



# DAN NOU KAZYE

The Seychelles Fisheries Authority Newsletter



'Responsible for Sustainable Fishing'



## Top News

3rd Ministerial meeting in fisheries held in Seychelles

Managers attends Anti-corruption session



Students from NIHSS learn about fish quality during visit at the PDQA department

## 3rd Ministerial meeting held in Seychelles

The Third Fisheries Ministerial Conference of the Plan Régional de Surveillance des Pêches (PRSP) took place in Seychelles from 25th to 28th February 2025, marking a pivotal moment in the institutionalization of the PRSP. Headed by Seychelles' Minister Jean François Ferrari, the conference aimed to build on the recommendations from previous meetings and reinforce regional cooperation to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, while advancing sustainable fisheries management in the Southwest Indian Ocean (SWIO) region.

The PRSP, established in 2007, has been instrumental in tackling IUU fishing through regional collaboration. Its initiatives include joint fisheries surveillance, data sharing, and capacity building. Over the past 17 years, the PRSP has made notable progress in enhancing monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) capacities, strengthening regional partnerships, and fostering collaboration among member states. However, the increasing challenges have highlighted the need for sustainability and adaptation, making the 2025 conference crucial for securing the future of the PRSP as a key regional fisheries management mechanism.

Key themes discussed during the conference focused on the PRSP's current state, the progress made since the 2017 recommendations, and the necessary steps for institutionalization. A significant portion of the discussions was dedicated to ensuring a sustainable financial framework for the PRSP and reinforcing its operational autonomy. Delegates explored innovative technologies such as vessel monitoring systems (VMS), satellite imagery, and electronic reporting systems to strengthen the fight against IUU fishing.

Additionally, working groups engaged in discussions on the institutionalization of the PRSP framework, addressing the need for a clear structure, budget, and financing mechanism for a Sub Regional Fisheries Monitoring, Control, and Observation Centre (FMCSOC). They emphasized the importance of a legal personality for the PRSP to facilitate the creation of the center and to help member states assess their capacity and feasibility to host the center. A comprehensive financial report on the current PRSP operations and the establishment of a transparent cost-sharing mechanism were also recommended.



The conference also focused on capacity building, with discussions centered on enhancing human and technical capacities at both national and regional levels. This included a focus on training, information exchange, joint patrols, and fostering stronger cooperation among member states.



The importance of integrating small-scale tuna and tuna-like coastal fisheries into regional frameworks was also emphasized.

Given the role of small-scale fisheries in local economies and food security, discussions highlighted the need to strengthen monitoring, control, and surveillance mechanisms, especially in light of open-access challenges.



The event fostered high-level policy dialogue and established commitments from fisheries ministers and stakeholders, with an emphasis on supporting the PRSP's goals and enhancing regional collaboration. The discussions on regional and international cooperation underscored the importance of avoiding duplication of efforts in combating IUU fishing and improving coordination among the various regional organizations.

As a recognition of dedication to the PRSP's success in reducing IUU fishing, several long-serving staff members were awarded trophies for their contributions. Honorees included Roddy Allisop, Antoinette Marie Therese, Anil Julienne, Teffy Jean, Sharon Roselie, Julie Jean, Vincent Lucas, and Alex Tirant.



Expected outcomes from the conference included a new ministerial declaration, clear guidance on the institutionalization process, and a sustainable financial mechanism for the PRSP. This conference not only marked a critical milestone in the PRSP's journey towards institutionalization but also provided a platform for member states to agree on strategic next steps, ensuring that the PRSP will continue to be a vital tool in combating IUU fishing and ensuring sustainable fisheries management in the SWIO region.

The PRSP's success in reducing IUU fishing was acknowledged with the prestigious Stop IUU Fishing Award in 2023, further underscoring the importance of the PRSP as a model for regional cooperation and its potential to inspire other initiatives. The conference, preceded by the PRSP Steering Committee meeting and working group sessions, was supported by the E€OFISH Project and reinforced the PRSP's role in strengthening inter-regional cooperation to fight IUU fishing and ensure the long-term sustainability of the region's fisheries resources.



# SFA Signs MOU with University of Seychelles to Foster Collaborative Efforts



In a strategic move towards enhancing educational and research initiatives, the Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) has officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Seychelles. This partnership aims to establish a cooperative and collaborative framework that will facilitate the achievement of shared goals and objectives in areas of mutual interest.

The MOU reflects the commitment of both organizations to work together for various capacity building and training programs, especially in marine research.

