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DAN NOU KAZYE

The Seychelles Fisheries Authority Newsletter

'Excellence in Sustainable Fisheries Management and Sector Development'

Top News

Glacis fishers gets new gear stores

Seychelles Showcases Blue Economy Leadership at EXPO 2025 Osaka

Empowering Women in Fisheries: SFA Invests in Artisanal Skilling

Inauguration of the New Glacis Gear Store

This month marked a significant milestone for the fishing community of Glacis with the official inauguration of the new Glacis gear store.

The Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy, Mr. Jean-François Ferrari, and the Member of the National Assembly (MNA) for the Glacis district, Honourable Regina Esparon, unveiled a commemorative plaque during the inauguration ceremony.

The project, which broke ground in February 2024, was developed to address the long-standing need for proper storage facilities in the district. Previously, fishermen relied on makeshift shacks constructed from corrugated iron to store their fishing gear and equipment, an arrangement that was often inadequate and exposed their gear to the elements. The new facility now provides a safe, modern, and suitable space for the 46 registered fishers and boat owners within the district.

Despite facing some delays due to unforeseen additional ground improvement work, the project was completed successfully and within the allocated budget. Valued at 3.5 million rupees, the new gear store facility comprises 13 individual storage units, a fish bin area, toilets, boundary walls, fencing, an access driveway, and all necessary groundwork to ensure durability and functionality.

Funded by the European Union under the 2020-2026 EU-Seychelles Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement, this infrastructure stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts to promote sustainable fishing practices while supporting the livelihoods of local fishermen. The new gear store enhances the capacity of the fishing community in Glacis, enabling them to work more efficiently and protect their valuable equipment, thus fostering greater sustainability and economic growth in the district.

The inauguration was not just a celebration of infrastructure but a reaffirmation of commitment to the development of the fisheries sector in Seychelles, emphasizing sustainability, safety, and community empowerment.

Work underway to address hygiene issues at the English River temporary market

The English River temporary market is currently undergoing significant improvements aimed at enhancing hygiene standards and ensuring a safe, clean environment for local fishers and market users. This initiative was prompted by the need to address sanitation concerns identified by SFA and the Public Health Authority, once the market was operational. The English River temporary market was built due to the relocation of fishers from the Selwyn Selwyn Clarke Market in Victoria, which was closed for renovation work.

SFA had faced initial challenges in identifying suitable land to accommodate all the displaced fishers. Due to the limited timeframe, the SFA implemented a provisional project plan for the English River site, even though the site had already been earmarked for another project. The plan was developed in consultation with the fishers and market authorities, ensuring that all stakeholders agreed on the modifications and improvements necessary for the temporary market.

The corrective measures required to improve hygiene and sanitation at the market include work to cover gravel areas with concrete to prevent the accumulation of dirty water, which could facilitate the growth of bacteria and pests. Proper drainage was also identified as a concern; however, immediate drainage improvements, such as installing underground systems, could not be executed at this stage. Engineers and contractors had been consulted during the project development, and it was determined that underground drainage systems would be difficult to control and could inadvertently cause blockages and other issues.

To maintain cleanliness, the SFA emphasizes that thorough cleaning routines are conducted weekly, including pressure washing of the entire market area. Additionally, the fishers have voluntarily agreed to undertake daily cleaning duties, recognizing that cleanliness directly benefits their operations and health standards. The authority considers market upkeep a shared responsibility that will further reduce the impact of drainage-related challenges.

The project has seen a significant financial commitment, with approximately SCR 400,000 spent funds that exceed the initial budget. This extra funding has facilitated additional works that support the market's current functionality and future development. Feedback from the fishers has been positive, with many expressing satisfaction with the site and a strong desire to remain there.

Looking ahead, the plans for the initial English River development include a modern market comparable to other facilities, featuring gear stores, a landing shed, and pontoon installations. The project is now in the redevelopment stage, with interest from fishermen who previously relocated from Victoria wanting to stay at this location. The entire initiative is being funded through support from the European Union, with the SFA's project department leading the development. The goal is to create a sustainable and hygienic market environment that supports the local fishing community and promotes ecological and public health standards.

