



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

SEYCHELLES PARKS
AND GARDENS AUTHORITY

FOREWORD

Every year, as an Authority we compile an Annual Report which wholly recaps our performance as a corporate entity within the previous financial year. The Report showcases the journey of SPGA for each of our managed sites, while simultaneously highlighting the impact we've had in our communities, collaborations undertaken in partnership with our devoted partners and stakeholders, and our undeniable contribution to research, monitoring and conservation. The Report further includes a financial summary.



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

It is my pleasure to present the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority's Annual Report for the 2022 business year, fully enclosed with all works undertaken, whilst not forgetting the many targets achieved, and highlighting the progress which continues following the creation of the Authority in April 2022.

As part of the government's strategic vision, a new Board of Directors was appointed by the President of Seychelles, Mr. Wavel Ramkalawan, on the 1st June 2022. The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) has been adamant in its regulatory obligations and corporate responsibility in order to deliver on our functions and mandates.

Based on the current financial statements and indications, I anticipate that the organisation is financially well-rooted and on the right track to being financially sustainable. I am particularly proud of the successful implementation of the Online Payment System across all SPGA payable sites, which has played a major role in ensuring that revenue earned from these sites are well captured and documented. I am confident that the vision and mission of the Authority will shine through the actions and upcoming endeavours throughout the coming year and that we continue to make positive and steady strides towards progress.

Following the adverse economic impacts of the COVID19 pandemic, coupled with the uncertainty in visitor arrivals at the start of the year, we have adhered to our Business and Strategic Plan, focusing on adaptation to the changing tourism landscape, whilst safeguarding our stakeholders, employees, visitors and sites.

On behalf of the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority Board of Directors, management and staff, I would like to warmly thank our stakeholders, business partners, affiliates, clients and the local community, for the support and trust throughout 2022.

Mr. Lucas D'offay

Board of Directors, Chairman



STATEMENT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

At the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority, our efforts are strongly rooted in growing the passion for sustainable management and protection of the protected areas and designated gardens of Seychelles, which to an extent we can all appreciate plays an important part in the country's tourism industry. With each milestone and achievement reached in the past year, we remain firm in our belief that we are providing added experiences for visitors and locals alike. From the launch of our new website and historic Online Payment Platform, to the opening of Seychelles' highest peak, 2022 has brought about many marking moments. It has been a year of transition and determination.

Bouncing back from the COVID19 pandemic, collectively we have adopted a proactive model of business, allowing for improved communication and win-win scenarios in all ventures sought. As I reflect on our financial performance for the year 2022, I remain optimistic for the year ahead. With increased visitor numbers, improved capacity building and an emphatic management body, SPGA is well on track to surpassing the financial achievements of previous years.

We have been able to deliver outstanding services and offerings to visitors and the local community. Following the official merger between the former Seychelles National Parks Authority(SNPA) and the National Botanical Garden Foundation(NBGF), new amazing opportunities presented to SPGA allowed for broader and interconnected partnerships and business opportunities, as well as setting appropriate benchmarks for research strategies, internal policies, collaborative approaches and decision making.

I must also reiterate my thanks and gratitude to the Board of Directors. Although, joining us mid-year, the world-class support and perspectives of all members have made an undisputable difference in the works and progression of the Authority. Thank you all for the never-ending support, contributions and engagement in helping us ensure that the protected areas and gardens are well managed.

Mr. Allen Cedras
Chief Executive Officer



HIGHLIGHTS

OF 2022



1. Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority Act, 2022

The SPGA Act 2022, was assented on April 23rd 2022, formalising the merger between the Seychelles National Parks Authority and the National Botanical Garden Foundation.

2. Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act, 2022

The NRCA 2022, similarly assented on April 23rd 2022, becoming the leading legislature in protected area management.

3. Appointment of a Board of Directors

The SPGA Board of Directors was appointed by the President of the Republic, with effect from 1st June 2022, consisting of seven members from the public and private sector.

4. Implementation of the Strategic and Business Plan

Guided by its Business and Strategic Plan, SPGA has adopted a business centered approach to its operations and services, which simultaneously underpin its conservation goals.

5. Implementation of the SPGA Online Payment System

2022 saw SPGA go completely digital in terms of payment modalities to enter its payable sites. The first phase began in September, in the Curieuse Marine Park, with all other sites following suite by the year end.

6. Visit of HE President Kenyatta

HE President Kenyatta visited the Seychelles, to which SPGA was honoured to welcome him and his accompanying delegates to the Botanical Garden, where he has planted a Coco de Mer Seedling.

7. WIOCOMPAS Certification-Ms Dainise Quatre

Ms. Dainise Quatre, Assistant Park Officer in the Ste. Anne Marine Park, obtained a Level 1 certification under the Western Indian Ocean Certification of Marine Protected Area. She becomes the first Seychellois woman to achieve such.

8. Morne Seychellois Nature Trail Reopens

Seychelles' highest peak reopened to visitors in November 2022, with increased and improved infrastructures and facilities.

9. Nesting Sea Turtle Trail Opens

The seasonal Nesting Sea Turtle Trail opened for the first in the Curieuse Marine Park. Visits to the nesting beaches were strictly conducted by SPGA rangers.

10. Monaco Exploration

SPGA Marine Research Scientists, Mr. Rodney Bonne and Ms. Patsy Theresine, joined the Monaco Exploration team who explored the Saya de Mahla Bank, conducting various research activities whilst on board.

11. Launch of the International Intern Program

SPGA welcomed its first ever international intern, who was based in the Curieuse Marine Park. She was able to assist with various Projects and monitoring activities.

12. Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher Survey

The Paradise Flycatcher Survey was carried out by the Research team on Curieuse, of which the census has shown that the population is increasing and has further shown promising results of the translocation success over the past two years.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF 2022



Lucas D'offay
Chairman



Bernadette Willemin
Vice Chairman



Melton Ernesta
Member



Julien Durup
Member



Myra Gill
Member



Lenny Gabriel
Member



Ashley Dias
Member

MANAGEMENT TEAM



Allen Cedras
Chief Executive Officer



Lya Docteur
Deputy Chief Executive
Officer / Head of Finance



Pricsilla Finesse
Human Resources
Manager



Marvel Lesperance
Inner Islands Co-ordinator



Remie Asman
Sainte Anne Marine Park
Manager



Anto Suzette
Curieuse Marine Park
Manager



Nathalie Dufresne
Head of Terrestrial
Research



Rodney Bonne
Head of Marine Research



Genny Commettant
Administrative Manager



Eric Sophola
National Botanical Garden
Manager



Natachia Einfeldt
National Biodiversity
Centre Manager



James Mougat
Forestry and National
Parks General Manager



Isabelle Ravinia
Marketing, Trading and
Business Development
Officer



Bernard Bijoux
Senior Training and Events
Officer

OVERVIEW

Assented on the 23rd March 2022, the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority Act came into place, signalling the official merger between the Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) and the National Botanical Garden Foundation (NBGF). The creation of a new financially autonomous entity hinted at a new phase which would transform the role of the Public Enterprise, as well as allowing for greater oversight and management of the protected areas, whilst simultaneously creating multiple opportunities for revenue collection, through enhanced offerings and services. On the other hand, the newly assented Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act 2022, also sets the tone to which SPGA must align its research, conservation and protection objectives.

Guided by its Business and Strategic Plan developed for 2022-2026, the SPGA has adopted new modalities which enhance the ease of doing business both externally with partners and stakeholders, but as well as internally. As showcased in the Strategic Plan, the Authority remains focused on 4 main strategies: (i) Targeted & Strategic Conservation, (ii) Resourcefulness, (iii) Financial Autonomy and (iv) Financial Soundness to pave the way to greater heights. The two pieces of documents further depict the long-term strategy and aims of the Authority, allowing SPGA to accomplish its vision, mission and objectives targeted, all while remaining relevant and up par with business and protected area management.

Additionally, in 2022 SPGA saw the appointment of its first-ever Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Lya Docteur, a role which has since been created through the new Act. Ms. Docteur joins Mr. Allen Cedras, the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority, in dynamically leading a team of 155 staff, based across various sites on Mahe, Praslin, La Digue and Curieuse Island.







ABOUT THE AUTHORITY

The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA), is a financially autonomous Public Enterprise (PE), which operates under the umbrella of its parent Ministry; the Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment. The Authority is entrusted with managing the protected areas and designated gardens of Seychelles, operating under its founding legislation; the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority Act 2022 and the Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act 2022 - following the merger between the former Seychelles National Parks Authority and the National Botanical Garden Foundation.

Within its jurisdictions and mandates, SPGA oversees the Morne Seychellois and Praslin Terrestrial National Parks, the Ile Cocos, Ste. Anne, Curieuse, Baie Ternay and Port Launay Marine Parks, as well as the National Botanical Garden and the National Biodiversity Centre.

Throughout 2022, SPGA thoroughly engaged with its partners, stakeholders and collaborators to ensure synergies and cooperation in works undertaken, allowing for the maximisation of expertise, resources and positive outcomes.

Mission

Ensuring that the protected areas and gardens are managed for the benefit of all.

Vision

That the parks and gardens of Seychelles are thriving and secure, sustained by adequate finances and a network of relevant stakeholders.

Mandates

- (a) promote the participation of Government, the public and businesses in conservation work
- (b) protect and manage effectively the ecosystems and biodiversity in designated Protected Areas which fall under the jurisdiction of the Authority
- (c) implement national conservation policies and obligations under multilateral agreements
- (d) implement forestry practices and management
- (e) protect habitats and ecosystems from anthropogenic threats such as forest fire, pollution and coral destruction
- (f) undertake specialist services such as plant identification and offer specialist consultancy services
- (g) facilitate and conduct research related to biodiversity and protected areas
- (h) deliver services of a high standard for the users of gardens and parks
- (i) engage in commercial activities related to the functions of the Authority
- (j) provide tourism and recreational activities
- (k) provide gardening and landscaping services, guided tours, and similar services



Curieuse Marine Park

Coco Marine Park

Praslin National Park

Veuve Special Reserve

Monte Seychellois National Park

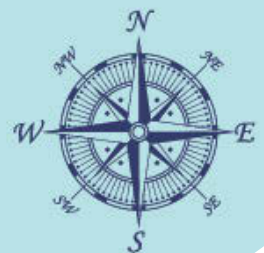
Baie Ternay Marine Park

Botanical Garden

Port Launay Marine Park

Ste Anne Marine Park

Biodiversity Centre



MARINE OPERATIONS

SAINTE ANNE MARINE NATIONAL PARK



Situated just off the coast of Mahe, about 5km from the main island, the Ste.Anne Marine Park comprises of six islands; Ste.Anne, Ile Moyenne, Ile Ronde, Ile Longue, Ile Cachee and Ile aux Cerf. Excursions in this protected area offers an array of spectacular views of Mahé, and introduce visitors to the treasures of this pristine marine protected area, the first of its kind to be established in the Indian Ocean (March, 1973).

Much preparation had been undertaken by the team to ensure that the base was braced for the turtle nesting season. The much anticipated season began as off October and the Ste.Anne Marine Operations team was assisted by interns from the Seychelles Maritime Academy. The students where trained and mentored SPGA Head of Marine Research; Mr. Rodney Bonne (Marine Scientist) and Park Officer Dainise Quatre on the tagging methodology, measurement taking and recording data about turtle's behaviors and other relevant information based on their findings.

Beach	Month	No of Tracks	No of Turtle Tag
Grand Anse	October	1	0
	November	0	0
	December	6	2
Petit Marnon	October	0	0
	November	5	0
	December	10	1
Grand Marnon	October	0	0
	November	4	2
	December	23	3
Cerf Island	October	1	0
TOTAL		50	8

Furthermore, SPGA signed a new MOU with Marine Conservation Society Seychelles (MCSS) in 2022 to continue coral reef restoration activities in the Ste. Anne MNP which would see the collaboration of the two organisations. MCSS have three sites within the Park which restoration activities is undertaken. These are found at the front of Cerf Island, the fish feeding site and at the Moyenne Island reef (popular snorkeling site). The Project has been ongoing for almost three years to date and has certainly faced certain challenges, such as park users who recklessly drop anchors and destroy the nurseries, especially during the weekends. Rangers have since been instructed to carry out added enforcement patrols, on locals or any other park users who are using anchors in restricted areas.

Another crucial undertaking by the Marine Operations team based in the Ste. Anne Marine Park, has been assisting Environment Officers with collecting water samples from different sites outside of the marine park boundary. This activity is conducted every month, it covers areas such as Marine Charter, New Port, Eden Island and Providence. The aim of such activity is to differentiate the water clarity and quality and make comparable observations on the findings. It is to be noted that the data collected is not being shared with SPGA as the activity is conducted outside of the MNP, however, SPGA is billing the necessary Department per boat trip.

Routine boat and enforcement patrols, as per the Authority's mandate are conducted in the MNP, and this allows the rangers to collect any unpaid fees within the MNP. These are conducted every day including weekends and public holidays, of which spot checks are done on various charter boats. Enforcement patrols carried out help to ensure that park users are in compliance with the laws and regulations that Marine Operations governed through, such as the Environment ACT, Protected ACT, Wild animals ACT, speeding, fishing





etc. From these patrols conducted, total of two (2) illegal fish traps were found and removed in the Ste. Anne MNP during the year 2022.

The Ste. Anne Marine Park Marine Operations team, have been able to benefit from several capacity building initiatives, as well as partaking in collaborative activities with stakeholders and partners within the Park. To commemorate World Wildlife Day 2022, a joint beach clean-up on the Grand-Anse Beach found on Ste. Anne Island and was organised alongside Club Med Seychelles and MCSS. Similarly, beach clean-ups are organised every month at the team level. Several internal training programs were achieved in 2022, such as; drone flying, basic servicing of boat engines and boat handling. Awareness and sensitization activities were conducted with school students, local picnickers and residents in the Park.

Months	July	September	October	November
Name of Cleanup site	Long Island	Long Island		
Items				
Pet bottles	45	33	58	12
Glass bottles	33	2	8	7
Other Plastic	7	16	15	23
Plastic wrappings	21	28	35	14
Grocery bags	1	0	2	4
Plastic bags	1	0	1	1
Foam	29	52	0	27
Cans	13	8	13	6
Metals	7	2	3	0
Other plastics	11	21	5	0
Fishing lines	4	0	0	0
Fishing nets	0	0	0	0
Glass	1	0	0	3
Diapers	0	0	0	0
Other	22	1	0	0
Total No Items collected	195	162	140	97
No of litter Bags	3	6		
Weight of litters collected (KG)	19.4kg	20.3kg		

Throughout the year, several servicing works were undertaken on the SPGA boats based in the Ste. Anne Marine Park. On the vessel “Filanbaz”, maintenance work required removing the boat from the water for a pressure wash, repair of broken stainless support for the canopy, and replacement of the water separator. Fiberglass works were conducted on “Sea Horse” and “Miskaden”.



ILE COCOS MARINE NATIONAL PARK



This Marine Park is one of Seychelles' most spectacular landmarks and is famous for its amazing snorkelling spots. The Ile Cocos Marine Park consist of 3 small islets, namely Ile la Fouche, Ilot Plate and Ile Cocos itself. The Park draws in visitors who fascinated and intrigued to spot the critically endangered Hawksbill Turtles.

Limited wildlife and ecosystem monitoring activities have been executed throughout the year due to rough sea conditions accompanied with storm surges during the South East Monsoon. This consequently resulted in strong currents accompanied with the presence of many jelly fish. With the adverse sea conditions, this limited snorkelling activities at Ile Cocos by clients, as they opted for other sites around Felicite and sister Island.

No illegal fish traps were recorded in the Ile Cocos Marine Park throughout 2022. However, the team based within the Marine Park, were required to deal with boat charters who refuse to pay entry fees of which the rangers ensured that they did not cross the Park boundary. Via the assistance of the local Police and the Coast Guard, one yacht was made to pay their entry fee, after refusing to oblige to the requirements explained by

the rangers. Additionally, jet ski owners from Mahe who come to the waters around La Digue and Ile Cocos during the weekends, tend to partake in speeding activities to which our team responded with a verbal warning.

As our Marine Operations team continues to enforce the mandates and regulations of the Authority, the team based at Ile Cocos have once again informed operators and boat owners that Sea Turtles found within the Park boundary should not be held or removed from the water.

The ongoing collaboration with the Six Senses Zil Pasyon Resort on Felicite Island continued to bear fruit, as their security team based on the islands, would readily notify our Marine Operations team of any illegal or unethical activities which they would notice around the Marine Park, especially in the early morning hours. On several occasions, a ranger would standby on Felicite Island, to ensure that all boats which enter the MNP are captured.

The SPGA Marine Operations Officers based on La Digue, were the recipients of a Turtle Monitoring Training. This was held by the Science Officer on Felicite Island, Ms. Lara a Marine Biologist and the program focused on the identification of Hawksbill Turtles. The Park Officer and Rangers have been able to learn a new approach to identifying sea turtles by using ID Photos instead of the usual tagging. Late on in the year, the team were also invited to attend a refresher training on sea turtles and the giant land tortoises, hosted by Dr. Jeanne Mortimer.

