



*MOL Charitable Trust*  
**NEWSLETTER**

September 2023

2nd edition

# Content



## **1 Message from Kazuhiko SUGANO, Chairperson of MOL Charitable Trust**

## **2 Aims of the Trust**

Dr. Jimmy Harmon talks about social and educational projects.

## **3 Activities/Events – Networking events**

Launch of the third call for proposals 2023/2024.

## **4 Project Details of the 2nd call for projects**

Arts, social, and education strands.





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



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

Dear readers and partners,

It is a great honor for me to address you once again as Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust. I've only been in office a few months, and I've already seen what a great job is being done in Mauritius. Above all, I've had the chance to visit project sites and meet some unforgettable people who are committed, dedicated, and passionate about just and noble causes and about building a better future.

We're still halfway through our second year of supporting local NGOs, and the projects are progressing well. Several procedures have been implemented to ensure that each project we support can be completed on time and improve the quality of our support to our beneficiaries.

Indeed, MOL CT is far from being a simple donor; our vocation is to commit ourselves as best we can to our beneficiaries to ensure the success of our mission, whether on the ground or at the administrative level. We also facilitate, acting as a link between Japan and Mauritius. For example, we have served as intermediaries between several Mauritian and Japanese educational institutions, such as the University of Mauritius, Shizuoka University and Hokkaido University in Japan.

The University of Mauritius and Shizuoka University recently gave a superb presentation on the conservation of coral in Mauritius, a fascinating conference that I was lucky enough to attend a short while ago.

Above all, I'm delighted to have seen first-hand the impact of the projects we support on the daily lives of many needy families, children, and parents. As you will read in this newsletter, this is the essence of our mission in Mauritius.

Completion of educational and social projects, and the emotion is always at its peak when the beneficiaries of the projects explain how these have positively impacted their lives. Remember the environmental aspect because conservation of Mauritius's exceptional nature is also paramount. We must safeguard rare and endangered species, not forgetting essential ecosystems such as mangroves and coral reefs, to leave generations a natural heritage worthy of the name.

It is necessary to adopt a rigorous, scientific approach to achieve this. In short, we are pursuing our task with passion and determination. There are still so many things to do and accomplish in Mauritius. However, we can already be incredibly proud of how far we have come. I want to thank all of you for your involvement and dedication to the many causes that MOL CT supports.

*"Nou avek zot"*

*We are always with you.*

## Message from Kazuhiko SUGANO Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust





# Aims of the Trust



## Dr. Jimmy Harmon talks about...

**Social and educational projects: One of the central pillars of the mission of the MOL Charitable Trust (MOL CT)**

MOL CT's mission in Mauritius comprises ten objectives directly inspired by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Of these ten goals, those relating to social support and education are certainly the most essential of all. This is why, since its launch, the Trust has focused on projects in these areas.

Dr. Jimmy Harmon, a MOL CT Enforcers Committee member in Mauritius, explains, *"Education is an indispensable pillar of empowerment and a weapon to help vulnerable people break out of the cycle of precariousness. This is why educating children from complex backgrounds is one of MOL CT's mission priorities in Mauritius. As a reminder, we drew inspiration from the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to identify our priorities in Mauritius. MDG number 4 aims to ensure equal access to quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities. We are endeavoring to follow these pretexts to the best of our ability by supporting educational projects that are judicious and innovative. We must continue our efforts in this area and invest in young people because they will build the Mauritius of tomorrow"*.

For more information on the various educational projects involved in MOL CT, follow a presentation and a description of their impact on local communities.



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > [Aims of the Trust](#) > Activities/Events > Project Details





# Activities/Events



## Presentation of certificates to the beneficiaries of the Caritas Lifeskills Empowerment project under Call for Proposal 1

14<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April

The project to optimise employability, initiated by Caritas with the support of MOL CT, ended on a high note on 14 and 25 April, with two certificate award ceremonies in Trou-d'Eau-Douce and Mahébourg. The project reached 150 people in the East and South-East regions and had three components: literacy, life skills, and vocational training in pastry-making. The courses were run by instructors approved by the Mauritius Qualification Authority (MQA).

