



#anewdirection

# ROADMAP 2021-2026

**TOWARDS**  
*a fairer, more resilient and sustainable  
regional economic development*

Cap Business Océan Indien (Cap Business OI) is the brand image of the Union of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Indian Ocean – UCCI OI, an association registered under the laws of Mauritius, bearing registration no. 13074.

**This Roadmap was created by the General secretariat of Cap Business OI with the support of the ACK and HDC consortium.**

**Graphic design by** Laurie Castel

Any reproduction, whether in whole or in part, by whatsoever means, shall be made subject to the approval of the General secretariat of Cap Business OI.

Any mention of an article or extract from this publication shall clearly be cited as follows : « Cap Business Océan Indien, 2021-2026 Roadmap, September 2024 ».

This publication was supported by France via Agence française de développement.



This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union (EU). Its contents are the sole responsibility of Cap Business Océan Indien and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU.



**CAP BUSINESS OCÉAN INDIEN**

Suite 205, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NG Tower, Ebène, Mauritius

+230 463 15 37

[info@capbusiness.io](mailto:info@capbusiness.io)

[communication@capbusiness.io](mailto:communication@capbusiness.io)



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

 <b>A NEW DIRECTION</b> .....	5
 <b>OUR REGION AND ITS CHALLENGES</b> .....	6
 <b>OUR PURPOSE</b> .....	7
 <b>OUR FIVE PRIORITY AREAS</b> .....	10
 <b>OUR FOUR MARKERS</b> .....	32
 <b>CAPACITY BUILDING</b> .....	50
 <b>TOWARDS A NEW DEVELOPMENT PARADIGM</b> .....	58

## A NEW DIRECTION



The 2021-2026 Roadmap lays the foundation for all the activities of Cap Business Océan Indien for the next five years. This document, which has been approved by our members and partners, takes into account the major issues our insular territories are facing in a context that has been transformed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Indeed, the sanitary crisis has deeply impacted our populations and economies, highlighting our dependence on external resources, and shining more light on the potential synergies and inter-island exchanges that are, to this day, under-exploited.

This document aims to be a proper action plan as it clearly defines the five priority areas in which we shall commit ourselves: Ocean/ Blue Economy, Energy/ Construction, Sustainable tourism, Agriculture/ Agro-industry and Connectivity. In the context of the post-Covid recovery, these sectors represent a tremendous growth and development potential for our territories.

In addition to these priority sectors, we have identified the following cross-cutting issues to guide our actions: climate, biodiversity, inclusion, and circular economy. Beyond its principles of additionality and subsidiarity, Cap Business Océan Indien will embed these priorities in its decision-making criteria, which will be accompanied by policy instruments and management tools. By doing so, we want to support the regional private sector towards a fairer, more sustainable and resilient development.

**This is the new direction of our association.**



## OUR REGION and its challenges

As a region, the South East of the Indian Ocean, now known as the Indianoceania, has a strong potential, given the assets held by its six constitutive territories. However, the numerous opportunities it holds may not be seized until and unless the economic development of the islands is thought over to consider current and future issues.

### THE ASSETS FOR TOURISM

and ecotourism remain undervalued despite our unique landscapes and ecosystems.

### THE AGRICULTURAL SECTORS

of our territories, although promising, are still under-developed and fail to exploit both Madagascar's potential and our proximity to East Africa. Envisioned at a regional scale, they would lend us precious help in tackling the issues of food security and sovereignty in the region.

### CONNECTIVITY

is an essential lever of development nowadays. However, it remains scarce among our islands, despite considerable progress, and in particular regarding digital connectivity following the commissioning of the METISS cable (MEltingpoT Indianoceanic Submarine System). Other similar initiatives must be encouraged when it comes to maritime and aerial connectivity.

### INCLUSION

is an essential development issue for the region. We must create a conducive framework that will empower our youth, value their creativity, and guide them towards entrepreneurship. In the same way, efforts are needed to better encourage women to participate in the economic life, thus bridging the gender gap.

### THE CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUE

is ever-present. Indianoceanic territories are among the most vulnerable areas of the world to climate change-related risks because of their insularity. Our islands now face increased risks of cyclones, floods and droughts. Ecosystems, whether marine or terrestrial, are being strongly pressured by climate disturbances, on one hand, and human activity, on the other. It is of the essence that any further development prevents the risks of pollution, deforestation and soil degradation, among others.

## OUR PURPOSE Facilitating regional economic cooperation

Created in 2005, Cap Business Océan Indien has become a key actor of regional economic cooperation. The association is now a platform that represents the private sectors of the six islands of the Indian ocean region, hence gathered in a single network. It aims, through its various actions and initiatives, at facilitating cooperation among regional economic players, on the one hand, and clarifying the issues to help common fronts to emerge, on the other hand.

Amid a difficult context that is still riddled with the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the association now ambitions to reinforce its action and thereby, further consolidate its role. Its first mission will be to enhance the quality of dialogue, so that it may be more open, informed and respectful in order to build solid partnerships which will, in the end, reinforce solidarity and resilience at the regional scale. The final objective is to allow regional stakeholders to share their knowledge and experiences while setting up initiatives, and above all, seizing opportunities of regional development by mobilising the available resources.

**In short, it is all about reinventing the Indian Ocean region together for the future.**

In accordance with the 2021-2026 Roadmap, Cap Business Océan Indien will facilitate regional cooperation by:

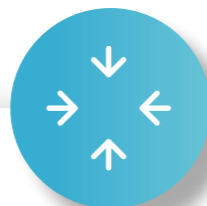
**Gathering** stakeholders of the private and public sectors to identify common issues

**Participating** in the search for solutions by generating knowledge and capacity building

**Supporting** projects by way of direct financial solutions or technical assistance

# OUR PURPOSE

## Actions



### GATHERING STAKEHOLDERS

#### **Economic Forum of the Indian Ocean Islands: a key event in the region**

Since 2005, the Economic Forum of the Indian Ocean Islands has been a highly anticipated annual event by the regional business community. It is also the platform where political and economic decision-makers of the region meet and exchange ideas on various common themes.

#### **Creation of public-private sectoral dialogue platforms**

As a first step, five dialogue platforms will be created in 2022.

The goal is to allow stakeholders from the public and private sectors, as well as partners from the civil society to exchange ideas surrounding the priority sectors as identified in the Roadmap.

The ensuing dialogue will be structured and fostered by Cap Business Océan Indien, along with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), with a view to drafting action plans which will muster the commitment of all relevant members. The association will act as the coordinating body to these dialogue platforms, and, occasionally to respective commissions on sectoral or topical issues, insofar as its technical team's mission is precisely to foster discussions in networks of regional private stakeholders surrounding common strategic issues.



### SEARCHING FOR SOLUTIONS

#### **Think tank, studies, delegated project management, follow-up and evaluation...**

Once the major challenges have been identified, Cap Business Océan Indien will work towards finding solutions through activities such as think tanks, studies, delegated project structuring and coordination as well as follow-ups and evaluation of targeted regional incentives. The goal will be to produce knowledge, whilst actively participating in the private sector capacity-building when it comes to region-specific issues, such as the islands' vulnerability in facing the consequences of climate change, connectivity, the ocean, among others. The association will also ensure advocacy on various topics that will contribute to improving the business environment and the inclusion of partners. These actions will be carried out in partnership with the IOC.



