



Stockholm + 50 National Consultations  
Mauritius

## RESPONSES FROM CONSULTATIONS

University of Mauritius

Consultation Session – 30 March 2022

Participants: 33 physical mode; 6 online

Gender:	Male: 15	Female: 18	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
Age Group:	< 20 years: 8	21 - 40 years: 27	41 - 60 years: 4	> 60 years <input type="checkbox"/>

### Leadership Dialogue 1: Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all

1. How can we restore and regenerate a positive relationship with nature? List 2 or 3 good practices and pathways that you would like to see scaled up to enable a move to a healthy planet?
  - Awareness.
  - Propagating education – part of formal education of youth / elderly (participation).
  - Action – active participation – planting endemic trees, cleaning campaigns, using technology & social media.
  - Leading towards sustainability – by doing follow-ups after few months, monitoring & use of renewable energy (wind, solar energy).
  - Encouraging diet change – more plant-based diet (veganism) to reduce carbon emission.

- 2. What are the actions that you (your group) would take to scale up the change towards a healthy planet? What policies/structures need to be in place for you to take such action?**
- Action – Use of recycled materials.
  - Policies – promoting use of recycled bottles or bottles made with natural and degradable materials; implement the 3 dustbin concept (raw, plastic, paper) to encourage composting, implement the distribution of bins via municipalities to sort out wastes in households; work out appropriate strategy to find funds, and ban plastic bags (plastic noir).
  - Promoting ideas for a change of day-to-day habits, to change consumption patterns ( sustainably), to use refilled products, and initiate a greater awareness of consumers to enable them to choose more sustainable products.
- 3. How could marginalised and vulnerable groups benefit from policies and initiatives designed to restore a more sustainable and resilient relationship with nature (that mitigates nature risks)?**
- Proper housing planning, consultation, cocreation, engaging community, and public participation.
  - Proposing artificial coral reefs – decrease erosion and protect biodiversity, which will in turn benefit the coastal community.
  - Growing more mangroves, nursery homes, seagrass and protect coral reefs.
  - Empowerment – propose welfare schemes to support fishermen; promote ecotourism, artisanal activities, Eco guards, entrepreneurs, agriculture, biofarming, seaweed farming - alternative livelihoods (based on WAKASHIO event).
  - Restoration – scientists work in collaboration with fishermen, people from ministry give local people & fishermen training.
- 4. How can we safeguard the rights of people and nature, including among others, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental defenders, women, youth, future generations?**
- Environmental legislation – to protect ecosystems, as disbalance can collapse everything.
  - By constitutionalising environmental rights (EIA), impact assessment.
  - Encouraging environmental lawyers & activists/ advocacy.
  - More representation of NGOs.
- 5. What are the new or prioritized set of metrics and indicators needed for tracking our progress towards a healthier and more prosperous planet?**
- Surveys, scientifically measuring pH, temp, acidity, salinity working Ministry of environment + scientist of UOM + scientists from Yale University.
  - Analysing changes in meteorological patterns.
  - Setting of realistic and achievable goals on a local and regional scale to match up match SDGs.
  - Ministry for foreign affairs – doing a follow up of SDGs.

## **Leadership Dialogue 2: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic**

**1. What are the most promising sustainable and inclusive recovery practices currently being applied by public, private and civil society groups at individual, community, city, regional, country level? And how could we scale them up?**

- Long term transformation.
- Regional cooperation.
- Vaccination.
- Sharing technology from developed countries to underdeveloped countries.

**2. What recovery and pre-existing practises need to be changed to ensure an inclusive and sustainable recovery?**

- More public and private investment in medical field.
- Education.
- Promoting local production, to be less vulnerable concerning food security.

**3. How do we ensure that all countries/communities can benefit from opportunities stemming from a sustainable and just transition?**

- Greater collaboration/support with international agencies.
- Knowledge sharing between Africa and SIDS countries, developing countries.
- Financial sustainability of projects.
- Financial support-long term at preferential rate.
- Ensuring of human resources (capacity building).

**4. How can we create better performing industries and supply chains for a just transition to more sustainable economies? which sectors are most critical?**

- Smart health education -healthy eating system.
- Promoting and subsidising local food production.
- Enhancing local food production.
- providing more land for cultivation (vertical farming).

**5. What are some of the commitments and “responsible” principles that need to be made by key industry sectors and by finance and investment institutions?**

- More use of solar pv/ alternate energy resources.
- Banks to consider sustainability aspects of project e.g inover moris .
- Introduction to ecology, marine science in primary curriculum.

