

Action Bequia Annual Operations Report - 5 February 2018 - David Harper, CEO

I would like to start by reminding everyone of some of the Action Bequia projects we have managed ourselves in the last 7 years (click the pictures for more details of each project):



Belmont Walkway 2011/2012





2014/2015



Belmont Walkway Extension across **Plantation Beach**



Bin Programme 2016/2017

During this time, we have also financially supported more than sixty projects managed by others. The areas these covered were broad and included sporting and cultural activity, education, island events like The Regatta, and emergencies like the SVG floods in 2013 and Dominica in 2017.

The highlights of our managed project efforts over the past year, illustrated below, were recycling and the rebuilding of the trail around Princess Point. More than 100,000 drink containers were shipped off Bequia as a result of the Recycling Programme, when previously they would have finished on the island as land fill. The Princess Margaret Trail rebuild of the cross-water section appears to be a tremendous success. It is designed to survive major storms but nature will always rule.



In calendar 2017 financial terms we had an income of EC\$334,101 and expenses of EC\$460,627. The PM cross-water rebuild cost EC\$125,000 but we do not expect that to be an annual event! The costs of Action Beguia's managed projects, including this one-time expense, were EC\$278,300 whilst expenditures during the year on more than thirty community projects amounted to EC\$182,327. Less than 2 % of our income is spent on expenses and overheads.

IMPORTANT POSITION STATEMENT – PLEASE READ

We constantly try to evaluate the value of our contribution to the quality of life on Bequia. That means making tough choices on how we deploy our finite resources. Expansion of the recycling program, environmental cleanliness in general, and maintenance of walkways and hiking trails will continue to be a major priority. However, in 2018, we will increase the focus and resources dedicated to another specific area and that will be youth activity outside the classroom and the home. Youth sport and youth cultural programmes will be elevated to sit alongside our managed projects as the "other" major priority. We have always supported youth initiatives, but we plan to increase this support significantly. By implication, the amount of funding directed outside these priority areas will be reduced. We will retain roughly 10% of our expenditure budget for emergencies and special cases. We will also continue to enable donors to specify (appropriate) causes of their own choosing that are outside of our two priority areas. Please go onto our website (<u>www.actionbeguia.com</u>) to find out how to donate.