



SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

DIASPORA DIGEST



**Green Horizons: The Diaspora's Role in
Building a Sustainable Island State
through Renewable Energy**

DIASPORA

DIGEST

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**Honourable Konris Maynard
Minister of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities et al
Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis**

Saint Kitts and Nevis stands at a defining moment in its development journey as we advance our national vision of becoming the world’s first Sustainable Island State. This vision is being realized through deliberate investments in infrastructure, water security, energy resilience, and national productivity.

“St. Kitts and Nevis is small enough to do what we must to be the best example of sustainability that the world has to offer.”

Water security remains a critical pillar of sustainable development. The commissioning of the Basseterre Desalination Plant, with a production capacity of two million gallons per day, represents one of the most significant infrastructure investments in recent years, strengthening reliability of supply across the island and supporting households, businesses, and essential services.

“We continue to advance desalination as a key component of a sustainable water future.”

Complementing national water security efforts, a separate solar-powered desalination facility funded through the UAE-Caribbean Renewable Energy Fund introduces renewable energy into water production. With a capacity of approximately 76,000 gallons per day, the plant demonstrates how innovation and strategic partnerships support climate resilience within small island states.

The Government has maintained a strong and consistent focus on strengthening national infrastructure through sustained investment in road development across the Federation. Over the past few years, the Government has invested in excess of EC \$200 million in road construction, rehabilitation, paving, and improvement works aimed at enhancing connectivity, improving road safety, and supporting economic activity throughout communities.

The Public Works Department Roads Division continues to play a critical role in the execution of this programme, undertaking extensive surfacing, patching, and rehabilitation works across the island. These efforts have contributed significantly to improving the overall quality and durability of the national road network, supporting safer and more efficient transportation for citizens and businesses alike.

To further strengthen the long-term capacity of the Roads Division, the Government has approved budgetary provisions for the acquisition of a new asphalt plant and asphalt overlay plant. This planned investment is expected to improve the efficiency, quality, and consistency of road construction and rehabilitation works in the months and years ahead, positioning the Department to deliver even stronger performance as national infrastructure development continues to expand.

Asphalt Plant

The Government has approved budgetary provisions for the acquisition of a new asphalt plant. This investment is expected to significantly improve efficiency, quality, and the pace of road works in the months and years ahead, positioning the Roads Division for even stronger performance going forward.



The Government has also undertaken targeted investments to strengthen the productive capacity of the Public Works Department quarry through the upgrade of critical heavy equipment. These improvements are both strategic and timely, as the Federation advances several major infrastructure projects currently within the national development pipeline, including the reconstruction of the Basseterre High School, the development of the Smart Hospital, and ongoing housing expansion initiatives.

By improving efficiency and increasing output at the quarry, the Government is ensuring a more reliable and sustainable supply of essential construction materials required to support these transformative projects. This strengthened capacity enhances the ability of the State to deliver key infrastructure in a timely manner, reinforcing national resilience while supporting continued economic and social development in keeping with the vision of a Sustainable Island State.

In the energy sector, the Government has taken deliberate and responsible steps to strengthen reliability while advancing the transition toward renewable energy. Strategic measures were implemented to support temporary generation capacity, including the rental of additional generators to assist the St. Kitts Electricity Company (SKELEC). This intervention was critically necessary to ensure continuity of service while facilitating essential maintenance on existing generation units.

For several years, the ability to conduct comprehensive maintenance on aging generators was constrained due to the absence of adequate backup capacity within the electricity system. The introduction of temporary generation support has therefore created the operational flexibility required to properly service and maintain existing infrastructure, reducing the risk of unexpected outages and improving overall grid stability.

These measures form part of a broader strategy to modernize the energy sector in a structured and responsible manner. By strengthening immediate reliability while advancing procurement processes for renewable energy solutions, the Government continues to ensure that the transition toward a cleaner energy future is supported by a stable and resilient electricity system.

“Sustainability must be built on reliability, ensuring that our energy transition is both responsible and resilient.”

Solar Energy Concept

As part of the Government’s long-term strategy to strengthen energy security and advance the transition toward renewable energy, preparatory work is currently underway to support the development of utility-scale solar power generation. The Government, in collaboration with key stakeholders, is advancing the necessary technical, regulatory, and procurement frameworks to facilitate the introduction of solar photovoltaic (PV) energy supported by battery storage within the national electricity system.

This initiative is expected to form a critical component of the Federation’s sustainable energy transition, reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels while improving long-term resilience within the electricity sector. The planned procurement process will be guided by principles of transparency, competitiveness, and international best practice, ensuring that the country secures a solution that is both technically sound and economically beneficial.

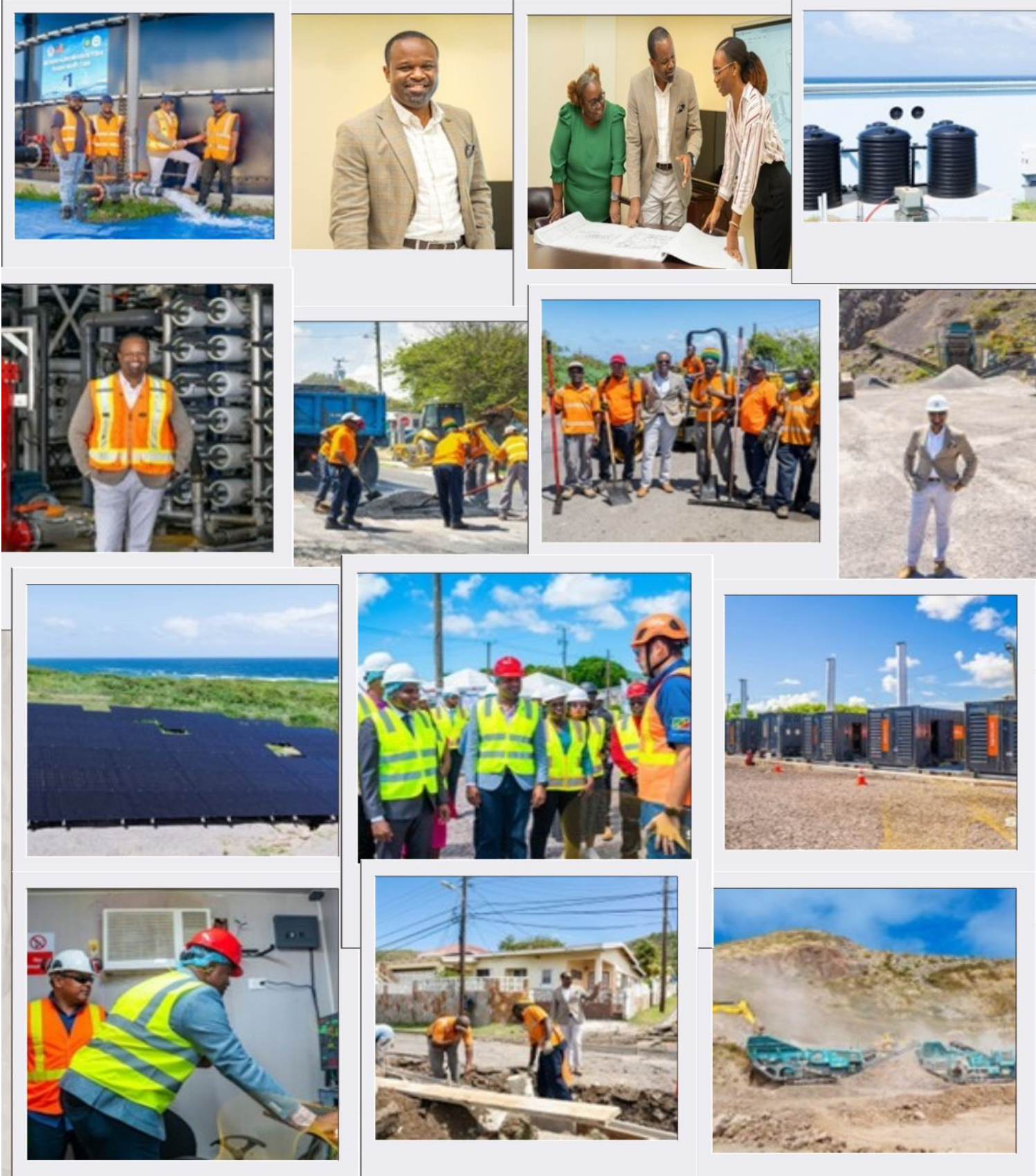
By taking a structured and responsible approach to renewable energy development, the Government continues to lay the groundwork for a modern, diversified energy mix capable of supporting national growth while advancing the vision of Saint Kitts and Nevis as a Sustainable Island State.

“A modern and resilient energy system is essential to achieving long-term sustainability and national development.”

The diaspora continues to play an important role in national development through investment, expertise, and partnership. Collaboration across borders strengthens innovation and supports the continued advancement of sustainable development initiatives.

Together, through strategic planning, responsible investment, and strong partnerships, Saint Kitts and Nevis continues to build a resilient and sustainable future for generations to come.





(Photos courtesy Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Energy et al)





Hon. Spencer R. Brand
Minister of Communications, Works, Water Services,
Physical Planning, Environment, Posts, Labour and Disaster

Water is a finite, precious resource on Nevis, as a small island developing state where climate variability, population growth, and tourism pressures intersect. The path to sustainable water management requires a holistic, integrated approach that protects freshwater supplies, safeguards coastal and groundwater systems, and builds resilience against shocks such as droughts and severe rainfall events. A forward-looking strategy combines governance reforms, investment in infrastructure, community engagement, and innovative practices that can be adapted to Nevis’ unique social and environmental context.

It is our intension to continue strengthen our water policy that aligns with land-use planning, climate resilience, and economic development goals. We will integrate data-driven decision making by preserving a centralized hydrological database and adopting open data practices for water planning.

