



## **REPORT OF THE FIRST REGIONAL WORKSHOP OF THE WIO-COASTAL CHALLENGE PLATFORM OF ISLANDS, PROJECT OF IOC**

**13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of March 2012, CCIC, Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Upon an official invitation from the President of the Platform WIO-CC and funding from IOC through its program ISLANDS, the first regional workshop of the regional committee of the WIO-CC was held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2012, the CCIC of Mahe. After the opening speech of the host country representative, Mr Wills Agricole, Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment, Seychelles, all delegates were presented themselves at a round table, indicating their country /institutional affiliation, and their functions. The list of participants is presented in Appendix 1 of the report.

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

In his opening speech, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Energy and President of the WIO-CC, Mr Wills, stressed upon the fact that in 2007 the President of Seychelles, SE. Mr James Michel, had suggested the WIO-CC platform be used as a regional initiative to fight against the impacts of climate change and reduce vulnerability of the people. He reminded the role and responsibility of the platform to catalyze and strengthen the existing coordination mechanisms and partnerships at regional and national levels. Furthermore, he said that the goal is to develop and promote, within the next eighteen months, a strategic framework for the next twenty years.

Mr Agricole also noted that climate change is a global challenge and requires urgent action in order for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and sustainable ecosystem management to succeed.

Finally, Mr Agricole appealed to catalyze and mobilize partners for actions under the WIO-CC.

Mr Agricole concluded his presentation by officially opening the meeting.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

Following the opening remarks, the facilitator, Mr Harifidy Raolison, presented the objectives, expected results and the provisional agenda of the workshop (see Appendix 2). He invited delegates to propose changes.

Mr Agricole suggested that his presentation on the role of the platform was reported to day 2. Christophe Legrand advised that his speech was focused on an overview of the ISLANDS project and its implementation (video and explanation).

The agenda was adopted with one amendment.

### **3. Role of the Seychelles in the activation of the Challenge, vision and strategy for the next 20 years, organization chart of the WIO-CC**

The presentation of Wills Agricole was focused on a valid explanation for creating the platform WIO-CC, its objectives, its actions and mode of operation.

WIO-CC and is thus an area rich in biodiversity (the second after the Coral Triangle) but very vulnerable due to various factors. Its constitution was dictated to cope with ever increasing threats of climate change, to harmonize national and/or sectorial strategies, regional programs, for data to

optimize monitoring systems and finally, increase the efficiency of resource allocated to field activities.

Besides identifying their challenges, it will also determine solutions to problems based on national priorities, allowing the development of knowledge on climate change, create a network of pilot sites on good practices and also encourage sustainable financing for the implementation of adaptation strategies.

Finally, in collaboration with the GLISPA, Seychelles suggested that the region be initiated to "The economy of coastal areas in the context of climate change."

#### **4. Presentation of the ISLANDS Project**

A video of the project was projected. Then the Project Manager, provided details on support to the Presidency of the WIO-CC. For this purpose, it was emphasized that a Regional Technical Advisor will support the Presidency to ensure coordination of its activities in relation to the result 2.4 of ISLANDS project. In addition, through the chapter dedicated to Coral Reefs, the project will participate in the development of WIO-CC.

#### **5. Current international practices**

Ambassador Jumeau, newly appointed Ambassador of Seychelles for Climate Change, detailed his activities over the past 3 years, including as a member of GLISPA (Global Partnership island). He mentioned the principles that dictate GLISPA strategies, including, amongst others, the facilitation of research funding and strengthening the partnership between the islands.

He also highlighted the success of the Micronesia Challenge, which, he says, is because it is a head of state and not a minister who has provided for its leadership.

The impact of climate change is a crosscutting issue; the challenge we are launching is also a challenge for sustainable development (including finance, education, foreign affairs, agriculture).

#### **6. Existing strategies**

The presentation of strategies that exist in the region concerned the WIO-LaB WIOMER, WIOMSA. In addition, information on ICZM Protocol, currently being developed and proposed to be adopted at COP 7 of the Nairobi Convention in December 2012, and various regional projects were presented during the session.

The presentation helped to confirm the importance of taking into account climate change in the strategies of regional initiatives.

