



**MOL**  
*Charitable Trust*  
**CFP4 H2 Newsletter**

January 2026

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# Message From the Chairperson

## Mr. Yasuo Suzuki Chairperson, MOL Charitable Trust

Dear Partners and Friends,

Since my arrival in Mauritius in April this year, I have had the privilege of engaging closely with our partners and witnessing firsthand the strength of collaboration between MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, the MOL Charitable Trust (MCT), and the Mauritian community.

The second half of this calendar year has been particularly significant, with milestones such as the visit of MOL President & CEO Takeshi Hashimoto and our collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to set up the Mauritius Pavilion and host the Mauritius National Day event during Osaka Expo 2025 in Japan. We also welcomed the visit of the Prime Minister of Mauritius to TICAD 9 in Yokohama, which was marked by high-level meetings with the Japanese government and the historic opening of the Mauritian Embassy in Tokyo.

Back in Mauritius, I was honoured to witness the graduation of more than 60 young people from the Sea Skills programme on 21 August, providing them with skipper licences and a pathway into careers in the maritime and tourism sectors. Soon after, we held MOL's first-ever Vessel Open Day on board the Cattleya ACE in Port Louis, which showcased MOL's role in global trade and Mauritius' ambition as a regional hub. On 3 September, I joined the Université des Mascareignes to inaugurate the Earth and Ocean Laboratory and to mark the launch of the Seagrass Blue Carbon Mapping Project, a pioneering initiative supported under CFP3.

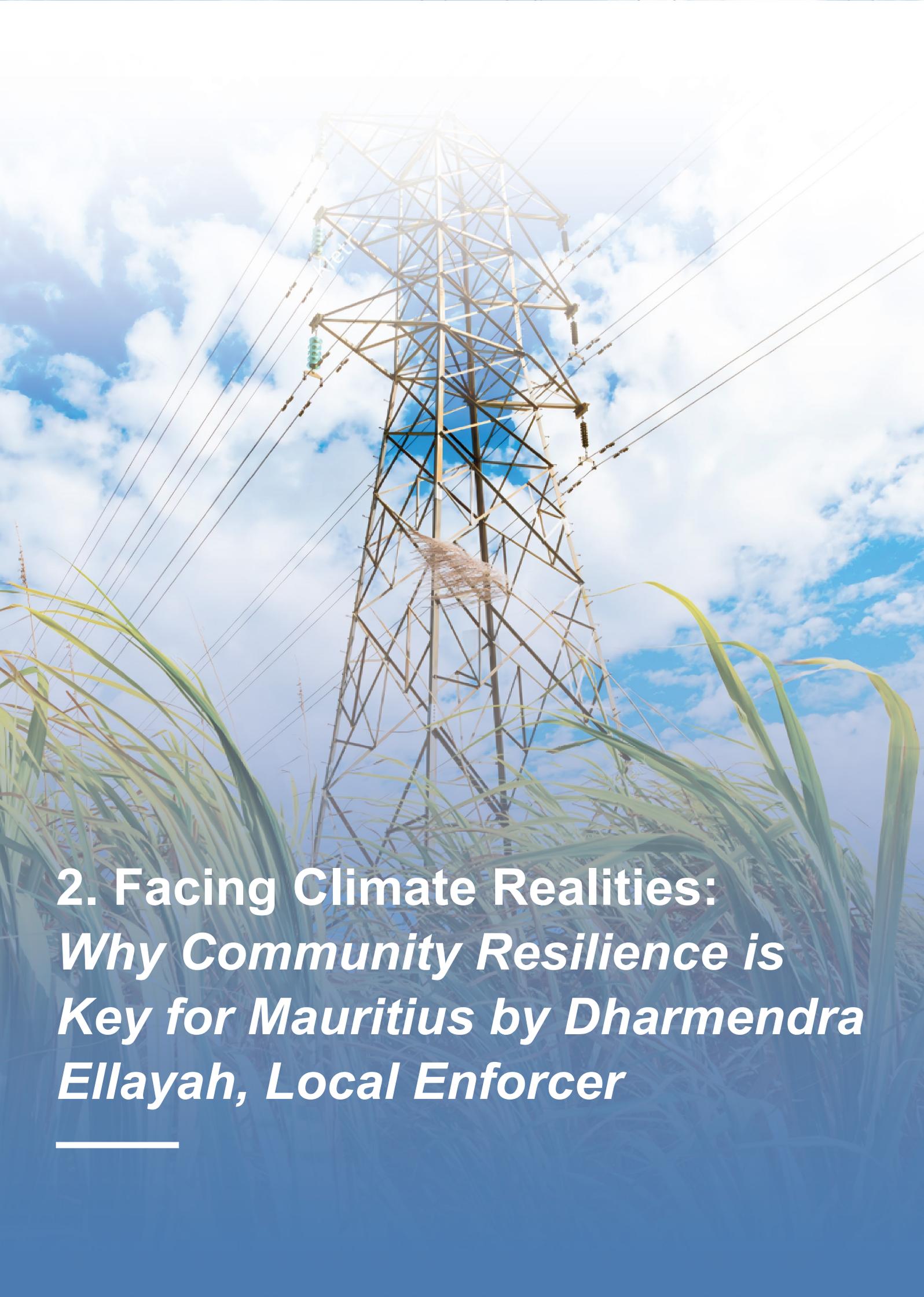
The months that followed were marked by continued engagement through scientific and policy dialogue, as well as institutional exchanges, including the end-of-tenure visit of Mr Junichiro Ikeda, Honorary Consul of Japan, which provided an opportunity to reflect on the strength of Japan–Mauritius cooperation.

