## It's all about community empowerment with VEEP





What is the Vetiver Education and Empowerment Project (VEEP) VEEP is a tried and tested model/ approach to introduce the Vetiver System (VS) to communities where it can benefit

## What are some of the uses of vetiver grass and the Vetiver System (VS)?

- Land and slope stabilization
- Erosion control and infrastructure protection
- Soil and water conservation
- Mulching and topsoil regeneration
- Water treatment
- Natural materials & handicraft production
- Sustainable livelihoods

#### **VETIVER HANDICRAFTS**

Vetiver grass leaves and roots can be used to make baskets, mats, up-cylced chairs, soaps, fragrant root bundles, and more.



### Visit our website or download the WEClimate app to access our educational library



Download the **WEClimate App** and check out our library to access more educational content about the use of vetiver grass and the Vetiver System (VS), and tag sites across T&T facing erosion and slippage which could benefit from VS solutions. In the next stages of WEClimate you will also find a growing library of content ranging from how-to's for organic gardens and farms, reforestation and conservation, to energy efficiency and renewables at home, and much more.



## BUILDING COMMUNITY CLIMATE RESILIENCE WITH VETIVER

# A simple, accessible, cost-effective, green solution for many climate related issues

One of IAMovement's main areas of work over the years has been in Climate Adaptation. Given the social and financial impact of natural hazard events to the Caribbean we've focused on building climate resilience, especially in rural communities and at the national level – specifically, on bringing green and cost-effective solutions to communities to tackle important issues such as erosion, land-slippage and flooding, which often compromise and cause damages and loss to homes, property, infrastructure and lives. We have focused on promoting a greater overall climate resilience in T&T and other Caribbean nations that face soil and water related challenges through the use of the vetiver and the Vetiver System (VS) as a green infrastructure tool.



## IAMOVÉMENT

This is an educational brochure being distributed across T&T through projects supported by partners such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Lab, CCRIF SPC, the UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF) and Trinidad & Tobago's Green Fund.

### WHAT IS VETIVER GRASS ?



1 m ( 3 ft )

m (10 ft)

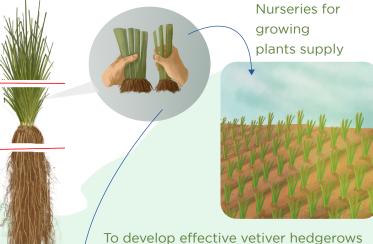
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Vetiver grass is a tropical and sub-tropical plant which grows best in sunny conditions and has a deep fibrous root system that extends up to 10 ft deep, making it a very effective tool for slope stabilization & erosion control.

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

	-	LEAVES CO2 CAPTURE THATCH ROOFS EARTH BUILDING HANDICRAFTS BIOMASS	SLOPE STABILIZATION & EROSION
J.		<i>LIVING PLANT</i> ECOLOGICAL ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS	SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
		ROOTS HANDICRAFTS PEST REPELLENT ESSENTIAL OILS PERFUMES	TREATMENT OF CONTAMINATED LAND & WATER

### THE VETIVER SYSTEM (VS)

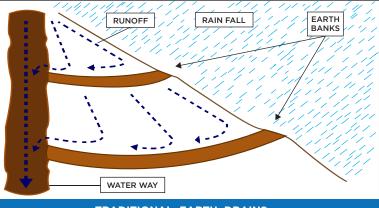


as per the **Vetiver System (VS)**, vetiver slips or cuttings should be planted on contour using an 'A-frame' at a distance of 10-15 cm apart.

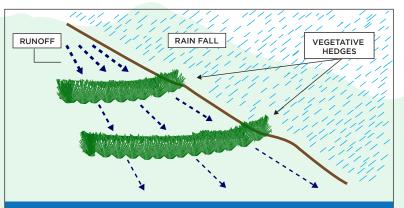


- Maintenance to young plants is needed in early stages to prevent overgrowth, until they are well established.
- To speed up establishment fertilizers and soil amendments like Liquid Litter and Agrical can be applied.
- Vetiver is susceptible to grass 'weed-kill', and especially glyphosate like all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

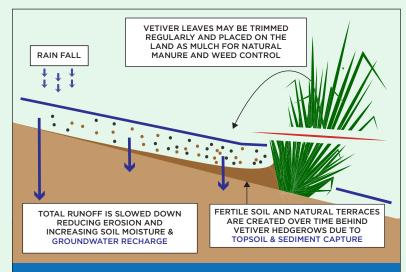
### **VETIVER GRASS USES**



TRADITIONAL EARTH DRAINS



VETIVER HEDGEROWS FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION



TOPSOIL CAPTURE AND GROUNDWATER RECHARGE