



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 02 | March 2026



## Celebrating Our Planet: Forests, Water, and Weather

An exciting week of educational and awareness activities was held to mark International Day of Forests and World Water Day. The Ministry also participated in events celebrating World Meteorological Day.

[Read more inside](#)



## Curieuse Island moves closer to National park status

Since 1979, the waters around Curieuse Island have enjoyed protection as a marine park. Now, the Ministry is exploring the possibility of extending this protection to the island itself.

[Read more inside](#)



## Proposed seasonal protected areas for sea turtles

Seychelles makes a first proposal for Seasonal Protected Areas (SPAs) around Mahe to protect sea turtle nesting sites during critical periods.

[Read more inside](#)

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# KEY DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENTS

## Visit of Vice President of The People's Republic of China (27th - 30th March)



The Ministry, in collaboration with the Seychelles Parks and Garden Authority (SPGA), hosted a high-level visit to the Botanical Garden, offering HE. Mr. Han Zheng and his delegation, a unique opportunity to experience the natural beauty and rich biodiversity of the island, including the endemic Coco de Mer and the remarkable Aldabra Giant Tortoise. This experience underscored the country's commitment to conservation and the protection of its unique natural heritage.

## State visit in Mauritius (11th - 14th March)



This month, Minister Marie-May Jeremie joined President Dr. Patrick Herminie and other officials on a state visit to Mauritius. A key highlight was a meeting with Honourable Minister Rajesh Bhagwan, Minister for Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change. The visit also enabled engagement with institutions and environmental NGOs, strengthening collaboration between the two countries.



### WHO

The WHO delegation highlighted the link between environmental sustainability and public health, focusing on healthier environments, better air and water quality, and stronger resilience to climate-related health risks..



### IUCN

The IUCN delegation provided expertise in biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and nature-based solutions, supporting efforts to protect habitats and promote sustainable resource use.



### AFDB

The African Development Bank delegation engaged in discussions on sustainable financing and investment opportunities to support renewable energy, climate resilience, and environmentally responsible infrastructure.

# NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



## Senior Meeting

As part of its strategic planning efforts, the Ministry convened its first senior-level meeting this month to review the proposed restructuring. The session also provided an opportunity for the senior management team to discuss key matters, including staff management, internal communication, and training, among other priorities. Following this, a first staff meeting for the Inner Islands Officer was also organised headed by the PS for Environment.



## Field Visit to Assumption

This month, the Assumption Environment Task Force conducted its first official visit to Assumption Island to assess environmental conditions, review conservation efforts, and engage key stakeholders. The visit confirmed compliance with the Prohibition Notice, whilst ongoing efforts such as biodiversity assessments and strengthened biosecurity measures were noted as positive steps toward addressing environmental concerns. Findings from the visit will inform a report to the President of the Republic and the cabinet of ministers.



## Continuation of familiarisation visit to PUC

We have continued our visit to one of our partner organisations - the Public Utilities Corporation (PUC) facilities to engage with staff and review operations across key service areas. This month's visit focused on customer service operations at the Creole Spirit Building, as well the facility at New Port and Maison Malavois. These engagements provided an opportunity to assess service delivery, discuss ongoing challenges, and reinforce the Ministry's commitment to improving efficiency and customer experience across the sector.



## World Meteorological Day

On World Meteorological Day, we welcomed a delegation from Geosphere Austria, led by its Director General and Austria's Permanent Representative to the World Meteorological Organization, Dr. Andreas Schaffhauser. During the visit, the Seychelles Meteorological Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Geosphere to strengthen technical and scientific collaboration. The visit coincided with the 55th anniversary of meteorological services supporting the aviation industry in Seychelles.

## Report on Biodiversity Progress

Seychelles has submitted its Seventh National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, fulfilling its reporting obligation and contributing to the global review. The report focuses on implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted in 2022. It highlights key achievements while identifying gaps in data, financing, and capacity needed to meet the 2030 biodiversity targets.

## Other News:

Cabinet approved for sooty tern eggs to be cropped in 2026, this will be subject to further technical discussions to establish quotas for the collection and the determination of the most appropriate sites.



## Wellness in Action

LWMA dedicated March to staff well-being through health screenings and mental wellness initiatives that encouraged employees to take a proactive approach to their physical and emotional health. From vital check-ups to building resilience and self-care skills, the activities reinforced the agency's commitment to a healthier, more supported workforce.

# STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



**MARGARET JOUBERT**  
ASSISTANT INSPECTOR

*In recognition of 10 years of dedicated service*

**Sharon  
Gerry**

**Promoted to  
Director  
General**



**Susan  
Rapide**

**Promoted to  
HR & Budget  
Management  
Officer**



**Farah  
Nasser**

**Promoted to  
Assistant  
Conservation  
Officer**



***Congratulations***

# PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

## Enhanced sea turtle protection on Mahe

Members of the public were invited to share their views on a proposed initiative to introduce seasonal protected areas for sea turtles.

This first-of-its-kind proposal in Seychelles is set to be implemented in the south of Mahé, including Anse Intendance, Anse Cachée, Anse Corail, Anse Bazarca, Anse Petite Police, and Anse Grand Police.

