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Connectivité aérienne

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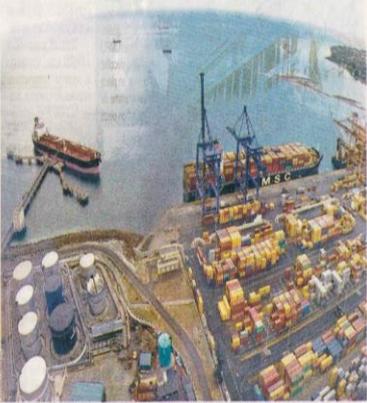
LE JOURNAL DE L'ÉCONOMIE L'Express

CONNECTIVITÉ

Les pays de la COI en faveur d'une ligne maritime régionale

Certaines zones portuaires de l'océan Indien sont encore «insuffisantes ou inadéquates». Dynamiser la desserte régionale pourrait donner un coup de pouce au commerce.

par Shelby EMLEN



L'ALLIANCE Vieux des transporteurs aériens créés, l'accord entre Changi Airport et Air Mauritius signé et des développements portuaires annoncés, la connectivité régionale est plus que jamais au cœur des débats. Surtout en ce qui concerne le positionnement de Maurice dans la région océan Indien et le développement du commerce intra-régional.

Interrogé sur la situation actuelle au niveau de la connectivité régionale, Raj Mubaree, chargé de mission à la Commission de l'océan Indien (COI), note que «la demande de transport de marchandises est encore relativement faible en raison de l'instabilité des économies et des perspectives de croissance variables en fonction des États. De plus, les infrastructures portuaires sont inadéquates ou insuffisantes dans la zone de la région».

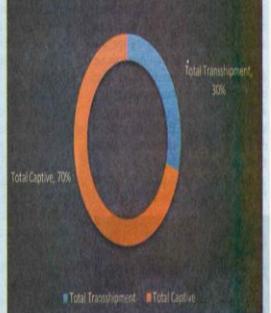
C'est l'une des raisons pour lesquelles la COI étudie la possibilité de créer une ligne maritime régionale. Selon Raj Mubaree, «il y a une forte volonté des États membres de la COI en faveur de la dynamique de la desserte maritime régionale. La COI examine donc la possibilité de créer une compagnie de transport maritime régionale reposant sur un partenariat public-privé (PPP), en fonction de l'évaluation du commerce régional. Cette étude, la mise en place d'un service de cabotage régional serait la solution la plus viable. À savoir que le cabotage est l'acheminement de marchandises sur une courte distance. Ce service permettrait, selon la COI, de capturer sur de flux maritimes marchands reliant l'Asie à l'Afrique orientale via les hubs portuaires du Moyen-Orient».

C'est dans cette optique que la COI compte développer une stratégie régionale sur la connectivité, le développement et le financement des infrastructures portuaires, équipements et des opérations, l'amélioration de la compétitivité des ports, les mesures de facilitation du commerce, les aspects institutionnels, réformes juridiques et réglementaires, une meilleure implication du secteur privé et la promotion du PPP. Les voies et moyens nécessaires pour placer la région comme une zone de marchandisation depuis débuté sur les routes maritimes reliant l'Afrique à l'Asie), du commerce, ainsi que le financement des infrastructures portuaires, équipements et des opérations, l'amélioration de la compétitivité des ports, les mesures de facilitation du commerce, les aspects institutionnels, réformes juridiques et réglementaires, une meilleure implication du secteur privé et la promotion du PPP. Les voies et moyens nécessaires pour placer la région comme une zone de marchandisation depuis débuté sur les routes maritimes reliant l'Afrique à l'Asie),

tion Shipping Company pourraient augmenter le transport de conteneurs dans les ports qui ne sont pas suffisamment approvisionnés, comme c'est le cas dans certains ports de Madagascar.

Du reste, selon le chargé de mission de la COI, pour l'heure, «des importations complexes représentent presque tout le trafic de conteneurs régionaux, ce qui provoquerait des coûts de repositionnement à prix élevés pour les lignes maritimes».

TRAFFIC DE CONTENEURS (JANVIER-SEPTEMBRE 2015)



Le business portuaire est dicté par le trafic des «captive containers» et de conteneurs pour le transbordement. Le segment «captive containers» représente l'importation et l'exportation de marchandises à destination du marché local alors que dans le cas du transbordement, le port local sert de destination intermédiaire. Les conteneurs sont par la suite transportés vers d'autres destinations. C'est le segment «captive containers» qui se taille la part du lion dans le business portuaire.

ÉVOLUTION DU TRAFIC DE CONTENEURS (2008-2014)



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The 5-day training workshop is designed for professionals who are involved in Business Continuity activities. The certification exam, which will be held on the last day of the workshop, is aligned with ISO 22301 and leads to internationally recognised credential in Business Continuity (CBCI). The course will be delivered by a licensed and certified member of the BCI, with more than 20 years of field experience.



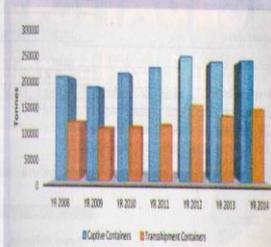
Georges Chang, l'un des architectes de l'accord entre Changi Airport et Air Mauritius et membre du National Advisory Council, souligne pour sa part que la connectivité aérienne et portuaire de Maurice dans la région n'est pas encore au point. «Sachant que l'Afrique connaît une croissance importante dans les années à venir, il est primordial pour notre pays d'accroître sa connectivité avec le continent.»

De ce fait, en ce qui concerne la connectivité aérienne, il estime que l'accord entre l'aéroport singapourien Changi Airport et Air Mauritius influera positivement sur le commerce. Notamment grâce à une augmentation de la fréquence des vols entre l'Asie et l'Afrique et en transitant par Maurice. Il ajoute que les projets de développement portuaires vont également dans le bon sens.

L'Alliance Vanille des transporteurs aériens est pour sa part un atout pour la croissance du commerce régional, dit Raj Mohabbeer. Cet accord aura des effets positifs sur ce secteur, notamment pour ce qui est de l'acheminement de produits vers les différents pays de la région.

Jusqu'à 2012, le trafic de conteneurs avait maintenu une tendance haussière, avec un pic de 417 467 tonnes en 2012 avant de chuter en 2013. En 2014 le trafic a connu une remontée, passant à 403 001 tonnes.

TABLEAU COMPARATIF (2008-2014)



Année	Captive Containers (tonnes)	Transshipment Containers (tonnes)
19 2008	~180,000	~120,000
19 2009	~170,000	~110,000
19 2010	~180,000	~110,000
19 2011	~190,000	~110,000
19 2012	~250,000	~160,000
19 2013	~150,000	~100,000
19 2014	~180,000	~120,000

Durant ces cinq dernières années, le volume des «captive containers» (conteneurs de marchandises destinées à l'importation et à l'exportation) a accusé une hausse, allant de 214 634 tonnes en 2008 à 251 738 tonnes en 2014. Idem pour le volume des conteneurs pour le transbordement, dont le volume a augmenté de 13 % pour la période correspondante.

