



Seychelles
Parks and Gardens
Authority

SEYCHELLES PARKS
AND GARDENS AUTHORITY

Research Strategic Plan

2024-2026



FOREWORD

The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) proudly presents its Research Strategic Plan 2024 - 2026. This Plan provides details regarding research and conservation activities to be implemented by SPGA, with the support of its partners. More importantly, the 2024 - 2026 Research Strategic Plan will reposition SPGA to effectively fulfill one of its mandates: facilitating and conducting research related to biodiversity and protected areas.

Research is vital for attaining sustainable development objectives, as it provides an avenue in which policies and strategies for resource use and conservation are evidence-based. The Research Strategic Plan is the first of its kind and has been designed with specific activities across the three years. Achieving the expected outcomes presented in the Plan will provide a win-win outcome for SPGA, in enhancing sustainable resource use while contributing to Seychelles' international commitments and obligations, such as biodiversity conservation and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

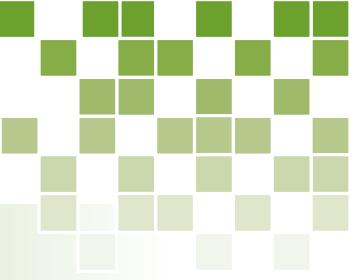
Finally, the Research Strategic Plan 2024 - 2026 will forge a much better partnership between SPGA and relevant stakeholders in achieving fit-for-purpose research and cutting-edge conservation activities that reflect Seychelles' realities. Activities within the Plan have been categorized into short, medium, and long-term and mirror the core areas crucial for terrestrial and marine protected areas. With better partnerships and proactive ways of mobilizing financial and human resources, SPGA is optimistic about delivering the activities outlined in the Annual Work Plans.

Mr. Allen Cedras
Chief Executive Officer
Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks and mention goes to the Research and Documentation Section and secretariat of the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) for producing the first draft of the Research Strategic Plan. The preparation of this four-year Research Strategic Plan was financed by the SPGA and was facilitated by Daniel Etongo and Uvicka Bristol both from the University of Seychelles.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A particular mandate of the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) is to facilitate and conduct research related to biodiversity and protected areas. This mandate aligns perfectly with the overall mission of SPGA, which is to effectively protect and manage designated marine and terrestrial protected areas, including forested areas, for future generations, intending to use them for conservation, recreation, research, and education purposes.

Terrestrial and Marine National Parks in Seychelles face challenges ranging from the proliferation of Invasive Alien Species(IAS) to land use change, climate change impacts on species and their habitats, pollution, and fire outbreaks. These Parks operate within socio-ecological systems constantly undergoing natural and anthropogenic changes requiring relevant data and research to enhance adaptive management to ensure their sustainability. Against the backdrop, the objectives of this Research Strategic Plan are as follows:

- a. To provide guidance on the priority areas for research that will enable the SPGA to achieve its mission;
- b. To provide outstanding opportunities for collaborative research across disciplines that directly influences management of the National Parks and Gardens relevant to Seychelles and internationally;
- c. To Strengthen SPGA's research culture and create opportunities for undergraduates and staff to build capacity; and
- d. To set out what is needed to promote and facilitate the collaboration and connection required, to deliver research that benefits the management of parks.

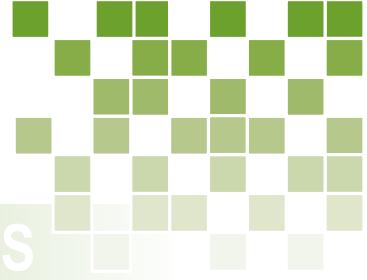
Some of the essential areas of research and conservation activities for the terrestrial parks, as outlined in this strategy, include critical habitat and vegetation types, carbon sequestration, freshwater wetlands, Invasive Alien Species (IAS), propagation of indigenous plant species, ecotourism, rehabilitation of degraded areas, sustainable harvesting of the Coco de Mer, among others. For the marine parks, focal areas include coral reef ecosystem assessment and restoration, fish diversity, abundance and density, baseline survey of seagrass ecosystems, coastal zone management, and enhancement of sea turtle population through various conservation and management strategies.

Research and conservation activities in the terrestrial and marine National Parks can be conducted once, biannually, and continually. Research activities are grouped into three priority areas corresponding to short-term (ST) outputs for one to two years, medium-term (MT) outputs for three to four years, and lastly long-term (LT) outputs for five years and above. A vital component in achieving this Strategy's objectives is partnership and collaboration with various local, regional, and international partners. More importantly, practical cooperation with ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) is required, given that this Strategy aligns with other national policies and action plans.

Guidelines for conducting conservation and research activities in SPGA managed protected areas have been provided. They must always be adhered to, to ensure the integrity of research and conservation. Additionally, local and international partners must sign a Data-Sharing Agreement with SPGA before

any research or conservation activity for which data will be generated. Lastly, the Research Section of SPGA will be responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the research and conservation activities identified in the Strategy. The SPGA Research Section should conduct the monitoring exercise once every six months, and necessary actions should be taken based on the Evaluation Report.





LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BRUVs	Baited remote underwater videos
BTMNP	Baie Ternay Marine National Park
CBO	Community-based Organizations
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CIRAD	Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement
CMNP	Curieuse Marine National Park
DoE	Department of Environment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIF	Green Island Foundation
GVI	Global Vision International
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ICMNP	Ile Cocos Marine National Park
ICS	Island Conservation Society
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
LDSVR	La Digue Special Veuve Reserve
LEAP	Locally Empowered Area Protection
LT	Long Term Outputs
MACCE	Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment
MCSS	Marine Conservation Society Seychelles
MIEI	Ministry of Investment, Entrepreneurship and Industry
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSNP	Morne Seychellois National Park
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Medium Term Outputs
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NISTI	National Institute of Science, Technology, and Innovation
NRCA	Nature Reserve and Conservancy Act
PCA	Plant Conservation Action group
PLMNP	Port Launay Marine National Park
PNP	Praslin National Park
R2R	Ridge to Reef
SAMNP	Sainte Anne Marine National Park
SBS	Seychelles Bureau of Standards
SeyCCAT	Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust
SFA	Seychelles Fisheries Authority
SIF	Seychelles Island Foundation
SMNP	Silhouette Island Marine National Park
SPGA	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority
SPF	Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher
ST	Short Term Outputs
TRASS	Terrestrial Restoration Action Society of Seychelles
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNISEY	University of Seychelles
WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
WIOMPAN	Western Indian Ocean Marine Protected Area Network



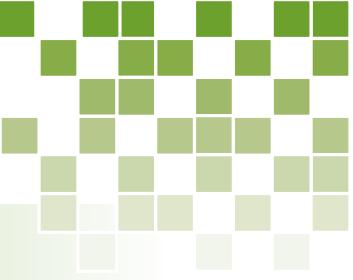
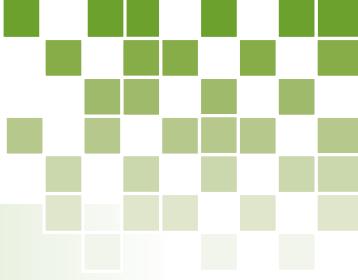


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1. INTRODUCTION



1.1. Background

The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) was established on the 25 of March 2022, under Act 4 of 2022, with one of its mandates to facilitate and conduct research related to biodiversity and protected areas. The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) is responsible for the marine and terrestrial National Parks and Gardens of Seychelles. A number of these sites have been designated since 1979. The terrestrial parks include Morne Seychellois National Park, the Praslin National Park, and the Veuve Special Reserve on La Digue. The Marine National Parks includes Ste. Anne (one of the first marine protected areas in the Indian Ocean), Silhouette, Port Launay, Baie Ternay, Ile Cocos, and Curieuse. The Gardens include the National Botanical Garden, the State House Garden, and the National Biodiversity Centre. All of these protected areas offer a diversity of fauna and flora enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year, with each site having its particular exciting features.

To ensure the conservation and sustainability of these parks, SPGA's mission is to effectively protect and manage designated marine and terrestrial protected areas, including forested areas, for future generations, with the intention to use them for conservation, recreation, research, and educational purposes. The SPGA has prepared a Conservation Research Strategy or Research and Conservation Plan to provide objective guidance on the types of research needed to inform the management of the National Parks and Gardens, and to ensure that the research conducted is cost-efficient.



1.2. Rationale

The Research Strategic Plan sets the general direction of research for the SPGA enabling it to achieve its mission. Specifically, the Strategy will ensure that conservation objectives and the sustainability of parks are fulfilled in the short, medium, and long-term, while concomitantly improving the livelihood and economic benefits of the Seychellois population. More importantly, the Strategy seeks to promote conservation actions and resource utilization decision-making in the Parks, that are evidence-based and data-driven.



1.3. Objective

The Objectives of this Strategic Research Plan are:

- a. To provide guidance on the priority areas for research that will enable the SPGA to achieve its mission; goals, and objectives.
- b. To provide outstanding opportunities for collaborative research across disciplines that directly influence management of the National Parks and Gardens relevant to Seychelles and internationally;
- c. To Strengthen SPGA's research culture and create opportunities for undergraduates and staff to build capacity; and
- d. To set out what is needed to promote and facilitate the collaboration and connection required to deliver research that benefits the management of parks.

1.4. Development Process and Alignment with Other Strategies and Action Plans

The entry point towards developing the Research and Conservation Plan benefitted from several Management Plans containing vital priorities and challenges the parks face. These Management

Plans included those of the Curieuse Marine National Park (CMNP), Baie Ternay Marine National Park (BTMNP), Port Launay Marine National Park (PLMNP), Ste Anne Marine National Park (SAMNP), Ile Cocos Marine National Park(ICMNP), Praslin National Park (PNP), and La Digue Special Veuve Reserve (LDSVR). Since SPGA's mission relates to effectively protecting and managing designated marine and terrestrial protected areas, it cannot be achieved in isolation, and there is therefore a need for alignment with relevant national policies, strategies, and action plans. One benefit of such alignment



and more importantly collaboration, is ensuring that national and international obligations are met without compromising the sustainable use of resources for national development.