#### **7. Exercise on the vision of the WIO-CC**

A brainstorming session identified the key words that will inspire the vision of the platform. Then, the following draft vision was prepared in English:

« By 2032, in the face of climate change threats, the Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge will be a strong and vocal partnership of WIO islands and coastal countries and stakeholders, working together to build and implement climate-resilient development options and strategies to achieve enhanced coastal livelihoods and economies, and human security among coastal communities.

This will be achieved through:

- Building strong political commitment and effective engagement of stakeholders;
- Setting up sustainable financing mechanisms and technical support;
- Strengthening SIDS-SIDS and South-South collaboration and broader experience sharing;
- Using science-based decision support and adequate knowledge management systems;
- Integrated management and ecosystem-based approaches;
- Inclusion of education and awareness for children; and
- Improving capacity at multiple levels.”

This draft will have to be improved furthermore as the process continues and other proposals from the participants will enrich this version before the final decision is taken during the next meeting of the platform in September 2012.

## **8. Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C)**

The WIO-C is a group of organizations and international and regional organisms working to support the partnership for growth of marine research, conservation and management in the WIO region, whose main activities are the emphasis on networking, coordination, lobbying, decision support, resource mobilization, development and implementation of programs.

According to the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention, joint programming by the different structures existing actions can generate a lot of financial resources. Thus, a commitment to a program from the Regional Strategic Action Plan (the first action plan of the region) could be a major achievement.

## **9. Country presentations**

During this session, each represented country was invited to present the current situation at national level on climate change following a definite plan. After each presentation, the discussions focused on the links between projects, initiatives and existing structures at national and regional levels, for which there must be complementarity and above all, capitalization of knowledge (reports of studies and meetings, monitoring of the various activities of existing working groups such as the Coral Reef group).

**Comoros:** The impacts of climate change manifested by the destruction of soil by desiccation, salinization and erosion, alteration of tourist attractions (wildlife) and ecosystem destruction of coastal infrastructure and the rise of the ocean’s temperature with coral bleaching and the development of food poisoning. Projects and initiatives include: capacity building for analysis, the establishment and strengthening of prevention and risk management operations and pilot regeneration of mangroves.

**France (Reunion):** She focused her presentation on IOC activities that were conducted in Reunion and in particular the various workshops and ACCLIMATE project products that could serve as a basis or reference to the activities of the WIO-CC. Infrastructure monitoring and satellite applications have been exposed, including: maritime surveillance, monitoring of coastlines, biodiversity ...

**Kenya:** He stressed that the impacts costs of climate change in 2030 would amount to 3% of GDP. The most pronounced impacts are the decrease in the cycle of famine onset of 20 to 2 years from 1964 to 2009 and poverty.

Madagascar: Climate change is manifested by an increase in temperature and precipitation intensity at an uneven distribution level, but also by a tendency to decrease. Activities are conducted by different government institutions and NGOs. The Ministry of Environment has established a Directorate of climate change that has developed, among others, policy and national strategy for climate change.

Mauritius: The observations showed, among other things, an increase in the average temperature of 0.7° to 1.2° from 1961 to 1990, the frequency of heavy rain (but declining annual rainfall), the intensity of cyclones and sea level. Several initiatives have been undertaken since 1998 to cope with climate change impacts, including: the protection of species of mangrove and coral, the development of the national structure of integrated coastal zone management and the implementation of the African Program adaptation to climate change.

Mozambique: In addition to changes in rainfall patterns, climate change has caused fluctuations in water levels and effects on infrastructure and irrigation systems. The drought has led to such a wide spread of negative impacts across the country. Various projects are focused in different districts of coastal climate change adaptation. This is for example for the construction, use of local raw materials resistant to storms, the introduction of crops resistant to drought, the introduction of water harvesting systems and other techniques for pasture. The government has also included the issue of climate change in the provincial development plans and district.

Seychelles: Rising sea levels contaminating agricultural land becoming unusable, coastal erosion, soil pollution due to rain, drought attributed to climate change. The government is implementing its multisectoral national strategy for adaptation to climate change.

Zanzibar: The current climate variability leads to extreme events such as floods, storms and droughts that lead to significant economic costs and affect the livelihoods. Thus, it is urgent to strengthen the capacity of the Meteorological Agency of Zanzibar, the Marine Institute and other institutions that provide and analyze weather data and to integrate climate change into sustainable development plans.

