



*MOL Charitable Trust*  
**NEWSLETTER**

**JULY 2024**



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1<sup>st</sup> section

# Introduction and Overview



# Introduction and Overview



## MOL Group's Engagement in Mauritius through the MOL Charitable Trust and MOL Mauritius International Fund

Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL) has established two initiatives as part of an ongoing commitment to support the environment and people of Mauritius. MOL Charitable Trust (The Trust) in Mauritius was established on 21st June, 2021 and MOL Mauritius International Fund (The Fund) in Japan was established on 30th November, 2021.

The Trust is a locally-based initiative and allocates funding to short-term projects, typically less than one year. It is managed locally in Mauritius and targets smaller and more niche projects, with strong local connections and are selected based on alignment with the United Nations ten Sustainable Development Goals. Projects and activities can receive support of up to 1 million Mauritian Rupees per project, which is contributed solely by MOL. Projects are selected by the Trust's enforcers committee.

The Fund is an internationally-based initiative, which accepts donations and provides financing for activities that are one to five years in length. The Fund is based in Japan and managed by a steering committee. The Fund allocates funding to large-scale activities such as long-term projects and research and development, which are typically delivered by large international bodies. Funding is comprised of contributions by MOL, as well as donations made to the Fund. Grant recipients are selected impartially, through the Fund's steering committee.

These initiatives were established with MOL distributing a contribution of up to 800 million yen to support and fund projects related to the restoration of the natural environment and local communities, in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and MOL Group's core principles in Corporate Citizenship Activities.

This is underpinned by MOL's broad commitment to the conservation of marine and global environment, and to the growth and development of people and communities.

## Local Oversight

A committee of enforcers oversees the MOL Charitable Trust in Mauritius, focusing on the meticulous supervision of projects, funded up to MUR 1 million, to help the NGO achieve successful project implementation throughout the year.

The Trust's mission comprises ten priority objectives, aligned with UN SDGs, spanning mangrove and coral reef conservation, protection of wildlife, preservation of cultural heritage, economic development, environmental awareness, community empowerment, renewable energy, humanitarian aid, and infrastructure development.

Furthermore, MOL CT's alignment with MOL Group's core principles in Corporate Citizenship Activities is reflected in the areas of intervention, namely, 'Marine Environment', 'Biodiversity', and 'Human Resources Development'.



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# Message from Kazuhiko Sugano, Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust



It is with a profound sense of pride and anticipation that I reflect on the strides we have made at the MOL Charitable Trust. Our journey, deeply rooted in the ethos of community support, environmental stewardship, and educational advancement, continues to flourish, thanks to the collective efforts of our remarkable partners and the resolute spirit of the Mauritian community.

2023 was a landmark year for us, marked by the successful conclusion of our third call for proposals. This initiative saw the selection of 15 exceptional NGOs, each dedicated to fostering sustainable development and environmental conservation across Mauritius. These projects, spanning a diverse range of fields such as mangrove conservation, coral reef preservation, and promoting sustainable development, embody our shared commitment to creating a better future for our island nation.

The impact of these partnerships cannot be overstated. By aligning with MOL Group's core principles in Corporate Citizenship Activities, we ensure that our efforts in 'Marine Environment', 'Biodiversity', and 'Human Resources Development' not only resonate with our commitment but also pave the way for lasting change.

As we look ahead, the MOL Charitable Trust remains committed to nurturing these partnerships, with a keen focus on monitoring and evaluating the progress of our funded projects. Our goal is to ensure their successful implementation and the positive impact they have on our community and environment.

The journey ahead is filled with both challenges and opportunities, and I am filled with gratitude for the support, dedication, and passion of everyone involved in our mission. Your contributions are instrumental in driving our success and making a tangible difference in the lives of the Mauritian people.

Together, let us forge ahead with renewed energy, inspired by our achievements, and motivated by the challenges that lie ahead. Here's to a year of continued collaboration, innovation, and positive impact.

