



## **“A healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity”**

The UN General Assembly has agreed through two Resolutions to convene an international meeting entitled **“Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity”**, in Stockholm on 2 and 3 June 2022, during the week of World Environment Day. The meeting will commemorate the 50 years since the convening of the UN Conference on the Human Environment. It is also designed to help accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals during the Decade of Action including through a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Government of Sweden will host the meeting with the support of the Government of Kenya. Leadership Dialogues have been designed to be collaborative and multi-stakeholder, and will address three themes:

- **Leadership Dialogue 1:** Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all.
- **Leadership Dialogue 2:** Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
- **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.

### **Objective**

The UNDP Mauritius Country Office has been mandated to facilitate national consultations and will be working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change.

The objective of the national consultations is to stimulate an inclusive whole-of-society and whole-of-government dialogue on the main themes of Stockholm+50 as they relate to each national context.

In this context, you are invited to submit your comments on each of the three Leadership Dialogues, and on the following guiding questions. You are welcome to answer as many questions as you wish - any input will be appreciated.

## Stockholm +50 National Consultation

28 April 2022, National Consultations – Stakeholders: Public, Private, Parastatal, Academia, NGOs, CSOs...

Caudan Arts Centre

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

Question 1: How can we restore and regenerate a positive relationship with nature? List 2 or 3 good practices and pathways that **your partners** would like to see scaled up to enable a move to a healthy planet?

- Natural Fertilizers
- Regenerative agriculture
- Composting (backyard)
- Sustainable and non-chemical fertilizers (Molasses/Vinasses)
- War is an opportunity for local organic fertilizer production
- Increase organic farming and certification (Organic farming bill still awaited)
- Bio availability of fixed phosphates in the soil using bacteria
- Bring back bees to restore ecosystems OP (use of open pollinated varieties) Increase bees' pollination.
- Instead of spraying of Herbicides/ Pesticides encourage trimming the grass instead or eco-friendly herbicides, find alternative ways of trimming green spaces, find good equipment for it.
- Increasing storage for compost especially in backyards, segregation of waste at households.
- Compost making - Municipal Vacoas, vegetable residue (proposal) group of bacteria can be used to advance the process.
- Increase Zero budget natural farming
- Increase restoration of green spaces like Botanical Garden.
- Increase Artificial reefs
- Increase propagation of endemic plants to restore our beaches to control erosion, increase coral farming, mangrove plantation, increase nature based solutions, add education about our beaches about our biodiversity and species in ocean etc.. valuable info about endemic species, embrace Eco school programs
- Promote plastic alternatives, bringing cloth bags, tente vacoas, biodegradable bags, home compostable bags, palm plates, cutlery, bamboos utensils, increase production of natural fibers (pineapple and banana, seaweed, aloe). Long lasting bottles, glass.
- Increase sustainable procurement, production and consumption
- Promotion of local fruits, agrobiodiversity
- Protection of environmental sensitive areas of marshy lands.

Question 2: What are the actions that **your country /partners** 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?

- Schemes/ incentives
- PV for household, composting rainwater harvesting.

- Efficient enforcement of already existing laws, more laws to protect our planet for example composting, manage your own waste, produce own renewable electricity, collect rainwater
- Find new innovative ways to raise awareness to change consumption behavior. For ex from different influencers (artists...) Innovative communication strategy for different target groups led by influencers.
- Policies to promote green/ecological buildings
- Reduce food waste
- Incentives for SME's and MSME
- **Question 3: How could marginalized and vulnerable groups benefit from policies and initiatives designed to restore a more sustainable and resilient relationship with nature (that mitigates nature risks)?**
- Bringing the sustainable business to them (artisanats, community-based projects, social entrepreneurship)
- Re skilling for green job for mangrove restoration, seasonal closure for fishing.
- Policies put in place to have community risk management or disaster risk reduction.
- Make abandoned land for marginalized communities for agriculture and to regulate the lease.
- Regulate plastic and other waste collection by marginalized communities (at transfer station)
- Increase charity/donation shops (the good shop)

**Question 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?**

- Organize open days, regular free access to conservation areas. (terrestrial and marine)
- Organized groups by government/private sector for vulnerable communities
- Better regulation of species of water (dolphin, turtle watching..). Limit the number of boats in water, increase access to disabled and vulnerable people, limited quantity of licenses, need for enforcement to respect rules.
- Access and right to nature to be considered as a human right including vulnerable, marginalized and disabled communities
- Better representation of marginalized communities in ESO dialogue and forum
- Targeted subsidies to vulnerable groups
- Food security/Access to food
- Rights to housing
- Conserve and protect natural and cultural heritage