### SUPPORTING PROJECT INITIATORS

#### **Financing, funding and project structuring**

Cap Business Océan Indien will financially support regional projects for the priority areas as identified by the Roadmap, insofar as these projects comply with the established eligibility criteria (namely issues related to climate change, circular economy, inclusion and protection of biodiversity). The association will, in this regard, raise funds from companies, private foundations and investment funds, whilst also setting up privileged partnerships with organisations such as **Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the European Union and the World Bank**, among others. Besides direct support, some entrepreneurs and business executives will also have access to additional guidance in their search for funding and project development. The association will build capacity in order to muster the expertise needed to provide this technical assistance.

# OUR FIVE PRIORITY AREAS

The five priority areas we have identified represent – in the midst of post-Covid economic recovery – a tremendous potential for development at the regional level. These are fields around which the activities of Cap Business Océan Indien will be structured for the next five years. Since they are interdependent, they will be tackled through a cross-cutting and holistic approach.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

ENERGY AND CONSTRUCTION

COLLABORATIVE BLUE ECONOMY

AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-INDUSTRY

CONNECTIVITY



## **SUSTAINABLE TOURISM**

Redefining best practices

---

The tourism industry is a key sector for all territories of the region, because it is an important source of income, especially in terms of foreign currency, while also generating considerable employment. This economic pillar has, nonetheless, shown great vulnerability during the Covid-19 pandemic because of travel restrictions. As the sector resumes its activities, thanks to borders progressively reopening, this sector must not only learn the lessons taught by the sanitary crisis, but also reduce its carbon footprint and its impact on ecosystems.

Over the next five years, many activities will be organised to help the stakeholders to fully take stock of the risks that threaten their activities. The goal is to encourage them to think collectively to reposition, and perhaps even reinvent their industry, basing it on fairer, more sustainable and more resilient grounds. Cap Business Océan Indien will make methodological tools, as well as a dialogue space available, and can be joined, in this endeavour, by partners such as the IOC.

---

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## MODERATING AND STRUCTURING THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE

In an effort to support the transition needed by the sector, a dedicated dialogue platform will be set up at Cap Business Océan Indien. It will pool together all stakeholders of the field. The association will moderate the thinking process with a view to rallying and federating professional organisations at a regional scale to prepare a joint action plan. At the end of this process, the long-term continuation of this project will be left up to the lead professional organisations.

## THE FOUR MAJOR STEPS

### CAPACITY BUILDING

Having a dedicated dialogue platform will be a means to broaden the knowledge of the stakeholders when it comes to issues which the sector, as a whole, is facing. The goal is to identify the needs in terms of knowledge and competence.

### RAISING AWARENESS at national level

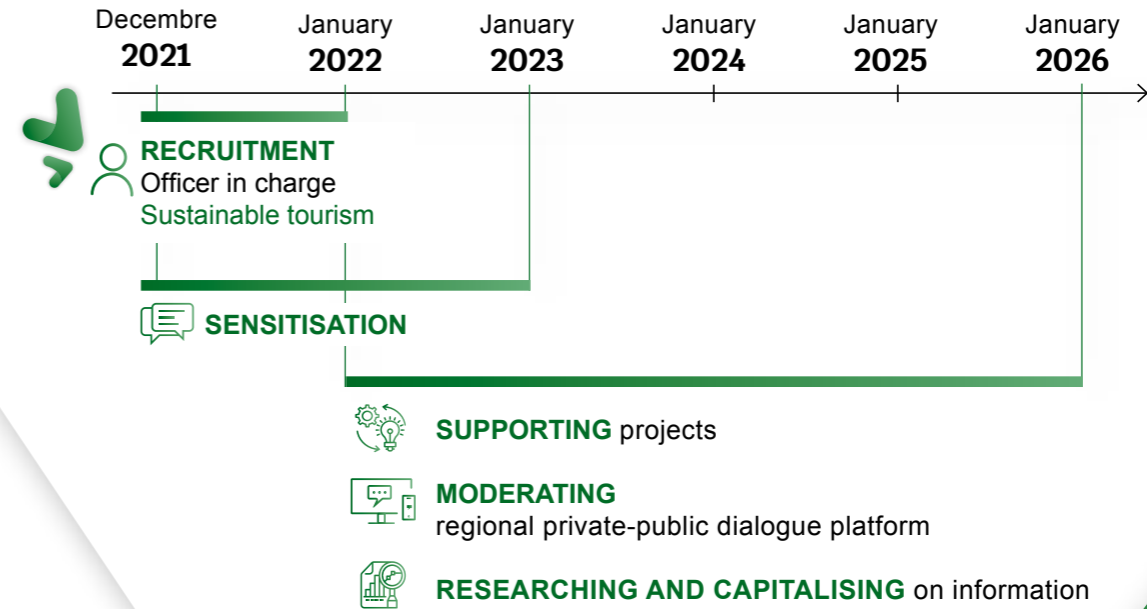
Stakeholders will benefit from support through digital workshops. An analysis will be carried out in each territory to better understand their vulnerabilities, but also their degree of preparation when it comes to face economic, climate, environmental or sanitary issues, among others.

### RAISING AWARENESS at regional level

Digital workshops will be organised to pool together the various territorial analyses and assess the regional carbon footprint of the sector. Various scenarios have been prepared to anticipate the likely evolution of the industry in the Indian ocean in the medium and long terms, with a view to reaching carbon neutrality in 2050. The search for regional synergies and complementarities will be emphasised in that respect.

### REGIONAL CONFERENCE

All initiatives will culminate toward the organisation of a regional conference that will gather public and private stakeholders. This meeting will be the perfect occasion to validate a sectoral action plan to reposition regional tourism on fairer, more sustainable, and more resilient grounds.



In 2018, Cap Business Océan Indien sponsored many professionals of the region, enabling them to participate in the International Tourism Fair in Madagascar. Following this event, 26 circuits of ecotourism discoveries combining two territories were created in 2019, in partnership with the Vanilla Islands association. Professionals who were then selected had the privilege to experience these new circuits through Eductours specifically organised for them.





# ENERGY AND CONSTRUCTION

For a sustainable and resilient transition

.....

The use of fossil fuels, whether direct or indirect, represents the main challenge for the ecological transition of our islands. This very issue will not, however, be solved by turning to biomass imported from distant regions, the production, exploitation and conveyance of which deviate from sustainability principles that are compatible with the Paris Agreement. Meeting this challenge will require two complementary types of strategies.

It requires, on the one hand, to replace non-sustainable or fossil fuels by cleaner, closer and renewable sources of energy and, on the other hand, to heighten our energy efficiency. Indeed, it would require improving electricity production, consumption efficiency, as well as demand management.

.....

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## RISK AWARENESS

Digital workshops will be organised to sensitise stakeholders to the importance of committing to the energy transition, and, in so doing, reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by finding sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels, as well as innovative and eco-friendly building materials and techniques.

## TRAINING FOR THE USE OF NEW TOOLS

There are various existing tools that allow businesses to calculate their greenhouse gas emissions, and thus, analyse the impact of their activities on natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems. Cap Business Océan Indien will set up training resources to help economic operators make better use of these existing tools.