With warmest regards,  
**Kazuhiko Sugano**  
Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust



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2<sup>nd</sup> Section

# Presentation of selected NGOs and Educational Institutes for Call for Proposal 3 (CFP3)





# Environmental Projects



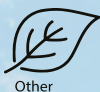


## Association for Environment Protection

## Association pour le Développement Durable

The project by the ASSOCIATION for the PROTECTION of the ENVIRONMENT, titled *"Rainwater Collection System at Notre Dame de la Salette,"* is aimed at enhancing water sustainability and eco-friendly practices in Grand Baie. It addresses crucial issues like water scarcity, especially during the dry season, and the lack of sustainable water management systems. The project's actions include setting up a rainwater collection and grey water treatment system, expanding water reserves, and developing permaculture gardens. It targets more than 40 beneficiaries in Notre Dame de la Salette, aligning with several SDGs including Zero Hunger, Clean Water and Sanitation, and Climate Action.

The project by the Association pour le Développement Durable, titled *"Mangrove Mapping for Better Conservation and Restoration in the South East of Mauritius,"* focuses on environmental conservation through mangrove ecosystem preservation. Addressing key challenges like habitat loss, educational gaps, coastal erosion, and community engagement, it aims to map mangroves, educate communities, conservation. Proposed actions include habitat restoration, educational programs, coastal erosion studies, and data-driven conservation strategies. The project targets over 40 beneficiaries along the southeast coast, supporting several SDGs including Climate Action and Life Below Water.



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## Coral Garden Conservation

The project by Coral Garden Conservation, titled *"CoralCommUNITY: Empowering Reef Restoration through Community based Coral Fragment Revival"* targets the integration of the coastal communities to implement coral restoration through the concept of direct transplantation of "corals of opportunity" to reefs. The project aims to address the on-going degradation of coral reefs, lack of awareness and education on the importance of coral reefs, mechanical damage on reefs caused by irresponsible fishing practices, storm surges and unregulated tourism activities, lack of an Adaptive Management strategy and diversification when it comes to research and monitoring geared towards coral conservation and restoration and lack of proper establishment of coral conservation zones. The project will involve the fishermen of the southern region aligning with several SDGs including Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Action, and Life Below Water.



Coral Reefs



Community Development



Education



## Green Attitude Foundation

The project by Green Attitude Foundation, titled *"Sea Turtle Preservation through Local Capacity Building and Community Engagement,"* focuses on marine conservation in Mauritius. It aims to address issues like the lack of community knowledge about sea turtles, scarce scientific data on sea turtle populations, and inadequate local involvement in conservation. The project includes conducting community surveys, establishing a network of volunteers for research, raising awareness, and fostering stakeholder collaboration for sustainable sea turtle preservation. It targets over 40 beneficiaries in northern and southeastern Mauritius, aligning with several SDGs such as SDG Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Action and Life Below Water.



Community Development



Education



Other



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## Marine Megafauna Conservation Organisation

The project by the Marine Megafauna Conservation Organisation, titled "*EDUC Project (Explore Discover Understand Conserve)*," focuses on educating primary school children about marine ecosystems in Mauritius. It addresses issues like extinction of marine species, overexploitation of marine resources, and lack of marine ecosystem study in school curriculum. Proposed actions include creating educational comic books about marine animals, distributing them to schools, and holding presentations. The project targets several thousand beneficiaries across Mauritius, aligning with SDGs including Quality Education, Responsible Consumption and Production, and Life Below Water.



## Mauritian Wildlife Foundation

The project by the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, titled "*Learning with Nature*," focuses on environmental education and conservation. It targets issues like endangered biodiversity, lack of environmental awareness, and educational gaps about local species. The project's actions include educational activities on Ile aux Aigrettes, providing learning materials, and engaging students in conservation work. It aims to reach thousands of students in Mauritius, aligning with SDGs including Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Life on Land.



## Université des Mascareignes

The project by Université des Mascareignes, titled "*Seagrass Blue Carbon Mapping and Climate Vulnerability of Mauritius*," focuses on the environmental study of seagrass in Mauritius. It addresses issues such as the lack of seagrass mapping, unexplored carbon sequestration potential, and vulnerabilities to climate change. The project aims to map seagrass, estimate its carbon storage, analyse climate change impacts, publish findings, and raise awareness through seminars. It targets a broad audience across Mauritius, aligning with SDGs including Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Action, and Life Below Water.





