



S4S REPORT

“Turning Waste into Opportunity: Inspiring Circular Innovation in Farming”

Workshop Held
Tuesday 27th May 2025
8.30 - 12.00 HRS
STC Conference Room

Compiled by Iris Carolus



BACKGROUND

The amount of waste generated in Seychelles is increasing every year with population growth. Much of it is dumped at the Providence landfill where it just accumulates. It has already surpassed its originally designed capacity. The Solid Waste Master Plan for Seychelles (2020 – 2035) has identified biodegradable waste, which represents approximately 50% of total waste generated in the country as a "priority waste stream". Organic waste is a low-hanging fruit that can be diverted from the landfill and be transformed into something useful. In support of this objective, **Sustainability for Seychelles (S4S)** is implementing a project focused on reducing the amount of organic waste being landfilled with an emphasis on reuse, recycling and recovery. We aim to achieve this goal by supporting and promoting grassroots pilot projects, through education and by working with the government to advance sustainable waste management policy and practices.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this workshop is to highlight the status of biodegradable waste management in Seychelles, to share ideas on biodegradable waste diversion and to showcase examples of circularity from waste to farms, as detailed in the agenda below.

AGENDA

Time	Activity	Speaker
8:30	Registration	
8:45	Welcome	S4S - Mrs. Purvis
8:50	Introductions	S4S – Iris
9:30	Improving Organic Waste Management: Current Status and Future Outlook	LWMA - Camille
9:45	S4S Project Activities focusing on diverting biodegradable waste from tourism establishments to farmers	S4S – Iris & Johan
10:15-10:30	Break	
10:30	Showcasing examples of circularity from waste to farms: Ocean Growth Fertilizer	Shahiid/Roy
11:00	Q&A	
11:55	Closing	S4S

FACILITATORS and PRESENTERS

Facilitators and presenters were:

Johan Mendez, Iris Carolus from S4S. Rosetta Alcindor assisted with the organisation of the session.

Camille Mondon from LWMA.

Roy Govinden from the Department of Agriculture.

Shahiid Melanie from Ocean Growth Fertilizer.

PARTICIPANTS

Invitations for the session were sent via email, WhatsApp, and in person two weeks before the session. A sample of the infographic accompanying the invitation can be [here](#).

Thirty (30) participants attended the session, including stakeholders involved in waste management from the government (Departments of Environment and Agriculture, LWMA, SIB), a lecturer and a student from the Seychelles Institute of Agriculture and Horticulture, civil society organisations and the private sector, in particular farmers. There were representatives from the islands of Mahé, Praslin and La Digue. The list of participants can be found [here](#).

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Sustainability for Seychelles, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and LWMA, organised this half-day session on fostering circular innovation in the farming industry, intending to explore transformative approaches to managing biodegradable waste effectively while highlighting inspiring examples. The session focussed on activities supporting the introduction of composting in tourism establishments; developing and implementing a food waste reduction initiative with tourism establishments and farmers; and supporting the establishment of commercial and agricultural composting of food and other organic waste from homes, restaurants and hotels.

Mrs Marie-Therese Purvis, S4S Vice Chairperson, delivered the welcome speech to the diverse stakeholders involved in waste management present (government, civil society, private individuals, farmers) by introducing the Sustainability for Seychelles “Diverting Biodegradable

Waste from the Landfill” project funded by the UNDP Small Grants Programme. By promoting grassroots projects, educating communities, and partnering with the government, S4S aims to inspire sustainable living practices and drive impactful change through its project.

The presentations detailed in the agenda were then made. The status of biodegradable waste management by LWMA; work undertaken by S4S with tourism establishments to find ways to reduce food and green waste, and showcasing work being done with farmers to receive such waste from these tourism establishments. Shahiid Melanie, an innovative young entrepreneur launched his product, Ocean Growth Fertilizer, derived from fish waste, assisted by Roy who shared the results of the initial trials conducted by the Agriculture Department using the fertiliser on lettuce. Presenters were able to clarify queries made by participants. Presentations made during the session can be viewed [here](#).

MEDIA COVERAGE

All media houses were invited via email to attend the session, though none turned up. See the invitation and press release [here](#). However, Shahiid had commissioned a private consultant to cover the workshop and launching of his product.

Photos of the workshop can be viewed [here](#).

EVALUATION BY PARTICIPANTS

Participants were asked to complete a simple evaluation form at the end of the session. 9 participants responded and the feedback can be viewed [here](#).