Promoting Resilience of Blue Economy Activities through New UNDP/GEF SIDS Project

This month, key departments of the SFA met with a team from the Global Water Partnership Africa Coordination for an introductory meeting on a new project that Seychelles is undertaking. The project, titled "Supporting Sustainable Inclusive Blue Economy Transformation in African Small Island Developing States," is part of a regional initiative targeting six African Small Island Developing States (SIDS) located in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

Funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), this project aims to assist these countries in their pursuit of sustainable, inclusive, and climate-resilient blue socio-economic development.

The meeting, held at the Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy as well as at the SFA headquarters, served as an in-person verification of the offices of the focal point, a requirement of the GEF's due diligence process.

Under this initiative, Seychelles will receive a GEF Trust Fund grant of USD 639,361 to implement national-level initiatives that promote the resilience of Blue Economy activities by diversifying the income sources of local communities.

The Blue Economy Demonstration Project will explore and model economically viable alternatives to alleviate anthropogenic pressure on over-exploited marine resources by focusing on undervalued marine species and developing options for marine aquaculture. A few expected outputs from the project include the upgrading of ice plants with photovoltaic systems, further identification of new economically viable undervalued marine species for potential exploitation, capacity building for fishers and personnel from relevant departments, and assistance in developing aquaculture-based training programs for the Seychelles Maritime Academy.

The project is set to begin this year and is anticipated to be completed by 2029.

Seychelles Champions Blue Economy and Innovation at EXPO 2025 Osaka

Seychelles is proudly participating in EXPO 2025 Osaka, Japan — a major global event running from April to October 2025 under the theme "Designing Future Society for Our Lives." The Expo brings together nations to address shared global challenges through innovation and collaboration. Representing Seychelles, SFA has maintained a strong presence at the Seychelles Pavilion. Aquaculture staff Judy Jeanne (April–May) and Ian Confiance (September–October) have played key roles in promoting the country's sustainable blue economy and aquaculture initiatives.

A highlight of Seychelles' participation was its National Day celebration on 7th September, featuring traditional performances, an official ceremony with dignitaries, and a Business-to-Business event focused on fisheries, aquaculture, and tourism. The event attracted potential investors and international partners.

The Seychelles delegation was led by Principal Minister Jean-François Ferrari, with participation from SFA, the Tourism and Fisheries Departments, SIB, and the Ministry of Culture. SFA was represented by Deputy CEO Mr. Aubrey Lesperance and Assistant Manager Ms. Veronica Alphonse-Uzice.

Seychelles' involvement at EXPO 2025 highlights its commitment to sustainability, innovation, and global cooperation, showing that even small nations can lead on big issues.

Further dialogue on SFA's Corporate Governance and Risk Management

The SFA Board of Directors recently participated in a high-level meeting with the Public Enterprise Monitoring Commission (PEMC) as part of the 2024 Corporate Governance and Risk Management (CGRM) Assessment. The review aimed to evaluate SFA's governance practices and risk management framework in alignment with both national and international standards.

The CGRM Assessment is conducted annually by PEMC in accordance with Section 26(d) & (r) of the Public Enterprise Act 2023, and it measures the compliance of public enterprises with key governance frameworks, including:

- The Code of Corporate Governance for Public Enterprises (2019) issued by PEMC
- The OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises (2024)
- The Corporate Governance Toolkit for SOEs issued by the World Bank
- The IMF Fiscal Transparency Code (2014)

Covering the period January to December 2024, the assessment promotes transparency, accountability, and performance across state-owned enterprises. During the session, PEMC analysts engaged directly with SFA leadership to review documentation, clarify requirements, and streamline the collection of relevant information.

