



# DAN NOU KAZYE

The Seychelles Fisheries Authority Newsletter



'Responsible for Sustainable Fishing'



## Top News

Fisheries week celebrations a success

Saya de Malha sets course for last FAD mission for this year around the outer islands



SFA participates in Ocean clean up as part of Seychelles Ocean's Festival

## Fisheries Week: Celebrating "Blue Transformation in Action"

This month, the importance of sustainable fisheries management was celebrated nationwide during Fisheries Week. This year's theme, "Blue Transformation in Action," emphasized the urgent need for sustainable practices and innovative approaches within the fisheries sector. Various activities throughout the week aimed to raise awareness, educate communities, and inspire action toward sustainable fisheries management.



One of the main activities during Fisheries Week was informative talks held at local schools. These sessions focused on educating students about the significance of marine biodiversity, responsible fishing practices, and the career opportunities available in the fisheries sector. Throughout the week, there were short television segments designed to inform the public about what to look for when purchasing fish, emphasizing the importance of consuming high-quality seafood. These spots were based on a fish spoilage analysis conducted by the PDQA department and encouraged people to buy fish from well-preserved market sources instead of roadside vendors.

The highlight of the week was an exhibition marking World Fisheries Day, which showcased successful initiatives and innovations in fisheries management. The exhibition also highlighted the various career opportunities available at SFA and promoted sustainable practices such as the Mahe Plateau co-management plan and bamboo fish traps. The exhibition was officially inaugurated by the Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy during a brief ceremony, where he stressed the importance of balancing economic growth with conservation efforts. The World Fisheries Day exhibition attracted a diverse audience, including students from various schools, stakeholders from the fishing industry, and members of the public, all showing significant interest in the displays.

To conclude the week, a televised debate discussed the evolution of fisheries over the years. Esteemed panelists representing a wide range of fisheries stakeholders—such as boat owners, fishers, fish processors, and policymakers—engaged in a lively discussion about the challenges and opportunities the fisheries sector faces today. Topics included the impact of technology on fishing practices, the significance of traditional ecological knowledge, and the need to balance conservation with the development of fisheries. This debate aimed to spark dialogue among viewers, encouraging them to think critically about their roles in supporting sustainable practices and policies.





# Fisheries Week: Celebrating "Blue Transformation in Action"





## Surveillance 2: A Successful 5-Day Sea Trial and Patrol mission

After its official launch on November 15, 2024, Surveillance 2 successfully completed its first five-day sea trial and surveillance patrol from 18th to 22nd November 2024. The operation was designed to test the vessel's performance while monitoring fishing activities in the inner islands, with a focus on enforcing regulations. The patrol crew included Senior Surveillance Officer Ricky William, Skipper Erol Raguin, Surveillance Officers Anil Julienne and Damien Jacqueline, and L'Amitie Mechanic Christopher Choisy.

The patrol covered Praslin, La Digue, Ste Anne, and Mahe islands. With sunny weather and calm seas, the conditions were ideal for both the sea trial and surveillance operations. During the patrol, two sea cucumber vessels were boarded and found to be fully compliant with the terms and conditions of their sea cucumber licenses. The operation also encountered minor mechanical issues, which were promptly addressed with assistance from the Marine Police and the SFA research vessel L'Amitie, ensuring the continued success of the mission.

The fruitful sea trial and patrol highlight the capabilities of Surveillance 2, marking a significant step forward in Seychelles' efforts to protect its marine resources.



## Mission Targets FADs in the Outer Island Region

Over the course of 21 days, a crew consisting of four students and a lecturer from the Seychelles Maritime Academy, a scientific observer, a senior fisheries scientist from the SFA, and the Coast Guard crew aboard the Saya de Malha vessel will intercept and recover FADs at drift that pose a risk of stranding in shallow marine habitats.

This marks the third FAD Watch recovery mission following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA), the Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative (SIOTI), and the Spanish Association of Tuna Freezers (AGAC) in July 2023. The focus area for this third mission will be the outer islands.