**Question 5: What are the new or prioritized set of metrics and indicators needed for tracking our progress towards a healthier and more prosperous planet?**

- Decrease in NCD's, cancers, increase in reforestation/green cover (urban greening)
- Decrease of agrochemicals.
- The quality of air

- Decrease in single use plastics
- Indicator to measure sustainable lifestyle
- Increase EPI (Environmental performance index)
- More access of quality leisure of art and culture
- Increase number of Mauritian that can swim in the sea and snorkel
- Efficient mass transport, increase in cycle tracks
- Access to safe and clean water
- Percentage of renewable energy
- Increase in percentage of literacy (vocational)
- Poverty index and employment index, income per capita index
- Happiness index
- Violence and Domestic violence
- Decrease in drug consumption
- Increase access for disabilities to buildings/amenities/culture and art.
- Increase access to leisure and sports

## LD 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?

- **Teleworking** as environment friendly, reduction in pollution, socio-cultural prosperity in terms of family bonding, try to keep it up in the long-term might be a suggestion on the question for all
- Reduce fuel consumption, socio-economic aspect
- Important digital and international networking, facilitation in communication between small scale businesses and resourceful measures
- Sustainability to be kept on and give suggestion to better production
- Home and particular (individual) gardening and encourage self-reliance while promoting environmental engagement
- Scarcity prompts individual action toward self-sustainable measures
- Reduction in imports prompted people to find alternatives
- **CSR, CSO, general solidarity that proves that dire situations brings people together**
- Concern for fellow citizens
- NGOs and CSOs who worked in partnership with private sector to provide food packs and necessities to help vulnerable groups
- Involvement of all stakeholders
- **Food security and basic necessities were provided for vulnerable groups**
- Collaboration of all stakeholders – a lot of private sector organisations regrouped to increase productivity of socio-responsibility but also increase capacity to provide help during the pandemic
- National solidarity
- Local production from women to increase food security – policy to integrate women to the world of finance in order to promote inclusivity and giving grants to entrepreneurs to produce locally requested products and vegetables
- Lack of facilities for women to pay back government grants and loans with interest
- Govt put in place aid (microfinancing) to women permit to develop small scale businesses (lokal)
- Grants (1<sup>st</sup> phase) and 2<sup>nd</sup> phase with disinformation for women to get payable loans
- Wage assistance schemes for vulnerable people in order to maintain economy
- **Use of public media and resources for schooling to promote learning and keep up continuity**

### 2. What recovery and pre-existing practices need to be changed to ensure an inclusive growth?

- Problem: **Wage assistance scheme** to be modified as it is **not sustainable** if only govt procurement
- Solution: **Include measures to partner with all sectors and stakeholders, create intra-org alliances**
- Problem: Sanitary measures that are not inclusive to all walks of life as monetary and economic sanctions are too high, lack of capacity building for senior citizens – educate them and promote understanding as they do not like change and are not receptive to change, educate elderly on good practices to adopt regarding sanitary protocols
- Problem: Monopoly of market for fresh produce as no quality or health control, abuse of pricing for hawkers and opportunists

- Problem: **disparity in education due to digitalisation, vulnerable groups were cut off from similar resources due to lack of finance, this needs to be implemented and rendered accessible**
- Solution: train children and staff about the internet protocols and internet literacy – digitalisation becomes complex due to curricula regulations and restrictions – use of safe practices to provide training
- Problem: lack of skill development – reskilling for green jobs (related to question 6), finance is an issue as women are not informed about what need to be done to facilitate their social integration and provision of funds, they had to learn to use their funds, women were set back in sustainability
- Problem: **distribution of food packs was not enough, people working in context where they depend on nature have to have alternative livelihoods. “Give a man a fish and you will feed him for one day, teach a man to fish and you will feed him for life”**
- Solution: **alternative skills to give fishers or agriculturers so they can diversify in times of scarcity**
- Problem: sanitary protocol penalties regarding Covid. Sick leave and vaccination can be a bit rigid. How to manage sick leaves and diseases linked to a pandemic
- Solution: to integrated work from home if the person is fit enough to work to reduce transmission, flexitime is an advantage but has to be rethought
- Problem: logical implementation reducing disparities between policies, regulation in regard to social distancing – duration of these policies which affects most stakeholders and the economy (mets un frein), also provide notice about important decisions to the population to mitigate the impact of policies. Emergency preparedness regarding emergency measures to give time to people equip themselves.
- Problem: public voices and lack of communication to listen to “ti dimoun”, consultation of govt to the needs of public or their ability to listen to issues raised.