This meeting underscores the Government's commitment to strong governance, effective oversight, and enhanced risk management within public enterprises, strengthening operational efficiency and reinforcing public trust.

Managers attend PEMC Reporting Requirement Training

In a concerted effort to promote transparency and uphold good governance, several key departments recently participated in a comprehensive training session focused on PEMC (Public Enterprise Monitoring Commission) reporting requirements. The training was designed to clarify the specific types of information that the SFA is required to report to PEMC, which serves as the monitoring body overseeing compliance and governance standards.

The session was led by PEMC representatives who provided detailed explanations about the various reports that must be submitted regularly. Among which was the Annual Report and the Audited Financial Statement. Participants were informed about the necessary contents of reports aligned with PEMC's standards.

In addition, the training outlined the deadlines associated with each reporting requirement. The importance of adhering to these deadlines was underscored, as timely reporting is essential for maintaining good standing and facilitating transparent communication with PEMC.
This initiative aligns with SFA's broader commitment to strengthen accountability and ensure that all activities are conducted with integrity and openness.

SIH/Summaris Training in France Strengthens Technical and Functional Expertise

The training on the SIH/Summaris application in France introduced participants to system setup, user roles, and data management processes. Key topics included data extraction, user access rights (Administrator, Manager, Observer, Guest), and proper handling of referential data. New features such as an AI-based ObsFish app for fish species recognition and a light mode were presented.

The sessions also covered current issues having, troubleshooting, validation rules, and the importance of structured backups on dedicated servers, with deployments managed via Ansible and load balancing through Engine X.

SFA does its part in the skilling of Artisanal Fisherwomen

SFA PDQA's department hosted a group of women for one week, learning the basics of fisheries product development. This was part of a specialised training programme on Fisheries Business Management, targeting Seychellois women.

The training, which spans across critical areas such as finance, marketing, sales, entrepreneurship, aquaculture and fish processing, is designed to equip women with the knowledge and tools necessary to succeed in the fisheries value chain and take on greater leadership roles in the sector.

During their one week at SFA, the participants learned how to prepare their fish products, package and label. This formed part of their and hands-on sessions, allowing them to gain practical experience and build viable business models.

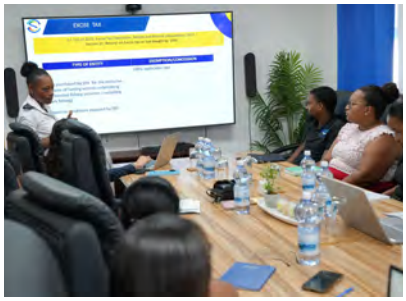
Organised with support from SeyCCAT under the Blue Grants Fund, the program was facilitated by experts in business and fisheries management. The participants include women entrepreneurs, aspiring business owners, cooperative members, and community leaders.

This programme reflects the continued commitment to gender inclusion and sustainable development within Seychelles' blue economy, also a strategic move to boost innovation, sustainability, and resilience across our coastal communities.

SFA Hosts Tax and VAT Compliance Workshop with SRC

SFA in collaboration with the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC), recently held a specialized workshop on VAT and tax compliance. Organized by the Finance Department, the session aimed to enhance internal understanding of tax regulations and ensure organizational compliance.

While focused on finance staff, the workshop also welcomed participants from HR, Procurement, Projects, and Secretariat—highlighting the wide-reaching impact of tax compliance across departments.



Key topics included VAT returns, business and personal income tax, taxable allowances, deferred tax, and regulatory updates. Practical guidance was also provided on using the Domestic Account System (DAS) and claiming VAT refunds, particularly related to fuel concessions.

This initiative reflects SFA's ongoing commitment to staff development and maintaining strong financial accountability.

Aquaculture 101 training for SFA staff

Late September, the Aquaculture Department successfully hosted its second Aquaculture 101 training session, aimed at enhancing knowledge and fostering collaboration among SFA colleagues from various departments.

This comprehensive training initiative is designed to deepen understanding of aquaculture's vital role in Seychelles' sustainable development and economic growth.