## 10. Report of the Day 1

The facilitator began the session with a summary of activities and discussions of the first day. The following points were highlighted:

- " The upgrade of the understanding of the initiative
- " The distinction between the regional platform WIO-CC and ISLANDS project of IOC, which provides only technical and financial support over a specified period.
- " The contribution to the schedule of the Nairobi Convention COP, which will be an opportunity to present the WIO-CC to begin high-level political mobilization.
- " The anchoring of the platform?
- " The International Practices: GLISPA, how others challenges have been successful: preparing an idea / structure in order to finance future activities of the WIO-CC.
- " The exercise of vision helped to highlight key words constituting a good basis for reflection on what we want for the WIO-CC.
- " Joint programming (and other country initiatives and existing structures) can generate a lot of opportunities and resources.
- " The presentations of the countries helped to have a good overview on the activities and initiatives related to climate change.

“ The minutes of the Workshop on Marine Protected Areas & Climate Change on World Heritage sites (Reunion 14-16 February 2012) revealed that it might be interesting to link the initiative of the Heritage world with the WIO-CC.

## 11. Operating mode of the platform WIO-CC

The concept is based on mobilizing countries to involve themselves into actions for the sustainable conservation of livelihoods.

It is important to make a distinction between the project and the presidency ISLANDS WIO-CC. Relations between the WIO-CC (consortium of governments), the WIO-C (NGO consortium) and the IOC were, moreover, clarified: the WIO-CC is an initial consultation for a long term mission and is supported financially and technically by the IOC via ISLANDS to give a regional or even global dimension. The WIO-C, a partner of the Nairobi Convention, is also providing technical support to the WIO-CC. All these support entities will be a lever and it is important to bring together the various entities within the platform.

Mr Wills Agricole, provided by the Seychelles, represents the Presidency.

## 12. Group work

Three groups debated on various topics and the results are listed below:

**Group 1:** Integrating climate change into national strategies / plans / actions – Monitoring Systems of climate change and regional networking [Madagascar, Comoros, Reunion, Seychelles (Aurelie, Vincent, Bu), JICA]

Evaluation/Networks	Restrictions	Solutions	Suggestions
Presence of automatic meteorological stations (Seychelles).	Low financial cost, Lack of expertise to keep them.	There was a mission of Reunion island to maintain weather stations;  Another mission of Kenya came for agriculture.	The Reunion island is ahead; it should expand its experiences to other countries.
Harmonization of institutional efforts at national and regional levels.			The ISLANDS Project can help WIO-CC to establish a strategy and provide long-term support to assess networks if the WIO-CC wants to continue.
Standardization of equipment to keep them.			
Extension and integration of marine and terrestrial measures.		Project on salinity measures of the earth and evaluating different types of land.	Access to existing information,

		Japan has implemented an action plan to fight against coastal erosion in Seychelles, which is being finalized and will be ready by the end of May.  GIS (analysis software for coastlines – too expensive)	Data sharing,  Using free GIS software.
How to minimize the impact of climate change to measure the quantity of carbon			
Data Coordinating Center (weather/Agriculture) on CC.	There are data on agriculture, except for coastal areas.	A workshop was conducted for the pooling of data on weather (ACCLIMATE Project).	Need to extend these workshops to the establishment of the regional coordination center, and technical support; capitalize all the gains of the IOC on climate change and ICZM (documents).
Seasonal agricultural regional forecasting workshop.		Initiative of the IOC, end of 2012.	

It lacks a draft TOR for consultants on the inventory of activities, we must conduct studies and make analyzes from weaknesses in order to find a common approach for integrating climate change into national actions.

The ISLANDS project manager said that the support of this project WIO-CC would be limited to the action plan adopted at the workshop aiming at developing the vision, political mobilization at regional level, the development of a strategic framework and an action plan to be achieved in the next 18 months and the structuring of the WIO-CC, rather than supporting specific activities for the CC.

Group 2: Assessing economic impacts of climate change in coastal areas [Mozambique, Seychelles [Billy, John Begum, Michel (NGO)) Christophe, JICA]

Work focused on a draft of Terms of Reference of regional and national consultants on the assessment.

Thus, the consultants will use the structure/process of ICZM to:

- Understand the context;
- Align the methodology;
- Being oriented towards sources / owners of documents or data.

