



**VIRGIN ISLANDS
RECOVERY AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Monthly Report

Reporting Period: January 2019

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Table of Acronyms

BVI-EC	British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation
DWM	Department of Waste Management
ITT	Invitation to Tender
JVD	Jost Van Dyke
MoHSD	Ministry of Health and Social Development
MoNRL	Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour
RE	Renewable Energy
RDA	Recovery and Development Agency
RDP	Recovery to Development Plan
RVIPF	Royal Virgin Islands Police Force
SoR	Statement of Requirement
WP	Work Packages

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Report Clearance

Date	Description
18 February 2019	First draft report completed
18 February 2019	First draft approved by RDA Board
20 February 2019	First draft sent to Office of Premier for review
26 February 2019	RDA receives feedback from Office of Premier
5 March 2019	RDA finalises and publishes the report

1. Project Status Update

This section outlines each project and a brief status update.

TABLE 1: PROJECTS CURRENTLY IN THE PLANNING PHASE

Number	Project Name	Lead Ministry	Status
103	Virgin Gorda Baths repairs	Natural Resources and Labour	Statement of requirement and site visit have been completed.
133	Removal of derelict boats	Natural Resources and Labour	Database of derelict boats received and validated. Currently conducting site visits and stakeholder meetings.
136	Phase 1 Sea markers	Communication and Works	Statement of requirement has been redefined by the Ministry – two items will be moved to a later phase. Coordinates of sea markers have been received.
147	Temporary school units at Elmore Stoutt High School	Education and Culture	Meetings held with ministry to discuss requirements.
154	Temporary housing for maximum of 15 households	Health and Social Development	Currently refining SoR with the ministry.
156	Insurance and rental sector assessment	Health and Social Development	Draft SoR is being assessed and reviewed with the ministry.
157	Repair a maximum of 30 homes	Health and Social Development	The planning team is working with the ministry to finalize a list of homes to be repaired.
160	Repair VG admin building phase 1 – Vanterpool & Flax	Governor's Group	The SoR has been sent with a proposed schedule of work. MoF Projects Unit will complete the design before RDA takes on management of the procurement and operational delivery of this project.
177	Marine Base	Governor's Group	RVIPF has been asked to complete the SoR to define the exact requirements for this site.

TABLE 2: PROJECTS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCUREMENT PHASE

Number	Name	Lead Ministry	Status
152	AO Shirley Grounds Phase one – bathroom	Education and Culture	Currently in procurement.
179	Phase 1 VHF trunking network Design and Build - Technical expert	Governor's Group	Procurement underway for a technical expert to support design and delivery of project.

TABLE 3: PROJECTS CURRENTLY IN OPERATIONS PHASE

Number	Name	Lead Ministry	Status
108	Special Debris Clearance	Health and Social Development	Awaiting crusher and barge to arrive in mid-February to commence clearance of derelict cars and remaining hurricane debris.
152	AO Shirley Grounds Phase One – Track Repairs and Replacement	Education and Culture	The contractor finished laying down the track on 30 January.
152	AO Shirley Grounds Phase One – wall and gates	Education and Culture	Project is now underway, with fence being designed and created from recycled plastic materials.
182	Virgin Gorda Police Barracks	Governor’s Group	Construction is progressing well and on track.
183	Jost Van Dyke Admin Building	Governor’s Group	Construction is progressing well and on track.

TABLE 4: PROJECTS CURRENTLY ON HOLD OR REMOVED

Number	Name	Phase	Lead Ministry	Status
104	Sage Mountain Restoration	Removed	Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour	It has been agreed this project will be completed by National Parks Trust and not RDA.
124	Cane Garden Bay dinghy dock repair	Removed	Premier’s Office	It has been agreed this project will be completed by the Office of Premier and not the RDA.

1.1.Future Planning

While Phase One is already in the implementation phase, the RDA is working in parallel on the planning of other recovery and development projects across the Virgin Islands.

1.1.1. West End Area Programme

The West End Ferry Terminal has been a node for travellers moving to and from the US Virgin Islands, for medical, shopping and leisure activities (‘day trippers’) as well as 10,000 or more private and charter yachts per year. The destruction of the facility and damage to the surrounding area during hurricanes Irma and Maria have presented challenges to travellers wishing to travel to the BVI for leisure and has resulted in the additional utilization of the Road Town Ferry Terminal, which has presented a capacity problem in that terminal and detrimental economic impacts on the West End.

In close consultation with stakeholders the RDA has completed an initial Statement of Requirement for the West End Ferry terminal. This SOR was presented to the agents of a potential benefactor in the design and buildout of the said facility. A response on a design proposal in addition to a proposal on the level of contribution that this investor is proposing, is expected by the end of February 2019.

