



BEACH AUTHORITY

CLEAN-UP MAURITIUS

AND

EMBELLISHMENT CAMPAIGN

June 2018

VOL 18

WWW.BEACHAUTHORITY.MU

Belle Mare public beach

Introduction

Local beaches are popular venues of recreation in Mauritius and more so during the summer period. Whether it is to enjoy the sea, have an ice-cream by the shore or put on some sunscreen and soak up the sunshine, beaches in Mauritius certainly become busy over the summer months. However, although all the public beaches in Mauritius have litter bins that are serviced on a daily roster, and the majority of beachgoers dispose of their rubbish responsibly, there are still those unfortunately who leave their litter behind. This poses a number of problems as a beach strewn with litter is not only unpleasant and unattractive, but can also negatively impact the environment and beachgoers themselves. Litter left on a beach is not only an eyesore, but it can also cause injury. People might accidentally cut themselves by stepping on a broken piece of glass, a soft drink can or a sharp piece of plastic.

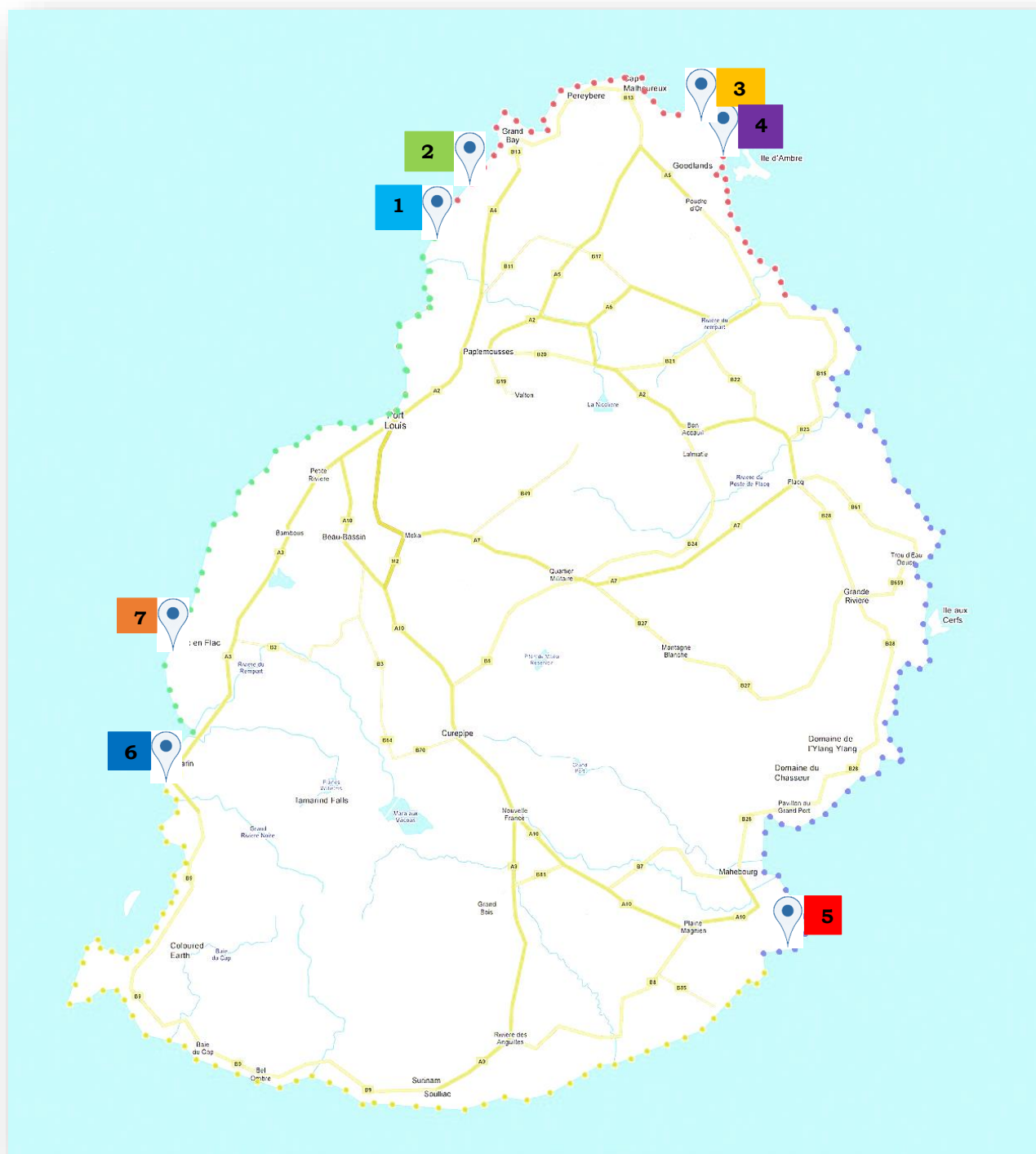
To mark the World Environment Day 2018, several activities were organised to promote the theme of this year “Beat Plastic Pollution” as plastics are causing much harm to the environment and the nature at large. The Beach Authority is hence standing firm in sensitising the beach users for the betterment of our public beaches.