<b>Senior Regional Consultant</b>	<b>National Consultant</b>
Develop a common methodology for all countries (for more information, collection - paper review).	
Supervise national consultants.	
Develop common criteria for evaluating economic impacts of climate change.	Develop common criteria for evaluating economic impacts of climate change.
Collect information (any type of data and numbers, spending cyclone, etc..) That will assist or help assess the economic impact of climate change.	Collect information (any type of data and numbers, spending cyclone, etc..) That will assist or help assess the economic impact of climate change.
Inventory of existing studies reports by sector - to analyze the differences; formulate recommendations.	Inventory of existing studies reports by sector - to analyze the differences; formulate recommendations.
Show the impact of climate change on economies, based on existing studies and statistical data.	Show the impact of climate change on economies, based on existing studies and statistical data.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Chronogram</b>
Report on the methodology adopted	May 2012
Consultation report at country level	Mid-may 2012
Compilation of all existing studies and data that can help in the economic evaluation (country level and multi)	End of June 2012
Reporting to national actors	Early July 2012
Presentation of final report to the WIO-CC	August 2012

Group 3: Mode and institutional structure of the regional platform WIO-CC in relation to other regional processes (ambassador Jumeau, Dixon, Mauritius, Seychelles, Kenya, Zanzibar, Hervé)

Regional Platform	Stakeholders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Presidency guides short and long-term visions.</li> <li>- Recruiting the coordinator and national focal points (to help the long-term vision).</li> <li>- The Presidency is independent in the long term as part of Nairobi Convention and IOC.</li> <li>- The Presidency will work with the IOC to bring the voices of the islands WIO-CC.</li> <li>- The Presidency will work with the Nairobi Convention.</li> <li>- The Presidency will work with the states of the continent.</li> <li>- The Presidency will establish mechanisms to coordinate and develop partnerships between WIO-C and WIO-CC.</li> <li>- The President will use the platform of the COP to harmonize the messages between the islands and mainland.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Presidency of the WIO-CC will work closely with stakeholders, members of the WIO-C.</li> <li>- Liaise with SADC, COMESA, IGAD, and the regional economics organizations.</li> <li>- As far as possible, the national focal point of the WIO-CC and that of the Nairobi Convention could be the same person;</li> <li>- If this not the case, the two national focal points will work very closely.</li> </ul>

### 13. Timing of interventions

In order to move forward in the calendar, the president of WIO-CC has reviewed the objectives of the workshop in order to assess whether they were achieved, then made comments and observations:

Objective 1 was achieved. The Chair clarified that the platform WIO-CC is not an obligation but a voluntary engagement different from other commitments (such as the Nairobi Convention or the IOC). The vision must be clear.

Objective 2 was also achieved in terms of presentations and group work whose results are encouraging.

Objective 3 emerged clearly in the presentations and discussions in plenary or in groups.

Two other technical workshops of the Platform will take place in September and December 2012. The venue for the second meeting and the exact date has not yet been determined.

## 14. Closing speech

Ambassador Ronny Jumeau thanked countries, participants and the IOC. He assured the political commitment of Seychelles to take the challenge under the leadership of President Michel and invited representatives to continue to support the initiative that he will introduce and support at international level as Ambassador of Seychelles on Climate Change.

## 15. Recommendations and Conclusion

The presentations and ensuing discussions have ensured a levelling of the information on the justification for the implementation of WIO-CC, its objectives and its operation. It was stressed during the meeting on the need for advocacy Challenge with technical and financial partners using the existing permanent structures such as the IOC and the Nairobi Convention.

Under the leadership of the President of Seychelles, itself, and its ambassador for climate change, who wished to recall that, like that of Micronesia, the challenge being launched today is ambitious and requires the full voluntary participation of each country.

Participants agreed on resolutions and recommendations below:

The **dates** of next meetings are maintained in September and December 2012.

The final version of the **vision** will be developed after the participants have referred to the facilitator (who will circulate by email the current version) observations. It will be presented at the next meeting of the WIO-CC or if necessary, before RIO+20.

The country representatives are invited before the next meeting to **explain** to their superiors what the WIO-CC exactly is and request that their representative is far as possible, otherwise the National Focal Point for the Nairobi Convention at least one person who will sit **at least 2 years** within the platform. A commitment of countries to participate in the Challenge is desired.