Environment Day celebrations saw the Ile Cocos staff participate alongside Felicite Island staff once again in a beach cleaning activity at anse Takamaka on Felicite itself, where most sea turtles come to lay their eggs. With the full implementation of the SPGA Online Payment System, the team further proceeded to sensitise hotels and boat operators on how to make use of the platform.

“Wave Runner” went ashore on the main island for reparation of the hull and engines. The Ile Cocos boat also underwent other minor improvements such as a change of the switch panel and water separators. The deck floor was repainted by the SPGA Park Officers, and a new coat of antifouling agent was used to coat the vessel. Later on during the year, the boat was graced with two new powerful engines.



BAIE TERNAY & PORT LAUNAY MARINE NATIONAL PARK



Seeing that these two marine protected areas are located adjacent to one another, it is managed by one collective Marine Operations team. Port Launay is one of Seychelles' most picturesque seascapes and it encloses eight beautiful beaches. It is the only marine park which is accessible by land as well as by sea. This park, which is very popular as a stop-over for visiting yacht charters is also famous for its whale shark sightings. Baie Ternay is a paradise for snorkelers and divers and is treasured for its astounding vistas, with pristine seashore fringed by calm turquoise shallows and abundant marine life. With no direct coastal road access, this park retains its exclusivity and natural beauty.

In line with SPGA'S mission to ensure that the protected areas are managed for the benefit of all, daily monitoring and enforcement patrols are carried out the Park Rangers based in the Baie Ternay and Port Launay Marine Park.

SPGA has since continued to join forces with other stakeholder and partners, who are able to assist the Authority with certain aspects of data collection and research. The Global Vision International team(GVI), a longstanding partner of the Authority who have been based

at Cap Ternay, have generally covered the monitoring of benthic fish cover, invertebrates, other marine fauna hard coral genera diversity and coral recruitment. On the same note, following the MOU which was signed with Nature Seychelles in 2020, the Local Empowered Area Project (LEAP), continued with a set of monitoring and awareness activities in the Marine Park, involving the local community and other stakeholders. Activities undertaken include the monitoring of corals, seagrass and mangroves.

Doubling-down on enforcement in the Park, saw SPGA collaborate with the Coast Guard, Marine Police and the Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority (SMSA), to deter and prevent poachers who target late afternoons to attempt poaching of octopus and lobster within the Park boundaries. SPGA has also benefited through the use of drones which facilitate the surveillance of the Park from a distance. Throughout the past year, three fish traps were detected and removed from the Marine Park, and one poacher was apprehended destroying corals with the purpose to sell to visitors.

The year 2022, offered several opportunities to expand the capacity and knowledge of staff based in these two protected areas. Training of marine knot, mapping using drones, and the installation of mooring buoys (6 Baie Ternay & 5 Port Launay), which was facilitated by the Ridge to Reef Project (R2R) as examples of such. Moreover, the R2R Project facilitated the start of the Underwater Trail found in the Port Launay Marine Park. Although certain aspects of the Trail are to be fully completed, such endeavour proves to be one which may be very popular with visitors. Staff also participated in joint activities with the local community, GVI and LEAP.



CURIEUSE MARINE NATIONAL PARK



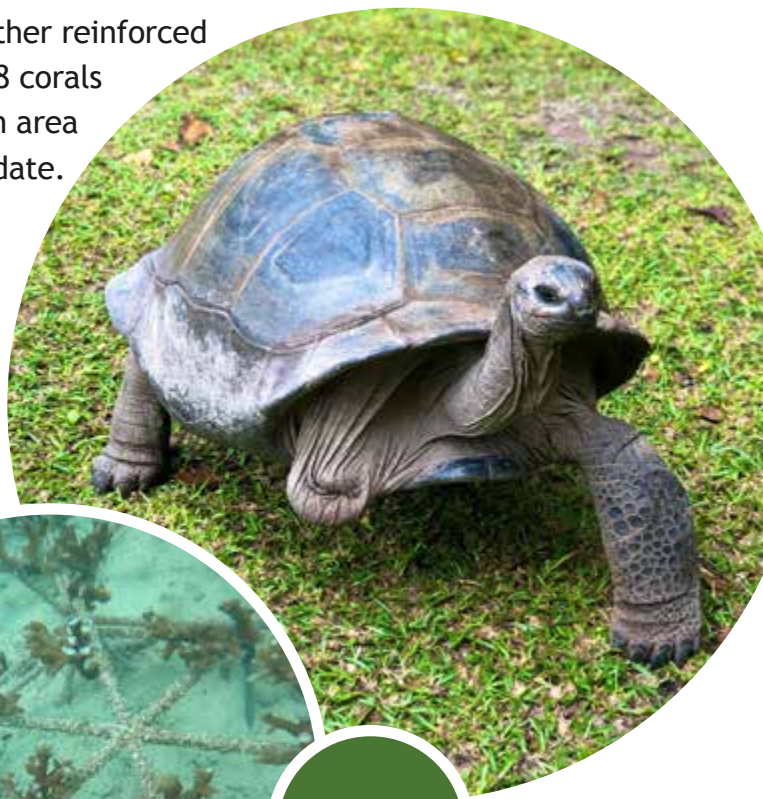
This Marine Parks boasts spectacular access to the flora and fauna of the Seychelles. It is home to an array of endemic species notably three flagship species: The Coco de Mer, Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher and the Giant Aldabra Tortoise. Curieuse MP offers both marine and terrestrial attractions from its rich underwater ecosystem to fascinating nature trails. A common attraction in this Park is the boardwalk- the longest in Seychelles- which stretches across the Mangrove Forest.

Being one of SPGA's busiest and highest earning sight, Curieuse remains a dynamic hotspot for tourists who visit the Seychelles shores, hence the need for effective enforcement and monitoring at all times, both on land and at sea. Throughout 2022, rangers based in the Park have executed night patrols around St.Pierre Island as it had been observed that residents of Praslin Island, especially from the Cote d'or Area, targeted the islet for poaching of crabs. Foot patrols continued on Curieuse itself, with the added help of drones. Unfortunately, due to the strong winds during the South East Monsoon, the drone was not operated, as the software indicated that the high velocity winds would cause damage to the device.

A total of 15 fishing rods were confiscated early in 2022, from vessels which were found in the Marine Park and the team recognises that such confiscation is alarming. Following such incident, a Book of Record was opened in which all rods and other equipments confiscated are to be recorded and tagged with the date, time and vessel from which they were seized. On the other hand, remarkably no fishing traps were seized in the Marine Park, showcasing that the local fisherman community have to an extent understood the purpose and management of a protected area. Surprisingly, the Marine Operations team based on Curieuse were however informed by the local community on Praslin that a certain group of boat owners were spotted fishing between Cote d'or and Curieuse Island, to which the team reacted without haste. Upon spotting the culprits, they quickly fled the scene making apprehension very difficult.

The SPGA has many partners and collaborators who provide a helping hand in ensuring that the Parks are well protected, consequently Raffles Hotel on Praslin whose beach area borders the Curieuse Marine Park partnered with SPGA to commemorate World Biodiversity Day. The coral planting activity which was open for staff and clients of the Hotel, saw the installation of “reef stars” in the vicinity of the the La Reserve Hotel. Transplantation of the corals were undertaken by SPGA scientific divers and rangers. The Coral Reef Restoration team on Curieuse, have kept a close eye on the corals which were planted through this collaboration, and also further reinforced the anchorage of these structures. A total of 638 corals have been transplanted in 8 plots of 10x10m. An area of 800m² = 0.08 hectares has been restored to date.

The rangers have kindly continued to assist the Research and Documentation Section with the various research activities which they undertake on the Island. These include mangrove and Paradise Flycatcher surveillance activities. Several students who were undertaking their Work-Place Attachment as a component of their study, have been able to assist the team with different aspects of operations within the Marine Park. It is to be remembered that Curieuse graciously hosted SPGA's first ever international Intern,





Ms. Evane Antoine from Reunion Island for 6 weeks. There she was able to discover and learn more the different works which are undertaken in terms of safeguarding a protected area.

The renowned marine park was also the beneficiary of mooring buoys which were installed, through the Ridge to Reef Project. These 31 buoys in total were placed along Baie Laraie and Anse Jose, to facilitate mooring for yachts and other vessels which use the Park, with the aim to prevent damage caused by anchors dropped to the corals.

In 2022, the Curieuse team revamped and refurbished their plant nursery which is found on the Island. The nursery now houses various tree species which are utilised for rehabilitation and restoration purposes on different areas of the island, as well as allowing availability for partners who undertake tree planting activities on the Island.

The Curieuse Marine Park, was the first SPGA site to implement the use of the SPGA Online Payment System in September 2022. It was deemed as the best site for the first phase of the implantation, seeing the large number of visitors which the site receives per day. As expected, there had been several minor glitches and issues during the first days of the implementation, with regards to the technology itself, as well as clients and operators who were yet to accustom themselves to the new modality. However, these hiccups were later rectified and remedied, paving the way for all other SPGA sites to follow suite, with best practices from the lessons learnt.

Being a remote island, Curieuse often encounters issues with its generator which provides electricity to the Island. In order to curve such unwanted eventualities, in 2022, the Authority invested in a new and powerful generator for the island base which would better serve the staff residing there. Additionally, upgrading of the roofing of the Barbeque Area at Baie Laraie was undertaken as a means to prevent flooding by rain water, especially in time of strong winds. In the same breath, the Authority also provided improved BBQ grills used by tour operators to facilitate their daily operations when preparing lunch for clients.





FORESTRY AND NATIONAL TERRESTRIAL PARK

In January 2022, the Forestry and National Parks Section was split into two units, whereby the Fond B'Offay Forestry Office including Veuve Special Reserve became a unit on its own under the responsibility of an Inner Island Coordinator.

The Forestry and National Terrestrial Park team on Mahé is led by Mr. James Mougat; General Manager. The team was reorganised into three main units; Forestry Production, Forestry Inventory and the Morne Seychellois National Park, with the aim to revitalise the forestry operations on Mahé and strengthen the management of the Morne Seychellois National Park.

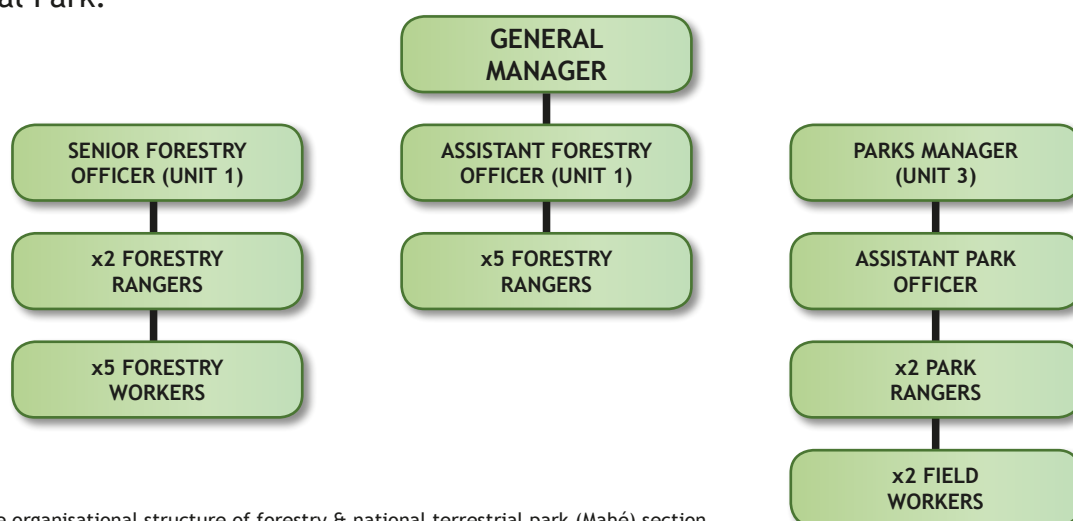


Figure: The organisational structure of forestry & national terrestrial park (Mahé) section

UNITS AND THEIR FUNCTIONS

UNIT 1: The Forestry Production Unit has the following functions: maintain timber plantations (bush slashing and replanting), manage tree nurseries, diagnose and treat tree diseases, control and manage invasive alien species, restore degraded forest reserves, and conduct surveillance and enforcement within the Morne Seychellois National Park.

UNIT 2: The Forestry Inventory Unit has the following functions: conduct forest inventory (field data collection and mapping of forest resources), allocate timber trees and other forest products to timber merchants and the general public, conduct surveillance and enforcement of timber harvesting conditions, and assess dangerous trees on SPGA properties

UNIT 3: The Morne Seychellois National Park Unit has the following functions: Maintain eco-tourism facilities (nature trails, signposts and information boards, wooden bridges and kiosks), conduct biodiversity monitoring and assist visiting scientists, carry-out education and awareness activities, and conduct surveillance and enforcement within the Park.

FOREST INVENTORY

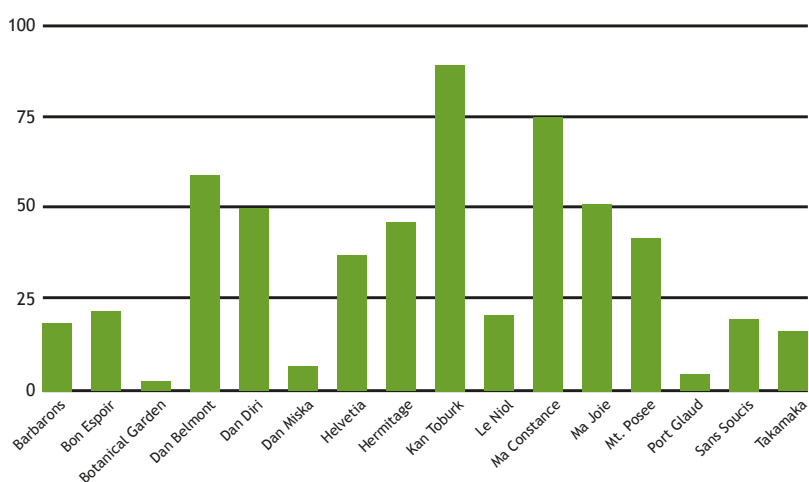
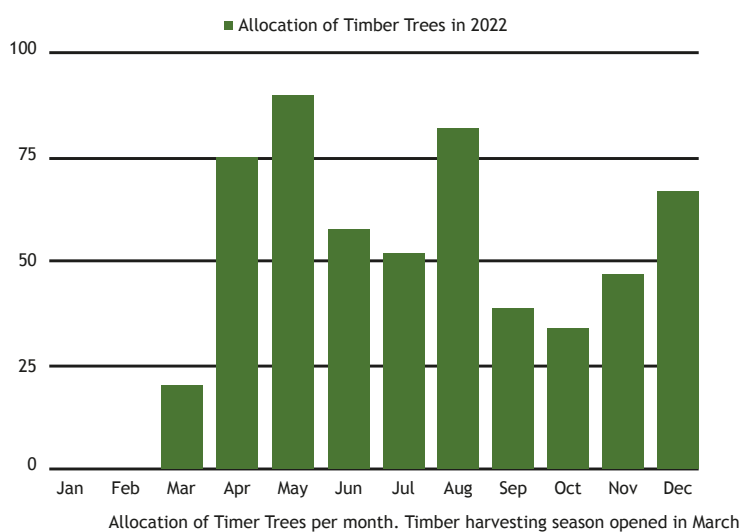
The Forestry Inventory team assessed and marked timber trees in 13 locations on Mahé (Table x) Although 693 timber trees were marked, only 554 trees were harvested in 2022. The team surveyed other potential locations for timber harvesting activity across Mahé, and of the sites visited, the Department of Environment (DoE) has not approved for timber harvesting at Dilo Malbar (Grand Anse) and Dan Bamboo (Anse Royale), and the timber trees at Dan Borée (Montagne Posée) were considered too young to be harvested by the team.

