



NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

31 MARCH TO 01 APRIL 2022

HENNESSY PARK HOTEL, EBENE CYBERCITY



Table of Contents:

1.0 Background information

2.0 The National Policy Dialogue

3.0 The National Policy Dialogue – Day 1 – Report of Sessions 1 to 4

4.0 The National Policy Dialogue – Day 2 – Report of Sessions 5 to 8

5.0 Pertinent issues raised during the Dialogue

6.0 Overall outcome of the National Policy Dialogue

Annex 1 Programme of the National Policy Dialogue

Annex 2 List of participants – National Policy Dialogue

1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The SWITCH Africa Green project is developed and funded by the European Union. It was launched in 2014 with 7 African pilot countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa, and Uganda). The SWITCH Africa Green is designed to support African countries engaged in the transition to an Inclusive Green Economy (IGE), and promote a shift to sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns, that together contribute to poverty eradication and sustainable development in the region.

The specific objective of the project is to support the development of green businesses and eco-entrepreneurship and use of SCP practices by having in place

- (i) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and business service providers that are better equipped to seize opportunities for green business development
- (ii) Better-informed public and private consumers
- (iii) Enabling conditions in the form of clear policies, sound regulatory frameworks, incentive structures, tax, other fiscal and market-based instruments influencing key sectors.

There are three components:

- a. The **Policy Support component** to support specific needs related to institutional strengthening and creating an enabling policy environment appropriate tools and instruments. These instruments include policies, regulatory frameworks, fiscal and market-based instruments that support a private sector-led inclusive green growth;
- b. The **Green Business Development component** that supports MSMEs to enable them to start and develop resource-efficient and green business based on sustainable production practices; and
- c. A **Networking Facility component** that supports networking and communication among stakeholders, to promote knowledge sharing and create broader awareness and a greater understanding of green business development.

The project has completed 2 phases till date – phase 1: January 2014 to December 2017 and phase 2: January 2018 to December 2021 (extended to June 2022)

1.2 SWITCH AFRICA GREEN POLICY INTERVENTIONS

PHASE 1

To support the policy implementation, Mauritius developed its Country Implementation Plan in 2016 where gaps, challenges and opportunities for green business development were analysed and provided recommendations in the 3 priority sectors: Agriculture, Tourism and

Manufacturing. SCP applications in these sectors are promoted through crossing cutting themes/areas: Energy Efficiency, Labelling and Standards, Water Efficiency and Eco Innovations.

The policy recommendations and country projects identified show that owing to the small size, vulnerability and isolation of an island economy, a high level of inter and intra sectorial linkages is required to achieve sustainability. This requirement is particularly critical for Rodrigues, which, as an outer small island, is very vulnerable.

PHASE 2

Under phase 2, the policy support component focuses on the implementation of policy recommendations made in the Country Implementation Plan. The Ministry of Environment has received seed funding from UNEP to support policy implementation and currently, the following projects are being implemented:

(i) Development of Standard for manure from animal wastes

Greening of the agricultural sector is also deemed crucial to enhance ecosystem restoration. A voluntary standard for treated manure, the MS 196: 'Specifications for treated farm animal manure' has been formulated and is applicable to manure obtained from cattle, sheep, goat and poultry. It specifies the requirements in terms of physical, chemical and microbiological characteristics that must be met after the manure has undergone treatment.

The appropriate treatment methodology required for the processing of livestock manure so as to comply with the developed standards has been identified. Now evaluation of the effect of use of treated manure as soil conditioner on vegetable crop production will be undertaken.

(ii) Promoting Circularity in Agricultural Practices

Further to the development of Mauritian Standard MS 196 "Specifications for treated farm animal manure" published in November 2018 by the Mauritius Standards Bureau, the project aims at assessing the impact of treated manure as a soil conditioner for vegetable crop production with the aim of evaluating its effectiveness on yield.

(iii) Setting up of a pilot biogas production plant using livestock wastes

Untreated animal manure in fields constitute a source of pollution and nuisance and may contaminate crops as well as the soil. The project aims at setting up the necessary infrastructure and identify the appropriate technique for the production of biogas for electricity production from animal manure.

Additionally, a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission model will support monitoring of emissions from livestock sector and contribute to the establishment of a baseline of current emission for different species (cattle, pig, deer, poultry etc.). These 2 projects are

being implemented simultaneously through a common consultancy from UNEP. The projects are being led by the M/Agro Industry and Food Security and FAREI.

(iv) Greening the Agricultural Sector through capacity development on pesticide residue testing at the National Environmental Laboratory (NEL)

The project aims at developing a framework comprising a sustained monitoring programme to assist in the greening of the agricultural sector in line with the vision of the government to strengthen food security and sustainable agricultural development and environmental protection in the country. Pesticide analysis in environmental media (surface and ground water) is not currently being carried out at governmental laboratories on a regular basis. With a view to green the agricultural sector, enforcement capacity must be catalysed through monitoring of pesticide residues in the environmental media.

To this end, the project will carry out a gap analysis and propose a framework to support pesticides residue testing at NEL. Moreover capacity for pesticides residue testing at NEL will be developed to support sustainable agriculture and to protect the environment.

(v) Strategy and Action Plan for Post-Harvest Management and marketing of selected fruits and vegetables in Rodrigues'

The objective of the project is to develop appropriate systems, schemes and infrastructure to enable efficient post-harvest management of agricultural produce, thereby enhancing the market value of the products in Rodrigues Island. The project also addresses the need for a certification system for green products to be developed.

1.3 SWITCH AFRICA GREEN – GREEN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

PHASE 1

The Republic of Mauritius benefitted from technical and financial support for 6 country projects (3 for Mauritius and 3 for Rodrigues) namely:

- Greening the Mauritian Tourism Industry by Association des Hôtels de Charme
- Programme National d'Effacité Energétique (PNEE) by Business Mauritius
- Promoting Sustainable Local Agriculture through Green Retail and Green Hospitality (SUS-AGRI) by the University of Mauritius.
- Increase Capacity Building of the Fishers' Community of Rodrigues through training for the bio cultivation of combava Lime plants and the production of its chili paste
- Developing capacity amongst Rodriguan to adopt green businesses through training to key stakeholders and the development of a green business guidebook.
- A model for sustainable production and consumption practices and eco-entrepreneurship development.

In addition, two (2) multi country projects that involve the seven pilot countries were implemented:

- Industrial Symbiosis by the Solid Waste Management Division of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
- Eco Entrepreneurship in Africa by the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Mauritius Ltd.

PHASE 2

The Republic of Mauritius was granted one (1) project for green business development. The project 'Improving Sustainable Tourism in Mauritius through greening the value chain of tour operators' is being implemented by Mauritius Tourism Authority. The objective of the project is to support Tour Operators adopt sustainable, innovative and smart actions to improve the sustainability of their businesses. Funding received for the project amounts to EUR 1,108,189.

