



# **Status of Environment Statistics in Mauritius**

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# Mauritius... at a glance

- Main island – Mauritius (1865 km<sup>2</sup>)
  - 20.17°N & 57.33°E
- Group of smaller islands
  - Rodrigues, Cargados Carajos, Agaléga, Tromelin & Chagos Archipelago
- Total Land Area = 2040 km<sup>2</sup>
- Marine E.E.Z. = 1.9 million km<sup>2</sup>
- Climate - mild maritime
  - Rainfall – 2100 mm annually
  - Tropical depressions & cyclones
- Pluralistic population
- Economic background
  - Agriculture, Manufacturing,
  - Tourism, financial services, ICT
- GDP/capita ~ US \$4000





# Activities of the Statistics Unit

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- To carry out thorough inventories of all existing information on the environment
- To prepare a database on environmental statistics
- To compute annual inventory of greenhouse gas emissions
- To construct indicators to monitor trends and impacts of measures
- To conduct *ad hoc* environmental surveys, and
- To disseminate data on the status of the environment



# Sources of Data

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- Data gathered from:
  - Different Statistics Units
  - From Sectoral Reports
  - Questionnaires & Surveys
- Topics and Data covered:
  - Terrestrial biodiversity
  - Atmosphere
  - Land
  - Water
  - Human settlements
  - Coastal zones
  - Meteorological phenomena
  - Waste Management





# Publications & Reports

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- Economic and Social Indicator on Environmental Statistics
- Digest of Environmental Statistics
- Pocketbook of Environment Statistics
- Other ad hoc reports
- Provision of indicators/statistics for other reports



# Environment Information System

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- Project start up: March 2002
- Consists of 2 main components
  - Development of a core set of environmental indicators for Mauritius
  - Development of a computer-based environmental information system
- 32 environmental indicators developed (6 major themes: *atmosphere, freshwater, land & soil, biodiversity, marine resources and coastal pollution, quality of life*)
- Memorandum of Agreement between 28 different stakeholders



# National Oceanographic Data Centre

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- Established in November 1999
- Operates as the national oceanographic data archive
- Mission: *Enhance oceanographic services & promote marine research*
- 6 Ministries/institutions responsible for:
  - collection,
  - quality control,
  - archival and
  - dissemination of ocean data



# WIO-LaB Project

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- Addresses major land-based activities in the Western Indian Ocean Region for the protection of the marine environment
- Regional Clearinghouse Mechanism will be set up at the Meteorological Services





# Africa Environment Information Network

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- Workshop to review the implementation of the Project held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2007
- Kick start meeting in August to take cognizance of the Addis workshop
- Training workshop to be facilitated by IOC in September with IO countries



# Conclusion

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- Number of environmental indicators used is small
- Substantial environmental parameters used
- Each organisation have their own database using their own archival formats
- this complicates the issue of data availability, quality and access
- Exchange of data at national level limited and not well organised