With our Integrated Water Resources Management Unit we will treat water resources and ecosystem health as interconnected components of a single system. We will map water sources (surface water, groundwater, rainwater), user sectors (domestic, agricultural, tourism, industry), and infrastructure dependencies and will prioritize demand management, supply augmentation, and ecosystem-based solutions to balance competing needs.

We will continue our Infrastructure modernization and resilience initiatives by continuous investment in pipeline rehabilitation to reduce non-revenue water and energy losses; prioritize leak detection and district metering and implement climate-resilient design standards (e.g., flood-proofing, drought-tolerant materials) and diversify supply sources to reduce single-point failures.

We will expand our groundwater protection and aquifer management mechanisms by conducting baseline assessments of aquifers to determine recharge rates, vulnerability, and saltwater intrusion risks, especially near coastal zones and we must establish protective zoning around key recharge areas and implement strict controls on extraction rates. We will seek to expand our monitoring of our groundwater quality and quantity with regular sampling and promote managed aquifer recharge where feasible.

On our demand management and water efficiency side, we will continue to promote water-efficient appliances, fixtures, and landscaping through subsidies and standards.

Continue to support agricultural water efficiency with drip irrigation, soil moisture monitoring, and timing optimizations to reduce waste and encourage rainwater harvesting at the household and community level, including incentives for storage and reuse.

For our climate resilience, ecosystem services and risk reduction we must expand our drought and flood risk assessments to inform infrastructure investments and land-use planning and build early warning systems for



rainfall deficits, storms, and contamination events, integrated with national emergency response. It is incumbent upon us to incorporate climate projections into all capital projects and policy updates to ensure long-term viability. The protection and restoration of mangroves, wetlands, and ghaut corridors that naturally filter pollutants, reduce flood risk, and support biodiversity must be protected.

Our community engagement must also be a focal strategy where local communities, fisher folk, farmers, youth, and women in water planning processes to ensure equitable outcomes and provide clear public communication about water conservation, quality, and safety to build trust and encourage responsible use.

For our water management strategy to succeed - environmental, social, and economic co-benefits can emerge when Nevis pursues this forward-looking water management agenda. Improved water security supports public health, agricultural productivity, and the tourism sector—three foundations of Nevis’s economy. Protecting watersheds and aquatic ecosystems enhances biodiversity, resilience to climate extremes, and aesthetic value, which in turn strengthens community well-being and cultural heritage.

In sum, Nevis’ path forward for water management lies in balancing reliability, affordability, and ecological integrity through unified governance, modernized infrastructure, prudent resource stewardship, and active community engagement. With commitment and collaboration, Nevis can secure a robust, sustainable water future for its people and its priceless natural environment.





**Message from the Acting Permanent Secretary in the
Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities
Mrs. Shaniqua Carey-Brown**

The Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities continues to play a critical role in advancing the national vision of Saint Kitts and Nevis as a Sustainable Island State. Over the past period, we have made meaningful progress across several priority areas, strengthening water security, improving road infrastructure, enhancing institutional capacity, and supporting the modernization of the energy sector.

Among our notable achievements is the successful commissioning of the Basseterre Desalination Plant, which significantly improves the reliability of potable water supply and strengthens national resilience in the face of climate variability. Continued investments in road rehabilitation, quarry productivity, and strategic planning within the energy sector further demonstrate the Government’s commitment to improving the quality of life for citizens while supporting sustainable economic growth.

These achievements reflect the dedication and professionalism of the teams across our departments, whose consistent efforts continue to drive progress within the Ministry. I take this opportunity to express sincere appreciation to the Honourable Konris Maynard for his exemplary leadership and clear strategic direction, which have been instrumental in guiding the Ministry’s work and positioning our sectors for continued advancement.

As we move forward, the Ministry remains committed to building on these accomplishments through collaboration, innovation, and responsible stewardship of national resources, ensuring that our work continues to contribute to a resilient and sustainable future for the people of Saint Kitts and Nevis.



RIDU In Focus



Green Horizons: the Diaspora's Role in Building a Sustainable Island State through Renewable Energy *One People. One Purpose. One Powerful Diaspora.*

As Saint Kitts and Nevis advances its national vision of becoming the world's first Sustainable Island State, the Regional Integration and Diaspora Unit (RIDU) continues to play a central role in connecting national priorities with global expertise and opportunity.

This issue of the Diaspora Digest, themed "Green Horizons: The Diaspora's Role in Building a Sustainable Island State through Renewable Energy," brings into sharp focus the transformative power of collaboration, uniting government, diaspora professionals, regional institutions, and community stakeholders in pursuit of a shared and sustainable future.

The Digest opens with strong national perspectives from key leaders, including the Honourable Konris Maynard, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities, and the Honourable Spencer Brand, Minister with responsibility for water services, environment, and disaster management. Their

contributions outline the Government's deliberate and structured approach to strengthening water security, infrastructure resilience, and energy transformation, including investments in desalination, solar energy, and modernized public works systems.

These features reflect the Federation's commitment to building a resilient and future-ready economy grounded in sustainability and innovation.

Central to this issue is the critical role of renewable energy in achieving long-term sustainability. The feature on Dr. Wayne Archibald highlights the impact of diaspora leadership in advancing renewable energy education, workforce development, and global partnerships. His work through Green Solutions International demonstrates how diaspora expertise can directly support capacity-building across Saint Kitts and Nevis and the wider Caribbean.

Complementing this is the feature by Dr. Bertil Browne, which explores the strategic

development of energy systems and the Federation's pathway toward a cleaner, more diversified energy mix. Together, these contributions underscore the importance of aligning technical expertise with national development goals.

This issue also places strong emphasis on environmental sustainability and resource management. The feature on Chantal Hanley, Water Engineer, highlights the critical role of water management in national resilience, while insights into geothermal development on Nevis demonstrate the Federation's commitment to diversifying its renewable energy portfolio.

Further, the spotlight on the OECS-led initiative to safeguard the Basseterre Valley Aquifer reinforces the importance of regional cooperation in protecting vital natural resources and ensuring long-term water security.

The diaspora continues to play a transformative role in strengthening national identity and supporting development



efforts. This is exemplified in the feature on the St. Kitts and Nevis United Association – St. Croix Chapter, which highlights the revitalisation of diaspora engagement in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Through its community-building initiatives, cultural activities, and Independence celebrations, the Association demonstrates the enduring commitment of nationals abroad to preserving heritage, fostering unity, and contributing meaningfully to national development. This feature underscores the importance of diaspora organizations as vital partners in advancing the Federation’s broader development agenda.

This issue also captures the importance of public engagement and education in achieving sustainability goals. Features on the Taiwanese-supported recycling programme and school-based initiatives

showcase how environmental stewardship is being cultivated at the community level, fostering a culture of responsibility and awareness among future generations.

Additionally, the inclusion of diaspora creatives such as Leah Williams reflects the broader role of storytelling, culture, and identity in strengthening national pride and global connection.

RIDU remains committed to ensuring that these diverse efforts are not isolated but interconnected. By facilitating dialogue, promoting collaboration, and amplifying diaspora contributions, the Unit continues to serve as a bridge between national priorities and global opportunities.

Through its work, RIDU:

- Strengthens engagement with diaspora

professionals and organizations

- Supports regional integration and multilateral collaboration
- Promotes investment, innovation, and knowledge exchange
- Advances national development priorities in alignment with the Sustainable Island State Agenda

The message throughout this issue is clear, achieving sustainability requires a whole-of-nation approach, supported by strong partnerships and a shared vision.

From government leadership and technical innovation to community action and diaspora engagement, the journey toward a Sustainable Island State is being shaped by the collective efforts of Kittitians and Nevisians at home and abroad.

Together, we are building a resilient, innovative, and sustainable future, powered by the strength of our people and the unity of our purpose.



Advancing a Sustainable Island State through Renewable Energy and Workforce Development



My uncle, who served as a steady father figure, reinforced these values through his presence, mentorship, and the example he set each day as he prepared for and went to work at the sugar factory. He demonstrated what it means to lead with integrity, responsibility, and quiet strength, helping to shape my character and outlook on life.

My father contributed significantly to my sense of work ethic, accountability, and commitment, while my mother instilled compassion, inner strength, and a deep appreciation for education and personal development. Together, they formed a powerful support system that shaped who I am today.

The experiences of growing up in these communities, witnessing both challenges and opportunities, have stayed with me throughout my life. They continue to fuel my passion for creating opportunities, particularly for young people, and eventually for contributing to sustainable development in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Professional Journey in Renewable Energy and Sustainability

My professional journey began when I left Saint Kitts in 1990, carrying with me the values and aspirations shaped by my upbringing. As a boy I always wanted to join the military so at the age of 12, I joined the Defense Force Band and played the drums until I finished Basseterre High School. After migrating to the US Virgin Islands, I enlisted in the United States Army for several years, an experience that strengthened my discipline, leadership, and resilience qualities that have remained foundational throughout my life. I intended to serve for 20 years in the military, but God had a different plan for my life. It has always been about service to others.

Following my military service, I pursued my academic path at the University of the

Virgin Islands, where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Physics with honors. I then went on to complete both my Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees at Carnegie Mellon University, deepening my expertise in science, engineering, and applied research.

Professionally, I spent five years working as a Product Development Engineer, at Texas Instruments and Maxim Integrated Products, where I was engaged in advanced technology development within the semiconductor industry. This experience provided me with a strong technical foundation and exposure to cutting-edge engineering practices.

I later transitioned into academia, as a Professor and Lecturer at both the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) and later at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus. While at UVI, I spent six years as a Visiting Professor at Columbia University, where I contributed to research, helping to shape the next generation of scientists and engineers from UVI. During this period, I was also honored to serve as a National Science Foundation (NSF) Fellow, conducting specialized research in fuel cell technology at Harvard, further strengthening my focus on clean energy solutions.