1.3 SWITCH AFRICA GREEN – NETWORKING FACILITY

Several sensitisation programmes have been organised to distil information on the SWITCH Africa Green project since its inception. These include the holding of a National Stakeholders Workshop to enhance collaboration and engagement of grantees and beneficiaries of the project, consultation with stakeholders for the development of the Country Implementation Plan, a National Networking Forum which served as a common platform for grantees and beneficiaries to share knowledge and best practices, and sensitisation workshops with focused target groups such as women entrepreneurs and cooperatives to raise awareness and encourage the setting up of green businesses.

2.0 THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE

The Government's vision is to promote an inclusive, high income and green Mauritius. In line with this vision and to support this transition to a green economy paradigm, it is important to align the national vision with sectoral policies and engage the collaborative efforts of all key stakeholders.

A National Policy Dialogue was organised in the context of the Switch Africa Green project by the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change over 2 days on 31 March and 01 April 2022 at Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene, Mauritius. The main aim of the dialogue was to provide a common platform for major actors to analyse existing policies for the greening of the economy, identify the gaps, formulate appropriate policy actions and facilitate an ecological transition in line with the objectives set by the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate change.

2.1 THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE WERE TO:

- update on the implementation of policy actions at national level for better policy coordination;
- sensitise stakeholders at national and sub-national level on greening and sustainability indicators and guide on how to green the priority sectors;
- support collaboration and help improve understanding of a circular and green economy;
- enhance human capacities and awareness raising to bring synergies of complementary activities in the country and provide opportunities to establish linkages; and
- enable the re-aligning and re-orientation of policies to boost the greening process.

2.2 FORMAT OF THE DIALOGUE

The dialogue was held over two (2) days and comprised panel discussions on green economy policies involving the participation of all major stakeholders. Presentations addressed policy options for a green economy and showcased success stories. A copy of the programme is at Annex 1.

2.3 EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE FORUM

The expected outcomes of the event include:

- a better understanding of the contributions of SCP and green economy in the achievement of the national vision for sustainable development and the SDGs;
- a clearer picture of opportunities in sustainable consumption and production practices and green economy as they relate to achieving the triple bottom line (economic development, environmental protection and social development).

2.4 TARGET AUDIENCE

Around **50** participants attended the dialogue over the 2 days'. A copy of the list of participants is at Annex 2. They comprised the following group of stakeholders:

- Representatives of public institutions including Ministries and Public Institutions
- Representatives of Private sector organisations
- Representatives of the Civil society,
- SAG grantees and beneficiaries in each key sector
- Academia

Dr Patrick Mwesigye, Regional Sub-Programme Coordinator, Resource efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production and Project Manager of the Switch Africa Green and Ms Carolyn Kilel from UNEP were also present.

3.0 NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE – DAY 1

3.1 Opening session

The welcome address was delivered by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, Mrs M. Nathoo. She elaborated on the SWITCH Africa Green project which aims at supporting 7 African countries to achieve their transition to a green economy paradigm. It was highlighted that the project had contributed in the development of a Country Implementation Plan comprising policies to green the 3 areas of intervention, namely Agriculture, Tourism and Manufacturing. Small and Medium enterprises were also supported to develop green skills and integrate green production practices in their enterprises. With the second phase coming to an end, the National Policy Dialogue would provide the necessary forum to discuss on the effectiveness of existing green policies and the strategic orientation that need to be adopted to further integrate green policies in key sectors towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN Resident Coordinator a.i, Dr L. Musango addressed the participants and he congratulated the Honourable Minister, K. Ramano on the fact that despite its inherent vulnerabilities as a Small Island Developing State and the impacts of climate change, much is being done in Mauritius to transition to a green and resilient economy. The island was striving to overcome the impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic by implementing key measures in sectors such as agro-industry and tourism to enhance its food security and shift to a low-carbon tourism sector. He also referred to the Masterplan being prepared by the Ministry for a coordinated and highly participatory approach, much appreciated by the United Nations. The holding of the National Policy Dialogue was viewed as a forum where stakeholders, as agents of change, could reflect on where they stood and what was their common vision for the future.

His Excellency, Mr V. Degert, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Mauritius raised concern about the resource intensive consumption patterns of the world, resulting in the depletion of our natural resources and a rise in the generation of waste. He made reference to the Earth Overshoot Day which was surpassed by 29th July 2021 last year, indicating that for nearly half of the year, the world population had overexploited the earth's resources. He stressed on the need for further sensitisation and awareness raising to encourage the uptake of best practices and to up-scale activities under the SWITCH Africa Green project. He also underscored that the European Union support to Mauritius 2021–2027 was focused on Environment and Climate Change and hence the existing collaboration would be pursued.

The key note address was delivered by the Honourable Minister, Mr K. Ramano. He referred to the recently held United National Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2) where the need for sustainable consumption and production policies and circularity was underscored to help address the triple crises, that is, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. It was also

highlighted that the implementation of the SWITCH Africa Green had led to the development of green policies and skills that would facilitate the greening of the 3 key areas and the National Policy Dialogue would serve as a platform to identify gaps and challenges and help re-align and redefine national priorities and strategic orientation for a green economy. This transition was viewed as being critical for a post-pandemic green recovery and for building our resilience in the agricultural and tourism sectors. The Dialogue would thus be determining in identifying opportunities in the priority sectors to accelerate our shift to a green economy.



Session 1: Setting the scene

The session aimed at providing an overview of the SWITCH Africa Green project to the participants.

- Presentation 1: Status of implementation for SWITCH Africa Green and policy orientation for the Republic of Mauritius

Mrs Manic, Acting Divisional Environment Officer at the Ministry of Environment delivered a presentation to highlight the implementation of the project in the Republic of Mauritius. She elaborated on the identification of the 3 key sectors, namely Agriculture, Tourism and Manufacturing as areas of intervention for the country. During phase 1 of the project, a Country Implementation Plan was developed in 2016 and endorsed by Cabinet. It comprised recommendation on green policies for the 3 key sectors. 8 grantee projects (6 country projects - 3 in Mauritius and 3 in Rodrigues and 2 multi-country projects) were also implemented during the first phase that led to the uptake of sustainable practices and capacity building programmes.

Phase 2 of the project which started in January 2018 focused on the implementation of green policies proposed in the Country Implementation Plan. As such, 4 policy projects in the agricultural sector are already being implemented in Mauritius and 1 in Rodrigues. One grantee project in the tourism sector led by the Tourism Authority is also currently being implemented. The project aims at integrating sustainability in the tourism value chain through capacity building and certification of tourism operators.

It was mentioned that the National Policy Dialogue was a vital forum to assess existing green policies in these key sectors, identify gaps and challenges to the greening process. The engagement and participation of all the key actors were a prerequisite to align these green policies to the national vision and formulate a roadmap to achieve a green economy model for the country.

