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## 1. Background

The climate change affects particularly the environment of the Small Islands Developing Countries. In the equatorial Indian Ocean, Seychelles have to cope with extreme events linked to the climate variability at different time scales. Changes in the rainfall pattern have dramatic impact on water resource, food and health. The Seychelles Meteorological Authority (SMA) contributes to climate risk management by delivering relevant local climate information that include monitoring and forecasting. At seasonal timescale the SMA issues a monthly bulletin towards various stakeholders from public and private sectors.

In the South & East Indian Ocean (SEIO) region, the seasonal forecast activity is fostered by an annual international meeting - the SEIO Climate Outlook Forum (SEIOCOF). This meeting is usually organized in September, before the onset of the rainy season. It allows to share expertise between the national meteorological and hydrological services and to issue a consensual climate outlook for the coming season as well as to discuss this result with end-users from various sectors. The scientific activities of this workshop are led by the Interoceanic Commission for the Indian Ocean (ICO) which expertise over the SEIO region includes the implementation of a seasonal forecast system for the climate analysis and reanalysis for the Indian Ocean.

In this context, the UNFCCC project provided an opportunity to help the SMA strengthen its technical capacities in order to maintain the operational status of the seasonal forecast activity. For this purpose a training workshop was set up with the contribution of Interoceanic Commission for the Indian Ocean experts. It was also an occasion to raise the climate literacy and more specifically the seasonal forecast awareness in the stakeholders community.

## 2. Workshop objectives

The overall objective of the training was to strengthen the capacities of key professional and technical staff in SMA on seasonal forecasting. The specific goal was to develop practical skills in delivering operational

### 3. Participants week 2

This session was attended by 22 trainees, including 15 people from the university, 2 person from C, 2 person from D. D and 3 people from S.

All the participants were not present every day mainly due to the fact that the S people had to be on shift in the forecasting service. However this was never an issue since each day began with a reminder of what was made the day before and also because the size of the group allowed to bring some personal support to the concerned people.

### 4. Main outputs

The following presentations were prepared'

- , Summary of session 2 climate of the S&IO region, statistical methods to analyse the main climate drivers%
- , Seafords downscaling model
- , Available data at local and large scale for case studies
- , Climate services
- , Overall synthesis

The practices allowed a comprehensive exploration of the local rainfall predictability and the definition of a seasonal forecast process beginning with the large, scale analysis and leading to the making of a forecast map to be published in bulletins. These elements are described in a specific manual.

Time series of storage percentage for two dam reservoirs (A /ogue and .ochon) were provided by C. These datasets were first examined and some correlation was found with rainfall data. Then they were used as predictands with the Seafords statistical model and some predictability was found for some quarters. However a deeper understanding of the dynamics and variability of the hydrology of these two reservoirs is needed to be able to produce a realistic and reliable forecasts. Nevertheless this experiment was a useful introduction to tailoring a climate service.

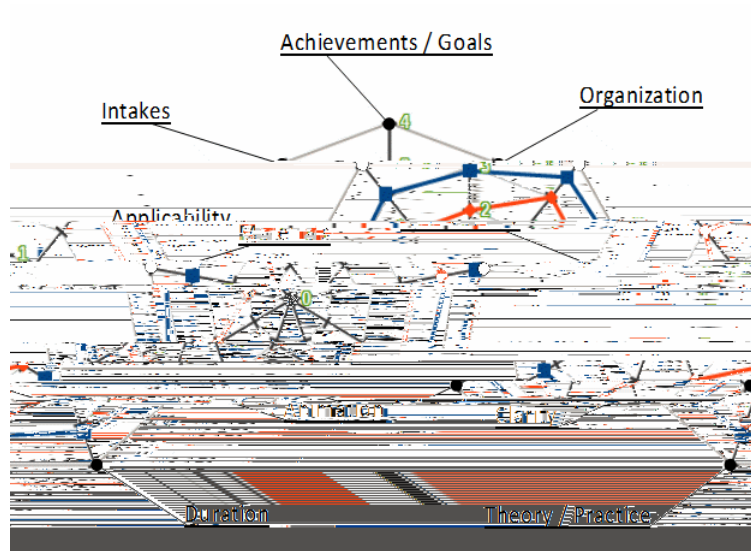
The training material distributed to participants is available following this link

<https://drive.google.com/openAidB2nri8,y4e.o#C4168m/x6ueD?t/p,#,m>

### 5. General comments and feedback from participants

At the end of the training, an on-the-spot evaluation was conducted using a form that included 10 specific questions to be rated from 1 (excellent) to 5 (worthless)

- Stated goals vs. achieved objectives
- Interactions on a personal and/or personal level
- Applicability of what was learnt
- Clarity of the message
- Balance between theory and practice
- Duration
- Animation, consideration of group feedback
- Fidelity of training materials
- Organization



The analysis of the responses lead to the figure above. The blue line is the average rate and the orange line is the minimum rate for each question.

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