

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

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CONTACTS

Officer in charge

Raj Mohabeer
raj.mohabeer@coi-ioc.org
Phone: (230) 913 94 16

Team leader

Christophe Legrand
christophe.legrand@coi-ioc.org
Phone: (230) 942 28 66

Economist of the project

Riccardo Magini
riccardo.magini@coi-ioc.org
Phone: (230) 250 29 03

Project manager

Laurent De Block
laurent.deblock@mwhglobal.com
Phone: (32) 2 655 22 65

Expert ICT for Education/Communication

Virginie Torrens
virginie.torrens@coi-ioc.org
Phone: (230) 250 29 04

Communication Specialist

Andry Rasoanindrainy
andry.rasoanindrainy@coi-ioc.org
Phone: (230) 942 49 52

Blue Tower, 4th floor, Rue de l'Institut,
Ebène, Mauritius
Phone: (+230) 402 61 00
Fax: (+230) 466 01 60
secretariat.islands@coi-ioc.org
www.coi-ioc.org



INDIAN OCEAN
COMMISSION



ISLANDS Project
Supporting Sustainable Development
in the Indian Ocean Region





OVERALL :

To contribute to an increased level of social, economic and environmental development as well as deeper regional integration in the Eastern and Southern Africa - Indian Ocean (ESA-IO) region through the sustainable development of SIDS.

SPECIFIC :

To accelerate the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy in the Eastern and Southern Africa - Indian Ocean (ESA-IO) region.

Targeted countries :

Comoros, France (La Réunion), Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zanzibar

Other participating countries:

Cape Verde, Maldives, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe

Duration:

1st phase - August 2011 to September 2013

The Mauritius Strategy (MS) for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was adopted by 129 countries and territories in the global conference held in Mauritius, January 2005.

It addresses the unique development problems of SIDS and sets out the basic principles and specific actions required at the national, regional and international levels to support sustainable development.

It covers various economic, social and environment sectors in 20 thematic chapters, and recognizes the need for building capacity to implement sustainable development policies.

Whilst MS sets out clearly the strategic objectives, accompanied by well-defined vehicles for accomplishing change and well-articulated adaptive mechanisms to respond to each of the thematic issues delineated in its 20 thematic Chapters, it has shed less light on the tools and mechanisms for its implementation.

This programme seeks to bridge these gaps by:

- providing a coherent process at national and regional levels towards sustainable development by contextualizing the 20 themes;
- clearly identifying key actions required, and the amount of resources required to achieve the expected results; and
- formulating a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) mechanism for countries to gauge their performances towards the implementation of MS.

Innovative pillars of the programme are: regional cooperation and integration, SIDS-SIDS knowledge exchanges, and a methodology to deal with the large asymmetries between the developmental stages of the beneficiary countries.



- 1 Implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system of the Mauritius Strategy on a national, regional and international level;
- 2 Four flagship projects contributing to the mitigation of SIDS vulnerabilities are supported.
 - A Regional Coral Reefs Facility (CRF) is operational
 - Capacities for Risk Financing Mechanisms against natural and climatic disasters adapted to the Region are assessed and the setting-up of identified mechanisms is supported;
 - The development of National Sustainable Development Strategies is supported
 - The WIO Coastal Challenge (WIO-CC) is operational
- 3 ESA-IO SIDS are supported in the development and consolidation of their capacities to leverage investments and other commitments for the support of national and regional programmes and interventions in four thematic areas.
- 4 International partnerships and increased international investments and other programme support for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy in the ESA-IO SIDS are strengthened.