Cases of dangerous trees reported to SPGA by the Department of Environment

ACTIVITIES	LOCATIONS	OUTCOMES/TARGETS (NO. OF TREES)
Assessment of Dangerous Trees	Ile du Port, Perseverance	Casuarina trees posing a danger to road users along the main Perseverance
	Dan Diri, Port Gland	A Mahogany tree posing a danger to an agricultural farm
	Trois Frères, Sans Souci	Seven Calice du Pape trees posing a danger to road users and a private property
	Beau Belle, Bel Ombre	Seven Santol trees posing a danger to road users and a house
Assessment & Marketing of Timber Trees	Dan Diri, Port Gland	41 Santol & 21 Mahogany
	Kan Tobruk, Sans Souci	101 Mahogany, 37 Santol, 7 Calice du Pape, 1 Kaya & 4 Albizia
	Dan Miska, Les Mamelles	10 Mahogany
	Takamaka	20 Calice du Pape
	Dan Bibouk, La Gogue	27 Calice du Pape
	Bon Espoir, Mr. Posée	40 Santol, 41 Mahogany, 12 Frhiw & 2 Bwa Zonn
	Le Niole	20 Mahogany
	Ma Joie	24 Mahogany, 15 Calice du Pape, 4 Aalbizia & 3 Agathie
	Ma Constance	68 Mahogany, 5 Calice du Pape & 1 Santol

Assessment & Marketing of Timber Trees (cont.)	Dan Belmont, La Misère	60 Santol
	Trois Frères	7 Calice du Pape & 11 Santol
	Hermitage, Anse Boileau	4 Santol & 67 Mahogany
	Helvetia, La Misère	60 Mahogany

Table: Sites visited by the Forestry Inventory team and number of timber trees marked



Sites visited by the Forestry Inventory team and areas covered by Cinnamon trees

ACTIVITIES	LOCATIONS	OUTCOMES/TARGETS (CINNAMON/HA)
Assessment of Cinnamon on state lands	Dan Bibouk, La Gogue	2.18 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel H13816
	Ponte Aux Sel	2.13 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel C10759
	Dan Mamboo, Anse Royale	2.59 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel C10343
	Caryle Estate	8.13 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel S8560
	Point Larue	9.74 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel C9913
	Dame Le Roi, Baie Lazare	6.21 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel C9913
	Baie Lazare	7.49 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel C9753
	Anse Louis	0.44 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel C9927
	Port Launay	33.53 ha of Cinnamon on Parcel J4079

MONITORING & ENFORCEMENT

In 2022, the Forestry team conducted more than 54 site visits on the timber merchant's harvesting sites at the different locations across the country. These included Kan Tobruk and Trois Frères (Sans Souci), Le Niole (Bel Ombre), Dan Miska (Les Mamelles), Ma Joie and Ma Constance (Anse Etoile), Babarons (Grand Anse), Hermitage (Anse Boileau), Bon Espoir and Montagne Posée (Au Cap), Dan Diré (Port Glaud), Takamaka and the Botanical Garden. The site visits were undertaken to ensure that timber merchants are respecting the terms and conditions outlined in their contracts. Such activity is carried out after timber harvesting operations have been completed by a timber merchant.

Additionally, the team re-visited the sites at Ma Constance and Dan Belmont to investigate a complaint received from the DOE regarding an illegal harvesting activity being undertaken by a suspected timber merchant. To date the case is still being investigated by the DOE. However, it is becoming apparent that monitoring of timber harvesting sites must be continued even after they have been closed off.

The economic importance of the forest sector is generally perceived as marginal but it has increased significantly during the last 15 years. About 20% of the plantations have been established for protection purposes leaving about 75% for production. However, the Forestry section has not fully met its annual reforestation target, due to circumstances such as rotation cycle gap in harvesting and re-planting activities, land tenure and land degradation issues. Therefore, tree planting after exploitation has typically been enrichment type of planting where valuable and relatively fast growing species are being planted in openings resulting from removal of harvested trees.

Table below shows areas maintained in 2022 in m²

ACTIVITIES	LOCATIONS	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	NOTES
Manage Timber Plantations	Tomazine	Prep Ground- New plantation clearing	Total 5,218m ²	Mahogany Timber Plantation
Manage Timber Plantations	Trois Frères	Maintenance in existing plantation	Total 6,564m ²	Mahogany Timber Plantation
	Tomazine		Total 1,625m ²	Mahogany Timber Plantation
	MSNP old trail entrance		Total 2,301m ²	Latanier Feuilles Plantation
	Val Riche		Total 15,761m ²	Latanier Feuilles Plantation & Bois de Natte Plantation

As per the table above a total area of 5,218m² cleared for a new plantation site located at Tomazine and a total area of 26,251m² maintained in existing plantations on Mahé throughout the year

CARBON OFFSETTING OF LONG HAUL TRAVEL TO SEYCHELLES

NATURE BASE SOLUTION FOR GREEN RECOVERY TOURISM

Site preparation - Approximately 4,500m² clearing of dense vegetation, felling of both mature and juvenile Albizia trees, Cinnamon trees, uprooting of invasive alien plant species *Clidemia hirta* and the cutting and removal of tea plants.

Plant propagation in nursery: 1,474 Bois de Natte and 787 Bois de Table seedlings propagated throughout the year

Ground preparation: 1,038m² cleared for phase 2
A total of 900 plants planted which include 295 planted as replacements of dead plants.

Education and outreach programme: A total of 151 Bois de Table seedlings planted (65 planted by Allamanda Hotel and Gran Kaz staff, and 86 planted by Hilton Northolme Hotel and SPGA staff)

Maintenance in plantation: Total of 19,331m² maintained

Control of invasive alien species: Uprooting of *Clidemia hirta*; A total of 192 gunny bags collected

Others: Assisting Research section on conducting data collection



MORNE SEYCHELLOIS NATIONAL PARK

Founded in 1979, the Morne Seychellois National Park(MSNP) is the largest National Park in the Seychelles covering an area of more than 20% on the main island of Mahé. The MSNP is composed of lush tropical jungles, tall mountains, mangroves and is also home to the archipelago's few remaining indigenous forests. Many endemic species can be found in high altitudes of the park.

Volunteers for Trail Maintenance

Contacts were established with the District Administration of Port Glaud and Bel Ombre to secure long-term commitments of districts that are confined within or adjacent to the MSNP. Intentions were to obtain participation of residents or volunteer groups in trail maintenance.

SITE	BLOW-DOWN	BUSH CUTTING	STEPS & PINS	SIGNAGE	LITTER	DRAINAGE	REPAINT KIOSK	BENCHES
Dans Gallas	29		245 Steps	4 Relocate				
M.A.C								
Morne Blanc	4							
Copolia	5		350 Steps			2		
Trois Frères	3	414	65 Steps		7 Bags			
Salazie		3192						
Anse Major	4		16 Steps + 30 Pins	10	9 Bags		1	
Morne Seychellois	26		79 Steps + 255 Pins	8		3		2
Dans Bernard	7	1221	38 Steps + 144 Pins					
Mont Dor	30							
TOTAL	160	10,206m²	793 Steps + 429 Pins	22	27	5	1	2

ANSE MAJOR TRAIL RENOVATION

As part of the ongoing exercise to re-evaluate the level of potential safety and security hazards on official trails being managed by the SPGA, a series of assessments were conducted on the Anse Major trail. This trail forms part of the most visited and popular trails alongside

the Copolia and Morne Banc trails; by both locals and foreign visitors, hence receiving significantly large volume of daily users with an average of 20 per day.

It was concluded that certain sections of the trail could eventually present some hazards to visitors. The team concluded on the need to secure the unstable stones in cement and to consider the installation of railings. The loose stones were secured in cement mix and new railings installed. A total of ten signage were also erected to provide visitors with an insight of the geology, biodiversity and panoramic view over the ocean. Three damaged wooden bridges were renovated with new materials and a new bridge providing access to the beach at end of trail was constructed. The viewing platform was given a fresh coat of paint to remove signs of graffiti while an illegal kiosk selling alcohol and coconut to visitors was dismantled with assistance from the Beau Vallon Police Station.

Following on from the few reported cases of ambush targeting visitors, a police officer is now dispatched on a daily basis to ensure safety of visitors. The Anse Major trail is hence up to date with eco-tourism infrastructure, trail safety and enforcement. Next target of the trail is to install a ticket office.

MORNE SEYCHELLOIS: AN OFFICIAL TRAIL

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the formers Seychelles National Parks Authority and H Savy Insurance(HIS) Company Limited on the 22nd of April 2021 towards the common goal of re-opening the Morne Seychellois Nature trail to the public. A sum of SCR 250,000 was transferred on the 9th of September 2021.

Bidding for clearing of the trail started in July 2021 whereby the general duties of service provider involved the erection of wooden steps where applicable, cutting and removal of overhanging vegetation and bush slashing under three (3) allocation Lots. The total cost of the Project amounted to SCR 132,000. And the total length of trail cleared was 1.8km.



Another 250m towards the peak of Morne Seychellois was cleared by the MSNP team based at Le Niole. The main focus was on placing ropes and ladders along the trail and on maintaining work done by contractors which involved vegetation clearing, replacing wooden steps and pegs and connecting the existing trail with a new entrance.

Temporary closure of the Morne Seychellois Trail was determined to be of high importance since some hazards were observed with the new steel steps at the new entrance. A new contractor was identified and worked on addressing the limitations of the new steel steps. The opening of the Ticket Office at the Sans Souci sub-substation was on the 16th November 2022 and caters for visitors to purchase and validate entrance tickets in order to access both the Morne Seychellois and Trois Freres Trails.

COPOLIA

The Copolia Nature Trail Ticket Office received a fresh coat of paint in October 2022, and immediate surroundings are maintained free of grasses and debris on a monthly basis. Much attention and efforts were allocated to replace a total of 350 worn out wooden steps and associated pegs. The drainage systems along the trail head and midsection were restored. Trail users are now able to cross muddy areas without getting their boots wet.

No significant issues or concerns were recorded during the year except for one case of theft recorded against a couple. This happened during normal working day and in the absence of enforcement officer. The case received immediate attention from the Seychelles Police



whereby trained dogs and handlers were sent on site, statements written and interviews conducted. The case was registered with the Police but unfortunately there has been no apprehension so far. The entrance fee paid by the couple was reimbursed and apologies were expressed on behalf of the SPGA.

Deployment of officers during the weekends were given priority to ensure safety to both accounts personnel and trail users. Copolia does not have similar Police presence as with the Anse Major Trail hence safety and security to users was an issue to SPGA. Enforcement officers are now deployed during the weekend and as a result, there are no records of aggressions towards visitors.

ENFORCEMENT ON TRAILS

Personnel were selected based on interest shown and ability to enforce relevant laws pertaining to the National Park but specifically to ensure safety of accounts personnel while handling fees and similar afforded to trail users. Enforcement also involves active inspection of the trail prior to official business hours and to ensure users return safely to the starting point and that users pay prior to the use of the Trail. A total of six personnel were posted for enforcement duties and were based mostly at Copolia and, during December, at the newly opened Sans Souci Ticket Office.

Outstanding training on the new SPGA and Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act(NRCA,) 2022 will need to be given priority during the first quarter of 2023 in order to provide much needed guidance on proper and effective enforcement protocols to personnel.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Ability to create awareness on the importance of biodiversity conservation especially involving children has been identified as paramount in how the natural world is perceived and appreciated. Not only to ensure long-term survival of species and their habitats but equally to ensure sustainable use of resources and life strategies towards survival. In that context, the SPGA places much emphasis on outreach programs targeting school children.

Children were involved in some activities assisting our personnel to control especially invasive plant species. They were also taken on guided tours along trails and were briefed on the biodiversity of the National Park and roles of the SPGA in maintaining functional eco-systems for the services they provide to human beings. Field activities with groups of children were



organised to control invasive *Clidemia hirta* growing along trails and they further participated in tree planting activities.

	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
Field activity with group of children from the Museum Club	14 Students	Morne Blanc Trail	Control of invasive alien species along trail
Clean-up activity with UniSey students and the PCA	10 Students	Tea Tavern	Clean-up and control of IAS
Museum Club	15 Students	Trois Frères	25 endemics planted
Montessori School	75 Students & 8 Teachers	Salazie/Fairview	Guided Tour
Independent School	60 Students	School Campus	Presentation on trails & biodiversity
Beau Vallon School	29 Students	Anse Major	Guided Tour

Table: List of activities involving school children

Site visits were an important component towards ensuring the effective management of the MSNP and involved the participation of multitude partners and stakeholders. Some visits were organised to provide advice or assistance while some were simply to appraise certain activities within the MSNP being implemented by stakeholders. Visits were conducted and summaries below:

With the Heritage Foundation to appraise and to provide inputs on the construction of a binocular tower. The Project was not in accordance with planning regulations and they had additionally failed to seek relevant authorisation. Advice was provided on how to proceed. Work is pending. The unit also assisted the Foundation with the removal of some dangerous trees on site.

Visit to the Salazie / Fairview Trail was organised with the SCAA to identify a potential area for corporation in trail maintenance. Numerous visits were organised with contractors to brief on Projects which are to be implemented along Trails. A site visit was also conducted with the Department of Environment to assess access road options to private properties within the Park at Dans Gallas, as well as visits to provide advice on illegal dumping of rubbish at Trois Frères. Visits were also organised with the UNDP / R2R Project team to discuss a Habitat Restoration Project at Cap Ternay. Two visits were organised with the PCA/ Francklina Project at the Tea Tavern Restoration Site and a new site at Mont Dor.



TRAILS AND ECO-TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

The total number of blowdown recorded for the year remained at 160 trees of less than 30cm in diameter. Trails that were most affected were Mare Aux Cochons with 52 trees followed by Mont Dor with 30 and Morne Seychellois with 26 trees. Although Morne Blanc is located within a mist forest that experiences adverse climatic conditions such as strong wind and heavy rainfall throughout the year and with tall trees adjacent to the trail corridor, very few trees were recorded blocking access. Trois Frères was the least affected by blowdown with only three trees recorded. Data generated from this assessment may provide an indication of where to expect such hazards, which in turn will assist with directing resources on a timely manner.

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

Management of the MSNP biodiversity is aimed towards ensuring long-term conservation of Seychelles' endemic species. This is usually achieved by enhancing degraded habitats through restoration efforts in close partnership with stakeholders, control the spread of invasive alien species, monitoring and research programs that are established and controlling anthropogenic activities that may have adverse effects on the structural and functional integrity of native biota and their habitats.

PRASLIN NATIONAL PARK



FORESTRY AND NATIONAL PARK

The Praslin National Park is the second largest in the Seychelles and is a habitat to a variety of endemic, indigenous and native flora and fauna, but is perhaps more famously known for being home to the Seychelles Black Parrot and the Coco-de-Mer Palm. Under this section, two units operate, namely; Forestry and National Park.

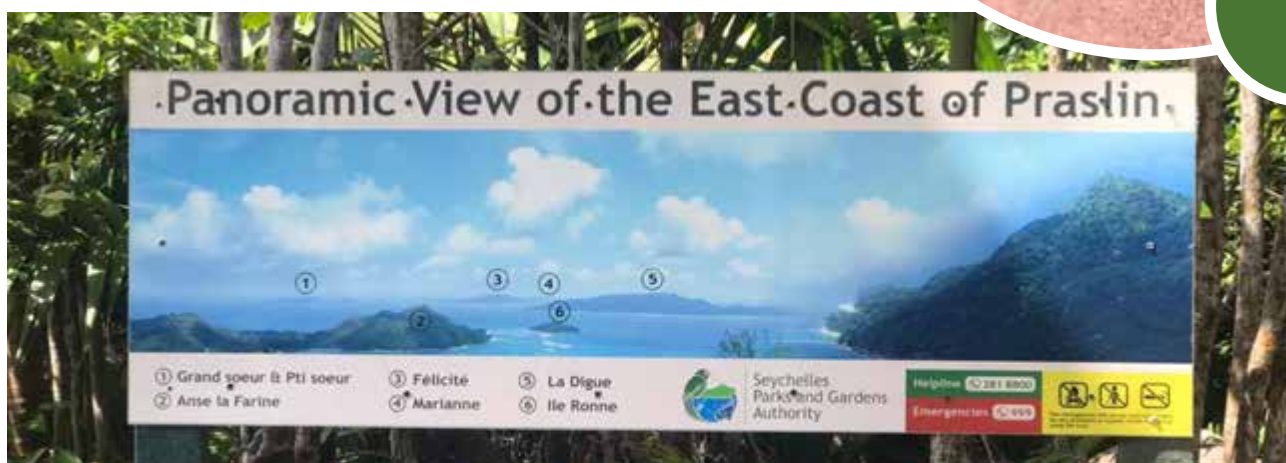
As per the mandates and regulations of the Authority, daily routine works are undertaken by the team based on Praslin to ensure the safeguarding of the protected area. These include, felling and loping of dangerous trees which are deemed a hazard for surrounding SPGA properties, collection and potting of seedlings such as Vakwa tant, Bwa Zoliker and Bwa sagay and the removal of dead plants and collection of humus to name a few. The office located at Fond B'offay Praslin accommodates a nursery of plants, which are utilised for replanting in different projects and activities which the Authority undertakes. Forestry cleaning is an important task of the Praslin team. This allows for the eradication and monitoring of invasive species which pose a pertinent threat to the endemism found within the National Park.

A vast amount of Coco de Mer nuts obtained by the Authority is collected from the Praslin National Park. With many of the nuts having a well-rounded shape, they provide easy marketability for SPGA when being sold to clients both on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue.

Works began late in 2021, to renovate and upgrade the Glacis Noire Nature Trail, in a means to provide Praslin Island with its first official nature trail. Throughout 2022, the Fond B'offay team were fully occupied working on the Trail itself, installing fish nets along the path to prevent soil degradation, renovating a kiosk along the trail- providing a resting spot for hikers, as well as carrying out renovation works on the fire tower located at the peak of the trek, with a bench installed inside. Standard information boards have also been added to the trail, allowing for clear demarcation of the trails, and sharing of intriguing information of the endemic species found on the route to the fire tower.