Aside from the Management Plans, several policies, strategies, and action plans were used to develop this Research Strategy. They include the following:

- Seychelles National Development Strategy 2019 - 2023;
- Seychelles' Updated Nationally Determined Contribution;
- Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act, 2022;
- Seychelles Wetlands Policy and Action Plan 2019 - 2022;
- Seychelles' National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015 - 2020;
- Seychelles' Protected Areas Policy;
- Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority Act, 2022;
- Seychelles Blue Economy Strategic Policy Framework and Roadmap 2018 - 2030;
- Seychelles Coastal Management Plan 2019 - 2024; and
- Seychelles Sustainable Forest Management Policy

Furthermore, ongoing research and conservation activities being implemented by SPGA and its partners provide some insights for the development of the four-year Research Strategic Plan. Partners who work closely with SPGA include the Department of Environment (DoE), Global Vision International (GVI), Island Conservation Society (ICS), Terrestrial Restoration Action Society of Seychelles (TRASS), Plant Conservation Action Group (PCA), Seychelles Island Foundation (SIF), Marine Conservation Society of Seychelles (MCSS), and Earthwatch Institute Europe, Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA), University of Seychelles (UNISEY), and other regional partners such as Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and the Western Indian Ocean Marine Protected Areas Management Network (WIOMPAN). New collaborations are expected to materialize as old partners exit. This Strategy will require active collaboration with Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to ensure resources are used efficiently while concomitantly achieving sustainable development.

1.5. Strategic Direction and Core Areas

The SPGA's Research team will monitor and report on their Research and Conservation Plan progress. The strategic direction of the SPGA's Research Section is reflected in its functions which includes the following:

1. Develop and implement natural and social sciences research proposals.
2. Develop and support scientific monitoring programs.
3. Facilitate and strengthen conservation partnerships and projects.
4. Build capacity to undertake research programs.
5. Database management, data analysis, and interpretation to produce scientific reports.
6. Support education, outreach, and awareness conservation program.
7. Provide advice on national policies and strategies in biodiversity and protected area management to parent ministry.
8. Engage in national and international research expeditions



The strategic direction for research outlined above will be implemented across two focal areas - terrestrial and Marine National Parks management by the SPGA.

- The first part focuses on the Terrestrial National Parks (TNPs) comprising of the following:
 - Morne Seychellois National Park(MSNP)
 - Praslin National Park (PNP)
 - La Digue Special Veuve Reserve (LDSVR)
 - Silhouette National Park
 - National Biodiversity Centre
 - National Botanical Garden
- The second part focuses on the Marine National Parks (MNPs), comprising of:
 - Curieuse Marine National Park (CMNP)
 - Ste Anne Marine National Park (SAMNP)
 - Baie Ternay Marine National Park (BTMNP)
 - Port Launay Marine National Park (PLMNP)
 - Ile Cocos Marine National Park (ICMNP)
 - Silhouette Marine National Park (SIMNP)

1.6. Research Approach and Focus

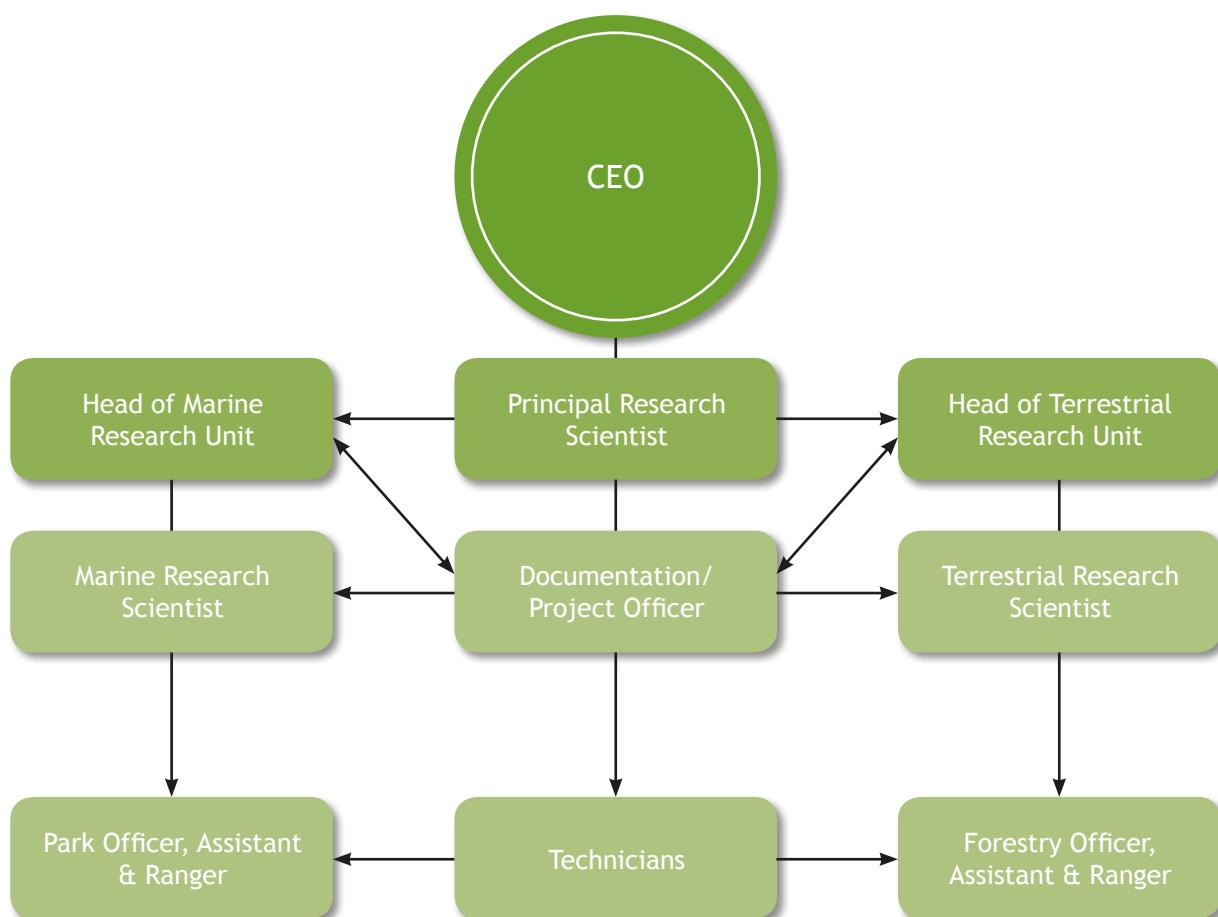
The approach by SPGA to conduct and deliver relevant context and location-specific research and conservation activities in the Parks will include the following: (1) through projects implemented by SPGA, (2) through collaborative projects with local and international partners, and (3) facilitation of projects implemented by local or international partners. Therefore, SPGA will, over the next four years (2023 - 2026), focus on six core strategies to enhance research and conservation activities.

These six core strategic areas include:

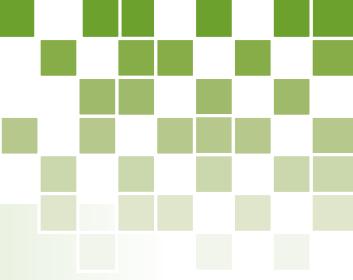
- I. Research Build on existing research with the option for up scaling while identifying new research areas as needed.
- II. Conservation Build on successful conservation activities with the option for up scaling while identifying new areas for conservation.
- III. Partnership Grow existing partnerships and develop new external alliances for a holistic understanding of park dynamics, through a trans-disciplinary and context-specific lens for research and conservation activities.
- IV. Human Resources Develop the capability and capacity of personnel in the Research Section of SPGA through pieces of training to enhance personal development.
- V. Marketing Expand awareness of cutting-edge research and conservation activities in Seychelles and the region and grow our image locally, regionally, and internationally.
- VI. Institutional Develop the institution to support local research across multi-disciplines.

1.7. Organigram for Research Implementation

The research implementation strategy utilizes an integrated approach from top management to the field staffs as presented in the figure below¹. Specifically, the research team consists of the Principal Research Scientist, Head of the Marine Research Unit, the Head of Terrestrial Research Unit, Marine and Terrestrial Research Scientists, and the Documentation/Project Officer. The diagram below provides an overview of the SPGA organigram for its research section.



¹ The organigram provides a pictorial view of staffs at SPGA that are instrumental to the delivery of research and conservation projects. It is not a hierarchical representation of functions, and some projects may occur within specific unit and not across all the sections presented in the organigram.



2. GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION ACTIVITY

The Research and Documentation Section in SPGA has several guidelines that must be adhered to by those conducting conservation or research activities in the protected areas they manage. These guidelines are to be followed by SPGA staff and, more importantly, its partners and other stakeholders currently or in the future whilst conducting research or conservation activities in protected areas managed by SPGA. These guidelines include the following:

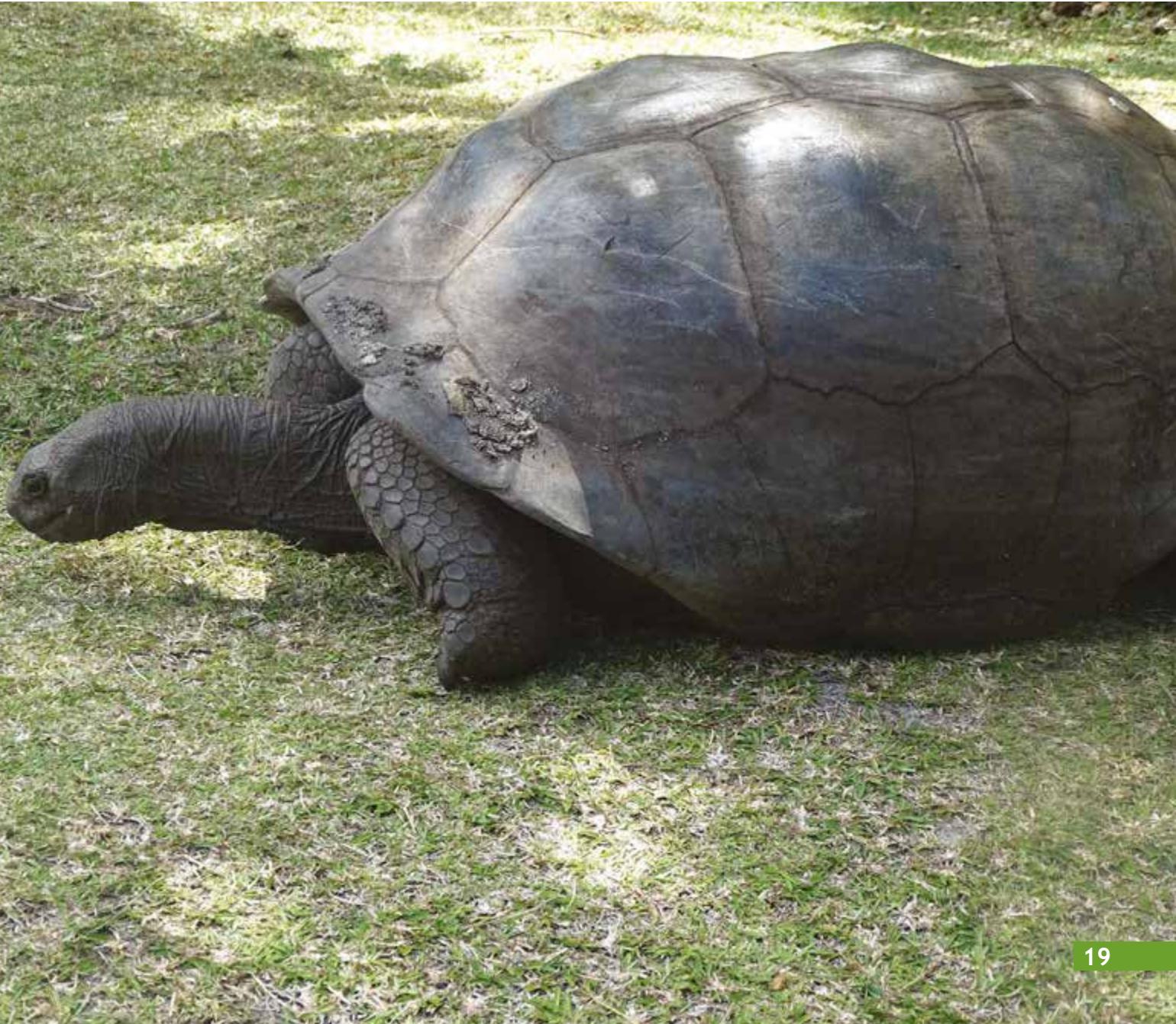
1. All conservation and/or research projects and activities taking place inside the National Parks must be approved by Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA).
2. All conservation and/or research proposals must have clear goals and objectives that complement the management objectives of the specific protected area in which these activities will be conducted.
3. All conservation and/or research proposals must include evidence of adequate funding and, if applicable, all associated partners.
4. All conservation practitioners, researchers, or institutions must submit Quarterly Progress Reports (narrative and raw data sets) to SPGA's headquarters. The data is to be included in the SPGA's database as appropriate.
5. Two copies of the final Conservation or Research Project's Report should be deposited to SPGA's headquarters, and such reports should be acknowledged by the Head of the Research and Documentation Centre within SPGA and/or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SPGA.
6. External researchers or research institutions must possess a valid research permit issued by the National Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation(NISTI) and/or the Seychelles Bureau of Standards (SBS), Ministry of Investment, Entrepreneurship & Industry(MIEI) or any other related authorization body.
7. External researchers may be asked to provide training to SPGA's personnel in the relevant field of research. Transfer of technology is considered critical, and where appropriate, SPGA may enter into an MOU with external research institutions for joint research initiatives.
8. Any Contractual Agreement between the conservation practitioner, the researcher, or the institutions and SPGA should not exceed five (5) years and should be reviewed halfway through the Agreement.
9. All foreign researchers must pay park entry fees and other prescribed charges. Where appropriate and with the approval of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SPGA, they may be authorized to purchase seasonal passes instead of paying daily park entry fees. SPGA may charge a special research levy for local and foreign researchers
10. Only in exceptional cases and subject to a Contractual Lease Agreement between SPGA and a conservation practitioner, researcher, or institution would a research center, field station, or nursery be constructed inside a National park. Such Contractual Agreement would be subject to any additional conditions the CEO may wish to impose together with compliance

to the prescribed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements and subjected to Planning Authority's approval.

11. Research bases inside protected areas must always be kept clean and environmentally sound. The Park Officer will inspect such research bases and field stations regularly and submit their reports to the Director. Mismanagement of the bases, including strewn garbage and other forms of dirt, may lead to the immediate closure of such facilities.
12. Researchers will undertake to meet the costs of environmental restoration and rehabilitation arising from their mismanagement of the environment within and around the research bases inside the National Parks.
13. Garbage and non-biodegradable waste materials must be removed from protected areas and disposed of elsewhere. All bio-degradable materials must be disposed of in the most efficient manner approved by the Park Officer and in line with sustainable management of the environment within the specific protected area.
14. Extreme care must be exercised to ensure uncontrolled fires do not occur or originate from the bases. Such fires must be extinguished immediately and reported to the park management without delay. Any loss/damage incurred as a result of the fire will be met by the researcher or institution if found to be responsible for the outcome of the fire.
15. No samples or any form of material shall be collected for conservation or research purposes without the authorization of the CEO. This includes bio-prospecting and all forms of extracting natural resources.
16. No sample or any form of material (dead or alive) may be removed from the National Park for export without an Export Permit issued by the Ministry responsible for Environment.
17. Individuals and institutions conducting conservation and/or research activities inside National Parks will not release any information, other than on their activity, about the National Park to any person or organization without the CEO's approval. They will also observe intellectual property rights as the laws of Seychelles require.
18. Conservation practitioners or researchers must leave the protected area immediately upon completing the conservation and/or research project. An adequate justification and a formal evaluation by the Park Officer and the CEO must accompany any extension of the conservation and/or research activity period.
19. Unless otherwise exempted in writing, all conservation practitioners or researchers must comply with existing park rules and regulations. All conservation practitioners or researchers must sign compliance forms prior to permission for conservation and/or research activities in protected areas are granted by the CEO.
20. SPGA is not liable for insecurity or death suffered by any external conservation practitioner or researcher within the National Park. All conservation practitioners or researchers should possess private insurance coverage for accidents, illness, and other eventualities that may occur during research work inside a National Park.
21. In consultation with the CEO, the Park Officer and other relevant SPGA officers can terminate the research activity where the conservation practitioner or researcher has violated any of the rules and regulations stipulated herein.
22. For all data collected within SPGA's managed protected areas, a copy must be given to the

SPGA Documentation Officer, Principal Research Scientist, and the CEO. The data provided will be stored on the SPGA's Database Management System. For all research and conservation activities that involve the generation of data, a Data Sharing Agreement will be signed between SPGA and the external partner prior to any activity(See Annex 2).

NOTE: Requests to conduct conservation or research activity in protected areas shall be accompanied by a detailed proposal and all the requirements mentioned in No. 6. Such requests should reach the CEO's office three (3) months before the commencement of conservation and/or research activities in protected areas.





3. RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES



This section of the Research Strategic Plan details research and conservation activities for the terrestrial and Marine National Parks managed by SPGA. These activities have been categorized into ST for Short-Term Outputs (1-2 years), MT for Medium-Term Outputs (3-4 years), and LT for Long-Term Outputs (five years and above). Such categorization will facilitate the implementation of the outlined activities and make monitoring and evaluation easier.

3.1. Terrestrial National Parks



3.1.1. Morne Seychellois National Park

Designated as a protected area (PA) in 1979, the Morne Seychellois National Park (MSNP) hosts one of the three Ramsar sites in Seychelles - the Mare Aux Cochons (MAC). The Park occurs partly in an area with private land ownership, suffering from development pressure. This is the largest terrestrial protected area within the inner granitic islands occupying a total area of 3129.47 ha.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key habitat and vegetation types	a. Conduct habitat and vegetation types study	2	ST	One	Habitat and vegetation types assessment was undertaken by Senterre & Wagner (2014)	May need updating	Study report	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	Habitat and vegetation types maps were produced by Senterre & Wagner (2014)/ No zoning plan	Not started	Short report + maps	Maps + a zoning plan
	c. Forest inventory and assessment	1	ST	One	Species composition and their status, including the health of the forest, are essential for conservation.	Not started	Baseline data	Annual report
2. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual		Not started	Baseline data	Annual report
3. Carbon sequestration	a. Remove selected invasive species and rehabilitate with endemic and native species	1	LT	Continual	Selected sites at Salazie have been cleared, and endemics planted	Started	report	X number of trees planted
	b. Conduct surveys to measure the success rate of the trees planting.	2		Biannually	First survey has been completed.	started	report	Annual report

4. Socioeconomic	a. Community perception and attitude towards the management of the MSNP	2	ST	One	UniSey undertook a perception study or any other relevant entities	The study may be repeated in 10 years	Published article	A set of findings and recommendations
5. Wetlands - Mare Aux Cochons (MAC)	a. Wetland monitoring and assessment	2	LT	Biannually	Establish a baseline in the MAC extent, condition, and function. Detect changes and characterize trends over time.	Not started		

3.1.2. Praslin National Park

This National Park encloses the Vallée de Mai UNESCO World Heritage Site. PNP occupies 325.37ha, and was designated in 1979 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key habitat and vegetation types	a. Conduct habitat and vegetation types study	2	ST	One	Habitat and vegetation types was undertaken by Senterre & Wagner (2014)	May need updating	Study report	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	Habitat and vegetation types maps were produced by Senterre & Wagner (2014)/ No zoning plan	Partially started	Short report + maps	Maps + a zoning plan

