Plastic free Mauritius Workshop – 19th October 2021

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PREAMBLE

Presentation of the IOC: priority areas of the Action Plan for waste management (2018)

**AXE 1**
- Design and launch of a regional waste observatory
- Facilitation of meetings between professionals from different countries on relevant topics for the treatment and recovery of waste

**AXE 2**
- Support for the improvement of the regulatory and institutional framework of the IOC countries

**AXE 3**
- Creation of a privileged environment for the development of research, education and innovation in the reduction and recovery of plastic waste at sea
CONTEXT TO PROJECT INTERVENTION

The issue of maritime plastic pollution: inventory and key figures

1. Exponential growth of plastic production

2. Lack of data in the Western Indian Ocean and impacts on marine ecosystems

The challenges of plastic waste in the Western Indian Ocean

1. Indianoceania, a naturally vulnerable zone

2. Indianoceania, in search of sustainability

PROJECT OUTCOMES

Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

SDG 12 ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS
SDG 14 CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Synthetic brief of the project: aims and objectives – 5 years

PURPOSE

The ExPLOI project aims to fight regional plastic pollution by supporting the development of behaviours and the commitment of stakeholders, particularly companies, in a “3R” dynamic. This will be achieved through the production of shared scientific knowledge, the deployment of awareness campaign, and by supporting the development of virtuous practices and innovations in terms of reducing the use of plastics, the use of alternative products to plastics or a change in the economic model around plastics.

| OBJECTIVE 1 CREATE THE CONDITIONS TO CHANGE BEHAVIOURS AND PRACTICES AROUND THE USE OF PLASTIC | OBJECTIVE 2 SUPPORT THE EMERGENCE OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY DYNAMICS BY ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC ACTORS TO INITIATE A 3R APPROACH |
| COMPONENT 1 | COMPONENT 2 | COMPONENT 3 | COMPONENT 4 |
| Develop a shared knowledge base on the state of marine pollution and the specificities of the South-West Indian Ocean in terms of plastic waste | Involve and empower target audiences | Support and stimulate initiatives and projects | Identify and support plastic substitution or recycling projects |
TARGET AUDIENCES

THE YOUTH & THE GENERAL PUBLIC

THE PRIVATE SECTOR & LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

KEY PARTNERS

CNRS*, NATIONAL & REGIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Scope of intervention: Scientific aspects

THE NETWORK OF ECO-SCHOOLS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN
Scope of intervention: Awareness and educational activities

AMValor
Scope of intervention: Economic and innovative activities
Component #1 priorities and objectives

1. OCEANOGRAPHIC CAMPAIGN
   Quantification and characterization of plastics. Study of their drift and accumulation models.

2. PLASTIC WASTE OBSERVATORY
   Carry out normalized and temporal quantification of plastic at several sites in the IOC area.

3. BIODEGRADABILITY in marine system
   To explore how chemical nature, immersion time or location in the marine ecosystem can influence plastic biodegradation.

4. ECOSYSTEM HEALTH IMPACT
   To monitor the transfer of plastic associated pathogenic microbes, their virulence and resistance genes, to the marine animals of cultural and commercial interest, up to human.

5. IMPACT ON AQUACULTURE
   To assess the impacts for exploited organisms.

6. The HUMAN PERCEPTION
   To comprehend how coastal populations perceive marine plastic, and how they are developing their practices under the pressure.
Component #1 OUTCOMES

1. OCEANOGRAPHIC CAMPAIGN

2. PLASTIC WASTE OBSERVATORY
   A state of the coastal pollution. How is it evolving over time.

3. BIODEGRADABILITY in marine system
   Which “bio” plastic produced and marketed in the IOC is really biodegradable in marine system.
Component #1 OUTCOMES

4. ECOSYSTEM HEALTH IMPACT

The risk humans have to eat seafood that ate plastic. Recommendations to improve practices before the marketing of seafood products.

5. IMPACT ON AQUACULTURE

Supporting the IOC emerging aquaculture by proposing good management practices in the face of the plastic risk entering and leaving.

6. The HUMAN PERCEPTION

Better adapt the communication to citizen and improve the awareness of health risks.
Thank you for your attention

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