Veille Sanitaire



HARIMAHEFA RAZAFIMANDIMBY
UNITÉ DE VEILLE SANITAIRE DE LA COMMISSION DE L'Océan Indien

« La grippe menace l'ensemble de nos îles »

Harimahefa Razafimandimby fait partie du réseau SEGA One Health. Celui-ci permet d'assurer la veille et la sécurité sanitaire des populations. Cela implique de la part des États membres de la COI un engagement fort à deux niveaux : politique et financier.

Jean-Marie ST CYR

● Maurice, comme les autres îles de la région, a connu une épidémie de conjonctivite plus ou moins durant la même période. Qu'est-ce que vos recherches ont révélée à la suite de cela ?

Il faut tout d'abord préciser que l'Unité de veille sanitaire de la Commission de l'Océan Indien (COI) ne fait pas de recherche. Son rôle est de faciliter l'échange d'informations sanitaires entre les pays membres de la COI, afin de mieux détecter d'éventuelles épidémies, suivre leurs évolutions et y répondre de façon coordonnée. Le travail qui a été présenté au cours des journées scientifiques avait pour objectif de montrer qu'un tel échange d'informations permet d'avoir une vision régionale et donc plus large des problématiques épidémiologiques et permet également de soulever de nouvelles questions.

● Il a été noté que ce n'est pas le même virus qui a sévi dans les différents pays, en dépit de la proximité et le nombre de déplacements interîles. Quels sont les virus responsables de la conjonctivite ? Quel est celui qui est le plus virulent ?

Une jolie question d'examen de médecine ! Disons tout d'abord qu'une conjonctivite peut être causée par des bactéries, par des allergènes comme les pollens - on parle de conjonctivite allergique - ou les toxiques, et également par des virus dont les deux principales



familles responsables de conjonctivite sont les adénovirus et les entérovirus. Ces deux dernières causes sont dans nos îles responsables d'épidémies saisonnières qui reviennent chaque

année. Plutôt que de parler de virulence, ce qui est à noter cette année c'est l'ampleur des épidémies, c'est-à-dire que le nombre de cas était plus élevé que les années précédentes.

● L'été est de nouveau là, pensez-vous qu'une nouvelle épidémie peut se déclarer ?

Il me semble très présomptueux de prédire l'avenir. Comme déjà dit, les épidémies de conjonctivites ont un caractère saisonnier... par exemple la grippe. Ensuite, un ou plusieurs facteurs peuvent modifier les profils épidémiques selon les années. Seules l'observation et l'échange d'informations entre les pays pourront nous donner des informations qui soulèveront peut-être de nouvelles questions scientifiques qui seront traitées par nos collègues chercheurs.

● Quelles sont les conditions propices pour la prolifération des virus responsables de la conjonctivite ?

Selon les virus de ces familles, nous savons qu'ils peuvent résister dans l'environnement (air, terre, meubles, etc.) de sept jours à cinq semaines. L'observation de mesures d'hygiène de base comme le lavage fréquent des mains avec du savon limite la diffusion de la maladie. On peut également recommander d'éviter de frotter les yeux avec des mains sales.

● Lors des journées de veille sanitaire pour l'Océan Indien organisé par la COI, il a été question des épidémies pouvant affecter les pays de la région. Un pays peut-il être à l'abri d'une épidémie quelconque ?

Cela va beaucoup dépendre des caractéristiques de la maladie. Une

village très reculé à Madagascar, par exemple, aura très peu de risques de se propager dans les autres pays. À l'inverse, la grippe menace l'ensemble de nos îles. C'est pourquoi le partage d'informations sur les situations sanitaires au sein du réseau SEGA One Health permet aux décideurs et aux responsables sanitaires de chaque pays de mettre en place des mesures adéquates. C'est sur ce travail de veille sanitaire qu'intervient l'unité.

● **Quel est le rôle de l'unité de veille sanitaire de la COI ?**

En plus de l'activité, déjà mentionnée, de facilitateur dans l'échange d'information entre pays, l'Unité de veille sanitaire de la COI (UVS-COI) met en œuvre les activités identifiées par les pays membres de la COI, lors du comité de pilotage du projet veille sanitaire financé par l'Agence française de développement (AFD).

Ainsi, nous contribuons à la formation de professionnels, au renforcement de capacités, à la mise en place de stratégies de réponses régionales, en cas de menace grave comme l'Ebola. Certes elle ne nous a pas touchés, mais elle a permis de mettre en place un laboratoire d'analyse biologique mobile et d'identifier une équipe de réponse d'urgence. Dans ce dispositif, le travail se fait de façon interdisciplinaire et avec l'ensemble des pays de la COI. Fort heureusement, nous n'avons pas encore été obligés de mobiliser cette équipe !

Enfin, je voudrai préciser que depuis 2014, le travail de veille sanitaire de l'UVS-

humaine, mais également à la santé animale avec nos collègues vétérinaires dans le cadre du concept « *One Health* ».

● **Dans quelle mesure cet organisme a-t-il pu jouer un grand rôle pour aider les pays membres à contenir ou sinon à venir à bout d'une épidémie ?**

Grand ou petit je ne sais pas... mais ce qui est certain c'est qu'à chaque événement sanitaire le réseau formé des pays membres de la COI est utile. Par la transmission de l'information, par la mise en œuvre d'une réponse coordonnée régionale (lorsque cela est nécessaire) nous contribuons tous ensemble à lutter contre les épidémies. Mais pas seulement... Le réseau permet également de lutter contre une menace qui peut être plus nocive pour les pays et leur économie qu'une épidémie due à un virus... je pense à la « *rumeur* »...

● **Le travail effectué par l'unité de veille sanitaire par rapport à la conjonctivite a quelque peu été remis en question. Comptez-vous revoir vos méthodes d'investigation ? Comment allez-vous procéder ?**

Je n'ai pas perçu les questions et commentaires de la même façon que vous. Le débat est nécessaire, c'est constructif et positif. Notre présentation est une synthèse de l'ensemble des informations transmises par les pays et non pas une étude que nous aurions réalisée. Ainsi que nous l'avions formulé, l'exemple des conjonctivites permet de mettre en évidence l'intérêt d'avoir un regard régional, plus large. Il n'est nullement question de comparer les pays entre eux, en termes de bons ou mauvais points.

Pour revenir à votre question, le constat est que les pays présentent des spécificités qui leur sont propres. Donc, ils ont des systèmes sanitaires différents et aussi des systèmes de surveillance épidémiologique différents. Cependant, tous participent à l'échange d'informations. Cet échange d'information permet de faire ressortir des questions. Et c'est justement tout l'intérêt de ces journées scientifiques. Nous présentons des résultats, des faits... Cela soulève des questions qui feront l'objet de sujets de recherche, ou de nouvelles activités de coopération régionale au sein de la COI.