# Social Projects





## ENL Foundation

The project by ENL Foundation, titled *"WE Matter: Tackling social inequality and building the resilience of 15 unskilled and unemployed women of Le Bouchon,"* focuses on empowering women through economic activities. It addresses social exclusion, unemployment, and skill gaps among women in Le Bouchon. The project's actions include capacity-building sessions, psychosocial support, technical training, seed capital provision, networking, and business development coaching. It aims to benefit 15 direct and 60 indirect beneficiaries, aligning with SDGs like No Poverty, Gender Equality, and Decent Work and Economic Growth.



## Kolektif Rivier Nwar

The project by Kolektif Rivier Nwar, titled *"Skippers and Rescue at Sea Training for Unemployed People in Grande Riviere Noire,"* focuses on addressing unemployment and social issues through vocational training. It aims to tackle challenges such as high unemployment, drug and alcohol issues among youth, and a lack of skilled skippers in the region. The project's actions include training in skipper licensing and sea rescue, as well as awareness campaigns against drugs and alcohol. It targets over 40 beneficiaries in Grande Riviere Noire, aligning with SDGs including No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Reduced Inequality.



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## Mission Verte

The project by Mission Verte focuses on developing circular economy initiatives and awareness in southeast Mauritius. Key issues addressed include inadequate awareness of waste reduction and recycling among the youth, lack of visibility of local recycling initiatives, and underdeveloped employability in the circular economy sector. The project aims to enhance waste reduction awareness, demonstrate local recycling initiatives, encourage cleaner environment actions, showcase job opportunities in circular economy, and increase visibility of these initiatives. Actions include educational sessions, distribution of recycled items, employing a green ambassador for awareness, and producing awareness videos. The project targets over 40 beneficiaries in southeast Mauritius, aligning with several Sustainable Development Goals.



## Mo'Zar Espace Artistique

The project by Mo'Zar Espace Artistique, titled "Fly Me To The Moon Junior Project," is focused on leveraging music education, specifically Jazz, to combat social exclusion. It is an extension of their existing program and aims at the younger generation of apprentice musicians. The project confronts issues like lack of cultural access, educational dropouts, idleness, stigma, and gender inequality in opportunities. The proposed actions include forming Jazz bands, master classes, additional music lessons, academic support, and concert participation. The project targets over 40 beneficiaries in Roche Bois and aligns with several SDGs including No Poverty, Quality Education, Gender Equality, and Reduced Inequality.



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## Revey Twa

The project by Revey Twa, titled "Revey Twa Fam," is designed to empower women in the region of Mahebourg, Grand Port. It addresses critical issues like unemployment, food security, low self-esteem, poverty, and job accessibility. The project's comprehensive approach includes training for vulnerable women, family support during training, life skills management training, job placement assistance, and partnerships with private sectors and hotels. The project targets 30 vulnerable women, aligning with several SDGs, including No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Reduced Inequality, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Partnerships to Achieve the Goal.



## Social Circus Cité la Chaux

The project by Social Circus of Cité la Chaux, titled "Cirque Social de Cité la Chaux," is focused on countering social issues in Cité la Chaux, Mauritius, through circus and arts activities. It addresses challenges such as lack of entertainment and engagement for youth, leading to increased exposure to drugs and other negative influences. The project aims to provide a safe environment for children, inclusive education, post-disaster resilience, youth empowerment, and community solidarity. Proposed actions include after-school programs, holiday activities, food provision, women's empowerment, and community events and shows. The project targets over 40 beneficiaries in Cité la Chaux and Mahebourg, aligning with multiple SDGs including No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Reduced Inequality, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Partnerships to Achieve the Goal.



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## Ti Rayons Soleil

The project by Ti Rayons Soleil, titled “*Les Ti Serins Ecole Maternelle*,” is designed to enhance education and support for vulnerable children in Cité Ville Noire, Mahebourg. It tackles issues like lack of quality and inclusive education for young children, especially those with special needs, and supports vulnerable families and women. The project includes supporting pre-primary education, inclusive education for 13 kids, an empowerment program for parents/women with a psychological approach, a feeding program, and a specialized care team. It aims to assist over 40 beneficiaries, aligning with several SDGs including No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Reduced Inequality, and Partnerships to Achieve the Goal.