- Presentation 2: Advancing Green Economy: Regional perspectives

The presentation was delivered by Dr Patrick Mwesigye, Regional Coordinator – SWITCH Africa Green UNEP – Nairobi. He highlighted that UNEP overlooked the policy component of the project while the European Union was responsible for the Green Business Component. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, phase 2 of the project has been extended to February 2023 to enable pilot countries to complete their activities. An overview of key policies being implemented in pilot countries was elaborated including capacity building in tourism sector to support the green recovery in Ghana; update of existing environmental standards in the manufacturing sector in Ethiopia to make their products greener and more competitive; capacity building on circular economy in the waste sector and on climate SMART agriculture in South Africa; and the dissemination of the national organic agriculture policy 2019 in Uganda to generate key actions towards its implementation at regional level and the development of a Sustainable Public Procurement Action Plan in Uganda.

Dr Mwesigye also mentioned activities organised in 2020/2021 under the Networking Facility component including the virtual National Networking forum held in South Africa; Webinar on “Building Back Better: A Greener Pathway to COVID-19 Recovery in Africa”; the organisation of a side-event on Circular Economy at UNEA 5.2; and the 36 beneficiary stories with videos distributed on the website and 33 Impact sheets published on the [SWITCH Africa Green website](#). 4 sector reports had also been published during this period.

There were also some forthcoming activities that were announced during the presentation, namely the undertaking of 2 regional activities:

1. Develop Guidelines for accelerating the transition towards a Circular Economy in Africa.
2. Assessment of Green Financing Mechanisms and Development of Green financing guidelines for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Africa.

UNEP also planned to hold 3 regional forums before the closure of the project:

1. Regional Policy dialogue
2. Regional Meeting held on assessment of Green Financing Mechanisms in Africa and Circular Economy guidelines for Africa.

3. Regional Networking Forum

The dates were yet to be confirmed. These events will allow for the sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices amongst the 7 pilot countries.



Session 2 - Existing policy frameworks for the 3 priority sectors

The session reviewed and assessed existing green economy policies for the 3 priority sectors including the cross-cutting themes. The presentations highlighted the various gaps and challenges that constrained the shift to a green economy as well as the opportunities that can be tapped in each of the 3 sectors.

- Presentation 3: Promote the greening of the manufacturing sector

Mrs K. Manna, Industrial Analyst at the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (Industrial Development Division) made the presentation. She provided an overview of the manufacturing sector explaining how they have contributed to the economy, increasing their share in the GDP. The categorisation of the industries as per their respective turnover was explained as well as the various sectors of operation. Previous initiatives to green the sector were highlighted including initiatives by MEXA for greening of industries; energy efficiency and energy saving practices in industries under the GEF/ SIDS DOCK project; and Industrial Waste Management (UNIDO/PAGE). She also addressed existing enablers such as the legal framework, and the need for standards and certification.

To further enhance the greening of the manufacturing sector, the Ministry has prepared the Industrial Policy and Strategic Plan for Mauritius 2020-2025 which has as vision “A globally competitive and sustainable manufacturing sector that contributes to higher economic growth for Mauritius”. She elaborated on unprecedented challenges that are delaying the greening in the manufacturing sector such as impacts of Covid-19 pandemic; heavy dependence on imported raw materials; rising cost of raw materials and energy as well as lack of Research and Development for alternatives and lack of skills. To transform the manufacturing sector and enhance competitiveness, some focus areas of intervention were proposed namely: mass digitisation and greening; creating a 4.0 ecosystem through green

innovation; optimise use of resources, upgrading of industrial process and value chain and complying with green economy credentials.

- Presentation 4: The Tourism strategy for a green economy

Mrs P. Toofany, Tourism Planning Executive at the Ministry of Tourism delivered a presentation on the strategy for a green economy. The vision of the sector is for “A leading and sustainable island destination” and the national policy is to “Maintain Mauritius as a selective and up-market destination so as to minimise the negative impacts on environment and infrastructure”. It was pointed out that the COVID 19 pandemic has impacted heavily on the sector causing a drastic decrease in tourist arrivals, but has also led to an opportunity to review our tourism model so that we can build back better and greener.

A Tourism Strategy 2022 - One Mauritius has been formulated through a joint public-private collaboration. The strategy targets 1 Million tourists for 2022 and has as objective to stimulate demand in top markets; focus on long-stay tourism with Premium Visa; and improve air connectivity. Some major on-going greening projects in the tourism sector were also elaborated upon. The projects have as key objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve resource efficiency in tourism value chains; integrate sustainability amongst tourism operators; assess the impacts of different activities and determine the carrying capacity of our lagoons. It was also highlighted that numerous sustainability initiatives and best practices are embraced by the operators especially in the hotel sector in resource efficiency, reducing waste, minimize plastic consumption, composting and recycling. This is shown by the hotel groups which are certified Earthcheck, Green Globe, Travelife, Green Key. But the MSMEs are those which require special attention and support.

- Presentation 5: A green & smart agricultural sector

Mr V. Aujayeb, Economist/Senior Economist at FAREI delivered the presentation. He highlighted that the vision for the sector was: ‘To increase agricultural land productivity and local production, ensure food security, promote environmentally sustainable agricultural practices and increase export revenue’. Agriculture contributes about 4.1% to GDP but is however faced with severe challenges such as adverse climatic conditions impacting and the high incidence of pests and diseases, soaring costs of production as well as lack of labour.

To support the shift towards a green agricultural sector, support in terms of schemes and capacity building are provided to encourage organic agriculture, bio-farming and sheltered farming. Other techniques being promoted are the Integrated Pest Management, Implementation of the MauriGAP in collaboration with University of Mauritius, Supporting Sustainable Agriculture for Improved Food security and safety in the Republic of Mauritius-DeSIRA and the Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture-PAGE. The Grantee project

“Promoting Sustainable Local Agriculture through Green Retail & Green Hospitality” implemented by the University of Mauritius has enabled the integration of MauriGAP in hotel quality charter (Beachcomber Hotels and Sun resorts) and the adoption sustainable supply chain policy adopted by wholesalers/retailers – beneficiaries of the project (SKC Ltd & Chinatamby Ltd).

Other green policies elaborated was the building of resilience of the sugar cane industry through the implementation of the Biomass framework; smarter agricultural land use through innovative technologies and investment in high tech-farming; and restoration and reforestation programmes.



Session 3: Greening sectoral policies – Case Studies

The session aimed at sharing knowledge and best practices by sensitising participants on existing policy interventions for greening priority sectors.

- Presentation 6: Sustainable Island Mauritius (SIM)

The presentation was made by Mr D. Moodely, Project Coordinator for the Sustainable Island Mauritius at the Tourism Authority. The project is a grantee project under the SWITCH Africa Green and aims at improving sustainable tourism in Mauritius through the greening of the value chain of Tour Operators. The project focuses on training tour operators on sustainability principles and encourage the use of 100% local products. Capacity building was based on the Pro-Handprint Concept adapted from the MauPHI framework which uses both hand-print as well as the foot-print.