## DISSEMINATING INNOVATIVE AND PROMISING SOLUTIONS

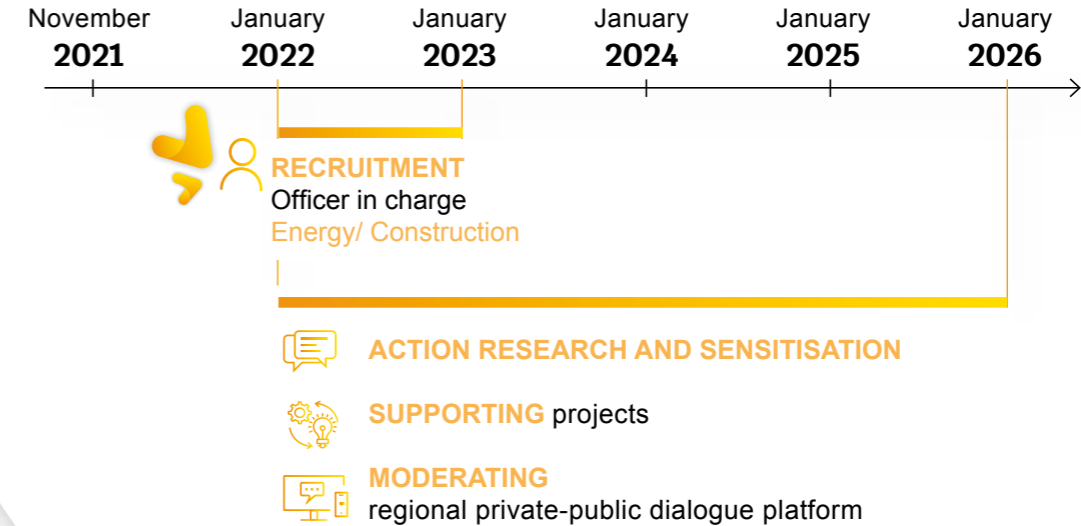
Contests will be organised to promote businesses across the region that come forward with novel energy solutions. The idea is to disseminate proven low-tech solutions, giving them a wider reach, and value both bio-climatic innovations and the use of local materials during conception and construction stages.

## LAUNCHING STUDIES AND TRAINING

Over the next five years, Cap Business Océan Indien will initiate various studies and co-fund training to deepen the knowledge surrounding issues affecting the sector, and identify new business opportunities.

## SEEKING FUNDING

Cap Business Océan Indien will commit to exploring additional funding sources such as green bonds, cause-based investors, and crowdfunding, among others. This prospective work will then help project managers in their search for funding.



In 2019, the IOC adopted a cooperation strategy for the energy transition, through which it promotes a collaborative approach. It aims to involve all stakeholders of the sector, and reinforce public-private partnerships. The goal: to topple the annual 3.8 billion euros of energy expenses, 90% of which comes from fossil fuels, towards energy efficiency and renewable sources.



## COLLABORATIVE BLUE ECONOMY

Supporting a sector  
with a bright future

---

A large number of our islands' activities are directly or indirectly related to the ocean. In fact, blue economy concerns various sectors such as tourism, maritime transport, food and pharmaceutical resources, among others. This is why we advocate a collaborative approach to sustainably identify and exploit all opportunities. They are countless and all the more precious considering the needs of our territories in terms of food security, training or even employment.

Given its potential for carbon sequestration as well as regenerating biodiversity, this sector is also vital to the sustainable and resilient development of the region. Our mission is now to rethink our economic activities as a whole in order to ensure that they no longer have detrimental effects on our ocean and resources and that, instead, they contribute to their regeneration.

---

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## SENSITISING STAKEHOLDERS

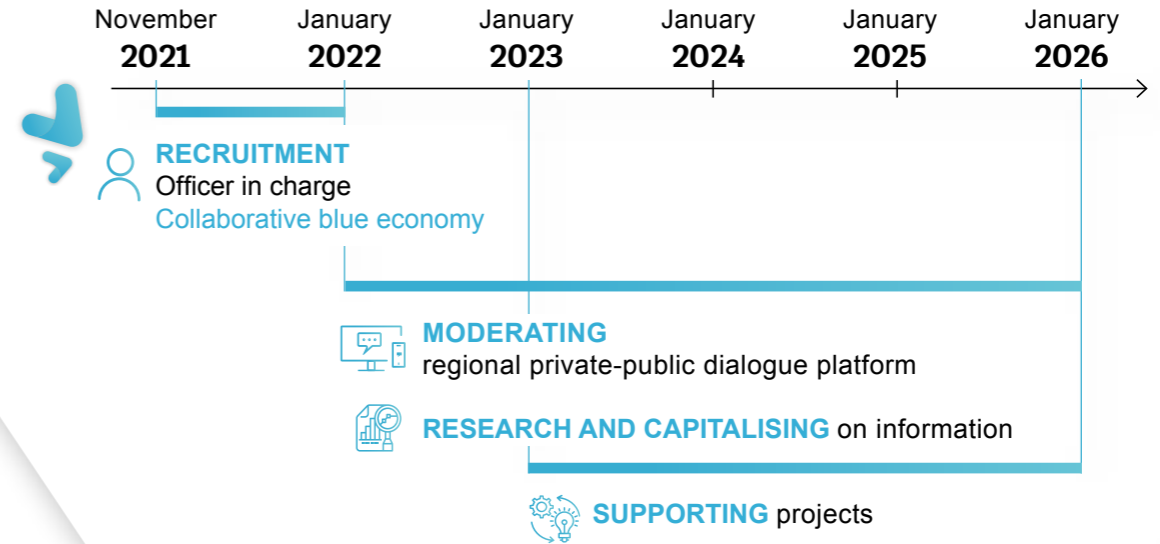
A sectoral dialogue platform will be created in 2022. It will, aside from moderating the discussion among various stakeholders, facilitate the regular dissemination of information related to the encompassed themes. It will, as such, encourage participation from private stakeholders towards the preparation of white papers, but also the identification of appropriate tasks and actions to be done at regional level.

## TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

There are many opportunities linked to the sustainable use of ocean resources. However, having skilled labour is the key to seizing them. In this respect, the association will be working with competent partners to reinforce training opportunities for seafaring jobs in the region. The end goal is also to facilitate private operators' access to tools that allow a better understanding of issues brought about by climate change, the collapse of biodiversity and the depletion of resources when it comes to activities related to blue economy and maritime connectivity.

## SUPPORTING PROJECTS

Cap Business Océan Indien will support regional projects within this sector through a dedicated fund, provided that all the applicable criteria are met. On top of this direct support, the association will provide project managers with technical assistance in terms of project structuring and fundraising.



Blue economy encompasses the sustainable use and conservation of aquatic resources in both marine and freshwater environments, which include oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and groundwater. It therefore concerns all activities, such as fishing, manufacturing pharmaceutical products, maritime transport and coastal tourism (to name only a few) that directly exploit those resources. If these activities take place in an integrated, fair and circular way, they will help to improve the health of these ecosystems through protective and restorative measures.



## AGRICULTURE & AGRO-INDUSTRY

Ensuring our islands' food sovereignty

.....

The sanitary crisis brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic shed light on one of our great vulnerabilities, that is, our islands' food supply. With borders shutting down, disturbed logistic flux, increased freight costs and increased exchange rates favouring the dollar in relation to other foreign currencies, the need to strengthen our food sovereignty at a regional level is pressing.

Nowadays, the sustainable development of agriculture however requires that various questions be considered, especially in relation to climate, soil protection, and the reasonable use of water resources, among others. The reinforcement of food sovereignty therefore inevitably requires the reinvention and adaptation of the current agricultural practices. The goal is to promote short organic food chains and the equitable distribution of added value, and thus engage in a fair and sustainable transition. On top of food production, Cap Business Océan Indien will support the evolution of agriculture towards a bio-economy.

.....