							Baseline assessment report	List of species + status
2. Freshwater wetlands	a. Undertake baseline biodiversity and environment assessments of freshwater wetlands	1	ST	One	No baseline data	Some data collected		
	b. Establish and conduct an environmental monitoring programme based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Bi-annual	No monitoring programme	Not started	Environment monitoring reports	Monitoring dataset
3. Lowland forests and degraded mountain areas	a. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	Habitat and vegetation types maps were produced by Senterre & Wagner (2014) / No zoning plan	Not started	Short report + maps	Maps + a zoning plan
	b. Rehabilitate the lowland forest and degraded mountain areas (planting of native & endemics plants)	2	LT	Continual	Some works may have been undertaken by TRASS in recent years	Ongoing	Rehabilitated area	X num. of native & endemic plants
	c. Rehabilitate the lowland forest and degraded mountain areas (removal of invasive plants in a targeted area)	2	LT	Continual	Some works may have been undertaken by TRASS in recent years	Ongoing	Rehabilitated area	X num. of plant species under control
4. Coco de mer	a. Initiate and conduct monitoring programme of coco de mer	2	LT	Bi-annual	No monitoring programme/	Not started	Programme in place/ Monitoring reports	X num. of coco de mer trees /monitoring dataset

	b. Establish a nut harvesting rate and re-initiate the planting programme	2	ST	Continual	To start in 2018	Not started	A planting programme	X num. of nuts Check if they are doing this?!
	c. Conduct a population census	3	ST	One	Last population census completed in 2014	Not started	Population census report	A population dataset
5. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual		Not started	Baseline data	Annual report
6. Invasive Alien Species (IAS)	Control and manage IAS in target areas	3	LT	Continual		Not started	Restoration reports	X ha restored or x num. of IAS effectively control
7. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	Started		Updated plan	
8. Tourism and Sustainable Use	a. Research on the impacts of tourism activities on the environment	3	ST	One		Not started	Research report	X num. of impacts/Recommendations Move to Morne Seychellois
	b. Undertake strategic tourism carrying capacity studies incorporating biodiversity and environment	3	ST	One		Not started	Carrying capacity reports	One strategic document

3.1.3. La Digue Special Veuve Reserve

This is a small Nature Reserve for the protection of the critically endangered Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher (Veuve). LDSVR covers 7.88ha, and was designated in 1980 as a Special Reserve.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key habitat and vegetation types	a. Conduct habitat and vegetation types study b. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	2	ST	One		May need updating	Study report	A set of findings & recommendations
2. Freshwater wetlands	a. Undertake baseline biodiversity and environment assessments of freshwater wetlands b. Establish and conduct an environmental monitoring programme based on the results of the baseline assessments c. Produce a list of flora in the reserve d. Rehabilitate the lowland coastal forests (planting of native plant species)	3	ST	One	No baseline data	Not started	Short report + maps	Maps + a zoning plan
3. Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher (SPF)	a. Conduct population census and mapping of territories	1	LT	Annual		Not started	Baseline assessment report	List of species + status
					No monitoring programme	Not started	Environment monitoring reports	Monitoring dataset
						Not available or outdated	Not started	A flora list
					Work started under the CIRAD reforestation project	Not started	Rehabilitated area	X num. of native plants
					Last population census in May 2016 by Rachel Bristol	Ongoing	Annual report	A population dataset

	b. Maintain and enhance the intensive monitoring programme of breeding success	1	MT	Weekly		Ongoing	Monthly report	X num. of nests
	c. Conduct ecological study (habitat and environmental preference)	3	ST	One	Some data collected and analyzed by James Mougal (2017)	Not started	Study report	A set of findings & recommendations
4. Seychelles Terrapins: Black mud turtle and Yellow-bellied mud turtle	a. Conduct populations census (abundance and distribution)	1	LT	Annual	No baseline data	Not started	Short reports + distribution maps	A population dataset
	b. Publish population trend	3	LT	One		Not started	Scientific report	One scientific article
5. Other terrestrial wildlife	a. Conduct biodiversity assessment and ecological studies	2	MT	Continual	Some assessments were undertaken under the KBA project by Senterre et al. (2013)	Ongoing	Assessment and study reports	A set of findings & recommendations
6. Tourism and Sustainable Use	a. Assess visitor experience and satisfaction in the reserve b. Assess impact of tourism on conservation initiatives	2	LT	One for each year	No baseline data	Not started	X % visitor rating	Increase of X % in visitor rating
7. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual		Started	Assessment report	A set of recommendations
8. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual		Not started	Baseline data	Updated plan

3.1.4. Curieuse Marine National Park-(Terrestrial)

This area is being actively managed as an informal (no legal status) protected area. Curieuse Island covers 286 ha.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Mangroves	a. Maintain and enhance the mangrove monitoring programme	1	LT	Annual/ Bi-annual monitoring	Baseline survey was undertaken by Daig Romain (2012)/ Programme started in June 2015, new plots were added in January 2017	Ongoing	Mangrove monitoring report	Monitoring dataset
	b. Analyze the monitoring data and produce scientific report	1	ST	One	Preliminary analysis was undertaken by GVI (2017)	started	Scientific report	One scientific article
	c. Integrate the results into management planning of the mangrove ecosystem	1	ST	One		Not started	A review of the scientific report	A set of recommendations adopted
	d. Rehabilitate the mangrove forest (removal of invasive plants and improving water flow- dredge)	2	MT	Continual	To start in 2018	started	Rehabilitated area	Eradication of x plant species
	e. Rehabilitate the mangrove forest (planting of mangrove seedlings)	3	LT	Continual	Work started by TRASS in 2016/ By end of 2017, x num. of seedlings planted	started	Rehabilitated area	X num. of mangrove seedlings

	f. Install information boards on the trail	3	ST	One		Started	Conservation awareness	X num. of boards installed and maintained
2. Freshwater wetlands	a. Undertake baseline biodiversity and environment assessments of freshwater wetlands	2	ST	One	No baseline data	Not started	Baseline assessment report	List of species + status
	b. Establish and conduct an environmental monitoring programme based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Bi-annual	No monitoring programme	Not started	Environment monitoring reports	Monitoring dataset
3. Coastal forests and degraded mountain areas	a. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	Habitat and vegetation types maps were produced by Senterre & Wagner (2014)/ A zoning plan is proposed in the management plan 2018-2022	May need updating	Short report + maps	Maps + a zoning plan
	b. Rehabilitate the coastal forest and degraded mountain areas (planting of native plants)	2	MT	Continual	Previous work under CIRAD project in 20xx/ Resumed in 2016 under SPF reintroduction project	Ongoing	Rehabilitated area	X num. of native plants
	c. Rehabilitate the coastal forest and degraded mountain areas (removal of invasive plants)	2	LT	Continual	Previous work under CIRAD project in 20xx/ R2R	Ongoing	Rehabilitated area	X num. of plant species under control

4. Giant tortoise	<p>a. Continue the PIT (nano) tagging programme of baby tortoise + growth rate monitoring</p> <p>b. Conduct population census (abundance and distribution) + growth rate, location sex monitoring</p> <p>c. Conduct an ecological study (include nesting sites, breeding pattern, feeding...)</p> <p>d. Publish population trend and ecological data</p> <p>e. Raise awareness for visitor to bring baby tortoise to rangers house</p>	1 2	MT LT	Continual Annual	A new initiative started towards the end of August 2017 Conducted annually by GVI since 2013 (GVI 2017)	Ongoing Ongoing	Tagging programme Census reports + distribution maps
5. Coco de Mer	<p>a. Revise and conduct monitoring programme of coco de mer (include more female trees, disease detection)</p> <p>b. Establish a nut harvesting rate and re-initiate the planting programme</p>	1 1	LT	Continual	Data collected since April 2014 has been analyzed by GVI (2017)/ Programme was reviewed in November 2017 by SNPA/GVI	Paused	A new study design/ Monitoring reports
							X num. of female trees added/ monitoring reports
							X num. of nuts

	Is forestry doing this?						
	c. Conduct a 2nd population census using new technology (drones)	2	ST	One	Last population census started in 2009 and completed in 2014	Not started	Population census report
6. Flycatcher	a. Conduct population census and mapping of SPF territories	1	LT	Annual	To start in 2019	Started	Annual Report
7. Other terrestrial wildlife	a. Conduct biodiversity assessment and ecological studies	1	MT	Continual	Some assessments were undertaken under the KBA project by Senterre et al. (2013)	Ongoing	Assessment and Study Reports
8. Tourism& Sustainable use	a. Assess visitor experience and satisfaction b. Impact of tourism on conservation initiatives c. Conduct a carrying capacity assessment on the impact of tourism in protected area	1 2 3	ST ST LT	One for each year One Annual	Some data collected and analyzed by Allen Cedras (2017) No baseline data	Not started Not started	Survey Reports Assessment Report
9. Management Plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual		Started	Updated plan
10. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual		Not started	Baseline data Annual Report

11. Invasive Alien Species (IAS)	a. Establish and an IAS management plan	3	LT	Continual		Not started	Baseline data	Annual Report
	b. Control and manage IAS in target areas	3	LT	Continual		Not started	Restoration Reports	Xha restored or x num. of IAS effectively control

3.2. Gardens

The Gardens include the Botanical Garden, the State House Garden, and the Biodiversity Centre. These Gardens are crucial for biodiversity conservation and serve as a Seed Bank for some indigenous tree species in Seychelles. Therefore, its contribution to tourism cannot be ignored, and its long-term sustainability is paramount to the SPGA and the nation. To ensure the sustainability of these Gardens, the Research Strategic Plan 2024 - 2026 will incorporate activities such as plant propagation, tissue culture, greenhouses, and a secured and reliable seed bank at all times.