Une épidémie de peste bubonique dans un village très reculé à Madagascar, par exemple, aura très peu de risques de se propager dans les autres pays.



7 au 13 Nov 2015

La veille sanitaire : un prérequis essentiel au développement de l'Indianocéanie

La troisième édition des journées de la Veille sanitaire dans l'océan Indien, organisée par la Commission de l'océan Indien avec le soutien de l'Agence française de développement, a été officiellement ouverte le 26 octobre par Anil Gayan, ministre de la Santé et de la Qualité de la vie de Maurice, Mahen Seeruttun, ministre de l'Agro-industrie et de la Sécurité alimentaire de Maurice, Jean Claude de l'Estrac, Secrétaire général de la Commission de l'océan Indien, Laurent Garnier, ambassadeur de France, et Matthieu Discour, directeur de l'Agence française de développement. Ce rendez-vous régional autour la veille sanitaire réunit une centaine d'épidémiologistes, médecins, vétérinaires, virologues, microbiologistes et représentants des institutions de santé, dont l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé, du 26 au 29 octobre à Balaclava, Maurice.



Développement Durable



Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge : l'océan est notre économie

13-November-2015

La première rencontre du comité de pilotage de WIO-CC (*Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge*) a eu lieu, mercredi dernier, au Centre des Conférences Internationales de Victoria à Mahé. Ce fût l'occasion de faire un point sur le chemin parcouru et de déterminer un plan d'action pour 2016-2017.

La République des Seychelles est le chef de file du projet WIO-CC. C'est un partenariat des îles de l'ouest de l'océan Indien et des pays côtiers. Les pays membres sont les Comores, la Réunion, le Kenya, Madagascar, l'Ile Maurice, le Mozambique, les Seychelles, la Tanzanie et Zanzibar. Construire ensemble une vision du WIO-CC, à partir de la convention de Nairobi, est un des axes majeurs du projet. Le challenge est de se réunir pour construire et agir ensemble pour la protection climatique, développer une stratégie et enfin, de trouver un équilibre entre l'économie, l'exploitation des ressources côtières et la conservation durable de la biodiversité.

« Le premier lancement de WIO-CC a eu lieu à Samoa en 2014. Aujourd'hui, nous sommes réunis pour proposer un plan pour 2016-2017 pour les Seychelles. Grâce au financement européen, nous pouvons avoir des projets dans nos îles et nos régions. Nous travaillons pour la future gouvernance de WIO-CC. Le but est de mettre, aussi, en place, son système financier. Un système durable, afin d'être sûr de mener à bien notre projet. Nous devons avoir une feuille de route avec un plan d'action déterminé avec des objectifs et des buts à atteindre. Le changement climatique, c'est avant tout promouvoir des actions dans le cadre du développement. C'est-à-dire, développement de la sécurité sociale, développement durable, développement de la biodiversité et surtout mettre des compétences au service d'une structure avec une stratégie clairement identifiée », a partagé le secrétaire général du département changement climatique et énergie, Wills Agricole.

En corroborant ces propos, Mme Gina Bonne, de la Commission de l’Océan Indien (COI) a ajouté : « Ce rendez-vous est une occasion pour renouveler les commissions et travailler ensemble pour une vision commune de l’océan Indien. Nous devons combiner nos efforts et nos ressources pour atteindre nos objectifs. Merci d’avoir la passion de travailler ensemble et de faire du « sur-mesure » et de définir une réponse qui correspond à notre besoin. Ce qui est essentiel pour nous tous, est que l’océan est notre économie ».

« Quand vous vivez dans une île, le changement climatique est une réalité à laquelle vous êtes confrontés chaque jour », selon les propos du Président James Michel. D’après lui, cela passe par la protection des écosystèmes. En cela, cette rencontre est importante, car la plateforme WIO-CC met en jeu la sécurité alimentaire et humaine des pays membres. Les scientifiques ne cessent d’alerter à ce sujet. C’est un défi qui mérite l’attention nécessaire. L’homme détruit les ressources et cela a un impact sur l’environnement, en particulier sur les coraux. Leur blanchissement est source de préoccupation dans la zone océan Indien », a dit M. Agricole.

« WIO-CC regroupe plus de 30 millions de personnes, à l’heure actuelle un changement de comportement s’impose. Le développement durable, c’est aussi éliminer la pauvreté. Nous devons croire à l’importance de l’océan et des espaces marins, c’est-à-dire à l’économie bleue. Nous devons l’utiliser à bon escient avec une bonne planification. Aux Seychelles, nous vivons de la pêche et du tourisme. Que nos générations futures puissent vivre aussi dans un environnement aussi beau et spectaculaire qu’aujourd’hui. Nous devons mieux protéger la biodiversité et œuvrer pour le développement durable. Continuons d’engager les politiques de chaque pays dans ce challenge. Je remercie la COI, l’EU, UNDP, GLISPA et *Marine Planning Special Initiative* pour la réalisation et la participation à cet atelier » a-t-il conclu.

<http://www.nation.sc/article.html?id=247462>



Climate Change: Inaction not an option Youth forum builds the momentum for COP21.

by AB

“With COP21 a month away climate change has made it to the top of national and international agenda and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are the most at risk. But more than that, it is the youth of SIDS who have the most to lose,” said Angelique Pouponneau, co-founder of SIDS Youth AIMS Hub Seychelles and inceptor of the youth forum on climate change which took place last Saturday October at the STC conference centre.

A great number of youth attended this half-day session which featured presentations from various experts across the country and a high-level exchange between the youth and the Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Didier Dogley, the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Wallace Cosgrow, the Minister for Finance, Trade and the Blue Economy, Jean-Paul Adam as well as Global Climate Change Ambassador, Ronny Jumeau.

“If you save islands, you save everybody else,” Ambassador Jumeau said, appealing to the youth to be “eco-warriors” for Seychelles. He said he believed “the youth has more power than they think” and that this needed to be used by creating opportunities such as the forum itself.

During the high-level exchange, the youth expressed concerns with regards to the impact of the current shift to fertilization and bio-pesticides on the soil and consequently, the environment. Other areas of concerns were the possibility of venturing into other sources of energy, for example hydro-power as the youth did not appear too keen about the current wind farms in place. At this point, the panel made various interventions on technical issues such as the blue economy strategy, renewable energy progressions of the country and the mitigation and adaptation steps to climate change.

Notably, the creative and passionate young minds present at the forum suggested concrete actions for consideration; young Alvania Lawen proposed the construction of a coco-de-mer nursery. Welcoming this idea, Minister Dogley noted that 2,000 coco-de-mer trees were initially planted

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on Mahé but that this figure has presently been reduced to only 150 palms. The penalty for poaching of coco-de-mer was reviewed by the National Assembly yesterday.