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## PROMOTING THE EXPORT OF RAW MATERIALS

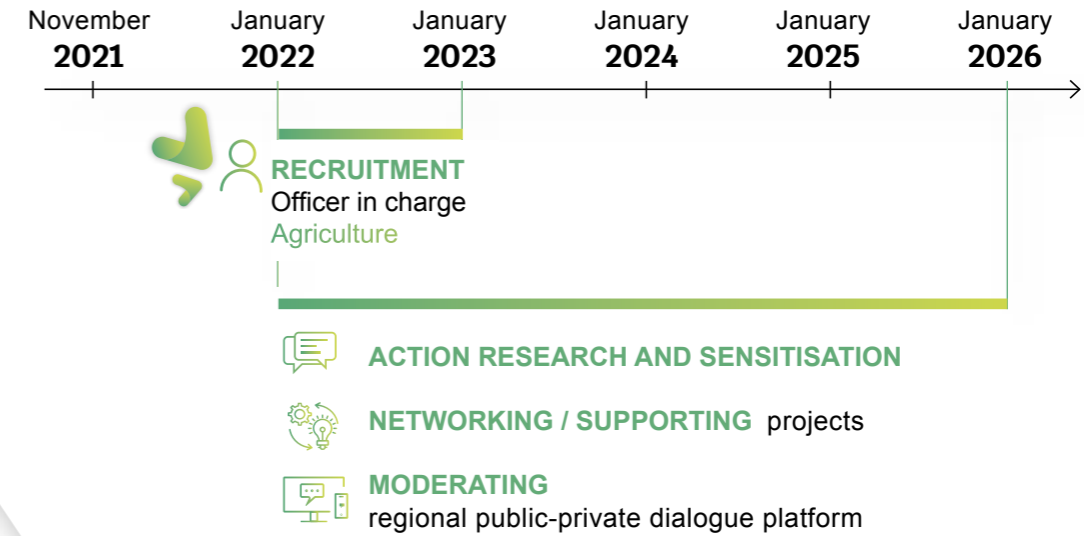
As part of the operationalisation of new logistic resources (new maritime services and lines), Cap Business Océan Indien will set up various initiatives to promote agricultural raw materials with regional producers and operators.

## TRAINING AND SENSITISATION

Workshops will be provided to sensitise operators to applicable sanitary standards across territories of the region. Not only will these initiatives target the various port authorities (tasked with controlling the products); they will also target producers so that they may apply these standards as early as the production phase.

## NETWORKING

Previously established by PRESAN/IOC, the digital platform for multi-sector supply channels will be further developed and opened to operators of the agricultural sector. This tremendous promotional tool - which also facilitates exchanges - will provide, through its platform, a meeting place for supply and demand throughout the Indian Ocean region. This platform will allow our islands to bank on their complementarity and, in so doing, help our territories reduce their reliance on imported products from the rest of the world.



Bio-economy encompasses all production and transformation activities of biomass - forestry, agriculture and aquaculture - for the purpose of food production, bio-based materials, and energy. It also forms part of the bigger picture of a green economy, that is an economy which respects the environment and uses natural resources more efficiently.



## CONNECTIVITY

Developing regional value and supply chains

---

Maritime, air and digital connectivity among our islands remains weak, despite the fact that it is an essential tool to facilitate trade and allow regional value chains to emerge. Reinforcing it via the creation of new shipping lines and maritime services is now a necessary condition to develop the numerous value-added sectors at the regional scale.

In order to do so, it is key to foster constructive dialogue between the private and public sectors with a view to finding lasting solutions. It is therefore of paramount importance to adopt a collective approach to help our territories stand their ground in facing the rising shipping costs, possible container shortages, and perhaps even other logistical disturbances. This strategy is also about anticipating the enforcement of new environmental norms concerning, for instance, greenhouse gas emissions, which will impact costs. Cap Business Océan Indien will, first, focus on maritime connectivity.

---

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## MODERATING THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE

A sectoral dialogue platform, which will gather regional public and private stakeholders, will be created in 2022. The mission of Cap Business Océan Indien will be to moderate and structure discussions - whilst prioritising the identification of regional and national constraints that stunt the creation of inter-island maritime lines, in partnership with the IOC.

## TRAINING FOR SEAFARING JOBS

The association will support the professionalisation of seafaring jobs through shared training so as to come up to par with technical advancements and support all stakeholders in taking into consideration social, sanitary and environmental issues.

## ADVOCACY

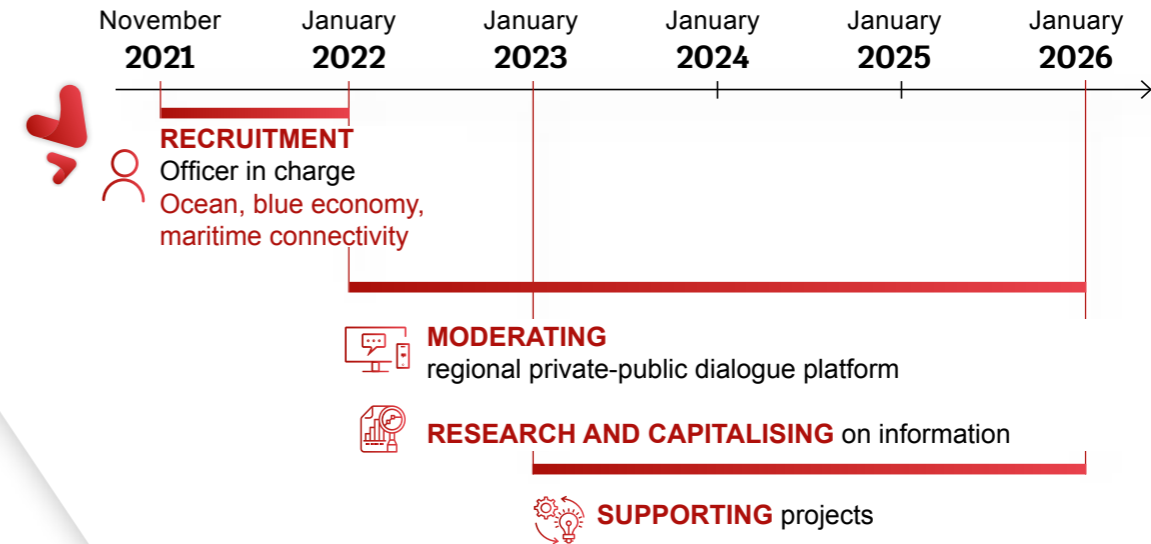
Identifying the obstacles hindering the advancement of this sector will ultimately lead to the formulation of a white paper to support the reinforcement of maritime connectivity. It will then be presented and promoted in front of national and regional authorities, as well as shipping companies. The goal is to prove that such connectivity is achievable since it is a vector of development opportunities.

## SUPPORTING PROJECTS

Cap Business Océan Indien will support projects to improve the regional logistical offer and freight transport, especially through the signature of partnership agreements. The association will support the development of inter-island maritime lines on the basis of a first pilot study funded by the first PRCC (Commercial capacity building programme) for maritime services between Mahajanga (Madagascar) and Longoni (Mayotte).

## DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE AND RAISING AWARENESS

Studies to deepen the knowledge about the sector and identify new opportunities in terms of maritime lines will be funded.



Many actions have been undertaken over the past five years in partnership with the Association of Ports of the Indian Ocean Islands (APIOI), thanks to the support of Agence Française de Développement (AFD). Training needs have been identified, and three modules were selected for the first shared training plan among ports of the region. Furthermore, a study has been funded to identify opportunities for the improvement of maritime services between Mahajanga (Madagascar) and Longoni (Mayotte).



