



S4S e-news

2014_09

September 2014

Note from Editor

Greetings to all S4S members, partners and community groups.

It has been some time since our last update and we have been positively involved in promoting sustainability in the Seychelles and we are happy to update you today.

Annual General Meeting

Next AGM to be held in November 2014

Our last AGM was held in December 2013, we elected a new treasure, Lidia Kaz who has served in that capacity for 10 months.

New membership/ volunteer form

We have a [new membership form](#) which you can find on our website. If you change your email address or phone number please fill in a form so we can update our database, so you can continue to receive our emails and get invites to our events.

Work Experience Student

We had the company of a wonderful student Kelly, who was completing her master's thesis, while doing work experience with S4S. She helped with many community-based events as part of her thesis.



S4S Happy Hour to farewell Kelly

New Employee

Welcome Vanessa to the S4S team

We are proud to announce we have recruited Vanessa as full time Project Manager, whose core function will be maintaining and coordinating on-going projects.

Funding Update:

S4S has CSR certificate

Any hotel or business can donate up to half of its CSR tax contribution to eligible projects or organisations. S4S has successfully obtained a CSR certificate from Ministry of Finance, which means that any donations, cash or in-kind contributions made to us can count towards their CSR tax.

To know more please contact us via email
info@s4seychelles.com.

New Projects

Energy efficiency workshop

As part of UNDP Photovoltaic Rebate Scheme an Energy Efficiency workshop was held 23rd July in conjunction with the Seychelles Energy Commission, UNDP and GEF. All the PV companies and relevant stakeholders were invited to discuss what education for energy efficiency and PV systems is required in the Seychelles.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program (SEEREP)

S4S was also involved in the Seychelles Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program (SEEREP) help on the 1st& 2nd April, to promote the new incentive scheme for energy efficient appliances and PV systems.



S4S volunteer UniSey students assisting at the SEEREP Fair

Greening Prisons

S4S has an ongoing project at the prison to promote the prison to become more sustainable. From funding we have purchased some equipment and held a workshop.

S4S has requested additional funding and has submitted a proposal to DAP (Australian Direct Aid Program) to help the Seychelles Prison at Montagne Posee to reduce its carbon footprint by reducing its consumption of electricity and treated water. The DAP funds will be used to extend an existing successful project to introduce green training programs for prison inmates.

The Seychelles Energy Commission conducted an energy audit and determined that the best way to reduce the electricity consumption of the prison would be to change over to more energy efficient security lighting (which accounts for a large portion of energy use at the prison).

Earth Charter

S4S has submitted a proposal to establish a formal association between Earth Charter International and S4S.

Current Projects

Engaging civil society in sustainable waste management

CBO handbook coming soon!

S4S are helping communities to set up their own Community Based Organisation (CBO). A CBO is a group of people that live in the same community and join together to make a difference.

Kelly, the Greek master's student, conducted research with S4S on CBOs and organised a series of interviews with the CBO leaders to find out what their strengths and weaknesses were.

CBO Workshop

S4S has funding and can help CBO's conduct a workshop and develop an action plan. If you would like to set up a CBO please [Contact us](#).



Cascade Heritage Club

Port Gland Environment Club

An action plan workshop was held with Port Gland Environment Club (PGEC).



S4S participated in PGEC members' hike in February



PGEC group photo

Praslin Environment Group

The Praslin Environment Group (PEG) action plan was compiled at a meeting in February based on a series of earlier meetings.



PEG action plan workshop

Bel Ombre Fishermen's Association

A new action plan for BOAT (Bel Ombre Fishermen's Association) was compiled by members and S4S, based on their strategic plan and on availability of a small grant through MFF.



BOAT installation of sign at beach

CBO Good Governance Training

A workshop on climate change was held on March 29th, 2014, on Cerf Island and this laid the ground work for future workshops.

The workshop was attended by 26 CBO members from 13 different groups who resolved to work and collaborate together.