Additionally, the Authority invested in developing a car park area which would be of use to the trail users. The large car park area, would similarly compliment the ticketing office (container house), which serves visitors, with restroom facilities and a ticket agent for validation or purchase of online tickets. Works on the trail have been completed towards the end of 2022, and the trail is set to officially open in the early stages of 2023.

Throughout 2022, the Fond B'offay Section have actively participated in ongoing education and outreach activities on Praslin. During the Clean Up the World Campaign, carried out in September, the SPGA team joined forces with the Department of Environment from the Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment. The clean-up activity took place at Anse Marie Louise, and there several gunny bags were filled with discarded materials collected along the beach area. Similarly, to mark World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought on 17th June, the SPGA staff based on Praslin participated in





a tree planting activity at Anse Takamaka, where 200 seedlings were planted. Fitting with the theme of “Rising from Drought Together”, the activity was a collaboration between SPGA, the Department of Environment and the Terrestrial Restoration Action Society Seychelles (TRASS).

The SPGA management and staff based on Praslin, also treated a long-service staff; Mr.Sydney Leon to a show of appreciation as he entered retirement. The team showcased their appreciation for their long-serving colleague, Mr. Leon who had dedicated 24years working with the National Parks Authority on Praslin. The SPGA Management and staff expressed their gratitude to Mr.Leon and wished him a happy and restful retirement.

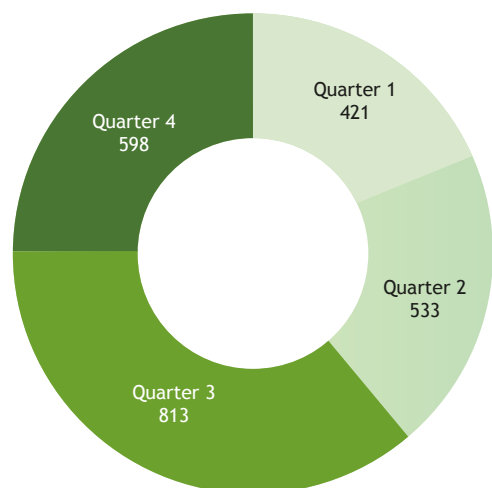
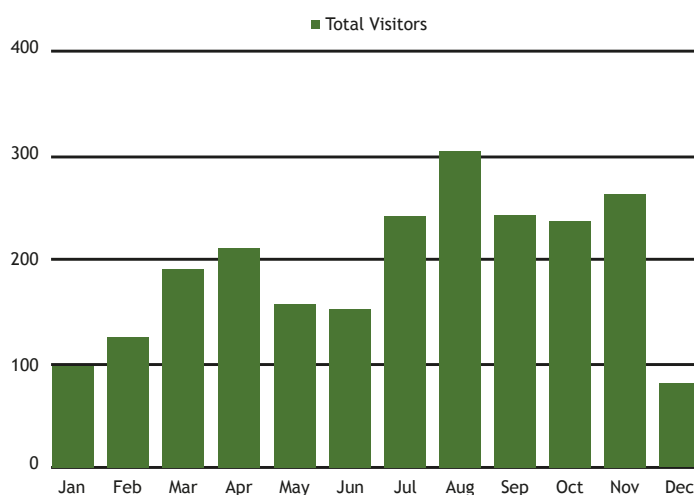




VEUVE RESERVE

The Veuve Reserve located at Anse Reunion, forms part of a 200-hectare plateau on the western stretch of La Digue Island and covers an area of 21 hectares. Conservation efforts around the Reserve have ranged from providing a safe breeding and feeding habitat for the birds, as well as promoting education and awareness to tourists and locals alike.

2022 has been a productive year for the Reserve in terms of visitor numbers received. An impressive total of 2,365 guests were recorded by the end of the year in comparison to the 884 guests recorded in 2021.





In 2022 the La Digue Veuve Special Reserve experienced a year of shortcomings on staffing in regards to the job position of Forestry Worker. The lack of manpower affected a number of aspects in the field work management of the Reserve. As an Authority, it was a big challenge to have only 1 manpower on field to take up tasks and to ensure that the maintenance of the Veuve Reserve is kept to the required standards as a protected area. Management of the Reserve proved to be more complicated in mid-June 2022 as the one Forestry worker based in the Reserve stepped down from the post, leaving the Reserve without field staff at a given point. Fortunately, in due time, SPGA managed to secure a casual worker to assist with maintenance and upkeep works, whilst not forgetting the assistance of staff from the SPGA Fond B'offay base on Praslin. Having to deal with such issues, it can only be understandable that this caused certain setbacks to the Field Work Program and several targets laid out at the start of the year were not met.



WORKS AND ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN THE VEUE RESERVE

- Maintenance of eco-tourism facilities
- Litter collection
- Wetland Management
- Management of the visitor Centre and implementation of education & outreach activities
- Tour Guiding
- Up keep of the office and grounds
- Management of the plant propagation nursery
- Enforcement Activities through effective access control
- Forestry work: Tree felling & trimming

Activities Performed in 2022

MONTH	ACTIVITY
February	Tree felling operation to remove dangerous trees in the Veuve Reserve. The activity was conducted over a 5 day period
March	Visit from CEO and delegation from headquarter/visit PUC Sewage Project
April	Visit from headquarters' IT Site visit from Cinnamon Harvest Project at Anse Grose Roches. Visit was conducted by La Digue and Praslin Forestry staff
May	Visit from HR
June	World Environment Day - staff attended a workshop on Curieuse at the Ridge to Reef Project World Environment Day - SPGA staffs participated in a beach cleaning activity at Anse Coco beach jointly with DOE staffs Tree planting activity - Outsiders Volleyball Sport club participated to plant 101 plants, 20 Bonen Kare, 30 Bwa Natte, 37 Bwa dir Rouz, 14 Bwa-d-roz Visit from Headquarters' IT
August	Internal training - 2 Research staffs came to La Digue to conduct a brief GPS training, GPS points were recorded at the Flycatcher nests.
September	Clean-up the World activity - The opening ceremony of the Clean-up the World 2022 was held at the Veuve Reserve by PS Denis Matatiken Flycatcher census activity on Curieuse - Ranger participated with Research staff for 2 days
November	SPGA staff assisted Praslin SBC crew with trail filming work at Anse Songe/Grand Anse, Anse Maron and Nid D'algie trail Staff assisted a group of eco school children from Praslin. They visited the information centre and the park.

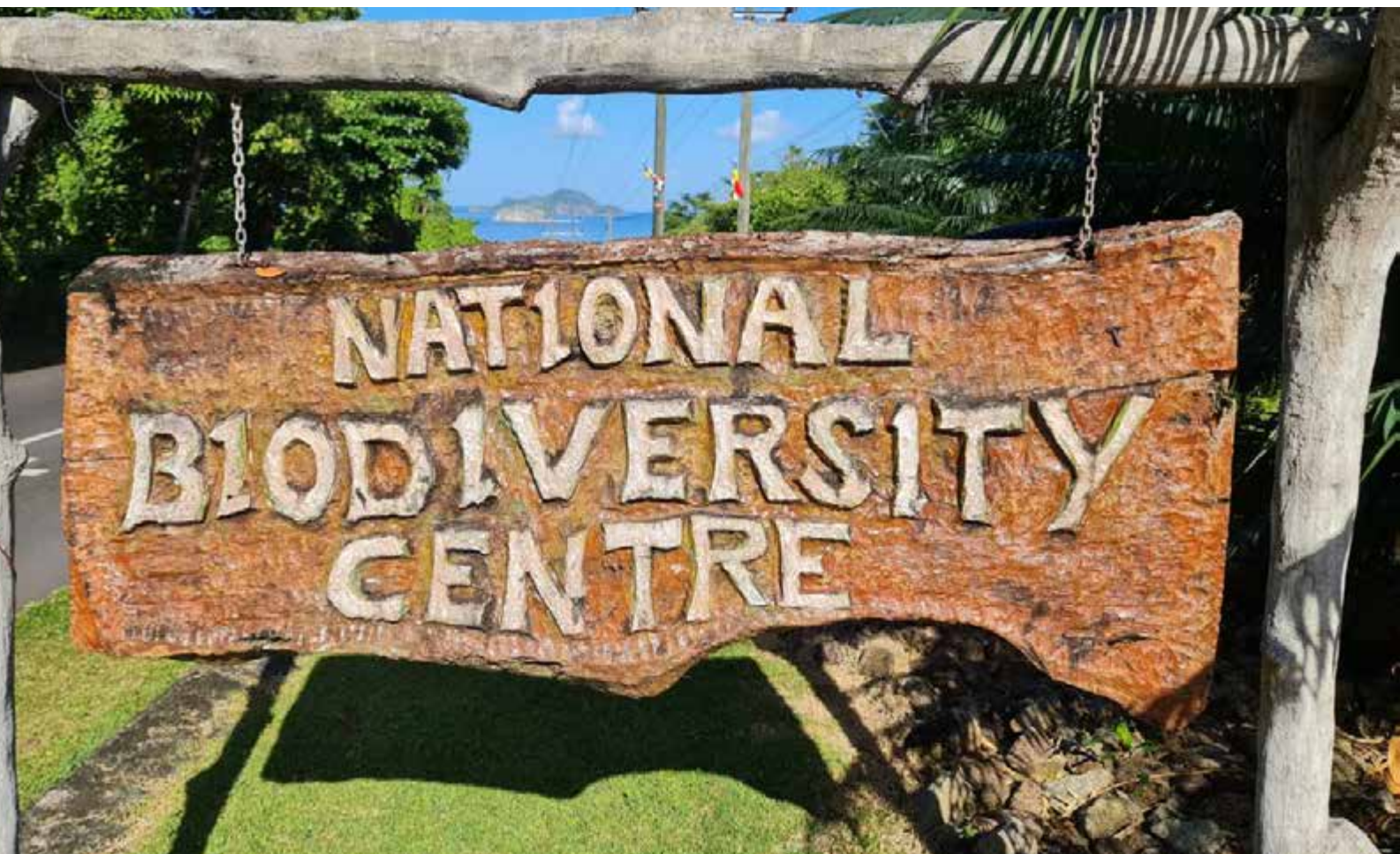
Coco de Mer Sales Reveue

MONTH 2022	QTY	SHAPE	TAG NUMBER	AMOUNT	TOTAL
January	2	Mishape Shape	0006930 0006494	Scr 6,500.00	Scr 6,500.00
February	1	Shape	0013171	Scr 4,000.00	Scr 4,000.00
March	0	0	0	0	0
April	1	Shape	0014911	Scr 4,000.00	Scr 4,000.00
May	0	0	0	0	0
June	1	Shape	0006476	Scr 4,000.00	Scr 4,000.00
July	3	Shape Shape Shape	0012892 0013780 0012878	Scr 4,000.00 Scr 4,000.00 Scr 4,000.00	Scr 12,000.00
August	2	Shape Shape	0016159 0016104	Scr 5,000.00 Scr 5,000.00	Scr 10,000.00
September	2	Shape Shape	0016157 0016104	Scr 5,000.00 Scr 5,000.00	Scr 10,000.00
October	1	Shape	0016219	Scr 5,000.00	Scr 5,000.00
November	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	13				Scr 55,500.00

Forest Products Sales Revenue

DESCRIPTION	QUARTER 1 (Jan-Mar)	QUARTER 2 (Apr-Jun)	QUARTER 3 (Jul-Sep)	QUARTER 4 (Oct-Dec)	TOTAL
Total Processing fee collected per month	0	Scr 1,000.00	Scr 400.00	Scr 4,200.00	Scr 6,500.00
Total sales of timer collected per month	0	Scr 8,763.00	0	Scr 19,536.80	Scr 28,299.80
Total sales of other product (raffia) collected per month	0	0	0	Scr 400.00	Scr 400.00
Total sales of Takamaka poles collected per month	0	Scr 5,600.00	Scr 650.00	Scr 2,700.00	Scr 8,950.00
Injection of Takamaka tree	0	0	Scr 1,950.00	0	Scr 1,950.00
TOTAL	0	Scr 15,363.00	Scr 3,000.00	Scr 26,836.80	Scr 45,199.80

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY CENTRE



The Biodiversity Centre, located at Bababrons was first introduced in 1998 but formally launched to the public in 2014. First of its kind in the Indian Ocean, the 17 hectares of land aims to conserve and showcase Seychelles' wide range of flora by allowing visitors to experience the vegetation of different ecosystems present in Seychelles.

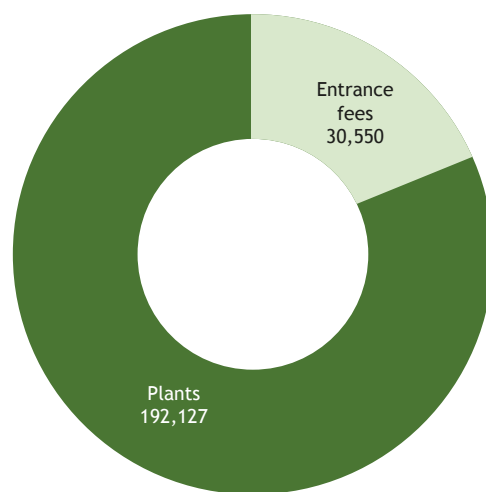
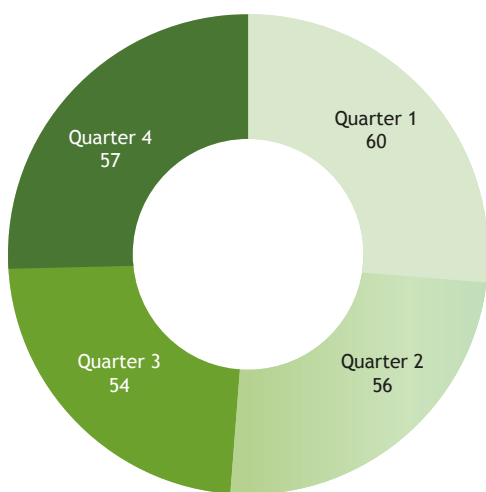
The Centre facilitates local residents to obtain seeds and seedlings for replanting in their own gardens and contributes towards the national efforts to conserve the rare and endangered plants of Seychelles.

FUNCTIONS OF THE GARDEN

The Garden is currently being overseen by Base Manager Mrs. Nathachia Einfeldt and Senior Horticulturist Mr. Damien Doudee, with the support of 19 staff dedicated to nurturing and maintaining the ground's endemic, as well as indigenous flora.

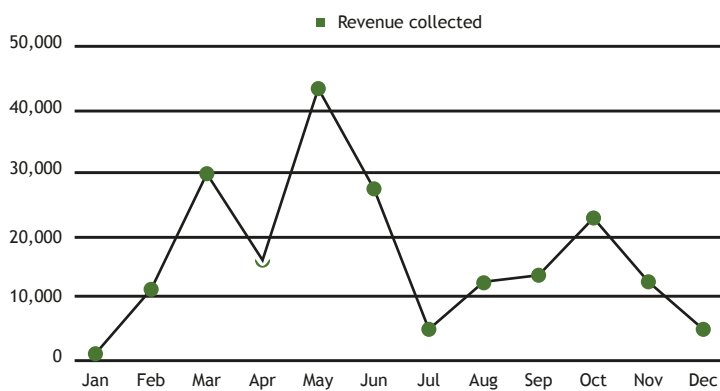
The Biodiversity Centre contributes to the conservation of endangered plants in Seychelles through ex- situ conservation programs. The Centre undertakes specialist services such as

plant identification and specialist consultancy services, as well as delivering services of a high standard and in particular, provide visitors with an enjoyable experience in the garden. Similarly, the Garden aims to promote the participation of the government, the public and businesses in conservation work. Moreover, the Garden is able to provide for gardening and landscaping services, guided tours, and engages in the commercial production and sale of plants whilst carrying out other functions that are conducive to the attainment of the objectives of the Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act, 2022.



VISITOR STATISTICS

A total of 242 tourists visited the Biodiversity Centre for the year 2022 and a total of SCR 30,550 was collected in payment for tickets to access the garden. It is to be noted that this figure does not include online payment or payment voucher. As per the graph below, May, September and November recorded the highest number of visitors to the garden.



Graph illustrates total revenue collected through plants sold at the Biodiversity Centre in 2022

NURSERY

For 2022, a total of 1,692 plants were sold from the Biodiversity Center's nurseries and an approximate of SCR 192,127 was collected from the sales.