Mr Moodely also provided highlights of on-going activities under the project, namely Training of Tour operators in Mauritius and Rodrigues, Certification programme being carried out in collaboration with SME Mauritius and the Mauritius Standards Bureau; online webinars and the Sustainable Mauritius Discovery Tours whereby tour operators are being encouraged to

support the local artisans to promote use of local products. As forthcoming activities, he announced the holding of a Sustainable Tourism Mauritius Award 2022 to reward the most sustainable stakeholders in the Tourism and Hospitality industry. To promote 'Green Financing', a digital green pamphlet, which will be accessible to all tourism operators will be launched in May 2022. The pamphlet will include a list of green measures (e.g. Energy and resource efficiency) alongside their potential financing by financial institutions in Mauritius.

- Presentation 7: MauriGAP - Implementation of Good Agricultural Practice

Ms Hemlata Choolye-Seechurn Administrative Manager at SKC Surat & Co Ltd delivered the presentation which focused on 'Show casing opportunities for green businesses through Innovation'. SKC Surat was one of the beneficiaries of the SWITCH Africa Green project whereby it participated in the training programme for complying with the MauriGAP certification. The focus of the organization is for safer food, good handling procedures and ensuring traceability of its products. 150 planters were trained with the support of FAREI and 61 are MauriGAP Certified. The post-harvest and packing stages were elaborated upon. 80% of the packaging used are eco-friendly.

- Presentation 8 - Development of Standards for Manure, Identification of Appropriate Technology and Implementation and Setting up of a Biogas Demonstration Plant

The presentation was made by Dr Noor-Ehsan Gobindram, Research Scientist-Livestock Research Department of FAREI. The project is the implementation of policy recommendation mentioned in the Country Implementation Plan and entails the development of Standards for treated livestock waste: MS 196:2018: Standards for Treated Manure. The requirements for the standard and the treatment methods were elaborated upon, namely solarisation and dehydration methods. He also explained about the on-going project on the evaluation of the effect of using treated manure as soil conditioner in fields. To promote the practice amongst farmers, FAREI was undertaking a sensitisation programme on the treatment of livestock waste through the solarisation method.

Another policy recommendation being implemented by FAREI is the "Setting up of a pilot biogas demonstration plant using livestock waste". This initiative was presented by Mr A. Keesoony, Research Scientist at FAREI. He informed that the project activities would include the setting up of a pilot biogas plant which would generate electricity from cattle manure. The project would be implemented with support from the Ghana National Cleaner Production Centre. However, implementation has been delayed due to the Consultant not being able to be physically present in Mauritius due to COVID 19 restrictions.

Session 4: The conducive environment to promote green economy

The objective of the session was to identify the different enablers, including regulatory and financing mechanisms, to promote the transition to a green economy.

- Presentation 9: European Union – Mauritius Cooperation

Mr R. Parboteeah, Project manager at the European Union delegation to Mauritius delivered the presentation. Over the 40 years of partnership, more than Rs 20 billion (EUR 500 M) have been disbursed in terms of grants. Themes that had been addressed include Environment and Climate Change, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, Human Development, and Sustainable Energy. The European Union had also disbursed Funding up to EUR107 M under the 10th EDF to address ISLANDS project, Biodiversity and Invasive species; and SMARTFISH project, and EUR 45 M under the 11th EDF for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Food Security and Business Facilitation.

Under the Development Cooperation Instrument (Thematic Envelope), support has been provided for projects such the SWITCH Africa Green Project and Global Climate Change Alliance – SMART Agriculture. Climate change is one of the 8 priority areas and as such some EUR 2.4 million has been dedicated to this sector. He mentioned that the European Union finances around 21 projects on environmental protection, biodiversity and climate change. Since 2019, EUR 18.6M new funds have been disbursed for projects such as DESIRA, Ridge to Reef, Intra ACP Biodiversity, and Intra ACP GCCA. The next programme for 2021-2027 is to the tune of EUR 9 M which will be available as from 2023. These will be used to address areas such as Environmental protection and climate change adaptation and resilience; Ecological transition for a green recovery ; Integrated management of terrestrial and marine ecosystems using ‘Ridge to Reef’ approach; and Transition towards sustainable agri-food systems using ‘Farm to Fork’ approach.

- Presentation 10: Development of Ecolabels and Certification frameworks to support the shift to a green economy

The presentation was delivered by Mr S Pillay Kanaksabee, Head of Quality Assurance Unit, and Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB). He highlighted that to transition to sustainability, it is imperative that we

the ‘quality’ of products. In this endeavour, the MSB had undertaken the Sustainability Programs for the local & regional market to support the shift to a green economy. A New Management System Certification Schemes and Product Certification Schemes has been developed to encourage sustainable and environmentally friendly practices in 3 sectors of focus namely Agriculture, Manufacturing and Hospitality. Certification Schemes already developed include the Eco-label Product Marking (MSB Certification Mark Scheme); Blue

Oasis Certification (Sustainable Management System Certification Scheme) of Hotel Accommodation and Destination Management Companies; and the MauriGAP Certification.

The Blue Oasis Certification (Sustainable Tourism Management Systems). The MS 165 is recognised by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC), since April 2019 and is aligned to the objectives of the SWITCH Africa Green program in the Tourism Sector and also addresses the Sustainable Development Goals (Goals 8, 12 and 14). The 2 pilot organisations for the certification are Mautourco Ltd and Constance Belle Mare Plage Hotel. A Training Programme for auditors was carried out in December 2020. 8 participants were for sustainable tourism for Hotel Accommodation and Tour Operators.

The MauriGAP Certification Scheme is operated under the MSB Product Certification Mark (Amendment) Regulation 2021. 42 Agricultural Producers have been certified to MauriGAP and it is forecasted to reach 55 by end of year 2022. He elaborated on the challenges in the Implementation of Sustainability Certification Programs (SCP) which include the high cost of testing infrastructure, lack of Research and Development, lack of appropriate human resources at the level of Agricultural Operators to implement the requirements of MauriGAP and difficulty in demarcating and identifying labelled/ certified products at market level and differentiating

4.0 NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE – DAY 2

Session 5: Strengthening existing frameworks to facilitate the shift to a green economy

The objective of the session was to analyse the overarching strategies and policies that are guiding the transition towards a green economy.

- Presentation 1: Advancing Green Economy - Perspectives for Green Mauritius

Mrs W. Elahee-Doomun, Lead Analyst at the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development made the presentation. She provided an overview of what are the fiscal and non-fiscal instruments that were being used to encourage environment friendly measures indicating that revenues from Environmental Taxes had dropped from 1.2% to 0.54%.

She also highlighted measures in terms of grants and subsidies that were developed by Government to support the shift to an Inclusive Green Economy. The Budget speech 2021/2022 also included 'green' measures, namely for achieving a target of 60% of our energy needs by 2030; establish a system for the collection and recycling of various materials; and the setting up of an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework for the management of E-Waste and PET bottle.