This document gives a brief description of the activities carried out during the month of June, 2018, including Validation Workshop on Beach Management Plan for public beaches, celebration of World Environment Day and World Ocean Day and upgrading and embellishment of several public beaches.

Participants:

1. Beach Authority
2. Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development
3. Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping
4. Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands
5. Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
6. Ministry of Youth and Sports
7. Black River District Council
8. Mauritius Police Force
9. Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI)

Public beaches where activities were carried out during the period of 01 June to 30 June, 2018.



Northern Region

Eastern Region

Southern Region

Western Region

- 1** Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Oberoi)
- 2** Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Cimetière)
- 3** Grand Gaube
- 4** Melville

- 5** Blue Bay

- 6** La Preneuse
- 7** Flic en Flac

Activities:

- i. Validation Workshop on Beach Management Plan for public beaches
- ii. Celebration of World Environment Day at Municipal Council of Port Louis
- iii. Celebration of World Ocean Day at Blue Bay public beach
- iv. Celebration of World Environment Day at Flic en Flac public beach
- v. Construction of Sub Office at Flic en Flac public beach
- vi. Upgrading of toilet blocks at La Preneuse public beach
- vii. Construction of retaining wall at Grand Gaube public beach
- viii. Mowing of grass on public beaches

Dr. Dhuneeroy Bissessur

General Manager

Beach Authority

June 2018

1.0 Validation Workshop on Beach Management Plan for public beaches

A Beach Management Plan (BMP) is of vital importance for the Beach Authority as it provides a framework for decision making process regarding proper management and upgrading of public beaches. The BMP proposed by the Beach Authority provides for the design, permitting, engineering, construction, maintenance and monitoring of the coastal infrastructure in order to maintain a healthy beach profile. This infrastructure includes the beach, stabilisation structures, and beach accesses. The public beaches concerned are as follows:

1. Mont Choisy
2. Pereybere
3. P.G Union Ribet (Mare la Raie)
4. Belle Mare
5. La Prairie

It is proposed to implement part of the Beach Management Plan at Mont Choisy public beach as a pilot project which comprises of the following components:

- reprofiling of beach including the plantation of shrubs/ creepers, coconut/palm trees
- provision of Vigilance Tower with First Aid Room and Emergency Access
- construction of parking area for buses and cars, spur lanes and bus lay-bys with appropriate French drains for surface water drainage system
- construction of footpath in crushed coral sand and boardwalk at every 50m
- provision of basic amenities (bins, tables and benches, signboards and gazebos)
- landscaping works and services
- provision of solar lighting facilities for all amenities
- provision of CCTV surveillance camera system
- provision of sports and leisure facilities (open gym, open shower, beach volley, pétanque court, beach soccer)
- construction of two new toilet blocks, shops and cafés and Beach Authority Sub Office

In connection of the above, a validation workshop was organised by the Beach Authority at Intercontinental Mauritius Resort Baclava Fort on **11 June, 2018**. Several relevant stakeholders from different ministries, NGO's and private sector were present on that day.