Present at both ceremonies, Kazuhiko Sugano, President of MOL CT, said he was pleased that the beneficiaries were now *"better equipped to get a job and improve their daily lives thanks to their efforts."* He also thanked *"all those who have participated in any way in the success of this project, particularly the Caritas teams who have done a fantastic job."*



## Workshop on corals and climate change under the MOL Mauritius International Fund Grant

28<sup>th</sup> April

On 28 April, the President of MOL CT took part in a workshop on the impact of climate change on coral ecosystems jointly organized by the University of Mauritius and Shizuoka University for their project under the MOL Mauritius International fund. The workshop aimed to disseminate the data gathered by the two universities' research teams on Mauritian corals while raising public awareness of the dangers threatening these precious marine ecosystems.

The team of speakers included Professor Beatriz Estela Castero, Professor Yoshimi Suzuki, and Assistant Professor Toshiyuki Suzuki from Shizuoka University, Suzano Ushara, a professional diver from Okinawa, Japan, and Dr. Sanjeet Bhagooli and Dr. Deepeeka Kaullysing from the University of Mauritius.





## Presentation of certificates to Revey Twa Fam Beneficiaries under MCT Call for Proposal 2

8<sup>th</sup> June

The NGO Revey Twa Fam organised an exhibition of certificates to the first group of beneficiaries of its project at the Village Hall in Ville-Noire on 8 June. Thirteen of the fourteen women concerned could attend to receive their end-of-programmed certificates. The Revey Twa Fam project aims to empower women from disadvantaged backgrounds.

This empowerment involves vocational training in the hospitality sector (cleaning, cooking, reception, service, laundry, etc.) and work placement. Several of them have already received job offers. Training for a second group of around 15 beneficiaries will be launched shortly.



## Mangrove clean-up with EcoMode Society

8<sup>th</sup> June

Also, on 8 June, to mark World Oceans Day, the NGO EcoMode Society organised a clean-up in collaboration with Aqua Soleil and MOL (Mauritius) Ltd of a mangrove forest near the Ferney Bridge. This is an important natural area for marine and coastal ecosystems, which is unfortunately very polluted. Around twenty volunteers were present, mainly seafarers and residents from neighboring towns. Over 60 110-liter bin bags were filled with rubbish during the event. Unfortunately, the amount of waste accumulated means that the complete clean-up of the site is likely to take a few more years.



## 1st year Project Outcome Reporting Session 2023 by NGOs supported by the MOL Mauritius International Fund in Japan

12<sup>th</sup> July

Among the latest developments concerning initiatives supported by the MOL Mauritius International Fund (MMIF), a foundation established by Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd (MOL) in 2021, was a recent event at which local beneficiary NGOs presented the results of their funded projects. offers. Training for a second group of around 15 beneficiaries will be launched shortly. The event took place on Wednesday, 12 July, at Le Preskil Hotel, Pointe d'Esny, in the presence of His Excellency Kawaguchi Shuichiro, Japanese Ambassador to Mauritius, and representatives of the NGOs and the Mauritian government. The Japan-based MMIF works closely with the MOL Charitable Trust, which operates exclusively in Mauritius, and has a total fund of 800 million yen (around 250 million rupees) spread over 5 to 6 years.

Last year, MMIF supported seven local NGOs, including the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, Reef Conservation, APPEL, The Good Shop, FALCON Association, Gender Links Mauritius, and Ecomode Society. These projects cover many areas, including social work, education, environmental

protection, the preservation of endangered species, and the empowerment of vulnerable communities. At the event, Prof. Mariko Kawaguchi, Chairperson of the MMIF Steering Committee, praised the ambitious environmental projects presented in the context of extreme weather conditions worldwide. His Excellency Kawaguchi Shuichiro, Ambassador of Japan to Mauritius, also underlined the importance of the collaboration between MOL, local NGOs, the government, and the private sector for the notable achievements in the field of the environment.