MAIN ACTIVITIES ACHIEVED IN 2022

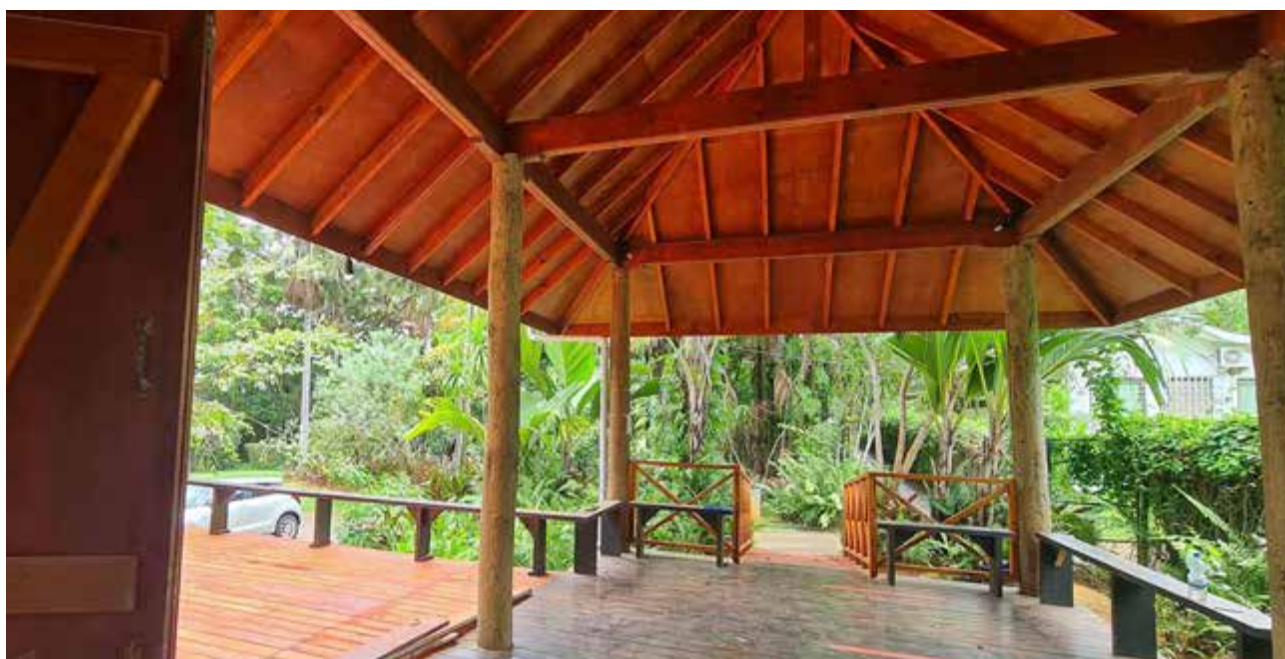
Increase, Upgrade and Improvement of Physical Infrastructures at the Biodiversity Centre

Renovation was undertaken on the two small kiosks found within the Garden including the one placed at the main entrance which required urgent repair. All works were performed entirely in-house by the Biodiversity Centre staff under the supervision of Mr. Doudee who instructed them how to layer and tie the Latanier leaf as the roof.

Repair work was further undertaken and completed on the small Cafeteria at Biodiversity Centre which was undertaken in two phases. Following renovation of the infrastructure itself, such as repair of the ceiling and replacement of the rotten flooring, additional work was also performed inside the kitchen. These include; modification of the kitchen counter to fit the chiller and fridge, opening of a new window for light and increased ventilation, replacement of the bar with mahogany wood and installation of additional sockets for different electrical appliances. In addition, new gutters were installed to the building to prevent future water damage. In order to furnish the facility, furniture salvaged from the old Botanical Garden Cafeteria was repurposed and accompanied two picnic tables that were constructed and installed on the decking area.

Once the license to fully operate the Cafeteria is finalized, the Authority hopes that the facility will open its doors in 2023 to visitors. The cafeteria is expected to serve only local products such as cassava and banana chips, as well as fresh produce from the garden itself, namely; local orange juice, coconut water and lemon grass tea flavoured with honey, harvested from the bee hives on site.

A chain link gate was installed at the front entrance of Biodiversity Centre to control unauthorized parking of private transports especially during closing hours. Previously, many vehicles were observed parked at the entrance and people freely roamed the Garden at any



time of day. Since installation of the chain, a remarkable decline in littering and unauthorized access has been observed.

In the bid to increase security measures around the Centre, surveillance cameras were also installed at the main facilities in the Garden. With the assistance of the SPGA IT specialist, three CCTV cameras were installed at key areas to deter and detect crimes targeted at the facility. Additional cameras are expected to be installed in other parts of the garden in the future to provide maximum coverage of the entire area.

SPECIAL GUEST VISITS AND EVENTS

Grant Application and Drafting of MOU with the Faculty Of Science Of Palacky University, Czech Republic

SPGA received a proposal from the International Mobilities of the Faculty of Science of Palacky University, based in the Czech Republic. The Department proposed cooperation with SPGA to help deepen the study of endemic species typical of Seychelles from sampling level; identification analyses to conservation biology approaches, genetic analysis of samples, and herbarization. The important aspect of the cooperation will be a sharing experience in nature conservation and its popularization and communication to the public. Following the visit of the three Professors in the Garden, an MOU was drafted which stipulates that the partnering organisations have agreed to formalize their collaboration, but as per the agreement, other agreements will be made in regards to specific collaborations or projects that the two entities will enter into.

Tree Planting Activity by Delegation of Commonwealth of Learning

The delegation of Commonwealth of Learning visited Seychelles in May and kindly opted to conduct a tree planting activity in the Living Collection Area of the garden. The Minister for Education, Dr. Justin Valentin was also in attendance and contributed to the conservation of endemic species in the garden by planting a rare plant.

Celebration of Biodiversity Day

The International Day for Biological Diversity, celebrated on 22 May, focused on the theme “Building a shared future for all life”. The theme aimed to continue building momentum and support for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be adopted at the upcoming UN Biodiversity Conference #COP15.

As SPGA is entrusted with managing the National Biodiversity Centre of Seychelles, it was significant to celebrate the day in the Garden at Barbarons. Similarly, an Open Day was organized for schools to visit the Centre. Activities involved free guided tours, the sale of

plants at a 15% discount, nature talks by Mr. Doudee and games. A total of SCR3,009.00 was raised through the sale of plants.

Launch of The Cultural Heritage Tour

The Biodiversity Centre hosted the launching of Tourism week with a Cultural Heritage Tour in which was attended by the Principal Secretary for Tourism Mrs. Sherin Francis. Leading to the event, the Tourism Department donated 40 plant labels for the endemic and native species present in the Garden for the Heritage Tour, which would feature the many potencies of the plants, especially their ecological, medicinal, and traditional superstitions and to showcase their cultural aspects. Following the guided tour, guests were able to enjoy a local tea degustation such as lemon grass and sweet basil grown from the Garden itself or fresh coconut water.





Beautification of the International Airport to Welcome President Of Kenya

The Biodiversity Centre team had the pleasure to assist in the decoration of the International Airport to welcome His Excellency, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya. The same was organized for the departure of the president who was on a diplomatic visit to the Seychelles.

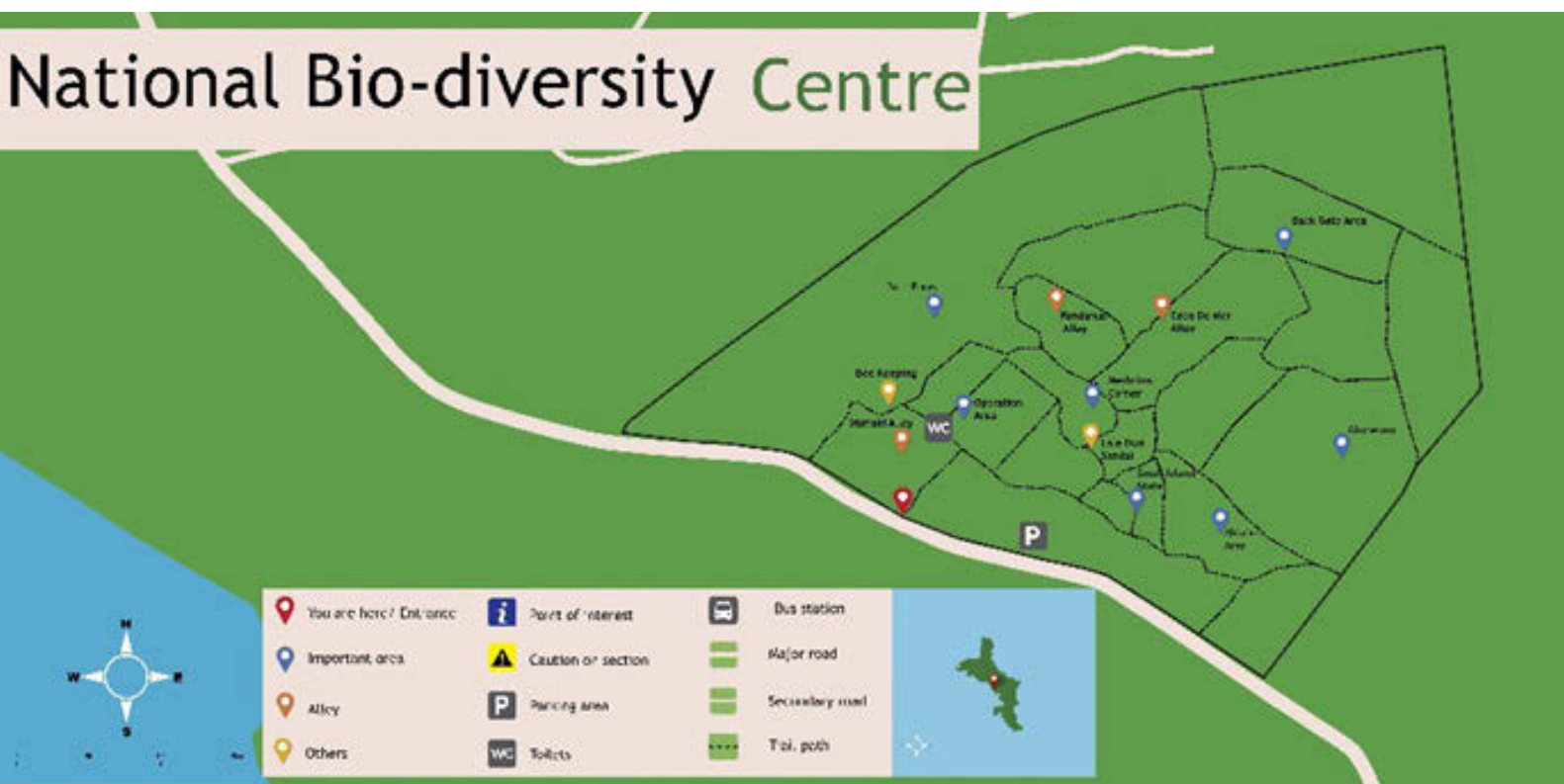
RESEARCH AND FIELD ACTIVITIES

Franklinia Project

The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA), in partnership with the Seychelles Plants Conservation Action Group (PCA) has implemented the Franklinia Project for the development of an ecological restoration society on Mahé, based on two sites dedicated to in situ conservation of six critically endangered endemic tree species. A site visit was conducted earlier in the year by PCA members to assess the nursery facility at the Biodiversity centre that will be dedicated to this project. Likewise, numerous field trips have been organized to collect seeds and seedlings for propagation in the nursery that will be eventually planted in the restored area identified.

Completion of The New Biodiversity Centre Map

With the assistance of the Research Section, an updated map (Figure 4) of the Biodiversity Centre has been produced that will be used on the different platforms advertising the garden and included in the digital brochure for the visitors.





Orchid Conservatory (Environmental Trust Fund Proposal)

A proposal for the construction of a solar powered Orchid Conservatory was formally submitted for ETF funding. A sum of 500,000.00 was secured and this was followed by the Biodiversity Centre Manager submitting a Work Plan to guide the implementation of the Project. On the same note, an Expression of Interest (EOI) was advertised in the local newspapers to seek for businesses and individuals wishing to submit their quote for the construction of a solar powered greenhouse which will be used for propagating and showcasing the native orchids of Seychelles ex-situ.

DONATIONS AND TREE PLANTING ACTIVITIES

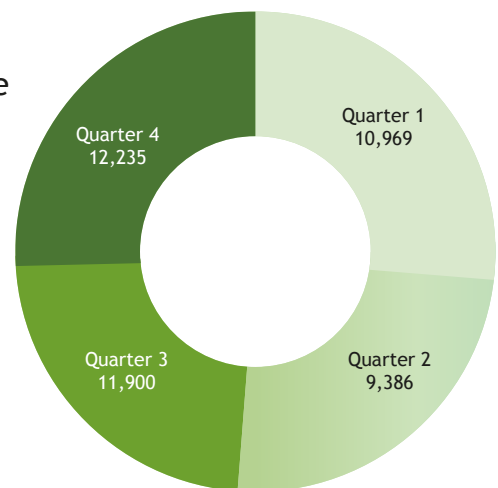
INSTITUTE / ORGANISATION	PURPOSE	NUMBER OF PLANTS
Plant Conservation Action Group (PCA)	Restoration activity at the Tea Tavern, National Park that is managed by SPGA	25
Bel Ombre DA	Programme to rehabilitate the district with rare fruits & medicinal plants / beautification of office	15
State House Garden	Landscaping & beautification of the State House garden	565
Seychelles National Heritage Resource Council	Tree planting activity at the Venn's Town Mission Lodge to rehabilitate the area	10
Anse Etoile DA	"Plant a Tree Today" campaign to address global warming	20
Ministry of Youth, Sports & Family	H.S.H Princess Theodora von Liechtenstein's courtesy visit tree planting activity	2
Judiciary	Special request for the landscaping of Palais de Justice with endemic plants	10
Forestry	Tree planting activity with Natural History Museum to commemorate Earth Day	25
National History Museum	To plant at the Natural History Museum garden to commemorate African Traditional Medicine Day	11
Seychelles Police Force	Symbolic planting activity with La Misere primary school	10
Soroptimist School of Seychelles	Raffle prizes for annual fundraiser gala	5
International School of Seychelles	To increase local fruit trees on campus for the students to benefit from in the future	5
Bek Air DA	For cleaning and beautification activity of the district	5
TOTAL		708

NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDEN



Along the outskirts of Victoria lies the exotic and well-renowned Botanical Garden. A perfect stop for those looking to escape the hustle and bustle of town and emerge themselves in nature. Founded by Mauritian agronomist Rivaltz Dupont in the early 1900, the Garden is home to an incredible range of flora from ornamental to endemics. In the heart of the Garden also resides our famous gentle giants. In fact, the Botanical Garden is home to 35 adult Aldabra Giant Tortoises and by the end of the year we were pleased to welcome 18 new hatchlings to the family.

The Garden has undergone a few minor renovations this year to improve on the already existing infrastructures which required immediate attention. Certain of these key infrastructures were constructed over 10 years ago and were now in a poor state, such as



our educational kiosk and the bridge leading to the garden's restroom on the South-West end of the garden to name a few. A total of 44,490 paying visitors toured the Botanical garden in 2022.

QR Codes

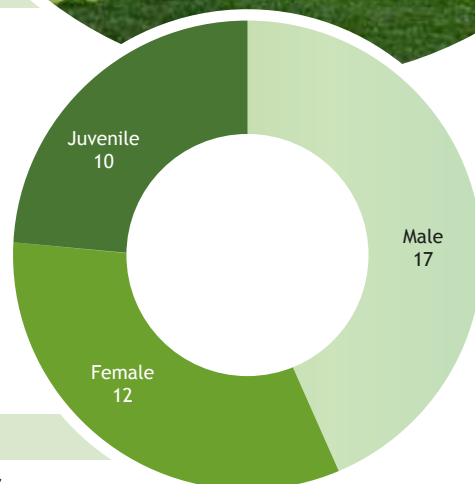
Early in 2022, SPGA switched from the printing of hard copies of maps and brochures to introducing its new QR code that will allow visitors to scan using their mobile phones to obtain a digital copy.

Coco-De-Mer Statistics

The Botanical Garden staff were also involved in collecting data on the Coco-de-Mer trees present within the Garden. According to the data collected a total of 39 trees were recorded by our team, 17 males, 12 females and 10 juveniles. Some of the Coco-de-Mer shoots that can be found in the vicinity were planted by the Thai and Indian ambassador, who visited the Garden during their official visit to Seychelles.

Bee keeping in the Garden

Following several requests from the local beekeepers to operate their beekeeping operations in the Garden, the staff have allocated two areas for such activity. Operations have been running smoothly thus far and we hope to see more consignments of honey by next year, once the hives are more established.





HUMAN RESOURCES

Human resource development is an important factor in a quality management system environment and SPGA places great importance on upgrading and acquiring necessary skills and knowledge in order for staff to maintain a high level of professionalism and quality service delivery in accordance with the needs and expectations of all customers. The mission of this section is to provide support to the organization and staff as well as create human resources solutions, develop capacity of staff so that the organisation can fulfil its objectives and meet its targets.

The merger of the former Seychelles National Parks Authority(SNPA) and the National Botanical Garden Foundation(NBGF) came in to effect on 4th April 2022, hence why all SPGA employees received an official letter whereby they were welcomed and advised on their employment status with the new entity. Similarly, employees who were promoted, transferred and received salary enhancements were also informed via official correspondence. Not long after, all Marine Operations Staff within SPGA were issued with a letter titled: New Governance Approach In Marine Operations Procedures - stipulating what is expected of them during their time on duty.