# OUR FOUR MARKERS

Enabling systemic transformations of the regional economic fabric. Such is the vision which guided Cap Business Océan Indien in identifying four cross-cutting priorities. These markers will guide every action undertaken by the association for the implementation of the action plan up to 2026. It will promote virtuous models in the five chosen priority sectors, thus contributing to a fair, sustainable and resilient transition.

**INCLUSION**

**CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

**BIODIVERSITY**

**LOW-CARBON STRATEGIES**



## INCLUSION

For a better integration of women and youth in the economy

.....

In the Indian Ocean region, the gender issue in the economic context is not nearly comprehended enough, and is, as such, poorly understood. Post-Covid economic recovery is therefore a golden opportunity to promote a model that is more inclusive, especially since the pandemic led to major setbacks regarding gender equality and womens' rights throughout the world. Aside from slowing down efforts, it even worsened existing inequalities.

Empowering women and youth, eliminating gender discrimination and fighting against stereotypes are, more than ever, levers of sustainable development. Cap Business Océan Indien will actively participate in this endeavour through its activities.

.....

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE ASSOCIATION

A gender action plan will be implemented with an aim to structure the commitment of Cap Business Océan Indien to advancing professional equality, namely by formalising a Human Resources policy that takes due stock of this issue. Staff members will also be sensitised through specific training. Officers in charge will, on their end, issue reports to ensure that these issues are considered in all projects they undertake.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AMONG ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A gender action plan will be proposed and tailored to their distinctive features. Activities to support such changes and promote capacity building will also be organised. A network of contact persons will also be constituted among the personnel of the association's members.

## GENERATING KNOWLEDGE

Specific sectoral studies will be carried out in order to enrich knowledge surrounding of women's issues in various priority sectors (tourism, blue economy, agriculture, etc.). The studies will then lead to the preparation of proposals to improve women's access to jobs, as well as their terms and conditions of employment.



A study about the part women play in economic activities has been carried out. It established a database on the working conditions of women in our six territories, including informal sectors. It identifies obstacles to equality, as well as the slowest sectors from the gender equality standpoint. Its conclusions will allow the creation of an action plan and the drafting of a white paper.



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY

To optimise material flow  
and energy use

.....

Circular economy is a pillar of the sustainable transformation of the territories of our region, whether ecological, economic or social; its fundamental principle is to limit the use of resources, provided free of charge by nature, to a rate that ecosystems can sustain in the long term. It thus facilitates the creation of virtuous cycles that reduce the environmental impact of economic activities whilst optimising material flows and energy use, and therefore preserving natural resources.

The emergence of a regional circular economy, however, depends on various factors such as the development of connectivity (especially maritime), the coordinated Research and Development activities among territories, or even the implementation of favourable reforms and regulations.

.....

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## GENERATING KNOWLEDGE

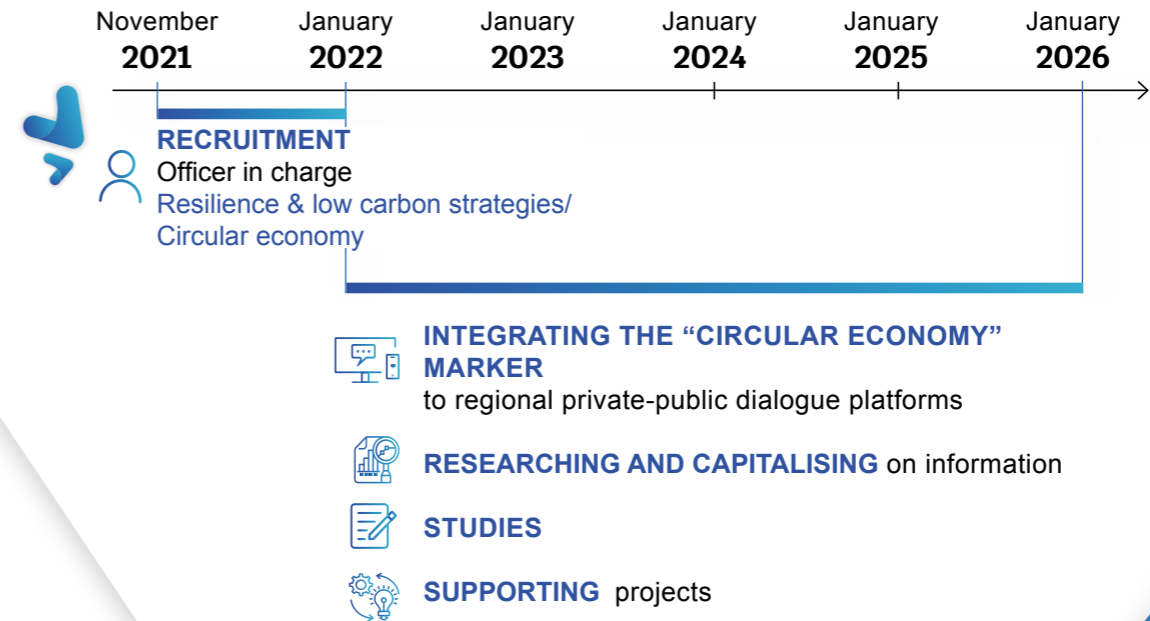
Seven studies have been carried out in priority sectors. They will constitute the basis for the creation of the first energy materials balances and will enrich the knowledge base surrounding circular economy, steer local projects and prioritise regional projects. It will also classify and promote innovations, best practices and opportunities among regional economic stakeholders.

## ENCOURAGING ENCOUNTERS

Cap Business Océan Indien will organise meetings about priority topics (biowaste, food waste, etc.). The latter will either take place through virtual or physical networking workshops, dedicated forums or site visits. The goal is to foster interactions among the stakeholders and, in so doing, allow circular economic projects to emerge.

## SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

The association will act as a facilitator in funnelling capital towards promising solutions and models. This support will be dispensed through technical support to project structuring as well as financial support.



In 2019, research focused on four streams of waste management, namely PET, engine oil, batteries and tyres. It had gathered various stakeholders over the course of two workshops to advise, find consensus and present the findings. The ensuing conclusions were used to draft a white paper on the importance of taking into account an ecological approach, awareness advice and long-term courses of action to roll out a regional circular economy.



## BIODIVERSITY

Preserving the ecosystems  
and natural assets of our islands

---

Our six territories harbour unique natural assets which must be preserved at all costs, especially since they are threatened by the impacts of global warming and human activity. This development issue must, from now on, be considered from a regional standpoint given its impact on the priority sectors that were previously identified, namely tourism, blue economy or agriculture, which all depend on the proper functioning of our marine and terrestrial ecosystems, and the various services they offer for free.

Over the next five years, Cap Business Océan Indien will value nature-based solutions through its orientations and projects. The goal is to encourage and support coordinated actions to keep track of the conservation and regeneration of biodiversity, as well as our resilience in facing climate change, whilst keeping in mind the economic prosperity of our populations.

---

# OUR COMMITMENTS

## GENERATING KNOWLEDGE

Sectoral studies will be funded to help economic stakeholders to better understand the ecosystems on which their own activities, profits and long-lasting success depend.

## NATURAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTING

A method to audit the natural capital will be devised and offered to the companies which are so willing. It will be a useful tool to take into account the ties between the environment and socio-economic activities. The final goal is to ensure that neither human nor natural capital, once correctly measured, is eroded by economic activities in the long run.