The MOU will also help to find international links to other academic institutes that can partner with UniSey to assist SFA in developing its research capacity.



During the ceremony, the CEO of SFA, Dr. Jan Robinson, expressed his enthusiasm for the formalisation of this partnership, highlighting the longstanding cooperation between the two institutions. "We have enjoyed close collaboration with UniSey for many years, particularly in research and capacity-building. This agreement takes that collaboration to a more structured level, allowing us to explore new areas of mutual interest and to better plan and coordinate our efforts."

The signing was held at the SFA conference room in the presence of SFA staff, UniSey representatives and media houses.



## Financial statement audit confirms a strong financial position for SFA

The Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in February, bringing together key stakeholders, auditors, and the Public Enterprise Monitoring Commission (PEMC) to review the Authority's performance over the past year. The meeting served as a platform to assess financial statements, discuss operational highlights, and outline future strategic directions.



In his opening remarks, the Chair of the SFA stated, "Transparency and accountability remain at the core of our operations, and this meeting is a crucial opportunity to ensure that we continue to uphold these values."

The AGM underscored SFA's commitment to transparency and accountability, with auditors from SKS Chartered Accountants, represented by Mr. Sheik Khodabux, presenting their findings on the organization's financial practices. Their audit confirmed a strong financial position for the Authority.



The Government of Seychelles, as a shareholder of the Seychelles Fisheries Authority, was represented by Ms. Irene Croise, Executive Director at the Ministry of Finance, National Planning and Trade. The shareholder voted to receive and consider the directors' and audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023. Additionally, the shareholder approved the declaration of a dividend of SCR 35 million in respect of the financial year ending December 31, 2023.

Furthermore, SKS Chartered Accountants was appointed as the external auditors of the company for the period ending December 31, 2024, with authorization given to the directors to fix their remuneration. The meeting also provided a forum to discuss any other business that arose.

Furthermore, discussions focused on the progress made in fisheries management, industry partnerships, and sustainable development efforts. Stakeholders had the opportunity to raise concerns and contribute to shaping the Authority's future initiatives.



The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment to strengthening collaboration between SFA and industry partners, ensuring the continued growth and sustainability of Seychelles' vital fisheries sector.





## SFA Managers Engage in Educational Session on Anti-Corruption with ACCS Representative

Early February, managers and Heads of Departments participated in a crucial educational session aimed at combating corruption within the fisheries sector. The session featured a knowledgeable prevention officer from the Anti-Corruption Commission of Seychelles (ACCS), Ms. Danielle Barbier, who guided the attendees through various dimensions of corruption.

During the session, Ms. Barbier outlined multiple instances of corruption that can occur within various sectors, emphasizing the importance of recognizing potential red flags. Attendees also gained insights into the legal framework surrounding corruption.

Particularly pertinent to the SFA was the discussion around the fisheries sector, an area identified as susceptible to corrupt practices.

Participants engaged actively, discussing potential signs of corruption and mechanisms to foster transparency and accountability. By equipping themselves with knowledge about the risks and signs of corrupt behavior, SFA managers and HODs are better prepared to promote integrity and ethical practices within their operations.



## New version of Quickbooks to be implemented in July



The Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) conducted essential QuickBooks training throughout February for key departments, including, Outstation Section, Procurement Section, Port Management & Facilities Department and the Finance Department.

This training was critical to ensuring seamless business continuity, as the previous QuickBooks version had been phased out. The transition to QuickBooks Online allows for

improved efficiency and accommodates more users, enhancing collaboration across departments.

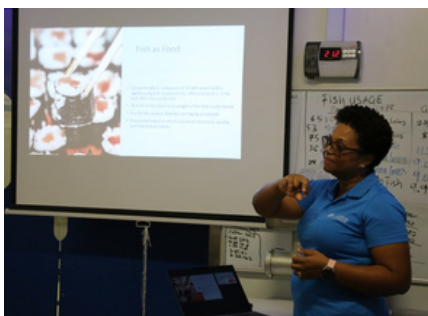
With QuickBooks Online, the Procurement Section can now manage Local Purchase Orders (LPOs) more effectively and implement a dual approval process directly within the system, improving oversight and control. Additionally, key personnel at Outstation and Providence can record receipts in real time, replacing part of the manual process and enhancing accuracy and efficiency. The system is expected to go live in July, allowing sufficient time to refine and review processes before full implementation. This transition is also part of SFA's broader effort to align with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).