While at UVI, I founded the Caribbean Green Technology Center whose focus was on building resiliency in the USVI in areas of policy, research, and workforce development. At the time, I was also a Researcher at the US Department of Energy, Brookhaven National Laboratory and spent 5 consecutive summers working with UVI students on research and development.

These experiences across industry, academia, and research have collectively informed my approach to renewable energy and sustainability. They have equipped me with both the technical expertise and global perspective necessary

As a proud son of Saint Kitts and Nevis, my journey has been profoundly shaped not only by my parents, George Washington Archibald and Mildred Phillip, but especially by the unwavering love, sacrifice, and guidance of my grandmother, **Ivy Harrigan**, who raised me and my sisters, and my uncle, **Alfred Harrigan**, who played a pivotal role in my life as a father figure.

Growing up in McKnight and Bird Rock, I was surrounded by a strong sense of community, love and resilience. My grandmother was the

cornerstone of our upbringing, instilling in us values of hard work, faith, and perseverance, often under circumstances that required strength and sacrifice. Her influence created a foundation of stability and purpose that continues to guide me today.



to support the Caribbean's transition toward resilient, sustainable energy systems. This all lead to the formation of Green Solutions International SKN Incorporated (GSI), a non-profit entity dedicated to serving the energy needs and workforce across the Caribbean and Africa.

Mission and Impact of Green Solutions International SKN Incorporated (GSI)

As Founder and Executive Director of Green Solutions International SKN Incorporated (GSI), my mission has been to create pathways for capacity building, workforce development, and sustainable energy adoption across Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Since 2020, GSI has trained over 3000 solar technicians across the Caribbean, equipping individuals with internationally recognized certifications through programs such as NABCEP. Our approach integrates technical training in solar photovoltaic systems, energy storage, and electric mobility with hands-on learning through mobile labs, as well as coaching, mentorship, and workforce placement support.

We have also placed a strong emphasis on inclusion, particularly through initiatives such as the Women in Renewable Energy programs, ensuring that women are empowered to participate and lead in the energy transition.

I have had the privilege of traveling across the world and speaking at numerous international conferences, including the Global Sustainable Summit in Thailand, engagements at the University of Cambridge, the International Renewable Energy Agency General Assembly, COP28 in Dubai, and more recently COP30 in Brazil. Through this global exposure, I have been able to share insights, build strategic partnerships, and position our work on an international stage. I have led the transformation of GSI from a locally rooted organization into a

globally recognized entity. Through strategic partnerships; including our collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and achieving accreditation as an official observer to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), GSI has expanded its reach and influence on the international stage.

Today, we serve as a bridge between global institutions and regional implementation, advancing sustainable energy solutions and workforce development across the Caribbean and extending our capacity-building efforts into Africa. This work positions GSI as a key partner in supporting Small Island Developing States and emerging markets in building resilient, future-ready energy systems.

The impact of our efforts has been far-reaching, transforming the renewable energy workforce across the Caribbean and strengthening capacity throughout the region. We have collaborated extensively with multilateral organizations, private sector companies, and utility providers, delivering training, technical expertise, and sustainable energy solutions that drive meaningful, long-term change.

Renewable Energy and the Sustainable Island State Vision

Renewable energy education is central to achieving the Sustainable Island State vision. For Saint Kitts and Nevis, it represents more than just a shift in energy sources, it is an opportunity to build energy independence, reduce vulnerability to external shocks, and create sustainable economic opportunities.

By investing in geothermal, solar, wind, and energy storage, alongside strong regulatory frameworks and workforce development programs, the Federation can position itself as a regional leader in clean energy innovation. Importantly, this transition must be people-centered, ensuring that citizens are trained, certified,

and actively engaged in building and maintaining these systems.

Advice for Young Kittitians and Nevisians

To young people across Saint Kitts and Nevis, I encourage you to see renewable energy not just as a career path, but as an opportunity to be part of a transformative movement.

The future of energy is evolving rapidly, and there is a growing demand for skills in solar PV installation and design, energy storage systems, electric vehicle technologies, and climate finance.

My advice is simple: invest in skills and globally recognized certifications, remain curious and adaptable, seek mentorship and hands-on experience, and believe in your ability to lead change, both locally and globally. You are not just preparing for jobs; you are preparing to build the future of our Federation.

Closing Reflection

The role of the diaspora in advancing sustainable development cannot be overstated. By leveraging global knowledge, partnerships, and experience, we can support Saint Kitts and Nevis in accelerating its transition to a Sustainable Island State.

For me, this work is deeply personal. It is rooted in the lessons I learned growing up in McKnight and Bird Rock, and in the values instilled in me by my grandmother, uncles and parents. Their influence continues to guide my commitment to building opportunities, empowering people, and contributing to a more sustainable and resilient future for our nation.

I remain committed to this vision - through education, innovation, and collaboration and to ensuring that the benefits of the clean energy transition reach every community across our islands.





SAFEGUARDING THE ROYAL BASSETTERE AQUIFER

Protecting Saint Kitts and Nevis' Critical Groundwater Source

The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), through its European Union supported Integrated Landscape Management Project (ILM Project), is advancing action to safeguard the Royal Basseterre aquifer, a critical groundwater source that provides potable water in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

“ **Hon. Dr. Joyelle Clarke, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment for St. Kitts and Nevis said:**



“In Saint Kitts and Nevis, we are working to make sustainability not just a policy objective, but a way of life, woven into our governance, our strategic planning, and our daily routines. That is what makes the establishment of **this arboretum so meaningful.** Nurturing a

green, botanical space that is intentionally designed to protect and work in harmony with our natural environment is an essential aspect of **conserving and maintaining our island's biodiversity** – especially significant given its location atop the **Royal Basseterre Valley Aquifer**, a critical water source which supplies nearly 40% of our island's potable water:

This space represents our commitment to **fostering environmental stewardship and integrated management** not only across sectors, but within our communities and our people. As a protected site, the arboretum **carries international legal and moral obligations** to be treated with care and respect, and it is incumbent on us to ensure that these are honored. May this space inspire peace and a **sense of connection** with nature in evevisits.”



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Hillarrie Klass

From Vision to Impact: Diaspora Innovation Driving a Sustainable Island State

In an era where sustainability is no longer optional but essential, small island developing states like Saint Kitts and Nevis are uniquely positioned at the intersection of vulnerability and opportunity. Climate change, limited resources, and economic dependence on imports demand innovative, forward-thinking solutions. Yet, within these challenges lies a powerful advantage, the expertise and commitment of the Saint Kitts and Nevis diaspora.

One such example is Hillarie Klass, a distinguished environmental health and safety professional whose work exemplifies how diaspora leadership can directly contribute to national development.

Hillarrie Klass brings a wealth of international experience across government, education, healthcare, and the private sector. With a Bachelor of Science from the

University of Waterloo and a Master of Science in Occupational Safety and Health, along with certification in adult education, she has built a career grounded in both technical expertise and community engagement.

Recognized as Safety Professional of the Year in Ontario and Quebec in 2018, Hillarie's work has consistently advanced public understanding and implementation of environmental health and safety standards. Beyond her professional achievements, her commitment to volunteerism reflects a deep-rooted belief in giving back, an ethos that resonates strongly with diaspora engagement.

Today, as President of Roraima Technologies, Hillarie is at the forefront of introducing sustainable building materials and green energy solutions tailored to the Caribbean context.

Sustainability in small island states is not merely aspirational; it is a strategic necessity. Through Roraima Technologies, Hillarie is helping to bridge the gap between innovation and implementation by introducing practical solutions that align with the Federation's Sustainable Island State Agenda.

Among these innovations are two transformative technologies:

1. Glass Fibre Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) Rebar

A modern alternative to traditional steel, this material offers:

- Exceptional resistance to corrosion, ideal for coastal environments
- Longer-lasting infrastructure such as bridges, ports, and buildings



- Reduced maintenance costs and lower long-term public expenditure
- A smaller environmental footprint due to reduced energy use in production

For island nations, where saltwater corrosion rapidly degrades infrastructure, this innovation represents a shift toward resilience and longevity.

2. Ultra-Compact Electric Vehicles (UCEVs)

Designed for short-distance travel, these vehicles provide:

- Lower energy consumption and reduced reliance on fossil fuels
- Zero emissions, contributing to cleaner air and improved public health
- Reduced traffic congestion and more efficient land use
- Affordable mobility solutions for residents and small businesses

Together, these technologies offer a blueprint for cleaner transportation systems and more sustainable infrastructure development.

The integration of such innovations highlights a broader truth: diaspora contributions extend far beyond remittances. They bring knowledge, technology, and

strategic partnerships that can accelerate national development.

By introducing solutions like GFRP rebar and ultra-compact electric vehicles, diaspora professionals are:

- Strengthening climate resilience through durable infrastructure
- Supporting energy independence by reducing fuel imports
- Lowering national expenditure through reduced maintenance costs
- Enhancing quality of life through cleaner, quieter, and more efficient communities

This aligns seamlessly with Saint Kitts and Nevis' vision of becoming a Sustainable Island State where innovation, environmental stewardship, and economic resilience converge.

A Call to the Diaspora: Be Part of the Transformation

Hillarie Klass' journey underscores the critical role that nationals abroad can play in shaping the future of their homeland. Whether through entrepreneurship, technology transfer, or knowledge sharing, the diaspora holds the key to unlocking sustainable development pathways.

As Saint Kitts and Nevis continues its transition toward renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure, there is a growing need for:

- Investment in green technologies
- Strategic partnerships with local and regional stakeholders
- Knowledge exchange to build local capacity
- Advocacy for sustainable practices within communities

The journey toward a sustainable island state is not one that government can undertake alone. It requires a collective effort uniting public institutions, private sector partners, and the diaspora.

Through leadership, innovation, and a commitment to giving back, individuals like Hillarie Klass are demonstrating what is possible when global expertise meets national purpose.

In the pursuit of *Green Horizons*, the message is clear, the future of Saint Kitts and Nevis will be shaped not only by what happens at home, but by the contributions of its people across the world.