3.3. Marine National Parks



3.2.1. Curieuse Marine National Park- (Marine)

The CMNP occupies a total area of 1340.74ha, and was designated in 1979 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One		Started	Study Report	A set of findings & recommendations
2. Coral reef eco-system (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area b. Re-initiate and implement a coral reef monitoring program	1	ST	One	An ATLAS of Shallow Marine Habitats around Praslin Island was drafted in 2017	Ongoing	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
		1	LT	Bi-annual	Undertaken annually from 2009 up to 2011 by GVI/ Earthwatch Institute has conducted annual monitoring since 2006	Resumed in 2022 Ongoing	Coral reef monitoring is maintained	Coral Reef Dataset
3. Coral reef eco-system (Restoration)	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report a. Continue the coral reef restoration initiative	1	LT	Annual	A report was produced by Earthwatch Institute on Coral resilience in 2017	Resumed in 2022 Ongoing	Coral Reef Status Report	A set of findings & recommendations
		1	LT	5 years	Project started end of 2020	Ongoing	A Project Evaluation Report	A set of findings & recommendations 1.0 ha restored

					Ongoing	Progress Reports	Coral Reef Restoration Dataset
					Not started	A manual of coral reef restoration	Guidelines for coral reef restoration
b. Document and produce regular reports on the coral reef restoration progress	1	LT	5years				
c. Publish a document on best practice in coral reef restoration	1	MT	One				
4. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment					BRUV survey undertaken by GVI on the north side of the island in 2017 until 2019 / Earthwatch Institute has been implementing the Belt transects since 2006		
a. Maintain and enhance the baited remote underwater video station (BRUV) and Belt Fish video transects monitoring program	1	LT	Annual		Sus-pended due to COVID-19	Fish monitoring is maintained	Two sets of monitoring data
b. Implement a Fish diversity, abundance and density monitoring program	1	LT	Annual		Past Earthwatch Institute has been implementing the Belt transects since 2006 and GVI Past data set	Started in 2022	Monitoring Report + an Annual Survey Report
c. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual		Past Earthwatch Institute has been implementing the Belt transects since 2006 and GVI Past data set	Started in 2022	Monitoring Reports
5. Seagrass ecosystem	1	MT	One	No baseline data	Not started	Baseline Assessment Report	List of species + status
a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence)							

	b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds	1	ST	One		Not started	Short report + baseline maps	Maps + species list
	c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	No monitoring program			
	Design protocol in 2022	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring dataset+ reports				
	d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	3	LT	One		Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
6. Marine environment assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	No baseline data	Not started	Baseline Assessment Report	A set of indicators+ baseline data
	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	No monitoring program	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	1	LT	One		Not started	Marine Environment Report	A set of findings & recommendations

7. Coastal zone management	a. Review and enhance the beach monitoring program (including beach profile, sand grain, vegetation and sea current patterns)	1	LT	Every two months	Beach profile monitoring started in 2015 by GVI	Ongoing-	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	b. Analyze and produce a series of coastal zone maps (showing changes in coastal zone patterns)	2	LT	Annual		Not started	Program in place
	c. Rehabilitate the coastal/ beach fringe vegetation	1	LT	Continual	Platting activities have been undertaken on ad-hoc basis	Short Report + Maps	Short Report + Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
8. Sea turtle	a. Conduct beach cleaning activity prior to & during each sea turtle nesting season	1	LT	Monthly	Ongoing	Rehabilitated area	X num. of coastal plants planted
	b. Analyze collected rubbish (sorting & weighting)	1	LT	Monthly			
	c. Continue the sea turtle nesting monitoring program	1			Ongoing		Beach Cleaning Report
	d. Produce turtle nesting vulnerability map	3	MT	One	Undertaken annually by GVI	Monitoring Reports	Type and Quantity Report
					Ongoing	Monitoring Dataset	Short Report + Baseline Maps
							Maps + Vulnerability Zone Plan

	e. Relocation of high-risk turtle nest	3	LT	Annual	Since 2009, GVI has produced an annual sea turtle status report	Not Started	Short Report	X num. of nest + dataset
	f. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	Ongoing	Scientific Report	One scientific article	
9. Sickle-fin lemon shark	a. Continue the PIT tagging program of young Sickle-fin lemon sharks	1	MT	Continual	Data available from the start of the project in October 2014	Ongoing	Tagging Program	X num. of young Sickle-fin lemon sharks
	b. Install array of receivers and maintain the monitoring program	1	LT	Continual		Ongoing	Monitoring Reports	Monitoring Dataset
	c. Undertake population genetics study	3	MT	One	No baseline data but sample are available for analysis	Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
	d. Analyze the data and publish population estimate and trend	2	LT	One	A scientific paper on population structure was published by GVI & SNPA in 2017	Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
10. Marine invertebrates' assessment in the intertidal zone	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One		Started in 2022	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	Information on some key species is available from the Earthwatch Institute expeditions	Not started/ Started in 2022	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports

	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One		Started in 2022	Marine Invertebrate Monitoring Report	A set of findings & recommendations
11. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	R2R	Started		Updated plan
12. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual		Started	Available document	Data Management System set up
13. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Annual		Ongoing	Short Report	Published article

3.2.2. Baie Ternay Marine National Park

The BTMNP occupies an area of 87.09ha, and was designated in 1979 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat study	1	ST	One		Ongoing	Study Report	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One		Ongoing	Short Report + Maps	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	1	ST	One	Produced by Jude Bijoux for his MSc thesis in 2008	May needs updating	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Sensitve Zone Plan
	b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	Undertaken by GVI	Ongoing	Coral reef monitoring is maintained	Coral Reef Dataset

	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual coral reef status report	Ongoing	Coral Reef Status Report	A set of findings & recommendations
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Continual	Undertaken by GVI	Ongoing	Fish monitoring is maintained	Monitoring Dataset
	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence) b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	1	LT	Annual	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual fish density report	Ongoing	Monitoring Reports	A set of findings + species list
4. Seagrass ecosystem		1	MT	One		Ongoing	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + Status
		1	ST	One	Produced by Jude Bijoux for his MSc in 20xx	Ongoing	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Species List
		2	LT	Annual	Protocol produces in 2022	Ongoing	Program in place	Monitoring dataset+ reports
		3	LT	One		Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
5. Marine environment assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	No baseline data	Not started	Baseline Assessment Report	A set of indicators+ baseline data

	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	No monitoring program	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	2	LT	One		Not started	Marine Environment Report	A set of findings & recommendations
	d. Mapping of ecological improtant ecosystem	2	MT	One	No baseline data	Not started	Assessment Report	Map
	a. Initiate and implement whale shark and plankton long-term monitoring program	2	LT	Annual		Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
6. Whale sharks and plankton	b. Produce whale sharks and plankton status report	3	LT	One		Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual report	Ongoing	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species Status + Status
7. Marine invertebrates assessment	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual report	Ongoing	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports

	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One		Ongoing	Marine Invertebrate Monitoring Report	A set of findings & recommendations
8. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual		Not Started		Updated plan
9. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual		Ongoing	Available document	Data Management System set up
10. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Bi-annual		Ongoing	Short Report	Published article

3.2.3. Port Launay Marine National Park

The PLMNP occupies a total area of 163.29ha, and was designated in 1979 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One		Ongoing	Study Report	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One		Ongoing	Short Report + Maps	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	2	ST	One	Produced by Jude Bijoux for his MSc thesis in 2008	May needs updating	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	Undertaken by GVI	Ongoing	Coral reef monitoring is maintained	Coral Reef Dataset

	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual coral reef status report	Ongoing	Coral Reef Status Report	A set of findings & recommendations
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Continual	Undertaken by GVI	Ongoing	Fish monitoring is maintained	Monitoring Dataset
		1	LT	Annual	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual fish density report	Ongoing	Monitoring Reports	A set of findings + species list
4. Seagrass ecosystem	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence) b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	1	MT	One	Produced by Jude Bijoux for his MSc in 20xx	Ongoing	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + Status
		1	ST	One	Protocol produced in 2022	Ongoing	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Species List
		2	LT	Annual		Ongoing	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
		3	LT	One		Ongoing	Scientific Report	One scientific article
5. Marine invertebrates assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual report	Ongoing	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + Status

	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	Since 2005, GVI has produced an annual report	Ongoing	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One		Ongoing	Marine Invertebrate Monitoring Report	A set of findings & recommendations
6. Whale sharks and plankton	a. Initiate and implement whale shark and plankton long-term monitoring program	2	LT	Annual		Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	b. Produce whale sharks and plankton status report	2	LT	One		Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
7. Marine invertebrates assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One		Ongoing	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	Protocol already drafted 2022	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
8. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual		Started		Updated plan

9. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual		Not started	Available document	Data Management System set up
10. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Bi-annual		on going	Short Report	Published article

3.2.4. Sainte Anne Marine National Park

This is the oldest marine protected area in the Seychelles Archipelago and the Western Indian Ocean region. SAMNP spans 965.4ha, and was designated in 1973 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Coral reef eco-system (Assessment)	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	Produced by Jude Bijoux for his MSc thesis in 2008 Protocol produced in 2022	Ongoing	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Re-initiate and implement a coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Bi-annual	Protocol produced in 2022	On going	Coral reef monitoring is maintained	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	Protocol produced in 2022	On going	Coral Reef Status Report	A set of findings & recommendations
2. Coral reef eco-system (Restoration)	a. Continue the coral reef restoration initiative	1	ST	One	Nursery was set up in 2016 and propagated corals are transplanted regularly (need to view the agreement)	Ongoing	Restored Area	X ha restored

					Ongoing	Progress Reports	Coral Reef Restoration Dataset
	b. Document and produce regular reports on the coral reef restoration progress	1	LT	Continual			
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef species assessment)	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Continual	Protocol produced in 2022	On going	Fish monitoring is maintained
	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	No baseline data	Monitoring Reports	A set of findings + Species List
4. Marine environment assessment	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	1	LT	Annual	No monitoring program	Not started	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
		1	LT	One		Not started	Marine Environment Report
							A set of findings & recommendations