## NIHSS students learns more on the importance of fish quality

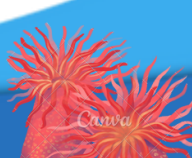
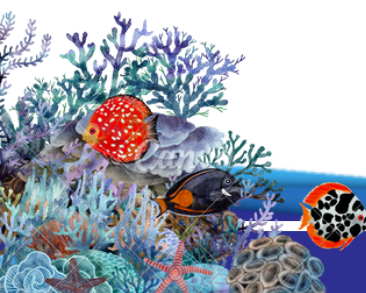
14 students from the National Institute of Health and Social Studies visited the Product Development and Quality Assurance department as part of their program in Fish Quality, which was in line with their module in Food Science and Technology. The students were accompanied by the Principal Nutritionist, Ms. Stephanie Desnousse, from the Ministry of Health.

During their visit, they were briefed on the purpose and role of the PDQA department. They then followed a short presentation on fish quality assessment and proceeded to the lab.



Louisa Payet was among the 14 students who visited the PDQA and described the visit as very interesting. 'The first one was awareness. It teaches about the quality standard of cleanliness and the freshness of food when it comes in, how we should be aware of this, and it is a healthier alternative and why it is important.'

Secondly, we learned about the appearance, color, texture, and factors that affect fish quality, post-harvest management, aquatic management, and more.





# Celebrating our graduates: A new chapter begins

**RODNEY GOVINDEN –**

**Diploma in General Management (August 2021 to December 2024)**



From the course, I have gained valuable knowledge and skills that I can apply in my work. It has enhanced my ability to lead more effectively, strengthened my decision-making, improved budget planning and resource allocation, and enhanced my ability to manage my team and monitor performance.

I am now better equipped to implement strategic initiatives, drive operational efficiency, and contribute to the organization's overall success



**MURSHID ELIZABETH –**

**ACCA Diploma in Financial and Management Accounting (RQF Level 3)**

I believe with the course attended, it has enhanced my knowledge for better judgement when making decisions and has also provided me with some additional skills to attend to day-to-day tasks.



**NADDY MALABAGE –**

**Diploma in General Management (July 2022)**

The course has helped my ability to discharge my work and responsibilities on a higher level with Maturity and Discipline, while maintaining a work life balance.



**KARON BARBE –**

**Diploma in Human Resource Management**

The course has significantly enhanced my skills and knowledge, enabling me to more effectively address and manage employee-related issues on a daily basis.

It has equipped me with the tools and expertise needed to handle various challenges and foster a positive work environment.



## HR officers expand knowledge in field administration

Three staff from the Human Resources department attended a two-week workshop in Mid career training programme for mid level civil servants of multi countries of African regions focusing in field administration. The programme was held on campus at Mussoorie and were followed by field visits in Uttarakhand, New Delhi, Chandigarh, Agra and Haryana.

The objective of the training is to equip mid level civil servants with the cutting edge knowledge, skills and tools to deliver and design effective policy in an increasingly complex and inter dependent world with the aim to achieve good governance and ultimately sustainable development apart from providing a rich cross-country experience.



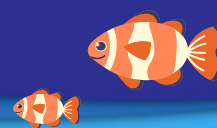
In addition, the programme enabled the participants to gain the requisite knowledge and skills for designing and implementing effective public policy to achieve good governance and successfully discharging their administrative duties.



Ms. Jessy Barbe and Mrs. Karon Barbe were amongst the three participants who attended the training has describe it as truly transformative with profound understanding of India's model.

Ms. Jessy Barbe, "Being given the opportunity to attend ITEC training has truly been a privilege. Three HR staff members successfully made it through the selection criteria, which was an achievement in itself. Over the 11-day program, we gained invaluable exposure and insights into the cultures of other African countries, while also learning how good governance is practiced across the region. I highly recommend that other SFA staff seize the opportunity offered by ITEC and apply the training, as it is a great learning experience".

Mrs. Karon Barbe, "The training was incredibly enriching, particularly the practical experiences gained from the field visits, which were both interesting and informative. This experience will empower me to contribute meaningfully to the progress of the SFA. I am grateful for this opportunity and would like to thank both SFA and ITEC for making it possible".



## Cascade Fishers voted for a new Executive Committee



Fishers of the Cascade community has renewed their support to Mr. Steve Payet to lead the Fishermen and Boatowners Association of Ste Andre. This happened during an election held in January. The meeting, attended by 15 local fishers, marked an important moment for the community as they came together to elect their new executive committee.

