



## PROJECT OVERVIEW + PLAN

**Instructions:** Please answer the questions as clearly and concisely as possible; then, submit your draft online. SPF Staff will respond with feedback on your application within two weeks. Once finalized, the application will be provided to the SPF Governance Council for their review and decision. As a reminder, all SPF applications are assessed using the [SPF Eligibility & Evaluation Criteria](#):

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA		EVALUATION CRITERIA		
AT MCGILL	SUSTAINABILITY FOCUSED	ANALYSIS	IMPACT	FEASIBILITY
SEED FUNDING	ACTION ORIENTED	COLLABORATION	SUPPORT	CAPACITY BUILDING

Before starting, you may find it helpful to consult the [SPF Sustainability Brief](#) and the [Climate & Sustainability Strategy 2020-2025](#).

### CONTEXT

Criteria assessed in this section: **SUSTAINABILITY FOCUSED, ANALYSIS**

- 1. What specific sustainability-related need/issue have you identified at McGill and aim to address through your project? In your response, please describe clearly how the need/issue is related to sustainability and what research you have done on this issue.** *Note: Please wait to detail your project idea in Question 2. Limit ~200 words*

Bellairs, a McGill owned facility located in Barbados, is a prime location for the distribution of climate change and sustainability information as the island is a live laboratory for the effects of global warming and the like. Each year, McGill Professors, Staff, and Students, stay at the facility to complete courses and or to facilitate research on various topics of which Sustainability plays a major role. Our project provides an avenue for the McGill community, to participate in a program which is outside of their territory, thus broadening their knowledge base and providing opportunities for hands on learning and instruction. This project allows for the strengthening of community relationships as the courses taught at Bellairs, through McGill, include internships for McGill students to work with local companies and initiatives.

### PROJECT IDEA

Criteria assessed in this section: **ALL ELIGIBILITY & EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- 2. What is your project idea? Please describe the idea thoroughly and concisely. Identify how SPF funding will be used, key contributions to sustainability at McGill, and, if your project is happening in different stages, core phases of the project.** *Note: You may also share how the project is new or how it complements, builds upon, or scales existing initiatives. Limit ~400 words*

As part of the Bicentennial Celebrations, Bellairs Research Institute, a McGill field station located in Barbados, will be hosting a Sustainability Day Event. In keeping with the objective of the Festival, celebrating the future of sustainability at McGill and beyond, the day allows for partnering with the local government initiative, We Plantin, which seeks to plant one million trees across Barbados. As such, there will be a distribution of 100 palm trees grown at our facility, to students and schools around the island. Leading the charge on the first day of the Bicentennial's Sustainable Futures Festival – Barbadian schools, government, McGill, business representatives, alumni, local and international community partners will be invited to come together to learn about Bellairs' work and McGill University in general along with gaining information on how they can join the sustainability movement. Feature addresses from prominent McGill and Government representatives will accompany the tree give away ceremony, coupled with a tour of the facility's food security project. As part of the day's educational activities, there will be talks and information shared on climate change, food security, economic sustainability, vertical farming, aquaponics, and other key themes. This project has positive long-term implications for McGill staff, students and the wider McGill community as it presents opportunities for learning as part of a course or casual information gathering. It also positions Bellairs, a McGill facility, to harness relationships which would be beneficial to the many McGill students who use our facility each year. The ground work would be laid for McGill students to visit the various recipients of

the palms to deliver presentation on their courses of study and to partner with the institutions for other projects. Funding from the SPF will subsidize the materials and equipment required to organize an event of this magnitude. It will include the repair of the greenhouse, potting, preparation and distribution of the palms as well as the production of the plant-care instruction manual. There is currently no audio visual equipment and this is a necessity not only for the day's program but for the upcoming McGill courses such as the Barbados Field Study Semester (BFSS) and others.