## SUPPORTING PILOT PROJECTS

Cap Business Océan Indien will encourage experimentation and adoption of nature-based solutions and models with a view to preserving or restoring the function of ecosystems as well as stocks of natural capital.



The Indian Ocean is one of the 36 biodiversity hotspots in the world according to a classification established by the NGO Conservation International. According to this classification, our region is still home to over 1,500 endemic species which have, however, lost over 70% of their original tree cover. The destruction of natural habitats, the proliferation of invasive species and the overexploitation of natural resources and climate change are but a few factors that threaten various animal and plant species with extinction.



## LOW-CARBON AND BUSINESS RESILIENCE STRATEGIES

.....

Limiting global warming to 1,5%, as prescribed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its report published in August 2021, will require concrete measures from public authorities and the business community alike. Reaching this objective will therefore require a virtuous collective endeavour as a so-called “contribution to carbon neutrality”.

In this view, the Indian ocean region holds a considerable asset: the synergy among its constitutive territories. The concept of carbon neutrality is built up, not only at the territorial level, but also at the regional level. The purpose of Cap Business Océan Indien is therefore to support the private sector on its low-carbon development path through various tools which will help it integrate “Net Zero Initiative” principles.

.....



# OUR COMMITMENTS

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Technical training programmes will be offered to consultancy firms and professionals of the region, and will delve into three themes: carbon footprint assessment, low-carbon strategy and carbon sequestration assessment. These programmes will help in mastering the main tools used in low-carbon development strategies for businesses.

## SENSITISATION

A series of online conferences will be organised to discuss various aspects of the carbon issue among all member organisations of Cap Business Océan Indien. The objective is to help them understand the stakes of the coupled climate and energy issues, and the stakes for their own activities.

## GENERATING KNOWLEDGE

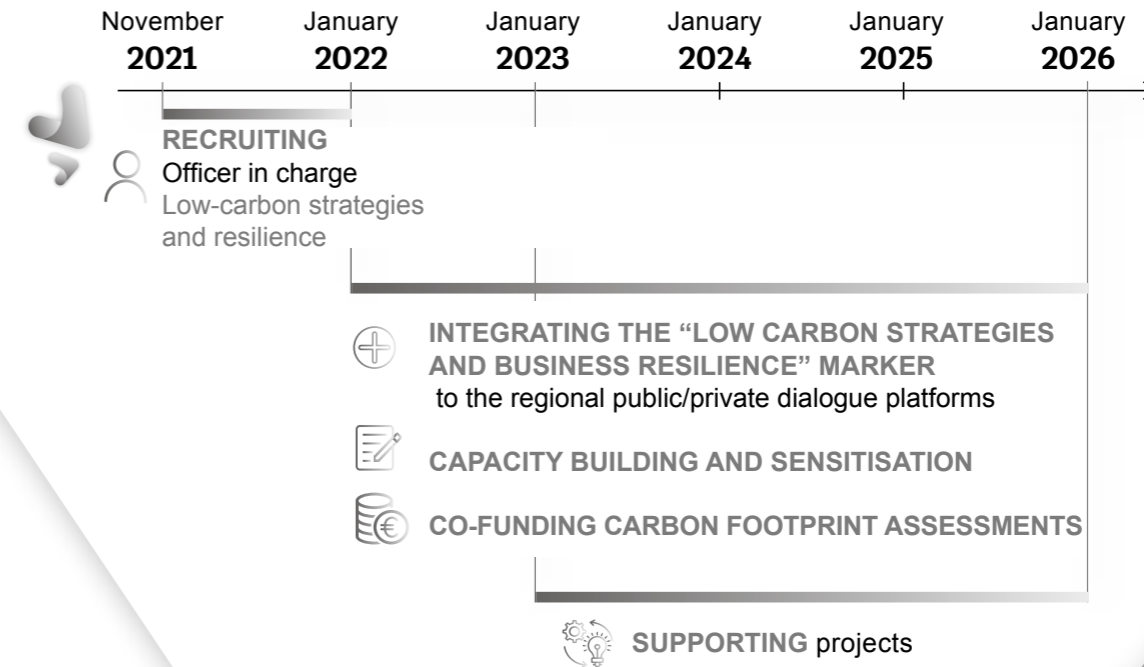
The association will fund two studies with a view to supporting the rallying of the private sector around climate change issues in the long run. The first study will examine the medium-term feasibility of an emerging sub-regional carbon market that avoids various methodological problems identified elsewhere. The second study will examine the necessary conditions to establish a sub-regional low-carbon label which will allow businesses to gain more visibility, and thus encourage them in their endeavour to reduce carbon emissions.

## CARBON FOOTPRINT ASSESSMENTS

Cap Business Océan Indien will jointly finance 10 carbon footprint assessments for six businesses within the region (one per territory), and four major streams chosen among the five priority sectors.

## SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

After the conferences and carbon footprint assessments, the association will fund a coaching programme destined to professional organisations across the six territories, in order to advise and support them in their preparation and implementation of a low-carbon strategy.



The Net Zero Initiative standard, as developed by Carbone 4 consultancy firm, provides organisations with the means to describe and organise their climate-related action so as to maximise their contribution to global carbon neutrality.

In other words, it offers a common language and standard for all stakeholders of a business or territory to pilot their project to improve the climate issue.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

With a view to implementing its commitments highlighted in the 2021-2026 Roadmap, Cap Business Océan Indien ambitions to:

- ↳ Open up to new associated partners
- ↳ Diversify its funding sources whilst consolidating its partnership with its longstanding financial partners
- ↳ Progressively set up an operational team by recruiting professionals from various key fields

