



**SEYCHELLES PARKS AND GARDENS
AUTHORITY
(SPGA)**

ACCESS TO INFORMATION 2018

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2025

PUBLISHED AND SUBMITTED 27th March 2026

**(SECTION 54 STATISTICAL REPORT AND SECTION 55
CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION REPORT
STANDARD FORMAT)**

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INTRODUCTION

The Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority (SPGA) is a financially autonomous State-Owned Enterprise (SOE) dedicated to the management and preservation of the Seychelles' protected national parks and designated gardens.

The Authority oversees significant sites, including Curieuse, Ste. Anne, Baie Ternay, Île Cocos, and Port Launay Marine National Parks, as well as the Morne Seychellois and Praslin National Park. SPGA also manages the National Botanical Garden, the National Biodiversity Centre, the Veuve Special Reserve, and the Statehouse Garden. To effectively cover these diverse locations, SPGA personnel are strategically stationed across the main islands of Mahé, Praslin, La Digue, and Curieuse.

In addition to its conservation efforts, the SPGA offers a range of sustainable tourism experiences for visitors exploring these protected areas. The Authority is also deeply engaged in research and monitoring initiatives that play a crucial role in ensuring the long-term preservation of the Seychelles' unique flora and fauna, as well as its marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Information Officer: Ms. Geraldine Joubert

Duration in post: 10th January 2022 to date

MISSION, VISION & MANDATES

Mission

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

Vision

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

Mandates

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

ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS (AS PER SECTION 54 OF THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT)

SR No	ATI ACT REQUIREMENTS	No
1)	The total number of ATI requests for access received;	0
2)	<u>TYPE OF INFORMATION</u>	
	The number of requests for personal information	0
	The number of request for public domain information	0
	The number of request for third party information	0
	The number of request for commercial and confidential Information	0
	The number of request for law enforcement information	0
	The number of request for privileged documents	0
	The number of request for protection of life and safety of an individual information	0
	The number of request for National Security and defence	0
	The number of request for International relations	0
	The number of request for Economic interest of the state	0
	The number of request for Academic or professional examination and recruitment process information	0
	The number of request for proposal submitted to Cabinet	0
3)	The number of requests for access granted in full;	0
4)	The number of requests for access refuse in full;	0
	The number of requests for access refuse in part;	0
5)	The number of times each provision of Part III (EXEMPTIONS) was relied on to refuse access in full;	0
	The number of times each provision of Part III (EXEMPTIONS) was relied on to refuse access in part;	0

6)	The number of request abandoned after request	0
7)	The number of request but no records exist	0
8)	The number of cases in which the periods stipulated in section 11 were extended in terms of section 12;	0
9)	The number of review applications lodged with the head of the information holder;	0
10)	The number of reviews lodged on the ground that a request for access was regarded as having been refused in terms of section 14;	0
11)	The number of cases in which, as a result of a review, access was given to information;	0
12)	The number of request transferred to another Public Body	0

	<p>I. A description of the steps or efforts taken by the head of the body to encourage all officers of that body to comply with the provisions of this Act;</p> <p>The Authority has placed strong emphasis on strengthening this role within the organization. All staff are duly informed of its official recognition and purpose. Promoting compliance with the Access to Information Act remains essential for advancing transparency, accountability, and the protection of sensitive data. The SPGA management has implemented clear communication policies and procedures, ensuring that information and authorized documents are accessible to both staff and the public, provided the established protocols are followed.</p>
	<p>II. Any facts which indicate an effort by the body to administer and implement the spirit and intention of the Act according to its submitted plan;</p> <p>SPGA has advanced several initiatives to strengthen the implementation of the Access to Information Act, with a clear focus on promoting transparency. Although no formal Access to Information requests have yet been received, the Information Officer and team remain committed to addressing any inquiries promptly. By proactively sharing information of public interest—such as policies and reports—the SPGA underscores its dedication to openness in operations.</p>
	<p>III. Particulars of any penalties imposed against any person under this Act; YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, list down)</p>
	<p>IV. Particulars of any disciplinary action taken against any person under this Act; YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, list down)</p>

