



## “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**  
**7 April 2022, Women and Elderlies**  
**Caudan Arts Centre**

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

## **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?**
  - Should maintain and scale up kitchen gardening post covid.
  - Encourage cooking from scratch such as bread.
  - More awareness on benefits of composting.
  
- 2. What recovery and pre-existing practices need to be changed to ensure an inclusive growth?**
  - Educate on balance diet to reduce comorbidity.
  - Reduce consumption of meat.
  - Reduce acquisition of new clothes and luxuries.
  - Mainstream mental health awareness.
  
- 3. How do we ensure that all countries/communities can benefit from opportunities stemming from just transition?**
  - Democratize access to recovery funding.
  - More studies in terms of surveys and a targeted approach to assess needs to support entrepreneurs.
  - Continue with payment of pensions at home as it was done during the lockdown.
  - Reimagine payment of subsidies as no impact on prices is observed.
  
- 4. How can we create better performing industries and supply chains for a just transition to more sustainable economies? Which sectors are most critical?**
  - Encourage local production and consumption.
  - Re invigorate our industries such as Tea.
  - Incentivize projects on agriculture and cattle farming.
  - More access to land for planting with proper draining systems.
  - Transfer of knowledge between generations.
  
- 5. What are some key commitment that need to be made by key industry?**
  - Commit to enforcement of laws.
  - Commit to respect laws.

- Instill recycling and waste management principles in the population.

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

**What are new skills needed?**

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

- Solar panels. Farming. Artisanal industry. Bio industry.

**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?**

- Alternate Medicine and Bio Farming/ Organic Farming
- Health- Medicinal/ Naturopath, Ayurvedic,
- Financing for Naturopathy
- Massage essential oils
- New avenues for employment for women to enter the naturopathy field
- Growing of Medicinal plants which may also not need extra care
- Identifying new fields to grow medicinal and produce herbal medicines
- Mauritius has existing opportunities to cultivate these plants but these are not capitalized upon (for example, Government can identify land) and protect the plant.
- To provide lands for those engaged in this sector
- Mauritians are not fully aware on the herbal benefits and of the existing Ayurvedic hospitals. Each Hospitals need a section on naturopathy
- Invest in women's jobs relating to Aryurvedic medicine.
- There is limited knowledge on the type of land required to grow plants
- We need to understand the environment we live in to know what kind of plants can be planted in which region. Government may also provide trees to plant and there needs to be a monitoring system to see whether the plants are being used to that effect.
- There needs to be a land use scanning of State Land, exploit these empty lands, and align same to the type of plants that may be planted in that area.
- Limited knowledge on how to increase local consumption of existing resources such as herbal tea.
- Increase capacity for water distribution across the island

2<sup>nd</sup> group

- Programs to increase access to education and health care, especially for adults (lifelong learning /continuous education)
- Covid pandemic and Ukraine- Russia war affecting the global economy
- Highly industrialized countries
- Climate change - floodings/ flash floods
- Use of natural resources sustainably for future generations

- Lack of /poor empowerment of women in less developed and developing countries despite the many laws
- Lack of access to finance for women, especially with inflation, to take care of home and children, lack of financial resources
- Depreciation of money; baisse du pouvoir d'achat
- Poor planning with poor, extreme weather affecting the schooling of pupils in Mauritius
- Extreme weathers having long lasting consequences on infrastructures and technology [thunder; Wi-Fi crash; laptop & desktop not working]
- Poor or lack thereof of implementation of projects and policies regarding environmental solutions; COP 25 – we have all failed in implementing the guidelines set during COP 25
- Lack of awareness of the system and how it can be used to drive change
- Need to have the capacity to do the projects, Where to Start?
- Children are addicted to their phones and other technology. They will not know about international agencies providing funding such as EU, AFD etc.
- We all need to take responsibility – so far everything has been on paper

#### Solutions:

- Education / 'Education d'engagement '
- IT literacy needs to be available for everyone to make communication global
- Lobbying and mass awareness campaigns and education
- Collective action towards Stockholm +50 agenda; needs to have strong political and legal involvement
- Grassroots level – suggestions to have field workers or social workers to do door-to-door awareness about climate change, how it can affect them
- Need more focused actions by government
- Corruption + Intergovernmental activities are not transparent enough
- Political empowerment of Mauritians
- Intergenerational responsibility- everyone- children, adults and the elderly should take on the responsibility to protect the environment.

## **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?**

- Sensitisation on environment matters with women of all ages in the community for a snow-ball effect on the environment
- There needs to be a stronger IEC Campaign on Social Media
- Kitchen Gardening already being practiced and a kitchen gardening competition
- Government has a scheme for PV Solar Power and training of Women in PV Installing through UNDP and Kitchen Gardening Scheme
- Cleaning Campaigns
- Plant and Ecobag Distribution
- Rain Harvesting Talks
- Encourage tree planting by young people to get them interested.