3. Is your project related to the University's [Climate & Sustainability Strategy 2020-2025](#)?  Yes  No
4. Is your project related to the University's [Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Strategic Plan 2020-2025](#)?  Yes  No
5. If you answered yes to Question 3 or 4, how does it relate? Please refer to the relevant strategy category, theme, goal, and/or action in your response. *Limit ~200 words*

This project fits within the Research and Education and Food Systems categories which allows Bellairs to become a living lab to accommodate the current and future user in their field/(s) of research. It also provides an avenue for healthier meal options while at Bellairs. It also forms part of the Sustainability Futures Festival a McGill initiative.

## IMPLEMENTATION

Criteria assessed in this section: **ACTION ORIENTED, FEASIBILITY, IMPACT**

6. List the key **activities** for your project and indicate the timing for these on the right. Please be specific and realistic when formulating your activities, ensuring that they are achievable within the indicated timeframe.

Key Project Activities	Start Date (DD-MM-YY)	End Date (DD-MM-YY)
Repair of greenhouse, preparation of palms for distribution	18-07-22	15-08-22
Production of plant-care manual	03-08-22	10-08-22
Purchase and install equipment	29-08-22	02-09-22

7. Please describe what will happen to your project after the SPF funding ends. Additionally, please share if anything will be produced or installed (e.g. a workshop guide, equipment, a toolkit, a network, website, etc.) and indicate future maintenance plans. *Limit ~200 words*

Bellairs' staff will continue to maintain the areas identified for the food security project, with produce to be consumed by the users of the facility (which include students, professors and the wider McGill community).

## TRANSFORMING CAMPUS

Criteria assessed in this section: **AT MCGILL, IMPACT**

8. In the table below, describe your proposed project's 1-3 main impacts on the McGill community or its main goals to accomplish. Please check the McGill stakeholders that will be impacted. Finally, list at least one key **success indicator** for each impact (e.g. # people engaged, % waste diverted, # buildings certified, etc.). *Note: Indicate a realistic target for each success indicator (e.g., rather than "# people engaged," list a target such as "50 people engaged").*

Main Impacts/Goals	McGill Stakeholders Impacted (check all that apply)	Key Success Indicator(s)

REQUIRED	1	Relationship building between McGill, Barbados Government and local stakeholders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postgraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alumni	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admin. Staff	Course development. Increase in the available local mentors for internships
OPTIONAL	2	Establish a long-term project thus improving the experiential and pedagogical experience of users	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postgraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alumni	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admin. Staff	Increased use of the facility by McGill students, faculty and staff.
	3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postgraduate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alumni	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admin. Staff	

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Criteria assessed in this section: **AT MCGILL, COLLABORATION, SUPPORT, CAPACITY BUILDING**

9. Please list 3-5 key stakeholders involved in your project, indicating their role and support. If the stakeholder has provided a support letter, please indicate so here and attach it as an appendix document. *Note: Projects involving modifying a space on campus, making a permanent installation, hiring a full-time staff, or adding/modifying a garden, etc., must seek permission from the appropriate stakeholder(s) (e.g. building director, Campus Planning and Development Office, staff supervisor, etc.). SPF Staff can help you assess if any key stakeholders need to be added to your list.*

Stakeholder's Name(s)	Title	Role in the Project	Support/Permission	Support Letter
			Choose one.	Choose one.
Virnie Millien, Prof	Academic	Professor and Contributor	Confirmed	No
Dr. R. Bruce Lennox	Dean of Science	Advisor	Confirmed	No
			Choose one.	Choose one.
			Choose one.	Choose one.

10. How will you communicate about your project and share its impacts with the McGill community? Please describe your key tactics (e.g. social media, workshops, tabling, etc.). *Limit ~200 words*

Our project will be communicated via social media as well as McGill newsletters. We also plan to get a note published in the reporter. The one-day event at Bellairs, as part of the one week-long festival will also be shared broadly with the McGill community.

11. If applicable, are there any training, volunteer opportunities, jobs, or complementary applied student research integrated in your project? Please describe. *Limit ~100 words*

This project provides a real opportunity for McGill Students interested in volunteering, to visit Bellairs during their free time, summer etc. to care for the plants. It also provides opportunities for students and researchers to study plants grown at the facility.