5. Coastal zone management	a. Review and enhance the beach monitoring program (including beach profile, sand grain, vegetation and sea current patterns)	1	LT	Every two months	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	b. Analyze and produce a series of coastal zone maps (showing changes in coastal zone patterns)	1	LT	Annual	Not started	Short Report + Maps	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	c. Rehabilitate the coastal/ beach fringe vegetation	1	LT	Continual	Plating activities have been undertaken on adhoc basis	Rehabilitated Area	X num. of coastal plants planted
6. Sea turtle	a. Conduct beach cleaning activity prior to & during each sea turtle nesting season	1	LT	Annual	Ongoing	Beach Cleaning Report	X num. of cleaning days
	b. Analyze collected rubbish (sorting & weighting)	1	LT	Monthly	Ongoing	Beach Cleaning Report	Type and Quantity Report
	c. Produce turtle nesting vulnerability map	3	MT	One	Not Started	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Vulnerability Zone Plan
	d. Relocation of high-risk turtle nest	3	LT	Annual	Not Started	Short Report	X num. of nest + dataset
	e. Continue the sea turtle nesting monitoring programme	1	LT	Annual	Ongoing	Monitoring Reports	Monitoring Dataset

	f. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One		Ongoing	Scientific Report	One scientific article
7. Seagrass ecosystem	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence)	1	MT	One	No baseline data Protocol produced in 2022	Not started	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + S status
	b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds	1	ST	One		Not started	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Species List
	c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	No monitoring program Protocol produce in 2022	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	3	LT	One		Not started	Scientific Report	One scientific article
8. Marine invertebrates assessment in the intertidal zone	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	Protocol produced in 2022	Ongoing	Baseline Assessment Report	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual		Ongoing	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One		Not started	Marine Invertebrate Monitoring Report	A set of findings & recommendations

9. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	Habitat assessment was undertaken by NGO Anba Lao (2008)	May need updating	Study Report	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	Habitat assessment was undertaken by NGO Anba Lao (2008) Zoning map available in Ste Anne MNP management plan (Dr Jude Bijoux)	May need updating	Short Report + Maps	Maps + a Zoning Plan
10. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual		Started		Updated plan
11. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual		on going	Available document	Data Management System set up
12. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Bi-annual		On going	Short Report	Published article

3.2.5. Ile Cocos Marine National Park

The ICMPN occupies a total areas of 85.55ha, and was designated in 1997 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One		Not started	Study Report	A set of findings & recommendations

	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One		Not started	Short Report + Maps	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	ST	One	Produced by Jude Bijoux for his MSc thesis in 2008	Not started	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Continual	Protocol produced in 2022	ongoing	Coral reef monitoring is maintained	Coral Reef Dataset
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef species) assessment		1	LT	Annual		ongoing	Coral reef status report	A set of findings & recommendations
	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One		Not started	Baseline Assessment Report	A set of indicators+ baseline data
4. Marine environment assessment								

	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	No monitoring program	Not started	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	1	LT	One		Not started	Marine Environment Report	A set of findings & recommendations
5. Sea turtle	a. Re-initiate the in-water tagging program (juvenile Hawksbill and adult Green in turtle pond)	3	MT	continual	Ongoing	Ongoing	Tagging Program	X num. of Hawksbill &Green Sea turtles
	b. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	Ongoing	Ongoing	Scientific Report	One scientific article
6. Seabirds	a. Initiate and conduct seabird monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	Ongoing	Ongoing	Program in place	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	b. Produce a seabirds status report	2	LT	Annual	ongoing	Seabirds' Status Report	Seabird Species List	

3.2.6. Silhouette Marine National Park

The SMNP occupies an areas of 2131.84ha, and was designated in 1987 as a National Park.

Category & Conservation Values	Research & Conservation Activity	Priority	Term	Frequency	Research programme/ Baseline/ Current status	Status	Indicators	Targets
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One		Not started	Study Report	A set of findings & recommendations
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	ST	One		Not started	Short Report + Maps	Maps + a Zoning Plan
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Continual	Undertaken by ICS	Ongoing	Short Report + Baseline Maps	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	Since 20xx, ICS has produced an annual coral reef status report??	Ongoing	Coral Reef Status Report	Coral Reef Dataset
							Fish monitoring is maintained	Monitoring Dataset
					Since 20xx, ICS has produced an annual fish density report??	Ongoing	Monitoring Reports	A set of findings + Species List

	a. Conduct beach cleaning activity prior to & during each sea turtle nesting season	1	LT	Annual	Ongoing	Beach Cleaning Report	X num. of cleaning days
4. Sea turtle	b. Continue the sea turtle nesting monitoring program	1	LT	Annual	Ongoing	Monitoring Reports	Monitoring Dataset
	c. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	Ongoing	Scientific Report	One scientific article



4. BUSINESS PLAN

The Business Plan of the SPGA is crucial given that it will provide guidance towards income generation. Therefore, aside from the sales of tickets to tourists which is the main stream of income for the SPGA, the Research Strategic Plan will also focus on three core areas in order to support research and conservation activities. These three core areas that are envisaged to provide additional income to the SPGA include logistic support, aquaculture, and beekeeping.

4.1. Logistic Support to Facilitate Research and Conservation Activities

The SPGA can provide a number of logistics support to facilitate research and conservation activities that are conducted in the parks they manage. Some of these support include transportation and basic accommodation facilities especially within Marine National Parks. Such supports come with a fee that has to be agreed upon between the local and or international partners with SPGA. This stream of income is essential since it will be used in maintaining the facilities within the Marine Protected Areas and ensure that they are usable even in the future.



4.2. Aquaculture

Background

Aquaculture is the farming of aquatic organisms such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans, and aquatic plants under controlled conditions. Aquaculture started in Seychelles back in 1988. However, commercial pearl oyster farming began in 1995 and is conducted on Praslin in the Curieuse Marine National Park by a private family business. The farmed species are Black-lipped Oyster (*Pinctada magaritifera*) and the Winged Oyster (*Pteria penguin*).

Aims

- To develop and employ sustainable practices for commercial pearl farming in the Curieuse Marine National Park
- To develop and promote pearl farming as a commercial eco-tourism activity according to the Marine National Park laws and regulations
- To establish a transparent and accountable system of management for pearl farming in the Curieuse Marine National Park
- To generate income for the operations of the National Parks and Gardens through fees and the sale of farmed pearls

Products and Services

Black-lipped Oysters are indigenous to Seychelles and are amongst the largest pearl oysters, reaching a maximum recorded size of 146mm shell width, with tissue mass reaching 5.5 to 8.8g. Most growth occurs within the first two years, reaching 120mm.

The Winged Oyster, commonly known as the Penguin's Wing Oyster, is a species of marine bivalve mollusk in the family Pteriidae, the Pearl Oysters. It can reach a maximum length of 300mm at two or three years of maturity.

Both species are farmed for pearl production and have not been well studied, particularly in Seychelles. Therefore, cultivating these species could serve as a business opportunity for the SPGA to generate income which could be reinvested into research and conservation activities. The management of the aquaculture facilities and operational services will be provided by trained staff at the Marine National Park. This will include a paid guided tour to visitors and a Product/Souvenir Shop.

Legal Status

The 2014 Fisheries Act governs the development and activities of aquaculture.



Target Market

The proposed species has a wide range of customers that can support the market in Seychelles. They include the following:

- Tourists and Visitors
- Seychelles Jewelry Business
- Local Individuals
- Aquaculture Businesses
- National Arts and Crafts Businesses

4.3. Beekeeping

Background

Bees play an essential role in the ecosystem, particularly in agricultural production, due to their role in pollination. Recent studies show that bee colonies are collapsing worldwide, and considerable efforts must be made to promote bee conservation.

In Seychelles, beekeeping is managed by the Seychelles Beekeepers Association.

Aims

- To develop beekeeping and honey production to promote bee conservation in Seychelles
- To establish and sustainably manage beekeeping at the Biodiversity Centre at Barbarons, Mahé.

Products and Services

The honey bees in Seychelles are *Apis mellifera* and *Apis mellifera ligustica*. The beekeeping activity will be for organic honey production, which could include educational and research activities. This would require the maintenance of many hives for efficient honey production and to diversify into other services and products such as honeycomb, bee wax products, and candles. The SPGA could develop these products and services through partnerships with local businesses and entrepreneurs.



Legal Status

Beekeeping is not governed by any national legislation.

Target Market

Below is a list of people who we will market the beekeeping and honey production to:

- Tourists and Visitors
- Shops and supermarkets
- Local Individuals

Through beekeeping activity and honey production, the SPGA could partner with the Seychelles Beekeeping Association to promote bee conservation in Seychelles.

5. PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

The SPGA conducts research and conservation activities through the active engagement of its Research Section that addresses these needs in the terrestrial and marine protected areas. Given the multi-disciplinarity of research and the uniqueness of conservation interventions, these activities have been conducted through partnerships, collaborations, and engagement with various local, regional and international stakeholders and organizations. The figure below provides an overview of the current partners and collaborators of SPGA and new ones are expected in the years ahead.





6. POTENTIAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

The SPGA has highlighted a number of projects funded by different donors both locally and internationally. These projects address important issues that are essential for the long-term sustainability of terrestrial and marine protected areas. For example, the challenge of soil erosion, especially on Praslin which affects forest growth, will benefit from a Local Adaptation Strategy that uses dry palm leaves for erosion control.