Concerns were also raised regarding the vulnerability of Perseverance inhabitants who are only 2 metres above the projected sea level rise. Other demarcation areas were also pointed out, raising further concerns on proper management of coastal areas. After all, the eventual sea level rise is expected to wipe out Tuvalu, Maldives and most of Seychelles' coralline islands off the map. Perhaps one of the most poignant moments was when 13-year old Darryl stood up and asked Ambassador Jumeau the following: "How can we stop the islands from drowning?". Or it could have been the moment a Swiss lecturer at UniSey expressed his awe at the fact that "three Ministers and an Ambassador spend their Saturday afternoon with the youth to talk about climate change". Despite the many questions left unanswered because of time shortage, SYAH ruled that the forum had been a fruitful exchange.

The participants made personal pledges "to take action and make noise where it counts" inspired by the words of Minister Dogley and Ambassador Jumeau. The youth forum was certainly yet another wake-up call to the inevitable battle which lies ahead- the battle of survival. There is great hope for the outcome of the Paris conference and the momentum has certainly been built throughout the year leading up to the final weeks of the meeting.

Earlier this year, Seychelles joined countries across the globe for the worldwide views survey on climate change and the preliminary results were presented on Saturday by Jeanette Larue from the ministry of Environment. The youth forum also featured presentations on climate change and related topics such as Ocean, Fisheries and Health of the nation presented by non-governmental organisation (NGO) Wise Ocean representative, scientist Jan Robinson and Dr. Winnie Low-Wah from the Seychelles Hospital respectively. These stirred further interest and debates for the COP 21 scheduled at the end of the year in Paris. The name of the official youth delegate for the Paris Conference, Lisa Bastienne was also announced on that day. Ms. Bastienne will be joined by Ms. Pouponneau and Zara Pardiwalla for the Paris meeting.





Blue Economy

Civil Society wants a voice in tuna fisheries management

A new NGO has been created with the hope that it will act as a keystone in the building of the Blue Economy so that it can leverage the skills, dynamism and creativity of civil society.

Contributed by Nature Seychelles

Nature Seychelles' Eric Blais recently returned from the 6th session of the Civil Society Organisation (CSO)/Private sector forum on sustainable Tuna Fisheries management in the South West Indian Ocean held in Mombasa, Kenya. The meeting was hosted by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Tuna Fisheries Alliance of Kenya (TuFAK). Such meetings have been held annually since 2010. This is the third such meeting attended by a Nature Seychelles representative.

The regional consultative forum meets with the aim of addressing the tuna and other marine fisheries issues, by strengthening the coordination and collaboration of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) including NGOs and the private sector in sustainable natural resource management and development, thereby benefitting local communities, the respective countries, and the region as a whole.

During such meetings, with the hope of influencing the management of tuna management in the region, participants share their experiences whether it's challenges and successes, while working in the fisheries industry in their respective countries. There were 32 participants present in the recent meeting, from Seychelles, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar, Kenya and Comoros.

In his presentation, Eric Blais outlined Nature Seychelles' fisheries related work through the years, highlighting recent successes such as the Reef Rescuers project which has seen over five thousand square meters of coral reefs planted so as to restore ecosystem services to fisheries and other sectors.

"They were very impressed with the work we have done to restore the biological functioning of coral reefs and thereby increasing fish numbers," Eric Blais says. In partnership with the Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA),

Nature Seychelles also recently piloted a project to improve on the design and functioning of protected areas such as Cousin Island Special Reserve so that they meet fisheries management goals.

During the meeting, the members voted to constitute the forum as a registered NGO which they named SWIOTUNA, following comprehensive review and amendments adopted the constitution which had been drafted following the 5th session last year in Zanzibar. That draft had been developed by a task force made up of representatives from WWF, KUWUKA, Mwambao, Nature Seychelles and Mauritius Fishermen's Cooperative Federation.

Members were strongly in favour of registering the forum as soon as possible, says Eric Blais, so as to give credence to the work which they want to carry out. Office bearers were elected during this meeting with Nature Seychelles being appointed the Vice Secretary. SWIOTUNA's executive committee will now work on the registration process including working out the most suitable host country for the forum. Members want SWIOTUNA to work closely with regional and international organisations such as WIOMSA, COI and WWF

"I think it was a very successful meeting. Although we face different challenges in the fisheries sector in Seychelles compared to the other countries, it was still very informative to learn different approaches to fisheries issues from presentations of other non-state organisations in the region." Eric says. "I am looking forward to the new post as Vice Secretary which will basically include assisting the executive committee with its duties including operations, meetings and records. Our hope is that soon we will be able to put together a regional project which we can approach donors with", he concludes.

Dr. Nirmal Jivan Shah, the chief executive officer (CEO) of Nature Seychelles who had attended one of the first meetings of the forum has enthusiastically supported Nature Seychelles' participation in the forum over the years . "SWIOTUNA can become a keystone in the building of the Blue Economy because it can leverage the skills, dynamism and creativity of civil society – something that seems to have been neglected in all the talk about the management of tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean", he says.





Climate change

The youth pledges to take bull by the horn

The Youth AIMS Hub Seychelles organised a "climate change" tour recently for young professionals in a bid to drive home the message that the situation can be helped if people are more aware.

Contributed by SYAH

On Saturday 24, October, 40 students and young professionals from across the country embarked on a Climate Change tour organised by the Small Island Development States (SIDS) Youth AIMS Hub-Seychelles. **SYAH** – Seychelles is part of a regional youth organisation advocating for sustainable development in small island states. The aim of the tour was to sensitize the participants aged between 13 and 30 years old on current practices and technology geared towards sustainable development, as well as to educate them on the importance and effects of climate change on our small island state.

Wind

farm

The participants gathered at 8am at the main bus terminal in Victoria. As the journey commenced, their excitement could be felt reverberating within the SPTC bus provided for the occasion.

The first stop of the tour was the wind farm located at Ile du Port. The Climate change group was given the opportunity to enter the base of the 70m high wind turbines.

Once inside, engineers from the Public Utilities Corporation (PUC) explained the technical specifications governing the operation of the turbines such as the operating wind speed of the wind turbines which lie between a minimum wind speed of 3m/s to a maximum wind speed of 23m/s. It was also interesting to learn of the active yawing technology used whereby a small anemometer and wind vane located at the top of the wind turbine electronically conveys to a controller which way to point the rotor so that the "yaw drive" mechanism can turn gears to point the rotor to face the wind. This is crucial to the operation of the turbine to maximize the harnessing of wind energy as the blades cannot rotate if the wind is hitting them from the side. Through yawing, the wind turbines are able to adjust their position and operate regardless of wind direction. The wind turbines provide for approximately 2% of our country's total energy

usage and provide electricity to at least 2000 homes. This translates to a saving of 11% to government in terms of spending.

