



1. Project Data :	
OEDID:	TG009
Project ID:	P002377
Project Name:	Biodiversity Conservation & Abatement of Marine Pollution
Country:	Seychelles
Sector:	Pollution Control / Waste Management
L/C Number:	GEF Grant 28627
Partners involved :	
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2. Project Objectives, Financing, Costs and Components :

The project was a component of an integrated Environment and Transport Project, which included complementary financing for biodiversity conservation activities through a Dutch Trust Fund, also administered by the Bank.

The Project Objective was to protect biodiversity in the Seychelles and limit pollution of international waters around the islands

It consisted of three main components: -

1. Restoration and preservation of the Aldabra ecosystem
2. Conservation of biodiversity
3. Actions to limit pollution of international waters

Total project cost amounted to US\$2.2 million, and the GEF grant was for a total \$1.8 million. The project was extended by one year, since favorable exchange rates meant that the grant generated more local currency than expected and enabled some additional activities to be completed .

3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives :

The specific tasks proposed by the project were completed . A research station was constructed and is operational. A management plan was drawn up for the Aldabra ecosystem and the feral goat population brought under control. Turtle protection management programs were prepared and implemented for the Green and Hawksbill Turtles, and additional assessment and planning was carried out on the Giant Tortoise. A feasibility study and design of a scheme to improve waste reception and disposal facilities at the Port of Victoria were completed

These results have provided the basis for the achievement of the project objectives (i.e. protection of biodiversity and limitation of marine pollution) but have not, by themselves, achieved them.

4. Significant Achievements :

The grant enabled the Government of Seychelles to design and launch an Environmental Management Plan of the Seychelles, which takes full account of socioeconomic, institutional, and legal aspects of the protection of endangered species. Important linkages were established with other ongoing priority programs and with NGOs and other organisations that resulted in a comprehensive picture of overall progress of environmental actions.

5. Significant Shortcomings :

For the borrower initial delays occurred due to problems in local staffing and the availability of professional local staff remains a problem for future sustainability of the project . For the Bank the most significant shortcoming was a relatively high turnover of bank staff .

6. Ratings :	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement /Comments
Outcome :	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	OED rates outcome as Satisfactory rather than Highly Satisfactory since, although all components were completed, these consisted of plans and studies; further outputs are required before the main objective can be said to have been achieved.
Institutional Dev .:	Partial	Modest	
Sustainability :	Likely	Likely	
Bank Performance :	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	OED rates as Satisfactory rather than as Highly Satisfactory since, although supervision performance was superior, this by itself is not sufficient to justify a highly satisfactory rating for Bank performance.
Borrower Perf .:	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	OED rates as Satisfactory rather than as Highly Satisfactory since there was high staff turnover in the initial years. This, and the lack of a National Coordinator, contributed to slippage in project performance. The availability of professional staff remains uncertain.
Quality of ICR :		Satisfactory	

7. Lessons of Broad Applicability :

The appointment of an experienced local co-ordinator, with good sectoral understanding, is key to timely project implementation. High staff turnover can be detrimental, and measures are needed to alleviate the pressures on project staff, when working in isolated areas . Environmental, biodiversity conservation projects require the involvement of a socio-economist or environmental economist to clarify the significance of project components in socio-economic terms.

8. Audit Recommended? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Why? This is one of the first GEF operations to be completed . Issues related to the complementarity between the GEF funded activities, the Dutch Trust Fund activities and the main project should be explored, as should the efficacy of the GEF input in leveraging further inputs necessary to achieve the basic objectives of the operation .

9. Comments on Quality of ICR :

The ICR is satisfactory, but has some shortcomings . It addresses project issues clearly but could be more concise. Much of the text in the ICR would have been better transferred to a comprehensive Annex and the operations plan is long and lacks specificity . On the other hand, good use is made of performance indicators and there was a reasonable contribution, including comments on the ICR, from the borrower .