Project title	Funded by	Description
Using Dried palm leaves to curb erosion in Seychelles	United Nations Development Program(UNDP)	Addressing the recurring environmental degradation of soil erosion which has been prevalent on Praslin Island in Seychelles
Conservation and Restoration of Curieuse Island, Curieuse Marine National Park, Through Control and Eradication of Invasive Black Rats	Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT)	Eradication of Black Rats on Curieuse, using self-resetting traps.
Centralized multi-relational bio-holistic database for improved management of Marine Protected Areas	Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT)	Development of a bio-holistic database, and improved efficiency and reliability of field data collection through the use of the Open Foris Collect Mobile
Developing a freshwater biodiversity information system for long-term conservation and management	JRS Biodiversity Foundation	Conduct baseline surveys and annual biodiversity inventories of selected rivers and wetlands
Strengthening protection for the Marine National Parks in the Seychelles using photogrammetry as a tool to support the conservation activities of SPGA	Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT)	Complete an In-depth detailed analysis of the health of marine biodiversity of the MPA
Strengthening the management effectiveness of Ile Cocos, and Ste Anne MPA in collaboration with local communities and other stakeholders, through improved management practices on the ground and new / updated management plan.	Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Expanding IIs Coco and Strengthening the management effectiveness of Ile Coco, and Ste Anne MPA



7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The SPGA already has in place a Research Section, which is well-positioned to effectively monitor and evaluate progress towards the activities outlined in this Strategic Plan. The Section will ensure that research and conservation activities are implemented. Their effectiveness and long-term sustainability will be crucial in the monitoring and evaluation process. Since some of the outlined activities will occur once, with others annually, bi-annually, and continuously, it will be crucial for the monitoring and evaluation team to meet at least once every six months. This time-frame is sufficient enough for substantial activities in research and conservation to have occurred. More importantly, if the time-frame for monitoring and evaluation is too far apart, say annually, the chances of a disconnect between what is incorporated in the strategy and other activities which are not, might gain traction. Established key performance indicators(KPIs) are essential for effective monitoring and evaluation. The monitoring and evaluation mechanism results will be made available in the public domain, to showcase the contribution of SPGA towards national development and global commitments such as biodiversity conservation.





ANNEX 1 – ANNUAL WORK PLANS

Morne Seychellois National Park

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key habitat and vegetation types	a. Conduct habitat and vegetation types study	2	ST	One	2024	Status Report on Vegetation
	b. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
	c. Forest inventory and assessment	1	ST	One	2024	Forest Health and Composition
2. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Annual Report
3. Carbon sequestration	a. Remove selected invasive species and rehabilitate with endemic and native species	1	LT	Continual	Selected sites at Salazie have been cleared, and endemics planted	Started
	b. Conduct surveys to measure the success rate of the trees planting.	2		Biannually	2025	Annual Report
4. Institutional/strategic	a. Development of a management plan for the MSNP	2	LT	One	2026	Management Plan
5. Wetlands - Mare Aux Cochons (MAC)	a. Wetland monitoring and assessment	2	LT	Biannually	2025	Status report on wetland

Praslin National Park

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key habitat and vegetation types	a. Conduct habitat and vegetation types study	2	ST	One	2024	Status Report
	b. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Freshwater wetlands	a. Undertake baseline biodiversity and environment assessments of freshwater wetlands	1	ST	One	2025	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct an environmental monitoring programme based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Bi-annual	2026	Monitoring Dataset

3. Lowland forests and degraded mountain areas	a. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2025	Maps + a Zoning Plan
	b. Rehabilitate the lowland forest and degraded mountain areas (planting of native & endemics plants)	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of native & endemic plants
	c. Rehabilitate the lowland forest and degraded mountain areas (removal of invasive plants in a targeted area)	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of plant species under control
4. Coco de mer	a. Initiate and conduct monitoring programme of coco de mer	2	LT	Bi-annual	2026	X num. of Coco de Mer trees / Monitoring Dataset
	b. Establish a nut harvesting rate and re-initiate the planting programme	2	ST	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of nuts
	c. Conduct a population census	3	ST	One	2025	A Population Dataset
5. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Annual Report
6. Invasive Alien Species (IAS)	Control and manage IAS in target areas	3	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X ha restored or x num. of IAS effectively control
7. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
8. Tourism and Sustainable Use	a. Research on the impacts of tourism activities on the environment	3	ST	One	2024	X num. of impacts/ Move to Morne Seychellois Recommendations
	b. Undertake strategic tourism carrying capacity studies incorporating biodiversity and environment	3	ST	One	2025	One strategic document

La Digue Special Veuve Reserve

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key habitat and vegetation types	a. Conduct habitat and vegetation types study	2	ST	One	2024	Status Report
	b. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Freshwater wetlands	a. Undertake baseline biodiversity and environment assessments of freshwater wetlands	3	ST	One	2025	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct an environmental monitoring programme based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Bi-annual	2026	Monitoring Dataset
	c. Produce a list of flora in the reserve	3	ST	One	2025	A flora List
	d. Rehabilitate the lowland coastal forests (planting of native plant species)	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of native plants
3. Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher (SPF)	a. Conduct population census and mapping of territories	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	A Population Dataset
	b. Maintain and enhance the intensive monitoring programme of breeding success	1	MT	Weekly	2025	X num. of nests
	c. Conduct ecological study (habitat and environmental preference)	3	ST	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
4. Seychelles Terrapins: Black mud turtle and Yellow-bellied mud turtle	a. Conduct populations census (abundance and distribution)	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	A Population Dataset
	b. Publish population trend	3	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
5. Other terrestrial wildlife	a. Conduct biodiversity assessment and ecological studies	2	MT	Continual	2025	A set of findings & recommendations

6. Tourism and Sustainable Use	a. Assess visitor experience and satisfaction in the reserve	2	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Increase of x % in visitor rating
	b. Assess impact of tourism on conservation initiatives	2	ST	One	2025	A set of recommendations
7. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
8. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Annual Report

Curieuse Marine National Park-(Terrestrial)

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Mangroves	a. Maintain and enhance the mangrove monitoring programme	2	ST	One	2024	Status Report
	b. Analyze the monitoring data and produce scientific report	1	ST	One	2025	One scientific article
	c. Integrate the results into management planning of the mangrove ecosystem	1	ST	One	2026	A set of recommendations adopted
	d. Rehabilitate the mangrove forest (removal of invasive plants and improving water flow- dredge)	2	MT	Continual	2025 - 2026	Eradication of x plant species
	e. Rehabilitate the mangrove forest (planting of mangrove seedlings)	3	LT	Continual	2026	X num. of mangrove seedlings
	f. Install information boards on the trail	3	ST	One	2024	X num. of boards installed and maintained
2. Freshwater wetlands	a. Undertake baseline biodiversity and environment assessments of freshwater wetlands	2	ST	One	2024	List of Species + Status

	b. Establish and conduct an environmental monitoring programme based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Bi-annual	2026	Monitoring Dataset
3. Coastal forests and degraded mountain areas	a. Produce habitat and vegetation types maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
	b. Rehabilitate the coastal forest and degraded mountain areas (planting of native plants)	2	MT	Continual	2025	X num. of native plants
	c. Rehabilitate the coastal forest and degraded mountain areas (removal of invasive plants)	2	LT	Continual	2026	X num. of plant species under control
4. Giant tortoise	a. Continue the PIT (nano) tagging programme of baby tortoise + growth rate monitoring	1	MT	Continual	2025	X of baby tortoises
	b. Conduct population census (abundance and distribution) + growth rate, location sex monitoring	2	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	A Population Dataset
	c. Conduct an ecological study (include nesting sites, breeding pattern, feeding...)	1	MT	One	2025	A set of findings & recommendations
	d. Publish population trend and ecological data	2	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
	e. Raise awareness for visitor to bring baby tortoise to rangers house	3	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of baby tortoise
5. Coco de mer	a. Revise and conduct monitoring programme of coco de mer (include more female trees, disease detection)	1	LT	Bi-annual	2025	X num. of female trees added/ Monitoring Reports
	b. Establish a nut harvesting rate and re-initiate the planting programme	1	LT	Continual	2025	X num. of nuts Is forestry doing this?

	c. Conduct a 2nd population census using new technology (drones)	2	ST	One	2025	An Updated Population Dataset
6. Flycatcher	a. Conduct population census and mapping of SPF territories	1	LT	Annual	2026	A Population Dataset
7. Other terrestrial wildlife	a. Conduct biodiversity assessment and ecological studies	1	MT	Continual	2025	A set of findings & recommendations
8. Tourism& Sustainable use	a. Assess visitor experience and satisfaction	1	ST	One for each year	2024 - 2026	Increase of x % in visitor rating
	b. Impact of tourism on conservation initiatives	2	ST	One	2025	A set of recommendations
	c. Conduct a carrying capacity assessment on the impact of tourism in protected area	3	LT	Annual	2025	A set of findings & recommendations
9. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
10. Any other conservation values	a. Record weather pattern in the face of climate change	2	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Annual Report
11. Invasive Alien Species (IAS)	a. Establish an IAS management plan	3	LT	Continual	2024	Annual Report
	b. Control and manage IAS in target areas	3	LT	Continual	2025 - 2026	X ha restored or x num. of IAS effectively control

Curieuse Marine National Park- (Marine)

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	2024	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2025	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	1	ST	One	2025	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan

	b. Re-initiate and implement a coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Bi-annual	2025	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
3. Coral reef ecosystem (Restoration)	a. Continue the coral reef restoration initiative	1	LT	5 years	2025	A set of findings & 1.0 ha restored recommendations
	b. Document and produce regular reports on the coral reef restoration progress	1	LT	5years	2026	Coral Reef Restoration Dataset
	c. Publish a document on best practice in coral reef restoration	1	MT	One	2026	Guidelines for coral reef restoration
4. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Maintain and enhance the baited remote underwater video station (BRUV) and Belt Fish video transects monitoring program	1	LT	Annual	2025 - 2026	Two sets of monitoring data
	b. Implement a Fish diversity, abundance and density monitoring program	1	LT	Annual	2025	Annual Report
	c. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	2025	Produce Report with set of findings/ Species List
5. Seagrass ecosystem	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence)	1	MT	One	2025	List of Species + Status
	b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds	1	ST	One	2025	Maps + Species List
	c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2026	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	3	LT	One	2026	One scientific article