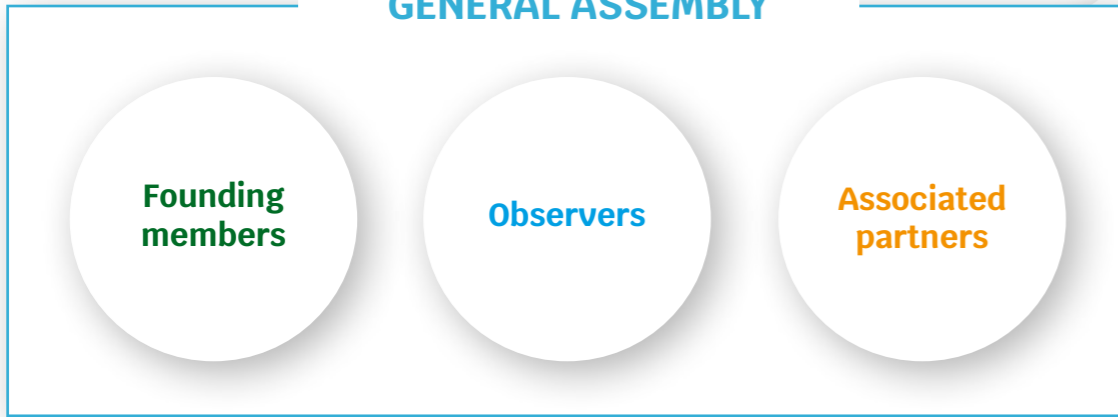
STEERING THE ORGANISATION

OPERATIONAL TEAM

ESTIMATED BUDGET

# OVERALL ORGANISATION

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY



## STEERING COMMITTEE

Representatives Founding members

Representatives Associated partners

### Founding members

### Observers\*

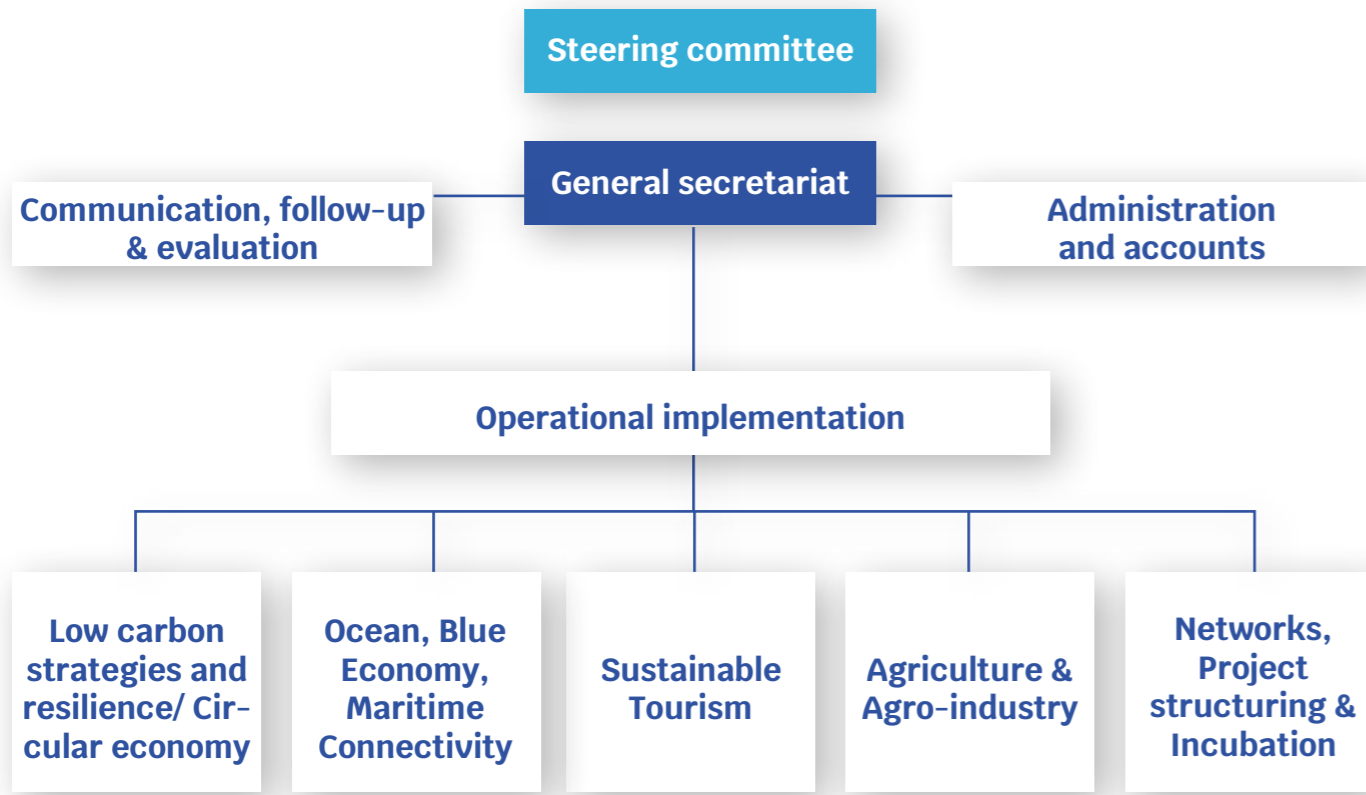


\* Involved in the implementation of the activities of Cap Business Ocean Indien by means of technical and/or financial support. The European Union supports the association through the Interreg V OI programme, which is jointly implemented by Région Réunion and Département de Mayotte.