These activities have reinforced MOL's presence in Mauritius, deepened our ties with local communities and institutions, and highlighted the importance of sustained Japan–Mauritius collaboration. They also reflect our commitment to combining business development with responsible engagement, ensuring that community support and environmental stewardship remain integral to our approach. This commitment was further reflected at the end of the year through the annual Christmas gift distribution organised for vulnerable families in the South-East of Mauritius.

Looking ahead, CFP4 projects are well under way, and CFP5 was launched on 1 September, marking an important transition into the next phase of implementation. Through this new call, we reaffirm our commitment to innovation, sustainability and measurable impact, and to building durable bridges between MOL's global expertise and Mauritius' local priorities as we move into 2026.

Yours sincerely,

**Yasuo Suzuki**  
**Chairperson, MOL Charitable Trust**



**2. Facing Climate Realities:  
*Why Community Resilience is  
Key for Mauritius by Dharmendra  
Ellayah, Local Enforcer***

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# Facing Climate Realities

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## Why Community Resilience is Key for Mauritius

by *Dharmendra Ellayah, Local Enforcer*

Local communities are disproportionately affected by climate change induced disasters. On the other hand, resilient communities adapt to these events with their limited capacities to quickly recover from such impacts.

MOL Charitable Trust has been supporting NGOs working directly with such vulnerable communities for the last 4 years; financing projects ranging from food security to education, biodiversity to environment, fisheries to farming just to name a few.

Promoting such projects not only empower local communities to become self-reliant and resilient but also help achieve long term economic autonomy. It has been such a privilege for MOL Charitable Trust to be associated with hard-working NGOs in training and building capacity of grassroots communities through a variety of soft / hard skills using education as a pillar to build community resilience.

We strongly believe there is no limits for communities who believe in themselves and muster the courage to stand on their feet despite all the odds. We have seen many such examples within the over 60 projects we have supported so far. Success stories like these inspire us to walk the last mile with such kind-hearted NGOs we support. Looking backwards we are so proud to have been part of the journey to building a resilient community.



## 3. Activities and Events

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# Events

## Year 2025

# MOL MOL for Mauritius

20-22 August

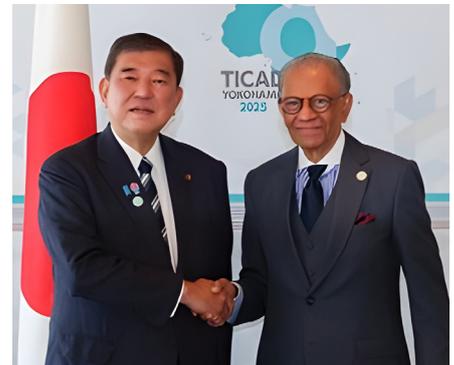
### MOL Mauritius exhibits at the Ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9)

MOL Mauritius exhibited within the main MOL Group stand during the Ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9) which was held in Yokohama, Japan, from 20 to 22 August 2025 under the theme “Co-create innovative solutions.