Countries communicate to WIO-CC (via his presidency) a list of their political **commitments** so that the platform may take into account the integration of projects, initiatives and political elements in the preparation of documents.

The Minister of Environment of Seychelles will send a **letter of thanks** to all the environment ministers of the member countries of the WIO-CC for the appointment of focal points and to create interest while hoping their continued participation.

In order to have political support from other countries, **the conference of environment ministers** of Africa, to be held in July 2013, is a lever at the African Union; President of Seychelles could initiate calls to other presidents at the next COP of the Nairobi Convention. GLISPA will also organize meetings during these major events.

It is important and recommended to **consider different sectorial strategies** (food security, water, etc.) for the implementation of various actions and Integration.

It is essential to **know** and understand **the information/data available in the region**, before beginning studies on the economic evaluation of the impacts of climate change (the suggestion of

the team leader ISLANDS, economist Project was proposed for the identification of a subject matter expert, to develop its terms of reference, to publish the announcement).

To have every chance of funding, it must convince governments with evidence and economic arguments by including the benefits for communities. The objective of sustainable development is an important aspect.

**APPENDIX 1: OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA****Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge Platform  
First Regional Technical Workshop****Wednesday, March 14 and Thursday, March 15, 2012  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm****Chair: Wills Agricole****Venue: Seychelles****Meeting Objectives:**

- 1) Mobilize WIO country level engagement and commitment to move forward the Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge (WIO-CC) to build a common vision and regional strategy that addresses climate change impacts on coastal and marine ecosystems;
- 2) Define roles and responsibilities of the WIO-CC Platform members and other stakeholders to advance common objectives and priorities; and
- 3) Consult and receive input to develop the WIO Coastal Challenge over the next 18 months through support from the ISLANDS project.

**Meeting Outputs:**

- WIO-Coastal Challenge platform country members committed and engaged with clear understanding of the benefits of the Challenge;
- Champions-for forwarding political commitment and country ownership identified;
- Roles and responsibilities of WIO-CC Platform and coordination mechanism to operationalize WIO . CC defined and understood with different stakeholders;
- Input for implementation of ISLANDS Work Plan to operationalize WIO-CC: operational plan developed; and
- Next steps identified.

**Participants:**

1. Seychelles Government officials
2. WIO-CC Platform chair and focal points from Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros, Madagascar, Tanzania/Zanzibar, Reunion, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa.
3. Representatives from regional bodies, including Nairobi Convention Secretariat and Indian Ocean Commission
4. Representatives from WIO regional projects including ISLANDS and Climate Change Project
5. Representatives from WIO-Consortium including WIOMSA, WWF, and WCS
6. GLISPA Representative

**Supporting Documents:**

- Draft Terms of Reference for WIO-Coastal Challenge Platform
- WIO-CC Strategic Flow Chart
- Draft ISLANDS Implementation Plan and Timeline for Flagship 2.4 to operationalize Western Indian Ocean . Coastal Challenge

## MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

Time	Duration	Issue	Content	Speaker/ Facilitator	Activity/Process
<b>MORNING SESSION</b>					
9:00 am	20 minutes	Opening	Welcoming participants  Introductions	B. de Lestang National Program Coordinator  PS of Env Seychelles	
9:20 am	10 min	Review Agenda	Review objectives and outputs, and agenda of meeting	Fidy	WIO-Consortium (WIO-C) member
9:30 am	30 min	Seychelles as a catalyst for WIO-Coastal Challenge	- Role of Seychelles in catalyzing the Challenge  - Rationale for 20 year Vision and strategy  - WIO-CC Strategy Flow Chart	Wills Agricole, President, WIO-CC Platform	10 min for discussion/  Questions
10:00 am	15 min	Break (coffee and tea)			
10:15 am	30 min	ISLANDS Project	Presentation of support for the operationalization of the WIO-CC by ISLANDS project	Christophe Legrand, Team Leader	10 min for discussion/ questions
10:45 am	15 min	Global Practices	Lessons learned from other regional challenges (Coral Triangle, Micronesia, and Caribbean)	Ambassador Jumeau	Co-chair of GLISPA steering committee