Sun motors Fueled by the decarbonisation efforts demonstrated by PUC through the incorporation of renewable energy within our utilities sector, the group keenly made its way to Sun Motors at Providence Industrial Estate to learn how decarbonisation practices can possibly be employed within the transport sector. Alain Ah-Cheen, manager of Sun Motors, introduced the Nissan LEAF (Leading Environmentally-friendly Affordable Family car) to the youth. Being the world's best-selling all-electric car, this five door hatchback has won numerous international awards including the Green Car Vision Award (2010) and World Car of the Year (2011). Producing no greenhouse gas emissions thus reducing our dependence on petroleum electric cars is paving the way forward in the automotive industry. As a feasibility study to determine how the LEAF would manage with our mountainous terrain, Mr Ah-Cheen adopted a Nissan LEAF for his personal use. Not only did the LEAF manage perfectly well with our terrain but Mr Ah-Cheen also said that he was making monetary savings of up to 70% through the use of the green car.

He made a comparison between a conventional car that consumes 8 litres of petrol per 100km and the LEAF. Assuming an average distance of 1000km is travelled per month and a cost of SCR 18/litre, the non-hybrid car would consume SCR 1, 440 worth of fuel. The LEAF at full charge (24kWh), which takes approximately six to hours, allows it to travel about 150 km before running out of battery. To travel 1000km/month, it would require 6.67 full charges which would consume 160 kWh. If the tariff rate lay within the bracket of 301-400 total kWh used in a month (to accommodate for the electric consumption of other household appliances) which is SCR 2.71 per unit, it would cost only SCR 434 to fuel the car for the month. If that wasn't enough to sell the all-round benefits of the car, the participants had the opportunity to take a spin round the block in the LEAF and experience the power and smoothness of the car.

Meteorological

office

In order to record climate change, meteorological services play a vital role and the next stop on the tour was the Seychelles National Meteorological Services. Chantal Bijoux of the Seychelles Met Office gave the participants a tour of the different instruments used to monitor the weather such as the Stevenson Screen, Rain Gauge, Sunshine Recorder and many more. The participants were also introduced to the software used to record and interpret the information obtained and given a chance to view the studio used to present the weather forecast show every evening on TV.

Mrs. Bijoux also pointed out that Seychelles is currently experiencing its second El Nino event since 1998. It was stated that the frequency of this event is closely linked to climate change and this could also explain the unusual and severe weather conditions taking place these past weeks.

Following the hectic and informative morning, the group gathered at Anse Royale beach to enjoy a well-earned meal. In solidarity to SYAH's pledge towards sustainable development, lunch was provided in compostable boxes made from sugar cane.

Anse La Mouche beach The last stop on the tour was the Anse La Mouche beach. Dr. Ashton Berry, Senior Lecturer from the University of Seychelles, met the group and delivered a presentation on the effects of climate change primarily focusing on coastal areas. He spoke of the importance of the beach ecosystem and management techniques that can be employed to protect the dynamic movement of beaches. Dr. Berry acknowledged the positive steps taken by the nation as a whole with regards to coastal management and beach protection. Although there still remains a lot to be done, he was confident that strides in this positive direction would continue especially after seeing the devotion and interest emanating from the tour group.

As tribute to this dedication, upon concluding the tour the participants worked as groups to produce pledges of how they would proceed and continue to tackle the global problem of climate change.



Biodiversité



Why this is important

Declaration from the WIOMSA Scientific Community to the UNFCCC COP21

30 October 2015, Port Edward, South Africa

We, a community of 500 coastal and marine scientists working in the Western Indian Ocean, meeting at the 9th biennial Scientific Symposium of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (www.wiomsa.org) make this Declaration to the 21st COP of the UNFCCC and to the global community, to call for decisive action on climate change by the world's political and business leaders.

1. OUR CONTEXT: Over the millennia, the peoples of the Western Indian Ocean region have developed a diversity of cultures characterized by a strong link to the sea, influenced by ocean currents and winds. We have a rich history of trade and cultural exchange across the Indian Ocean.

Today, the marine and coastal environment of the Indian Ocean continues to play an important role in our cultures. We benefit from a range of ecosystem services from its habitats including many types of fisheries, building materials and fuels, coastal protection, as well as recreation and tourism. Together these contribute to the livelihoods and well-being of millions of people in our region. Many of our ecosystems contribute directly to global sequestration of carbon.

As an association of inter-disciplinary scientists, we recognize that humans are an integral part of natural ecosystems but we also observe how our activities affect and modify these ecosystems. Our region starts the 21st century with a youthful and growing population, and it is our wish to bequeath to our children a world in which our maritime cultures and marine ecosystem-based livelihoods will continue to thrive and prosper.

2. THE PROBLEM: According to the 2015 State of the Coast Report for the WIO region, which was approved by the 8th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the **Nairobi Convention of the Western Indian Ocean, the**

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region is facing significant challenges regarding the sustainability of its marine and coastal environments. These include many regional and local challenges, which our national and regional institutions are actively engaged in addressing. But crucially, we also face critical challenges that derive from global greenhouse gas emissions and the resultant effects of climate change. These challenges can only be overcome through global cooperation and international action.

We, the marine science community of the Western Indian Ocean, bear witness to the following:

- Declining provision of ecosystem services resulting from changes in species distributions and biology, including declines in key resource species and increasingly impoverished corals, seagrasses, and mangroves, which are the foundation of coastal ecosystems;
- An increase in destructive weather patterns including severe storms and rainfall, and warming temperatures. These have impacts on human communities, the burden of which is borne disproportionately by the poor, while our governments struggle to find the capacity to manage these impacts;
- Globally, 2015 has been the hottest year on record, and our coral reefs will be exposed to the third global coral bleaching event in early 2016. Warming oceans, as a result of climate change, represent a significant threat to our coastal communities.

3. CLIMATE CHANGE is perhaps the most significant global challenge of the 21st century given how pervasive its effects are likely to be. It has been measured and documented by scientists from across the globe, and in almost every ecosystem, and its effects are already observed and experienced by ordinary people the world over. The global scientific community is taking a prominent role in not only improving our understanding of these phenomena, but of communicating this understanding to policy makers and the general public, not least through the work of the IPCC. The 'Our Common Future under Climate Change' scientific conference of July 2015 provided an opportunity for scientists to collectively update and agree on their core message on the eve of this COP 21 of the UNFCCC.

Building on this, our message is that greenhouse gas emissions and climate change have already affected the marine ecosystems that are so important to the people of our region. In fact, some ecosystems, and their associated social systems in this region are approaching a threshold beyond which changes may be irreversible. We are profoundly concerned by the changes we have collectively observed and by the likely proliferation of impacts on ecosystem structure and function in the future. Even more, we are concerned that climate impacts will undermine individual and family aspirations for a better life, and will undo attempts to achieve sustainable

development and improve human well-being in the nations of the Western Indian Ocean.