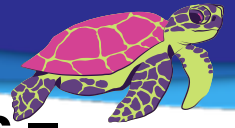


During the send-off, the Chief Executive Officer of the SFA Dr. Jan Robinson provided the crew with essential supplies for their trip, including sunscreens, water shoes, and neoprene vests. He encouraged the students to fully embrace the experience while keeping in mind their main objective: to collect as many FADs as possible.



The Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy, Mr. Jean Francois Ferrari, also wished the team good luck and urged them to take precautions while at sea. He thanked the SMA and the Seychelles Coast Guard for their ongoing support and expressed hope that by the end of the trip, the students would have gained valuable insights and become advocates for such initiatives.



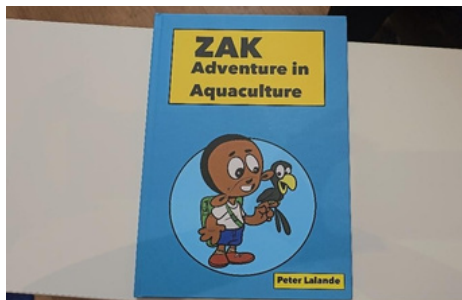


## Inspiring and engaging young minds – Discover the world of Aquaculture

Very soon, public and school library shelves will feature an exciting new addition that will spark the curiosity of young minds about Aquaculture. The new comic book titled "Zak: Adventure in Aquaculture" was recently launched by the Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy, Jean-François Ferrari, during a ceremony at the National Library.

This 20-page comic book, written and illustrated by Peter Lalande, tells the story of a young boy named Zak and his pet bird, Magpie, as they explore the world of Aquaculture through a tour guided by Veronica, a young lady from the Aquaculture Department.

The creation of this comic book was made possible through funding from the EU, and it is designed to engage a younger audience. Its launch comes at a crucial moment, as the department ramps up its efforts to encourage young people to pursue careers in aquaculture. Additionally, a video recital of the comic book is available on the SFA YouTube channel.



## EU Consultant Evaluates Fishing Facilities in Seychelles



Mr. Benoit Caillart, a consultant from the European Union, recently visited Seychelles to evaluate various facilities financed by the EU and to learn about upcoming projects. His visit also included meetings with several fishers' associations, particularly those benefiting from the sectoral support grant.

During his stay on Mahé, Mr. Caillart met with fishers' associations from La Retraite, Cascade, Anse Royale, and Anse Boileau. He visited facilities in La Retraite, Anse Etoile, Cascade, Anse Royale, and Anse à la Mouche. His itinerary also included trips to Praslin and La Digue to assess the facilities there.

The European Union has been a significant partner in developing fishing infrastructure in Seychelles, including the establishment of aquaculture facilities in Providence. Mr. Caillart took the opportunity to visit these aquaculture facilities as well.

This visit underscores the EU's ongoing commitment to supporting the fishing industry in Seychelles, ensuring that the facilities meet the required standards and exploring future projects to further enhance the sector.





## Malagasy Delegation learns from Fisheries Sector in Seychelles

In a bid to strengthen their fisheries sector, a delegation from Madagascar recently visited Seychelles to learn from its successful marine resource management. Like Seychelles, Madagascar boasts a vast marine space, but has yet to fully capitalize on its potential.

The delegation, comprised of three representatives from the Malagasy Ministry of Fisheries. Their itinerary included visits to several Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) facilities, where they observed best practices and explored the feasibility of implementing similar strategies in Madagascar. This included visits to Aquaculture facilities and market facilities over Mahe.

This exchange underscores the importance of regional cooperation and knowledge sharing to enhance the sustainable use of marine resources.



## SFA's Commitment to a Healthier Ocean

Maintaining clean marine ecosystems by removing debris and pollution is one of the most essential goals for a healthy ocean. With this objective in mind, the Ports Management and Facilities Department teamed up with the Fisheries Research Department and the Public Relations Section for an ocean clean-up activity.