From Scarcity to Security: Desalination Powering a Sustainable Water Future in Saint Kitts and Nevis

As Saint Kitts and Nevis advances its vision of becoming a Sustainable Island State, investments in climate-resilient infrastructure are playing an increasingly critical role in safeguarding essential resources. Among the most transformative of these initiatives is the establishment and launch of modern desalination plants, designed to strengthen water security and ensure a reliable supply of potable water for residents, businesses, and the tourism sector. These projects represent a significant step forward in the Federation's efforts to adapt to climate change while embracing innovative, energy-efficient solutions that support sustainable development.

For decades, communities across Saint Kitts have faced intermittent water supply due to declining rainfall, increased demand, and pressure on traditional freshwater sources such as mountain springs and groundwater aquifers. Experts have noted that historically abundant sources—including Wingfield, Green Hill, Franklands, and Stone Fort—have experienced reduced runoff as rainfall patterns change and climate conditions become more unpredictable.

Recognising the growing urgency of the situation, the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis embarked on a

comprehensive strategy to strengthen the island's water infrastructure. Central to this effort was the decision to introduce seawater desalination technology, a proven solution used globally by countries facing similar climate and water challenges.

In July 2024, the Government officially broke ground for a state-of-the-art seawater reverse osmosis desalination plant at the C.A. Paul Southwell Industrial Site in Basseterre. The facility was designed to produce approximately two million gallons of potable water per day, significantly boosting the national water supply.

The project represented a major investment in the country's water future. Leaders emphasised that desalination was not simply a technological solution but a critical component of climate adaptation. Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew described the initiative as a necessary response to the impacts of climate change and the need to prioritise resources that safeguard essential services for citizens.

The plant utilises reverse osmosis technology, a process that removes salt and impurities from seawater by forcing it through specialized membranes under high pressure. The result is clean, safe drinking water that meets international standards.

After months of construction, testing, and system integration, the Basseterre Desalination Plant was officially commissioned in February 2026, marking a milestone in the Federation's modern water management strategy. The facility's launch represents a significant step toward restoring 24-hour water service for much of the island.

Government officials noted that once fully operational, the plant will dramatically reduce the water supply deficit and restore consistent service to thousands of households. In fact, the investment is expected to increase the number of homes receiving continuous water supply from less than 25 percent to approximately 70 percent of households across the island. This improvement is particularly important for sectors such as tourism, agriculture, and small businesses, all of which depend on reliable water supply to operate efficiently and sustainably.

Beyond addressing water shortages, desalination is also being integrated into the Federation's broader green transition strategy. Solar-powered desalination technologies are being explored and implemented to reduce the energy costs traditionally associated with desalination and



to minimise environmental impact.

Globally, renewable energy-powered desalination systems—particularly those using solar photovoltaic energy combined with reverse osmosis—are emerging as a viable option for small island states seeking both water security and reduced carbon emissions.

For Saint Kitts and Nevis, the integration of renewable energy into water infrastructure reflects the government’s commitment to low-carbon development and climate resilience, two pillars of the Sustainable Island State agenda.

The desalination initiative forms part of a wider national strategy to strengthen water supply across the Federation. In addition to the new plant, authorities have launched several complementary measures, including:

- Drilling new wells and exploring additional groundwater sources

- Installing new water storage tanks and upgrading distribution networks
- Replacing aging pipelines and improving system efficiency
- Expanding water infrastructure to underserved communities

These efforts are designed to ensure that Saint Kitts and Nevis has a diversified and climate-resilient water supply system capable of meeting the needs of future generations.

Opportunities for Diaspora Engagement

The success of desalination and renewable energy initiatives also presents an opportunity for the Kittitian and Nevisian diaspora to contribute their expertise in fields such as environmental engineering, renewable energy, water management, and climate policy. As the Federation continues to pursue innovative solutions to climate challenges, diaspora professionals and investors can play an important

role in advancing research, technology transfer, and sustainable infrastructure development.

The launch of the desalination plant marks more than just the completion of a major infrastructure project—it represents a strategic shift toward resilience, sustainability, and innovation in how Saint Kitts and Nevis manages its natural resources.

By harnessing advanced water technologies and integrating renewable energy solutions, the Federation is demonstrating how small island states can confront climate challenges with forward-thinking policies and strategic investments.

As Saint Kitts and Nevis continues to chart its path toward a Sustainable Island State, initiatives like desalination highlight the power of innovation, collaboration, and long-term vision in building a greener and more secure future for all.







RENEWABLE ENERGY

CREATING A GREENER FUTURE

The Nevis Investment Promotion Agency recognizes the importance of implementing sustainable practices as the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis continues to advance its transition to becoming a Sustainable Island State. As such, renewable energy plays a pivotal role, as both an environmental priority and an economic necessity.



A STRATEGIC SHIFT

The shift toward renewable energy is reshaping the development approach for investments. Investors are interested in promoting environmentally friendly initiatives; therefore, greater emphasis is on energy efficiency and long-term sustainability projects. Incorporating renewable energy solutions into our priority sectors such as real estate, tourism, and other development projects are key factors in transitioning successfully.

Increasing energy security, while reducing reliance on imported fuels are critical to long term sustainability goals. Nevis prides itself in being uniquely positioned to play a major role in this transition. Having significant geothermal energy potential and the growing usage of solar technologies to its advantage, Nevis can actively explore solutions that can deliver affordable and sustainable power.

This approach towards renewable energy presents clear opportunities for innovation and partnership. NIPA's role within this phase is to help translate the priorities of the Island into actionable projects through collaboration and connecting with investors and members of the diaspora.



STRATEGIC PLAN

Our sustainability plan helps businesses reduce their environmental impact, improve efficiency, and lead the way in industry trends. We provide tailored strategies that safeguard Nevis' ecosystem through the integration of eco-friendly practices into daily operations, enabling the minimization of waste, conserving resources, and reducing carbon footprint.

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Chantal Hanley
Assistant Water Engineer
Water Services Department



The Theme “**Green Horizons: The Diaspora’s Role in Building a Sustainable Island State through Renewable Energy**” refers to a strategic initiative where the Diaspora who comprises nationals living abroad, strive to leverage their expertise, financial resources and networking abilities to accelerate energy transition in their homeland, namely St. Kitts and Nevis.

The diaspora plays a crucial role in green transition as it acts as a bridge between Small Island Developing States such as the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis and larger countries to build sustainable, climate-resilient island states. More specifically, a partnership initiative with the St. Kitts Water Services Department would aid in the adoption of renewable energy in water management which would help address our current water challenges and assist us in achieving our aim of “providing an affordable and reliable service to every business, institution and household whilst ensuring the sustainability of our water resources.”

To help drive sustainable water management, the Water Services Department has not only completed some of the projects listed below, but is also currently working towards others:

Construction of a 2-million gallon per day Desalination Plant which has now been commissioned and thus helps to preserve current fresh water supplies (Ground & Surface Water) due to the increased water supply and thus cut back on pumping.

Well Drilling, currently in progress, would help to increase the water supply and reduce the reliance on vulnerable Surface Water Sources. It also enhances water quality naturally due to its beneficial minerals and its being naturally filtered. Well drilling also decentralizes infrastructure as it requires minimal land disruption further reducing the impact on local ecosystems.

Construction of a Glass Fused Steel Tank, currently in progress, will facilitate superior leakage resistance due to its tough and anticorrosive material thus extending its lifespan and reducing the environmental footprint of frequent repair or replacement. In addition, the panels of the tank can be disassembled allowing the tank to be relocated, expanded or repurposed.

Smart Meters help to achieve higher reading accuracy when measuring water consumption, thus encouraging consumers to conserve resulting in long term water security. It also helps to prevent massive water wastage due to rapid leak detection.

Most importantly effective water management does not rely solely on the department’s initiatives but also on the consumers. The consumers play a critical role in maintaining their private plumbing, fixing leaks on their property and practicing water conservation to ensure sustainability.

Through these initiatives outlined above, water management can be made sustainable at the St. Kitts Water Services Department with the help of the consumers, and most importantly, with the assistance of the Diaspora through knowledge transfer via technical assistance and institutional reform, investment and technology adoption.





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SCAN ME



From the Island to the Page

The Literary Journey of Leah T. Williams

Roots: Growing Up in Saint Kitts and Nevis

Some things stay with you no matter how far you travel. For me, it is the smell of the sea in the morning, the sound of laughter spilling out of a neighbour's yard, and the particular way stories were passed around in St. Kitts. Not always written down, but very much alive. I was born and raised on that small, beautiful island, and everything I have ever written carries its fingerprints.

Growing up in the Federation, I was surrounded by a richness of culture, language, and community that I didn't fully appreciate until I left. St. Kitts gave me an imagination rooted in real places and real people, in the warmth of family, the pride of heritage, and the quiet resilience that Caribbean people carry as a matter of course. Those early years shaped not just who I became as a person, but who I became as a storyteller.

The Journey into Writing and Publishing

My path to becoming an author was not a straight line. After leaving St. Kitts, I built a life in Central Florida,



Leah T. Williams
Author and Educator |
@kittiwriter1

where I became an English professor and middle school English teacher.

Teaching and writing, I discovered, are not so different. Both ask you to find the right words, to understand your audience deeply, and to believe that stories have the power to change how people see themselves and the world around them.

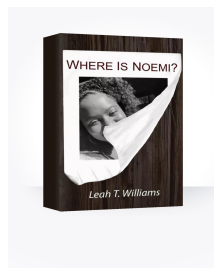
Writing had always been a quiet presence in my life, but it was the classroom that pushed it to the surface. I noticed the books my students were handed rarely reflected their experiences. Rarely did they show a Caribbean child finding their footing, or a young person of colour navigating identity across cultures. I decided to write the books I wished had existed. That decision changed everything.

