

ACTIONS TAKEN

Public education and outreach

Numerous activities aimed to increase public awareness and education about the Basseterre Valley Aquifer and integrated water resources management.



Stakeholder consultations



The GEF-IWCAM Project is co-implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It is co-executed by the UNEP Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit (UNEP-CAR/RCU) and the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI).



WATER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 80, Needsmust
Basseterre, St. Kitts
Phone: (869) 466-3070 / 1467
Fax: (869) 466-7901
E-mail: wdskn@sisterisles.kn



PROTECTING THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE BASSETERRE VALLEY AQUIFER

The aquifer which underlies the Basseterre Valley is a significant economic and social asset to the people of St. Kitts and Nevis. The potable water extracted from this aquifer represents well over 40% of all of the water supply for the island of St. Kitts.



To ensure this aquifer continues to be a safe and reliable source of drinking water in the future, the GEF-IWCAM demonstration project was designed and implemented to help government and communities take practical actions to protect the aquifer by demonstrating best practices on three fronts:

1. Improved water resources management
2. Mitigation of threats from pollution
3. Designation of the well-field land space as a protected area



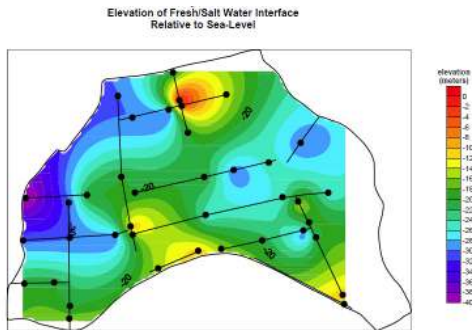
World Water Week 2011

EXTENSIVE STUDY OF THE AQUIFER

An intensive study of the water resources of the Basseterre Valley was undertaken. This included:

1. Hydrogeological survey
2. Land use survey
3. Assessment of threats from pollution
4. Review of legal enabling environment

Vital scientific data was collected and analyzed to create an action plan for integrated management of the aquifer.



A novel mapping technology was used to identify the fresh/ salt water interface

The cornerstone of this project is the establishment of a protected area around the sensitive well-field. A comprehensive plan for the management of the park has been designed.

A notice declaring the designation of the National Park under the National Conservation and Environmental Protection Act was published in the Gazette of April 21, 2011.

ACTIONS TAKEN

To reduce threats from pollution and improve water resources management

1. Designation of the National Park
2. Installation of an oil/water separator at the Needsmust Power Station



Over 600 gallons of oily waste have been pumped since March 2011

3. Installation of automated tank level controls to prevent overflowing of storage tanks



Hundreds of thousands of gallons of water have been saved since May 2010

ACTIONS TAKEN

Training and capacity building

Several training and capacity building activities were implemented:

1. 5-day workshop on best practices related to design, construction, inspection and maintenance of onsite wastewater treatment technologies (February 14-18, 2011)



2. Sensitization of various government departments to issues related to the Basseterre Valley Aquifer