Some other measures that were elaborated include the development of schemes, Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP), funding provided under the National Environment and Climate Change Fund (NECCF), and the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Framework.

- Presentation 2: PAGE Green Recovery Project in Mauritius

The presentation was delivered virtually by Ms L. Fontes De Meira, Programme Management Officer at UNEP and PAGE Coordinator for Mauritius. She explained that the PAGE initiative focused on climate, nature, pollution and social inclusion. It also sought at providing policy support for green businesses, green jobs and food production. PAGE had also provided their support for long-term economic planning green growth for the COVID 19 Recovery Plan. The report provides strategic direction for greening for sectors such as Agriculture, Tourism as well as for the creation of green jobs. National dialogues had been organised and technical assistance and capacity building had been provided. PAGE is also assisting Mauritius in the implementation of its PAGE Recovery Fund activities. The PAGE Sustainability Plan had also been elaborated and avenues for aligning activities with the SWITCH Africa Green projects and the Sustainable Development Goals were highlighted.

- Presentation 3: Schemes, access to finance and skills development

Mrs M. Chatooree, Lead at SME Mauritius delivered the presentation. She explained that the role of the organization was to support a business friendly and inclusive SME eco-system that empowers SMEs to emerge and grow to their full potential. They facilitated access to finance

to assist SMEs with no more than 2 years of operation. 5 main Schemes had been developed which addressed various aspects of entrepreneurship, namely financial support through grants from MUR 50,000 up to MUR 200,000, access to technology and innovative approaches, support for marketing, promoting inclusiveness, facilities for improving connectivity and capacity building courses. The SME Mauritius Ltd. also organized regular sensitization and outreach campaigns to register SMEs and disseminate information on their schemes.

Session 6: Defining a framework to enhance green economy

A Working Group Session was held to review existing policies and identify the different enablers, including regulatory and financing mechanisms, to promote the transition to a green economy. Break away groups were organized for the 3 thematic areas of the project, namely Agriculture, Tourism and Manufacturing and all 3 groups had discussions focusing on the following:

1. A review of existing policies and strategies in the 3 sectors
2. Identification of gaps and challenges (in terms of regulatory and institutional framework, capacity building and access to finance)
3. Re-orientation of policies and identification of new opportunities to support green growth

The Working Groups debated for one and a half hours following which they presented their finding over a plenary session:

▪ Tourism Sector:

1. A review of existing policies and strategies in the Tourism sector

- ✓ The Tourism Authority Act 2006 and corresponding related legal frameworks
- ✓ The institutional frameworks - Ministry of Tourism and its parastatal bodies
- ✓ One Mauritius Strategy 2022 to receive 1 Million tourists
- ✓ Some organisations (mostly large Hotels) by themselves have opted for International certifications and standards
- ✓ A clear appreciation of the tourist point of view on Luxury and Sustainability has to be defined

2. Identification of gaps and challenges (in terms of regulatory and institutional framework, capacity building and access to finance)

- ✓ Connection between the buyer and the seller to be developed for example through the creation of Discovery Tour to showcase local products made by SMEs and Artisans.
- ✓ Unavailability of products (even local) – in terms of quantity. Around 70% of products are being imported
- ✓ Price competitiveness of local products does not fit in the procurement structure of certain organisations

- ✓ Local Authenticity not enough valued
- ✓ Not enough of product knowledge of local production
- ✓ Lack of sharing of information (existing and ongoing reports, surveys, etc...)
- ✓ Lack of inter-linkages between key sectors and the tourism industry – (agro, Textiles, SME's,....)

3. Re-orientation of policies and identification of new opportunities to support green growth

- ✓ Star Rating of hotel establishments to include more doses of sustainability
- ✓ Other tourism activities included in the regulations of the Tourism Authority Act need to be updated
- ✓ Identification of tourist sites with proper standards and guidelines
- ✓ Provision of adequate infrastructure - Embarkation points for Pleasure Craft & Tourist sites to include proper services to encourage sustainable tourism
- ✓ Strengthening of Enforcement and monitoring
- ✓ An inventory of Local and regional products to be developed
- ✓ The integration of the entire Value Chain starting with the airlines to adopt the carbon neutrality target
- ✓ Stimulate growth with Niche and New Markets

▪ Manufacturing Sector

1. A review of existing policies and strategies in the Manufacturing sector

- ✓ It was noted that there was a decline in growth of the manufacturing sector
- ✓ Policies for a transition to renewable energy (target of 60% by 2030) - 5 schemes from SME Mauritius
- ✓ Access to finance - Initiatives exist but in isolation and are scattered (SUNREF, AFD; Green bonds; International Climate Funds; DBM, MauBank efforts to help small farmers)
- ✓ Obstacles to SMEs: The small businesses were being taken over by big companies implementing all over the island – for eg., small vendors operating on the food sector were being overridden by bigger operators in food outlets (supermarkets)

2. Identification of gaps and challenges (in terms of regulatory and institutional framework, capacity building and access to finance)

- ✓ Transition to Renewable Energy - SMEs won't run the risk as a shift to renewable energy is very difficult for them to undertake. Also, the First draft of the Roadmap for Renewable Energy is being finalized but does not have much provision for the manufacturing sector.

- ✓ Access to financing mechanisms – There is a lack of schemes/ mechanisms for SMEs to readily have access to funds to support their activities. It is difficult for commercial banks to accept proposals from entrepreneurs. International funds such as Climate Funds are mostly available for Governments projects.
- ✓ Lack of information – There is a gap in information on the schemes and support mechanisms that are available for SMEs. Information very often does not trickle down to grassroots level (for example – the case of small farmers)
- ✓ Survival of small enterprises – It was found that small businesses such as (rotis, fruits, salted peanuts) are being taken over by big entrepreneurs. Hence, efforts being made by SMEs to join the formal economy are being disregarded.
- ✓ Disinterest by the younger generation - Youth is not as interested to join the manufacturing sector

3. Re-orientation of policies and identification of new opportunities to support green growth

- ✓ Formulation of appropriate policies to support the shift to renewable energy
 - Guarantee (fixed interest rate to ensure viability, 5MW guarantee for 10 years) for small and medium energy projects (long-term investment, limited risk factor).
 - Adoption of a customised approach – No ‘one size fits all’: try to focus on how to help individual projects by looking at potential impacts.
 - The Renewable Energy Road Map –should have a specific mention for the manufacturing sector and there should be a demarcation between large, medium and small enterprises.
- ✓ Access to finance
 - To encourage SMEs to be registered (listed) so that they may easily benefit from support mechanisms.
 - Certification costs: Governments can subsidise costs for certification
 - Support from donor agencies - to consider international donors to support specific strategies, for instance shift to renewable energy (AFD, EU)
 - Grouping of SMEs (small farmers) to facilitate access to financial schemes – It was viewed that it would be easier to tap funds by regrouping SMEs (eg., regrouped into Cooperatives)
- ✓ Access to information
 - There is need for better communication strategies to enhance access to information with respect to existing measures and schemes
 - Dedicated information systems such as web pages and digital applications could be set up for small entrepreneurs.
 - Support to better formulate and present their projects, for instance small entrepreneurs to improve their chances to secure funding opportunities.