The Aquaculture 101 training covered a wide range of topics, such as What is Aquaculture, Why Seychelles, Benefits of Aquaculture, and Why is Aquaculture being developed in such a way in Seychelles.

The training also served as a platform for fostering stronger inter-departmental collaboration. By providing SFA colleagues with a clearer understanding of aquaculture's potential and challenges, the session facilitated better coordination and support across departments.

La Retraite Fishers Unite for Coastal Cleanup Effort

In a heartwarming show of teamwork and care for the environment, fishers and boat owners from La Retraite joined forces to clean up their bay and jetty. Led by the local Association and supported by the Port Department of the SFA, the two-day cleanup tackled the debris left behind by the southeast monsoon.

Every year, strong currents bring in piles of waste plastic, driftwood, seaweed and other trash that pollute the water, smell bad, and harm marine life. Volunteers worked hard, some even using their boats to collect floating debris. Their efforts were impressive and encouraging, over two tons of waste were removed and safely taken to the landfill.

Until the South east monsoon end, there will be more debris being carried in the bay, and hopefully the fisher association will be able to organize another clean up. However, the unity shown by the fishers and boat owners who came forward to support this effort is proof that when people work together, success is inevitable.

SFA Donates Value-Added Fish Products to Support Families Facing Social and Economic Challenges

The SFA, through its PDQA department, has launched a heartfelt initiative to support vulnerable families within the community by donating nutritious, value-added fish products. This effort is aimed at supporting families facing social and economic challenges, particularly those with children.

The donation comprises a selection of healthy fish-based items, including fish fingers, fish burgers, fish nuggets, and fish croquettes. These products are crafted from a variety of fish species such as tuna, carangue, and job fish, ensuring a diverse and nutritious offering.

Importantly, all items are free from preservatives, emphasizing quality and health benefits for recipients. Distribution of the products took place at the Social Affairs headquarters, located within Unity House. The identified families were then invited to collect their packages on the same day, facilitating a swift and efficient distribution process. In total, 99 children from 53 families within the Mahe community have been identified as eligible beneficiaries for this generous donation.

This initiative by SFA reflects a strong commitment to community welfare and nutrition, and to promoting healthier eating habits within the community.

Beautification of SFA Headquarters for World Cleanup Day.

Our amazing staff came together once again yesterday to celebrate World Clean Up Day with a fun and productive cleanup activity! Building on the great work we did last year at the SFA Headquarters, everyone rolled up their sleeves to enhance our grounds. We got busy with landscaping and maintenance, painting, planting new flowers and plants, and even building a cozy little kiosk where everyone can relax during lunch breaks.

It was a fantastic way to contribute to our surroundings and have some fun together!

Let's Know more about Stroke

A stroke, often referred to as a "brain attack," occurs when blood flow to the brain is interrupted, leading to brain cell damage. Immediate treatment is crucial to minimize long-term effects and improve recovery outcomes.

Definition of Stroke

A stroke is a medical emergency that occurs when there is a disruption in the blood supply to the brain. This can happen in two main ways:

1. Ischemic Stroke: This type occurs when a blood vessel supplying blood to the brain is obstructed, often by a blood clot. It accounts for about 87% of all strokes.

2.Hemorrhagic Stroke: This occurs when a blood vessel in the brain ruptures, leading to bleeding in or around the brain. This can be caused by conditions such as high blood pressure or aneurysms.

Strokes can lead to permanent brain damage, long-term disability, or even death if not treated promptly. Recognizing the symptoms early and seeking immediate medical attention is critical.

Symptoms of Stroke

Common symptoms of a stroke include:

- Sudden numbness or weakness in the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- Confusion, trouble speaking, or difficulty understanding speech.
- Trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- Difficulty walking, dizziness, loss of balance, or coordination.
- Severe headache with no known cause.
- The acronym BE FAST can help remember the signs: Balance, Eyesight, Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty, and Time to call emergency services.