I chose the self-publishing path deliberately. It gave me creative freedom, ownership over my work, and the ability to move at my own pace. It was not the easiest road, but it was the right one for the stories I needed to tell.

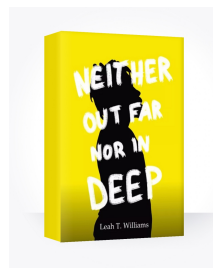
The Books: Stories of Identity, Heritage, and Belonging



Where The Guava Tree Stands



Where Is Noemi?



Neither Out Far Nor In Deep



Sweet Like Sugar Cane



Black Girls Day Off

My debut novel, *Neither Out Far Nor In Deep*, introduced readers to Kadeem, a seventeen-year-old suspended from school in Florida and sent to live with his grandfather in St.

Kitts. It is a coming-of-age story about second chances and self-discovery, but at its heart it is a love letter to the island that raised me. The setting is drawn directly from memory, and I wanted

every reader to feel the heat, hear the rhythms, and understand the particular kind of wisdom that island life offers.



Where Is Noemi? weaves together adventure, mystery, and cultural identity for a broader young adult audience. It follows a girl whose disappearance sets off a search that pulls together community, history, and the unbreakable bonds of family. It was my way of writing a page-turning story that still asks serious questions about who gets looked for and who gets left behind.

Where the Guava Tree Stands is my novel-in-verse and perhaps the most personal thing I have written. It follows Mina, a girl who moves from St. Kitts to Orlando and must rebuild her sense of home from the ground up. The guava tree of the title is a symbol I carry from my own childhood, representing that specific kind of longing for a place you can still smell and taste even when it is an ocean away.

Sweet Like Sugar Cane is a prequel to my debut novel and a young adult romance set against the lush rhythms of island life in St. Kitts. It follows Gwen, a girl who has always done what is expected of her, as she faces her first real choice between the life she has been given and the one she wants. It is a story about first love, independence, and the courage it takes to listen to your own heart.

Black Girls Day Off follows three friends who skip school and stumble into an extraordinary adventure, tumbling through time into some of the

most powerful and painful moments in Black history. They stand beside Claudette Colvin, calculate alongside the Hidden Figures of NASA, walk the streets of Black Wall Street before its destruction, and feel the pulse of Motown. It is a story about courage, resilience, and the importance of knowing where you come from so you can understand where you are going.

Across all of my work, the thread is the same: I want readers, especially Caribbean and African American young people, to see themselves on the page. Representation is not a buzzword for me. It is the reason I write.

Life as a Self-Published Author

Self-publishing is freeing and demanding in equal measure. There is no publisher to handle your cover design, your marketing, your distribution, or your timelines. You wear every hat, and you learn quickly that writing the book is only part of the work. The other part is building an audience, connecting with readers, and continuing to show up even when the process feels slow.

What has kept me going is community. When readers message me to say a character felt like them, or when teachers and professors tell me they finally have a book their Caribbean students light up over, I'm reminded that those moments are the entire reason I keep writing.

I have also been grateful for the reach that self-publishing allows. My books

are available in print, as ebooks, and as audiobooks, which means that a child in St. Kitts and a child in Central Florida can both hold the same story. That still amazes me.

A Word for Aspiring Writers and Creatives from the Federation

If you are a young person from St. Kitts and Nevis who has a story inside you, I want you to hear this clearly: your story matters. Not in spite of where you come from, but because of it. The Caribbean voice is distinct, rich, and necessary, and the world needs more of it on the page, on the screen, and in every creative space.

Start before you're ready. Write the messy first draft. Don't wait for permission or for the perfect conditions. I wrote my first novel while teaching full-time and raising a family. There's no ideal moment; there's only the decision to begin.

Read widely, but also read Caribbean authors. Know your literary ancestors. And when you write, write honestly. Readers can feel the difference between a story that was lived and a story that was manufactured.

St. Kitts will always be my first story. Everything else grew from that small, extraordinary island. I'm proud to carry it with me wherever I go, and I'm proud to share it with the world, one book at a time.





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Strengthening Bonds Abroad: The Revival of the St. Kitts & Nevis United Association St. Croix Chapter

In 2025, a renewed spirit of unity and cultural pride emerged in the U.S. Virgin Islands with the re-establishment of the St. Kitts & Nevis United Association, Inc. – St. Croix Chapter. This revival marks a significant step in strengthening connections among Kittitians and Nevisians living in St. Croix, reaffirming the enduring importance of diaspora engagement in nation-building.

At its core, the Association is guided by a simple yet powerful mandate, *to foster social relations between nationals of Saint Kitts and Nevis residing in St. Croix*. Through this mission, the organization creates a welcoming space where culture, identity, and community intersect, ensuring that nationals abroad remain connected not only to each other, but also to their roots.

The Association is led by a dynamic Executive Committee, headed by President Estica Caesar, supported by Vice President Nesta Seaton, Treasurer Vanessa Chumney, Secretary Andrea Francis-Drew, Public Relations Officer Daren Stevens (Bogle), and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Julette Caesar. Together, this team is driving a renewed vision of unity, service, and cultural preservation.

With approximately 65 members, the Association continues to grow as a hub for connection and collaboration. Monthly meetings are held on the fourth Sunday at 4:00 PM at the St. Peter Episcopal Church Parish Hall, providing a

consistent forum for dialogue, planning, and fellowship.



Estica Caesar – President

Beyond meetings, the Association hosts a variety of activities designed to bring people together. From fundraisers and family fun days to social gatherings, these initiatives foster camaraderie while celebrating the rich heritage of Saint Kitts and Nevis. Celebrating Independence in the Diaspora

A highlight of the Association’s calendar is its vibrant Independence Celebration Activities, which reflect both national pride and community spirit. Planned events include:

- Community Give-back Day – promoting service and solidarity
- Independence Gala – honouring four outstanding nationals for their contributions

- Independence Service – a moment of reflection and gratitude

These activities not only commemorate the Federation’s independence but also showcase the diaspora’s ongoing commitment to community development and cultural preservation.

The revival of the St. Croix Chapter is a testament to the resilience and dedication of nationals abroad. It reflects the broader vision of the Regional Integration and Diaspora Unit (RIDU): a globally connected Saint Kitts and Nevis, where diaspora communities actively contribute to national development.

As the Federation advances its Sustainable Island State Agenda, diaspora organizations such as this play a vital role, not only in preserving culture but also in fostering partnerships, supporting community initiatives, and strengthening international networks.

With renewed leadership, growing membership, and a clear mandate, the St. Kitts & Nevis United Association – St. Croix Chapter is poised to become an even stronger pillar of the diaspora community. Its work stands as a powerful reminder that no matter where Kittitians and Nevisians reside, the bonds of home remain strong.



PRESS RELEASE



St. Kitts & Nevis Club Lebanon
Humanitarian Initiative

St. Kitts and Nevis Club Lebanon Delivers Hot Meals to Displaced Families in Beirut

Beirut, Lebanon — March 11, 2026

The **St. Kitts and Nevis Club Lebanon** (SKN Club Lebanon) has extended humanitarian assistance to displaced families in **Beirut** through the distribution of **hot meals** to families affected by the ongoing crisis in Lebanon.

The initiative provides **freshly prepared meals** to vulnerable families currently living under difficult conditions in several areas of Beirut. The aid distribution is organized and delivered by members of the **SKN Club Lebanon** together with volunteers and humanitarian partners, ensuring that assistance

- ✓ As part of its humanitarian response, the initiative continues to **prepare** and **distribute** hot meals on a daily basis to displaced families in Beirut during this difficult period, reflecting the club's commitment to providing consistent support to vulnerable communities.
- ✓ Families benefiting from the initiative expressed **deep appreciation** for the **support**, describing the gesture as a meaningful act of compassion during a time of hardship and uncertainty.



About SKN Club Lebanon

- ✓ The **St. Kitts and Nevis Club – Lebanon** is a community organization that brings together citizens and friends of Saint Kitts and Nevis residing in **Lebanon**. The club works to foster unity, cultural connection, and humanitarian engagement while promoting values of compassion, solidarity, and respect for human dignity.

St. Kitts and Nevis Club – Lebanon • Email: info@skrbanon: +961 70 018 833



CEO MAGAZINE

Honored to be recognized this International Women's Day

Teresa Browne-Parris

Founder & Executive Director, NotaryToday



Women of Influence 2026

In partnership with

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I am deeply honored to share that I have been recognized by [The CEO Magazine](#) as one of their **Women of Influence 2026** in celebration of [International Women's Day](#). 🌍🌟

This recognition means so much because it reflects the incredible community of notaries, entrepreneurs, and leaders who continue to inspire the work we do through NotaryToday.

When I founded NotaryToday, my vision was to create a platform dedicated to **education,**

advocacy, and connection for notaries across the country.

Seeing that mission resonate and grow within their community is the greatest reward.

To every notary who shows up to learn, share knowledge, support colleagues, and elevate our profession, **this recognition belongs to you too.**

Let's continue building stronger networks, expanding opportunities, and amplifying the voices of notaries everywhere. Link to the spotlight feature is in the comments.