- The importance of acquiring a green label should also be underscored as it could serve as a marketing tool and access to niche markets.
 - ✓ Development of appropriate framework and governance structure
 - Social protection of SMEs – SMEs have very small economies of scale and are therefore most vulnerable to crises and social imbalances.
 - Review competition law – SMEs are at risk of losing their businesses to big enterprises. So their ‘know-how’ should be protected to avoid disproportionate competitions.
 - Green jobs – there should be an appropriate framework to boost the creation of green jobs, for example capacity building and business opportunities.
 - Greening of economy – the concept should be included in the budget proposal of the Ministry of Environment
- **Agriculture Sector**
- 1. A review of existing policies and strategies in the Agriculture sector**
 - ✓ A Strategic plan - Enhance local food production, improve food safety, promote sustainable agriculture, minimise postharvest losses and food waste and empower youth/women to undertake agribusiness activities
 - ✓ A Certification System - MauriGAP standard) developed
 - ✓ Schemes – Grant schemes developed to encourage Organic / agro-ecological, Sheltered Farming and bio farming techniques
 - ✓ Capacity building – Training of farmers carried out by FAREI under the SWITCH Africa Green project on sustainable agro-practices
 - ✓ Agro-processing and value addition – dedicated training programmes developed
 - ✓ New business ventures - Bee-keeping Scheme developed to encourage local production and restore ecosystems
 - ✓ Building resilience – Climate SMART agriculture being encouraged to address climate change impacts
 - 2. Identification of gaps and challenges (in terms of regulatory and institutional framework, capacity building and access to finance)**
 - ✓ Adverse agro-climatic conditions
 - ✓ Impact of climate change
 - ✓ High incidence of pests and diseases
 - ✓ High cost of production
 - ✓ Soaring labour costs and labour shortage
 - ✓ Migration of labour to more remunerative sectors.

- ✓ Ageing farming population
- ✓ New generation of the youth not keen towards agriculture
- ✓ Highly dependent on importation of agricultural inputs

3. Re-orientation of policies and identification of new opportunities to support green growth

- ✓ A new Strategic Plan for the Agro-Industry is being prepared
- ✓ A National Strategy is needed to promote the production of compost locally. This could be achieved through the treatment of animal waste, domestic waste as well as organic waste from markets. This would also contribute to decrease our reliance on imported fertilisers.
- ✓ Food security – There is need to strengthen our food security through a transition to a sustainable food production system with a view to reduce our imports of food items. A Roadmap and Action plan needs to be developed through a coordinated approach. This process should not be limited to growing food crops, but should also include rearing of specific animals. The strategy should also ensure the production of safe and nutritious food.
- ✓ Food sovereignty – Ensuring food security could also entail a regional approach whereby food items are traded at the continent level – “sécurité alimentaire et agricole”.
- ✓ Research and Development – More research is needed with regards to the production of better and more adapted varieties of products that could be grown locally. One example is cultivation of bean with a higher iron content to respond to concern by Ministry of Health highlighting iron deficiency in pregnant women.



Session 7: Show casing opportunities for green businesses through innovation

- Presentation 4: Greening in the manufacturing sector

Mr K. Tang, Chief Executive Officer of the RT Knits Ltd. made a presentation on the ‘Transition to Sustainable Clothing’. Special consideration was given to the social aspect (affordable,

inclusive and adapted to the standards of living), economic aspect (productivity, innovation and marketing) and environmental aspect (net-zero carbon emission and minimised environmental impacts). RT Knits was committed to becoming climate neutral by 2040 and to that end, they had developed a strategy that aimed at improving the efficiency of the production line.

To this end, they had analysed the various phases of production and focused on their energy production. Electricity consumed represents 57% of their total carbon emission. Their objective was to reduce total carbon emission by 70% by 2030 by having all of their electricity produced from renewable sources and reduce their heavy fuel oil consumption by half.. They have thus installed a first PV installation of 1MW which will produce about 15% of the electricity consumed. Their environmental priorities included Energy, Water, Air Quality, Chemical and Waste Management and they plan to achieve these by 2030.

Mr Tang elaborated on their plan for developing a 'Sustainable packaging for PUMA'. They planned to shift from virgin plastic to biodegradable while decreasing its use by 36% which resulted in a decrease of 500T in plastic material. He explained how they had analysed their packaging and reduced the use of carton boxes. This was synonymous of reduction in Co2 by 7,000T, 576 containers and savings in freight cost of USD 8.6 M.

- Presentation 4: Innovative techniques to promote sustainability in the hospitality sector

Ms. E. Fakun, Chief Sustainability Officer at The Lux Collective delivered the presentation. She highlighted that the institution had at its core, principles and values that promoted responsibility, transformation and innovation. She elaborated on various initiatives at the hotel that helped them adhere to the Sustainable Development Goals. They had developed a net-zero carbon strategy and had engaged in other endeavours that contributed to building sustainability for the hotel. The Lux Collective also reported on sustainability key performance indicators, contributed to biodiversity conservation, and supported community development under their CSR through the 'Ray of Light' initiative. With respect to their activities in line with SDG 12 – Ensuring responsible consumption, the Hotel had set up a Greenhouse to cultivate their own vegetables without pesticide use and also to reduce their carbon footprint by minimising travel and imports. They have also adopted sustainable practices with respect to reducing plastic. The Lux Collective is also one of the participants for the 'FoodWaste Pledge' under which they had taken various initiatives to reduce the amount of food products being wastes.

- Presentation 5: Development of a Post-harvest Management and Marketing Strategy for Rodrigues Island

The presentation was delivered by Mrs M. Robertson, Environment Officer at the Commission on Environment, Rodrigues Island. The project stems from one of the recommendations for the greening of the agricultural sector in the Country Implementation Plan, developed under the SWITCH Africa Green project. The objective of the strategy is to minimise food losses, identify opportunities for marketing, and ensure high quality produce. Mrs Robertson explained that in the absence of proper post-harvest techniques, up to 36% of the yield is lost due to pest and diseases, inadequate market systems and absence of quality standards.

Currently, schemes were available to support bio-farming, a 'Lycée Agricole' provided capacity to youth, a Model orchard scheme to guide planters, production of grass-fed livestock and training for trainers for farmers, Training manual for sustainability and basic knowledge on post-harvest losses and best practices. The Strategy aimed at improving knowledge and capacity, transferring appropriate technology, improving market access and reduce post-harvest losses, and creating enabling environment in terms of policy, regulations, institutional strengthening. A Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will be developed in consultation with all stakeholders.