Treatment of Stroke

The treatment for stroke depends on the type and severity of the stroke. Here are the main approaches:

1. Ischemic Stroke Treatment:
   - Thrombolytic Therapy: Medications like tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) can dissolve blood clots if administered within a specific time frame (usually within 3 to 4.5 hours of symptom onset).
   - Mechanical Thrombectomy: A procedure to physically remove the clot from the blood vessel using a catheter, typically performed within 24 hours of symptom onset.

2. Hemorrhagic Stroke Treatment:
   - Controlling Bleeding: Medications may be used to manage blood pressure and prevent further bleeding.
   - Surgery: In some cases, surgery may be necessary to repair blood
   - vessels or relieve pressure on the brain caused by bleeding.

3.Rehabilitation: After initial treatment, rehabilitation is crucial for recovery. This may include physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy to help regain lost skills and adapt to any disabilities.

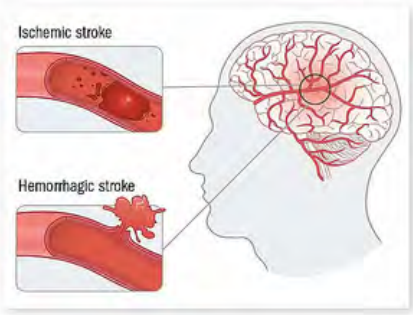
Prevention

Preventive measures include maintaining a healthy lifestyle, managing risk factors such as high blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol levels, and avoiding smoking and excessive alcohol consumption. Regular check-ups with healthcare providers can also help in early detection and management of stroke risk factors.

In summary, understanding the definition, symptoms, and treatment options for stroke is essential for effective management and recovery. Immediate medical attention can significantly improve outcomes for stroke patients.

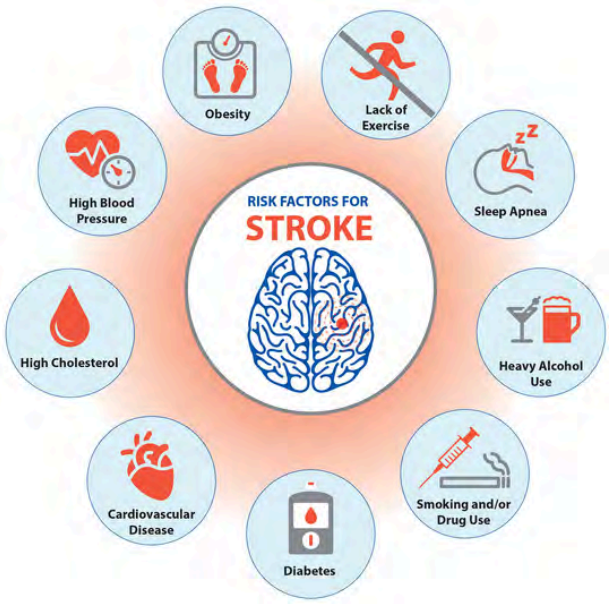
How do I take care of myself after a stroke

Recovering and rehabbing after a stroke is hard work. Once you and your provider finalize your treatment plan, follow it as closely as possible.



Stroke Prevention Tips

- Monitor blood pressure – Keep it under control.
- Eat a healthy diet – Focus on fruits, veggies, whole grains, and low salt.
- Exercise regularly – Aim for at least 30 minutes most days.
- Quit smoking – It greatly increases stroke risk.
- Limit alcohol – Drink in moderation, if at all.
- Control blood sugar – Especially important if you have diabetes.
- Maintain a healthy weight – Extra weight strains your heart and vessels.
- Manage stress – Practice relaxation techniques or seek support.
- Know the signs – Act FAST: Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty, Time to call emergency services.



Guess the answer

Question: In the cartoon book Zak and the Mahe Dossier, what is the main mystery that Zak sets out to solve?

Kindly send your answers to the PR office to get your prize.

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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..