1.1.2. Renewable Energy

The Government of the Virgin Islands published the Renewable Energy (RE) regulation on the 1st November 2018. This has provided the enabling environment for a strategic review of the power infrastructure

network. Formal meetings of the working group have continued into January. Currently, the RE expert is developing the long-term strategy for transformative energy change.

In January the RDA facilitated a second BVI Energy Plan Working Group session along with the BVIEC, Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour and Ministry of Communication and Works. Jointly, we defined a draft Terms of Reference for the group, with the remit to create a strategy paper and Energy Plan outline that we can deliver to the new Government in March.

The strategy advisor created a financial model and deployment schedule using market data points for renewable costs, that show the potential to half the cost of electricity in the Territory, while creating substantial improvements to resilience, through the deployment of distributed solar and storage assets, where they are delivered in combination with the grid resiliency work currently planned. The RDA’s goal is to support the work of the BVIEC to complete the strategy paper and energy plan and deliver a comprehensive strategy the new government can approve.

2. Relevant Policy

The RDA's implementation of projects and initiatives requires that relevant laws, regulations, and policies support their delivery.

On 14 January 2019, the RDA received the Letter of Expectations from Government on priorities. During the month of January, the RDA also hosted workshops with Ministries to agree on results for the implementation schedule and priorities. The Board will formally respond to the Government’s Letter of Expectations when this exercise is complete.

The following legal or policy development frameworks have been put in place, paving the way for the delivery of these intended results, and as such, progress can be made on the delivery of these supporting projects:

TABLE 5: RELEVANT POLICY

Policy	Outcome	Date
Act No 3 of 2018-Disaster Management (Amendment) Act, 2018	This amendment to the DDM Act allows us to work on derelict boats	9 July 2018
SI No 51 of 2018 – British Virgin Islands Electricity Corporation (Renewable Energy) Regulations, 2018	Renewable energy planning and strategy development regulations and guidance	27 September 2018

3. Communications

This section reviews communication releases.

3.1. Events held

3.1.1. Events

TABLE 6: EVENTS HELD

Project/Event	Date	Description
Repair of Jost Van Dyke Admin Building – Opening of project	7 Jan 2019	Work has begun, and project has moved into the operations stage.
AO Shirley Grounds – Phase One – Opening of project	16 Jan 2019	Work began on the track, wall, and gates and the project has moved into the operations stage.

3.1.2. Communication Releases¹

TABLE 6: COMMUNICATION RELEASES IN JANUARY

Release	Date	Description
Monthly Report – December 2018	28 January 2019	Monthly progress report for on the delivery of the Phase One projects. Feedback on the draft report was received from Premiers Office on 25 January, and then the report was published on the RDA website on 4 February.

¹ All communications releases can be found on the website as well.

Annex I: Project Updates

Virgin Gorda Baths

Lead ministry: Natural Resources and Labour

Project: 103

Status: Planning

Outcome 1: Improved tourism product that is aesthetically appealing, easily accessible and provides an enhanced experience to our visitors and a catalyst for economic recovery.



Overview

The Baths at Virgin Gorda is an important tourist destination that suffered damage to ticket booth, bathroom and bar shaded area. While originally the scope of works included minor repairs, the needs have since expanded to a wider project.

Status

The RDA met with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour to discuss the priority of projects. During this meeting it came to light the needs of the Virgin Gorda Baths were larger than originally expected in the Phase One plan. The RDA planning team has begun working with National Parks Trust to redefine the Statement of Requirement to capture the entire scope of the project.



Special Debris Clearance

Lead ministry: Health and Social Development

Project: 108

Status: Operations

Budget: \$647,000

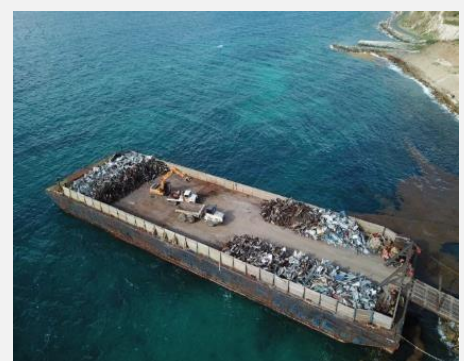
Outcome 1: Improved tourism product that is aesthetically appealing, easily accessible and provides an enhanced experience to our visitors and a catalyst for economic recovery

Overview

The hurricane disasters resulted in a significant amount of debris being deposited across the Virgin Islands and the project was developed to support the Department of Waste Management (DWM) to collect the debris. The objective of this project was to reduce the risk of damage and threat to human life, by removing debris which could become projectiles during strong winds ahead of the height of the 2018 hurricane season (early September).

Status

As of January, arrival of the crusher is still needed to finish the last portion of the debris clearance, which continues to be delayed. The vessel needed to clear the debris has had to return to its port of origin and while a new estimated time of arrival is being awaited, it is unlikely to arrive before mid-February.