The Mauritian Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, held a 15-minute summit meeting on 20 August with the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr ISHIBA Shigeru. Their discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations, cooperation in international security, economic ties, and the official opening of the Embassy of Mauritius in Tokyo.

The bilateral agenda also addressed urgent cooperation needs in the energy sector, including Mauritius' request for a Government-to-Government agreement on liquefied natural gas (LNG) turbines to address the island's energy crisis. Talks further covered maritime security, in light of the expanded Mauritian Exclusive Economic Zone following the retrocession of the Chagos, and the finalisation of an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA) to strengthen investor confidence and attract Japanese investments.

The visit was considered highly productive, marking an important step in reinforcing Mauritius–Japan relations, with concrete opportunities identified for future cooperation in energy, maritime security, trade and sustainable development.



Prime Minister of Japan, Mr Ishiba Shigeru and Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam



Business Mauritius delegation at MOL Mauritius stand

# Events

## Year 2025

# MOL MOL for Mauritius

20 August

### Opening of the Mauritian Embassy in Tokyo

During the visit of the Prime Minister to TICAD 9 in Yokohama, Mauritius officially inaugurated its long-awaited embassy in Tokyo. The ceremony took place in the presence of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, the Ambassador of Japan to Mauritius, Mr Kan Masahiro, and the Chief of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr Miyashita Tadayuki.

The new embassy, located on the 7th Floor, Tsukiji Centre Building, 6-25-10, Tsukiji, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo, underscores the deepening diplomatic and strategic partnership between the two nations. It will serve as a permanent platform to engage with Japanese institutions, advance cooperation across priority areas such as trade, investment, maritime security and education, and facilitate Japanese investment in Mauritius as a gateway to Africa.



Chief of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr Miyashita Tadayuki



Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam and Ambassador of Japan to Mauritius Mr Kan Masahiro



Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam and Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd



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# Events Year 2025

## **MOL** MOL for Mauritius

21 August

### Graduation of new “Skippers” under the Sea Skills Skipper Training Programme

More than 60 young people from the western region of Mauritius received their formal pleasure craft boat “skipper” licences on 21 August 2025 at a ceremony held at Lakaz Sosial Harmonie, marking the completion of the Sea Skills training programme.

Implemented by Kolektif Rivier Nwar (KRN) with the support of the MOL Charitable Trust and other partners, the programme provided intensive training in navigation, maritime safety, meteorology, first aid and sea rescue, with certification validated by the Tourism Authority.

The initiative has opened new employment opportunities for participants in the maritime and tourism sectors, with several graduates already receiving job offers and others preparing to launch their own activities. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd and Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust, underlined that this project reflects the Trust's philosophy of supporting practical, community-based initiatives that empower young people to build independent and sustainable futures.





# Events

## Year 2025

## **MOL** MOL for Mauritius

 **25–27 August**

### **Visit of RC-ISME for Mangrove Restoration Project**

As part of the mangrove restoration project funded under the MOL Mauritius International Fund (MMIF), the Research Center for the International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems (RC-ISME) conducted a field visit to Mauritius from 25 to 27 August 2025.

The mission was led by Prof. Toyohiko Miyagi, Vice President of Japan Society for Mangroves and Emeritus Professor of Tohoku Gakuin University, a renowned expert in mangrove ecology, and brought together local NGOs and technical partners engaged in the restoration of degraded mangrove areas. The visit provided an opportunity to assess progress on the ground, share knowledge and strengthen collaboration between Japanese and Mauritian experts.

The project aims not only to restore mangrove forests, which are vital for coastal protection and biodiversity, but also to build local capacity through training and community participation. By combining international expertise with local action, the initiative highlights the importance of global partnerships in advancing ecosystem resilience and sustainable coastal management in Mauritius.



*Prof. Toyohiko Miyagi, Vice President of the Japan Society for Mangroves*



# Events Year 2025

## MOL MOL for Mauritius

1st September

### Launch of the Fifth Call for Proposals (CFP5)

On 1 September 2025, the MOL Charitable Trust officially launched its fifth Call for Proposals (CFP5), inviting registered non-profit organisations in Mauritius to submit project proposals aligned with the Trust's ten priority objectives inspired by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The launch reaffirmed the Trust's commitment to supporting innovative, inclusive and high-impact initiatives in the fields of environmental protection, community empowerment and sustainable development.