4. THE UNFCCC COP 21 has the potential to be a watershed event affecting the future of our planet's ecology, and for human society. We therefore call upon the delegates to COP21, and their respective governments, to realize that potential and to reduce our collective dependence on industries and activities that emit greenhouse gases and to significantly increase investment in the green/blue economy. Inspired leadership and creative solutions are urgently needed. But while there is much to be concerned about, there is also great hope and there is still opportunity.

"You must be the change you want to see in the world" (Gandhi)

On behalf of WIOMSA, the entire Western Indian Ocean Scientific Community and the friends of WIO region.

SIGN THIS PETITION

Posted November 8, 2015

[https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/UNFCCC COP21 Paris 2015 Call for decisive action on climate change from WIO scientist community 2/?egQaTbb](https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/UNFCCC_COP21_Paris_2015_Call_for_decisive_action_on_climate_change_from_WIO_scientist_community_2/?egQaTbb)

Energie Renouvelable



Partners discuss La Digue's sustainable energy goals

09-November-2015

Stakeholders in the Seychelles energy and climate change sector recently convened on La Digue in relation to two initiatives aimed at promoting the vision of the island as the world's eco capital.

They discussed the island's sustainable energy goals and strategy and viewed progress of the La Digue school's sustainability project.

Partners included the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, the Seychelles Energy Commission, UNDP-GEF, the Clinton Climate Initiative, the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the European Union (EU), the Public Utilities Corporation (PUC), Sustainability for Seychelles and La Digue school.

In the morning stakeholders met in the La Digue community centre for presentation and discussions on the draft of La Digue's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Strategy. This strategy, funded by the IOC and the EU, focuses on identifying opportunities for renewable energy generation on La Digue and facilitating stakeholder consensus and engagement around this strategy.

Andrew Jean-Louis presented the draft plan to the audience which is still open for discussions and suggestions.



In his speech for the occasion the Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change Didier Dogley said La Digue is a place where one can walk freely on the road without being hindered by passing vehicles. And the president's vision of La Digue becoming the eco capital of the world means the island becoming a model for the world where renewable energy efficiency takes the lead on everything else.

And since then his ministry, helped by IOC and the EU, has been looking at different concepts and models but a very organised plan is still to be forwarded. During a previous workshop, everybody got the chance to have their input in that draft strategy.

"Everybody made comments, contributions so that we get the best for La Digue," Minister Dogley said.

He mentioned other plans for La Digue in the renewable and energy efficiency fields like a waste management plant, a centralised sewage system and a 5- megawatt plant.

There was also a presentation by the EU/IOC representative Lamberto Orilia from Programme ENERIES.

In the afternoon, partners of the La Digue school sustainability project met to celebrate the school's progress towards becoming a fully sustainable school.

La Digue school has been working with all stakeholders to develop a whole school approach to sustainability including renewable energy generation, resource efficiency sustainable waste management and environmental education.

The afternoon included a tour of the school's sustainability initiatives, tree planting and donation of a solar PV panel of 4kw by company Sunergy and accepted by head teacher Michel Madeleine and a student from La Digue secondary school. The trees, Bois de Natte and Bois de Renette, were donated by the Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA).



In a short address for the occasion, Minister Dogley said one of the ways to do things for the future of this planet is looking at renewable energy and also to start with the schools. And regarding the solar panels donated to the school, the minister described it as a means where pupils can learn about technology.

“Let’s put all the energy that we have to ensure that La Digue becomes the eco-capital of the world,” said Minister Dogley.

Head teacher Madeleine made a brief overview of the school’s sustainability project and added his school remains committed to making La Digue the eco capital of the world.

Ian Collie, deputy head teacher, also gave a brief summary of La Digue school’s sustainability project:

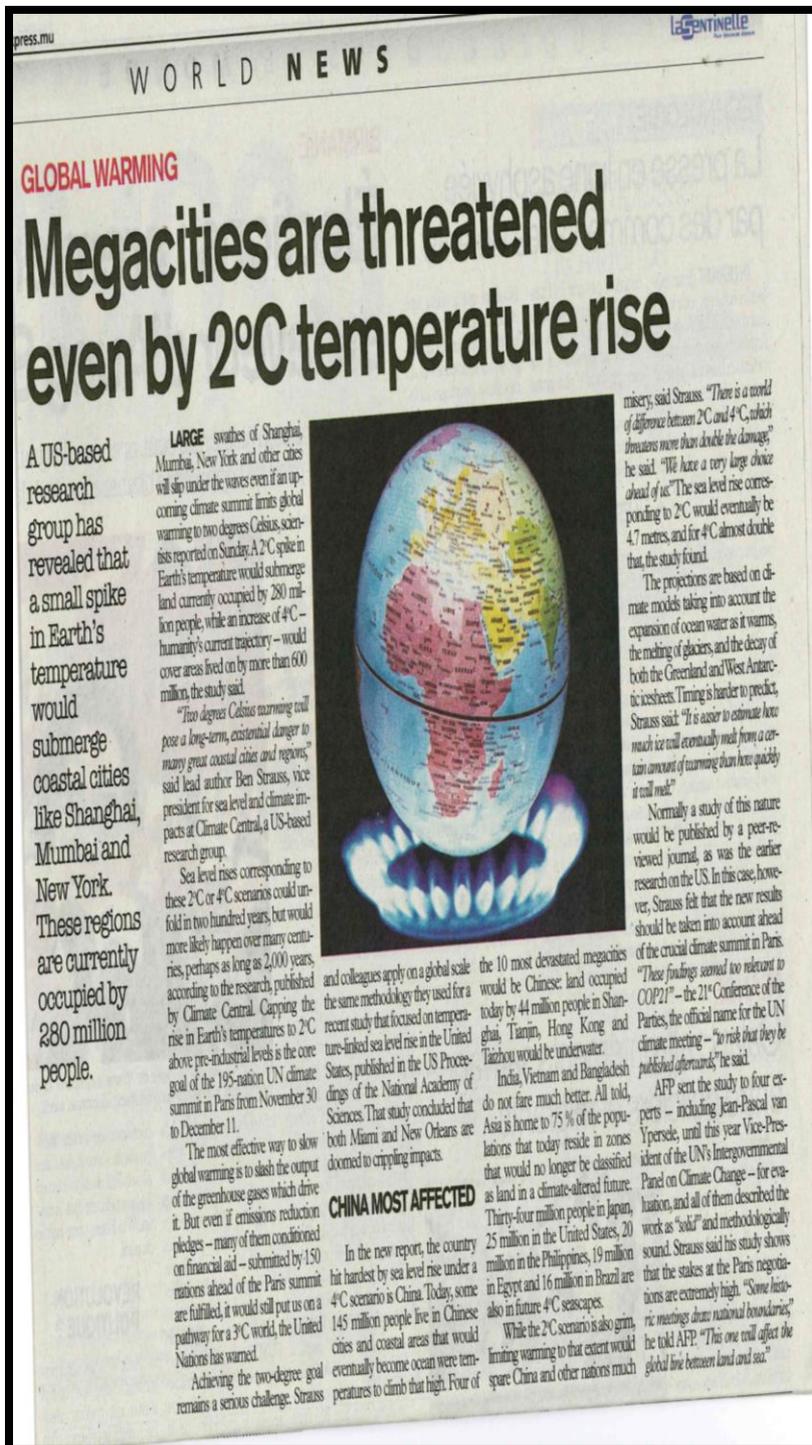
“We have already started installing our solar panels as you can see on the roof, water harvesting tanks, segregated the school’s waste in various ways, composting which can be used for planting of flowers around the school campus and being more efficient in electricity usage by using LED bulbs. La Digue school needs altogether 13KW energy from the solar panels which will reduce its electricity bill by 80 %.”