The programme comprised of the following:

- registration of participants
- welcome address by Dr. Dhuneeroy BISSESSUR, General Manager of the Beach Authority
- address by Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development
- presentation of Mont Choisy Beach Management Plan by Mr. N. KHEDAH, Technical Manager of the Beach Authority
- presentation on Amenities and Infrastructure
- presentation on Coastal Zone and impacts of Climate Change
- presentation on Security and Safety aspects
- presentation on Landscaping and Visual aesthetics
- interactive working session with participants

The Beach Management Plans for the six public beaches were validated by all relevant stakeholders concerned.

1.1 Welcome address by Dr. Dhuneeroy BISSESSUR, General Manager of the Beach Authority

The General Manager welcomed and thanked everybody for their presence. During his speech, the General Manager stated that the Beach Authority is a parastatal body created in 2002, and is under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development. It is responsible for the control and management of proclaimed public beaches in Mauritius and Rodrigues. The public beaches play an important role in the Socio-economic development of our country. They are our showcase, our identity, our common space and our pride. He also added that we feel privileged to have inherited the god gifted idyllic beaches with clear blue turquoise lagoons. It is our duty to maintain them as such and leave this legacy to the future generations.

In this fast developing and stressful world, people are looking for suitable places to entertain and relax and the public beaches fit the purpose. We are fully conscious that in the years to come the Beach Authority will face multi-faceted challenges and it is our responsibility to initiate a Beach Management Plan to ensure that the beaches are always being embellished and upgraded with all relevant amenities in the interest of all beach users including tourists. The

Beach Management Plan is of vital importance to the Beach Authority as it provides a framework and guidance for the decision making process regarding management and upgrading of public beaches. In this respect, the Beach Authority has embarked on a project for the preparation of Beach Management Plans for six public beaches based on specificities and geographical considerations, namely Mont Choisy, Pereybere, P.G Union Ribet (Mare la Raie), Belle Mare, Flic en Flac and La Prairie. The BMP is a fitting element that will contribute significantly to transform our public beaches into an entertaining place of excellence. In short, it outlines the consideration and action to be taken in future. It takes into account and, where possible promotes and enhances the uses and functions of a beach.

The General Manager ended his speech by saying that we have no doubt that this workshop will be inspiring, innovative, informative, enriching and fruitful to one and all.



Welcome address by Dr. Dhuneeroy BISSEUR, General Manager of the Beach Authority

1.2 Address by Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

During his speech, Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY mentioned that for a Small Island Developing State like Mauritius, the public beaches are our important coastal assets and ecosystems. They are of prime importance for our inhabitants recreation and leisure, main attraction of our Tourism Industry and coastal development. With the advent of industrialisation and development, coupled with global warming and climate change effects, our public beaches are constantly under pressure and are being subject to constant degradation and erosion. We have no other choice than to consider the protection, preservation and conservation for our beaches as well as the security and safety of the beach users as a priority.

The Beach Authority, with the undeniable support received from Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development, has embarked as one of its priority projects on the preparation of a Beach Management Plan for each of the six public beaches, namely at Mont Choisy, Pereybere, P.G Union Ribet (Mare la Raie) and La Prairie. The services of a consultant namely Mega Design Ltd has been retained. The Beach Management Plan provides an integrated, consistent framework and guidelines including beach management practices with a view to achieve sustainable development of our public beaches. The overall aims and objectives of the Beach Management Plan are to help during the management of public beaches to think strategically and innovatively for managing our coastal resources over a long period of time so as to achieve a sustainable development in the context of industrialization, global warming, climate change and population growth.