Commenting on the new call, Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust and Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, highlighted the importance of strengthening locally driven solutions while maintaining strong alignment with national development priorities. Applications were open until 29 September 2025, with selected projects scheduled for implementation from January 2026.



**MOL CHARITABLE TRUST**

**CALL FOR PROPOSAL 2025/2026**

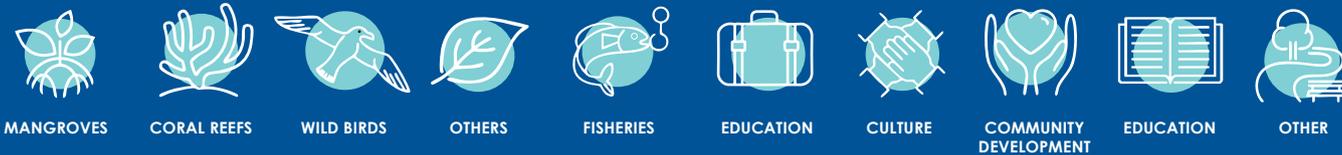
The MOL Charitable Trust is hereby making its fifth call for proposals and invites applications from eligible entities to apply for project funding, which is aligned with the purpose of the Trust as per the following guidelines:

1. Applicants should be a registered Not-for-Profit entity in Mauritius, in operation for more than 2 years. Any entity barred/blacklisted by national or international donors will not be considered for funding.
2. Generally, Board of Directors or Committee Members should not be remunerated. However, should they be remunerated, this should be disclosed.
3. Only 1 application is allowed per Applicant for the duration of the project of 12 months as from date of signature of MolI.
4. This Call for Proposal will consider funding up to MUR 1 million per project. Co-funding with other donors is encouraged.
5. Project proposals should be related to at least one of the Purposes of the MOL Charitable Trust as listed below:
  - a) Conservation and development of mangrove forests
  - b) Conservation and development of coral reefs
  - c) Conservation of wild, migratory and rare birds
  - d) Preservation and restoration of cultural property
  - e) Economic development of fisheries and tourism industries
  - f) Awareness and sensitisation of ecology, ecotourism and environmental protection
  - g) Empowerment of communities through social welfare and education
  - h) Research and development related to renewable energy
  - i) Humanitarian assistance post disaster events
  - j) Related infrastructure development to support any of the above actions
6. Applications are open for projects to be implemented in all regions of Mauritius. However, priority consideration will be given to the south-east region of Mauritius and the empowerment of coastal communities through social and environmental projects in this region.
7. Applicants funded under the previous 4 Calls for Proposals may also apply.
8. Project proposals will undergo an Evaluation Process by an independent entity and only shortlisted applicants will be required to provide additional details and relevant documents for background checks before a final decision is taken. Inability to provide such information or relevant documents in time may result in disqualification of the applicant.
9. Selected applicants will be informed of the decision of the MOL Charitable Trust, and they will be required to sign an MoI with such terms and conditions prior to disbursement of funds.
10. 50% of funds will be disbursed at the start of the project and the balance after successful evaluation of the first semester or as per the terms of the MoI.
11. The selected projects will be monitored and evaluated by an independent entity reporting to the MOL Charitable Trust.
12. The decision of the MOL Charitable Trust is final and irrevocable and it reserves the right not to provide justification thereof. However, all applicants will be informed of the final decision of the MOL Charitable Trust in the selection of projects.
13. Applications should be made using the Online Application Form at the following link:  
<https://forms.office.com/v/EmVGBBE3D>

Or by scanning this QR code →


14. Applications should be submitted online by **29 September 2025 at 11.59 pm** local time.
15. Late, inaccurate or incomplete applications will be automatically rejected. Be sure to submit additional documents when prompted to do so, AFTER submission by return email.

Date of publication: 01 September 2025



# Events

## Year 2025

### **MOL** MOL for Mauritius

2 September

#### **MOL Mauritius Open Day for a Pure Car and Truck Carrier “PCTC” vessel**

MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, in collaboration with Blyth Brothers Agency, hosted its first-ever vessel open day in Mauritius on 2 September 2025 during the call of the Cattleya ACE, one of MOL's specialised Pure Car and Truck Carrier (PCTC) vessels, at Port Louis.