The MMIF and the MOL Charitable Trust continue to support local NGOs, and currently, some thirty projects are being funded by the two foundations in Mauritius. Mr. Tatsuro Watanabe, Executive Officer and Chief Environment Sustainability Officer of Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd, expressed his belief in the fruitful collaboration between MOL and Mauritian NGOs, underlining MOL's unwavering commitment to continue its support.



## Collaborative meeting with Education and Arts Focused NGOs

20<sup>th</sup> July

The Collaborative Meeting with Education and Arts-Focused NGOs held on Thursday, 20th July, was a successful gathering that brought together organisations and experts to discuss parental involvement in education and strategies to engage parents effectively. The meeting, hosted at the Preskil Hotel Conference Room, featured various insightful presentations and discussions.

The event commenced with an engaging opening message from the Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust, Mr. Sugano Kazuhiko, setting a positive tone for the subsequent discussions.

Dr. Jimmy Harmon, a local enforcer, Deputy Director, and Head of Secondary at Diocesan Education service, provided valuable insights from his field expertise. Miss Angel Anne-Lise CHARLOT COLOMES, an educational psychologist, joined the meeting remotely to present her research findings on the mediating role of satisfaction and frustration in the autonomy support provided by mothers and teachers, impacting students' school adjustment. Mrs. Sonia from NGO Ti Rayons Soleil delivered an inspiring presentation on their program, "Parent Empowerment Support," shedding light on their initiatives and strategies to empower parents to participate in

in their children's education actively. Mrs. Priscilla Bignoux, representing NGO Action Familiale, shared valuable insights on their program titled "How to Help My Child Grow," offering practical guidance and tips for parents to support their child's overall growth and development.

The meeting witnessed active participation from a diverse range of NGOs, including Loreto College Bambous Virieux, Loreto College Mahebourg, Bonheur Associe aux Enfants, Social Circus of Cite la Chau, Ti Rayons Soleil, Mahebourg Espoir, Biodiversity Preservation, Action Familiale, Eastern Welfare Association for Disabled, Youth With Disabilities Empowerment Platform, Batisseurs de Paix.

This collaborative meeting provided a valuable platform for knowledge sharing, fostering collaboration, and exploring future partnership opportunities among the participating NGOs. The insights shared during the event will undoubtedly enhance parental involvement in education and promote the holistic development of children in our community.



Click to navigate


A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > [Activities/Events](#) > Project Details





## CALL FOR PROPOSAL 2023/2024

The MOL Charitable Trust is hereby inviting application from eligible entities to apply for project funding which are aligned with the purpose of the Trust as per the following guidelines:

1. Applicants should be a registered Not-for-Profit entity in Mauritius, in operation for more than 1 year. Any entity barred/blacklisted by national or international donors will not be considered for funding.
2. Generally, Board of Directors or Committee Members should not be remunerated. However, should they be remunerated, this should be disclosed.
3. Only 1 application is allowed per Applicant for a duration of the project of 12 months as from date of signature of MOU.
4. This Call for Proposal will consider funding up to MUR 1 million per project. Co-funding with other donors is permitted.
5. Inaccurate or incomplete applications will be automatically rejected.
6. Project proposals should be related to at least one of the Purposes of the MOL Charitable Trust as listed below:
  - a) Conservation and development of mangrove forests
  - b) Conservation and development of coral reefs
  - c) Conservation of wild, migratory and rare birds
  - d) Preservation and restoration of cultural property
  - e) Economic development in fisheries and tourism industries
  - f) Awareness and sensitization on ecology, ecotourism and environmental protection
  - g) Empowerment of communities through social welfare and education
  - h) Research and development related to renewable energy
  - i) Humanitarian assistance post disaster events
  - j) Related infrastructure development to support any of the above actions
7. Applications are open for projects to be implemented in all regions of Mauritius. However, priority will be for empowerment of local communities through social and environmental projects in the south-east region.
8. Eligible entities are highly encouraged to submit innovative and impact-based projects. Entities which were funded under the first Call for Proposal may also apply.
9. Project proposals will undergo an Evaluation Process by an independent entity and only shortlisted applicants will be required to provide additional details and relevant documents for background checks before a final decision is taken. Inability to provide such information or relevant documents in time may result in disqualification of the applicant.
10. Selected applicants will be informed of the decision of the MOL Charitable Trust, and they will be required to sign an MOU with such terms and conditions prior to disbursement of funds.
11. 50% of funds will be disbursed at the start of the project and the balance after successful evaluation of the first semester or as per the terms of the MOU.
12. The selected projects will be monitored and evaluated by an independent entity reporting to the MOL Charitable Trust.
13. The decision of the MOL Charitable Trust is final and irrevocable and it reserves the right not to provide justification thereof. However, all applicants will be informed of the final decision of the MOL Charitable Trust in the selection of projects.
14. Applications should be made using the Online Application Form at the following link:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/VxchGnjHxx>  
Or by scanning this QR code:  

