

# Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Trinidad and Tobago

**“Support to the Implementation of Trinidad and Tobago’s Nationally Determined Contribution”**

## NATURE SEEKERS



Imagine how awesome nature’s navigation system is when it leads the endangered leatherback turtles through oceans and seas to continue the circle of life on the shores of Trinidad and Tobago. Matura village on the east coast of Trinidad, is home to these gentle giants of the sea and their protectors, Nature Seekers; a non-profit organization established in 1990, dedicated to the conservation of leatherback turtles and the natural environment.



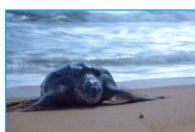
Nature Seekers Community Guides share information on the areas bounty and lead 15,000 plus visitors each year on tours for turtle watching, kyaking, and nature walks to waterfalls through the lush green foliage that lines the coast. The guides take pride in providing nightly watches so the turtles that return annually to Matura / Orosco Bay, have access to their nesting grounds and can safely lay their eggs. The group is also a partner in turtle tagging exercises that assist greatly in ensuring the survival of the species.



Nature Seekers is a non-profit organization and an integral part of the village of Matura and its environs. They serve beyond their core purpose as ‘*Turtle Warriors*’ providing a meeting space for various community-based projects and activities, including being a place where students gather to do examination preparation. To help sustain their efforts, locally handmade jewellery and craft items are sold at the Nature Seeker’s gift shop.



The Nature Seekers beach-side facility, does not have electricity and is currently powered by diesel generators, which is a challenge during the turtle watching season, as activities take place mostly at night - when the turtles come to the beaches to nest. A consistent, reliable supply of electricity is critical to the on-going work of the group, so installing a solar photovoltaic (PV) system is a wonderful opportunity to provide a clean and sustainable source of electricity, and is in alignment with the overall conservation efforts at the facility. Suzan Lakhon-Baptiste, Head of Nature Seekers said, “*We are happy to be the model for solar and renewable energy in this community. We consider this meaningful sustainability for Matura and Trinidad and Tobago.*”



## Contacts:

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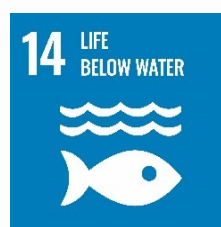
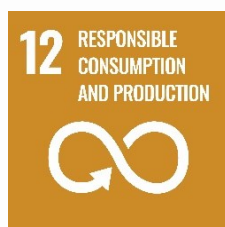
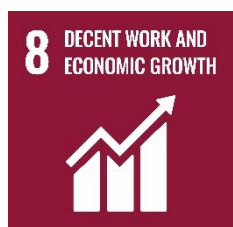
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## TECHNICAL SPECS:

Site Name	Nature Seekers
Load Characteristics	Lighting and Electronics
PV system size	5kW
Estimate Annual Energy Production (kWh)	9102
Estimated CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions avoided annually ( kg of CO <sub>2</sub> ).	5935.1
Core Business	Marine Conservation

## ALIGNMENT TO SUSTAINABLE GOALS (SDGs):



<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>

### ABOUT GCCA+

Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) is a European Union flagship initiative aimed at helping the world's most vulnerable countries to address climate change. This EU initiative helps mainly Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) increase their resilience to climate change. <https://www.gcca.eu/>.

### ABOUT UNDP:

UNDP is the leading United Nations organisation fighting to end the injustice of poverty, inequality, and climate change. Working with our broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, we help nations to build integrated, lasting solutions for people and planet. Learn more at [www.ttundp.org](http://www.ttundp.org) or follow at @UNDPTT.

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