Mr. Payet will be supported by his newly elected vice chair, Mr. Roger Robert, Secretary Mr. Stephano Hermitte, and Treasurer Mr. Danny Pierre. Additionally, four other members were elected to the executive committee.

Mr. Cliff Hermitte was re-elected as the caretaker of the Cascade fish market, responsible for ensuring compliance with market rules and regulations and liaising with the Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) for further assistance. The Ste Andre Cascade Boat Owners and Fishers Association has pledged to continue supporting all fishers of their community and promoting sustainable fishing practices. The newly elected executive committee of Ste Andre Cascade will serve a two-year term, with hopes of promoting the fishing vocation among the younger generation to ensure the community's continuity and growth.

## Members of SFBOA addresses concerns and approve their financial report for 2023

In February, the Seychelles Fishermen and Boat Owners Association (SFBOA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM), a long-awaited event for its members. The meeting aimed to address the pressing issues faced by local fishers and to approve the financial report for the year 2023.

Chaired by Mrs. Nancy Ramkalawan Onginjo, the AGM saw a gathering of dedicated members who were eager to discuss and find solutions for the challenges affecting their career.

Mrs. Ramkalawan Onginjo presented the audited financial report, providing a detailed account of the association's activities and financial transactions over the past year.

One of the main challenges discussed during the meeting was the issue of finance. The SFBOA has been striving to secure funding from stakeholders such as the Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and other potential partners.

The need for additional financial support was emphasized, as it is crucial for the association to develop and implement programs that benefit the local fishing community.

Despite the financial constraints, the SFBOA has been fortunate to receive assistance from the Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) through the EU Sectoral Support Grant.



# Q & A with Mr. Keren Yocette

Keren Yocette, the Senior Transport Officer from the Administration section, was recognized as the Best Official for the Year 2024 at the recent Sports Award. We had a conversation with him to learn about his journey.



## What inspired you to become a referee?

I started refereeing in October 2006. At that time there was a programme aimed at young boys at school to join refereeing. It was my PE teacher at that time Sir Jerris Cesar who helped me to reach the football office to register and from there the journey started.

It was a great feeling at that time being so young, learning to become a referee...

We had also had some good referees at that time who inspired me to grow in refereeing, namely Eddie Maillet and Bernard Camille as they were the best in Africa, taking charge of top matches.

## Can you describe your journey.

My journey has not been easy while climbing the ladder. There are moments when I made technical mistakes on the field and knowing the media usually writes big articles on the next day. Regardless, those experiences made me what I am today.

Refereeing has also helped me to grow in terms of responsibility and respect as an individual. It was in 2022 that I became a FIFA referee, so you can imagine that from 2006 to 2022 it's been some lengthy process just to improve, gain experience & confidence.

After I was certified as a FIFA referee responsibilities become greater as I was now capable to officiate matches on international level.

Per year we have a quota to perform 4 fitness test to be able to renew the

license for the next year so this means we have to train properly, have a good nutrition plan, and also above all is to perform and improve more, one match after another.

## What are your next plan in this field?

For now I am the oldest referee from Seychelles on the FIFA panel, the rest of my colleagues are younger. So I have different personal targets for sure. Last year I was certified to officiate any match that have VAR technology. Currently I'm in Abidjan Ivory Coast as I've been called up to be assessed by CAF to join the young talented group of referees for Africa, but my personal target is to one day officiate at an African cup of nation or why not the World Cup.

## You have received the prize as the Best Official for the year, what does this represent to you?

This award represents 18 years of hard work, and I feel happy to receive the recognition. But I also have to mention that this gives me more motivation to keep working hard and being able to be successful at a higher level in refereeing.