15. Applications should be submitted online by **29th September 2023 at 11.59 p.m Local Time.**
16. Late, inaccurate or incomplete applications will be automatically rejected.

Date of Publication: 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2023

Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > **Activities/Events** > Project Details



Pg 12



# Project Details ...

The NGOs of the second call for projects -  
Arts, social, and education strands.





**NGO Name: Ti Rayons Soleil**

**Interviewee: Bérengère Series, Director**

### Organisation

Working to support the social inclusion of women in poverty, revitalise communities and educate children.

### Presentation of the project

Operation of preschool in Mahebourg district. Montessori educational materials and other materials will be used to provide high-quality education and meals appropriate for developing the mind and body in early childhood. Parents and guardians will be encouraged to understand the importance of family love through activities at the facility.

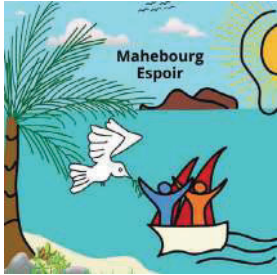
*"The project we are running this year with the M.O.L. Charitable Trust started in 2022. Last year, we were able to open a nursery school, which began with an educational program for young children while it was officially registered. Now that this is complete, we have opened Les Ti Serins Nursery School. Since January, we have welcomed no fewer than 40 pupils from Résidence Ville Noire, Résidence La Chaux, and Mahébourg, among others. We recruit on very objective criteria based on the families' vulnerability, precariousness, and children's needs. By working with these families, we have been able to refine our work with these communities, and we wanted to equip the school with a holistic team, as is the case in all our programs. This year, thanks to the support of the MOL Charitable Trust, we have added a nurse, a psychologist, a speech therapist, and an assistant psychologist who look after the children in general. This enables us to monitor children with special needs as closely as possible and to offer them a program tailored to their sensory, motor, social and intellectual development."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)





## NGO Name: Mahebourg Espoir

Interviewee: Annick Jowrun, Vice-President

### Organisation

Committed to alleviating material, social, educational, familial, and environmental poverty, it provides children with literacy, numeracy, and employment training in dedicated facilities.

### Presentation of the project

School vans and other transportation will be put at the disposal of children living in areas without preschool in the remote suburbs of Mahébourg village. The nursery school prepares the children for primary schools through the Montessori method, serving balanced meals, organisation of field trips, recreational and educational activities for children's physical and mental development.

*"Our pre-primary school caters for 27 children aged between 3 and 5 from Cité Tôle and Cité La Chau. Funding from MOL CT enables us to provide the children with two school vans and daily meals. The beneficiaries come from disadvantaged areas not served by public transport, and hence they enter primary school without having attended any preschool. MOL's donation also enables us to equip the school with outdoor games and organize regular school outings. We recently visited Casela and plan to visit the Ferney Valley or take a glass-bottomed boat trip. The staff comprises of two early childhood teachers, an art and craft teacher, a cook, a cleaner, a social worker, and a regular voluntary early childhood expert. We have this year set up a Learning Corner at Cité La Chau Social Centre for remedial teaching and follow-up of 2022 school leavers who have entered primary school this year. Regular one-off events are organized, such as Open Day and our recent Fun Day, during which bags, shoes, and water bottles were distributed to the children. Without the support of MOL CT, Mahebourg Espoir pre-primary school would not have existed, and it is essential that children attend kindergartens as early as the age of 3 for the smooth schooling in primary schools. Unfortunately, many underprivileged families, living in remote suburbs, cannot afford the cost of sending their young children to schools equipped with the necessary infrastructure".*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



## NGO Name: Biodiversity Preservation

Interviewee: Hoozla Ramoly Sookia, Project Developer

### Organisation

They are protecting biodiversity and restoring food systems through sustainable consumption and production.