11:00 am	15 min		Questions/Discussions	Fidy	WIO-C
11:15 am	60 min	Visioning Exercise	Presentation on existing strategies  Brainstorming exercise to engage participants in defining 20 year vision for WIO-CC	Chantal  Fidy/Tim	WIO-C Facilitator
12:35 pm	10min	WIO-Consortium (WIO-C)	Presentation of WIO-Consortium	Tim Andrews, WIOMSA	WIOMSA, WIO-C Secretariat
12:45 pm		Lunch			
<b>AFTERNOON SESSION</b>					
2:00 pm					
3:00	120 min	Country level Climate change strategy	Presentation of the integration of climate change into country level programs and plans by WIO-CC country level focal points	15 minutes x 8 presentations	8-10 min presentation with 5-7 minutes for comments/questions
4:00 pm	15 min	Break (coffee and tea)			
4:15 pm	15 min	Other complimentary Regional Workshops and meetings	Presentation of recommendations and summary from Climate Change and MPA workshop in Cape Town and meeting on Marine World Heritage Sites held in La Reunion (February)	Tim Andrews	WIO/C member that participated in both events
4:30 pm	15 min		Questions/Discussions	Fidy/Tim	
4:45 pm	15 min		Wrap up	Fidy	
5:00 pm		End of Day			

Thursday, March 15, 2012

Time	Duration	Issue	Content	Speaker/ Facilitator	Activity/Process
<b>MORNING SESSION</b>					
9:00 am	15 min	Review of Day 1	Summary	WIO-C Fidy	
9:15 am	30 min	Mode of Operation of WIO-CC Platform	Presentation of responsibilities WIO-CC Platform and partners to move forward implementation plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presidency</li> <li>- Focal Points</li> <li>- Technical Advisor</li> <li>- GLISPA</li> <li>- WIO-Consortium members</li> <li>- IOC/Nairobi Convention ISLANDS project</li> </ul>	Wills	
9:45 am	15 min	Discussion	Questions/Clarifications	Facilitator	
10:00 am	30 min	Break (coffee and tea)			

10:30 am	120 min	Input for the KR 2.4 Implementation Plan	<b>Focus Group Discussions:</b> 1 Integration of CC into national strategies/ plans/actions Regional and country level climate change monitoring systems and networks . Tim- 2 Evaluation of economic impacts of climate change on coastal areas - Fidy 3 Mode of operation and institutional structure of the WIO-CC Regional Platform in relation to the other regional processes . Wills 4 P	3 groups . Designate someone to report out; groups to be facilitated by Fidy, Tim and Wills	Input for terms of reference to mobilize 29 PM of Short Term Expertise (STE)
12:30 pm		Lunch			
<b>AFTERNOON SESSION</b>					
1:30 pm	90 min	Report out from Focus Groups	Working Groups	2 or 4 groups	Presentation and comments/questions for each group
3:00 pm	45 min	ISLANDS project support	Presentation of ISLANDS phase I (PE1) of 18 month Implementation Plan to operationalize WIO-CC	Presentation by Wills	
3:45 pm	15 min	Break			
4:00 pm	1 hour	Next Steps	- Time line of events - Upcoming engagements/meetings	Facilitated by Wills Discussion	
5:00 pm		End of Day	Closing Remarks by Ambassador Jumeau	Vice-Chair GLISPA	

**APPENDIX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge Platform****First Regional Technical Workshop****14-15 March 2012, Seychelles**

<b>ISLANDS</b>	(1)	<p>Christophe LEGRAND</p> <p>Team Leader (ISLANDS)</p> <p>OIC</p> <p><i>Add:</i> 112 Avenue Farquhar, Quatre-Bornes</p> <p>Mob: +230 9422866</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:Christophe.legrand@coi-ioc.org">Christophe.legrand@coi-ioc.org</a></p>
	(2)	<p>Christophe RAOELINA</p> <p>Expert and Economist</p> <p>ISLANDS Project (OIC)</p> <p><i>Add:</i> 112 Avenue Farquhar, Quatre-Bornes</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +230 4272583</p> <p>Mob: +230 9422865</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:Christophe.raoelina@coi-ioc.org">Christophe.raoelina@coi-ioc.org</a></p>
	(3)	<p>Bhoomika MANNICK</p> <p>Project Assistant</p> <p>ISLANDS Project</p> <p><i>Add:</i> 112 Avenue Farquhar, Quatre-Bornes</p>

