, W.I.

Email:  
gcrewsgrenada@gmail.com

Telephone: 473 2722 ext. 26847

**G-CREWS**



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# HAVE ENOUGH WATER STORAGE?

**G-CREWS**  
Climate-Resilient  
Water Sector in Grenada

Check the hardware retailer stores and purchase a water storage tank that suits your family size.  
Make adequate storage you priority!