Reef Conservation
Ongoing projects

In support of the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14

May 2017
Created in 2004, Reef Conservation is an accredited N.G.O dedicated to the Conservation and restoration of the coastal and marine environment of Mauritius.

Ongoing Projects and Programs

Education & Awareness

Community Outreach & Conservation

Capacity Building & Training

Research & Monitoring
Since 2010 15,000 people have visited Nauticaz our Centre
Education and Awareness Programmes

Club Mer and Holiday Camps

Interactive hands on programmes with youth including:
- Field visits and practical lessons
- Swimming and snorkelling lessons
- First Aid training (Club Mer)
- Games
Education and Awareness Programmes

Since 2014, the bus has reached 18,000 people

- Schools
- Community groups including coastal communities
- Private companies
- Open Days
Education and Awareness Programmes

2000 people sensitized through Bis Lamer
Education and Awareness Programmes

MOU with the Climate Change Adaptation Fund Project under the Ministry of Environment
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Education and Awareness Programmes
Development of Educational Tools
Education and Awareness Programmes – Development of Educational Tools
Education and Awareness Programmes

- Developed by FEE, it is a holistic and participatory approach which combines learning and action through a simple seven step process
- Recognised as the UNEP’s preferred global model for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), environmental management and certification for schools
- Currently run in 64 countries involving more than 49,000 schools and 18 million students worldwide
Eco-Schools Indian Ocean

4 countries, 292 teachers trained, 72 schools, 22500+ pupils, 4 national committees with 84 members.
Education and Awareness Programmes

- Reef Conservation is the National Coordinator for Eco Schools in Mauritius.
- Started in 2015 with 32 pilot schools
- To date; 80 schools in Mauritius and 24 schools in Rodrigues.
Voluntary Marine Conservation Area Programme

- Started in 2009, we have now 2 VMCA sites. North & East Coasts
- Sites: Roches Noires Lagoon / Anse La Raie Lagoon
  - Community based conservation programme
  - Monitoring Seagrass / PIT/ Fish/ Snorkelling trail/Coral Recruitment/ Sedimentation
  - Establishment of community management committees and plans
  - Rehabitate and restore degraded areas where possible
  - Establishment of sustainable activities
Voluntary Marine Conservation Area Programme

- Roches Noires (2 sites)
  - Every 6 month
    Seagrasses Monitoring
  - On going T°C (sensors)

- Anse La Raie (4 sites)
  - Every Month
    - Water Analyse,
    - Sediments
    - Temperature
    - Maintenance of the snorkelling trail
  - Every 6 Month
    - Benthos and Fish monitoring
  - Every year
    - Coral recruitment
  - On going T°C (sensors)
Scientific Monitoring VMCA – Community participation
Reef Conservation is a MQA certified training centre.

MQA certified courses and modules including:
- Marine Eco Guide Course – 252 hours
- Coastal and Marine Foundation Course
VMCA Programme – Snorkeling trail – ALR
Monitoring Programmes - Coral Bleaching

- WCS Methodology (coral Genus /colonies number/ index bleaching), Funding MRC
- Sites: 4 sites Monthly monitoring (Anse La Raie VMCA, Bain Boeuf, Balaclava and Bel Ombre) started Feb 2016 ongoing
- Successes:
  - Bleaching and recovery data for each site
  - Sharing of data Regionally & Locally

% Colonies Bleached

- None (< 1%)
- Low (1-10%)
- Medium (10-50%)
- High (50-90%)
- Extreme (> 90%)
Marine invasive species: controlling population outbreaks of Crown of Thorns Anancanthaster planci in Mauritius (pilot project)

- Methodology: vinegar injection
- March 2017- August 2017
  - Development of a protocol for monitoring, reporting and dealing with outbreaks
  - Network of community observers established for future actions
Collaborative Turtle Conservation Project

- MMCS, EcoSud, Reef Conservation, Ministry of Ocean Economy, Albion Fisheries Research Centre, Coast Guard, Private Sector
Resilient Coral Conservation in Mauritius, Madagascar and the Broader Western Indian Ocean

- Collaborative Project - Wildlife Conservation Society (Kenya), Government & NGOs
- Project Action: Participatory Surveys for the Identification of Endemics species (Fish and Coral)
- Sites: Mauritius and Rodrigues
- Due to start June 2017
  - Potential identification of areas important for endemic species and biodiversity
  - Network of community observers established for future actions
Coral Communities Project

- Plymouth Marine Laboratory, the Universities of Exeter and Cardiff, Indeva Consulting, The Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES) and two freelance artists in the UK and Reef Conservation
- A network of UK-WIO collaborators to address evidence gaps and support the development of resilience strategies aimed at coastal communities and coral reefs across the WIO
- February 2017 – October 2017
  - Regional workshop – Seychelles, Madagascar, Comores, Zanzibar and Rodrigues + Local stakeholders
  - Identification of future collaborative projects
  - Incorporation of new visual methods to facilitate communication amongst stakeholders
Thank You!