The Permanent Secretary also mentioned that nearly all of the proclaimed public beaches falling the jurisdiction of the Beach Authority are fully accessible to the public. Government is fully committed to ensure that our beaches are free from all obstructions and nuisances so that the public has access to it at all times.

Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY ended his speech by saying that the discussions at the workshop are critical in supporting decision makers and planners in formulating policies and best practices towards sustainable development of our public beaches and wished all the working groups involved in this workshop a very fruitful discussion regarding the Beach Management Plan for the public beaches concerned.



Address by Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

1.3 Presentation of Mont Choisy Beach Management Plan by Mr. Mahen Navin KHEDAH, Technical Manager of the Beach Authority



Presentation of Mont Choisy Beach Management Plan by Mr. Mahen Navin KHEDAH, Technical Manager of the Beach Authority

1.4 Presentation on Amenities and Infrastructure and Landscaping and Visual aesthetics by Mr. Dharmanand SOOREDOO, Director of Mega Design Ltd



Presentation on Amenities and Infrastructure and Landscaping and Visual aesthetics by Mr. Dharmanand SOOREDOO, Director of Mega Design Ltd

1.5 Presentation on Coastal Zone and impacts of Climate Change by Mr. Anthony WAIN, Landscape Architect at Mega Design Ltd



Presentation on Coastal Zone and impacts of Climate Change by Mr. Anthony WAIN, Landscape Architect at Mega Design Ltd

1.6 Presentation on Security and Safety aspects by Tegaragen SEENEEVASSEN, Services Engineer at Mega Design Ltd



Presentation on Security and Safety aspects by Tegaragen SEENEEVASSEN, Services Engineer at Mega Design Ltd

1.7 Mrs. Moobinah KHODABOCUS, Master of Ceremony (MC)



Mrs. Moobinah KHODABOCUS, Master of Ceremony (MC)

1.8 Interactive working session with participants



Mr. Vincent ROGERS, Chairman of Compagnie de Mont Choisy Ltee



Mr. Dharamraj DEENOO, Deputy Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development (Board Member of Beach Authority)



Mr. G. PYNDIAH, Representative of Association du Development Durable (NGO)



Mrs. Coojun JUGROO, Chief Executive of District Council of Savanne



Mr. Vikash TATAYAH Ag. Executive Director, Mauritius Wildlife Foundation



Mr. Mohammad Oumar KHOLEEGAN from City Council of Port Louis (Board Member of the Beach Authority)



Mrs. L. SANSPEUR, Ag. Director, Ministry of Tourism



Mr. D. Reddy LUTHMOODOO from the National Coast Guard (Board Member of Beach Authority)



Dr. Pramod CHUMUN, Program Manager of Eco Sud



Mr. Roshan RAMESSUR, Representative of Vice-Chancellor of University of Mauritius



Mr. B. DWARKA, Tourism Planner from Ministry of Tourism



Mr. A. SOOKUN, Head of Public Infrastructure Development at District Council of Pamplemousses



Miss Henna RAMDOUR Environment Officer from Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development



Mr. D. ELLAYAH, Inspector from National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Centre



Mrs. Moobinah KHODABOCUS, Master of Ceremony, Ag. Accounting Technician at the Beach Authority, Dr. Dhuneeroy BISSESSUR, General Manager of the Beach Authority, Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY, Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development, Mr. Dharamraj DEENOO, Deputy Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development, Mr. Roshan Singh SOWAMBAR, Chairman of the Beach Authority, Mr. Mahen Navin. KHEDAH, Technical Manager of the Beach Authority (from left to right)