THE CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION (AS PER SECTION 55 OF THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT)

LIST OF CATEGORIES	LOCATION OF THE INFORMATION
1. manuals, policies, procedures or rules or similar instruments which have been prepared for, or are used by, officers of the body in discharging that body's functions, exercising powers and handling complaints, making decisions or recommendations or providing advice to persons outside the body with respect to rights, privileges or benefits, or to obligations, penalties or other consequences, to or for which persons may be entitled or liable;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc
2. the name, designations and other particulars of the Information Officer of the public body, including his or her contact details and electronic addresses where persons may submit requests for information;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc
3. any prescribed forms, procedures, processes and rules for engagement by members of the public with the public body	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc
4. detailed information on the design and execution of any subsidy programs implemented with public funds, including the amounts allocated and expended, the criteria for accessing the subsidy, and the beneficiaries	SPGA Secretariat Office
5. all contracts, licences, permits, authorisations and public-private partnerships granted by the public body;	SPGA Secretariat Office
6. reports containing the results of surveys, studies or tests, including scientific or technical reports and environmental impact assessment reports, prepared by the public body;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc
7. The particulars of its organisations, functions and duties;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc
8. Information containing interpretations or particulars of acts or policies administered by the body;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc
9. A directory of its employees including their powers, duties and titles, indicating the permanent staff, the temporary staff and the outsourced staff, recruitment procedures and vacancies;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc

10. Detailed travel and hospitality expenses for each employee and officer, and gifts, hospitality, sponsorships or any other benefits received by each employee and officer;	SPGA Secretariat Office
11. The detailed actual budget, revenue, expenditure and indebtedness for the current financial year, including all related estimates, plans, projections and reports, including audit reports;	SPGA Annual Reports accessible via www.spga.gov.sc or contact the Secretariat Office
12. The annual report submitted to the information commission under section 54 of this act;	SPGA Website : www.spga.gov.sc

CHALLENGES

Particulars of any difficulties encountered in the implementation of this Act in terms of the operation of the body, including issues of staffing and cost. This also should include the challenges you encounter as an Information Officer.

Complex or unclear requests may often present one of the greatest challenges, as they demand careful analysis and thorough documentation to ensure responses remain accurate and dependable. Another difficulty arises when inquiries generate significant public or media interest. In such circumstances, Information Officers must weigh the obligation to be transparent against the duty to protect sensitive or confidential material. Navigating this balance is critical to sustaining public confidence and safeguarding the organization’s credibility.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for reform, or amendment of this Act, other legislation, or practice relevant to the optimal realisation of the objectives of this Act.

To further strengthen the implementation and impact of the Access to Information Act, certain measures are recommended. Firstly, the process for handling requests should be streamlined and accelerated, ensuring that individuals receive timely and efficient access to information.

Equally vital is the continuous training of Information Officers. Ongoing capacity-building initiatives would reinforce their legal obligations under the Act while equipping them with the practical skills and confidence needed to carry out their duties effectively.

Raising public awareness about the right to access information—and clearly communicating the procedures for submitting requests—remains another priority. At the same time, sustained dialogue with stakeholders and policymakers will help refine the Act, allowing it to adapt to emerging challenges while preserving its core mission.

DECLARATION

I declare that in accordance to Section 54 of the Access to Information, Act 2018, the Annual Report are to the best of my knowledge, true, accurate and complete as per the requirements.

GERAULDINE JOUBERT *GJ* 20/04/26
Name of Information Officer Signature Date

I confirm that this Annual Report is verified and true, accurate and complete to my knowledge as the Head of Information Holder of the Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority on the date stated below.

ALLEN CEPRAJ
Name of Head of Information Holder



Dated this 20 of April , 2026

OFFICIAL STAMP