### Presentation of the project

Continuation of the support of other schools in developing an Eco-Literacy Toolkit to raise environmental awareness. The project includes setting up workshops for young people, designing a tool for calculating CO2 emissions, and creating an electronic library accessible to students and teaching staff.

*“Our project this year is to set up a carbon footprint calculator for our Eco-Literacy program. Last year, again, as part of this program, we launched Ekoskop, a community card game with questions and answers covering twelve environmental themes. We offer packs of cards to our beneficiaries, whether other NGOs, students as ambassadors, or various institutions. The Eco-Literacy project includes a creativity program and a research program. We are organising school workshops to get students involved in conceptualising the calculator. We appeal to young people’s imagination while nurturing their scientific culture and environmental commitment. As part of the creativity program, we are delivering workshops to accompany our beneficiaries to create slams on environmental protection. The final objective for this year is to finalise the calculator, which will be free and available to everyone online on our website to calculate their carbon footprint while providing solutions for reducing it. Children are the future of the planet, so it’s important to raise their awareness on these issues from an early age. In this way, they can bring about the changes we need by helping to change mindsets and taking the right action.”*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)







**NGO Name: Action Familiale**

**Interviewee: Sean Rungen, Director**

### Organisation

An organisation that offers advice and other programs to parents and their children to promote a harmonious and stable family life.

### Presentation of the project

Family Empowerment and Life Skills Programme. The project includes support for difficult couples, the RADO and Aider mon enfant à grandir programs for families, and Life Skills training. The NGO will mainly target families who have moved from Trou d'Eau Douce and Mahébourg.

*"Our project this year covers two regions: Trou d'Eau Douce and Mahébourg. We are completing the Trou d'Eau Douce program and plan to launch the Mahébourg program at the end of July or early August. We have four programs: firstly, the RADO program, which we support around forty children every Saturday. Then there's the 'Helping my child to grow up' program (Aider mon enfant à grandir), which aims to strengthen family ties between parents and children and give parents the educational resources to support their children. This is a platform for discussion on the role of parents, where meetings offer beneficiaries other points of view. We also offer a Life Skills program, which gives parents the confidence to get back on their feet and move on with their lives. Finally, the Couple Skills program aims to strengthen relationships within couples and consolidate the family unit. This program was originally intended to occur in the beneficiaries' homes during individual sessions, but they preferred to do it in a group. We follow 30 to 40 families in the Trou d'Eau Douce region, and the project has done much good in the community."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



Pg 17



## NGO Name: Bonheur Associe aux Enfants (BAE)

Interviewee: Cindy Constance-Zamire,  
Secretary General

### Organisation

The organisation aims to support children's education and improve their daily lives to promote equal opportunities.

### Presentation of the project

The Enfants Heureux project provides daily lunch and school supplies to 65 children from disadvantaged backgrounds in Cité Beau Vallon and Mahébourg.

*"The project is going wonderfully well. All the planned activities are going well. We distribute Lunch Packs daily at our headquarters, where pupils pick them up every morning before school. We look after 75 children, including ten infants. We also organise tutoring classes three times a week. Thanks to MOL CT, we have employed a qualified teacher, which ensures quality teaching and better monitoring of the school curriculum. In the first year, we had some difficulties managing our funds. We were in deficit in the middle of the school year. This year, we have learned from our past experiences, and with the support of MOL CT and the I61 Foundation, we no longer have any worries in this area".*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)





**NGO Name: Bâtisseurs de Paix**

**Interviewee: Pascale Desvaux, Director**

### Organisation

An association dedicated to helping people in disadvantaged social situations, mainly those living near Saint Hilaire.