**6. What are the decent green jobs of the future? What are the new skills needed, what is needed from business? from government? from academia?**

- Aquaponics.
- Agriculture- basic life skills.
- Smart containers agriculture.
- Eco-builders (green buildings).
- Sustainability builders.
- 60% fish imported (marine sector).
- Circular economy- Design out waste and pollution; Keep products and materials in use, regenerate natural system.

**Leadership Dialogue 3: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development**

**1. What are the biggest challenges we are facing in implementing the commitments to the 2030 Agenda and other environmental commitments (MEAs)? How do we create an enabling environment for delivery on the ground?**

- Covid 19 (Elaborated by Group 2).
- The lack of law enforcement and of a proper framework for implementation (Ensuring proper accountability).
- Concept of Greenwashing (Third parties should be the main inspection bodies in the corporate sector) .
- Mindset of people (Encourage people to adopt the concept giving back to the society).
- Lack of Communication.
- Lack of incentives for companies and general public.
- There are academic contents but they remain theoretical.
- Lack of eco-schools such as the SSR Disability School which is a role model of eco-schooling.
- Corruption which exists in every tier of our Mauritian society.
- Opposition of industrialism (The major industrialists are the ones who influence the major political structure and as solution – carbon taxes / taxation system).

**2. What are the good practices and pathways that you would like to see scaled up to accelerate the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context, of the Decade of Action?**

- More Clean-ups of Sea Floor; Ocean Clean-up & The restoration of coral reefs.
- Recycling of wastes.
- Transition from single use consumption to a more sustainable production and consumption.
- The Reuse of products – biodegradable products (Sanitary pads made of natural).
- SDG 12: 5 Rs (Reuse, Reduce, Refuse, Repurpose, Recycle).

### **3. How to transform governance and legal systems that maintain long-term economic stability and ecological and social wellbeing for all?**

- Addressing the educational system (Adapt the educational system to the needs of industrialism).
- The Concept of Ecocide needs to be addressed in the Mauritius National Assembly – A possible constitutional amendment? Ecocide launched by the EU MP Marie Toussaint who is mobilising parliamentarians all around the world.
- The flexibility of the Mauritian legal system to adapt to further changes, in terms of climate change.
- The IUU Fishing concept, illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing where we tend to focus on the illegal concept and neglect the unregulated and unreported fishing. Being an insular state, Mauritius is deeply affected by it.

### **4. What measures are needed to align public, private and development finance with existing commitments and priorities?**

- Public Private partnerships.
- The introduction of Carbon Tax.
- Given the current rise in prices of petroleum products, we should focus more on green energy.
- Incentives for retail investors/institutional investors to invest in SDG programmes.
- Encourage corporates to provide their Corporate Social Responsibilities sustainably.
- Promoting a win-win situation to prevent conflicts between public and private sector.
- Concessional Finance provided by the World Bank for developing countries to accelerate development activities.

### **5. What type of partnerships from the UN and beyond are needed to accelerate a green and sustainable economic transformation that leaves no one behind?**

- Small Scale incentives (Green SMEs).
- Preventing language barriers (Publishing works in creole language).
- Collaboration of youth networks and other key stakeholders.
- UN World Tourism Organisation: encourage sustainable & green tourism.
- Participation of IGOs with NGOs (The Global NGO Executive Committee – UNDG & vetted NGOs).
- The UN can facilitate the dialogue between experts and other key stakeholders.

## 6. What capacities and technologies are needed to improve human wellbeing in harmony with nature?

- Better thinking of costing (Operating costs when using technology).
- Technologies promoting efficiency during manufacturing of goods and offer of services.
- Culture of testing and prototyping (Open to new ideas).
- Importance of prototypes to make the people aware of the technology they are using.
- The importance of people to be resilient and adapt to changes.
- Religious, Media and other relevant institutions do provide the non-formal education and values to promote the harmony with nature.

### Question for All:

#### What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?

- More coral reefs, seagrass forest (ESAs – environmental sensitive areas), mangrove – restoration projects and endemic species, to prevent spread of invasive species.
- An enforcement & implementation of legislation.
- More consultations workshop & volunteering.
- Inclusivity of all stakeholders.
- Exchanging programs across countries.
- Promoting environment awareness campaigns on a local scale.
- Reevaluating the achievability of the UN SDGs.
- We must reach upon a conclusion on what we will categorise as short-, medium- and long-term goals after obtaining the final findings of the Stockholm +50.
- Educational Programmes; Media Aspect.