## Youth With Disabilities Empowerment Platform

The project by the Youth With Disabilities Empowerment Platform (YWDEP) targets 11 to 20 beneficiaries in Mahebourg and aims to promote self-sufficiency and independence among youths with disabilities in Mauritius. This initiative addresses several critical issues, including the need for practical skills training, the lack of employment opportunities, and the challenges of entrepreneurship for individuals with disabilities thus contributing to SDGs such as Quality Education, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Reduced Inequality. The project’s actions include providing courses in cooking, pastry making, mosaic art, cleaning and eco-brick construction. By equipping participants with these valuable skills, this course will allow these youths to:

1. Be independent
2. Develop cooking skills and be empowered
3. Start an entrepreneurship program to place and sell their products



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MOL CHARITABLE TRUST  
MOL  
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MAURITIUS

3<sup>rd</sup> Section  
Events





# 1. MOL On-site Training in Mauritius

03<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 to 09<sup>th</sup> March 2024

MOL (Mauritius) Ltd hosted a training event in Mauritius from 03<sup>rd</sup> to 09<sup>th</sup> March 2024, focusing on two main agendas; 1. To understand and learn about the initiatives undertaken by MOL following the sad incident of the oil spill through social and environmental support to NPOs and Educational Institutions and 2. To meet, discuss and exchange with major private sector groups in Mauritius on sustainability issues in respect to their respective activities. This involved young employees from MOL offices from 9 different regions of the world based in Brazil, USA, United Kingdom, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Philippines, and Japan. They were divided into 3 teams; Purple, Green and White aligned with the International Woman's Day color held on the 08<sup>th</sup> of March.



This training focused on environmental protection, conservation, human capital and strategies, aligning with MOL's five sustainability issues (Materiality)

This training focused on environmental protection, conservation, human capital and strategies, aligning with MOL's five sustainability Issues (Materiality)

1. **Safety & Value** : Provide added value through safe transportation and social infrastructure business
2. **Environment** : Conservation for Marine and Global environment
3. **Human & Community** : Contributing to the growth and development of people and communities
4. **Innovation** : Innovation for development in marine technology
5. **Governance**: Governance and compliance to support businesses

The event which took place over 5 days consisted of workshops with the sustainability teams from 3 private sector companies, Currimjee Jeewanjee and Company Limited, Rogers Group and IBL Ltd and also included lectures from NGOs and eminent academics. The overall objective of this event was to enhance the understanding of sustainable practices from Mauritius local NGOs and private sector and highlight MOL Group's sustainability strategy. The agenda included exchanges with local NGOs, focused workshops and educational tours with the private sector and visit of conservation work around mangrove ecosystem and endemic species. These experiences aim to provide practical insights into the conservation efforts and their significance in promoting biodiversity and a healthier marine environment.



## 4<sup>th</sup> March

1. Visit of Coral Nursery in Pointe aux Feuilles and Blue Bay area by EcoMode Society
2. Visit of Île aux Aigrettes and Bird Watching at Riviere des Creoles Public Beach by Mauritian Wildlife Foundation
3. Beach Cleaning Activity at Riviere des Créoles Public Beach with Mauritian Wildlife Foundation



Bird watching

## 5<sup>th</sup> March

1. Visit of APPEL Rehabilitation Centre and APPEL ARCH Café
2. Workshop with Currimjee Jeewanjee and Company Limited Sustainability Champions
3. Lecture with mauritian NGOs and Dr Jimmy Harmon, Independent Researcher and Local Enforcer of the MOL Charitable Trust



Workshop with Curimjee Jewanjee & Co Ltd Sustainability Champions

## 6<sup>th</sup> March

1. Workshop with Rogers Group Sustainability Champions
2. Visit of the photovoltaic farm at Bagatelle with Rogers Group
3. Visit of mangrove nursery at Melville Barachois by Reef Conservation



Workshop with Rogers Group Sustainability Champions

## 7<sup>th</sup> March

1. Workshop with IBL Ltd Sustainability Champions
2. tour and visit of IBL House
3. Lecture by Mr Hideoki Kakimoto, Maritime Disaster Prevention Center, Japan



Workshop with IBL Ltd Sustainability Champions

# 6<sup>th</sup> March

Final presentation by the 3 Teams.

