

# PROJECT STATUS REPORT (PSR)

07/01/2022 - 12/31/2022 - PSR-09532

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Operation number

TT-T1109

Suboperation number

ATN/ME-19128-TT

Project Name

Catalyzing And Connecting The Circular Economy In  
Trinidad And Tobago

Team Leader

Vashtie Dookiesingh

Executing Agency

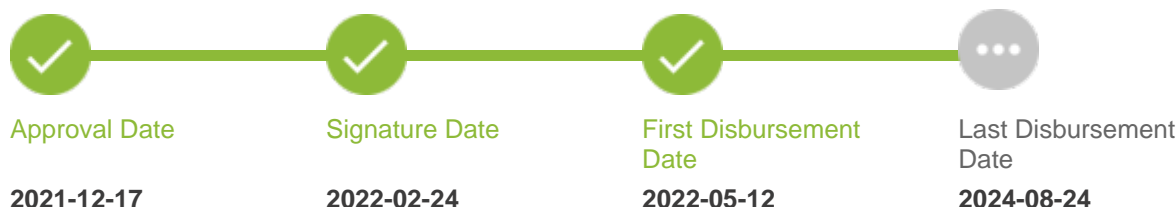
The Cropper Foundation

Purpose

The project objective is to pilot a viable private sector model to support sustainable recycling and circular economy interventions in Trinidad and Tobago



## Project cycle



## PSR SCORE



- 0 - 1 Red Flag
- 1 - 2 Yellow Flag
- 2 - 4 Green Flag

# LEARNINGS

## 1. Risk and Lessons

### 1.1. Risk

1.1.1. What do you think is the biggest risk that threatens the achievement of the project objectives?

The biggest risks surround the commitment and collaboration of partners for the inclusion of aluminium recyclables in the pilot recycling model.

### 1.2. Greatest Achievement or Failure

1.2.1. What has been the greatest achievement or failure in the last semester that affected the implementation of the project?

Recently head way was made with Nestle to financially support a programme with Every Bottle Back for the collection of TetraPak.

### 1.3. Findings and Lessons

1.3.1. What are the most useful findings and lessons from this project that when taken into consideration could improve the execution and results of existing projects and the design of similar projects in the future? A finding describes an action, circumstance or decision that was critical in determining the positive or negative evolution of the project (for example, switching from the development of a blockchain platform to a web-based shared database reduced the cost and time devoted to implementing the traceability capabilities required by the project). A lesson is a concrete, actionable proposal based on a finding that, in similar circumstances, would facilitate problem solving, risk mitigation, and the achievement of results (for example, Develop guidelines and criteria to identify candidates that could benefit from the implementation of a blockchain platform, and assess during the design if the selected project satisfies the criteria before committing to develop one).

Engaging with other stakeholders in the waste management sector locally to support different components of the project has proven more beneficial instead of trying to compromise with some of the initial project partners who were unwilling to participate. A lesson moving forward would be to ensure prior research is done to scan the local space for persons, companies, NGO's and institutions etc. working on initiatives within waste management who can be potential partners or stakeholders to propel the project.

## 2. Scalability and replicability

### 2.1. Scalability Plan

2.1.1. Now that the Project is in the execution phase, have you developed any concrete plan or action that will allow it to reach a greater number of users/clients/beneficiaries (or broader environmental or resilience to climate change and natural disasters impacts) in the future?

Continuation of the expansion of the pilot recycling model via the inclusion of community centres also termed "Satellite Sites" which will mimic the operations of the Charlotte Street centre and will provide a space for the drop-off, sorting and cash refund for PET/HDPE containers. Through the project, community centres will be provided initial support for set up and operational costs and in the long run, has the potential to become self-sustaining and profitable. This is intended to be part of the scaling and sustainability plan of the project under Component 3 and will be piloted firstly with three (3) community centres. The pilot approach with the satellite sites will be tested and incorporated into the larger private sector-driven implementation model being led by the joint venture. The situating of these sites in communities will also help localise messaging around recycling/circular economy, making approaches more applicable to local communities, and therefore stimulating more uptake of recycling activities outside of the traditional urban/periurban areas.

