

Bahamas



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Organization and Number of Staff: Ian V. McKenzie- Country Coordinator (CC);
Godfrey Burnside- Consultant

Funding by: United States Embassy Nassau Office

Cooperating Organizations/Individuals: University of The Bahamas, Bahamas Stormchasers, Department of Environmental Health Services-Vector Control Unit, Bahamas Red Cross, Bahamas National Trust,

GLOBE Schools: Bahamas Global Academy and Hope Academy, University of The Bahamas

GLOBE Protocol Areas: Atmosphere and Biosphere

Number of Schools Reporting Data over the Past Year: 1 (Citizen scientists conducted the bulk of the reporting)



Program Implementation, International Cooperation in GLOBE Network, and Activities over the Past Year (categorized by GLOBE Strategic Plan 2018-2023 Goals):

• **Education & Science & Community**

A virtual training was conducted in August/September 2023, there was also an in-person option where university professors, teachers, environmental & health professionals, along with some students were engaged for 3 days of learning and fun activities.

***The workshop was entitled: Empowering Environmental Guardians:
Virtual GLOBE Training for Mosquito Surveillance and Disease***

Prevention in Central America and the Caribbean, presented by Dr. Rusty Low and her team, from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, and Science Lead for GLOBE Observer Mosquito Habitat Mapper. This regional virtual training was used to promote GLOBE's Mosquito Habitat Mapper's tool as a citizen science platform to help combat dengue, Zika, and other vectorborne diseases. Participants had the opportunity to interact with other students, citizen scientists, environmental leaders, NGO activists, public health officials, and researchers from Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Panama both virtually and in person at The University of The Bahamas at the American Corner.



Day 1 2023 In-Person Participants



Bahamas Country Coordinator Ian McKenzie Welcoming Participants



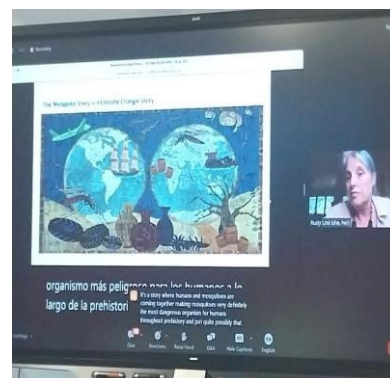
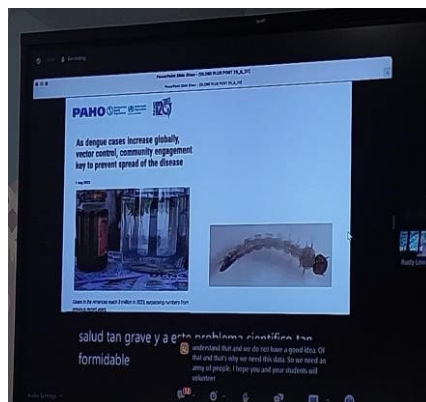
Globe Consultant Godfrey Burnside and Country Coordinator Ian McKenzie



Globe Consultant Godfrey Burnside and U.S. Embassy Nassau Economic Policy Specialist Sandiria Hall



Day 3 Glennis Knowles principal from The Bahamas Global Academy and some of her students along with other participants



Virtual Presentation Display by Dr, Rusty Low from The U.S.



Bahamas Stormchaser's Kimberly Minors and Bahamas National Trust's Shawn Saunders engaged in mosquito analysis



A homemade trap built by Shawn Saunders from The Bahamas National Trust



Participants engaged in discussion prior to the start of the meeting

- **Globe Citizen Science Facilitator Guide Virtual Training Session was conducted on 4th September 2024 as a follow-up to the initial workshop that was held last year. The in-person event was held at The University Of The Bahamas American Corner under the auspices of the United States Embassy and had about 17 persons in attendance. This event was conducted in conjunction with the Regional Environmental Hub of San Jose Costa Rica with 3 primary countries of the LAC participating. Participants from The Bahamas along with Panama and Guatemala enjoyed a brief recap of the previous workshop while being introduced to the teacher's guide (**Globe****

Citizen Science Facilitator Guide) that was created by Dr. Nikki Grant from The United States of America.



September 2024 Workshop Follow-Up Participants



Observation and homemade trap being displayed by Shawn Turnquest from BNT



Participants engaged in meaningful discussion about the 2023 mosquito season and the 2024 season outlook prior to the start of the meeting

- **Bonus Citizen Scientist Community Engagement**

Ms. Monique Palmisano has been actively engaged in community Globe outreach and campaign awareness at various community forums.

Below are a few photos.



St, Andrew's School Weather Talk



Globe Citizen Scientist Display at The Ministry of Health Disaster Preparedness Workshop

Currently, social media along with traditional emails continue to be the main form of transmission for Globe communications

Plans and Ideas for the Next Year (2025):

1. Organize follow-up virtual meetings with stakeholders to introduce mosquito, atmosphere, and biosphere protocols into several schools.
2. Partner with The University of The Bahamas to re-launch the “Fight the Bite” initiative.
3. Encourage schools, NGOs, media, and civic organizations to participate in World Cleanup Day, Earth Day, and other globally recognized environmental days.
4. Re-engage with schools such as St. Andrew’s, Aquinas, Lyford Cay International, and Queen’s College to offer refresher or training courses. Local trainers will be utilized initially, and if necessary, assistance from the RCO will be sought.
5. Seek sponsorship from the International SpaceX program, which has shown interest in the STEM program. This sponsorship aims to support several Family Island schools in becoming Globe schools.



6. Strengthen relationships with NGOs and collaborate with the U.S. Embassy to promote Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the environmental agenda.
7. Involve more community-minded individuals to help promote Globe Schools throughout the country.
8. Continue working with regional counterparts to maintain a presence in the country and support government and civic efforts related to sustainability.
9. Leverage the Civil Aviation Authority of The Bahamas to adopt a neighborhood school as a Globe model. This will ensure the integration of environmental and aviation protocols taught through sustainable principles.