



NETWORK OF RURAL WOMEN PRODUCERS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 18 Sixth Street West, Cazabon Avenue, Trincity  
email – [nrwptt@gmail.com](mailto:nrwptt@gmail.com) Tel: 868 683 4251

Press Release to the Editor.

### Network of Rural Woman Producers Observance Earth Day 2022.

The Network of Rural Women Producers of Trinidad & Tobago (NRWPTT), under the Presidency of Ms Gia Gaspard-Taylor joined with stakeholders around the world to celebrate and observe Earth Day 2022. The theme “Invest in Our Planet” was quite appropriate as this Earth Day celebration focused on encouraging everyone to preserve and protect our health, our families and our livelihoods.

NRWPTT holds special consultative status with the United Nations Social and Economic Council (ECOSOC) and conducts many international projects on the local landscape in collaboration with other stakeholders. This 22 4 22 Earth Day Event took place in collaboration with the Farmer 2 Farmer Initiative, an initiative between the UWI Faculty of Agriculture and Purdue International University . The Farmer 2 Farmer Project is a USAID funded Project which extends training and other support services to young agri entrepreneurs. The programme has been in operation since 2018. Members of the Network and leaders of the Community Oriented Police Section and Police Youth Clubs benefit from the online training modules on agriculture. We therefore considered it imperative to launch our Earth Day Event with the first Face to Face Training opportunity

The Community Gardens Project launch in Whiteland brought together representatives from Police Youth Clubs from Moruga, Debe, Princess Town, Gasparillo, Barackpore, St Madelene, Tableland, Greenvale, St Joseph, Bon Air, Williamsville, Manzanilla, Matura, Mayaro, Sangre Grande and Rousilac. The project extended over five (5) days of activities, in two rural communities: Whiteland and Fishing Pond, Sangre Grande.



We are extremely grateful for the support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries for donation of Seeds, Cassava Sticks, Corn, Seedlings and Bermudez Farms for Breadfruit Plants. The activities were as follows:

- i. Day 1 – Official Launch. This event was supported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, UWI and Perdue University and the Community Oriented Police Section (COPS). Other attendees included Police Youth Club leaders, members and parents. Prince Eric Lewis – Chief (acting) of the Moruga First Peoples performed the Blessing of the Earth ceremony before the symbolic planting of 22 trees. The programme included the handing out of awards to the winners of the International “Every Girl Wins” awards held in March 2022.
- ii. Day 2 & 3 Preparation of Plots and Soil Testing



- iii. Day 4 –Tour to Lionel Joseph Garden and Mini Zoo, with information sharing on cultivation practices, composting and pest control. The touring party then proceeded to Fishing Pond for an Educational Agricultural Awareness Workshop Facilitated by Richard Beckfort Purdue University, ably assisted by Brandon Murphy UWI, Dr Lorraine Ferguson, UWI, Professor Wayne Ganpat UWI and Dr Amanda Dickson Purdue International University.
- iv. Day 5 – Graduation ceremony for participants for the Farmer to Farmer Project.

Excerpts from this event will be shared with the international community at the Stockholm + 50 Conference, on the Environment presented by Mrs Gaspard Taylor from May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> 2022.

Respectfully submitted:

Gia Gaspard Taylor  
President  
NRWPTT