There was a small present to the head teacher from Minister Dogley.



<http://www.nation.sc/article.html?id=247417>

Changement Climatiques



Pêche



Why Machachari's Baha And Avril Are About To Eat A Lot Of Fish

November 12, 2015 By [Samora Samorai](#)



Avril, Baha of the Machachari Tv program and Harambee stars' striker, Paul Were, are planning to change your diet soon courtesy of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The three entertainment personalities will be pushing an agenda for wholesome living in a campaign called 'Eat Fish For A Better Life'.

This TV and Radio Campaigns have been supported by the EU funded – Indian Ocean Commission Smart Fish Programme (co-implemented by UNFAO – the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) in collaboration with the Government of Kenya.

The TV infomercial will officially start to air on the 21st of November 2015 (world fisheries day) on KTN and NTV while the radio Ad will be heard on Q Fm.

The "Eat fish for a better life" TV ad sees 3 celebrities; a Musician (Avril) and Footballer (Paul Were) in their daily work routine; Avril in the studio recording a track and Were on the training ground preparing for the next match.

The clock strikes lunchtime and they quickly leave whatever they are doing to rush over to their favourite Fish restaurant where an eager Baha is waiting for them as is the norm because he understands that his favourite musician and footballer have one thing in common, they both know the importance of that fish.

The radio Ad has 1fm radio presenter and MC Paul Mbuvi play as the voice of a journalist interviewing both Avril and Were who cut the interview short because the interview is eating into their "eat fish" time.

The Indian Ocean Commission SmartFish Programme is funded by the European Union and is one of the largest Programmes for fisheries in Africa. It has 20 beneficiary countries.

<http://niaje.com/why-machacharis-baha-and-avril-are-about-to-eat-a-lot-of-fish/>



Celebrities push fish eating campaign

November 11, 2015



Harambee stars striker and footballer Paul Were, singer Avril and actor Baha

BY GRACE KERONGO

Three entertainment personalities will be pushing an agenda for wholesome living in a campaign called 'Eat Fish For A Better Life'.

Musician Avril, actor Baha and Harambee Stars striker and footballer Paul Were will spearhead this remarkable never done before expedition.

The campaign aims to promote the consumption of local fish and remind the public not only of the tasty delicacy fish is but also its importance for our health and growth.

The TV and radio campaigns have been supported by the EU funded-Indian Ocean Commission SmartFish Programme (co-implemented by UNFAO, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations) in collaboration with the Government of Kenya.

The TV infomercial will officially start to air on November 21 which is the World Fisheries Day.

The TV advert will see the three celebrities in their daily work routine; Avril in the studio recording a track and Were on the training ground preparing for the next match.

The clock strikes lunchtime and they quickly leave whatever they are doing to rush over to their favourite Fish restaurant where an eager Baha is waiting for them as is the norm because he understands that his favourite musician and footballer have one thing in common — they both know the importance of fish.

<http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/celebrities-push-fish-eating-campaign>



Avril And Machachari's Baha Spotted Together. What Were They Up To?

10 November 2015 **Written by Sue Watiri**

Well, these are two people you are unlikely to see hanging out together due to their age difference, but they come together for a special cause.

The two and Harambee stars striker Paul Were spear-head a remarkable never done before expedition, the "Eat Fish for a better life" campaign.

This TV and Radio Campaign have been supported by the EU funded - Indian Ocean Commission SmartFish Programme (co-implemented by UNFAO - the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) in collaboration with the Government of Kenya. The TV infomercial will officially start to air on the 21st of November 2015 (world fisheries day) on KTN and NTV while the radio Ad will be heard on Q Fm.

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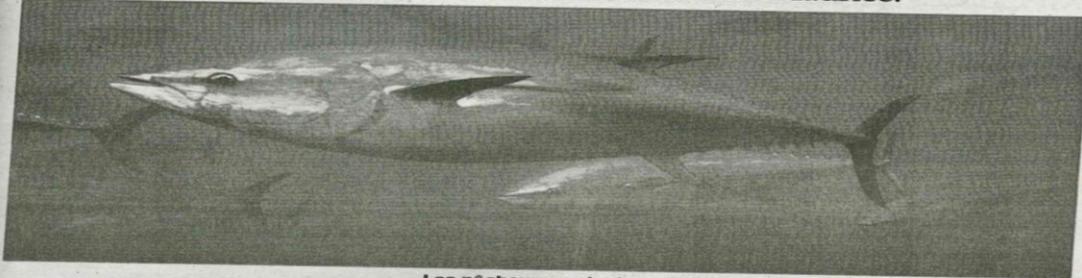
The radio Ad has 1fm radio presenter and MC Paul Mbuvi play as the voice of a journalist interviewing both Avril and Were who cut the interview short because the interview is eating into their "eat fish" time.

<http://www.ghafla.co.ke/blogs/music/4234-avril-and-machachari-s-baha-spotted-together-what-were-they-up-to>

BAIN-DES-DAMES

Les pêcheurs veulent prendre le large

Regroupés au sein de la Bain-des-Dames Fishermen Cooperative Society, les pêcheurs de cette région ambitionnent d'exploiter les bancs de poissons se trouvant dans la Zone économique exclusive de Maurice.



Les pêcheurs veulent exploiter les bancs qui regorgent de poissons.

Sortir des sentiers battus. C'est la philosophie derrière cette initiative soutenue tant par le Syndicat des pêcheurs et le Mouvement pour l'Autosuffisance Alimentaire (MMA). Pour Judex Rampaul, président du syndicat des pêcheurs, cet ambitieux projet a l'avantage de rendre les pêcheurs plus autonomes sur le plan financier. « Ils ne se feront plus à un lagon qui se vide de plus en plus de ses poissons, victimes d'une pollution causée par les activités humaines. Ils se rendront sur les bancs qui pullulent de poissons. » Et ils écoulent leurs prises à des prix plus abordables sur le marché local. Ce qui va leur permettre d'améliorer substantiellement leurs revenus mensuels. Il attire l'attention sur le fait qu'actuellement, un pêcheur arrive difficilement à gagner Rs 5 500 par mois. « Ce qui est loin du minimum vital des Rs 9 000 nécessaires pour permettre à une famille de vivre décemment », dit le syndicaliste.