The workshop for CBO leaders included topics such as on environmental laws and citizenship.



COB leaders workshop (March 2014)



COB leaders workshop (March 2014)

Home Compositing

We have a manual on composting coming our soon!

Recycling

Take Away Box Alternative

One of the major projects we will be supporting is the move to seek an alternative to polystyrene takeaway boxes, initiated by the Praslin CBO.

We will be testing out a biodegradable sugarcane based take away box with the help of 3 takeaways on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. If it is a suitable alternative, we will lobby government to promote this box.

If you would like more information on where to get this product [email us](#).



Take away box trials



Biodegradable sugarcane box

Glass Recycling

GOOD NEWS! THE GLASS CRUSHER IS UP AND RUNNING AGAIN!

Donations of bottles, jars and other non-reusable glass stuff for recycling can be dropped off at the crusher site - which is now along Petite Anse Road in Baie Lazare.



Look for the sign, which should be up by next week... PLEASE spread the word...

Wetland conservation

Four Seasons – wetland restoration by the removal of invasive species.



Removal of invasive wet land species

Climate change education



Michele flying the S4S flag

Planet Cycling Rally was held on December 14th with the Seychelles Cycling Association as part of community education activity. This rally helped promote a healthy option for getting around our beautiful island.



Planet Cycling Rally opening ceremony

Climate Change Artist Retreat

A Climate Change retreat was held on the Nov 29th 2013 on Curieuse island, with 17 participants (full house).

This retreat gave the talented artists of Seychelles an opportunity to collaborate on important environmental topics.



Climate change workshop for artist held on Curieuse Island

Rain Water Harvesting

Project to promote rainwater harvesting in post-secondary schools

Sustainability for Seychelles (S4S) is implementing a small grant to promote rainwater harvesting in three of Seychelles' post-secondary schools together with the Seychelles Agriculture and Horticulture Training Centre, Seychelles Institute of Technology and the Seychelles Tourism Academy.

The prison agreed to make fibreglass tanks from a British High Commission grant. The schools will be consulted on where to place the tanks and a workshop will be held on how the tanks can be best used.

Seychelles prison going green – Visiting MPs briefed on sustainable projects receiving Australian funding -

On 7th August 2014 a short ceremony was held in partnership with S4S and British Foreign Office to mark a donation of rainwater water tanks and climate change curriculum guides to several post-secondary schools.



Celebrating the working together of the various organisations



Unveiling of the water tank at the Seychelles Agriculture and Horticulture Training Centre in Anse La Mouche

See more at: [Seychelles News Agency press link.](#)

Past Events:

21 st March 2014	International Day of Forests and the Tree
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22 nd March 2014	World Water Day
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22 nd April 2014	Earth Day
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June 2014	
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Michele at CSO Conference

2 nd July 2014	Seychelles Strategy 2040 workshop for civil society groups
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12 th July 2014	Wildlife Clubs of Seychelles 20 th anniversary
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S4S was invited to participate in the children/youth environmental conference.

S4S focused on waste, as part of our waste project. There were some activities to involve kids and a recycling station as part of the event. Also we had a display on water conservation.



S4S at WCS festival

20 th August 2014	The Ministry of Environment and Energy invited S4S to attend a one day workshop on the National Programme for Sustainable Consumption and Production
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19-21th September, 2014	CLEAN UP THE WORLD –
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S4S members and friends organised clean ups to mark this year's campaign. Our partners PUC and Seybrew cleaned up Les Mamelles River as part of our joint water conservation campaign.

21st September 2014

"Ride for the Planet" cycling event that took place and was in line with the global day of action for Climate Change and was celebrated internationally.



A successful bike racing event

Upcoming Events:

3-5th October 2014

Port Glaud Environment Club are planning to do a camping trip and clean up on Ile Therese

28th October 2014

Eco School Competition

More events....

Also see our [S4S Facebook Page](#) for more information on upcoming events.



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