



Raising awareness of
mangroves through
outreach

Education, public events
and social media

📍 Martinique

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Who are we?

Roots of the Sea is an NGO, born from the commitment and passion of three martinicans in July 2020.

To date, we have 70 members with more than twenty active members (all volunteers) who join their forces to fulfill the mission of preserving, defending, and promoting the natural and cultural heritage of Martinique and the Caribbean through:

- environmental education for schools and the general public
- training: technical (diving) or on specific subjects for integration into citizen science projects
- active conservation and preservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, in particular coastal and marine,
- advocacy and promotion of the sustainable use of biodiversity by the populations, while taking into account local cultures.

Although we are based in Martinique, we are looking forward to working in collaboration with other islands of the Caribbean, to advance the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems.

Education



Training



Social media outreach



Main focus

→ Conservation of coastal and marine environments

Our focus on mangroves

- Community involvement in public events such as mangrove clean-ups
- Education : workshops, especially for youth
- Communication, using social media

And, in the future...

Restoration with local communities (involving schools, coastal communities : fisherfolks, hotels, residents)



One year ago
Annou choyé
“mangwov-la”

- ➔ Launch of Root of the Sea with a holistic event including a mangrove clean-up, a scientific talk and a debate with local community about the future of their surrounding mangrove
- ➔ Although mangrove clean-ups are important and a good way to gather people, we want to focus on the transmission of knowledge and participative management

Local issues

Watershed
pollution
/Chlordecone

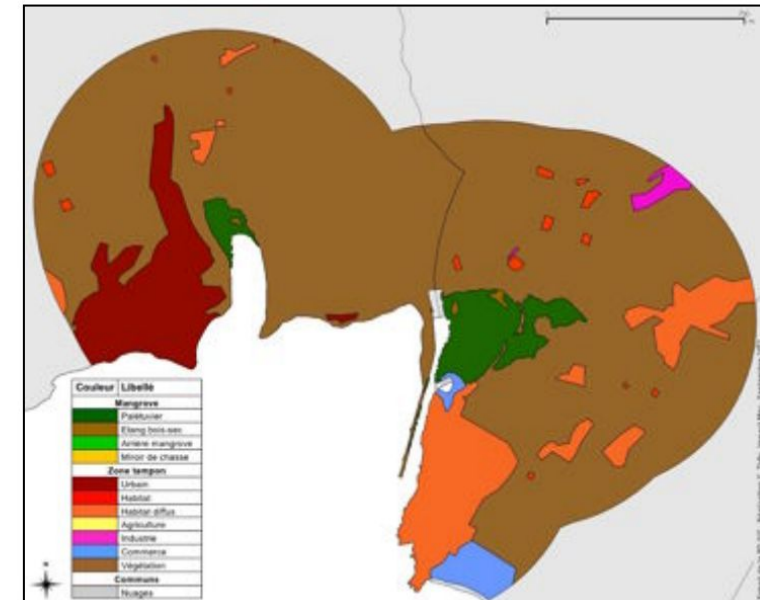
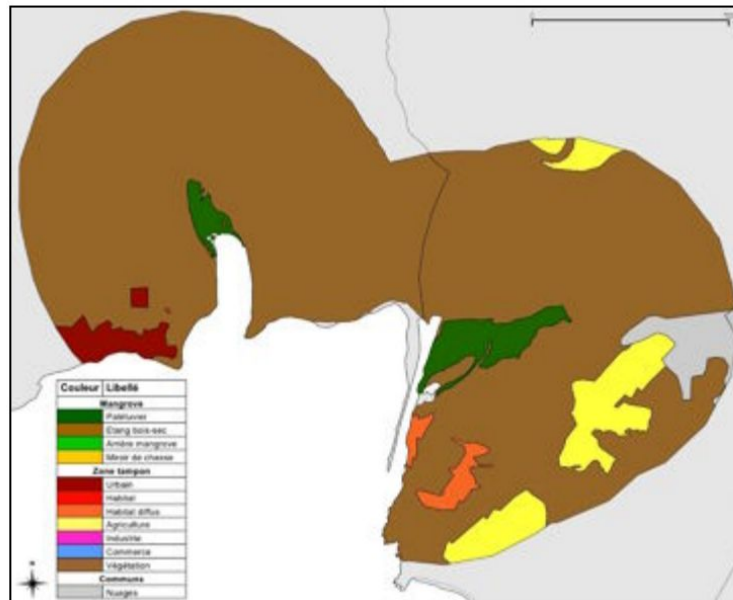
Dumping site

Coastal
development for
marinas,
businesses, lodging

Limited governance
= inaction



Dumping site before a mangrove clean-up



Map of the mangrove of Sainte-Luce and the adjacent area in 1951 and 2004

Current project



We are now at the very early stages of a project of mangrove conservation for which we got a micro-grant from the SOA (Sustainable Ocean Alliance) to start our first mangrove nursery

Undergoing actions:

- Selection of species
- Selection of sites (preferentially urban sites or close to residential area)
- Conversation with a local primary school to involve their classes in the restauration plan

We are still looking at different options and although we will start a nursery, we also value the importance of natural colonisation as an option. We are also developing a coral restoration project at the South of the island, in collaboration with the non-profit organisation Coral Guardian.

This micro-grant also helped us to organise our first mangrove week in Martinique: a week of awareness of mangrove conservation in July 2021 : **Video**

Workshop goals

- Expectations we have for this workshop

Networking



Technical support



Collaboration



- What are you looking to learn about?

Best practices and lessons learned in Mangrove restoration, adapted for the Caribbean region.

- What are you able to contribute ?

We look forward to building a network of people interested in mangrove community project/science/restoration in the Caribbean...

Let's keep in touch
Follow us



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