This training event represented a critical step towards adding value to sustainable practices into our operations, highlighting the MOL Group's commitment to environmental stewardship and the development of its human resources.



Group photos of teams



Final Group Presentation

## 2. Christmas Gift distribution at Mahébourg & Bambous Virieux with Celero Ltd

19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Over two days in December 2023, MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, in collaboration with Celero Ltd, brought festive cheer to children in Mahébourg & Bambous Virieux with a Christmas gift distribution event. At the Bambous Virieux Village Hall and Ville Noire Village Hall, children aged 3 to 10 years received gifts, brightening the holiday season for 250 kids, with 125 from each area. This initiative, supported by Celero Ltd, an independent logistics group and MOL's local agent in Mauritius, showcased the spirit of giving and community support, making the holiday season memorable for many families.



Christmas gifts distribution

### 3. Christmas food pack distribution event at Cité Tole with Precious Plastic Mauritius

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

On December 22, 2023, MOL (Mauritius) Ltd and Precious Plastic Mauritius joined forces for a heartwarming Christmas event in Cité Tole, Mahébourg. Continuing a tradition started in 2020, they provided Christmas food packs to 10 families, aiming to spread joy and support. Each pack, filled with snacks, daily essentials, and toys, brought smiles to both children and adults, highlighting the spirit of the season. Precious Plastic Mauritius, an NGO based in Pointe d’Esny, Mahébourg, seeks to provide recycling solutions by collecting waste and cleaning beaches and mangrove sites. This initiative underscores MOL’s commitment to community and environmental wellbeing, showcasing the positive impact of collaborative efforts during the holidays.



Distribution of food packs with members of Precious Plastic Mauritius

## 4. MOL (Europe Africa) Ltd visited Mauritius to hold Sustainability Strategic Meeting for Europe & Africa region with MOL (Mauritius) Ltd

30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 03<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

From January 30th to February 3rd, MOL (Europe Africa) Ltd held a strategic sustainability meeting in Mauritius with MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, focusing on critical environmental and social sustainability issues within the Europe & Africa region. The gathering included orientation, internal discussions, and significant meetings with local NGOs and private sector sustainability teams. Notably, they collaborated with the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF), dedicated to conserving Mauritius and endangered endemic flora and fauna, and Reef Conservation Mauritius, committed to protecting and restoring the coastal and marine environments through sustainable biodiversity use. This meeting underlined MOL's commitment to its five sustainability pillars: Safety & Value, Environment, Human & Community, Innovation, and Governance, aiming to enhance sustainable development and marine conservation efforts.



MOL (Europe Africa) Ltd strategic sustainability meeting in Mauritius with MOL (Mauritius) Ltd



# 5. MOL Charitable Trust celebrates collaboration with NGOs for Call for Proposal 3

31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

On 31st January, the MOL Charitable Trust celebrated the collaboration with the selected NGOs for the Call for Proposals 3 at Preskil Island resort. A significant step towards sustainable development and community empowerment in Mauritius, showing its ongoing commitment to positive societal and environmental impact. The ceremony was attended by His Excellency, Masahiro Kan, Japanese Ambassador to Mauritius, and Mr. Koichiro Ninomiya, Head of Sustainability and non-Energy Business, Europe & Africa Region, MOL (Europe Africa) Ltd.

This event highlighted the Trust’s commitment in furthering MOL Group’s Corporate Citizenship Activities, with a focus on “Marine Environment”, “Biodiversity”, and “Human Resources Development”. The selection of projects, aligned with MOL Group’s objectives, reinforces this commitment. The Trust is confident that these partnerships will drive change and yield lasting benefits for the community, underpinned by a commitment to meticulously monitor these initiatives. This oversight aims not only to meet but to exceed our shared ambitions for a flourishing Mauritius.



