



Belize Association of Planners **NEWSLETTER**

We're Back with Intriguing Newsletters



by [Belize Association of Planners](#) on January 31st, 2022

Welcome Back to BAP's monthly newsletter highlighting the exciting and impactful work that we do. Through this medium, we will also be sharing the nuances of urban planning in the lush landscapes of Belize. The Belize Association of Planners thrives to promote the great importance of urban planning in the pursuit of accomplishing sustainable development in our communities, cities, and region.

UPDATES

Over the past couple months, the Belize Association of Planners have been working on numerous projects gearing towards their set mission, which is to address relevant planning and development issues in Belize by working in partnership with the public and private sector and civil society organizations, and the people of Belize through research, education, advocacy and action.

Take a look at some of the projects that are ongoing:

- 1) Engender Project** seeks to scale-up existing efforts to increase the adaptive capacity of communities to the impacts of climate change through the identification of adaptation barriers caused by climate related stressors, particularly sea-level rise, increasing temperature and more intense storms on two coastal communities in southern Belize (Dangriga Town and Hopkins Village).
- 2) Placemaking Project** aims to provide safer and more inclusive public and community spaces to help address some of the issues that women, girls and boys face in navigating and empowering individual and community life and livelihoods. The project outcome is to develop a sustainable urban park that is inclusive for all community members, which in return helps to mitigate pressing issues seen within the community at large.
- 3) Urban Biodiversity Project** focuses on increasing the awareness of the role of urban biodiversity to climate change mitigation and adaptation. With the project outcome, which is to develop a sustainable, urban biodiversity park that is inclusive for all community members, which in return helps to enhance and promote urban biodiversity.
- 4) Urban and Rural Women Rights Ambassadors Project (URWRAP)**-The Urban and Rural Women and Girls' Rights Ambassadors Project (URWRAP) is focused on building the capacity for Women, Youth and Civil Society for Engagement and Self, Community and Organizational Empowerment. This project is also aligned with UNICEF's Spotlight Initiative Objective is to build the capacity of grassroots CSOs to increase the reach and coverage of national interventions to bring about gender equality and women empowerment in urban and rural communities. URWRAP supports the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 5, which aims to ensure gender equality and empowerment for all women and girls.

Stay Tune to view the details of these dynamic projects implemented and more interesting facts about the progression of urban planning in Belize!!



THIS Month's
TOP STORIES



Over 60 Turtle Nests Recovered

In 2021, there was a notable increase in turtle nesting sites over the previous 2 years. It is estimated that hawksbill turtles take 20 years to reach sexual maturity and begin reproducing. Nesting season begins in April and ends by November. The hawksbill sea turtle lives near coral reefs, where it feeds primarily on sea sponges, algae, sea urchins, mollusks, shrimp and squid. The TIDE Rangers at the Paynes Creek National Park have been spearheading this initiative by checking the beaches of Punta Ycacao regularly. (Data sources from TIDE Belize, 2022).



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