

Vetiver Project for Grenada

The deep and strong root system of vetiver grass make it useful for solving issues of:

- Land slippage and erosion
- Loss of topsoil
- Loss of agricultural land
- Infrastructure damage (roads, culverts, etc)
- Damage caused by uncontrolled rainfall runoff

The Vetiver System (VS) can bring added value to agricultural lands, including:

- Improve soil moisture and control weeds
- Sediment and topsoil capture
- Rebuilding topsoil through organic matter

Vetiver Handicrafts

Participants will learn how to make various handicrafts using the leaves and roots of Vetiver.



Vetiver grass tops can be made into beautiful handicrafts for local use as well as the tourism markets.



Vetiver roots can be made into fragrant root bundles to deter insects and to develop essential oil and perfume industries.

Benefits of Vetiver for Water Management

- Slows down water flow & spreads run-off, trapping sediment & creating terraces when planted on contour.
- Breaks up hardpan & recharges groundwater.
- Can be used to protect coastal areas from erosion, tidal surge.
- Can be used to stabilize river banks, preventing flooding.
- Can be used as a primary purifier of waste water & livestock effluent, mitigating fresh water pollution & improving water quality.
- Can stabilize infrastructure & mitigate landslides & road collapse due to heavy rains & floods.



Mature vetiver plants being divided to produce new slips for the workshop and demonstration sites.

The workshop will be facilitated by Mr. Jonathan Barcant of [Vetiver TT Ecological Engineering Solutions Ltd.](#) [Vetiver TT](#) has developed a successful model called the “Vetiver Education & Empowerment Project (VEEP)” for the introduction of vetiver grass and The Vetiver System (VS) at the community level.



UNDP GEF SGP sponsored Vetiver Project for Grenada



When planted in accordance with The Vetiver System (VS), Vetiver grass becomes a low cost, readily available, easy to use, effective and long-lasting green technology, suitable to be incorporated into many initiatives to combat erosion & mitigate climate change.

The project comprises an educational workshop and the installation of pilot demonstration sites and dissemination of the process and the knowledge gained from the workshop to other communities involved in agriculture, construction, tourism, road works, water supply, etc. and Grantees implementing other environmental projects.

Project implemented by
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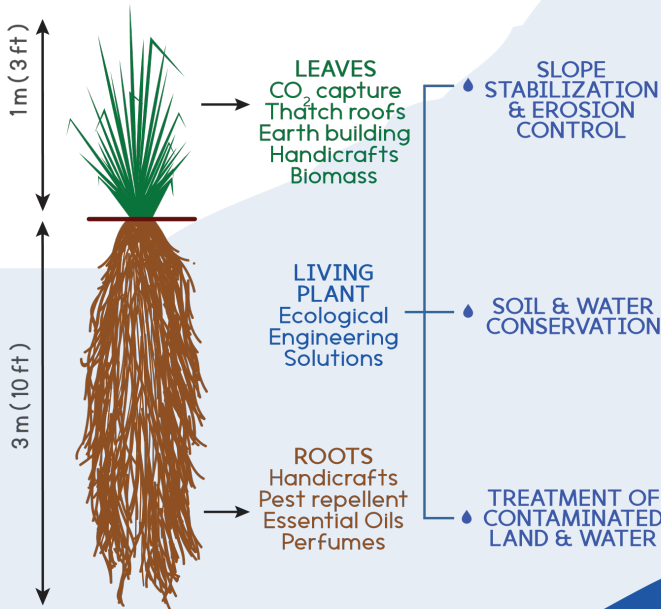


WHAT IS VETIVER GRASS ?

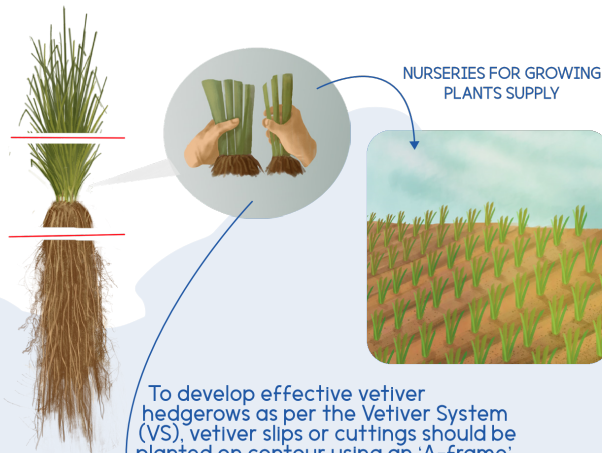


Vetiver grass is a tropical and sub-tropical plant which grows best in sunny conditions and has a deep fibrous root system that extends up to 10 ft deep, making it a very effective tool for slope stabilization & erosion control.

Vetiver leaves and **roots** can also be used in many ways to make different types of handicrafts.



THE VETIVER SYSTEM (VS)



To develop effective vetiver hedgerows as per the Vetiver System (VS), vetiver slips or cuttings should be planted on contour using an 'A-frame' at a distance of 10-15 cm apart.



- Maintenance to young plants is needed in early stages to prevent overgrowth, until they are well established.
- To speed up establishment fertilizers and soil amendments like Liquid Litter and Agrical can be applied.
- Vetiver is susceptible to grass 'weed-kill', and especially glyphosate like all other plants. Where vetiver grass is implemented, it is therefore very important to avoid spraying these chemicals directly on the plants.

VETIVER GRASS USES