### Presentation of the project

Extension of the classrooms at the association's Solidarity Centre and creating of a solidarity shop for disadvantaged families in Saint-Hilaire. The project also includes workshops on the reuse and transformation of waste into valuable objects as a source of income.

*"With the financial support of MOL CT, we plan to set up a listening centre for various communities experiencing difficulties in the vicinity of the village of Saint-Hilaire and other areas in the South-East. This center will enable us to offer several community services. For example, we'll be able to help families in difficulty, such as those who can't write and need to deal with administrative formalities, accompany older adults who need to go to the hospital, and offer home visits to people with disabilities. The centre will also house a second-hand shop, where families can buy a range of utensils and everyday items at low prices, such as clothes, crockery, toys, books, etc. There will also be a solidarity shop, which will enable us to offer monthly shopping bags at wholesale prices to around 200 families. Finally, we plan to set up a recycling workshop in the centre, which could provide some of the poorest people, particularly women, with a regular income. The aim will be to make different objects from different types of waste. We have already found an ideal home for this project. Renovation work has begun, but we had to stop it because of administrative procedures, as the house belonged to a deceased person whose heir is abroad. We are now completing these procedures and will resume the work shortly."*



Community Development



Education



Other



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



Pg 19



**NGO Name: Sov Lanatir**

**Interviewee: Krishnadeva Pentayah, CEO**

### Organisation

Run by young leaders aged between 18 and 27, the association combats the effects of pollution and climate change using an interdisciplinary approach.

### Presentation of the project

The project aims to restore coastal, marine, and wetland resources and increase biodiversity by planting 100 square metres of mangroves in the Trou d'Eau Douce area. The association will promote a holistic approach that combines scientific, engineering, sociological research, community engagement, philosophy, and spirituality.

*"Our project aims to restore the mangrove forests in the eastern region around Trou d'Eau Douce. The project has five aspects: philosophical, sociological, scientific, community, and educational. Regarding education, we offer a program for primary and secondary school students called "Lekol dan Lanatir." Schoolchildren come to the restoration site, and we offer them several fun and enriching activities that enable them to learn more about the two species of mangroves we have in Mauritius, their importance for marine and coastal ecosystems, what needs to be done to protect them, etc. We have also launched an educational program for tertiary students, specifically marine biology students at the University of Mauritius. Through this program, they can apply what they have learned during their courses, study the specific characteristics of mangroves, conduct tests, collect various data, etc. We have welcomed around 200 primary, secondary, and tertiary students. Visits to the site are made every Sunday, depending on the weather."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)





## NGO Name: Social Circus Cite la Chaux

Interviewee: Ornella Chellen,  
Project Coordinator

### Organisation

The association is dedicated to promoting socio-economic development, empowerment, and children's holistic education at Cité La Chaux.

### Presentation of the project

The project aims to provide skills-building opportunities, personal growth, and community engagement. The organisation offers a safe and nurturing space for 62 children from Cité La Chaux. During the after-school, Saturdays, and holidays program. A range of artistic and circus workshops are conducted by professional Art teachers to children, as well as literacy fun classes. Women from the community are at the heart of the project as facilitators, contacts with families, as well as Arts & Crafts educators. They are provided with a yearly training and coaching in interactive pedagogy. They also support the coordinator in the planning and organisation of the project. Food collection and distribution amongst families are organised on a regular basis, and children at activities are provided with break snacks and lunch.

*"We are offering art workshops and educational support for 62 children. There's theatre, circus, paddling, juggling, and many other fun activities to help the children gain self-confidence, assert themselves in public, and communicate better. On Saturdays, we run a literacy workshop, and every day of the week, we offer our art workshops from 4 pm. Professionals run them in their fields. Some facilitators come from vulnerable families in the community we have trained ourselves. Funding from MOL CT enables us to provide them with an income and buy materials for our various activities."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



Pg 21



**NGO Name: Ecosud**

**Interviewee: Sebastien Sauvage, CEO**

### Organisation

An organisation whose mission is to protect the environment and biodiversity of Mauritius while stimulating economic, social, and environmental development, the protection of natural ecosystems, and the development of agroecological systems to promote food self-sufficiency.