5.0 Pertinent issues raised during the Dialogue:

1. Against the backdrop of the new challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was proposed that the strategic direction in the priority areas of the Country Implementation Plan be reviewed. The National Policy Dialogue therefore served as the appropriate forum to discuss on and redefine the strategic orientation for the greening of the 3 key sectors.
2. It was viewed that following the completion of the Switch Africa GREEN project, there was need for sharing of best practices and the up-scaling of activities. There were opportunities to learn from key undertakings in other pilot countries that apply to the national context, for example the Organic Agriculture Bill being developed in Uganda. This could be achieved through the regional forums that were forthcoming. There were some activities that had already been implemented through twinning exercises – the Biogas Demonstration project. Other activities could be captured through the regional framework to be developed by UNEP on Circular economy and green financing.
3. It was proposed that coupling of activities – co-utilisation, be considered to make the most of the available land resources. For instance, one possibility could be the use of agricultural land which was under cultivation for the placement of solar PV.

4. With regards to the creation of green jobs, it was observed that these were addressed under various activities and schemes. For instance, under the SWITCH Africa Green project, green business had been promoted which led to green job creation under the 3 areas of intervention. Also, areas such as certification systems, renewable energy and rainwater harvesting could be explored for green jobs. Moreover, as the SWITCH Africa Green project supports the implementation of policies, new opportunities are being explored such as biogas production and treatment of livestock waste for manure production.
5. It was also highlighted that the PAGE Green Recovery report sets out the priority areas through which Green Economy can take off. These could be supplemented by modelling exercises to actually identify sectors for green job creation. There was also need for green skills development in innovative sectors and to boost green entrepreneurship.
6. The need for knowledge sharing and replication was also underscored. Projects such as SWITCH Africa Green had played a key role in the setting up of green businesses, exploring new avenues for green job creation and eco-entrepreneurship. These now need to be disseminated to promote the policy uptake and up-scale initiatives.
7. Further to the implementation of these green initiatives, a Coordination mechanism need to be put in place to ensure the implementation of activities on the ground. This mechanism would also ensure the effective use of funds being disbursed through the Ministry of Finance and the National Environment and Climate Change Fund. It would also play a critical role in synergising efforts through all these activities.

7.0 Overall outcomes of the National Policy Dialogue

- i. a better understanding of the strategic orientation for mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production practices in the three areas of intervention of the project
- ii. a clearer picture of how green economy policies are being integrated in the 3 key sectors and how these would contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the national vision and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- iii. identification of the gaps and challenges as well as the opportunities in sustainable consumption and production practices and green economy as they relate to achieving the triple bottom line (economic development, environmental protection and social development).
- iv. Identification of opportunities for the development of a networking system amongst the 3 sectors to boost the supply chain and promote the greening of supply chains.



SWITCH AFRICA GREEN PROJECT
National Policy Dialogue: 31 March – 01 April 2022

Venue: Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene

PROGRAMME

DAY 1: 31 March 2022	
08.45 – 9.30	Registration
9.30 - 10.00	Opening Session
9.30 – 9.35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Remarks by Mrs Moheenee NATHOO, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
9.35 – 9.40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks by Dr Laurent MUSANGO, UN Resident Coordinator, Mauritius a.i
9.40 – 9.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks by H.E. Mr. Vincent DEGERT, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Mauritius
9.45 – 10.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote Address by Honourable Kavydass RAMANO, Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
10.00 – 10.30	TEA BREAK
10.30 – 11.30	Session 1: Setting the Scene
	<p>Objective: To set the scene on SWITCH Africa Green project</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Expose to the participants the insights of SWITCH Africa Green from a national and regional perspective</p> <p>Presentations:</p>
10.30 – 10.50	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview of SWITCH Africa Green and policy orientation for Republic of Mauritius –Mrs N. MANIC, Ag. Divisional Environment Officer, Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change (20 mins)
10.50 – 11.10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Advancing Green Economy: Regional perspectives – Dr P. MWESIGYE, Regional Coordinator, SWITCH Africa Green UNEP – Nairobi (20 mins)
11.10 – 11.20	Questions and Answers (10 mins)
11.20 – 12.30	Session 2: Existing policy frameworks for the 3 priority sectors
	<p>Objective: To provide the strategic orientation in the 3 priority sectors</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Challenges and opportunities identified to enhance the greening of the priority sectors.</p>

	Presentations:
11.20 – 11.40	1. Promoting the greening of the Industrial sector – <i>Mrs K. MANNA, Senior Industrial Analyst, Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (20 mins)</i>
11.40 – 12.00	2. The Tourism Strategy for a green economy – <i>Mrs P. LI SHUK KUNG-TOOFANY, Tourism Planning Executive, Ministry of Tourism (20 mins)</i>
12.00 – 12.20	3. A green and smart Agriculture sector - <i>Mr V. AUJAYEB, Economist / Senior Economist at FAREI, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security (20 mins)</i>
12.20 – 12.30	Questions and Answers <i>(10 mins)</i>
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH BREAK
13.30 - 14.40	Session 3: Greening Sectoral Policies - Case Studies
	Objective: To sensitize participants on existing policy interventions for greening priority sectors. This will also cover the work done by grantees under phase I & II.
	Expected Outcome: Awareness raised on existing policy and regulatory interventions, identification of challenges in the greening efforts in the different sectors.
	Presentations by beneficiaries of grantee project:
13.30 – 13.50	1. 'Improving Sustainable Tourism in Mauritius through greening the value chain of tour operators' – <i>MR D. MOODELY, Project Coordinator, Mauritius Tourism Authority (20 mins)</i>
13.50 – 14.10	2. Strategy for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing of selected fruits and vegetables in Rodrigues 2020-2030 - <i>MRS M. RAPHAEL-ROBERTSON - Environment Officer, Commission For Environment, Rodrigues (20 mins)</i>
14.10 – 14.30	3. Development of Standards for Manure, identification of appropriate technology and implementation - <i>DR N. E. GOBINDRAM, Research Scientist/ Senior Research Scientist, FAREI (20 mins)</i>
14.30 – 14.40	Questions and Answers <i>(10 mins)</i>
14.40 – 14.55	TEA BREAK
14.55 - 16.05	Session 4: The conducive environment to promote green economy
	Objective: To identify the different enablers, including regulatory and financing mechanisms, to promote the transition to a green economy.
	Expected Outcome: Identification of key enablers to support the emergence of green businesses and boost green growth.
	Presentations:
14.55 – 15.15	1. EU-Mauritius cooperation - <i>MR R. PARBOTEEAH, Project Manager, European Union Delegation to Mauritius (20 mins)</i>