### 2.2. Costs and Partners to Scale

2.2.1. Now that the project is in the execution phase, do you know how much it costs to offer your product / service per user / client / beneficiary? Is this a factor that could affect reaching a greater number of users / clients / beneficiaries in the future? Has any public or private institution requested this information from you, looking for scaling or replicating the model / product / service?

The Every Bottle Back TT campaign being promoted under the JV's pilot recycling model has gained the support of additional funders including Republic Bank. As expressed by the partners of the JV, incorporating other recyclable materials such as Tetra Pak and Aluminium in their pilot model will cost partners such as Nestle TT and SM Jaleel more funding than was initially agreed on in the IDB-Lab project budget. This has impacted partners' involvement in the project thus far. The public response to the campaign has stimulated interest by public sector partners such as the Port of Spain city cooperation and the Member of Parliament for San Fernando West, to replicate an urban collection site in the city of San Fernando.

## 2.3. Facilitating or Hindering Factors

2.3.1. Has any of these factors affected the number of users/clients/beneficiaries (more/fewer) reached by the project compared to what was originally planned (or environmental or resilience to climate change and natural disasters impacts)?

[Coordination with third parties, Complexity of the solution (high number of actors involved/interaction of many parts/components), Cost of the solution, Ease of transferring the solution to a different context (different city/country/etc.), Behavioral changes required by users/clients/beneficiaries]

## 2.4. Scalability Scope

2.4.1. How feasible it is that the organization could reach a number of users/clients/beneficiaries 5, 10 or 100 times the number originally planned in the project design, five years after the project ends?

[It could reach between 5 times and 10 times the number of users/clients/beneficiaries originally planned in the project design five years after its closure]

2.4.2. How likely is the organization to reach that number five years after the project ends?

[Low probability (less than 50% but more than 10% chance)]

## 2.5. IDB Group business relation

2.5.1. Has a business relation been created with another part of the IDB Group different from IDB Lab?

No

## 2.6. Replicability Partners

2.6.1. Are you aware of any other entity at a national or international level that has copied / replicated completely or partially the business model of the project? Did you collaborate in the process with that entity?

[Yes]

If Yes, Explain

The primary recycling initiative in Trinidad and Tobago is the iCare project (Recyclable Solid Waste Collection Project) managed by the Environmental Management Authority (EMA). The collection is done through the use of community recycling bins and focuses on plastic (PET/Type 1) bottles, drink cartons, aluminium cans and glass bottles. However, no redemption payment is offered for collection. Relationships have been built with the iCare programme and they will form part of the larger stakeholder group. We have also been introduced to SMCL who applied for Grant Financing from the IADB/CARIRI 2nd Call For Proposal:- Shaping the Future of INNOVATION and is proposing to construct a rPET resin manufacturing facility in Trinidad and Tobago.

## 2.7. Replicability Scope

2.7.1. Number of users / clients / beneficiaries reached by entities that have fully or partially replicated / copied the business model / products / services implemented with the support of the project?

[At least 2 times but less than 5 times the number of users / clients / beneficiaries planned in the original project design]

2.7.2. Have you experienced, in the last year, significant expansion (50% or more) of the reach of the business model of the project beyond what was expected in the original project design (due to increasing of the organizational size, operational scope or geographic spread)?

[No]

2.7.3. Number of users / clients / beneficiaries reached as of the end of the year?

[At least 2 times but less than 5 times the number of users / clients / beneficiaries planned in the original project design]

## 2.8. Sustainability

2.8.1. How do you think the project will continue once the IDB Lab financing ends? Examples: it has identified external financing sources to continue operating, it has reached the breakeven point through the sale of services and products, it has obtained the support of public institutions or the private sector, it will adjust the business model to remain viable (via franchises, etc.)

The main component of the project, the pilot recycling model is currently being supported through a Joint Venture between Blue Waters and Cocoa Cola bottlers. Their Every Bottle Back campaign has gained financial support from Republic Bank. Once the IDB Lab financing has ended, the pilot recycling model is intended to be a self-sustaining privately managed system on the premise that it can retain a substantial and steady supply of recyclable materials for export.

