



## Facts About Mauritian Native terrestrial Biodiversity

The flora and fauna of Mauritius has a relatively high level of diversity and endemism

2% of forest left for the island

685 species of indigenous flowering plants

267 are endemic (Mauritius has six endemic plant genera)

89 % of the Mauritius endemic flora is considered threatened

61 of the country's indigenous species are already classified as extinct

141 of the flowering Mascarene endemic plant species are classified as Critically Endangered

24 out of the 52 native species of vertebrates that were known to have occurred on Mauritius and the adjacent islets, are now extinct

**1773**



**1835**



**1872**



**1935**



**1997**

**Less than  
2% of  
Endemic  
Forests left**

**Black  
River  
Gorges  
National  
Park-  
6,574 ha**



**Table 1: Native diversity of selected groups in Mauritius, including the number of extinctions (numbers in brackets indicate the number of endemic species).**

	Number of native species	% species endemic	Number of extinct species	Number of extant species
Angiosperms <sup>1</sup>	685 (267)	39%	61 (42)	624 (225)
Mammals <sup>2</sup>	5 (2)	40%	2 (1)	3 (1)
Birds <sup>2</sup>	30 (24)	80%	18 (15)	12 (9)
Reptiles <sup>2</sup>	17 (16)	94%	5 (5)	12 (11)
Butterflies <sup>3</sup>	37 (5)	14%	4 (1)	33 (4)
Snails <sup>4</sup>	125 (81)	65%	43 (36)	82 (45)

•Baider unpl.; 2. Cheke & Hume 2008; 3. Williams 2007; 4. Griffiths & Florens 2006.  
Updated from NBSAP (2006-2015)



## ***Coastal and Marine Biodiversity***

1700 marine species have been recorded around Mauritius including 786 fish of which about 5% are of commercial value (42 species)

2 species of marine turtles namely *Chelonia midas* and *Eretmochelys imbricata* are found in Mauritius waters

160 species of coral identified including an endemic species, *Acropora rodriguensis*

## **Agricultural Biodiversity and Biotechnology**

Majority of food crops cultivated and animals reared in Mauritius have been introduced over the last 4 centuries.

Agro-biodiversity is broadly categorized into **sugarcane** and **non sugar sector**

share of agriculture in the economy has continued to decrease from 5.6% in 2006, 4.9 % in 2007 to 4.4 % in 2008

collection of about 2200 genotype of sugar cane, which includes the basic *Saccharrum* spp. and allied genera

Crop Improvement Programme

## Major elements of the NBSAP

### **Vision**

*“That people in Mauritius enjoy a healthy environment and an enhanced quality of life, through the effective conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in line with national and international commitments, while respecting local values.”*

### **Mission Statement**

*“Mauritius will continue to work towards achieving a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2015.”*

### **Strategic Objectives**

- 1). Establish a Representative and Viable Protected Area Network (PAN)
- 2). Manage Key Components of Biodiversity
- 3). Enable Sustainable Use of Biodiversity
- 4). Maintain Ecosystem Services
- 5). Manage Biotechnology and its Products

## **Work Programmes**

### **1). Establish a Representative and Viable Protected Area Network (PAN).**

- a) Terrestrial Protected Area Network
- b) Inland Waters Programme
- c) Marine Protected Area Network
- d) Adaptive Management of Protected Area Network

### **2). Manage Key Components of Biodiversity.**

- a) Invasive Alien Species
- b) Flowering Plants and Ferns
- c) Birds
- d) Bats
- e) Reptiles
- f) Research Priorities
- g) Agrobiodiversity

## **Work Programmes**

### **3). Enable Sustainable Use of Biodiversity**

- a) Ecotourism Development
- b) Review the Environment Protection Act
- c) Fishing
  - i) Offshore Fishery
  - ii) Lagoon fishery
  - iii) Freshwater Fishery
  - iv) Aquaculture/ Mariculture
  - v) Sports Fishery
- d) Agrobiodiversity

### **4). Maintain Ecosystem Services**

- a) Forest Management
- b) Water Quality
- c) Integrated Coastal Zone Management

### **5). Manage Biotechnology and its Products.**

- a) The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

## 2.2 –What is the methodology used for implementing your previous NBSAP?

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- Locally, the implementation of the NBSAP is carried out by each implementation Ministry and organization

Terrestrial native biodiversity : NPCS (MOA)

Agro Biodiversity: MSIRI, AREU, AS (MOA)

Marine Biodiversity: Fisheries

Each Ministry and organization is including the work programs as part of their program and gets the funds for implementation of the projects thought their budget

## **2.3 – What are the lessons learned from your previous NBSAP experience?**

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- No review has been carried out and this will follow the review

## **3.1- What are your plans for the revision of your NBSAP?**

- Once training completed
- Apply for funding

### **3.2 –Outline the different stages of your revision process.**

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- Not yet started
- But will follow original NBSAP process (Multi-sectoral consultation)

### **3.3 What are the benefits of the new NBSAP?**

- Not yet prepared ( review some targets)

### **3.4 – What are the constraints?**

- No-coordination as the steering committee set up to monitor the implementation has met only once
- CBD and GEF focal point not coordinating the implementation of existing NBSAP
- Lack of funding for the implementation of some work programmes



## 4.1 Conclusions

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- PAN Project (GEF)
- IAS Strategy in place
- ESA study and ICZM strategy
- Conservation programs enhanced and improved (reptiles, seabirds, bats)