15.15 - 15.35	2. Schemes, access to finance and skills development – MRS M. CHATOOREE, Lead at SME Mauritius (20 mins)
15.35 - 15.55	3. Development of eco-labels and certification frameworks to support the shift to a green economy – MR S PILLAY KANAKSABEE, Head, Quality Assurance Unit, Mauritius Standards Bureau (20 mins)
15.55 – 16.05	Questions and Answers (10 mins)
16.05	End of Day 1
DAY 2: 01 April 2022	
09.00 - 09.15	Summary points from the previous day dialogue
9.15 – 10.30	<p>Session 5: Strengthening existing frameworks to facilitate the shift to a green economy</p> <p>Objective: To analyse the overarching strategies and policies that are guiding the transition towards a green economy.</p> <p>Expected Outcome: To provide an insight of international and national development objectives and vision for a green economy and sustainable development.</p> <p>Presentations:</p>
09.15 – 09.45	1. Advancing Green Economy - Perspectives for Green Mauritius – Mrs. W. ELAHEE-DOOMUN, Lead Analyst, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development (30 mins)
09.45 – 10.15	2. PAGE Green Recovery Project in Mauritius– Ms L. FONTES DE MEIRA, Programme Management Officer at UNEP and PAGE Coordinator for Mauritius (30 mins)
10.15 – 10.30	Questions and Answers (15 mins)
10.30 – 10.45	TEA BREAK
10.45 – 13.00	<p>Session 6: Defining a framework to enhance green economy</p> <p>Objective: To identify the different enablers, including regulatory and financing mechanisms, to promote the transition to a green economy.</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Identification of key enablers to support the emergence of green businesses and boost green growth.</p>
10.45 – 12.15	<p>Working group session on the 3 themes</p> <p>Break away groups</p> <p>Discussions will focus on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. A review of existing policies and strategies in the 3 sectors 5. Identification of gaps and challenges (in terms of regulatory and institutional framework, capacity building and access to finance)

	6. Re-orientation of policies and identification of new opportunities to support green growth
12.15 – 12.45	Plenary Session: Presentation of working group discussions (<i>10 mins per group</i>)
12.45 – 13.00	Questions and Answers (<i>15 mins</i>)
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH
14.00 – 15.30	<p>Session 7: Show casing opportunities for green businesses through innovation</p> <p>Objective: To identify opportunities for green businesses to support green policies through sustainable production techniques and innovative approach</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Encourage replication and uptake of best practices for eco-entrepreneurship</p> <p>Presentations:</p>
14.00 – 14.30	1. Innovative techniques to promote sustainability in the hospitality sector – Ms. E. FAKUN, Chief Sustainability Officer, The Lux Collective (30 mins)
14.30 – 15.00	2. Greening in the manufacturing sector – Mr K. TANG, Chief Executive Officer, RT Knits Ltd (30 mins)
15.00 – 15.30	3. Greening the food value chain – Mrs H. SEECHURN, Administrative Manager, SKC Surat & Co. Ltd. (30 mins)
15.30 – 15.45	Questions and Answers (<i>15 mins</i>)
15.45 – 16.00	<p>Session 8: Concluding session - Key messages and recommendations on the transition to Green Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing remarks by Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change • Vote of thanks
16.00	END OF DAY 2

SWITCH AFRICA GREEN PROJECT
NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE
LIST OF ATTENDEES

SN	NAME	DESIGNATION	INSTITUTION
1.	Appavoo F	Partnership and Development Finance officer.	UNDP Country Office
2.	Aujayeb.V	Economist / Senior Economist at FAREI,	Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security
3.	Badaloo Rushaa Banu	Analyst	MCCI
4.	Boodhun D	Ag Deputy Director	MOE
5.	Chatooree Iswaree (Meera)	Lead	SME Mauritius
6.	Dindyal D	Divisional Scientific Officer	NEL
7.	Dundoo Anya	Relationship Executive	Association of Mauritian Manufacturers
8.	Durbarry Bruno	CEO	Association of Mauritian Manufacturers
9.	Dursun Kusum	Environmental Engineer	RT Knits Ltd
10.	Elahee Doomun Waseefa	<i>Lead Analyst</i>	Min of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
11.	Fakun Evita	Chief Sustainability Officer	Lux Collective Ltd
12.	Ghunsam Meenakshi	Seafood & Food Coordinator	Mauritius Export Association
13.	Gobindram Dr. Noor-Ehsan	Research Scientist	Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute - FAREI (Livestock Research Department, curepipe)
14.	Goolaub Akhilalandjee	Assistant Director	Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute - FAREI
15.	GUILIANI Renawol	Consultant	UN Resident Coordinator's Office
16.	Gunny Shirin	Managing Director ,Made in Moris	Association of Mauritian Manufacturers

17.	Hurhangee Jaynita	Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
18.	Kanaksabee Mr Saminaden	Head, Quality Assurance Unit	Mauritius Standard Bureau
19.	Keesoony Avinash	Research Scientist, Animal Production	Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute - FAREI
20.	Kilel Carolyne		SWITCH Africa Green UNEP – Nairobi
21.	Kutwoaroo Prateema	Senior Analyst	Min of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & national trade
22.	Magho Luqman	Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
23.	Manic Nisha	Ag Divisional Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
24.	Manna Kalyanee	Senior Industrial Analyst	Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs & Cooperatives (<i>Industrial Development Division</i>)
25.	Maujean Samuel	Program Manager	Association of Mauritian Manufacturers
26.	Mokool Rajshree	Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
27.	Moodely Daren	Project Coordinator	Tourim Authority , Victoria House Port Louis
28.	Multra Hemant	Engineer/ Senior Engineer	Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities
29.	Mungur Deujun	Manager	Economic Development Board (EDB)
30.	Mwesigye Patrick (Dr)	Regional Coordinator	SWITCH Africa Green UNEP – Nairobi
31.	Nathoo Moheene (Mrs)	Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change

32.	Outim Moonawwara (Mrs)	Environment Officer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
33.	Parboteeah Rajesh	Head of Cooperation	European Union Delegation to Mauritius
34.	Pursun Ajay	Photographer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
35.	Purusram Rishi	Tourism Officer	Ministry of Tourism
36.	Ramessur Hillisha	STM	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
37.	Robertson Marie Lourdes Raphael	Environment Officer	Commission for Environment, Rodrigues Regional Assembly
38.	Saramandiff Daniel	President	Association of tourism professional
39.	Seechurn Hemlata	Administrative Manager	SKC Surat & Co Ltd, Curepipe
40.	Seewoobaduth Jogeewar	Ag Director of Environment	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
41.	Sobron Shiksha	Management Support Officer	Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
42.	Soobramien Loganaden	Manager	Food & Agriculture Laboratory, MSB
43.	Sooprayen Sivananda	Departmental Head	Rodrigues regional Assembly
44.	Toofany Li Shuk Kung	Tourism Planning Executive	Ministry of Tourism
45.	Toolsee Rajesh	Principal research Scientist	FAREI (Livestock Research, Curepipe)
46.	Toolsy Bhoomitra	Lecturer	Faculty of Engineering, University of Mauritius
47.	Vencatachellum S	Cooperatives Officer	Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives
48.	Venkama Avinash	Chairman	Association des Hotels de Charmes