- Provide plants as gifts in official ceremonies

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- Natural Risk Disaster committee -> how to accelerate its work: lack of marketing and awareness of its activities
- People do not know how to contact if they find themselves in a dangerous situation
- **Education**
- No drainage system in new buildings being built
- Building permit – do we have capacity to study the case/ project before giving out the permit – without obstructing rainwater pathway, resulting
- Education – **risk management & prevention & awareness**
- **Devise a Climate change plan**
- **Build a more sustainable global economy – that will satisfy the Paris Climate Agreement**
- Chemical products in the household – **shift to homemade eco-friendly products**; will also reduce costs
- Create an **Environmental protection agency**
- Shift in transport system- shift to bicycles; Subsidize a shift to eco-friendly vehicles
- **Need of new infrastructures - bike paths and pedestrian pathways**; will also reduce deforestation and benefit our health. Currently it is not safe, secure (thefts, violence)
- **Need for SDGS literacy** – how it can be achieved, what solutions, how can problems be solved in a sustainable manner- e.g., rainwater harvesting can be used to agriculture
- **More facilities & funding** to be made available for sustainable solutions- solar panels, rainwater harvesting systems
- Funding and resources to accelerate SDGs literacy
- Barter system/ bring and share system
- Rainwater harvesting – take Rodrigues as an example
- Lack of public engagement – for instance, if we are not agreeable to a development project because of deforestation, no one is going to protest the project.

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

- Amending legislation to prevent throwing of dechets on the streets.
- Having a stronger Monitoring and Evaluation System monitoring by NGOs and local community associations
- More severe law enforcement with more penalties
- The Police de L'Environment needs have more proactive policing

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- Pressure groups to convince government
- **Amending the local legislation to align with our environmental goals** – awareness
- Adopt new national laws- **set up steering groups that have diverse stakeholders**
- Food production frameworks -> food processing training and resources needed, sustainable agriculture
- Capacity building and more training needed for all stakeholders

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

- have stronger public/private partnerships and corporate social responsibility by companies to give back to the community for environmental matters
- A Marketing Centre for Women to market their environmentally friendly products
- Setting up of a stronger collaborative platform across stakeholders (incl community leaders) in specific regions and high-level decision making to ensure that there is no duplication of activities
- Enhancing Solar Use through different schemes for cost reducing and broadening access to a larger cohort of the population
- Private sector to be encourage to produce own power
- A more sustained environment campaign to inculcate environmental awareness consciousness

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- Partnerships and collaborations between various actors
- The government should set up a task force for public and private collaboration and partnerships
- Ensure transparency by monitoring and evaluating projects

#### **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?**

- Need a stronger network of NGOs and community-based organisations and also a strong monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure that recommendations are implemented and that resources allocated are used judiciously. There needs to be a decentralisation of activities.
- Twinning and more collaboration between entre Women Council and Senior Citizen Council
- Partnership with the private sector as part of their social responsibility
- Stronger partnerships by existing organisations such as Women’s Council and Senior Citizen Council and Welfare Officers across the island, we need more collaboration across different Welfare Centres

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- **Target vulnerable groups when taking actions**
- Despite being a middle-income country, we still have **hidden poverty**
- UN to provide funding for small projects led by women and elderlies, and other vulnerable groups
- group initiatives for vulnerable groups
- Training in food by products / encourage food processing

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

- Have triage de dechets et composting facilities bins at a low price. Compulsory Policy for everyone to have a compostage bin.
- Inculcate environmental education, recycling and the “Recycle/Reuse” Policy from a very early age

- Can be a collaboration public/private to buy compostage and recycle bins
- Need to have stronger awareness raising by social workers on environmental issues in vulnerable communities and rural areas
- FAREU and Barkley can have more resilient crops and seeds
- Need to have a stronger voice on environmental issues by everyone, need to rethink children's education on environment. Need to work with young workers to have an environmental awareness consciousness from a young age. There needs to be a stronger coordination by different Ministries, such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth, Environment to look at environmental issues as a cross-cutting issues.
- Bee Keeping As a new avenue
- Encourage capacity building to prevent soil erosion (such as increase of mangrove tree plantation)
- Encourage self-sufficiency in food production (e.g. in Rodrigues) in Mauritius and exploit existing land as community gardens
- Having an integrated farming system (plants, fish, poultry etc)
- Increase capacity of the Environment Police to carry out their roles and have more support from the general Police
- Enhanced Urban planning for "Residence" (Cité) Communities

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- Technology/machines which use less water, less fossil fuels, more waste (recycling)
- Bio, Go green
- Recreational spaces in nature
- Less pollution – hybrid motorized vehicles
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#### What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?

- Environment is everyone's concern, We need to Take Urgent Action
- New Areas: Maximising on the Blue Economy
- Provide Financing
- Rain Harvesting initiatives
- Desalination
- Monitor and Evaluate Actions
- Sensitise Policy Makers on formal and informal information so that decision making is evidence-based.
- Invest time on education and sensitisation around environmental issues
- Protect and exploit our maritime zones

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- Monitoring and evaluation of projects
- Facilities to implement all the frameworks that need to be built
- Law enforcement – laws about plastic use are not being respected in Mauritius
- Take individual responsibility
- Accelerate the frameworks developed and agreed upon at the Stockholm +50 conference within the Mauritian government

- Creation of more Not- for-profit organizations (NGOs) to do the work, to protect the environment. There will be less likelihood of corruption, lack of transparency, and they will get the work done.
- Accountability and tangible proof of the work being done
- Create neutral actors – Stockholm to invite/ include grassroots actors to attend the conference or future conferences