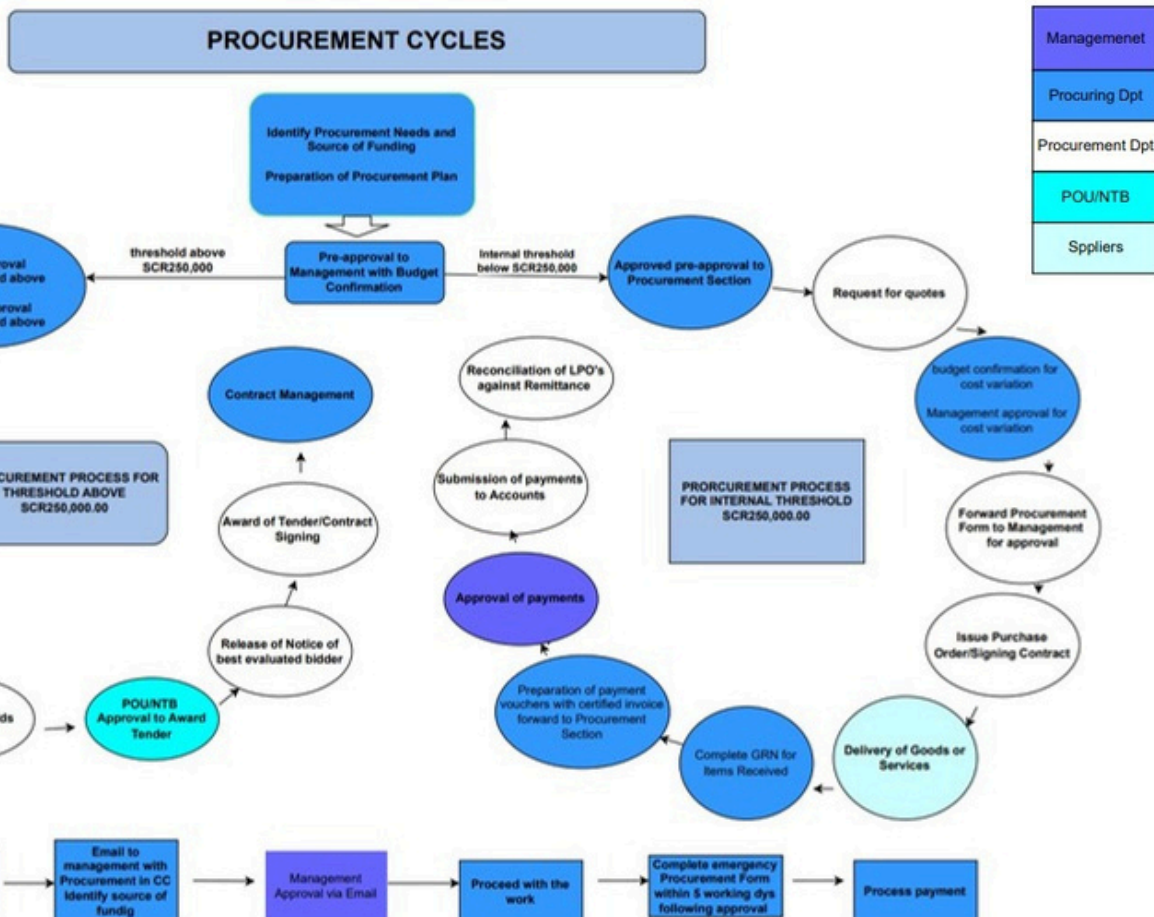
## How do you balance your work and personal life?

There are lots of challenges. Match demands are rising up meaning there are much more expectations in terms of quality and performances. We are being tracked by GPS modules to monitor our movement in terms of distance covered during a game. Let me tell you that for a top match we may cover a max of 12 to 15km which is like a half marathon.

Refereeing is very hard, even harder than for a football player and it comes with lots of sacrifices that people don't even know sometimes.

So my ritual is like this... I normally train 2 times daily but with specific exercises. Mostly in morning I go to gym for strength, core plyometrics, whilst in the afternoon is mainly for high intensity, endurance etc...this lifestyle itself is very demanding and it brings plenty of stress. Therefore I need to balance my routine well, so that it doesn't affect my daily job with SFA as well. As an international referee I also get callups for international assignments as well and I try to manage between my work. I am thankful for the support until now. Nevertheless we have to always take into consideration that all that am I doing is very little for personal gain but rather representing my fellow Seychellois people at the highest possible international football events.





### Healthy tip from the Health and Environment Club

Incorporate these habits into your lifestyle and show your heart some love.

**Get More Sleep.** Your sleep habits can have a lasting effect on your overall health. Simply tweaking a few of your tech device habits can help upgrade your sleep hygiene for a better night's rest. Sleeping a solid seven or eight hours per night is a marker of good heart health.

**Move more.** Physical activity can dramatically reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke, so make a goal to move more for your heart health. To keep it simple, you can aim for 30 minutes a day, 5 days a week of moderate exercise. That includes any activity that gets you moving around and breaking a slight sweat. Even small changes can make all the difference: take the stairs instead of the elevator. If you work at a desk, remember to take regular breaks to move around. Go for a stroll on your lunch break and enjoy regular exercise in your leisure time.

**Connect With People.** Make it a priority to spend time with people you're close to. Talk, laugh, confide, and enjoy each other. It's good for your emotional health and your heart.



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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..