Happy International Women's Day to all the remarkable women leading, building, and transforming industries. 💜

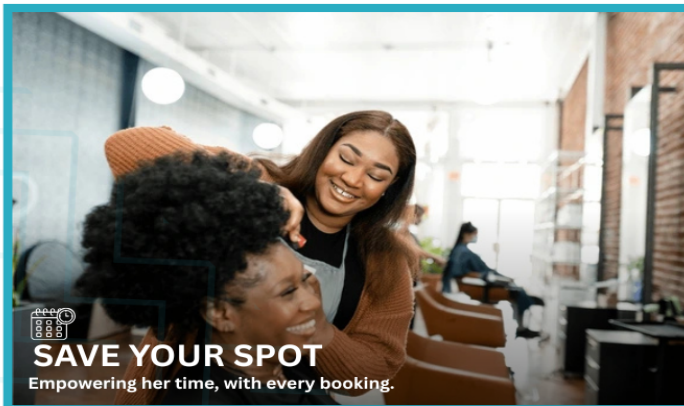
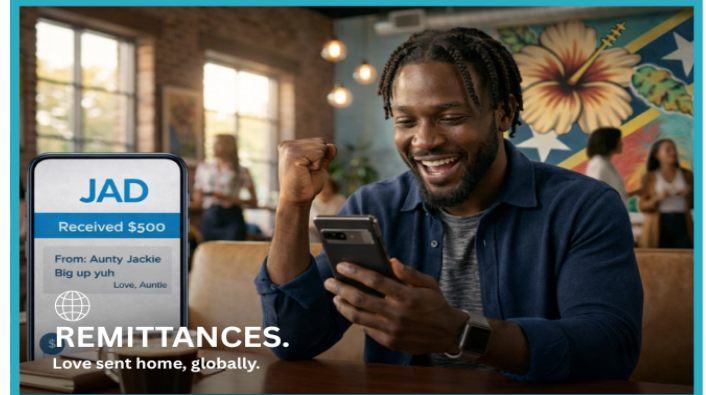
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St. Kitts and Nevis Recycling Initiative: From School Education to Island-Wide Facility Upgrades

by Taiwanese Embassy on China to St. Kitts- Nevis

St. Kitts and Nevis, a sun-kissed Caribbean nation with gentle sea breezes, is known as a vacation paradise. Yet beneath its sparkling waters, marine and island waste issues are intensifying, urgently calling for nationwide participation in recycling and environmental protection. The Taiwan Technical Mission in St. Kitts and Nevis, in collaboration with the local government, is transforming the nation's environmental landscape through education and infrastructure upgrades.

School Recycling Competition: Empowering Children to Drive Change

In 2025, the Taiwan Technical Mission and the Ministry of Education of St. Kitts and Nevis co-organized the first nationwide school recycling competition, connecting 55 schools and nearly 9,000 students, from kindergarten to high school. This competition was more than a contest—it combined environmental education, hands-on practice, and creativity, helping children develop early awareness of environmental protection and experience the value of recycling firsthand.

During the competition (September 15 to October 31), students collected nearly 19,000 pounds of plastic bottles, aluminum cans, and paper, and produced six creative recycling videos. Through their own efforts and creativity, children transformed waste into stories that convey positive energy, filling their schools with vitality and hope. One third-grade student shared, "I told my dad not to throw away cans yesterday because I need them for the school competition!" Teachers laughed, saying, "The kids have turned into recycling inspectors at home!"

The competition emphasized not only collection volume but also educational impact. Award ceremonies included a "Story Sharing" segment, helping students understand the effects of ocean pollution and how recyclable materials can be transformed into wearable clothing and shopping bags. With technical support from Taiwanese suppliers, the competition

produced 5,500 recycled polo shirts and 3,000 recycled bags, 3,600 of which were distributed to participating schools, while the remaining items will serve as prizes for future recycling events. Seeing their plastic bottles transformed into clothing or bags, students expressed pride and joy—proof of the power of sustainability education.

Video entries were also a highlight. The six selected videos showcased the students' genuine enthusiasm for the environment, from sorting and recycling to community impact, demonstrating the diversity and creativity of environmental education. A student said on camera, "Our island is small, but what we can do is big. Starting with recycling, we can protect the ocean and our home." The audience responded with warm applause, showing the powerful influence of children's actions.

The competition's impact went beyond numbers. Students actively educated their families on sorting waste, while principals and teachers noticed a visible increase in environmental awareness. Officials from the Solid Waste Management Authority also reported that the collected recyclables were cleaner and better sorted, showing that students had internalized the recycling spirit. Through education, hands-on practice, and creativity, school recycling initiatives extended to homes and communities, embedding environmental consciousness into everyday life.

Two-Island Recycling Facility Opening: Upgrading Infrastructure

While education lays the foundation, proper infrastructure ensures sustainable development. In March 2026, recycling facilities on both St. Kitts (Conaree Landfill) and Nevis (Low Ground Landfill) were upgraded and inaugurated, marking a new era for the nation's recycling system.

Both islands were equipped with new recycling compacting machines, demonstrated on-site during the opening ceremonies to show how waste is

efficiently compressed and processed. Nevis additionally introduced a new recycling truck to enhance transportation efficiency. Using horizontal balers, plastics, aluminum, and paper can be compressed into high-density bales, increasing storage capacity and facilitating reuse and export logistics. The facilities' processing capacity rose from roughly 4,000 pounds per week to over 20,000 pounds per month, with processing time reduced from one week to just one day, significantly improving recycling efficiency.

The opening ceremonies were attended by prominent dignitaries, including Taiwan's Ambassador to St. Kitts and Nevis, Edward Tao; Hon. Dr. Joyelle Clarke, Minister of Sustainable Development and Environment; Her Honour Mrs. Hyleeta Liburd, Deputy Govern-General for Nevis; Hon. Mark Brantley, Premier of the Nevis Island Administration; Hon. Eric Evelyn, Deputy Premier of the Nevis Island Administration; Hon. Jahnel Nisbett, Minister of Health of the Nevis Island Administration, witnessing the milestone of upgraded recycling infrastructure.

During the events, the Taiwan Technical Mission donated community recycling resources, including 64 recycling bins, 1,800 recycled shirts, and 800 recycled bags, encouraging active participation in resource circulation. Demonstrations illustrated the circular economy process, showing how plastic bottles are transformed into plastic pellets, fibers, and ultimately wearable clothing and eco-friendly bags, helping the public understand the concept of turning waste into resources. Students also shared their school recycling experiences, highlighting the importance of environmental education taking root from a young age.

Upgrading recycling facilities on both islands not only improves overall processing capacity but also symbolizes deepening cooperation between Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis in sustainability



and the circular economy. Through infrastructure improvement, resource allocation, and educational outreach, recycling actions extend from schools to communities, gradually establishing a complete recycling system and promoting national engagement.

Conclusion: From Schools to Communities, Seeds of Recycling Are Taking Root

From a simple idea to nearly ten months of school competitions, and finally to upgraded recycling facilities on both St.

Kitts and Nevis, recycling efforts have formed a complete cycle. Education empowers children to influence families and communities, while infrastructure ensures efficiency and resource reuse. Taiwan's expertise demonstrates soft power and showcases the achievements of international cooperation.

Every recycled plastic bottle, every recycled shirt, every smile, and every video carries the power of change. School competitions ignite community participation, and upgraded facilities

provide sustainable operation. Together, they guide St. Kitts and Nevis toward a cleaner, more sustainable future. This is not just a contest or ceremony—it is a new chapter in environmental sustainability jointly written by Taiwan and St. Kitts and Nevis, and this chapter is only beginning.

For more information, please refer to our Facebook page: **Let's Recycle in St. Kitts and Nevis.**

<https://www.facebook.com/sknrecycleproject/>



Photo courtesy to Taiwanese Embassy on China to St. Kitts-Nevis



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Saint Kitts and Nevis Salutes Exceptional Women on International Women’s Day

Across Saint Kitts and Nevis and throughout its global diaspora, women continue to play a pivotal role in shaping communities, advancing national development, and preserving the cultural and social fabric of the Federation. From leadership in government and education to entrepreneurship, healthcare, and community advocacy, Kittitian and Nevisian women have consistently demonstrated resilience, innovation, and a deep commitment to nation-building. As the Federation celebrated International Women’s Day 2026, it also celebrated the powerful contributions of women whose work inspires future generations both at home and abroad.

Saint Kitts and Nevis joined the global community in observing International Women’s Day on 8 March 2026, hosting a special ceremony to recognise women whose dedication and service have significantly impacted national development and community empowerment. Organised by the Department of Gender Affairs, the celebration highlighted the achievements of women across a range of sectors while reinforcing the Federation’s commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The ceremony brought together government officials, community leaders, and citizens in a spirit of appreciation and reflection. Among those in attendance were Her Excellency Dame Marcella Liburd, Governor-General of Saint Kitts and Nevis; Dr. Geoffrey Hanley, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister responsible for Gender Affairs; Senator the Honourable Isalean Phillip, Minister of State with responsibility for Gender Affairs; and His Excellency Edward Tao, Resident Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan). Their presence underscored the importance the Federation places on recognising the contributions of women and supporting initiatives that promote equality and opportunity.

A number of outstanding women were honoured for their contributions in fields vital to national progress. Among the awardees was Naemah Hazelle, recognised in the category of Women in Public Service and Governance, highlighting her leadership and dedication within the public service. Other awardees included Seana Cuffy, recognised for her work in Healthcare and Social Services; Venetta Zakers, honoured for her contributions to Education, Youth Development and Mentorship; Marcashar Warner, recognised in the area of Economic Empowerment, Trades and Entrepreneurship; and Marcia Jeffers, who received recognition for her work in Culture, Advocacy and Community Leadership.

Special awards were also presented to women whose influence and achievements extend across multiple spheres of national life. Cynthia Bart received the Prime Minister’s Award, while Rita Cable was honoured with the Legacy Award, recognising a lifetime of meaningful contributions to the Federation. Additional honours included the Trecia Greaux Ocean Governance Beacon Award, presented to Denise Baptiste, and the Department of Disabilities Empowerment Award, which was presented to Cheniqua Pemberton. The ceremony also highlighted the achievements of several trailblazing women who have broken barriers and opened doors for future generations. Inductees into the Pioneering Women Gallery included Bernadette Dolphin, the first female Chief Scout Commissioner in Latin America and the Caribbean; Aravinda Hughes, the first female technician at The Cable; Shandor Wilkinson, the Federation’s first female FIFA referee; Dr. Dasima Martin-Burkett, the country’s first and only sports medicine doctor; and Leonie James, a pioneer in early childhood education. Their accomplishments stand as powerful reminders of the impact that courage, determination, and leadership can have in shaping opportunities for others.