## 3. Implementation

### 3.1. Facilitating or Hindering Factors

3.1.1. What specific aspects have (positively or negatively) affected the implementation of the project the most?

[Coordination with third parties, Available resources, Changes in costs, Contracting consultants / suppliers]

3.1.2. Explain in detail how these factors that you identified have made the implementation of the project easier or more difficult

Coordination with third parties: While project partners may not necessarily be classified third parties, the coordination and relationship management between and among the competing private sector partners have been more difficult than initially estimated. This might have arisen due to a lack of understanding of initial commitments and responsibilities in relation to the project, and especially the level of financial resources required by the participating partners. Although a steering committee has been established for group decision-making, individual meetings with partners are required to ensure their involvement in the project as they each have differing interests. Available resources and Changes in costs: To incorporate Tetra Pak and aluminium recyclables in the JV's pilot recycling model, they are requesting additional funding for operational costs which have been hindering partners' full commitment. However, the partners have begun dialogues to model and plan the necessary financial commitments that would be needed to fully incorporate the additional materials into the private sector model. Contracting consultants/suppliers: Contracting consultants to complete certain deliverables under the project has exposed the executing agency to different stakeholders in the field that can support the project in different areas. We have also gained additional insight based on the reports developed by consultants that can also support the project moving forward.

### 3.2. Novel Technologies Factors

3.2.1. If the project makes use of novel technologies or methodologies, what factors have facilitated or hindered the implementation of the technological solution initially proposed by the project?

[Public recognition of the innovation of the project, Interest from industry experts or academics outside the executing agency / client]

#### **4. Development Outcomes (Quantitative)**

4.0 Has your project contributed to any of the following indicators in the last 12 months (last year)?

[4.2. Direct jobs generated by the project or financing]

4.2. Direct jobs generated by the project. How many people were directly employed as a result of the project funded by IDB Lab?

Total

12

Jobs created: number of men

6

Jobs created: number of women

6

4.2.2. Indicate which indicator in the results matrix is related to your answer, or how did you calculate this number?

These include workers under the executing agency and workers hired to facilitate the pilot recycling model.

4.5. Data Source

4.5.1. What kind of verification sources have you used to report the data you provided in this section? (Please select all that apply)

[Administrative information]

#### **5. Development Outcomes (Qualitative)**

5.1. Target population identified in the design

Is the target population that was identified in the design being reached by the project? Select the target population actually reached by the project that was originally identified in the project design.

[Urban/periurban population]

5.2. Population served NOT identified in the project design

5.2.1. Select if there are Groups that were NOT originally identified in the project design but are being reached in the execution phase?

[Poor/vulnerable/low income population, Child and young, Women]

5.3. Facilitating or Hindering Factors

5.3.1. Factors that have affected (facilitated or hindered) reaching these groups, or the resilience/environmental impacts, in the numbers/dimensions that the project had originally planned.

[Changes in the implementation of the original design, Demand for the product/service (market needs), Communicating to customers/users/beneficiaries the advantages of the products offered]

5.3.2. Explain in detail how these factors that you have identified have affected the ability of the project to reach the groups (achieve resilience/environmental impacts) in the numbers/dimensions originally expected

Changes in the implementation of the original design/Interest of clients/users/beneficiaries: The involvement of community centres and the police youth clubs to act as 'satellite sites' for the drop-off of recyclables has a high potential to facilitate the inclusion of women, migrants and children in the project. This is primarily because the satellite sites will be primarily located outside of the main urban areas, therefore facilitating wider community involvement, with a focus on building micro-enterprises around recycling and circular economy. These micro-enterprises will support small but important income generation in areas that have low

income generation opportunity and will provide income generation opportunities that have extremely low barriers to entry, particularly for groups that have historically high barriers to entry. The interest has also been heightened due to the project's focus on utilising established community groups as entry points into the development of the satellite sites. These groups, such as community councils and the policy youth clubs, have long and trusted relationships with these communities and therefore will be much better placed to generate participation and buy in. Communicating to customers the advantages of the products offered: The team at EBB TT and TCF have been steadily promoting the project and its benefits through the local campaign which has been gaining traction from the public. This has resulted in more walk-in traffic to the drop off location in central Port of Spain. Demand for the product/service: The public has been expressing their interest via the EBB TT social media pages in recycling once the pilot system is made accessible and efficient.