Le pays fera aussi des économies en termes de devises, car ce projet va aider à réduire le volume de ses importations en poissons, qui tournait autour de 9 402 tonnes en 2013. Judex Rampaul avance que ce projet créera de l'emploi pour les femmes dans les faubourgs de la capitale, notamment à travers la vente de poissons. Le président du Syndicat des pêcheurs estime que cette

migration des pêcheurs vers le large va permettre au lagon de se ressourcer en poissons et autres fruits de mer.

Bateaux inutilisés

Éric Mangar, directeur du MMA, trouve le projet « intéressant » dans le sens qu'il va permettre aux Mauriciens de consommer du poisson, source inestimable de protéines à un prix raisonnable. Il y trouve un parallèle avec le projet *Serenity*, qu'il avait mis sur pied en 2013 et qui est géré avec succès par la *MED Fishermen Cooperative Society*.

Mais où trouver les bateaux ? La MMA et le Syndicat des pêcheurs ont fait une demande au ministère de la Pêche pour que trois bateaux, appartenant au *Fishermen Investment Trust* et qui sont inutilisés, leur soient alloués. Ils projettent de faire l'acquisition d'un bateau de 18 mètres du Japon. Des contacts ont déjà été établis à cet effet avec un agent japonais. Côté financement, ils vont solliciter une aide du ministère de la Pêche, de la Commission de l'Océan Indien (COI) et de l'Union européenne. Ils vont leur soumettre bientôt une copie de leur projet.

Des pêcheurs ont été formés à la pêche sur des bancs et la préservation des poissons frigorifiés.

Mario Boutia
m.boutia@defimedia.info

Economie

Seychelles islands woo African businesses to become hub for African trade

November 12, 2015



Products of a Seychellois owned company Amirante Fisheries made from by-catch from the tuna canning industry. The owner of the business has started to network with African countries to promote the exportation of the different processed fish products. (Patrick Joubert, Seychelles News Agency)

([Seychelles News Agency](#)) - In spite of being small in size compared to other African countries, Seychelles an archipelago in the western Indian Ocean is aiming to become the hub for **trade** between African countries.

The island nation wants to emulate countries like Singapore which is today the centre in Asia for trading in commodities globally.

After taking steps to promote the blue economy concept on the international scene, Seychelles is now looking at bringing African nations together through trade.

Speaking to the press at a meeting dubbed the '**African Prosperity conference**' that is being hosted by the island nation since Tuesday, the Chairman of the Seychelles Chamber of Commerce and Industry, (**SCCI**) **Marco Francis** called for greater partnership between African nations.

"I have travelled to many parts of Africa. **Africa** has some very good structures to do business. African businessmen have the same vision as we do, they want to do business and they want to expand. Let's partner together."

Francis noted that today **trade** between African countries stands at only 16 percent while the majority of the continent's imports are from European and Asian countries.

As part of efforts to boost regional **trade**, leaders from 26 African countries joined together in June this year to sign an ambitious declaration in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt to establish a wide-reaching free-trade zone across almost the entire eastern half of the African continent.

The Tripartite Free **Trade** Agreement (TFTA), which incorporates member countries from the East African Community (**EAC**), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern **Africa (COMESA)** and the Southern African Development Community (**SADC**), will stretch from the southernmost tip of the continent to the northernmost country of Egypt.

Seychelles was also among the countries that signed the agreement which is aiming to ease **trade** between African nations.

In the case of the Indian Ocean archipelago for example, the biggest trading partner is France, with **trade** figures amounting to just under a billion Seychelles rupees (\$76 million) of imports and SCR 1.6 billion (\$127 million) of exports in 2012.

Although Seychelles regional imports to COMESA, SADC and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) totalled a substantial 2.8 billion Seychelles rupees (\$214 million) in 2012, this was offset by weak reciprocal exports of only SCR50.2 million (\$3.8 million) with Seychelles' regional neighbours in 2012, indicating that much more can still be done to promote the exportation of Seychelles' goods to other African countries.



SCCI Chairman **Marco Francis** addressing delegates at the Conference on

Tuesday. (Joena Bonnelame, Seychelles News Agency) Photo License: [CC-BY](#)

Francis noted that some of the goods that African countries are buying from European and Asian countries are readily available on the African continent adding that not buying directly from those neighbouring countries means more money is being spent.

“We need to remove all of those barriers. Some of the barriers are air access, vessel infrastructure to transport containers etc..These are what we need to develop to make it easier to import within **Africa** instead of other countries,” explains Francis.

Another barrier impeding cross-border **trade** between African countries relates to prohibitive visa rules and air links that often restrict the movement of businessmen to establish partnerships in neighbouring states. The subject has been proposed to the African Union (AU) and further to that the conference will feature discussions on the matter with the organisation.

“We believe that through **trade Africa** can be united because through **trade** we are speaking the same language. **Trade** does not include ethnicity, religion and race division; in **trade** there is only one language; profitability,” added Francis.

The president of the Tanzanian Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Peter Chisawillo, says he is fascinated by the speed of Seychelles' economic growth and is keen to look into areas of cooperation between the two countries.

“I see great business opportunities in Seychelles, for example tourism. In my country people do not recognise Seychelles as tourism destination,” says Chisawillo adding that exploiting and retaining wealth is also key for the development of the African continent.

SNA also spoke to a local businessman James Lesperance, owner of Amirantes Fisheries, about how he sees **trade** with Africa.

“**Africa** has a lot of potential. I have already started to do business with some **Africa** countries within my fish processing company. My target is to offer them a more competitive price compared to other Asian markets. All African countries have their riches but we need to cut the processing and transportation costs, so as to facilitate the trading process,” says Lesperance.



The **Africa** Prosperity Conference has been an opportunity for Seychelles businessmen to establish links with other African countries at the same time allowed other African nations to network with one another. (Joena Bonnelame, Seychelles News Agency) Photo License: CC-BY

The **Africa** Prosperity Conference which is coming to an end today is being organized under the umbrella of **Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PACCI)**. This is a network of 34 national chambers of commerce of **Africa** established in 2009.

Participants of the conference also include organisations such as the PTA Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in **Africa** (BADEA), and regional organisations such as the African Union Commission.

The conference has focussed mainly on exploring and growing potential exports from African countries while ensuring that there is access to essential information on the Continental Free **Trade** Area.

<http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/4065/Seychelles+islands+woo+African+businesses+to+become+hub+for+African+trade>