As an organisation which welcomes many local interns in all aspects of its operations, a meeting was held with the representative of the Maritime Training Academy to discuss on the way forward and modality for accepting students on Work Based Education(WBE). In May 2022, the HR team with the collaboration of the Ministry of Health jointly organised a Health Awareness Clinic at the Botanical Garden to celebrate World Hypertension Day under the theme “Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer”,



aimed at raising awareness in regards to high blood pressure, and accurate blood pressure measurement methods and seek medical advice promptly.

As the merger finalised, management also effected several internal policies such as the SPGA Uniform Policy, SPGA Illegal Drugs and Alcohol Policy, SPGA Overtime Claim Modality and SPGA Internship Agreement.

As the country began to understand the new Performance Management System(PMS) being implemented by the Public Service Bureau, SPGA was no exception. The PMS exercise was conducted in December 2022, and the payment of the thirteen-month salary was effected on the 30th December 2022, to all eligible SPGA employees. SPGA designed a new PMS to ensure that it's goals and objectives are achieved based on strategic and business planning.

A competency approach was employed, assessing the knowledge base competencies and activity base competencies for each section and units and individuals of SPGA. The concept was presented to the Board as a draft in October 2022 and was consequently approved based on the merit of the competency's areas. The design of the PMS focuses on the activities of each staff based on their job description and the functions of their units. It has to be noted that SPGA has several functions given that it undertakes, marine, terrestrial, financial, administration, human resources as well as operational functions. Training sessions were similarly conducted with all heads of section and unit, together with senior and junior staff.

CAPACITY BUILDING



LOCAL TRAINING

As the Authority maintains its stance to have an effective and efficient pool of employees, capacity building trainings and workshops are undertaken by the Senior Training and Events Officer, to provide staff necessary baggage and knowledge of the ever changing conservation field.

Six Marine Operations staff completed their training courses in Tour Guiding offered by the Seychelles Tourism Academy(STA). These included Park Officer Roland Quatre and Cliff Emile, Park Manager Remie Asman, Park Ranger Dean William, Lenny Savy and Jan Mohamed.

All SPGA Marine Operations staff participated in a three-day training administered by a consultant Mrs. Gilberte Gendron, on the adoption of the Standard Operating Procedures(SOP) Training Manual. The theory element of the training was held at the STC



Conference Room with staff based on the Inner Islands joining via ZOOM. The practical front of the training was further conducted in two phases and took place in the Ste Anne and Curieuse Marine Park.

Four Marine Operations staff also attended a Full Course for Non-STCW, namely; Rangers Eldon Derjacques, Shazelle Julie, Stanio Jean and Lindsay Pierre, whereas Park Officer Roland Quatre and ranger Dean William participated in the Refresher Non-STCW course for skipper licenses in October 2022 and received their certificates in:

- Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting
- Personal Safety and Social responsibilities (PSSR)
- Elementary First Aid
- Personal Survival Techniques (PST)

The Refresher Course Training continued in November, whereby Manager Remie Asman, Ranger Bella Jeanne, and Park Officer Jason Bastille partook in the exercise.



OVERSEAS TRAINING

As the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority forms part of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Protected Area Network(WIOMPAN), eleven (11) Marine Operations staff were eligible to apply for the WIO-COMPAS Level 1 Course. Applicants included Bernard Bijoux, Remie Asman, Anto Suzette, Jason Bastille, Demien Mougat, Dainise Quatre, Roland Quatre, Lenny Savy, Cliff Emile, Bella Jeanne, and Lindsay Pierre. Fortunately, Dainise Quatre and Damien Mougat successfully qualified for enrolment in certification. Alternately, the two senior officers, Bernard Bijoux and Remie Asman were recommended by WIO-COMPASS to apply for the Level 2 certification.

Senior Training and Events Officer Mr. Bernard Bijoux attended a one-week workshop in Zanzibar in Blue Leadership. The 6-day workshop, held in June, saw the participation of representatives from 9 countries and was financed by WIOMSA. The objective of the workshop was to:



- Develop individual and collective leadership skills
- Implement change
- Make a difference in sustainable marine and coastal ecosystem management
- Jointly find solutions for issues and problems
- Be a multiplier for Blue leadership within your team, institution, network, system, and spheres of influence.

IN-HOUSE TRAINING

An internal training was carried out for Marine Operations staff on how to operate the hydraulic drill compressor. Park Officer Roland Quatre, Paul Lavigne, Herve Philoe and Assistant Park Officer Demien Mougat were the beneficiaries of such and it was held in the Port Launay Marine Park. The training entailed gaining knowledge on the different components of the compressor, a demonstration of drilling of helix anchor, and a demonstration of drilling and installing the anchor underwater. The Marine Operations team based in the Ile Cocos Marine Park, attended a short training in regards to marine turtle photo ID with the Six Senses Zil Passion team on Felicite Island.

A one-day training was also conducted by Ms. Nathalie Dufresne; Head of Terrestrial Research in order to provide the attending officers the necessary baggage to train other Marine Operations staff.

In-house boat handling training was achieved by Bernard and Paul the two SPGA Training Officers. The training was specific to staff with little knowledge of boat handling. The staffs who were targeted were Shira Padayachy, Shazelle Julie, Josh Leon, Dainise Quatre, Demien Mougat, and two trainees Naila Vidot from the Seychelles Maritime Academy (SMA)



and Hansa Freminot from the University of Seychelles(UNISEY). The training went for a whole day with Seaman ship technique- rope and Knot. It can be said that following these trainings, most of the staff have good knowledge of the different aspects boat and rope handling and that their confidence can only keep growing through the support and exposure received from their colleagues and subordinates.

Installation Mooring Buoys

A total of 11 moorings were installed in the Baie Ternay and Port Launay Marine Parks. These have been funded under the Ridge to Reef Project(R2R) and Was executed by a sourced contractor Mr. Frederick Ravinia. 6 mooring buoy were installed at Baie Ternay and 5 at Port Launay. Additionally, the same Project benefited to Curieuse Marine Park. Here, 30 mooring buoys were installed.

RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION



Although being a small unit, the Research Section provides key intel and data which assists the Authority with its strategies and policies in the management and conservation of the protected areas under its mandate.

The SPGA Research and Documentation Unit, began the year headed under the responsibility of Mr. Pierre-Andre Adam, prior to his resignation in the first quarter. Following on, the management took necessary steps to identify a suitable structure for this section, which saw Ms. Nathalie Dufresne and Mr. Rodney Bonne promoted to Head of Terrestrial and Marine Research respectively.



TERRESTRIAL RESEARCH



Drone Training and Mapping

The British High commission(BHC) donated to SPGA, 2 Mavic air drones, through the Green Footprint Seychelles - Carbon Sequestration Project. The drones will be used in the scientific aspect of the Project, whereby a current overall view of the area can be mapped and analysed. The drones will also assist in giving an overall view of the status of any targeted area.

The training was done in two phases. The first; to train the National Parks and Forestry Unit on the basics of a drone. This involved teaching them different parts of the drone, familiarising themselves with the drone App and flying the drone itself.

The second phase was to train staff on the use of the newly purchased Dronelink App. This App helps in mapping large areas, which can then be rendered in other softwares to create high resolution maps that can then be edited in any GIS software. The Research team met with the Marine Operations team at the National Biodiversity Centre for the training. Drones will be used to map all parks giving us an updated image of our parks.

Research Protocol Trainings

This training was carried out by Mrs. Gilbert Gendron, hired under Ridge to Reef Project, of which SPGA is a beneficiary. The consultancy was sought to create a Training Manual and Standard Operating Procedures(SOP), for Marine Operations and to create a Research Agreement and Research Protocol fitted especially to the requirements of the Authority. The training was conducted after finalising the protocols and covered all 3 main habitats; wetlands, seagrass and corals and covered mapping (taking GPS points of different transition zones and species distribution), mangrove, seagrass, fish, invertebrate and coral surveys. Trainees were directed on how to complete the different data sheets and lay down transects for the different surveys.

Green Footprint Seychelles

The Project pilot based in the Morne Seychellois National Park was set and carried out over 2020-2022. It was to introduce and help develop a marketable tourism product using a Nature-based Solution approach that would promote a green economic recovery as part of a larger “sustainable & resilient” tourism destination image. Phase 1 was used to introduce and test the initial carbon offsetting concept and methodology amongst both visitors, residents and selected partner organizations. Within that timeframe a total of 700 native/endemic trees were planted, mainly by different organizations. The involvement of guest will launch early 2023.

The Salazie site is one of the few restored forest projects within the Morne-Seychellois national Park. In order to ensure the core goal of the project on a long term basis, the main threat to seedlings succession was evaluated. The pilot was completed early 2022 and from there the research team with the assistance of the Forestry team started collecting data. The data collected showcased a good representation of the most dominant invasive flora on site which was *Clidemia hirta*, known as “Fwa-Touk”. Mortality records showed that 121 seedlings were recorded dead on site out of the 700 seedlings. The majority of seedlings were healthy and the main reason for dead seedlings that could be observed was suffocation from creepers. The growth rate showed that out of the two species *Bwa-de-Tab* had the highest growth average.



MANGROVE SURVEY

Seven species of mangroves are recorded to be present in Seychelles, six of which are found on Curieuse Island. Presently there are five species, along with a mangrove associate species, found within the National Park. A fundamental factor of the Curieuse marine environment is the mangrove ecosystem. Mangrove trees are more abundant around the Baie Laraie lagoon. The mangrove forest found in that area creates a direct and influential link between the marine and terrestrial environment. It plays a key role in sustaining coral reef building conditions as well as providing an essential habitat for the Curieuse birds and fish.

Out of the 876 trees counted in the transects during the survey undertaken in 2022, *Rhizophora mucronata* (373) and *Bruguiera gymnorhiza* (266) are more dominant, with presence in all 8 transects. They are mostly present all along the boardwalk(shoreline) and back end of the forest, appearing to be the most resilient of all the species. Findings of the survey are coherent with all past mangrove surveys. This seems to suggest that these two are more resilient to all the changes happening in the bay.

PARADISE FLYCATCHER CENSUS

Twenty-six Seychelles Paradise Flycatchers were introduced to Curieuse Island as part of the National Recovery Program aimed at increasing the range and numbers of this threatened species. Twenty individuals were translocated from La Digue to Curieuse in December 2018 and a further six individuals were translocated from Denis Island to Curieuse in February 2019.

From the two years that SPGA has conducted the Flycatcher census it has shown that the population is increasing. It is important to note that two areas with suitable habitat has not been explored, which could have influenced the total population for the year 2022. There are other limitations when it comes to the survival of the Flycatcher on Curieuse Island, mainly the brown rat. The risk of the brown rat invasion on the island is needs to be further investigated to determine its influence on nest success. Overall the census has shown promising results of the Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher translocation success in the past two years.

Out of the 22 sightings only 5 pairs where observed, 4 male juveniles where observed and no female juveniles were seen. 8 adult males and 10 adult females where seen and observed.



Compared to the last census, there has been a slight increase in the Flycatcher population on Curieuse. The 2022 census shows 22 sightings. There is the possibility that Flycatchers are operating in large territories. This can cause the observer to believe there are two flycatchers within an area rather than 1. However, from information gathered there are 3 new sightings of new individuals. Since suitable habitats are located around the coast, individuals might need to battle more in the future.

MARINE RESEARCH

Biodiversity Survey

In 2022, the Marine Biodiversity Report was conducted within the Curieuse Marine National Park. The Marine surveys were undertaken over a week during the month of April. A total of 10 sites were surveyed of which 5 were granitic reefs and 5 were carbonate reefs. The Report provides results for benthic cover, coral recruitment, coral genera diversity and fish biomass.

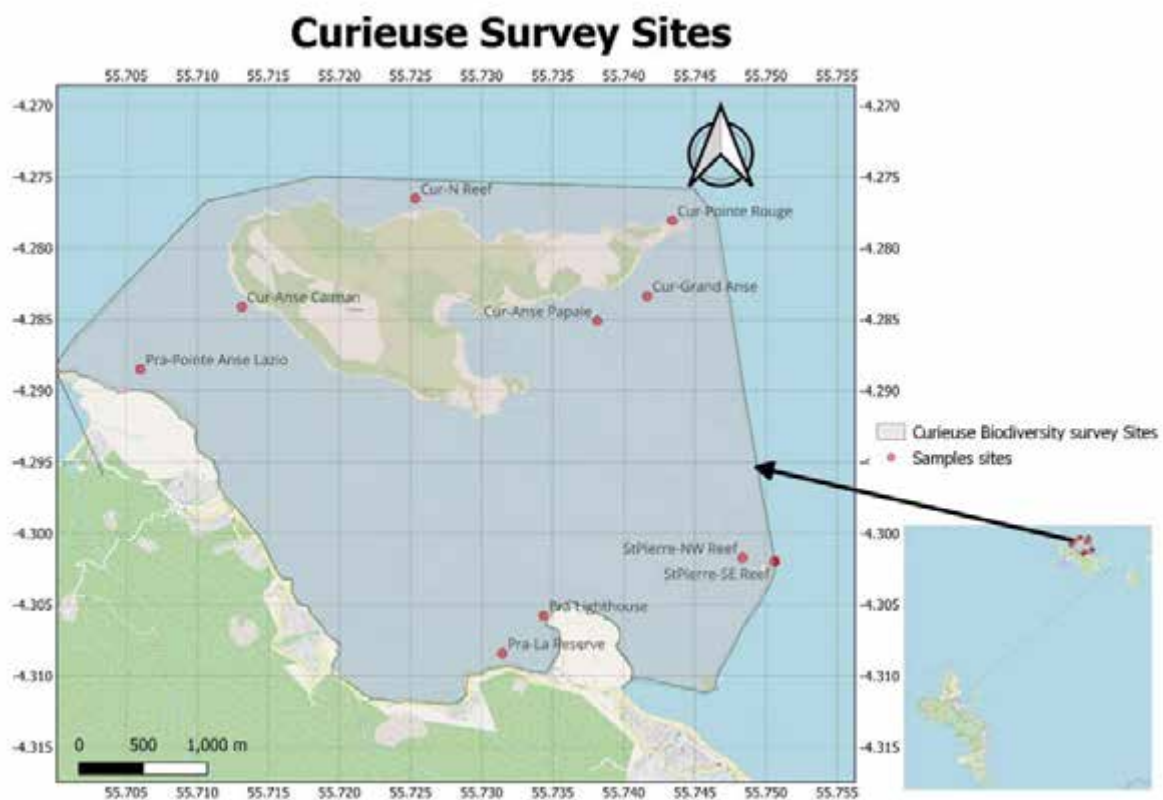


Figure 1: Map showing the 10 survey sites around Curieuse Marine National Park (CUMNP)

The overall percentage mean live coral cover in the Curieuse Marine Park recorded was 36.20% (± 1.06). The highest mean coral cover recorded was Praslin - La Reserve 53.62% (± 3.87) and the lowest recorded was Curieuse - Anse Caiman at 18.84% (± 0.98). The recorded mean density of coral recruit was 2.65 per m², with the highest at Curieuse - NW Reef and lowest at Curieuse - Anse Caiman. The diversity index for richness and abundance recorded was 0.974 for the 10 sites survey.

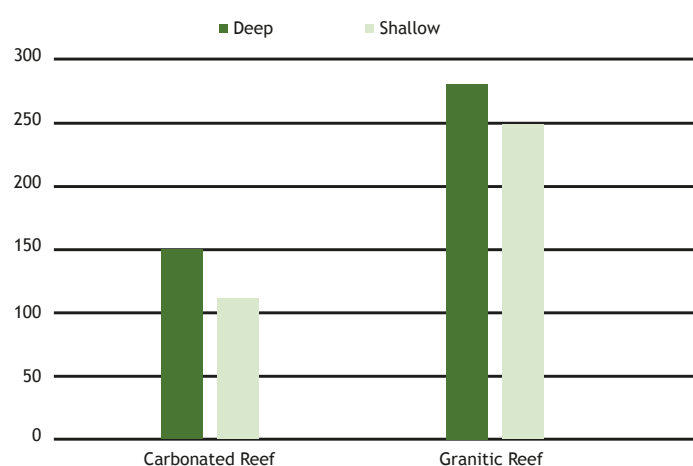


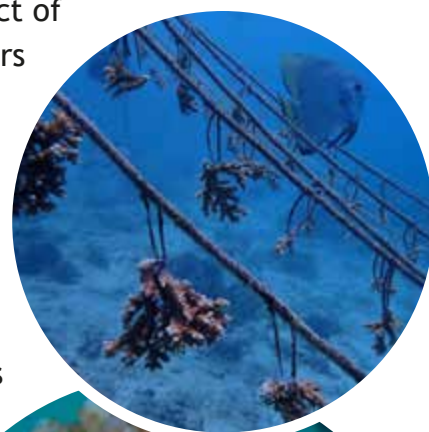
Figure 26: Graphs depicting the difference between the deep and the shallows between both reef types

UNDP Adaptation Fund Coral Reef Restoration Project

The Coral Reef Restoration (CRR) Project aims to reduce the impact of climate change on local communities and coral reef-dependent sectors in Seychelles and Mauritius, by implementing coral reef restoration via thermal tolerant corals as a response and adaptation to climate change.