The ceremony was attended by Dr the Hon. Arvin Boolell, Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries, the Hon. Dhananjay Ramful, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, senior government officials, and private sector leaders including Mr Arnaud Lagesse, Group CEO of IBL Ltd. Thirteen young Mauritians currently training as skippers with the NGO Kolektif Rivier Nwar, through funding from the MOL Charitable Trust, also took part in the visit, symbolising MOL's investment in the next generation of maritime professionals.

On this call, the Cattleya ACE discharged around 400 vehicles manufactured in Japan and Asia and loaded 50 vehicles bound for African markets. This operation reflects MOL's growing use of Port Louis as a regional transshipment hub and reinforces the country's strategic ambitions to position itself as a centre for maritime logistics and bunkering in the Indian Ocean.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd and Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust, underlined that the event was more than a maritime operation, symbolising MOL's long-term commitment to Mauritius. He also highlighted how MOL's business activity and the work of the MOL Charitable Trust go hand in hand, with the launch of CFP5 the day before the Open Day further confirming this dual mission of economic development and social responsibility.



*Dr the Hon Arvin BOOLELL, GOSK - Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries*



*Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd*



# Events

## Year 2025

## MOL MOL for Mauritius

### 3 September 2025

### UDM Workshop on Seagrass Ecosystems and Inauguration of the Earth and Ocean Laboratory

Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd and Chairperson of the MOL Charitable Trust, was the guest of honour at a workshop hosted by the Université des Mascareignes (UDM) at its Bel Air campus on 3 September 2025, coinciding with World Beach Day. The event marked the official inauguration of the Earth and Ocean Laboratory, financed by MOL, the first facility of its kind in Mauritius dedicated to marine research and conservation.

The workshop also launched the Seagrass Blue Carbon Mapping of Mauritius project, supported under CFP3. This pioneering research will map seagrass beds around the island, measure their carbon storage potential, and provide critical data for conservation, restoration, and policymaking

In his remarks, Mr Suzuki underlined MOL's commitment to environmental stewardship through its BLUE ACTION 2035 strategy, stressing that seagrass meadows play an outsized role in carbon capture, coastal protection, and sustaining marine life. He also emphasised that the Earth and Ocean Laboratory will serve as a hub for knowledge exchange and capacity building, equipping the next generation of Mauritians to safeguard their natural heritage.



Minister of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Dr Kaviraj Sharma Sukon



# Events

## Year 2025

## **MOL** MOL for Mauritius

19 September

### The Good Shop marks its 7th anniversary

The Good Shop, a Mauritian social enterprise committed to the circular economy and sustainable local communities, marked its 7th anniversary on 19 September 2025. The event highlighted how financial support from the MOL Mauritius International Fund (MMIF) since 2022 has enabled the enterprise to scale up its operations and significantly strengthen its environmental and social impact. A key moment of the celebration was a donation of MUR 889,000 to the Lighthouse School to fund education scholarships for children from vulnerable families, following a similar contribution in 2024 and bringing total scholarship support to more than MUR 1.6 million over two years.

Founded in 2018, The Good Shop operates on a triple bottom-line model centered on education, employment and the environment, collecting, repairing and re-selling donated goods while diverting waste from landfills. With MMIF support, the enterprise has expanded its shop network, increased the volume of goods redistributed to NGOs and local communities, and grown its number of empowered employees, demonstrating how social enterprise models can combine financial sustainability with long-term community impact.





# Events

## Year 2025



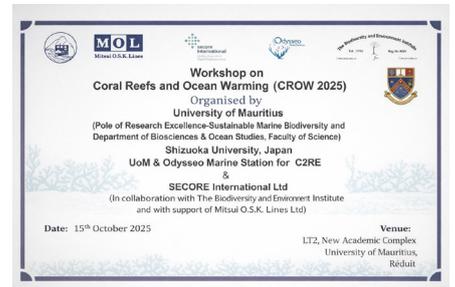
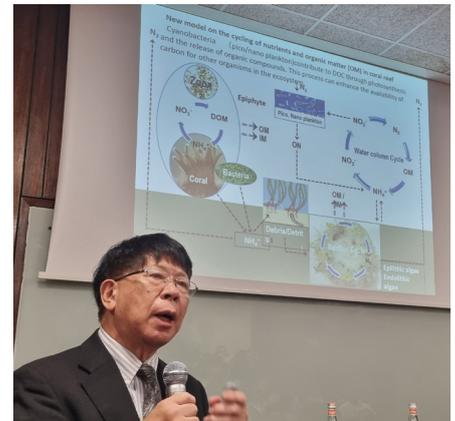
15 October

### Workshop on “Coral Reefs and Ocean Warming” (CROW2025)

The Workshop on “Coral Reefs and Ocean Warming” (CROW2025) was held on 15 October 2025 at the University of Mauritius, bringing together researchers, academics, students and stakeholders to share scientific knowledge on coral reef ecosystems and the impacts of ocean warming.