		<i>Tel: +230 4272583</i>
<b>Kenya</b>	(1)	<p>Stephen KATUA</p> <p>Deputy Director ó Coastal Marine &amp; Fresh waters</p> <p>National Environment Management Authority</p> <p><i>Add: P.O Box67839 CODE 00200</i></p> <p>Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p><i>Tel: +254-721210267</i></p> <p><i>Email: <a href="mailto:stephenkatua@yahoo.com">stephenkatua@yahoo.com</a></i></p>
<b>Comoros</b>	(1)	<p>Djamal-Dine SAID</p> <p><i>Agent du ministère de l'Environnement (INRAPE)</i></p> <p>Union des Comores</p> <p><i>Add: Moroni /Union Des Comores</i></p> <p><i>Tel: (00269) 3318984</i></p> <p><i>Email: <a href="mailto:djasaid01@hotmail.com">djasaid01@hotmail.com</a></i></p>
<b>Reunion</b>	(1)	<p>Michel ALDON</p> <p><i>Directeur du Projet SAR,</i></p> <p><i>Référent Technique du groupe CC Islands</i></p> <p><i>Add: Hôtel de Région</i></p> <p>Ave. René Casseri Fonfia</p> <p>BP 7190</p> <p>97719 St Denis Cedex</p> <p><i>Tel: (0262) 482898</i></p>

		<p><i>Mob:</i> (0692) 772505</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:michel.aldon@cr.reunion.fr">michel.aldon@cr.reunion.fr</a></p>
<b>Madagascar</b>	(1)	<p>Chantal ANDRIANARIVO</p> <p>Representative</p> <p><i>Add:</i> BP 3203 6 101 Antananarivo Madagascar</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +261 33 14 23959</p> <p>+261 34 20 23959</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:chantandri@gmail.com">chantandri@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>Japan</b>	(1)	<p>Tsutomu KURIHARA</p> <p>A member in charge of climate Change Analysis</p> <p>JICA Study Team</p> <p><i>Add:</i> 7F Shinjukumarune Bldg.</p> <p>1-23-1, Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo,</p> <p>160-0022, JAPAN</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +81 3 3357 1761</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:A-kurihara@ess-jpn.co.jp">A-kurihara@ess-jpn.co.jp</a></p>
<b>Zanzibar</b>	(1)	<p>Alawi HAJI HIJA</p> <p>Senior Environmental Officer</p> <p>Department of environment</p> <p>First Vice President Office- Zanzibar</p>

		<p><i>Add:</i> Box 2808,Zanzibar</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +255 777 8107</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:alwawihija99@hotmail.com">alwawihija99@hotmail.com</a></p>
<b>Seychelles</b>	(1)	<p>Cliff GONSALVES</p> <p>Technical Advisor</p> <p>DOE, Ministry of Environment &amp; Energy</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Mahé, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 272 2780</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:Cliffjenmy@gmail.com">Cliffjenmy@gmail.com</a></p>
	(2)	<p>Jeannette LARUE</p> <p>Director General, Public Education &amp; Community outreach Division/Environment Dept.</p> <p><i>Add:</i> P.O Box 445, Mahe, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 272 3997</p> <p>+248 467 0500</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:j.larue@env.gov.sc">j.larue@env.gov.sc</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:/jeanettelarue@hotmail.com">/jeanettelarue@hotmail.com</a></p>
	(3)	<p>Dr Frauke Flescher ó DOFRAY</p> <p>CEO</p> <p>Seychelles Islands Foundation</p> <p><i>Add:</i> La Ciotal Building, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 271 2377</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:Leo@sif.sc">Leo@sif.sc</a></p>

	(4)	<p>John QUILINDO</p> <p>Director</p> <p>DRDM</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Mont Fleuri Gloisal Village</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 272 9961</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:jquilindo@gov.sc">jquilindo@gov.sc</a></p>
	(5)	<p>Guilly MOUSTACHE</p> <p>Principal Officer, Seychelles Energy Commission</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Aouti Chamber Building, Mont Fleuri</p> <p>P.O Box 1488</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 4421699/ +248 2578708</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:gmoustache@sec.sc">gmoustache@sec.sc</a></p>
	(6)	<p>Nourice BARRY</p> <p>Senior Lab Technician</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Seychelles Agricultural Agency,</p> <p>Grand Anse, Mahe</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 2515759 / 4378252</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:sdlsaa@intelvion.net">sdlsaa@intelvion.net</a></p>
	(7)	<p>Vincent AMELIE</p> <p>Assistant Director</p> <p>Seychelles National Meteorological Services</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Climate &amp; Environmental Services</p>