SPGA currently boasts five fully stocked nurseries which are operational. With the end of the southeast monsoon, the team was able to deploy and install the remaining two nurseries. The five ocean-based nurseries are stock with a total of 2,320 coral fragments and a total of 1,908 coral fragments are ready for transplantation.

The SPGA CRR Project team on Curieuse was joined by SPGA's first ever international intern, Ms Evane Antoine, 19 years of age from Reunion Island. She was able to participate in the coral reef restoration activities during her 6 weeks of volunteering with the team.





Coral transplantation has begun taking place within the Marine Protected Area, using metal rebars and experimenting with biodegradable materials. To date, a total of 72 coral fragments have been transplanted using only the pilot study method and 566 coral fragments have been transplanted using the metal rebars, summing up to a total of 638 corals transplanted in 8 plots of 10x10m. An area of 800m² = 0.08 hectares.

The team continues to carry out its weekly monitoring and cleaning of the ocean nursery, along with the monitoring of the transplanted coral fragments on the restored sites. The team is additionally assessing the corals' conditions and as to whether the attachment has occurred.

DOCUMENTATION

As part of the SPGA's goal in improving data stewardship within the organisation, the Authority is looking towards more efficient ways in storing data collected within the parks in order to continue enhancing conservation efforts. The Network Attached Storage (NAS) device has been developed to facilitate the complication of making data available to multiple users at once. The NAS's main strength is how simple the device is to set-up as well as deploy. Once deployed files can be shared both locally and remotely with them being readily available 24/7. We anticipate that this device will allow the organisation to capture, store and when necessary share folders with other users with more ease and effectiveness.

EVENTS OF 2022

DBS TREE PLANTING IN THE MORNE SEYCHELLOIS NATIONAL PARK

On Monday 14th February, SPGA welcomed several staff of the Development Bank of Seychelles to the Morne Seychellois National Park, as part of their 44th Anniversary celebratory activities. A group of about 15 DBS staff, together with SPGA employees present, enthusiastically planted a total of 125 Bois-De-Natte plants, endemic to the Seychelles. DBS also graciously donated to the forestry unit several garden tools, which will most certainly help our on-field staff with their day to day work of maintaining our National Parks.



GREEN FOOTPRINT SEYCHELLES

To commemorate the International Day of Forests, the BHC and the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) hosted a tree-planting activity at the Salazie Trail in the Morne Seychellois National Park. The activity marked the final phase of the Salazie Reforestation Pilot Project - a pilot initiative by the British High Commission and SPGA - under the 'Green Footprint Seychelles' campaign. The pilot project is a trial to test a scientifically-based tree-planting scheme, to address the environmental impacts and greenhouse gas emissions of long-haul travel and tourism. 240 seedlings of Bois de Table were planted in the Salazie Trail area, in an effort to build climate change resilience.



ST. ANNE BEACH CLEAN-UP

SPGA collaborated with two of its trusted partners; Club Med Seychelles and Marine Conservation Society Seychelles (MCSS) for a beach clean-up on Grand-Anse Beach on St. Anne Island. The enthusiastic participants hiked through the island to reach the stunning stretch of beach. The clean-up saw a total of 313 plastic pet bottles collected, 23 slippers and 16 goni & trash bags were filled at the end of the activity.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

SPGA paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of the ladies in science within the organization who continuously pour into their work as advocates for sustainable management and conservation of protected areas, the ladies are true role models for our youth, especially young girls who wish to join the science field.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

To celebrate the importance of forests to our country, SPGA and a group of students from the Beau-Vallon Secondary School explored to the forest along the Anse Major trail. The aim of the activity was for the students to learn more about the benefits of forests. De-littering was also done so that the students could understand the negative impact of pollution on this important ecosystem.



SPGA STAFF PHOTOS

Throughout the month of March, a professional photographer was entrusted with capturing official photos of the SPGA staff. These photos are to be used for official use in publications and as reference for their Human Resource file.

EARTH DAY - NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

On the occasion of Earth Day, SPGA was approached by the National History Museum for a fun outdoor activity which the children could benefit from. With this, an educational trip was organized to the Trois Freres Trail whereby they were able to learn more on the endemic species of the Seychelles, proper etiquette when making use of the trails, as well as planting a few endemic seedlings themselves.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Biodiversity Day - Mahe

An open day was planned to commemorate this event. The main idea was to have students from various schools around the country visit the Biodiversity Centre and understand the array of endemic and native plants which the Centre offers. Students received guided tours, participated in a tree planting, and were also joined by a tourist couple who were eager to contribute to the Seychelles environment.



Biodiversity Day - Curieuse Marine Park

The first SPGA coral planting took place in the Curieuse Marine Park. This activity was carried out in collaboration with Raffles Hotel on Praslin. To plant these corals, special frames were used to attach the corals to. Moreover, this event reinforced the SPGA Coral Reef Restoration Project.



ENVIRONMENT DAY

A host of activities were planned for this special day. Gran Kaz were facilitated with a tree planting activity in the Slazie- Fairview Trail. SPGA outstations on the inner islands collaborated with other partners, namely the Department of Environment and Six Senses Zil Pasyon for beach clean-ups in key areas.



SPGA RECYCLING COMPETITION

The Research and Documentation Unit adopted Environment Day as means to kick-start the SPGA Recycling Competition. This internal competition, was to bring together different sections to create pieces out of recycled and reused materials. The aim was to showcase how we can all do our part to have better control on waste management both at home and in the office. The Biodiversity Centre were crowned the overall winners.



WORLD OCEANS DAY

A joint beach cleaning with GVI Cap Ternay was organized in the Baie Ternay and Port Launay Marine Parks. SPGA staff and GVI volunteers participated in the activity where about 7 gunny bags were filled with rubbish. Main litter collected were plastic bottles and rubber materials.



TREE PLANTING - HILTON CLUSTER

The Hilton Seychelles Group, participated in a tree planting activity in the Salazie-Fairview Area. Thirty seedlings were purchased from the SPGA nursery for this particular activity.

EDUCATIONAL TALK - INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

The School extended an invitation to SPGA to provide an educational talk to the students of the school's Eco-club. This group of about 50 students, received an informative slide show presentation on the Morne Seychellois National Park. The session was very interactive, with students asking many questions and participating actively in discussions.



EDUCATIONAL HIKE - MONTESSORI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

A hike was organized for these children. This took place in the Salazie- Trail Area. Our Rangers and officers were present to teach the children the different species found along the trail and ensure that proper trail etiquette is practiced in the protected area.

WORLD NATURE CONSERVATION DAY - MORNE BLANC TRAIL

To commemorate World Nature Conservation Day, a clean-up was organized for SPGA staff, whereby they cleared invasive plant species along the famous Morne Blanc Trail. Staff who participated were from the Botanical Garden, Research Section and the National Parks Unit. World Ranger Day Social Media Campaign In a means to ensure recognition and appreciation of SPGA rangers who are on the front-line daily protecting, as well as conserving the parks and gardens, a social media campaign was launched and ran for one week, showcasing the passion and commitment of the rangers.



CLEAN UP THE WORLD CAMPAIGN

This year, various SPGA engaged in clean-up activities to mark the annual Clean-Up the World Campaign. From Mahe, to Praslin and La Digue, SPGA participated to ensure that a clear message was being portrayed as an environmental organization.

List of activities:

- Biodiversity Centre- Vakwa Trail Clean-up
- Fond B'offay Office /Ministry of Environment - Anse Marie Louise/ Badamier
- Research Section / Club Med - Grand Anse Beach
- National Parks Unit/ Dept. of Environment - Mission Lodge Vicinity

WELCOMING OF H.E. PRESIDENT KENYATTA

As the country hosted the outgoing President of Kenya, SPGA was called upon for several aspects of his visit. The SPGA team from the Biodiversity Centre adorned the red carpet for his arrival and departure. Further to that, the team at the Botanical Garden was honored to welcome H.E to the Garden, where he visited the tortoise enclosure and also planted a Coco de Mer.



BIODIVERSITY CENTRE HERITAGE TOUR

As part of activities scheduled to commemorate Tourism Week 2022. SPGA partnered with the Tourism Department for 2 activities. Firstly, a local/ traditional tea degustation was carried out at the Botanical Garden. Moreover, a Biodiversity Heritage Tour has been launched which will allow for effective marketing of the Garden, attracting more tourists.



WORLD OZONE DAY ROADSHOW

In partnership with our parent ministry under the Department of Environment, SPGA participated in the Ozone Roadshow held at Camion Hall. The team comprised of representatives from the HR Page | 13 Section, Finance Section and the Biodiversity Centre. On sale were Coco de Mers and plants, and the team showcased different careers available with the Authority



TREE PLANTING - DOUBLETREE ALLAMNDA BY HILTON

The team from the Hilton Cluster purchased 50 seedlings, which were to be planted at the Carbon Offsetting site along the Salazie Trail. To note, it is the second time that the group undertakes such activity with SPGA this year.

PAREO PROJECT INAUGURATION - CURIEUSE MARINE PARK

Marking the completion of the Educative Marine Protected Area (EMP)- PAREO Project, an inauguration was held in the Curieuse Marine Park which hosted representatives from the Ministry of Education and Environment, the local Praslin community leaders and representatives of the Monaco Exploration and IRD.



OFFICIAL REOPENING OF THE MORNE SEYCHELLOIS TRAIL MORNE SEYCHELLOIS NATIONAL PARK

The Morne Seychellois Nature Trail was officially reopened together with the collaboration of sponsors H Savy Insurance. In attendance was the SPGA Board Chairman and members, DMCS, H Savy and other partners. The opening of Seychelles' highest and toughest trail proved to be an important milestone for the Authority as an added eco-tourism attraction.



RECYCLED CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS COMPETITION - SPGA

To encourage staff to enter the festive season, a Recycled Decoration Competition was organized, with the aim of bringing staff together, spread cheer whilst also educating on the different creations which may come about through recycled and reused materials.



END OF YEAR BALL

Following a year of hard work and dedication by the SPGA Staff, an End of Year Ball was organized through the Social Committee providing staff an enjoyable evening of surprises and rewards through a raffle draw.



COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION

In 2022, a Communications and Information Officer was appointed to ensure that the SPGA brand and image is well maintained and upheld, as well as acting a proxy to other corporate organisation and public relations affairs. Through this section, much work was undertaken to showcase the works which SPGA undertakes, the services on offer and communicate the scientific works which are carried out in the Parks to the General Public.

SPGA has since been represented on different platforms, as well as positing its brand firmly against its competitors. In 2022, SPGA joined two social media



platforms - Twitter and Instagram- in an effort to gain added visibility and exposure, and have increased engagement with partners, stakeholder and visitors themselves. Previously, the Authority's only social media presence was on Facebook. Via the use of the newly launched website, much information has been placed online allowing for easy access to all who wish to learn more on the sites managed, activities carried out and the background of the Authority. Links to partners such as Travizory, the Indian High Commission, PAREO Project and others have been streamlined to ensure that SPGA is at the forefront of the initiatives which are entered into.



2022 was an eventful year for the organisation, in terms of media coverage and publicity. Through the creation of a video advert, to articles being published in local newspapers regularly, as well as contributing 2 articles to the regional WIOMSA Newsletter, the Authority had established a good rapport with members of the press. Exposure and visibility remains a crucial aspect in the development of SPGA, especially in the dynamic corporate environment.

Many collaterals have been designed and developed in 2022, in line with the Brand Manual. Information boards, banners, stickers are a few examples of steps taken by SPGA to step up its branding and brand image.

Anse Jose-Baie Laraie Nature Trail

You are here

Start of trail

End of trail

Caution on section

Doctor's House

Mangrove Habitat

Tortoise Nursery

Barbecue area

Viewpoint

Boardwalk

WC

Traffic

Trail path

About the trail

DISTANCE	ELEVATION	DURATION	DIFFICULTY
1.57km	27m	1hr	Low

Explore the Anse Jose- Baie Laraie Trail and discover the two main sides of Curieuse Island. Traverse the record-breaking boardwalk which runs along the coast our mangrove forest. Curieuse holds the record for the longest boardwalk in Seychelles, spanning at 433m, longer than an athletic racetrack. With an unmissable view point, you will observe a majestic panoramic view of the bay.

Explorez le sentier Anse José-Baie Laraie et découvrez les deux principaux versants de l'île Curieuse. Parcourez la promenade record qui longe la côte de notre forêt de mangroves. Curieuse détient le record de la plus longue promenade des Seychelles, s'étendant sur 433m, plus longue qu'une piste de course sportive. Avec un belvédère incontournable, vous observerez un panorama majestueux sur la baie.

Trail Path

Helpline 281 8800
Emergencies 999

Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority

gef

The management will not be held responsible for any accidents or injuries which may occur along the trail.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



HOTEL CONSERVATION FUND CONTRIBUTION

Late during the year, SPGA signed a Conservation Fund Agreement with Raffles Hotel on Praslin, which borders the Curieuse Marine Park. Under the Agreement the hotel will be required to make a monthly contribution to SPGA and the funds will be used to finance a number of conservation projects as well as educational and awareness activities in which both entities will participate. This arrangement re-inforces SPGA's commitment towards involving all park stakeholders in the management of its marine park.

WORKSHOP FOR ARTISANS

In collaboration with Enterprise Agency Seychelles (ESA), SPGA organised a workshop to involve Praslin artisans in the production of merchandise and craft items for the Curieuse Marine Park. The activity was funded by the GEF- GoS-UNDP Ridge to Reef Project. During the workshop, which was officially launched by ESA's CEO, SPGA staff gave three

presentations, one on the SNPA market research done in 2020, another on SPGA as a protected area management agency and another on the SPGA brand. The day ended with a site visit by participants to Curieuse Island.



COCO DE MER

In order to clear out Coco de Mer nuts which had remained in stock for quite a while, it was decided to reduce the price of these Coco de Mers. Together with the Finance section a review was carried out on the nuts, before deciding upon the 25% to 75% discount which would apply.

Another review of SPGA's Coco de Mer prices was undertaken and a new price list was produced as per the below table, with shaped nuts now selling at SCR5,000, a price increase which became effective as of June 2022.



GRADE	CATEGORY	SIZE	PRICE (\$cr)
Superior	Triple or quadruple nuts	NA	11,500.00
A	Shaped nuts (Excellent quality, well shaped, very large)	>30cm	6,000.00
B	Shaped nuts (Do not meet criteria of grade A)		5,000.00
C	Mis-shaped		3,000.00
D	Viable Coco de Mer (For planting)		1800
E	Damaged, unattractive, small nuts		1800

Furthermore, meetings were held with the Finance Section and Managers of the SPGA managed Gardens to review fees for the gardens. These fees make reference to activities which individuals or organisations which to undertake in the Gardens, such as team-building activities, weddings and baby showers. In an effort to provide visitors with added value and services when visiting SPGA parks and gardens, the needful has been done to obtain licences to sell water at the Copolia Trail and Trois Freres Trail, both which were obtained end of December.

MARKETING

A donation of SCR10, 000 was received from MCB for increased effort in the protection of the Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher. Consequently, as the site dedicated to the protection of this endemic species, the funds donated were geared towards marketing of the Veuve Reserve, which currently receives low number of visitors. Marketing collaterals such as large banners were placed at key locations on La Digue and a large welcome board was produced to replace the damaged one found at the jetty. Besides those key materials additional signage was also produced for the Reserve.

The Development of the SPGA website was completed in May 2022. Simultaneously, training for the use of the backend of the website was done by the developer. This proved to be very important in order to help with internal updating, reviewing and management of the website. The ticketing system was plugged into the new website and new paying sites were added onto it. This development has ensured that clients can buy all their entry tickets (to all SPGA paying sites) online.

Moreover, a number of digital marketing posters/posts have been produced. These are designed for Social media platforms, to market SPGA sites, flora, fauna and habitats.

All the SPGA sites and guided tours, now feature on the Ministry of Tourism marketing platform, ParAppi. SPGA has the most listings on the platform. Insights from ParAppi indicate that the most visited listings are in fact SPGA's most popular sites such as Curieuse MP, the Botanical Garden and the Copolia Trail.

In December 2022, discussions with the Blue Planet Film crew, an organisation based in Switzerland continued, as they wished to do a documentary about Seychelles as a dream destination, whilst highlighting the unique biodiversity and ecosystems present in the Curieuse Marine Park. Filming is set to start in January 2023 and it is anticipated that the documentary will market Curieuse as a dream eco-destination which provides a safe haven to some of the world's most fascinating fauna. Under the agreement, Blue Planet will also provide SPGA with footage.



SPGA GOES DIGITAL

At the turn of the year, under the leadership of new management which entered office in 2021, the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority, was moving at a proactive pace whereby the Authority was required to improve much of its technology and become up to par with relevant and modern technological devices and infrastructures.