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

- Raising awareness and capacity building
- **Consultative awareness that becomes a platform where all facilities and opportunities are shared with the general public**
- Create a digital platform that would regroup all opportunities and aids put in place where there are regular updates and where the public is able to see and engage
- Ministries ensure better communication to promote opportunities of circular economy
- Lack of information that stops people from seizing opportunities
- Vulgarisation of opportunities
- Consultants that work intrinsically with the government to better innovations and opportunities – advising services
- Opinion polls
- Reach out through mass media and all media of the country
- **Technological literacy lacks and hinders effective production**
- Lack of diversified education for women
- Technical advisers to help implement policies
- Technological advancements
- Specific sector-based education programmes that need to be introduced to educate the wider population
- Better “accompagnement” is lacking/ facilitation for vulnerable and project proposals
- Lacking visibility

- Bring on strategic reflection that are not sustainable to change policies accordingly
- Administration process to be facilitated as well as financing and fund availability
- **Communication barriers that impact people looking for opportunities**

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

- Local production – facilitate and enable local industries to produce to become self-sufficient
- Energy, food, manufacturing, all sectors based on imports
- Market research on what can be done locally
- Enhance performance of the tourism sector:
- Identify resources Mauritius have and exploit them while managing these resources
- **Marine resources need to be upscaled urgently and integrated with surveillance to better the capacity of our fishers**
- Identify areas of self-sufficiency and capitalize on them
- Use innovative opportunities to identify alternatives that can be implemented
- Rope in smes and create employment around these sectors to raise standards of living
- Enhance aid of and for innovative funds (MRIC further funding or skill and training)
- Raise the importance of grassroots organisations and bring them forward – empower and uplift
- Integrate sme's into pre-established functional supply chains
- Research
- **Give opportunities to tech advancements which will make the industries competitive and create engagements**
- NPCC involvement to be increased (FAREI, MRIC)
- Business transformations to more eco production
- Sector of feed (poultry, goats) and fertilizers/compost
- Compost facilities such as prisons already put in place of high quality
- Local energy sector
- **Funding implications have to be scaled up**
- **Access to funding facilitated**
- **Re-think building and real estate market to promote better land use for agricultural purposes**
- Incentivize manual labour
- Diversification of job opportunities to be brought to attention of scholars to create study plans and courses
- Capacity building in priority sectors
- **Entrepreneur mindset**

**5. What are some key commitment that needs to be made by key industry ?**

- Increase agricultural capacity
- Green agriculture techniques
- **Become self-sufficient on priority sectors (local production), staples foods or vegetables, products adapted to our consumption system**
- Accessibility to local produce and quality control
- Commit to say that all local products are accessible on a price level
- Facilitate and democratize access to finance
- Increase high risk investment and encourage local investment
- Mix and match between private funders and the government policies in place

- Fiscal initiatives/tax incentives
- Subsidise local production
- Innovation should be supported and encouraged by financial sector – continuity
- Separate budget lines for green industries to encourage financing for these projects
- Commitment between banks/financing entities and the beneficiaries
- More efficiency in the energy sector
- Eco-friendly measures/and vehicles
- Circular economy commit regarding energy measures

## 6. What are decent green jobs for the future ?

**What are new skills needed ?**

**What is needed from govt, academia, business ?**

- Renewable energy jobs
- Marine technologies and biology
- Waste conversion specialist increase
- Research on viable processes to help convert green waste to usable sources of renewable energy
- Architectural advancements more focused to greener practices
- Eco-conscious construction and building sector that use alternative materials
- Upcycling experts
- People that are able to train other
- Waste transformed into raw materials
- Fashion and design industry to be less focused on fast fashion and create modules and curricula centred on eco-conscious businesses
- Technicians of all capacities

## **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?**

- SDG 13: put in place actionable items which are on paper. Focus on countries having agriculture as main economic sector. Create CC resilience. SIDS are highly impacted by CC and there is need to pay particular attention.
- Environmental consciousness to be raised within the Island.
- Institutional, manpower, human capacities to be raised to reach the 2030 agenda.
- Sustainable and green financing to be raised.