Participants shared valuable insights on implementation, enforcement, and the importance of community collaboration. The success of this initiative will depend on collective stewardship and continued engagement from all stakeholders.

The proposed seasonal protections will establish clear guidelines for beach use, helping to safeguard sea turtles—particularly during the nesting season.



## Curieuse Island - a national park?

After years of sustainable management, the island of Curieuse Island is being considered for designation as a national park, which would provide stronger legal protection for its unique flora and fauna. During a public meeting held at Baie Sainte Anne, community members shared their views on the proposal, with many calling for stricter regulations for visitors to help preserve the island's natural environment.



Following the designation of its surrounding waters as a marine protected area, this proposal marks another important step toward strengthening conservation efforts for one of Seychelles' most valuable natural assets.



# INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

This year, the Ministry proudly commemorated International Day of Forests under the theme “Forests and Economies”, highlighting the vital role forests play in supporting livelihoods, biodiversity, and sustainable development. A week of activities was organized to engage communities, promote conservation, and reinforce the importance of protecting our natural resources.

## Official Launch at Vallée des Fruits

The week started with an official launch event, bringing together stakeholders, partners, and community members.



In his opening remarks, the Director General of the Biodiversity Conservation and Management Division, Rodney Quatre, stated that forests play not only a cultural role but also a significant economic role in the country's development.

The opening ceremony, attended by staff from various divisions as well as invited guests, was held at Vallée des Fruits in La Misère—an important example of how agroforestry can support tourism while contributing to the economy. The ceremony was followed by a tree-planting activity.

## Protecting forests = protecting ourselves.

Throughout the week, the Forestry Division organized talks with schoolchildren to emphasize the importance of forests, highlighting the challenges these vital ecosystems face and why life on Earth cannot be sustained without them. One of such activity was held at the Plaisance primary school and was attended by a large group of enthusiastic students. The session encouraged young learners to become future stewards of the environment.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

“Forests and Economies”

“On the International Day of Forests, it is important to acknowledge how often the natural wealth that surrounds Seychelles is taken for granted.

This year’s theme, “Forests and Economies,” reminds us that forests are not only ecological treasures but also vital drivers of sustainable livelihoods and national prosperity.”



Minister  
Marie-May Jeremie



## Eradication Efforts

“Our forests face many threats,” stated the Principal Secretary for Environment and Natural Resources, Mrs. Nanette Laure, during a day dedicated to clearing invasive species at Bel Eau. With the support of the First Lady, Mrs. Veronique Herminie, and the Seychelles Prison Services, the Ministry removed invasive creepers and rehabilitated a garden overlooking Victoria.

“I am truly grateful for this initiative, and we will do our best to maintain this site from here on,” the First Lady said after planting fruit trees in the cleared area. This activity on the premises of the First Lady was deemed a success by organiser, Fredo Dubel.



# INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

## Assessing a Year of Growth

A team from the Ministry continue to support the rehabilitation of a site at Montagne Posee as part of activities to mark International Day of Forests. Following a first tree planting a year ago, this time, the group removed invasive creepers around young trees and replaced dead ones. This ongoing effort will ensure that the trees planted last year continue to thrive. The activity also reinforced an important message: successful forest rehabilitation takes time, commitment, and consistent maintenance.



## 50 coco-de-mer & palms planted

The week of activities culminated in a festive ceremony at Fond Ferdinand on Praslin Island, celebrating Seychelles' forests and the many benefits they provide. Schoolchildren from Praslin and La Digue proudly showcased poems, songs, and dances in the presence of the Prime Minister, Wallace Cosgrove, the Minister for Inner Islands, Mrs. Eveline Rose, and other distinguished invitees.

In her address, Minister Marie-May Jeremie encouraged everyone present to reflect on the future we want for our children and to take meaningful action to protect our natural environment. The ceremony concluded with a tree-planting activity, where invitees joined ministry staff to plant 50 coco-de-mer and palm trees.

This initiative also marked the 100-day countdown to the 50th anniversary of Seychelles' independence and brought the week's activities to a close.



*The Forestry Section, though made up of just four dedicated personnel, successfully led these efforts. Today, we celebrate their commitment and commend them on a job well done. Let us all continue to protect our forests!*



# WHAT'S NEXT ?



March, 2026

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 Botanical Garden  
Mont Fleuri

## ENERGY AND CLIMATE AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

 3rd Floor, Unity House

## ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

 Botanical Garden  
Mont Fleuri

## OPPORTUNITIES

Enforcement and Compliance Training  
April 13-14, 16-17, 20-21, 23-24| ALL DAY  
Police Academy  
Seychelles police Academy & Waste, Enforcement  
and Permit Division

Team Building  
April 30| ALL DAY  
Chez Batista

## Other Events

● Policy Review - National Policy for Private Land  
Ownership in Protected Areas, 2020.  
7<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 Savoy - *Invitation only*

● Sustainable Home Garden Competition 2026 - Visits  
Different Dates Different Locations - *Judges Only*

● International Day of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).  
25<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 Praslin - *Invitation only*

● Tree planting - Au Cap Rehabilitation Project  
29<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 Au Cap - *Staff only*

## Join Us!

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Environment News  
Upcoming events & activities  
Important announcements

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already receiving updates

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