The workshop was organised in collaboration with the University of Mauritius, Shizuoka University (Japan), Odysseo, SECORE International Ltd and the Biodiversity and Environment Institute, with support from Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd. The opening session included an address by Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, alongside an opening address by H.E. Mr Kan Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Mauritius.

Discussions focused on coral resilience, thermal stress and conservation strategies, while highlighting the role of science in informing sustainable coastal management.





# Events

## Year 2025

# MOL MOL for Mauritius

28 October

### Lessons from the WAKASHIO Incident: A MOL Group Session

Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL) held a session titled “Thinking about Social Contribution – Lessons from the WAKASHIO Incident and Insights into the MOL Group’s Initiatives.”

Organised for MOL Group officers and employees, the session provided an opportunity to reflect on environmental conservation and community support activities in Mauritius, and to consider individual and collective engagement in social contribution. The discussion highlighted lessons learned from the WAKASHIO incident, MOL’s ongoing initiatives in marine environmental conservation and human resource development, and practical actions implemented across the Group.

Updates were also shared on activities carried out by MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, reaffirming MOL’s commitment to strengthening collaboration with local communities and advancing sustainable development.



Opening remarks by MOL President & CEO Hashimoto



Presentation by MOL Mauritius Ltd



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# Events Year 2025

## **MOL** MOL for Mauritius

 **13 November**

### **Blue Policy Strategy Forum: Science-to-Policy for Coastal Ecosystem Resilience**

On 13 November 2025, Mr Yasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, was invited to deliver an inaugural address at the Blue Policy Strategy Forum: Science-to-Policy – Data Integration for Coastal Ecosystem Resilience, held at the Ravenala Attitude Hotel, Balaclava.

The forum, organised by the Earth and Ocean Lab of the Université des Mascareignes in collaboration with MOL Mauritius, brought together representatives from government, academia, the private sector and civil society to strengthen dialogue between science and public policy in support of coastal resilience.

The opening session was attended by H.E. Mr Kan Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Mauritius. In his address, Mr Suzuki highlighted the responsibility of the maritime industry to support the protection of marine ecosystems and underscored the importance of collaboration between industry, research institutions and public authorities to advance a sustainable and resilient blue economy in Mauritius.





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# Events Year 2025

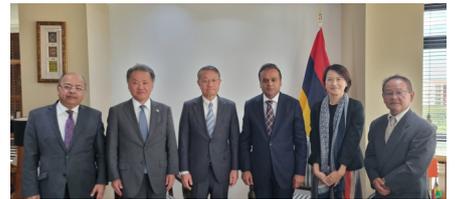
## MOL MOL for Mauritius

 30 November – 2 December

### End-of-Tenure Visit of the Honorary Consul of Japan, Mr Junichiro Ikeda

Mr Junichiro Ikeda, Honorary Consul of Japan, undertook an official visit to Mauritius at the end of his tenure. During his visit, Mr Ikeda held meetings with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, and visited several institutions and non-governmental organisations supported by the MOL Charitable Trust, including the Université des Mascareignes, Reef Conservation and the Green Attitude Foundation.

The programme also included engagements with MOL (Mauritius) Ltd and MCT partners, providing an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of Japan–Mauritius cooperation to education, environmental conservation and community development initiatives supported by the Trust.





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# Events Year 2025

## **MOL** MOL for Mauritius

 **17 December**

### **Giving out Christmas Gifts to Children**

MOL (Mauritius) Ltd, in collaboration with Celero Ltd. - an independent logistics group based in Mauritius and serves as MOL's local agent - held its annual Christmas gift distribution event for children. This year, the event targeted children aged 3 to 10 from fishing households in the southeastern region of Mauritius, distributing a total of 500 gifts.

The venue was filled with warm interactions and smiles from children and their parents.

Our company will continue to work with local organizations to contribute to the revitalization of the local community.



*Gift distribution by MOL Mauritius Ltd*