- There is lack of coordination among relevant stakeholders to ensure wider inclusion and not favouring one sector only.
- There is lack of synergy. 2030 agenda needs to be embedded in the top strategy of the country for further implementation within the country's actions. All actions to be geared around the top strategy. There is a scarcity of resources which needs to be optimised. There is need to align all various existing instruments (Rio, Stockholm, UNEP, etc. frameworks) to maximise on available resources thus allowing synergies.
- Need to mainstream new ways of doing things.
- Need to adapt to new changes by doing regular and continuous evaluation. Need to think differently to reach to relevant MEAs.
- 100 B USD not yet disbursed under the Paris Agreement.
- SDG 14: specificities as a SIDS. Conservation and management burdens due to lack of human capacities and financial resources. Wide EEZ.
- Private sector: Too much institutional burden for relevant actions which can jeopardise private actions. There exist several laws in Mauritius which need to be properly implemented. There is lack of Monitoring and law adherence.
- Poverty is also a challenge to implement MEAs. Equity and inclusivity are not ensured.
- Incivism is a challenge.

**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?**

- Promote adaptive governance (institutional, ...), Promote climate resilience through coral farming, mangrove planting.
- Lack of incentives to promote smart and bio agriculture. Increase access to technology which is cost effective.
- Increase ESAs, MPAs sizes, promotion of Regional/ International corporation.
- Promote and scale-up Agroforestry which act as carbon-sink. Promote more recycling through robust incentives.
- Increase public/ private incentives such as Renewable Energies which need to be adopted by the population at large. Promote adapted and extensive incentives to be used by the population.
- Focus on local (small) good practices that help to change population's daily life. Improved air quality, cleanliness (wastes), inclusive in youngster education, more affordable solutions through intensify research and development.
- Littering to be stop at all costs.
- More empowerment of various leaders (political downwards). E.g., Neighborhood policing previously implemented in Mauritius.

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

- Streamline processes.
- More coordination synergies, harmonisation.

- Review, update guidelines.
- PRIORITISE, Focus.
- Situational analysis to lead to transformational governance to know where are we?
- More emphasis on education, civic, sensitization, Empowerment.
- National planning, vision with more policy coherence.
- Green growth, economy for a paradigm shift with more enablers.
- Research and development within institutions/ ministries

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

- Transparency. Both public & private.
- Shift from pledge to actions.
- Effectiveness of financing schemes.
- MoFED to give more guidance/ support to ministries instead. Resource mobilisation.
- More accountability, responsibility. Tracking.
- Economic dialogues led by MoFED in presence of developing partners. Avoid duplication
- Involvement of civil society.

**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?**

- Harmonisation works among the UN agencies to avoid overlapping, duplication.
- Capacity building for transdisciplinary actions for SDGs.
- Simplified partnerships (too many UN agencies involved in certain projects).
- Tailored partnerships for SIDs.

**6. What capacities and technologies are needed to improve human wellbeing in harmony with nature, including digital technologies?**

- Knowledge & skills enhancement, experience.
- Database of good practices/ New trends/ technology advancement.
- Each smart city to make an open database available to the public.
- Regulatory framework.
- Open-source data more available.
- Due recognition to traditional knowledge, culture.
- Intellectual Property Right.

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

- What are the Expectations? Changes in international cooperation, policies, investment frameworks? Better integrated solutions?
  - What are the Recommendations?
  - How can stakeholder dialogues on the above topics be maintained? (e.g., use of virtual dialogues and digital technologies)
  - Suggestions for Design and implementation of socially inclusive and gender-responsive national & sectoral policies.
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- Increase in civil society dialogues
  - Access to resources, means of implementation (capacity building, technology transfer, financial)
  - Access to knowledge platform
  - International commitments – MEA
  - Political will
  - International consumer protection
  - Increase corporation (South- south; SIDS-SIDS)
  - Gender/youth/vulnerable groups... all inclusive of big decisions
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- Renew protocols and treaties (ie Kyoto protocol) and make them legally binding and innovative
  - Address customized needs for different climate areas and development states
  - Fund more grassroots organizations to decrease consultation fees
  - Finance actions rather than sole research
  - Reduce consultation and prioritize implementation
  - Developed states and powerful economies should commit and helps SIDS and smaller countries to implement their projects and policies
  - Promote gender balance and equity
  - Expect greater gender balance strategies after Stockholm+50
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- Recommendations emanating from Stockholm 50+ is translated/ fed into existing multilateral processes (e.g., UNGA, High level Political forum on SDGs, UNEA, etc.)
  - Existing policies need to be reviewed, updated considering recommendations.
  - Stock-taking exercise success, failure. Evaluation of SDG targets based on Stockholm 50+ recommendations.
  - ACT NOW.
  - Science to policy forum.
  - Expect the common but differentiated responsibilities principles to be applied (developed countries v/s developing countries).