### Presentation of the project

To reduce poverty in the southeastern region of the island, social workers will work with target households to provide psychological support and reduced-price meals for up to six months. They will also be trained in farming methods to improve food self-sufficiency and security at our association's Resilient Organic Community Centre, an agricultural training centre.

*"Our project this year is a continuation of last year's, in line with Eco-Sud's strategic objective of fostering food security by promoting agroecology. Last year, we set up an agroecological farm in Ville-Noire and offered training to local communities. This year, we have extended our services by setting up a solidarity food shop for thirty vulnerable families in the South-East region for six months, bringing the total number of families benefiting from this service to sixty. The shop offers essential products at affordable prices to ensure minimum food security for these families. We have also launched a community kitchen called the ROC Kitchen, which promotes environmentally friendly food and where families learn to cook, discover new foods and eat together. Funding from MOL CT has also enabled us to build the professional capacity of our social workers by providing them with training from a mental health professional."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)





**NGO Name: Revey Twa**  
**Interviewee: Sylvain Seblin, President**

### Organisation

An association dedicated to supporting disadvantaged people in the island's southeast, focusing on empowering women.

### Presentation of the project

The project Revey Twa involves providing training in cooking, housekeeping, ironing, sewing, etc, to help women who have lost their jobs find a new source of income.

*"This year, funding from MOL CT enabled us to provide training for an initial group of around fifteen unemployed women from disadvantaged backgrounds, 90% of the participant did not have certificates or recommendation from older employers. The training, which covered service and hospitality trades, began in February, ended on 7 June, and included a work placement. The trades covered included cleaner, waitresses, babysitters, receptionists, laundresses, etc. We will be launching the training of a second group of fifteen women at the beginning of August, thanks to MOL CT's support. Until now, most of our beneficiaries are inhabitants of Mahebourg, Grand Port, and lived from the sea: they were octopus fisherwomen or collected shellfish and seafood, or were housewives. Many of them are also single mothers. By teaching them a trade and proving their worth in a professional setting, we give them a chance to support themselves and their children better. This is our second year of operation, and all our beneficiaries from the first year have found work. What's more, several of the members of our first group this year, 2023, have received job offers. This is very encouraging for them and motivates us to continue our efforts on their behalf."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



Pg 23



**NGO Name: Precious Plastic Mauritius**  
**Interviewee: Claire Stout, Project Coordinator**

### Organisation

An organisation set up to inform and educate communities about protecting the environment and recycling plastic waste. Precious Plastic organises educational sessions and activities to inform students and residents about plastic pollution and recycling.

### Presentation of the project

Precious Plastic collects recyclable waste (plastic, cans, and glass) in the Mahébourg region. The use of a bicycle and trailer to do this valuable, informative tool. Once the plastic is sorted and cleaned, it can then be transformed into a variety of new products, hereby helping to develop the local circular economy.

*"Since the beginning of the year, Precious Plastic has steadily increased the number of educational and awareness sessions, both at the Pointe Jérôme Youth Training Centre and externally. We have reached over 1,000 people since the start of the year through these sessions. Every month, we carry out at least one or two beach clean-ups in the area. These initiatives are an integral part of our project and our identity, highlighting our work while raising public awareness of plastic pollution. We have also launched a fruitful partnership with the Youth with Disabilities Empowerment Platform, whose beneficiaries have become valuable helpers in our various activities. Their work with us helps them at the same time to gain confidence and become more independent. Finally, we are working with several private companies to design specific moulds to be able to make new objects for them from recycled plastic waste. With the arrival of new equipment in April, our production is set to expand, and this will greatly facilitate our recycling activities. We still have much to do in the second half of this year, but we are ready to give it our all."*



Mangrove



Education



Other



Other



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



Pg 24





## NGO Name: Loreto College Mahebourg

Interviewee: Martine Cotte, Rector

### Organisation

An educational organisation which promotes students' academic, spiritual, and personal development.