<b>Seychelles</b>		<p>English River, P.O. Box 1145 Mahe, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 4384066/68 +248 2722957</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:v.amelie@meteo.gov.sc">v.amelie@meteo.gov.sc</a></p>
	(8)	<p>Pugazhendhi Murugaiyam Dept. of Environment <i>Add:</i> Box 1145 English River, Mahe</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 2722159</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:p.murugaiyam@env.gov.sc">p.murugaiyam@env.gov.sc</a></p>
	(9)	<p>Ronald JUMEAU Seychelles Ambassador for Climate Change Seychelles Government, Mins. of Foreign Affairs <i>Add:</i> Permanent Mission of Seychelles to the UN 800 second Avenue, suite 4001, New York, NY10017</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> 1 646 764 6777</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:ronny.jumeau@gmail.com">ronny.jumeau@gmail.com</a></p>
	(10)	<p>Hiroshi HASHIMOTO Team Leader JICA Study Team For coastal Erosion and Flood Mgmt</p>

	(11)	<p><i>Add:</i> C/O Department of Environment P.O Box 1145 Victoria, Mahe</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 4670446</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:hhashimoto@central-com.co.jp">hhashimoto@central-com.co.jp</a></p> <p>Aurelie HERMANS EMPS programs associate, Environment Department</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Anse Gaulette, Baie Largare, Mahe, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 4670519</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:a.hermans@env.gov.sc">a.hermans@env.gov.sc</a></p> <p>Barois HERVE Program Coordinator Sustainability for Seychelles</p> <p><i>Add:</i> P.O Box 900 Victoria, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 2547126</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:hbarois@yahoo.com">hbarois@yahoo.com</a></p> <p>Begum NAGEON DE LESTANG Bio-Chemist (National Program Coordinator, NFP ISLANDS) Dept. of Environment</p> <p><i>Add:</i> Victoria, Mahe</p>
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	<p><i>Tel:</i> +248 272 467 432</p> <p><i>Fax:</i> +248 272 3010</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:b.nageon@env.gov.sc">b.nageon@env.gov.sc</a></p> <p>Will Michel AGRICOLE</p> <p>Director General</p> <p>Climate and Environmental Services</p> <p><i>Add:</i> P.O Box 1145, Victoria, Mahe</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 467 0400</p> <p><i>Mob:</i> 248 271 4419</p> <p><i>Fax:</i> +248 461 0647</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:w.agricole@meteo.gov.sc">w.agricole@meteo.gov.sc</a></p> <p>Mr Alain DECOMARMOND</p> <p><i>Directeur Général</i></p> <p>Planning, Policy and Risk Management</p> <p>Division of Risk and Disaster Management</p> <p>Department of Environment</p> <p>Ministry of Home Affairs, Environment &amp; Transport</p> <p><i>Tel:</i> +248 4670470/4611200</p> <p><i>Mob:</i> +248722980</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:adecomarmond@gov.sc">adecomarmond@gov.sc</a></p> <p>Maureen Houareau</p> <p>Senior Office Assistant</p> <p>Division of Climate &amp; Environmental Services</p> <p>Environment Department</p>
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		<p>English River</p> <p><i>Add:</i> P.O. Box 1145, Victoria, Mahe, Seychelles</p> <p><i>Tel No. Office:</i> +(248) 4670431</p> <p><i>Mobile:</i> +(248) 2722300</p> <p><i>Fax:</i> +(248) 4610647</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:m.hoareau@env.gov.sc">m.hoareau@env.gov.sc</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:maureenhoareau@gmail.com">maureenhoareau@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Didier DOGLEY</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Department of Environment Conservation Section</p> <p><i>Add:</i> National Botanical garden, Mont Fleuri P.O. Box 445, VICTORIA</p> <p><i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:d.dogley@env.gov.sc">d.dogley@env.gov.sc</a></p>
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