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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Jost van Dyke Community discusses environmental project**

Jost van Dykes, British Virgin Islands

At 7:00pm on Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, over twenty residents of Jost van Dyke met to discuss an ongoing environmental project which is officially entitled the “Jost van Dykes Community-based Programme Advancing Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development”.

This project which is funded by the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) and implemented by the Jost van Dykes Preservation Society with technical assistance from the Island Resources Foundation commenced in April of 2008 and will continue until December 2009. Periodically, the community meets to discuss the project, be updated on project progress and to make suggestions.

The highlight of Tuesday’s meeting was a presentation given by researcher and staff member of the Island Resources Foundation – Mr. Jean Pierre Bacle. Mr. Bacle’s presentation was done with the assistance of a Power Point Presentation which utilised photographs that he took of flora and fauna on Jost van Dyke and the surrounding Cays (Little Jost van Dyke, Green Cay, Sandy Cay and Sandy Spit) during his research. The presentation was well received by community members who gave feedback about the research and offered recommendations, for example, one community member commented that she would like to see this information taught in schools.

Two other community meetings are expected to be held during March 2009, to discuss the draft Environmental Profile (the main output of the project). The first draft of the Environmental Profile for Jost van Dyke is expected to be available by the end of February, 2009.

For more information about the project or the Jost van Dykes Preservation Society, visit [www.jvdgreen.org](http://www.jvdgreen.org) or [www.jvdps.org](http://www.jvdps.org) e-mail [projco@jvdps.org](mailto:projco@jvdps.org) or call 284-540-0861 or 284-540-7428.

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