Representatives of selected NGOs and Educational Institutes in company of the His Excellency Masahiro KAN, Ambassador of Japan to Mauritius, the MOL Charitable Trust chairperson and local enforcers and a delegation from MOL (Europe Africa) Ltd

## 6. MOL (Europe Africa) Ltd and MOL (Mauritius) Ltd attended the donation ceremony of Epi-fluorescent Microscope donation ceremony

02<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

The epifluorescence microscope was donated by Shizuoka University, Japan to the University of Mauritius under the support of the MOL Mauritius International Fund for a collaborative project on coral reefs; scientific approaches to conservation and recovery of coral reefs. This microscope will enable the quantification of pico-/nano-plankton from the ocean and marine environment, a new topic of research for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO), Africa. Though these organisms may be under threat due to a globally warming ocean climate, they are yet to be thoroughly investigated in the WIO and Mauritian waters. The donated microscope will also be used to train research students, conduct workshops, support MPhil/PhD students and generate new scientific data to better understand and manage our marine/oceanic waters.



Epi-fluorescent Microscope Donation Ceremony

## 7. MOL (Mauritius) Ltd attended ceremony to celebrate the 64th Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan at the ambassador’s residence to showcase MOL’s activities for Mauritius.

29<sup>th</sup> February 2024

On February 29, 2024, MOL (Mauritius) Ltd participated in the celebration of the 64th Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan at the ambassador’s residence in Mauritius. During this significant event, MOL (Mauritius) Ltd highlighted its activities in Mauritius and showcased scale models of three innovative ships: the FSRU ship for LNG transportation and storage, the “Beluga Ace” Car Carrier ship symbolizing MOL’s legacy of innovation and eco-friendliness, and the Wind Challenger Ship, “SHOFU MARU,” exemplifying MOL’s commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through wind energy.



Reception at the Ambassador’s residence



Display of scale models ships

rust



MOL Charitable Trust



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itsui O.S.K. Lines

# TRIBUTE TO DAMIEN



rust



MOL Charit

## Tribute to Damien

In memory of Damien, colleagues and friends have shared their thoughts and reflections. These tributes serve as a testament to the remarkable legacy he leaves behind, honouring his memory and the lasting influence he had on our lives.



“ It is with heavy hearts that we remember Damien. Damien joined MOL Mauritius in January 2021 and played an integral role in the operation of the MOL Charitable Trust, as well as supporting MOL Group’s activities in Mauritius.

Damien’s dedication and passion for his work were evident to all who had the privilege of working with him. His contributions to our team and the community in Mauritius were significant and will have a lasting impact. He was not just a colleague, but a friend to many, known for his kindness, compassion, and unwavering commitment to making a difference.

In this time of sorrow, we reflect on the positive influence Damien had on our lives and the lives of those he served through his work. His legacy will continue to inspire us all. Our thoughts go out to Damien’s family and loved ones. We share in your grief and stand with you in solidarity during this painful time.

Damien, you will be deeply missed but always remembered.”

**From all officers and employees**  
 MOL Group





“ When we google search the word ‘gentleman’, we get the following noun definitions:

‘chivalrous, courteous or honourable man’.

Damien will remain for me this young gentleman I met in my life.

Having shown great chivalry when he joined Agnes for the Otherworld.

Always courteous when addressing you.

And diligently honouring his commitment.

Indeed, Damien is Unforgettable! ”

**Dr Jimmy Harmon**

Local Enforcer

“ As an enforcer of the MOL Charitable Trust, I have worked closely with Damien who was its main coordinator.

He was an excellent organiser, proactive, good forward planner and attentive to details. In the many meetings and travels, he would always try his best to accommodate everyone and find solutions where required. He was gifted at languages and learned Japanese which was more than useful in his role.

Grounded in his strong Christian faith, he stood out as a person of high integrity, caring, kind, loyal, dependable and a hard worker.

I have no doubt that the MCT team will miss him greatly. ”

**Marc Dalais**

Local Enforcer



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“It is with a heavy heart that am writing these few lines in tribute to Damien. The very first time we met a bit more than 3 years ago I spotted a serious and hard-working young man who knew exactly what he wanted. Your well-mannered way of addressing others and openness to instructions says a lot about your upbringing and credit goes to your parents. At that time, you were still new in the professional world but so keen to learning and I unknowingly volunteered to be your coach.