### Associated partners\*\*

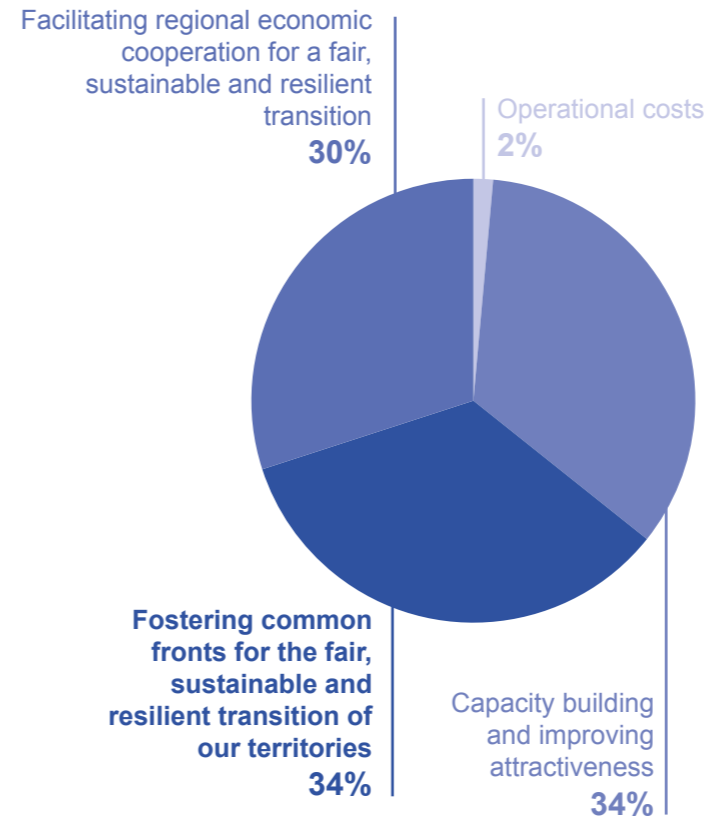
\*\* Enrolment ongoing

# OPERATIONAL TEAM



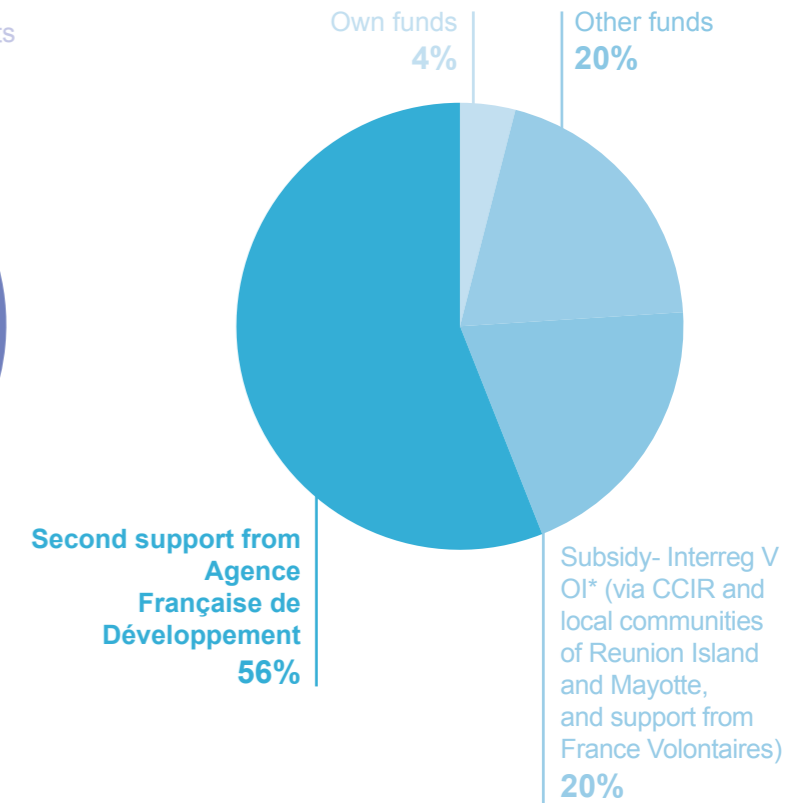
# ESTIMATED BUDGET

## COMMITMENTS between 2021-2026

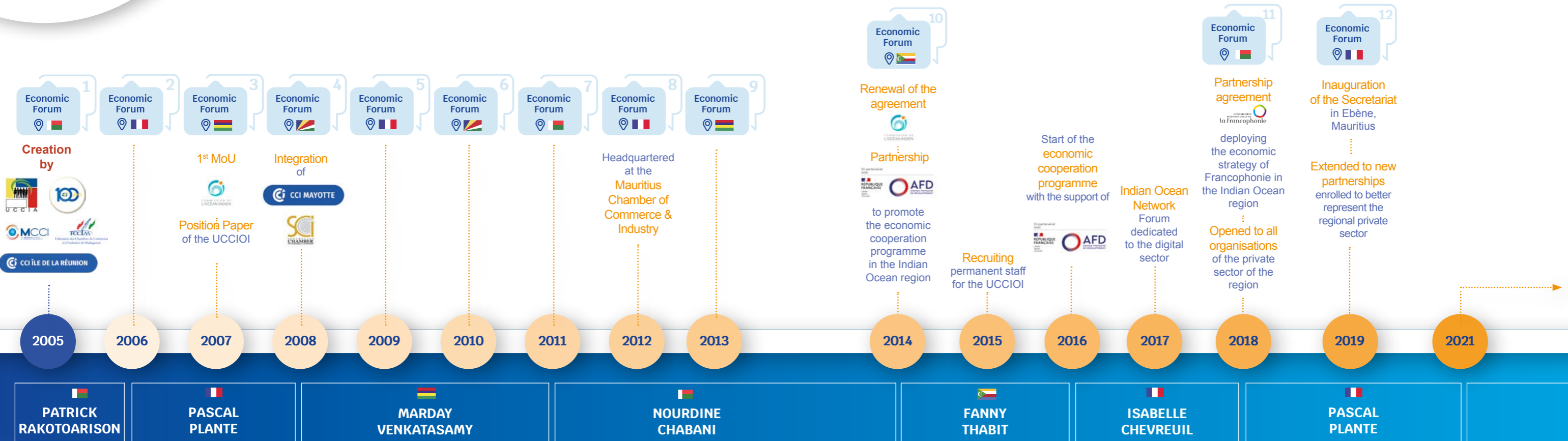


## RESSOURCES

Provisional budget of 7 million euros between 2021-2026

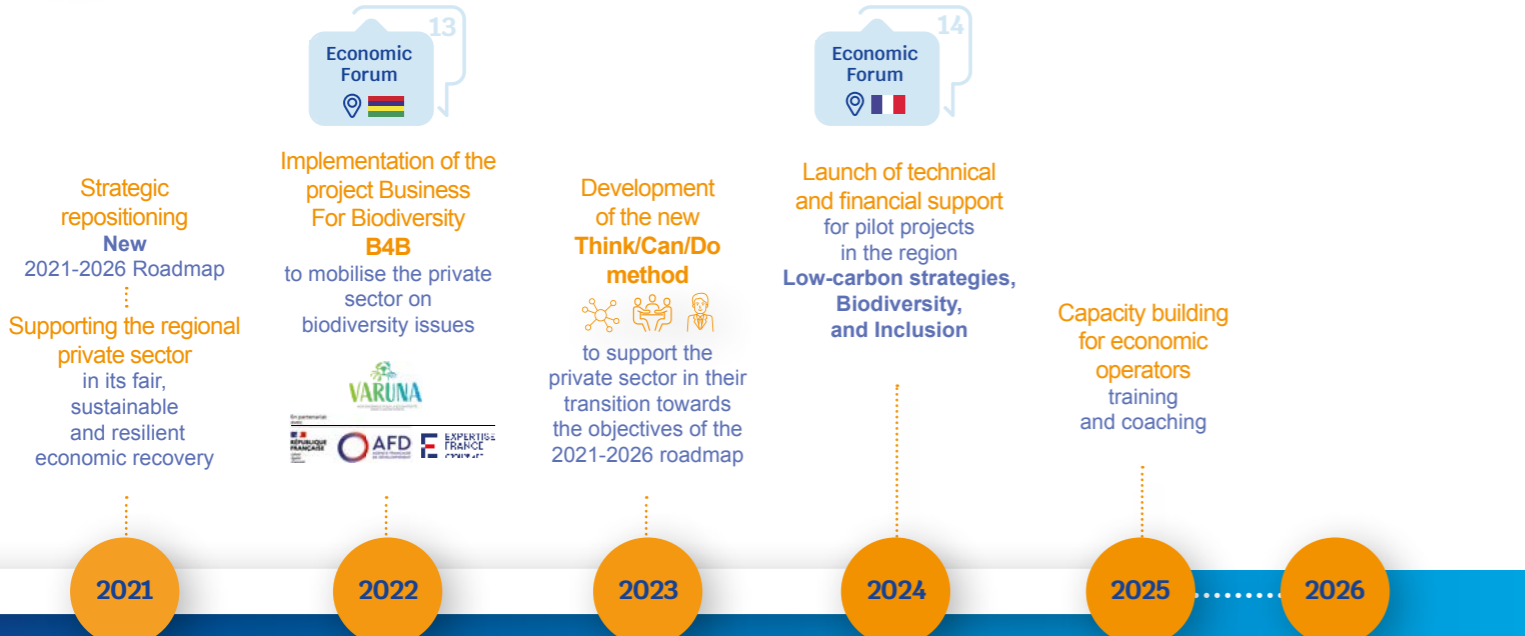


# 20 YEARS OF EVOLUTION



## CHAIRMANSHIPS

# 20 YEARS OF EVOLUTION



**JOSÉPHINE ANDRIAMAMONJIARISON**

**GUILLAUME HUGNIN**

## CHAIRMANSHIPS

## FOR A NEW DEVELOPMENT PARADIGM

The islands of the South West of the Indian ocean are facing common challenges due to their insularity, their ecological vulnerability, or even their remoteness from and dependence on major international markets. These issues have been highlighted by the Covid-19 pandemic, which also brought forth the need to develop a common approach and reinforce cooperation.

As the representative of private sectors of the region, which brings together the chambers of commerce and industry, as well as professional organisations, Cap Business Océan Indien has a key role to play in developing regional trade and economic integration. The 2021-2026 Roadmap unveils the association's strategy for the five coming years, with the goal to accelerate the economic and ecological transition at the regional level through the adoption of fairer, more sustainable and resilient development paradigms.

The association therefore aims to consolidate its role as a facilitator of regional economic cooperation by creating dialogue tools, searching for solutions and supporting projects. It will therefore commit to supporting private operators to accelerate their consideration of economic, ecological and social stakes that currently affect their activities. By raising their awareness, Cap Business Océan Indien wishes to get them to engage down a path of low carbon emissions and resilience, and strengthen their efforts when it comes to anticipation and transformation.

Indeed, thanks to the collective effort from all private economic operators, public sectors and civil societies, change is possible. It is paramount that private sectors identify and accept the major challenges before them and create common fronts. Only through dialogue and consensus will new paradigms, which herald resilience and sustainability for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, be created.



