

2023 TRANSFORMATIVE STEM INITIATIVES

IN HAITI AND THE CARIBBEAN



Royal Caribbean Group



PADF
PAN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION



During the first half of 2023, the RCG supplier cruise fundraiser for STEM for Oceans contributed nearly \$30,000. This substantial financial support was allocated towards the following initiatives:

STEM Teacher Training in The Bahamas



PADF and Bahamian partner Global Conversations Development Centre (GCDC) held two teacher training sessions for 100 teachers from 7 educational institutions in collaboration with The Bahamas Department of High School Science for The Ministry of Education, Vocational Training, and Technology, in the summer of 2023.

These trainings included:

Empowering Teachers for STEM

A training hosted by UK-based PADF partner Ellipsis Earth covered topics such as science communication, the circular economy, and how to use technology to enhance STEM activities. This teacher training aimed to empower the teachers to lead their students in becoming science communicators and be involved in solving global environmental issues.



GCDC's Hands-On STEM Training

A second two-day training was led by the GCDC team and included hands-on projects such as building a solar oven and making art out of waste. Teachers also visited the Baha Mar Ecological Aquatic Conservation Habitat (B.E.A.C.H.) sanctuary and learned about how they could use the facility to expose students to STEM concepts and marine mammals. The sanctuary offers plentiful opportunities to educate students in ways of protecting the oceans and making The Bahamas a more sustainable country.

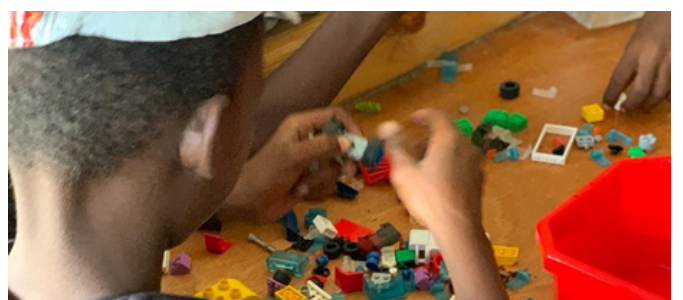
Highlights of these trainings included a visit from the Hon. Glennys Hanna-Martin, Minister of Education, Vocational Training, and Technology, who said that these activities are "exactly what The Bahamas needs as the future of education."

STEM Activities



In The Bahamas...

Following the teacher training, GCDC and its partners hosted a student camp focused on climate change, STEM skills, and the marine environment. Students created edible marine ecosystems, were introduced to careers in STEM fields, and held discussions on topics such as ocean protection, climate change and its impacts on health, and how STEM innovations can support The Bahamas after a natural disaster. 63 students participated, including 45 girls and 18 boys.



In Haiti...

PADF was able to support the Haiti STEM Alliance with funds to purchase robots to participate in the World Robotics Olympiad in Panama held in November 2023. In the lead-up to the Olympiad, Haiti STEM Alliance led 150 students in an exciting STEM camp with age-appropriate assignments. Children ages 4 to 7 learned their alphabet, colors, and numbers; children ages 8 to 12 worked on robots, built model boats, and learned to code; and children aged 13 to 16 learned coding and computer science.