Removal of Derelict Boats

Lead ministry: Natural Resources and Labour

Project: 133

Status: Planning

Outcome 1: Improved tourism product that is aesthetically appealing, easily accessible and provides an enhanced experience to our visitors and a catalyst for economic recovery

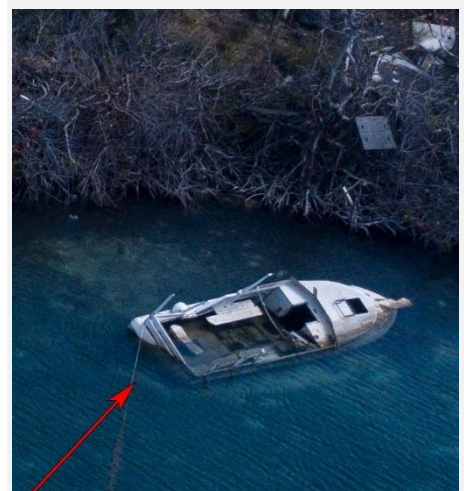
Overview

The passing of hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 left a significant number of marine vessels stranded along the coastlines and bays of the Virgin Islands. The bulk of these vessels have been removed by the owners and their insurance providers. However approximately 280 derelict vessels remain that need to be removed from their land or sea location and then disposed of.

This is a large, complex project that requires detailed planning to minimize the effect on the environment and maintain value for money.

Status

Over the past month the planning team has conducted multiple site visits and held meetings with stakeholders to explore the most environmentally safe option, analyse access points, and scope staging sites.



Elmore Stoutt High School

Lead ministry: Education and Culture

Project: 147

Status: Planning

Outcome 2A: Restored educational and recreational facilities that provide a safe and secure environment for learning and recreational activities

Overview

The RDA is overseeing construction of temporary classrooms for Elmore Stoutt High School in consultations with the ministry and landowners. The outcome of the project is to improve the present conditions at the school.

Status

Currently, the RDA is focusing and planning on immediate improvements to the building while discussing the number and location of temporary classrooms with MEC.

A TITL representative is visiting Tortola on 26 Feb 2019 to continue discussions on the location of the temporary classrooms. .



AO Shirley Grounds Phase One

Lead ministry: Education and Culture

Project: 152

Status: Operations

Outcome 2A: Restored educational and recreational facilities that provide a safe and secure environment for learning and recreational activities

Overview

The AO Shirley athletics grounds is a priority project to renovate the grounds to meet international accreditation standards as a Level 2 ground, so that BVI can host upcoming national events later this year and future international events. This will require preparation of the grounds prior to the installation of the new track by the specialist company Mondo, repairs to make the perimeter secure to boost income-generation from events, installation of bathroom facilities, installation of lights to allow events after dark, repair to the spectator stand (ideally with shade), and renovation of the clubhouse pavilion to provide meetings, events and changing facilities.

Status

Track:

The track laying completed its first phase on January 31st. Next, the track will need to be painted.

Bathroom:

The bathroom scope of working is being finalized in order for an RFP (request for proposals) to be written and released to the public.

Fence and Gates:

A designer for the fence framework has been contracted and is currently creating fence using plastic recyclables. The temporary fencing has been procured, created, and put up in the work area.



Virgin Gorda Police Barracks

Lead ministry: Governor's Group

Project: 182

Status: Operations

Budget: \$800,000

Outcome 3B: Functioning law enforcement institutions and communication networks to restore a sense of safety and security and improved communications between agencies

Overview

The purpose is to return the Virgin Gorda Police Barracks to a fully functional state with police able to deploy required numbers from Tortola. A key outcome will be for the police to be able to sleep personnel on Virgin Gorda to ensure a shift system can be effectively managed and to enable the pre-disposition of resources key to disaster preparedness ahead of the 2019 hurricane season.

Status

The RDA met with the project manager of the contract (Ridgeview Construction) and conducted a site inspection.



Jost Van Dyke Admin Building

Lead ministry: Governor's Group

Project: 183

Status: Operations

Outcome 3C: Immediate improvement to priority government infrastructure and systems to improve services key to easing ability of doing business and prepare for recovery

Overview

The repairs to the Jost Van Dyke administration building will re-establish a working space for the District Officer to coordinate public service delivery on the island, as well as space for the police, customs and immigration to become fully functional. This will re-establish a fully functioning border control point at the main jetty and re-establish a functional police base, including a cell. The full detailed scoping for this project has been completed and procurement has already commenced.

Status

Major works on the building have begun in January. On the 3 January the RDA met with stakeholders of the JVD admin building for a kick off meeting. Work has begun on scaffolding, windows, and damaged doors.

