

Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting CLOSURE FORM

UNDP-EU FUNDED GCCA+ PROJECT ON LA DIGUE

UNDP SEYCHELLES

1. **Project Details**

Supporting adaptation to climate change in coastal areas
28th Dec 2015 to 30th March 2021
FED/2015/371 615
Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+)
La Digue Island, Seychelles
Total Budget : EUR 1.51MN

2. **Target Country:**

Republic of Seychelles

3. **Target Location :**

La Digue Island, Seychelles

La Digue is part of the Seychelles Inner Islands, being the 3rd most populated with a total landmass of just over 10 sq. km; it is the 4th largest island in the archipelago.

The island is located 43KM North-East of the mainland of Mahé and accessible mostly through ferry operations.

4. **Final Beneficiaries and Target Groups:**

The main beneficiary of the project is the Government of Seychelles under the ownership of the Ministry of Agriculture Climate Change and Environment (MACCE) along with the Ministry of Finance, Trade and Economic Planning (MFTEP). The project's direct beneficiaries include the population of Seychelles more specifically targeting and enhancing the lives of 3000 residents of La Digue Island. Other stakeholders benefiting from the project are the University of Seychelles and local NGO's including the La Digue Fishermen's association and Sustainability for Seychelles.

5. **Project Context:**

Climate Change and its devastating effects are being experienced in all corners of the globe with Small Island Developing States (SIDS) continuing to be amongst the most vulnerable to its impacts. La Digue, an island of just under 1000 ha, and the 3rd most populous island in the Seychelles archipelago, relies heavily on tourism for its economic growth. The island of La Digue has experienced extensive flooding due to heavy rainfall, combined with increasing coastal developments that have resulted in associated risks to both health and environment.

6. **Executive Summary of Action:**

The overall objective of the programme is *"to ensure that the people, economy and environment of Seychelles are able to adapt to and develop resilience to climate change and its effects, thereby safeguarding the sustainable development of Seychelles"*.

The specific objective of the EU support is to contribute to the implementation of the Seychelles Climate Change Strategy (SCCS) through:

- (i) Strengthening the climate change sector policy framework (Component A).
- (ii) Supporting adaptation to climate change in coastal areas (Component B).

This progress report is concerned with Component B of the EU funded GCCA+ project only.

Under Component B, the project's aim was to increase coastal and flood protection in the vulnerable areas of La Digue Island. This was achieved mainly by the formulation and adaptation of an integrated shoreline management plan, engaging civil works to enhance hydrological dynamics and productivity of stream channels and wetlands, mitigating saltwater contamination, and improving the flood buffering capacity along the coast.

Sustainability of key actions and maintenance will be taken on by relevant authorities and through the continued involvement of the inhabitants of La Digue as current and future custodians of the island.

7. **Final Handover and Presentations**

The EU Delegation led by EU Ambassador Vincent Degert visited Seychelles for a high level political forum in October 2021. On the 4th of October 2021, the EU delegation accompanied by Minister Flavien Joubert along with members of his team and UNDP were present on La Digue to show case the project's results. The Ambassador remarked on the 30 years of partnership between the EU and Seychelles especially in the field of climate change, highlighting the relevance of the project ahead of COP 26.

The Minister in his remarks, thanked the EU, UNDP and all other partners engaged in the project that contributed to its successful completion.

The Contractor's final report was handed over during the visit.

During the 8th High Level Political Forum between EU and Seychelles, the EU welcomed the key achievements of the Global Climate Change Alliance + initiative for the protection of the population of La Digue against flooding as recorded in their press release.

UNDP shared a copy of its final report and lessons learned and recommendations to EU and the Government of Seychelles by the 20th of October 2021.

8. **Project Rating**

Based on the Project Quality Assurance Closure form the project was rated as Satisfactory

The form is attached in Annex 1

The final UNDP report is attached as part of Annex 2

9. Certifications

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