6. Marine environment assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	2024	A set of indicators+ baseline data
	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	2025	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	1	LT	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
7. Coastal zone management	a. Review and enhance the beach monitoring program (including beach profile, sand grain, vegetation and sea current patterns)	1	LT	Every two months	2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	b. Analyze and produce a series of coastal zone maps (showing changes in coastal zone patterns)	2	LT	Annual	2025	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	c. Rehabilitate the coastal/ beach fringe vegetation	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of coastal plants planted
8. Sea turtle	a. Conduct beach cleaning activity prior to & during each sea turtle nesting season	1	LT	Monthly	2024	X num. of cleaning days
	b. Analyze collected rubbish (sorting & weighting)	1	LT	Monthly	2024 - 2025	Type and Quantity Report
	c. Continue the sea turtle nesting monitoring program	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	d. Produce turtle nesting vulnerability map	3	MT	One	2026	Maps + Vulnerability Zone Plan
	e. Relocation of high-risk turtle nest	3	LT	Annual	2026	X num. of nest + dataset

	f. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
9. Sickle-fin lemon shark	a. Continue the PIT tagging program of young Sickle-fin lemon sharks	1	MT	Continual	2025	X num. of young Sickle-fin lemon sharks
	b. Install array of receivers and maintain the monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2026	Monitoring Dataset
	c. Undertake population genetics study	3	MT	One	2024	One scientific article
	d. Analyze the data and publish population estimate and trend	2	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
10. Marine invertebrates' assessment in the intertidal zone	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	2024	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	2025 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
11. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
12. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Data Management System set up
13. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Annual	2025 - 2026	Published article

Curieuse Marine National Park- (Marine)

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat study	1	ST	One	2024	A set of findings & recommendations

	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	1	ST	One	2025	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2025	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	2026	Coral Reef Status Report
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	2026	Fish Density Report
4. Seagrass ecosystem	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence)	1	MT	One	2025	List of Species + Status
	b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds	1	ST	One	2025	Maps + Species List
	c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2026	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	3	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
5. Marine environment assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	2024	A set of indicators+ Baseline Data
	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	2025	Monitoring Dataset + Reports

	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	2	LT	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
	d. Mapping of ecological important ecosystem	2	MT	One	2025	Map
6. Whale sharks and plankton	a. Initiate and implement whale shark and plankton long-term monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	b. Produce whale sharks and plankton status report	3	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
7. Marine invertebrates assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	2024	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
8. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
9. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Data Management System set up
10. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Bi-annual	2025	Published article

Port Launay Marine National Park

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	2024	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan

2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	2	ST	One	2024	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	2026	Coral Reef Status Report
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	2026	Fish Density Report
4. Seagrass ecosystem	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence)	1	MT	One	2025	List of Species + Status
	b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + Species List
	c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2025	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	3	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
5. Marine invertebrates assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	2024	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	2025	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One	2025	A set of findings & recommendations

6. Whale sharks and plankton	a. Initiate and implement whale shark and plankton long-term monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2025 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	b. Produce whale sharks and plankton status report	2	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
7. Marine invertebrates assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	2025	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
8. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
9. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Data Management System set up
10. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Bi-annual	2025	Published article

Sainte Anne Marine National Park

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Re-initiate and implement a coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Bi-annual	2025	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	2026	Coral Reef Status Report
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Restoration)	a. Continue the coral reef restoration initiative	1	ST	One	2025	X ha restored
	b. Document and produce regular reports on the coral reef restoration progress	1	LT	Continual	2026	Coral Reef Restoration Dataset

3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2025 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	2025	A set of findings + Species List
4. Marine environment assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	2024	A set of indicators+ Baseline Data
	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	2025	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	1	LT	One	2025	A set of findings & recommendations
5. Coastal zone management	a. Review and enhance the beach monitoring program (including beach profile, sand grain, vegetation and sea current patterns)	1	LT	Every two months	2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	b. Analyze and produce a series of coastal zone maps (showing changes in coastal zone patterns)	1	LT	Annual	2026	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	c. Rehabilitate the coastal/ beach fringe vegetation	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	X num. of coastal plants planted
6. Sea turtle	a. Conduct beach cleaning activity prior to & during each sea turtle nesting season	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	X num. of cleaning days
	b. Analyze collected rubbish (sorting & weighting)	1	LT	Monthly	2025	Type and Quantity Report

	c. Produce turtle nesting vulnerability map	3	MT	One	2026	Maps + Vulnerability Zone Plan
	d. Relocation of high-risk turtle nest	3	LT	Annual	2025	X num. of nest + dataset
	e. Continue the sea turtle nesting monitoring programme	1	LT	Annual	2025	Monitoring Dataset
	f. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
7. Seagrass ecosystem	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the seagrasses (diversity, extent of occurrence)	1	MT	One	2024	List of Species + Status
	b. Produce and publish map of seagrass beds	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + Species List
	c. Initiate and implement a seagrass ecosystem monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset+ Reports
	d. Produce seagrass ecosystem status report	3	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
8. Marine invertebrates assessment in the intertidal zone	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine invertebrates (indicator of tropical reefs health)	2	MT	One	2024	List of Species + Status
	b. Establish and conduct a marine invertebrate monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	3	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine invertebrate monitoring report	3	LT	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
9. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	2024	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan

10. Management plan	a. Continuous review of management plan	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Updated plan
11. Database management	a. Continuous update of database	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Data Management System set up
12. Other activities	a. Underwater clean up	2	LT	Bi-annual	2025	Published article

Ile Cocos Marine National Park

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	2024	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	2025	Coral Reef Status Report
3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	2026	Fish Density and Diversity Report
4. Marine environment assessment	a. Undertake baseline surveys of the marine environment (water quality, sedimentation, turbidity, sea temperatures...)	1	ST	One	2024	A set of indicators+ Baseline Data

	b. Establish and conduct marine environment monitoring program based on the results of the baseline assessments	1	LT	Annual	2025	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	c. Produce a marine environment monitoring report	1	LT	One	2026	A set of findings & recommendations
5. Sea turtle	a. Re-initiate the in-water tagging program (juvenile Hawksbill and adult Green in turtle pond)	3	MT	continual	2025	X num. of Hawksbill &Green Sea turtles
	b. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	2026	One scientific article
6. Seabirds	a. Initiate and conduct seabird monitoring program	2	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset + Reports
	b. Produce a seabirds status report	2	LT	Annual	2026	Seabird Species List

Silhouette Island Marine National Park

It should be noted that the SPGA has delegated ICS for the terrestrial activities on Silhouette Island.

Goals	Key tasks	Priority	Term	Frequency	Implementation year	Expected outcome
1. Key marine habitat mapping	a. Conduct marine habitat and vegetation types study	1	ST	One	2024	A set of findings & recommendations
	b. Produce marine habitat maps and a zoning plan	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + a Zoning Plan
2. Coral reef ecosystem (Assessment)	a. Produce and publish map of coral reefs showing degraded area	1	ST	One	2024	Maps + Sensitive Zone Plan
	b. Continue the coral reef monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Coral Reef Dataset
	c. Produce and publish coral reef status report	1	LT	Annual	2025	Coral Reef Status Report

3. Fish diversity, abundance and density (reef and commercial species) assessment	a. Continue the Stationary point counts and Belt transects monitoring program	1	LT	Continual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	b. Analyze monitoring data and produce fish diversity, abundance and density report	1	LT	Annual	2025	Fish Density and Diversity Report
4. Sea turtle	a. Conduct beach cleaning activity prior to & during each sea turtle nesting season	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	X num. of cleaning days
	b. Continue the sea turtle nesting monitoring program	1	LT	Annual	2024 - 2026	Monitoring Dataset
	c. Produce and publish sea turtle status report	1	LT	One	2026	One scientific article

ANNEX 2 – DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA)

AND

.....

Preamble

...A short paragraph about the proposed research and conservation activity...

The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) was established on the 25 of March 2022, under Act 4 of 2022, with one of its mandates to facilitate and conduct research related to biodiversity and protected areas. The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) is responsible for the Marine and Terrestrial National Parks and Gardens of Seychelles. A number of these sites have been designated since 1979. The terrestrial parks include Morne Seychellois National Park, the Praslin National Park, and the Veuve Special Reserve on La Digue. The Marine National Parks includes Ste. Anne (one of the first marine protected areas in the Indian Ocean), Silhouette, Port Launay, Baie Ternay, Ile Cocos, and Curieuse. The Gardens include the National Botanical Garden, the State House Garden, and the National Biodiversity Centre. All of these protected areas offer a diversity of fauna and flora enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year, with each site having its particular exciting features.

To ensure the conservation and sustainability of these parks, SPGA's mission is to effectively protect and manage designated marine and terrestrial protected areas, including forested areas, for future generations, with the intention to use them for conservation, recreation, research, and educational purposes.

Purpose of Agreement

This Agreement provides a framework for the provision of data for the purpose of any research or conservation activities within SPGA managed parks for which data is generated.

Commercial usage is precluded.

Duration of Agreement

For local stakeholders, this Agreement will be in place for the duration of the project and or the period of data collection as agreed upon with SPGA. Whereas, for international organizations, the Agreement will align with the duration for which the research permit has been granted. A new Agreement or an extension of the current Agreement can only be provided by the CEO of SPGA on sufficient grounds in which the data collection exceeds the initially agreed duration.

Description of Data

Be it observational, experimental, survey or any other methods of data collection used, the collected data will be shared in a format that can easily be stored by the SPGA in its database.

Data Access

Data access will be granted to SPGA and shared via download where necessary from a cloud or hard drive. The data is not to be used for commercial purposes by the research or conservation team and only SPGA reserve such rights exclusively.

Data Security

Data will be shared via secured channels (e.g. individualized links).

Commencement, Period of Agreement and Termination

This Agreement will become effective on the date of signing and for the duration for which it will be specified. Every section of this Agreement must be followed at all times, and any violation of the Agreement might lead to immediate termination by the CEO of SPGA without any prior notice.

Signatures

Lead, Proposed Research/
Conservation Activity

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
SPGA

.....
Signature

.....
Signature

.....
Printed Name

.....
Printed Name

.....
Date

.....
Date



NOTES



Seychelles
Parks and Gardens
Authority

For further information please contact:

Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority

Address: PO. Box 1240, Victoria

Tel: (240) 4 225114

Website: www.spga.gov.sc



Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority



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