With the recruitment of an IT Specialist, SPGA soon began to phase out all of its outdated technologies. Across the main office and all other outstations, several computers and laptops were upgraded through their software or storage and memory capacity, as well as those which had to be completely written off. New powerful printers were invested into for the main office. Powerful surveillance cameras were installed at key sites such as the Biodiversity Centre and the Botanical Garden, as a means to deter unethical or illegal activities which may take place.

IMPLEMENTING THE ONLINE PAYMENT PLATFORM



Perhaps the greatest achievement thus far 2022, in regards to the technological aspect of the Authority, is the successful launch and implementation of the SPGA Online Payment System. Available via the SPGA website, the platform has provided seamless ease of doing business for tour operators, visitors and the Authority itself. First launched in September, in the Curieuse Marine Park, the Platform revolutionised the ease of access and control of visitors who entered SPGA sites. Although being in place prior to 2022, the Online Payment System was not utilised to its full potential by the previous management. Through the works carried out by the SPGA IT Specialist, not only was the system upgraded for better controls and statistic gathering, but the all glitches and bugs discovered were quickly assessed and




resolved with the most appropriate solutions. Following the lessons learnt and the experience from the Curieuse MP, all other marine protected areas followed suite in October, followed by all terrestrial site in November.

The implementation of such system has seen drastic improvements in revenue collections from certain SPGA sites, of which the Authority suspected possible leakages from fraudulent activities or collusion. With the sales and validation of tickets now seemingly easier, rangers have been asked to redirect increased efforts in monitoring and enforcement of the sites which they oversee. An aim of this system is to ensure that liquid cash does not enter the palms of staff on duty. By maximising reveue from the sites, the same can further by reinvested into other improvements or upgrades which would benefit staff and the Authority.

The purchase of up to date retail devices have further added to this offering. Nine (9) new retail devices were purchased in 2022, with better specifications and an updated Android Operating System(OS). The previous Sunmi devices were running on android 7, riddled with security issues and bugs. However, new Sunmi V2s Plus are equipped with Android 11, and 3 Gb ram and is more rugged than its predecessor. Moreover, its more secure, and has NFC capabilities for easy integration with contactless card payment through the devices. Talks with the SPGA banking institution ABSA are ongoing for the implementation of payment SDK, top process card payments on the new Devices. With the Authority targeting the commercialisation of many other service offerings, as when such are implemented, they shall also be plugged into the Online Payment System, proving to be a one-stop-shop for purchasing of services offered by SPGA.

LAUNCHING OF THE NEW WEBSITE

The new and revamped SPGA website was launched in early 2022, offering a modern, yet simple and user-friendly interface. A project which began late in 2021, aimed to providing the Authority with a dynamic platform which would allow timely dissemination of data to partners, stakeholders, and any one interested in the owkrs which are undertaken by SPGA. The website, which is constantly updated and reviewed, offers viewers access to all pertinent information and activities which are being undertaken, as well as contact information for necessary personnel based across the different sites managed. The website primlinarily acts as a hub for storing information related to scientific works, events, collaborations, scientific research and much more, not to forgetting it as the gateway to the SPGA Online Payment System. With the revamped website, www.spga.gov.sc, online users have access to the SPGA world.



Discover the flora and fauna in our
beautiful gardens

Discover gardens →

Prior to the website going live, a complete review and updating of the content was undertaken by the marketing and communication team. Reflective of the SPGA brand colours, visitors can view brochures and guides of the different sites which the Authority manages. As we continue in our strides to move digital, QR codes which have been placed and welcome and information boards in many parks, as well as key tourist hotspots, all link back to the website, increasing the traffic to and visibility of the platform.

Moreover, with such new modality, SPGA locally has almost completely 100% access to the backend of the website, as well as necessary credentials, making it easier to run and edit the website as and when needed. Although still being hosted in South Africa by the Firm “Simon Taylor’s Consultancy”, due to limited local infrastructure, the SPGA team remains on top of the daily checks and updates which the platform requires.

SOCIAL MEDIA TAKEOVER

Prior to entering 2022, SPGA's social media presence was limited solely to Facebook. Although the platform did gather an adequate amount of followers, with the increasingly competitive business environment, it was pivotal that SPGA have presence on all other social media platforms. Early in 2022, SPGA joined Instagram and Twitter, two platforms which allow the authority to reach different audiences, gain new followers, increased engagement and visibility.

Looking ahead to 2023, SPGA intends to continue on its digital journey with the addition of a Network-Attached Storage (NAS), which will be utilised to store all SPGA related data and information, with controlled access for users. Moreover, with the permanent use of the Online Payment System.



ADMINISTRATION

The administration section of the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority, throughout 2022, acted as a key supportive wing of the organisation, both in terms of logistics and administrative purposes.

SPGA POLICIES AND CONTRACTS

Vehicle Policy

A new Vehicle Policy was introduced at the beginning of the year in 2022. The SPGA Vehicle Policy has been devised as a tool to be used by all drivers and authorized drivers. It is a document detailing the rules and regulations which an employee must follow when using the company's vehicle. The Policy is inclusive of the employee's driving responsibilities, maintenance and upkeep of the vehicles, road fund license and insurance.

SPGA INSURANCE POLICIES

In accordance to the merger between the former National Parks Authority and the National Botanical Garden Foundation, the Administration Section subsequently had to review and amend all insurance policies for both employees and properties of the organisation, so to reflect the changes of the SPGA mandate.

CONTRACTS

With the increase in the number of projects within SPGA, the Administration Section is now entrusted with the responsibility to identify and prepare various contracts for contractors based on the nature of the projects. As at December 2022, a total of seven contracts were signed with contractors in the field of construction, motor repair, plumbing and supply of uniform. All contracts are valid for a period of two years.

UPGRADING OF COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

As SPGA continues to improve its digital ecosystem, and with the intention to improve the office telephone structure, a new PABX system from Cable and wireless Seychelles, was installed at the Head Office. The upgraded and modern system allows for other SPGA stations on Mahe to be connected to the main official telephone line, thus seemingly increasing communication capabilities between different units.

SPGA ASSETS

The new Assets Register has been effectively managed by the Administration team. The Administration Section is responsible for the management, upkeep and monitoring of the Asset Register. During the year 2022, Inventory of SPGA assets were done at all SPGA

stations located on Mahe, Praslin, La Digue and Curieuse. Through the asset inventory exercise, all purposeless and unusable SPGA assets were classified as defective and were removed and disposed of through the appropriate write-off procedures.

REVIEW OF SPGA VEHICLE FLEET AND BOAT FLEET

Throughout 2022 the Administration Section carried out an exercise to review the SPGA fleet of vehicles. During such, a total of five (5) vehicles were written-off and removed from the fleet. The decision to remove the vehicles, was made based on their conditions, age and the continued cost for repair. The vehicles were sold through both tender and auction sales process and SPGA is currently operating with a total of seven vehicles, five on Mahe and two on Praslin.

A similar review exercise was undertaken for the SPGA fleet of boats. A total of three (3) boats were removed from the fleet through the same tender process.



FINANCES

BANK ACCOUNTS

With the merger finalizing during the month of April 2022, the accounts section with the assistance of secretariat has successfully changed the bank account name from both Absa bank and the Mauritius Commercial Bank(MCB) to the Seychelles Parks and Garden Authority, whilst maintaining the same account number.

Moreover, the Authority decided to close off the Absa USD account, as there was no activity on this account for almost a year, which meant that the account had a negative balance, of which the Authority was required to settle before successfully closing the account.

TRAINING FOR HEADS

In February 2022, the Accounts Department held a ZOOM call with all Heads of Departments of the Authority. The aim of the meeting was to explain the new finance policies which the Authority would be adopting in line with both expenditure and revenue.

RE-STRUCTURING OF FINANCE SECTION:

During mid-2022, following the assent of the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority Act, there was re-structuring of the Finance Section. The Procurement and Store Section, was transferred directly under the office of the Chief Finance Officer. On that similar note, the Chief Finance Officer was promoted to take the office of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer whilst simultaneously overseeing the Finance Section.

PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE

An Evaluation Procurement Committee was set up by SPGA, comprising of 5 members, of which three members were SPGA staff and the other 2 members are independent candidates nominated by the Procurement Oversight Unit. The committee was put in place to evaluate and assess all Projects which would cost the Authority under the SR550,000.00 threshold, which has been set.

INVESTMENTS

During the year the Authority invested in may infrastructure and goods which would aid and facilitate, in fulfilling the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority's mandate and functions. Surveillance cameras were placed in both the Botanical and Bio-Diversity Gardens, necessary tools and equipment were purchased for enforcement activities and purposes. Additionally, with the introduction of the cashless policy, the Finance Section purchased several devices which have been utilised to facilitate the purchase of entry

tickets to SPGA managed sites. New engines were procured to benefit SPGA vessel and an old boat which SPGA had kept onshore for a while, was fully repaired utilized by the Marine Operations team based in the Curieuse Marine Park.

POLICIES

In September 2022, the Authority decided to adopt a cashless policy, whereby only POS or online payment was accepted on Curieuse Island. Once this modality was well settled on Curieuse Island, the same was replicated in all other marine parks and the terrestrial parks and gardens soon followed suite.

INCOME 2022		SR
Hire Of Facilities	Hire of Boats	45,300.00
	GVI Facilities Baie Ternay	513,722.67
	GVI Facilities Curieuse	306,772.16
Total Hire Of Facilities		865,794.83
Others	Members Fee-Wildflower	1,800.00
	Bio Photoshotting/ filming	2,100.00
	Hotel Contribution	895,000.00
	Toilet Fees	1,125.00
	Botanical Garden Photo shoot	16,400.00
	Miscellaneous	1,001,560.22
	Others	12,507.20
Total Others		1,930,492.42
Products	Timber Service/Processing Fees	77,200.00
	Indigenous Plants	79,022.75
	Ornamental Plants	95,685.00
	Madicinal Plants	22,875.00
	Coco De Mer Kernel	636,933.70
	Forestry Products	593,888.38
	Coco De Mer Nuts	1,734,826.94
Total Products		3,240,431.77

INCOME 2022 (cont.)		SR
Mooring Fees	Curieuse-Baie Laraie	102,037.53
	Curieuse-Anse Josee	252,804.53
	Ile Coco	8,750.00
	Ste Anne	147,363.90
	Baie Ternay	74,847.81
Total Mooring Fees		585,803.77
Gardens: Entrance Fee	BIO-Diversity	34,824.60
	Botanical Garden	10,579,288.58
Total Garden Fee		10,614,113.18
Trails And Reserves: Entrance Fee	Trois Frere Trail	17,850.00
	Veuve Reserve	363,028.07
	Morne Seychellois	3,250.00
	Copolia Trail	1,519,775.08
	Anse Majore	300.00
Total Trails And Reserves		1,904,203.15
Marine Park: Entrance Fee	Curieuse Turtle Nesting Trail	1,950.00
	Curieuse- Anse Josee	1,078,928.59
	Curieuse - Baie Laraie	11,870,937.85
	Ile Coco	1,240,010.18
	Ste Anne	5,635,030.06
	Baie Ternay	1,653,519.82
Total Marine Park		21,480,376.50
Rental Of Facilities	Bio Diversity Kiosk	6,000.00
	Botanical Garden Kiosk	29,000.00
	Barbeque Area-Baie Laraie	105,746.41
	Barbeque Area-Anse Josee	231,741.96
	Botanical Garden Cafeteria	250,065.75
Total Rental Of Facilities		622,554.12
Others		22,698.82
Total Income		41,266,468.56

OTHER INCOME	Retained Earnings	5,556,169.76
	Donation: Bio-Diversity	500.00
	Donation: Botanical Garden	33,492.00
	Grant from Ministry of Finance	7,300,000.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME		12,890,161.76

EXPENDITURE 2022

EXPENDITURE		SR
Administration	Other Use of Goods and Services	1,341,760.35
	Transportation Cost	462,182.00
	Maintenance Cost	471,050.26
	Office Expenses	2,380,832.40
	Wages and Salaries	1,004,978.75
Total Administration		5,660,803.76
National Parks Praslin	Transportation Cost	20,220.25
	Office Expenses	13,058.15
	Wages and Salaries	1,130,382.69
Total National Parks Praslin		1,163,661.09
Training And Special Events	Other Use of Goods and Services	49,230.00
	Transportation Cost	65,039.00
	Maintenance Cost	11,241.00
	Office Expenses	7,852.40
	Wages and Salaries	443,771.44
Total Training And Special Events		577,133.84
Ile Cocos	Transportation Cost	137,882.27
	Maintenance Cost	46,338.50
	Office Expenses	18,207.19
	Wages and Salaries	522,008.08
Total Ile Cocos		724,436.04

EXPENDITURE (cont.)		SR
Baie Ternay	Other Use of Goods and Services	5,068.00
	Transportation Cost	95,385.99
	Maintenance Cost	126,188.68
	Office Expenses	19,741.78
	Wages and Salaries	488,793.87
Total Baie Ternay		735,178.32
Ste Anne	Minor Capex	
	Other Use of Goods and Services	5,348.00
	Transportation Cost	348,791.52
	Maintenance Cost	199,907.17
	Office Expenses	52,829.33
	Wages and Salaries	1,419,699.75
Total Ste Anne		2,026,575.77
Curieuse	Other Use of Goods and Services	11,615.00
	Transportation Cost	1,013,000.74
	Maintenance Cost	369,388.80
	Office Expenses	115,078.70
	Wages and Salaries	1,678,789.45
Total Curieuse		3,187,872.69
Forest Production	Other Use of Goods and Services	28,700.00
	Transportation Cost	1,000.00
	Office Expenses	44,389.72
	Wages and Salaries	1,438,738.54
Total Forest Production		1,512,828.26
Fond B'offay Admin	Other Use of Goods and Services	11,419.00
	Transportation Cost	89,493.00
	Maintenance Cost	273,653.15
	Office Expenses	53,307.11
	Wages and Salaries	568,200.94
Total Fond B'offay Admin		996,073.20

EXPENDITURE (cont.)		SR
National Park Mahe	Transportation Cost	100.00
	Maintenance Cost	244,982.63
	Office Expenses	90,437.05
	Wages and Salaries	926,303.20
Total National Park Mahe		1,261,822.88
Veuve Reserve	Transportation Cost	15,806.25
	Maintenance Cost	21,286.23
	Office Expenses	35,967.79
	Wages and Salaries	513,905.55
Total Veuve Reserve		586,965.82
Forest Inventory Praslin	Cost Of Sales	161,800.00
	Transportation Cost	3,705.00
	Maintenance Cost	26,725.00
	Office Expenses	13,843.14
	Wages and Salaries	1,346,862.55
Total Forest Inventory Praslin		1,552,935.69
Forest Inventory Mahe	Transportation Cost	750.00
	Maintenance Cost	9,572.07
	Office Expenses	45,695.74
	Wages and Salaries	1,350,798.45
Total Forest Inventory Mahe		1,406,816.26
Botanical Garden	Other Use of Goods and Services	93,862.00
	Transportation Cost	8,100.00
	Maintenance Cost	169,240.81
	Office Expenses	426,750.05
	Wages and Salaries	5,673,717.15
Total Botanical Garden		6,371,670.01

EXPENDITURE (cont.)		SR
Bio-Diversity	Other Use of Goods and Services	56,840.00
	Transportation Cost	12,100.00
	Maintenance Cost	83,794.00
	Office Expenses	89,043.54
	Wages and Salaries	2,749,680.74
Total Bio Diversity		2,991,458.28
Research	Other Use of Goods and Services	4,650.00
	Transportation Cost	84,981.92
	Maintenance Cost	9,930.00
	Office Expenses	34,138.86
	Wages and Salaries	1,568,486.10
Total Research		1,702,186.88
Human Resources	Other Use of Goods and Services	- 4,019.53
	Transportation Cost	19,622.00
	Maintenance Cost	26,027.02
	Office Expenses	86,938.20
	Wages and Salaries	828,575.33
Total Human Resources		957,143.02
Finance	Other Use of Goods and Services	138,502.25
	Other Maintenance Transportation Cost	57,989.00
	Minor Capex	- 118,500.00
	Office Expenses	304,840.55
	Wages and Salaries	2,969,423.28
Total Finance		3,352,255.08
Property Management	Other Use of Goods and Services	-
	Transportation Cost	2,677.00
	Maintenance Cost	290,639.45
	Office Expenses	17,456.08
	Wages and Salaries	463,950.14
Total Property Management		774,722.67

EXPENDITURE (cont.)		SR
Business Development	Other Use of Goods and Services	236,373.56
	Transportation Cost	37,711.00
	Maintenance Cost	14,757.50
	Office Expenses	213,900.38
	Wages and Salaries	540,847.98
Total Business Development		1,043,590.42
Secretariat	Other Use of Goods and Services	58,800.00
	Transportation Cost	197,680.66
	Maintenance Cost	-
	Office Expenses	172,392.03
	Wages and Salaries	1,520,256.99
Total Secretariat		1,949,129.68
Commission		351,960.01
Others		10,606.25
Total Expenditure		40,897,825.92
Net Profit from operations		368,642.64
Net profit from other income		13,258,804.40



Seychelles
Parks and Gardens
Authority

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Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority



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