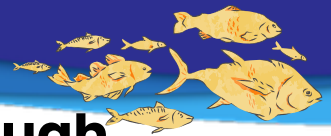
Onboard the SFA's Mahe Maru vessel, the team focused on cleaning the coastline around Victoria Fishing Port, Isle Hodoul, and Marine Charter. During the 3-hour trip, they successfully collected a variety of rubbish, including empty bottles, plastic bags, discarded pallets, and other debris that pose a threat to the marine environment.

This effort was conducted in collaboration with the Seychelles Ports Authority and the Seychelles Coast Guard in celebration of Seychelles Oceans Festival. It highlighted SFA's commitment to protecting our marine environment.

The participants expressed their satisfaction with the activity. Not only did everyone get to enjoy some time on the water, but they also played a vital role in making our oceans cleaner and healthier.







## Public learn more on aquaculture through visits at the facilities

In celebration of this year's Ocean's Festival, the Aquaculture department hosted a three day visit for the public. This activity attracted many participants of different ages. Many expressed that they were unaware of the facilities. The theme also had an onsite exhibition showcasing their work and different components of the aquaculture world.



## Absa comes closer to its clients through awareness campaign

As part of their workplace awareness campaign, the Absa Seychelles organized several sessions to sensitize their clients at SFA on the services they offer.

Personal loans, credits cards, vehicle asset finance loan and others were among topics discussed in the sessions which was held in the SFA Conference room.

Sylvianne Derjacques from the HR department stated that the meeting was very interesting as she learned on new features that the bank is offering.

Steven Barbe from MCS department also pointed out that he managed to discuss some queries he had with the representatives, instead of having to go the bank.

Even if the sessions has ended, staff will be able to contact the representatives if they have any more queries.





## Participatory Lobster Monitoring Programmed (PLMP) Survey

The Fisheries Research Department recently completed the Participatory Lobster Monitoring Programmed (PLMP) aims at collecting fisheries dependent and independent data on the main targeted species. The generated information is used to assess lobsters' stock abundance, recovery status and assist management in decision making on whether lobster fishery will be open or remain closed.

Each year, the PLMP survey is carried out by scientific, fishers, and crew members on board the R/V L'Amitie, with the objective of gathering data and conduct lobster tagging. A detailed report is produced at the end of the survey.

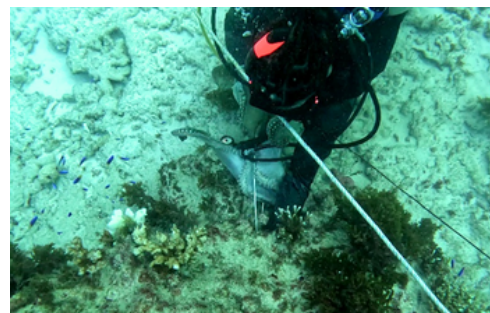
*Contributed*



## Octopus Habitat Survey

The Fisheries Research Department has successfully completed a Habitat Survey for the octopus' fishery, aimed at characterizing the benthic habitat composition and complexity around the inner islands of Seychelles. This survey took a co-management approach, two fishers participated by using their expertise to conduct visual censuses through scuba diving, while the scientific team focused on assessing the benthic composition and complexity.

The involvement of the fishers was essential to the survey's success, as the scientific team lacks the expertise to identify octopus and dens underwater. This collaborative effort not only strengthens the partnership with fishers but also empowers them in the sustainable management of octopus resources and paves the way for future collaborations.



*Contributed*



# 2024-2025 Spanner Crab Fishing Season Now Open



The 2024-2025 spanner crab fishing season officially opened on Friday, 8th November 2024, and will run for a full 12 months, closing on Saturday, 7th November 2025.

As always, the 2024-2025 season comes with a strong focus on sustainability and responsible fishing practices, ensuring that our spanner crab population remains healthy and viable for years to come.

