

# Community Conservation and Management of Native Bee Species in Matura, Trinidad and Main Ridge, Tobago

## DO YOU KNOW!

### About the project

- Community conservation and management of native bee species in Matura, Trinidad and Main Ridge, Tobago project was undertaken by the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club (TTFNC) with the assistance of farmers.
- The project incorporated field exercises, training and a native bee survey.
- The Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme provided funding support.
- The project activity contributed to a component of the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network Trinidad and Tobago (BES-Net TT) project, which is focused on pollinator management in Trinidad and Tobago.



### Methodology

- Site selection for the bee survey was linked to opportunities to support monitoring of protected areas.
- Training and information sharing opportunities were provided to community members and other stakeholders to enhance knowledge and skills for pollinator conservation.
- Blue vane traps were selected as effective sampling tool for easy deployment in the field.
- Field testing of equipment was conducted and modifications were incorporated to improve field sampling exercises.
- Data collection sheets were designed to capture field conditions during sampling exercises.



### Training

- Training and information sharing opportunities were provided to community members and other stakeholders to enhance knowledge and skills for pollinator conservation.
- Apart from training in use of field equipment, exposure to insect identification tools and facilities was provided through partnerships with various local institutions.
- Feedback to farmers was considered to be an important activity and workshops to provide feedback were held after the bee identification was conducted.
- An introduction to stingless beekeeping was provided to stimulate interest among farmers in bee conservation to enhance pollinator populations on their farms.