### Presentation of the project

Distribution of meals to students, organisation of extra-curricular activities, remedial classes after school and providing school materials for specific practical subjects such as Art and Design, Food and Textiles, and Design and Technology.

*"There are several aspects to our project this year. Firstly, the MOL CT grant enables us to offer a daily lunch to pupils from underprivileged families who do not have enough to eat. Since last year, we have also been running a tutoring program for around fifteen girls from disadvantaged backgrounds experiencing serious difficulties in French, English, and Mathematics. Thrice a week, we organise after-school classes run by three educators including two from our school. What's encouraging is that the program's beneficiaries are much more motivated than last year and are regularly attending the sessions because they want to succeed at their exams. To enhance their motivation, we also provide school materials for specific practical classes such as Art and Design, Food and Textiles and Design and Technology. Finally, we will be organising educational trips to awake in the beneficiaries the interest in discovering places on the island that are unfamiliar to them. Last year, they went to the Odysee Aquarium, Curious Corner, and La Vanille Crocodile Park. This year, they will go to the Pamplemousses Botanical Garden."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



**NGO Name: Porteurs d'Images**

**Interviewee: Joelle Ducray, President**

### Organisation

The association aims to develop the Mauritian film culture and filmmaking practice through film education activities, film screenings, and trainings, as well as short film production and distribution.

### Presentation of the project

Weekly film workshops will be organised for young people and children living around the Mahébourg region. Participants will discover and put into practice their skills in making fiction, documentary, and animation films. The films produced will be published on our social media so that the participants can share them with their friends and family.

*"The activities kicked off in April when we took advantage of the school holidays to set up a series of 15 workshop sessions for 24 children aged 5 to 7 from the Cité La Chaux neighbourhood, in collaboration with the Cirque Social de Cité La Chaux and with the participation of 6 animators from this NGO. During these workshops, the participants discovered and learned about the different techniques of animated film: flip book, stop motion, pixilation, etc., and each of them made a short video at each session. We received positive feedback from the children, the facilitators, and the NGO coordinator. We plan to extend this collaboration in the year's second half with workshops for the other children with whom the NGO runs activities. In May and June, we ran workshops with two groups of young people aged between 10 and 15 at the Mahébourg Espoir NGO in Ville Noire. During these workshops, the participants were able to discover all the stages in the process of making a live-action film, from the idea and writing of the script to the editing of the film, and each group was able to make a collective film: the first group made a short fiction film and the second group a short documentary film. All the young participants, and the teachers who accompanied them, were delighted with the experience and expressed the wish to make more films. Other workshops will be held in the coming months."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)



Pg 26



**NGO Name: Eastern Welfare Association for Disabled**  
**Interviewee: Devinah Bungsy, President**

### Organisation

The organisation works for people with disabilities, aiming to offer them equal opportunities and rights and improve their quality of life. It provides educational support, learning opportunities, medical consultations, and opportunities for rehabilitation in society.

### Presentation of the project

To help disabled people become financially independent, the institution will provide training in agriculture, handicrafts, and information and communication technologies. It will also allow beneficiaries to develop their careers and choose the right field of activity once they have completed the training. In addition to the trainers, the association will work with doctors, occupational therapists, and psychologists to support the psychological and physical development of the beneficiaries.

*"The project has helped us to foster the development of disabled children, orphans, and vulnerable young adults, improve their functional educational skills and promote the need to establish ways of providing them with decent living conditions. We have provided them primary education and life skills through special vocational training to strengthen their future autonomy and independence. We have also organised counselling and guidance seminars and workshops for parents so their children can benefit from the same level of care at home. So far, the living conditions of intellectually disabled children have improved. They collaborate and interact with peer groups and within society. The beneficiaries have received high-quality computer education and advice from teachers in information and communication technologies. The project has improved the beneficiaries' quality of life and independence through interaction with teachers and friends. At the same time, they have learned new techniques and professional skills through various entrepreneurial activities. They can earn a living and contribute financially to their families. We are also delighted to see that the children enrolled in special education are excelling in their studies."*



Click to navigate

A message from the Chairperson > Aims of the Trust > Activities/Events > [Project Details](#)





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