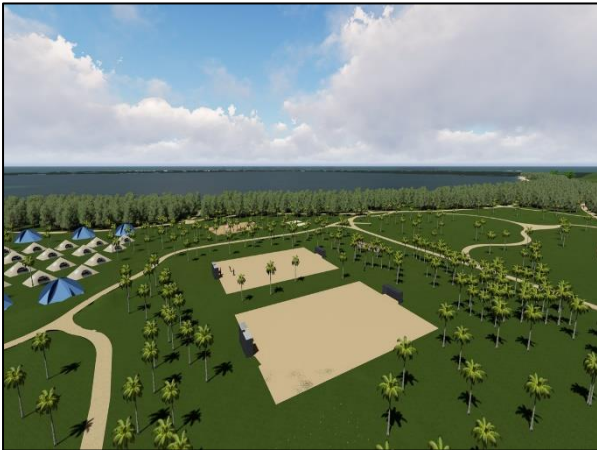
Invitees



Photo souvenir of all Invitees and Staff of the Beach Authority



Photo souvenir of Staff of the Beach Authority



Elevation Plan for Beach Management Plan at Mont Choisy public beach

2.0 Celebration of World Environment Day at Municipal Council of Port Louis

The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development organised an exhibition on the occasion of World Environment Day from **07 to 08 June, 2018** at the Municipal Council of Port-Louis in collaboration with Solid Waste Management Division, the Beach Authority, University of Mauritius and private companies.

The theme of this year was to “Beat Plastic Pollution” as plastics are causing much harm to the environment and the nature at large. The objective of the exhibition was to create awareness amongst the public.

In view of the same, an awareness campaign and exhibition was showcased by the Beach Authority. The school children and members of the public were sensitised on the negative impacts of plastic pollution on our public beaches and the measures being taken by the Beach Authority to beat plastic pollution on public beaches.

Flyers were distributed to visitors to further sensitise them to protect our public beaches.



Banners installed to sensitise the visitors on the negative impacts of plastic pollution on our public beaches and the measures being taken by the Beach Authority to beat plastic pollution on public beaches.



Visitors reading the sensitisation banners



School children visiting the stand of the Beach Authority

3.0 Celebration of World Ocean Day at Blue Bay public beach

To mark the World Ocean Day 2018, the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping (Fisheries Division) in collaboration with the Beach Authority, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI), Mauritius Police Force and Eco Sud organised a cleaning campaign at Blue Bay public beach on **09 June, 2018**.

The Beach Authority collaborated by making arrangements with the Scavenging Contractor (Mauriclean Ltd) to provide additional workforce and carting away of wastes collected after the cleaning of Blue Bay public beach and lagoon.



Cleaning of Blue Bay public beach by personnel of Mauriclean Ltd (Scavenging Contractor)



Divers from the Ministry of Ocean of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping (Fisheries Division)



Mr. A. BEEPUTH, Ag. Senior Beach Enforcement Officer of the Beach Authority and Honourable Premdutt KOONJOO, Minister of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping



Blue Bay public beach

4.0 Celebration of World Environment Day at Flic en Flac public beach

To mark the World Environment Day, the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development in collaboration with the Beach Authority, Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands, Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, Black River District Council, Mauritius Police Force and NGO's organised a Clean-Up Campaign at Flic en Flac public beach on **24 June, 2018**.

The theme of this year was to "Beat Plastic Pollution" as plastics are causing much harm to the environment and the nature at large. The objective of the Clean-Up Campaign was to clean the lagoon and beach at Flic en Flac public beach and to sensitise the beach users.