## APPENDIX

---

### Relevant Support Documents

List any appendix documents in order in the table below.

*Please keep the total number of pages as low as possible (recommended maximum is 5). Please include any relevant support letters.*

Doc #	Appendix Document Title	# of Pages
1	Schedule of events for the day	3
2		
3		
4		
5	<a href="#">Staff Position Information Appendix</a> , if applicable	



**McGill**

**Bellairs  
Research Institute**

Folkestone, St. James, Barbados, Tel (246) 422-2087 Fax (246) 422-0692  
Email [bellairs-administration.science@mcgill.ca](mailto:bellairs-administration.science@mcgill.ca) [www.mcgill.ca/bellairs](http://www.mcgill.ca/bellairs)

## **Sustainability Futures Festival at Bellairs**

September 12th, 2022, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Venues: Bellairs Research Institute & University of the West Indies, Cave Hill campus

### **Goals**

This event is Bellairs Research Institute's contribution to the Bicentennial's Sustainable Futures Festival.

- Throughout the day, a series of speeches, outreach efforts and presentations will allow students, NGOs, farmers, the general public, and other current and future stakeholders, to learn about Bellairs' work, and McGill University in general.
- Inform key government stakeholders of activities taking place at Bellairs.
- More importantly, it allows Bellairs to enact its Corporate Social Responsibility, by playing a part in ensuring that Barbadians become aware of sustainability, and by giving tools for people to make informed decisions in how to become a part of the movement.

### **Audiences**

- Students (primary, secondary, and tertiary)
- Board of Directors
- Members
- Business representatives (small and medium size)
- Groups involved or interested in food security

Our goal is to attract between 100 to 150 people throughout the day's events and activities.

### **Planned activities Speeches and presentations**

- Three-minutes, pre-recorded elevator-type presentations by experts on sustainability - related topics – food security, climate change, land preservation, etc.
- Helpful tips from the Farmers - starting your own garden, vertical farming, etc.
- Small and medium-size businesses and other partners to showcase their products/produce and to give information.

**Tree giveaways** – As planting trees assists with minimizing the effects of climate change, promotes health by removing air pollution, reduces stress, and encourages physical activity, as well as increases the resilience of ecosystems, we intend to give one hundred (100) palm trees to

schools and students from around Barbados. This will not only bring people to Bellairs to see what is done there but will also engage students to get involved with caring for the trees and take an active part in their future environmental investment.

**International School Partnerships** – With some schools in Quebec engaging on a similar program, we are keen on partnering Barbadian schools with Canadian schools so they can exchange information on how the various plants are being cared for, the similarities and the differences based on the environs. A myriad of opportunities could develop from these interactions including edu-tourism, the breaking of language barriers (French/English), and the possibility of creating lasting friendships. The tree giveaway falls squarely in the realm of the We Plantin’ Barbados program initiated by the Barbados government and as such, it is only fitting that a number of key persons be invited to the event.

**Food security** – Our intention is to partner with some farmers and to giveaway vegetable seedlings to students to encourage food security. As an ongoing project, we are reviving the onsite green house to grow vegetables, some of which will be donated to the School Meals Department (which is responsible for preparing meals for primary public schools). This will promote the preparation of healthy nutritious meals for the children who are a part of this program.

**Tree planting at UWI** – Symbolic planting of a tree at the University of West Indies, Cave Hill campus, to strengthen the relationship between the two universities.

### **Schedule**

9:00 am	Opening of gates
9:00-12:00pm	Video and in person presentations
9:30 – 9:40 am	Welcome by Prof. Virginie Millien & Kim King
9:40 - 10:00 am	Guided Tour
10:00 - 10:30 am	Tree distribution
10:30 - 11:00 am	Sustainable Activity for kids
11:00 - 11:30 am	Guided Tour
11:30 - 12:00 pm	Green house activity
12:00pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00pm – 2:30 pm	Tree Planting Ceremony at the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus