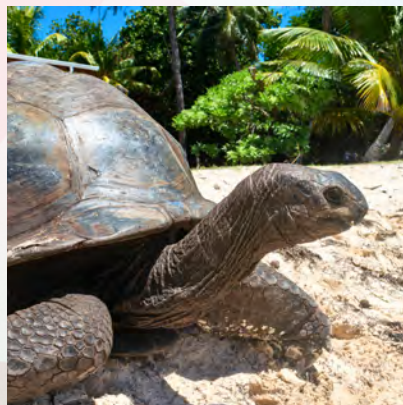


UNDP Seychelles Annual Report 2025

Navigating Change, Delivering Impact



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

UNDP Seychelles acknowledges the Government of Seychelles, development partners, civil society, the private sector and implementing partners, who play a critical role in the transformational development. The support and partnership received contribute towards the delivery of the UNDP programme and the results shared in this report.

DISCLAIMER

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Foreword

Strengthening Resilience in Times of Change

In 2025, Seychelles entered a new chapter marked by political transition, renewed national ambition and steady economic recovery. Despite marked progress in tourism and fisheries, households continued to face rising living costs and climate pressures. As a Small Island Developing State, the country remained vulnerable to external shocks, reinforcing the urgency of building inclusive, resilient and future-ready systems.

UNDP aligned early with the new administration’s priorities, strengthening governance and public finance systems, advancing digital transformation and climate transparency tools, and promoting nature-based solutions and disaster risk reduction in support of Seychelles’ net-zero goals.

At community level, we expanded livelihood opportunities, environmental rehabilitation and social inclusion initiatives, working with district authorities, community organisations and correctional services, while empowering women entrepreneurs to access regional and global markets.

Amid shifting global dynamics and constrained funding for high-income SIDS, UNDP adopted strategic, innovative and partnerships-driven approaches, mobilising over USD 15 million and reinforcing its role as a trusted integrator connecting policy, innovation and people.

As I assume the role of Resident Representative, I do so with gratitude for the solid foundation laid by Ms. Amanda Serumaga and with renewed commitment to supporting Seychelles in navigating change and shaping an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future.



Alka Bhatia
UNDP Resident Representative
Mauritius and Seychelles

Our Approach

UNDP contributes to Seychelles’ sustainable development agenda by putting people first, protecting the planet and advancing shared prosperity. Anchored in the UNDP Strategic Plan 2026–2029 and the Seychelles Country Programme Document 2024-2028, our work translates global vision into national results, strengthening resilience, accelerating inclusive growth and championing environmental sustainability. Guided by the Strategic Plan’s accelerators and strategic objectives, UNDP transforms ambition into concrete action, delivering solutions that are responsive, innovative and impactful across Seychelles.

Accelerators of Progress

Gender Equality
Systemic change for women’s rights strengthens leadership, economic opportunities and decision-making, driving inclusive and lasting development outcomes.

Sustainable Finance
Bridging public and private finance in Seychelles, UNDP mobilizes investment and strengthens governance to fund sustainable, inclusive development.

Digital and AI Transformation
Driving inclusive digital transformation, connecting people, strengthening institutions and promoting secure, sustainable, and equitable use of AI and digital technologies.

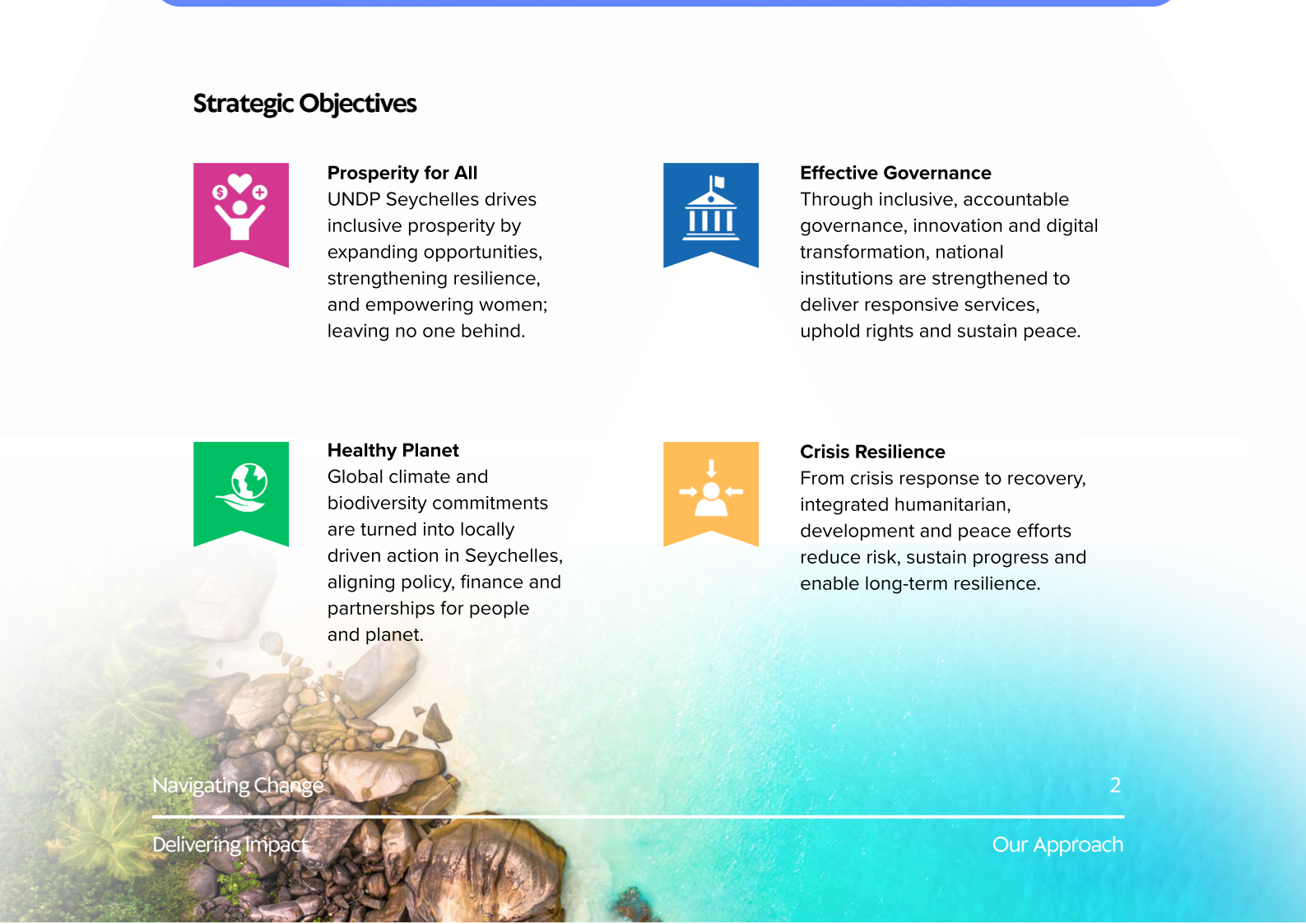
Strategic Objectives

Prosperity for All
UNDP Seychelles drives inclusive prosperity by expanding opportunities, strengthening resilience, and empowering women; leaving no one behind.

Effective Governance
Through inclusive, accountable governance, innovation and digital transformation, national institutions are strengthened to deliver responsive services, uphold rights and sustain peace.

Healthy Planet
Global climate and biodiversity commitments are turned into locally driven action in Seychelles, aligning policy, finance and partnerships for people and planet.

Crisis Resilience
From crisis response to recovery, integrated humanitarian, development and peace efforts reduce risk, sustain progress and enable long-term resilience.

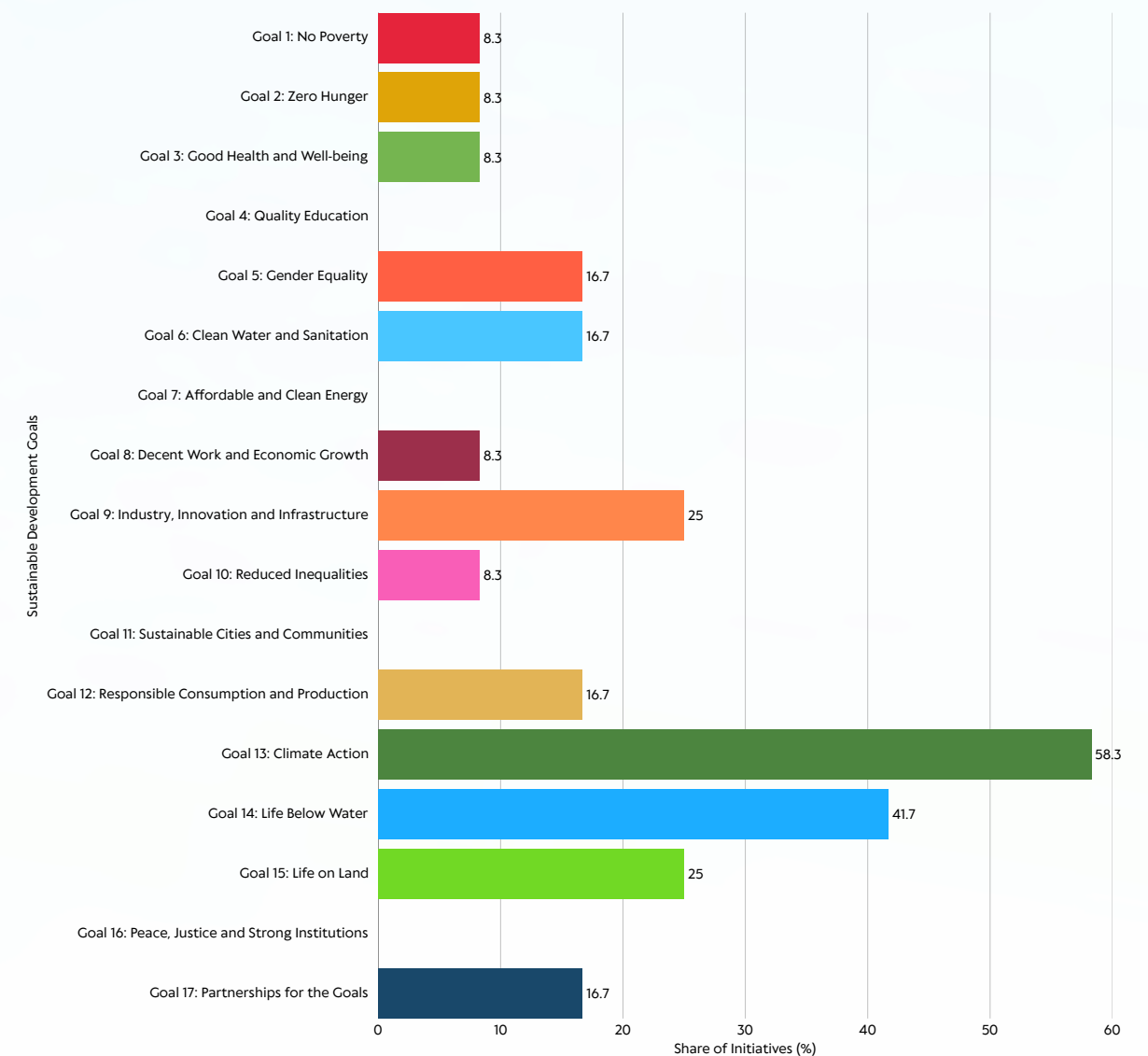


Our Impact at a Glance



Aligning Action with Impact

UNDP Seychelles Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals in 2025



UNDP Seychelles advances development solutions that are closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda. The chart demonstrates how individual initiatives support multiple Sustainable Development Goals, reflecting the complex and interconnected nature of development priorities, and the need for integrated, cross-sectoral responses.

***Percentages indicate the proportion of initiatives linked to each SDG. As many initiatives address more than one goal, the total exceeds 100%.**



Strengthening Seychelles' Local Economy



UNDP supported small and medium-sized enterprises as drivers of inclusive growth. Ten women-led MSMEs participated in the Xport Accelerator, gaining mentorship, business development support, and regional market exposure. These interventions promoted entrepreneurial skills, innovation, and integration into regional and global value chains.

At the community level, UNDP Seychelles advanced livelihood opportunities for vulnerable groups through initiatives such as agricultural rehabilitation and coastal wetland restoration. Expanding on this, climate-smart agriculture approaches, including shadehouse farming, enabled farmers to enhance productivity, better manage climate variability, and sustain year-round production. Through hands-on training and demonstration models, local farmers, particularly women and youth, were supported to adopt and scale these practices, contributing to improved food security and more resilient incomes. These efforts, combined with enterprise development support and regional knowledge exchange, strengthened economic resilience and promoted a more competitive and diversified economy across the Republic of Seychelles.



Accelerating Access to African Markets for Seychellois SMEs

UNDP further supported the participation of 5 SMEs in a two-day B2B event will be jointly organised by the UNDP and the MCCI in Johannesburg, facilitated by Ernst & Young.



Boosting Food Security and Local Productivity through Climate-Smart Agriculture

Shadehouses set up with UNDP's support at the Seychelles Institute of Agriculture and Horticulture and Grand Anse Secondary School provide hands-on training in resilient agriculture for farmers and practical skills for students, boosting productivity, strengthening food security, and contributing to a more resilient and diversified local economy over time.





Mobilizing Finance for Impact



Driving Data-Powered Transformation

UNDP Seychelles accelerated progress toward sustainable development by strengthening national institutions and expanding the country's capacity to mobilize resources. Domestic revenues surged by 11.7%, driven by stronger tax administration under the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC) and the rollout of new Transfer Pricing Laws. Through initiatives such as Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) and Tax4SDGs, UNDP helped boost compliance, transparency, and accountability, building investor confidence and attracting responsible private capital into the economy.

UNDP also advanced a forward-looking financing agenda in Seychelles. The Climate Financing Strategy and Disaster Risk Financing Plan aligned public and private investments with national priorities, opening pathways for women-led MSMEs and SMEs to access finance. By linking fiscal reforms, climate finance and investment readiness, UNDP strengthened Seychelles' ability to direct resources toward development that is sustainable, resilient, and inclusive, leaving institutions stronger and communities better equipped to thrive.



UNDP Seychelles supported digital transformation by strengthening national data systems and enabling evidence-based decision-making. A Digital Readiness Assessment for the National Bureau of Statistics informed modernization strategies, while a similar assessment for the Disaster Risk Management Division supported the development of a fully integrated Disaster Information Management System - boosting early warning capabilities and enhancing preparedness across institutions.



Enhanced Climate Governance Through Digital Solutions

UNDP supported the launch of the Seychelles Climate Transparency Platform in 2025

The Seychelles Climate Transparency platform, launched in 2025, supports accurate tracking and reporting of NDC targets, while the emerging Biodiversity Tracking System will strengthen Seychelles' leadership in climate governance. UNDP also supported women and youth's access to digital tools and promoted digital solutions for SME growth, investment monitoring, and climate reporting. Together, these interventions contribute to building a robust digital ecosystem that enhances public service delivery, transparency, and resilience across sectors.





Scaling Up Disaster & Climate Readiness

In 2025, UNDP strengthened Seychelles’ ability to anticipate, respond to and recover from climate and disaster-related shocks. Integrated disaster risk management systems, early warning tools, and training for over 30 local government representatives reinforced institutional preparedness. Nature-based solutions, including mangrove and forest restoration and climate-smart agriculture, further strengthened community resilience.

Over 30 local government representatives trained for better institutional preparedness





2 new initiatives launched to Support Climate and Disaster Risk Management Efforts

Building on this foundation, we supported the launch of two major initiatives. These include the ‘Disaster and Climate Risk Informed Development in Small Island Developing States’ project, jointly funded by Luxembourg; Denmark and Korea through the Global UNDP Funding Window for Disaster Risk Treatment, and the ‘Tailored Intelligence for Actionable Early Warning Systems Seychelles’ (TIAEWS) project, funded by the China International Development Cooperation agency (CIDCA). Together, these projects aim to strengthen coastal protection, safeguard critical infrastructure, enhance forecasting and early warning capacities, and improve coordination across institutions.

UNDP also continued to promote inclusive, risk-informed development planning through multi-stakeholder collaboration, ensuring that climate adaptation and environmental stewardship remain central to Seychelles’ long-term resilience strategy.



Harnessing Nature for Climate Resilience



In 2025, Seychelles made major strides in climate action and biodiversity protection, strengthening its resilience to environmental and socio-economic shocks. UNDP helped national authorities turn global commitments, such as the Paris Agreement and the Global Biodiversity Framework, into concrete national policies and solutions. Inclusive consultations brought together government, civil society, local leaders, and communities to shape the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and advance the third iteration of Seychelles' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

On the ground, UNDP contributed to strengthen ecosystem management and drove transformative nature-based solutions. Climate-smart agriculture, mangrove restoration, and improved fisheries management boosted communities' adaptive capacity while safeguarding food systems and livelihoods.

The Seychelles Climate Transparency platform enhanced accurate monitoring of NDC targets, and a new Biodiversity Tracking System is set to strengthen evidence-based environmental decision-making. By connecting policy, science, and community action, UNDP helped Seychelles protect its natural capital while charting a path toward a net-zero, nature-positive future.



Innovating for Ocean Resilience: Launch of a Land-Based Coral Nursery

A breakthrough milestone came with the launch of the Assisted Recovery of Corals (ARC) Facility on Praslin. The region's first land-based coral nursery was developed by Nature Seychelles under the Adaptation Fund/UNDP Coral Reef Restoration Project. The ARC Facility uses micro-fragmentation and sexual reproduction techniques, to rapidly grow climate-resilient corals, and accelerate reef restoration, boosting regional adaptation to climate change.



Regional cooperation to tackle pollution and safeguard ecosystems

In 2025, Seychelles hosted the ISLANDS Indian Ocean Project regional meeting, bringing together island states to advance solutions for hazardous chemicals and waste management. Through this initiative, UNDP supports stronger policies, institutional capacity and circular economy approaches. By reducing pollution and improving waste management, the project helps protect fragile ecosystems, safeguard human health and strengthen resilience.





Thought Leadership and Media



In 2025, UNDP Seychelles consolidated its role as a trusted knowledge partner, delivering a diverse range of publications, analytical outputs and multimedia content that translate data and insights into actionable perspectives. Flagship initiatives such as the Gendered Voices newsletter series continued to amplify underrepresented voices and spark dialogue on gender equality, while targeted knowledge products, including thematic briefs on climate action, digital transformation and social inclusion, provided timely, evidence-based inputs to support policy and public discourse.

Advancing Climate Thought Leadership through Strategic Publications

Under the Climate Promise initiative, UNDP Seychelles supported the development of three key publications aligned with the country's Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategy (LT-LEDS), strengthening the evidence base for inclusive and forward-looking climate action.

The LT-LEDS Vision Document sets out Seychelles' long-term pathway towards a low-emissions, climate-resilient future, aligning national development priorities with decarbonisation goals to 2050. Complementing this, the LT-LEDS Roadmap translates this vision into actionable steps, outlining sectoral priorities and implementation pathways to guide decision-makers in operationalising climate commitments. Ensuring that this transition is inclusive, the Gender Analysis Report highlights the differentiated impacts of climate change and identifies opportunities to integrate gender-responsive approaches into climate policies and planning.

Together, these publications reinforce UNDP Seychelles' thought leadership by promoting strategic, inclusive and evidence-based climate planning.

Gendered Voices: Amplifying Perspectives, Inspiring Change

In 2025, the Gendered Voices newsletter series remained a dynamic space for storytelling, exchange and advocacy, highlighting the experiences, achievements and ambitions of women and youth in Mauritius and Seychelles. By sharing authentic perspectives and diverse narratives, the series shed light on key themes including gender equality, leadership, entrepreneurship and social inclusion.

Blending personal stories with development perspectives, Gendered Voices helped deepen understanding while encouraging dialogue and connection. It continues to play an important role in promoting empowerment and equity, reflecting UNDP's dedication to inclusive, people-centred communication that amplifies voices and lived realities.

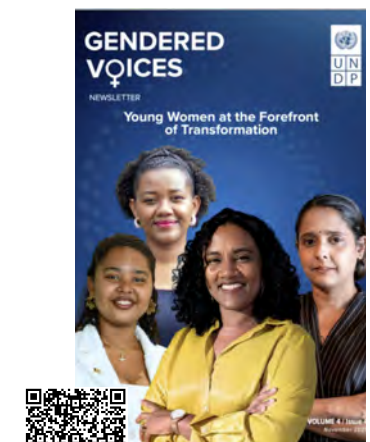
Publications



Gendered Voices
Volume 4, Issue 2:
Women in Diplomacy



Gendered Voices
Volume 4, Issue 3:
Women in Civil Society



Gendered Voices
Volume 4, Issue 4:
Young Women at the Forefront
of Transformation



LT-LEDS Vision for the
Seychelles Towards a
Net Zero 2050 Future



Report on Gender and
Social Inclusiveness

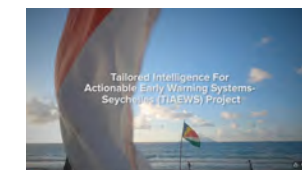


LT-LEDS Roadmap
Document

Videos



UNDP Seychelles 2017-2024 Retrospect video



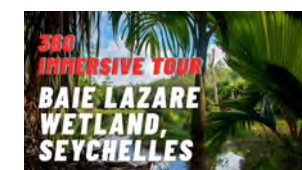
Tailored Intelligence For Actionable Early Warning Systems



Protecting the Shorelines of Seychelles -
Immersive Video



Immersive Tour of Climate-smart Shadehouse
at the Seychelles Institute of Agriculture and Horticulture



Immersive Tour of Baie Lazare
Rehabilitated Wetland



Partnerships

In 2025, UNDP leveraged strategic partnerships with national ministries, regional agencies, and international partners, including CIDCA, World Bank, AfDB, and UNEP, to advance Seychelles’ development priorities. The opening of the UNDP Seychelles office enhanced on-the-ground visibility, coordination, and stakeholder engagement. Knowledge-sharing platforms, such as the UNDP Seychelles Open House and internal Brownbag Sessions, facilitated learning, policy dialogue, and cross-unit coordination.

These collaborations strengthened UNDP’s role as a convener, innovator, and trusted partner, helping Seychelles implement sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development initiatives aligned with the SDGs and climate goals.



UNDP House Opening and Open Day 2025: Reaffirming UNDP’s commitment to the People of Seychelles

The UNDP Open Day under the theme “Celebrating Partnership and Progress” served as a flagship public engagement moment, showcasing shared achievements, amplifying community voices and fostering dialogue on Mauritius’ development priorities.



Following the opening of its new office in Victoria, UNDP Seychelles hosted a vibrant Open House, welcoming students, partners, and community members to discover its work firsthand. Through interactive exhibits, immersive media, and live project showcases, UNDP created an engaging space for dialogue, highlighting the initiatives driving inclusive and sustainable development across the country.



Driving Collaboration and Innovation for the People of Seychelles

Ministries and Departments

- Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, Trade and Investment
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Diaspora
- Ministry of Environment, Climate, Energy, and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Lands and Housing
- National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)
- Disaster Risk Management Division (DRMD)
- Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC)
- Local Government / District Administrators
- Seychelles Prison Services
- Seychelles Parks and Garden Authority

United Nations System Agencies

- United Nations Resident Coordinator Office for Mauritius and Seychelles
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Bilateral, Multilateral and Diplomatic Partners

- China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA)
- German Development Agency (GIZ)
- IRENA
- British High Commission
- European Union

Civil Society Organizations and NGOs

- Nature Seychelles
- Marine Conservation Society Seychelles (MCSS)

International Financial Institutions

- World Bank
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Adaptation Fund (AF)

Private Sector

- Seychelles Investment Bureau (SIB)

Academic and Research Institutions

- Seychelles Institute of Agriculture and Horticulture (SIAH)



The UNDP Seychelles Team

Behind UNDP Seychelles' work is a dedicated, multidisciplinary team driving integrated development solutions across the country. Bringing together expertise in policy, environment, socio-economic development, finance and operations, the team works closely with government, private sector and civil society partners to deliver impact. Guided by strong leadership and a shared commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, the team advances innovative, inclusive and resilient solutions—supporting Seychelles in navigating its unique Small Island Developing State context and building a sustainable future for all.



Alka Bhatia
UNDP Resident
Representative (From
October 2025)



Amanda K. Serumaga
UNDP Resident
Representative (Until
October 2025)



Fabiani Appavou
Assistant Resident
Representative



Sujitha Sekharan
International Operations
Manager



Preethi Sushil
Programme Analyst



Marille Benoit
Programme Assistant



Lyndy Bastienne
UNDP-GEF-SGP
National Coordinator



Kelvin Moise
Driver/Admin Clerk



Erwyn Veerapen
ICT Administrator



Sameer Khudaroo
Head of Finance



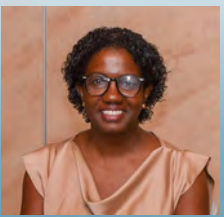
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Finance and Operations
Analyst



Getachew Araya
Procurement Specialist



Martine Chung How
Human Resource
Assitant



Wilna Accouche
National Climate and
Environment Project
Manager



Jamil Jeetoo
Economics Analyst



Daig Tony Romain
Regional Coral
Restoration Project
National Coordinator



Gretel Legras
Coral Project Financial
and Administrative
Associate



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