The activities comprised of the following:

- speech
- cleaning of lagoon and public beach
- sensitisation campaign (Distribution of flyers and plastic bin bags)
- donation of two (2) Eco-bins to the Beach Authority by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

4.1 Speech

4.1.1 *Speech by Honourable Etienne Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development in the presence of Dr. Dhuneeroy Bissessur, General Manager of Beach Authority*



Speech by Honourable Etienne Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

4.1.2 Speech by Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development



Speech Mr. Nazir SOOBRAITY, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

4.2 Cleaning of lagoon and public beach



Wastes retrieved from Flic en Flac lagoon by Divers of Mauritius Scuba Diving Association



Cleaning of Flic en Flac public beach by Staff of Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

4.3 Sensitisation Campaign (Distribution of flyers and plastic bin bags)



Distribution of flyers and plastic bin bags to beach users



Distribution of flyers and plastic bin bags to beach users

4.4 Donation of two (2) Eco-bins to the Beach Authority by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development



Handing over of Eco-bin to Beach Authority by the Honourable Etienne Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

5.0 Construction of Sub Office at Flic en Flac public beach

The Sub Office at Flic en Flac public beach is under construction and same is expected to be completed by **July, 2018**.



Interior and exterior plastering works and cladding wall with blue basalt stones completed



Construction of leaching field is ongoing

6.0 Upgrading of toilet blocks at La Preneuse public beach

The toilet blocks at La Preneuse public beach are being upgraded. The works are expected to be completed by end of **July, 2018**.



Removal of roof sheeting, wooden purlins and rafters (to be replaced by new ones shortly)

7.0 Construction of retaining wall at Grand Gaube public beach

A retaining wall is being constructed at Grand Gaube public beach to enclose the children play area at the beach. The works are ongoing and are expected to be completed by **July, 2018**.



Work in progress



Grand Gaube public beach

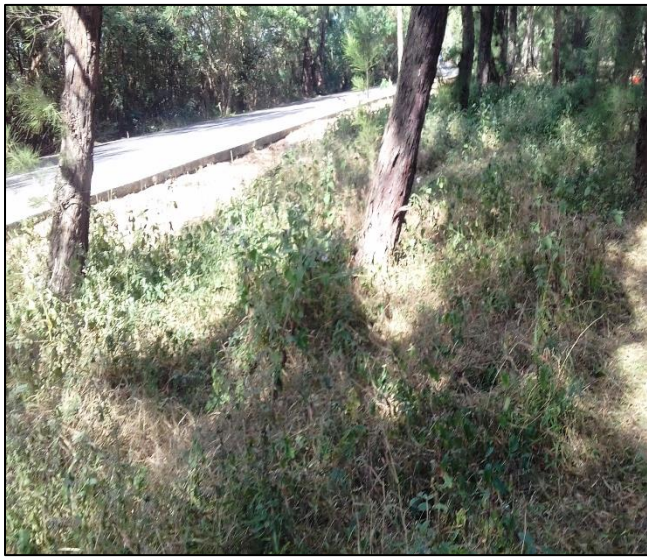
8.0 Mowing of grass on public beaches

Mowing of grass was effected on the following public beaches during the month of June in order to keep our public beaches clean and tidy:

- Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Cimetière)
- Melville
- Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Oberoi)

8.1 Mowing of grass at Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Cimetière) public beach

Before



After



8.2 Mowing of grass at Melville public beach

Before



After



8.3 Mowing of grass at Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Oberoi)

Before



After



Way Forward

The Beach Authority is working tirelessly to ensure that the beaches are always being embellished and upgraded with all relevant amenities in the interest of all beach users including tourists. Much emphasis is being laid on Clean Up and Sensitisation campaigns to attain our mission of making our beaches cleaner, greener and safer and more accessible to the public.

The Authority has in view to implement several more activities and projects regarding the protection and conservation of the public beaches in the near future. New toilet blocks will be constructed at P.G l'Embrazure and Roche Noires and existing ones will be upgraded at Cap Malhereux, Sable Noir, Palmar, La Cuvette and Trou aux Biches (Infront of Police Station) public beaches. Moreover, regarding safety and security of beach users, seventy-five (75) solar lighting panels will be installed on twelve (12) public beaches and parking areas will be constructed at P.G l'Embrazure, Case Noyale, Roche Noires and Palmar public beaches.



Bain Boeuf public beach