Damien, you have been a very respectful and obedient lad, full of ambitions and lots of plans ahead. “Good luck to you and please take care” was your last words to me a few days before you disappeared forever. You have marked my life and that of my family like many others. You left so many words and lots of photos of you as souvenirs, but we will always miss you. Yet another beautiful soul gone so early.”

**Darmen Ellayah**  
 Local Enforcer



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“ I first met Damien through my work with the MOL Charitable Trust, as my company, Maluti Communications, has been their communication partner since they registered the trust in Mauritius. These are not just words of comfort: Damien literally leaves behind a legacy of kindness and dedication. He was a formidable young man, always wearing an easy smile and carrying a positive attitude. From day one, it was clear he had been brought up with strong values, which complemented his own natural qualities.

Relaxed yet professional, diligent yet seemingly easy-going, Damien had an extraordinary attention to detail. He was hardworking in a smooth, effortless way, never once complaining about being tired or stretched, even when he was. But what struck me the most was his empathy for the downtrodden and those in need. The MOL Charitable Trust has helped thousands of people, and Damien was one of those at the heart of it all. He truly cared. He wanted a better Mauritius. He definitely wanted a fairer society.

He wanted empowerment for those he helped.

Damien didn't see people helped through the MOL Charitable Trust as "hardship cases"; he saw them as individuals with stories - mothers, fathers, and children. During ceremonies or visits, he used to quietly tell me about the "stories behind the stories." How such-and-such person we were visiting had managed to stand up again. How another person had, with only his own two hands to start with, helped to sustain numerous families in his area. He really saw people, and that's what I admired most about him.

He saw me too. I wasn't just the boss of Maluti, their communication partner. I was Marina. He would call from time to time when my children left for their studies, or when my father was very sick, offering his support. Just a week before the tragedy, he called to ask if I needed help with blood donation for my father.

To his colleagues at MOL: I know that you cared deeply about him and that, being a small team, you were close-knit. I witnessed this even more through your dedication at the site of the tragedy. My heart goes out to you in solidarity.

To his parents, sister, and close circle, I cannot begin to imagine the depth of your loss. I have no words. I hope knowing that Damien made such a big difference in so many lives brings you some comfort.

Damien, my friend, wherever you are now, I am sure that your bright smile is still shining. ”

**Marina YTHIER**  
 Maluti Communications





“ In loving memory of Damien, a cherished colleague with whom I started to collaborate since January 2024 on the We matter Project. In the short time that we worked together, I witnessed his dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to excellence. He approached every task with enthusiasm and passion, inspiring those around him to strive for greatness.

On the 15th of march, for our event Fam inspire which was held at Gros bois, I got the opportunity to meet Damien and he took the time to engage with me in meaningful conversation and also with the beneficiaries who were present. As we come together to remember Damien and honour his memory, I am reminded of the profound impact he had on those around him.

My heartfelt condolences go out to Damien’s loved ones during this difficult time. May they find comfort in the knowledge that Damien’s light will forever shine bright in the hearts of those he touched. ”

**Priscilla VENCATAPILLAY**  
 ENL Foundation





“ Damien, you were an exceptional young man, always helping others and seeing things in a positive light. No problem was ever too big to manage. You had time for everyone, always. The poorest of poor or ambassadors of nations.

We will always remember your nonsense, laughter and teasing, and being serious when you needed to be. We will guard these precious memories closely. You have left an indelible mark on each of our lives. The void left behind is immense. We miss you and your beautiful Agnes. ”

**Amelia, Charonne and Tam**  
 I61 Foundation

“ L'équipe de Caritas Ile Maurice souhaite rendre hommage à notre cher ami, Damien. Une personne dont la gentillesse, la générosité et la chaleur humaine ont touché tous ceux qu'il rencontrait. Son engagement à aider les autres était évident dans tout ce qu'il faisait. Que ce soit à travers son travail, ses efforts bénévoles ou ses interactions quotidiennes, Damien a laissé une empreinte durable sur ceux qui l'entouraient.

J'ai personnellement été touché par son professionnalisme, sa douceur, sa patience et son sens de service. ”

**Josian LABONTÉ**  
 Caritas



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