## INDICATORS

 Overachieved
  Achieved
  Pending
  In process
  Overdue

### C1: Behavioral Change

Weight: 33%

Qualification: Satisfactory

25%		75%	
Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
I1	3 ( 2025-02-24)	1 ( 2022-09-30)	
I2	3 ( 2025-02-24)		
I3	1 ( 2023-04-24)		
I4	0 ( 2023-04-24)	Yes ( 2022-05-25)	

### C2: Pilot Recycling Model

Weight: 33%

Qualification: Satisfactory

66%		34%	
Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
I1	6000 ( 2024-06-24)	607 ( 2023-01-31)	
I2	1 ( 2023-05-24)	1 ( 2022-05-25)	
I3	1 ( 2023-05-24)	1 ( 2022-05-25)	

### C3: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation

Weight: 25%

Qualification: Satisfactory

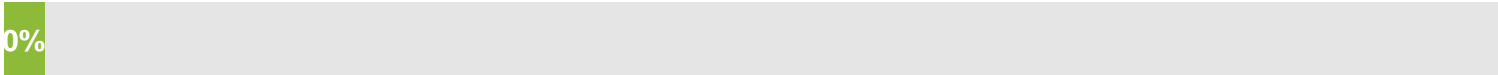
0%			
Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
Participating Manufacturing Partners that play an active role in defining and implementing a solution	9 ( 2025-03-24)		



I1	for treatment of recyclable waste		
I2	Business Model, Sustainability and Scaling Plan	1 ( 2024-05-24)	
I3	Mapping of recyclable waste ecosystem – importers/producers, collectors, recyclers, processors, exporters, regulators	1 ( 2023-04-24)	
I4	Participating Distribution Companies that play an active role in defining and implementing a solution for treatment of recyclable waste	5 ( 2025-03-24)	
I5	The feasibility study may include factors such as an assessment of the market for recyclables; alternative uses and transport logistics of materials from other neighboring states, analysis of the legal/regulatory framework and incentives that are needed	1 ( 2024-04-24)	
I6	Participating Public Agencies/Civil Society Actors active in defining and implementing a solution for treatment of recyclable waste	3 ( 2025-04-24)	

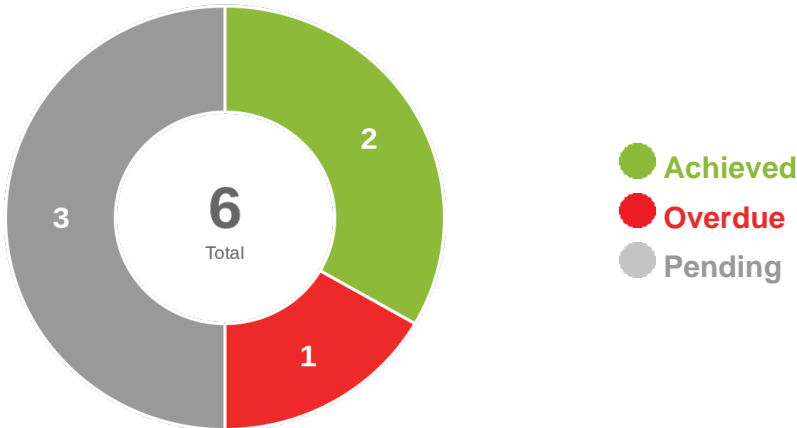
C4: Support for Circular Economy Businesses

Weight: 9%
Qualification: Satisfactory




Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
I1	20 ( 2025-03-24)		
I2	2 ( 2025-03-24)		

MILESTONES



Milestones	Achieved Value	Due Date	Achieved Date	Status
*Condiciones Previas / Prior Conditions	1	2022-06-28	2022-04-29	
*Sorting/processing facility established	1	2022-08-31		
*Launch of National Campaign	1	2023-02-28		
*Launch of Circular Economy Business pitch competition	1	2023-08-31		

*Scaling and Sustainability Plan for Pilot completed	1	2024-02-29	
*Final Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Report completed	1	2024-08-28	