In her remarks during the ceremony, Minister of State Isalean Phillip emphasised the importance of recognising individuals who have dedicated their lives to serving their communities. She noted that celebrating these achievements is not simply symbolic, but a meaningful way of encouraging continued service and inspiring others to contribute positively to national development. Recognising the efforts of women who have made a difference, she stated, is a way of “giving people their roses while they are alive.”

The celebration of International Women’s Day in Saint Kitts and Nevis reflects a broader understanding that women are central to the nation’s social and economic progress. Across communities, women continue to lead transformative change as educators, public servants, entrepreneurs, advocates, and caregivers, strengthening institutions, empowering families, and fostering innovation.

As Saint Kitts and Nevis continues its journey toward sustainable and inclusive development, the achievements of these exceptional women serve as a powerful source of inspiration for the wider Kittitian and Nevisian diaspora. Their leadership, perseverance, and commitment to community upliftment reflect the values that bind nationals together across borders. By celebrating their stories, the Federation not only honours their individual contributions but also encourages members of the diaspora, particularly young women, to pursue leadership, innovation, and service in their respective fields.

The spirit of International Women’s Day extends beyond the shores of the Federation, reinforcing the enduring connection between Saint Kitts and Nevis and its global diaspora, and ensuring that the legacy of empowerment, resilience, and national pride continues to flourish for generations to come.





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World Water Day - Water, Gender and Sustainability: Advancing Equity in a Sustainable Island State

Each year, World Water Day serves as a global reminder of the importance of freshwater and the need for sustainable water management. In 2026, the theme “Water and Gender” highlights the critical role that gender equity plays in ensuring access to safe and reliable water resources. For Saint Kitts and Nevis, this conversation is deeply connected to our national vision of becoming a Sustainable Island State, where resilience, inclusivity, and innovation guide development.

Water lies at the heart of our sustainability agenda. It is essential not only for daily living, but also for agriculture, public health, tourism, and energy production. Across the Federation, significant strides have been made to strengthen water security, particularly through the establishment and expansion of desalination plants in both St. Kitts and Nevis. These facilities are transforming how we access potable water, reducing reliance on rainfall and increasing our resilience to climate variability and drought conditions.

At the same time, the human dimension of water management must not be overlooked. Globally and locally, women often play a central role in managing water within households and communities. In Saint Kitts and Nevis, this contribution is increasingly reflected in professional spaces as well. Women such as water engineer Shauntal Hanley represent a growing cohort of female professionals who are helping to shape the country’s water infrastructure and sustainability agenda. Her leadership not

only strengthens technical capacity but also ensures that diverse perspectives are incorporated into planning and decision-making processes.

The intersection of water and gender becomes even more significant when viewed through the lens of this issue’s theme, “*Green Horizons: The Diaspora’s Role in Building a Sustainable Island State through Renewable Energy.*” Water and energy are intrinsically linked. Desalination, for example, relies heavily on energy inputs, making the integration of renewable energy sources critical to ensuring both environmental and economic sustainability. As Saint Kitts and Nevis advances geothermal, solar, and other renewable energy initiatives, there is an opportunity to develop water systems that are both sustainable and inclusive.

In this context, gender equity must be seen as a core component of sustainable development. Ensuring that women have equal access to training, leadership roles, and participation in technical fields such as water management and renewable energy is essential for long-term progress. It also enhances the effectiveness of policies and projects by incorporating a wider range of experiences and insights.

The diaspora continues to play a vital role in supporting these efforts. Nationals living abroad bring valuable expertise in water engineering, environmental science, and sustainable development. By contributing to knowledge transfer, mentorship, and investment, the diaspora can help

strengthen national systems while promoting gender-inclusive approaches. Partnerships between diaspora professionals and local institutions can also support innovation in areas such as water conservation, renewable-powered desalination, and climate resilience.

Education remains a key pillar in this journey. Encouraging young women and girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics will ensure that the next generation of leaders in water and energy is both skilled and diverse. Initiatives that highlight local role models and create pathways for participation will be critical in sustaining this momentum.

As Saint Kitts and Nevis continues to build a resilient and sustainable future, the integration of water, gender, and renewable energy will be essential. The progress made in areas such as desalination and infrastructure development demonstrates our commitment to innovation, while the growing presence of women in the sector reflects our advancement toward inclusivity.

On this World Water Day, we are reminded that sustainability is not only about resources and technology, but also about people. By ensuring that both women and men have equal opportunities to contribute to and benefit from development, we move closer to realizing the vision of a truly Sustainable Island State, one that is resilient, inclusive, and prepared for the future.





CELEBRATING
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Not all products and services are available in all states, territories, or the District of Columbia. A representative's ability to offer products from the companies listed is subject to state and federal licensing and certification requirements. Please refer to the Important Endnotes for additional details about the contractual arrangements and company affiliations detailed above.

- We are a financial services company with a unique distribution model.
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- We have one of the largest securities sales forces in North America.
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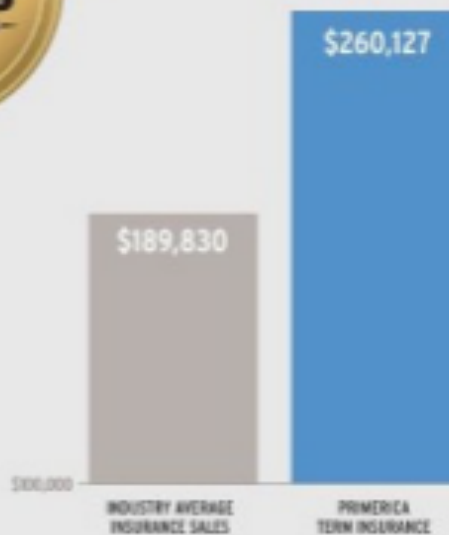


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Average Policy Face Amount²



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**From Investor's Business Daily, "81 Most Trusted Life Insurance Company and 81 Most Trusted Financial Company," as of August 26, 2022. Survey results are presented solely with respect to Primerica's U.S. term life insurance business.

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Green Energy: Powering St. Kitts and Nevis into a Sustainable Island State By the Energy Unit, Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Energy, and Utilities

Dr. Bertill Browne and Mr. Denasio Frank



Dr. Bertill Browne

As the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis boldly advances its agenda to become a model **Sustainable Island State**, we are at the forefront of a historic transformation in the energy sector. Guided by the vision of energy independence and environmental resilience, we are transitioning from a fossil-fuel-dependent past to a future powered by our own natural resources.

A Vision in Motion: Key 2025 Milestones

The past year has been foundational for our energy evolution. Central to this is the **Electric Vehicle (EV) Transition Policy and Action Plan**. Recently approved by Cabinet, this policy provides the roadmap for decarbonizing our transport sector. By aligning local developments with global trends, we are setting specific targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance national energy efficiency.

Furthermore, we are empowering citizens to become producers of energy

through the **Solar Integration for Sustainable Energy (SOLARISE) Program**. This initiative incentivizes rooftop solar PV installations, introducing a tariff where utilities pay consumers for excess energy fed back into the grid. It is a win-win: making solar economically viable for the homeowner while strengthening the national grid.

Strategic Priorities & Large-Scale Infrastructure

The transition to renewable energy is not just about policy; it is about infrastructure. Several high-impact projects are currently underway:

- **Geothermal Energy:** We continue to provide steadfast support for geothermal development in Nevis. It is expected that a drilling contract will be signed later this year, marking a monumental step toward constant, clean baseload power.
- **Utility-Scale Solar:** SKELEC is set to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a **50 MW solar PV plant with 30 MWh of battery storage**. Once completed, this facility could supply up to one-third of our electricity needs on St. Kitts.
- **Shore-to-Ship Power:** In a major move to green our tourism sector, we are laying the groundwork to provide **cruise ships with power by 2027**. This initiative will allow vessels to plug into our local grid while docked, significantly reducing portside emissions.
- **Grid Modernization:** To support these new energy sources, SKELEC has begun installing **Advanced**

- **Metering Infrastructure (AMI).** These "smart meters" allow for remote reading and better control, facilitating the seamless integration of renewable energy.
- **International Partnerships:** Through collaborations with the Global Environment facility (GEF) and the Indian and Taiwanese governments, we are installing microgrids and solar PV systems on government buildings, ensuring that the public sector leads by example.

Preparing the Next Generation

A "Sustainable Island State" requires a skilled workforce. Our expanded **Energy Career Day** reached students across both St. Kitts and Nevis. Through speed-dating with professionals and research presentations, we are ensuring our youths are ready to lead the green economy.



Denasio Frank



A Call to the Diaspora: Your Role in Transition

Our nationals living abroad are vital partners in this journey. The green transition is not just a local effort; it is a global Kittitian and Nevisian mission. There are several ways the diaspora can engage:

1. **Investment:** As we roll out the utility-scale solar PV, geothermal, SOLARISE, and DRIVE initiatives, opportunities for investment in renewable energy infrastructure and green businesses are expanding.
2. **Knowledge Transfer:** We welcome the expertise of diaspora professionals in energy and the environment to help mentor our local teams and consult on specialized projects.
3. **Partnerships:** Diaspora-led organizations can partner with us for community-based pilot

projects or capacity-building workshops.

4. **Advocacy:** Be an ambassador for the Federation's green transition, sharing our progress and attracting international interest to our sustainable agenda.
5. **Follow Us:** Keep up to date on what is happening in the energy sector. We can be contacted via email at energyunit@gov.kn. Visit our website and Facebook page:
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Looking Ahead to 2026

This year, we will focus on the implementation phase of the **DRIVE** and **SOLARISE** initiatives. This includes specialized certification for solar technicians and inspectors, and extensive training for EV maintenance. We are also modernizing our legislative framework, updating the **Electricity Supply Act** and the **National Energy Policy** to ensure they are fit for a 21st-century grid. We will also be developing a grid code to facilitate fair, transparent, and open access to the grid and to facilitate grid modernization and increase the amount of renewable energy generation.