There are 10 successful applicants who have been granted a spanner crab fishing license for the 2024-2025 season. These applicants have gone through a rigorous selection process, demonstrating their commitment to sustainable fishing practices and compliance with all relevant regulations.

The new license holders are now authorized to harvest spanner crabs within the designated fishing zones, subject to the 8cm size limits, use approved number of fishing gear, logbook submissions and other requirements set forth by the SFA.

The SFA remains dedicated to supporting the industry and ensuring that future generations can enjoy healthy and abundant spanner crab populations.

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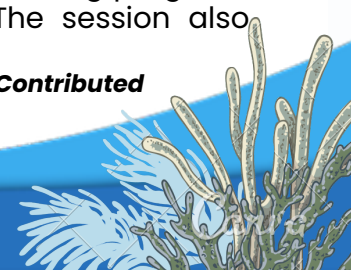
## Sea Cucumber Logbook Training



In November 2024, a skipper logbook training was held for the second phase of the Saya de Malha (JMA) sea cucumber exploratory fishing. An increase in the number of licensees was observed, compared to the previous one.

During the training, the Fisheries Research Department outlined the catch monitoring program, emphasizing the importance of accurate data collection and reporting. The session also provided an opportunity for skippers to share their feedback and insights.

**Contributed**







## Glacis Fishers receives essential equipment



The Fishers Association of Glacis recently handed over essential fishing equipment to its members. This equipment was provided through the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Reef Fish project, which was implemented over three years from 2020 to 2023.

The donation includes safety-at-sea gear such as life jackets, paddles, mooring buoys, ropes, and distress signals, as well as large 1000-litre ice boxes for preserving, storing, and transporting fish and fish products.

The fishers of Glacis expressed their happiness and gratitude for receiving these essential tools, which will greatly aid them in their daily work.



## Aquaculture Connects with the Business Community at the Global Entrepreneurship Fair

The Pension Fund Complex in Praslin buzzed with entrepreneurial energy as various organizations came together to share ideas and experiences at the Global Entrepreneurship Fair. This event provided an excellent platform for the SFA's Aquaculture Department to highlight the numerous opportunities in aquaculture.

The Aquaculture exhibit not only attracted other businesses but also drew a small crowd of young enthusiasts eager to learn more. Many had questions about the different species the department is currently working with. This fair served as the final event to commemorate Global Entrepreneurship Week.





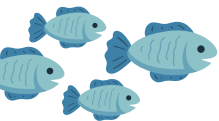


# 47th Defence Forces Sports day

Staff from various departments of the SFA showcased their strength and fitness during a family fun day organized by the Defense Forces to celebrate Defense Forces Day on November 25th.

They competed against officers and staff from the Defense Forces, Seychelles Maritime Academy, and Seychelles Prison Services in sports such as beach volleyball, 5x5 soccer, and various races and strength exercises.

Although our team did not win the overall trophies, it was thrilling to discover the diverse talents of our organization's sportsmen and women.



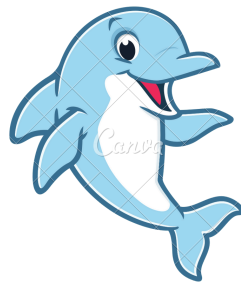


## Quiz

Send your answers to the PR Section and receive an interesting prize



1. Dan liv Zak Adventure in Aquaculture kimanyer i apele sa zwazo?
2. En 4nm fasilite Aquaculture in ganny komisyonnen sa lannen. Ki bi sa fasilite?



### Healthy tip from the Health and Environment Club

Get plenty of vegetables, fruits, and whole grains. Choose nonfat dairy and lean meats. Limit foods that are high in sugar and fat.

Remember that carbohydrates turn into sugar, so watch your carb intake.



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Contact the PR team to book a slot in the SFA newsletter for any internal communication and awareness of:

- Departmental events and trainings
- Processes and procedures
- Upcoming committee and club events etc..