Together, through innovation and collaboration, we are ensuring that St. Kitts and Nevis remains a leader in the renewable energy frontier—sustaining our islands for generations to come.



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Harnessing the Earth's Heat: Advancing Geothermal Energy on Nevis

by Naftalie Errar, Project Coordinator, NEVLEC

As the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis advances toward a more sustainable and resilient future, renewable energy has emerged as a strategic national priority. On Nevis, geothermal energy stands at the forefront of this transition—offering reliable, indigenous, and low-carbon electricity capable of reshaping the Federation's energy landscape. Central to this progress has been years of rigorous scientific exploration, most notably the pioneering work of geologists Joe LaFleur and Dr. Roland Hoag, whose early research confirmed Nevis' exceptional geothermal potential.

Why Geothermal Energy Matters

Geothermal energy is generated from heat stored beneath the earth's surface and provides continuous, baseload electricity. Unlike intermittent renewable sources such as solar and wind, geothermal power operates around the clock, independent of weather conditions. This reliability makes it particularly well-suited for small island grids seeking to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels.

For St. Kitts and Nevis, geothermal power offers the opportunity to stabilize electricity costs, strengthen energy security, and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions—supporting both national development goals and international climate commitments.

Scientific Foundations: The Hoag and LaFleur Contribution

Modern geothermal development on Nevis is grounded in extensive exploration work initiated by West Indies Power (WIP) in 2007. Under the leadership of Chief Geologist Joe LaFleur and with technical expertise from Dr. Roland Hoag, Executive Vice President of BEAD, LLC, Nevis underwent the most comprehensive geothermal assessment in its history.

Their work combined surface geological mapping, geochemical analyses, remote sensing, and advanced geophysical techniques—including magnetotelluric

(MT) and controlled-source audio-frequency magnetotelluric (CSAMT) surveys—to identify optimal drilling targets on the western flank of Nevis Peak. This approach allowed researchers to map subsurface fault systems and delineate a geothermal reservoir with exceptional clarity.

Exploratory drilling of multiple slim holes (N1 -Springhill: N2 - Jessups Village: N3 Hamilton: N4 Hamilton) confirmed reservoir temperatures exceeding 260°C (500°F) and demonstrated a geothermal system extending over several miles, with the capacity to support commercial-scale electricity generation. The findings were later presented at the Geothermal Resources Council Annual Meeting, where the work was recognized internationally as a “Caribbean success story”.

From Exploration to National Development

The confirmation of a high-temperature geothermal resource provided a decisive technical foundation for St. Kitts and Nevis' long-term energy strategy. Subsequent development phases—led by the Nevis Island Administration with support from regional and international partners—have built directly on the Hoag and LaFleur findings, moving the project from exploration toward production.

Today, geothermal development for the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis is progressing toward a utility-scale facility designed to meet local electricity demand and, through future interconnection, supply renewable energy to St. Kitts via submarine cable. Environmental and social safeguards remain integral to the process, reflecting best practices established during the early exploration phase.

Economic and Environmental Impact

The transition to geothermal energy offers wide-ranging benefits:

- Reduced fuel imports and lower exposure to global oil price volatility
- Stable, long-term electricity pricing for households and businesses
- Job creation and skills development in technical and operational fields
- Significant reductions in carbon emissions and air pollutants

By converting naturally occurring subsurface heat into productive energy, St. Kitts and Nevis is investing in infrastructure that delivers both economic resilience and environmental stewardship.

A Model for the Region

St. Kitts and Nevis geothermal development illustrates how small island states can leverage indigenous resources to achieve energy independence and sustainable growth. Grounded in strong science, guided by transparent processes, and supported by national and diaspora collaboration, the project offers a model for renewable energy development across the Caribbean.

As the Federation moves from exploration to drilling and toward electricity generation, it is transforming the natural heat beneath its soil into a cornerstone of national resilience—demonstrating that the path to a cleaner future begins both beneath our feet and through our shared commitment to progress.

Aligning Geothermal Development with National Climate Commitments

The development of geothermal energy on Nevis is closely aligned with the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis' climate commitments under the Paris Agreement, as articulated in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In its enhanced NDC, the Federation has committed to reducing economy-wide carbon dioxide emissions by 61 percent by 2030, compared to 2010 levels, with a



clear focus on transforming the electricity sector—the country’s single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions.

Electricity generation in St. Kitts and Nevis has historically relied on imported diesel fuel, accounting for approximately sixty percent of national emissions. By replacing fossil-fuel generation with geothermal power, the Federation addresses the most emissions-intensive segment of its energy system while advancing toward its long-term goal of 100 percent renewable electricity generation. Geothermal energy’s ability to supply continuous baseload power makes it uniquely suited to anchor this transition, complementing solar and wind resources and ensuring grid stability.

Geothermal development also strengthens national resilience, a core pillar of the Federation’s climate agenda. By reducing exposure to global fuel price volatility and supply disruptions, locally generated geothermal electricity

enhances energy security and supports the continuity of critical services. Lower and more predictable energy costs further create fiscal space for adaptation investments in water security, health, tourism, and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Importantly, geothermal energy supports transparent and measurable climate action. Emissions reductions achieved through diesel displacement can be clearly quantified and tracked, aligning with strengthened national systems for monitoring, reporting, and verification under the NDC framework. This transparency bolsters international confidence and facilitates access to climate finance and development partnerships.

Through geothermal energy, the Federation is translating its NDC commitments into tangible action—demonstrating how strong science, sound

policy, and strategic investment converge to advance both sustainable development and global climate goals.

Current Standing

The Nevis Electricity Company Ltd. (NEVLEC) issued St. Kitts and Nevis Geothermal Energy Project Request for Proposal, Procurement of: Drilling Services for Geothermal Production and Reinjection Wells on November 20, 2024. Five bids were received and after extensive evaluation the Most Advantageous Bidder (MAB) was selected. The consultation with the Most Advantageous is currently underway and is expected to conclude shortly and the announcement of the MAB and contract sum will be published soon. With the award of the contract to the MAB drilling will commence in the third quarter of this year with the first of five wells (four (4) directional and one (1) vertical).

The benefits of the project to St. Kitts and Nevis are:

Energy Security and Independence	Reduce reliance on imported fossil fuel, which are subject price volatility and supply disruption
	Increase self-reliance and sovereignty of the islands, by using their own abundant and indigenous renewable energy
Economic Development and Growth	Create jobs and income opportunities, both during construction and operation phases
	Stimulate the local economy by reducing the fuel import bill, lowering the electricity tariffs, and attracting new investments and businesses
Environmental Protection and Climate Mitigation	Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution from the power sector, by replacing diesel generators with clean renewable energy sources
	Contribute to global efforts to combat climate change, by aligning with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals
Social Welfare and Equity	Improve the quality of life and well-being of the people by providing reliable and affordable electricity to all consumers, especially low income and vulnerable groups
	Promote social justice and inclusion by ensuring that participation and consultation of all the stakeholders, especially the local communities





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DIASPORA HERITAGE EMERGENCE PROGRAMME



This new initiative will bring together young Kittitians and Nevisians abroad, ages 18–21, for a one-week cultural immersion experience on 18–25 July 2026. The programme aims to strengthen connections between the diaspora and the homeland by deepening cultural understanding and national pride. Through heritage tours, mentorship, and shared experiences, participants will celebrate what it means to be part of the St. Kitts–Nevis story.



Heritage Emergence Programme



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FOR MORE INFORMATION..



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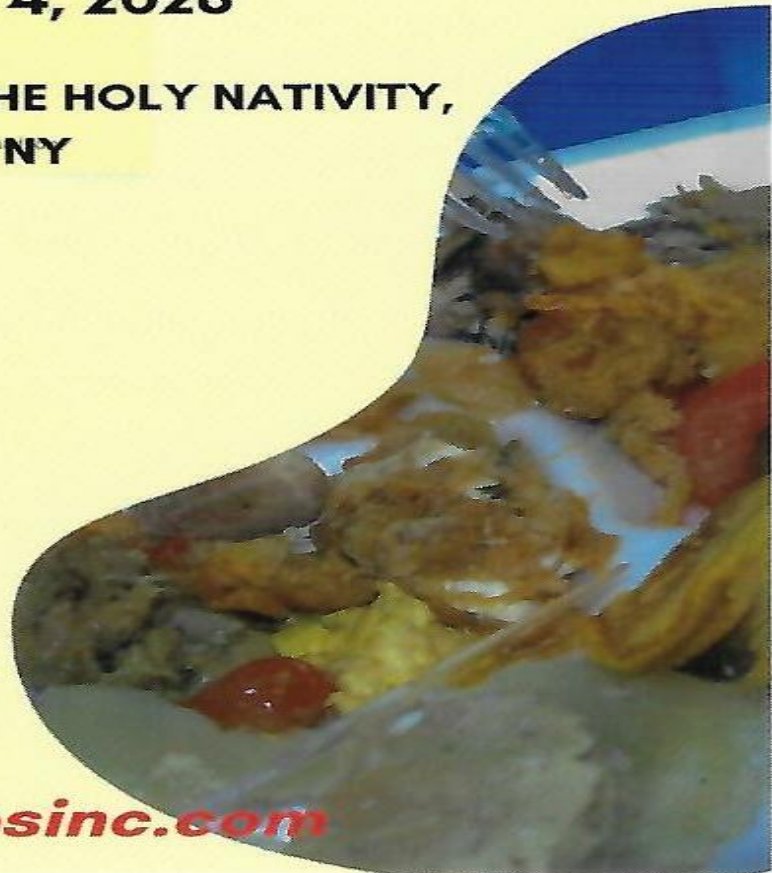
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4**

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**JUNE
6**

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EVENT**

JULY 12

**ANNUAL PICNIC -
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JULY

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SEPT 12

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OCT 3

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NOV 28

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