



IORA INDIAN OCEAN BLUE CARBON HUB INAUGURAL THINK TANK: BLUE CARBON FINANCE

25-26 FEBRUARY 2020

MAURITIUS

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Dear Delegate,

We look forward to welcoming you to the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Indian Ocean Blue Carbon Hub inaugural think-tank, on Blue Carbon Finance, to be held in Mauritius during 25th – 26th February 2020. The Hub aims to build knowledge and capacity to protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems throughout the Indian Ocean, in a way that enhances livelihoods, reduces risks from coastal hazards, and helps mitigate climate change. The Indian Ocean hosts a disproportionate amount of Earth's blue carbon ecosystems, and IORA Member States are in a position to lead the world in their protection, restoration and sustainable use. Financing Blue Carbon is one of the key challenges in realising this potential.

Please find below information related to the logistics of the event.

1. Contact details of the organising team

Please contact the organising team for all questions about registration for the think-tank:

- IORA Blue Carbon Hub Operations Manager, Lauren Hardiman lauren.hardiman@csiro.au
T: +61 7 3214 2349 (AEST) UTC+10:00
- IORA Blue Carbon Hub Director, Dr Mat Vanderklift, mat.vanderklift@csiro.au

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at the Preskil Island Resort - <https://southerncrosshotels.mu/preskil-beach-resort/>

3. Registration

We welcome participation in the Think Tank by Member States and Dialogue Partners. We suggest that Member States nominate representatives from government or civil society with responsibility for developing or implementing policies and actions regarding management and use of coastal resources and environmental financing.

All delegates from Member States and Dialogue Partners must complete the online registration at <https://research.csiro.au/iora-blue-carbon-hub/category/think-tank-2019/>

Online registration will close on 20th January for all international delegates.

All Member State and Dialogue Partner nominations must be endorsed by the National Focal Point. Experts invited by the organisers should also register online.

4. Agenda

The agenda will comprise a set of expert presentations, panel discussions and open-forum discussions (see draft agenda below).

Limited time is available for country statements, but if MS would like to submit a written statement for circulation to all delegates — please contact the IORA Blue Carbon Hub Director, Dr Mat Vanderklift, by email at mat.vanderklift@csiro.au.

We recognise that some delegates will take the opportunity to hold side meetings during the event. We encourage this and are willing to facilitate such meetings. If assistance is needed please contact Lauren Hardiman (lauren.hardiman@csiro.au).

5. Hospitality

Full hospitality will be extended to **one participant** from each eligible Member State (these are MS listed on the OECD DAC List of ODA Recipients: for 2020 ineligible MS are Australia, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, and the UAE). Full hospitality will cover an economy class air ticket, accommodation, transport to and from the airport, and selected meals during the meeting.

All other costs will be the private responsibility of participants and any additional hotel costs will need to be settled with the hotel before checking out.

Participants from MS who are not eligible for hospitality and Dialogue Partners are welcome to participate but will have to cover their own expenses.

The symposium organisers will arrange and confirm booking of the airfares and accommodation for delegates and speakers whose costs are covered after visas have been issued. Accommodation at the venue is limited therefore it is advised to register before the 20th January 2020.

6. Transportation

Airport transfers will be provided to delegates from IORA MS.

7. Attire

The symposium will consist of discussions in a conference room, neat casual or business attire is appropriate. Business attire is optional for the opening session.

8. Medical requirements

Delegates are strongly advised to obtain relevant medical travel insurance.

9. Visas

Mauritius Immigration Regulations require that all delegates be in possession of a valid passport (6 months' validity) and a return ticket. Delegates are recommended to check visa requirements via the website: passport.govmu.org. Please allow up to 6 weeks to process visas. Currently, nationals of the following countries require a Visa before travelling to Mauritius: Bangladesh, Iran, Somalia, and Yemen.

9. Other Information

Languages

English is the official language, French is extensively used and Mauritian Creole ('Kreol Morisien') is widely spoken. English will be the main working language during the workshop.

Currency

The sole currency in Mauritius is the Mauritian rupee.

Means of payment

Major credit cards widely accepted by hotels, restaurants, shops and tour companies. Please note that some venues add on an additional fee, typically 3%, to the bill to cover 'bank charges'.

Please note there is no ATM at the venue.

Communication

Sim cards are available at the airport on arrival.

Weather

On average, maximum daily temperature in Mauritius is 26°C.

Electricity

In Mauritius the power plugs and sockets are of type C and G. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

Time zone

Time zone in Mauritius is GMT+4.

Draft Agenda

IORA Blue Carbon Hub Inaugural think tank meeting Blue carbon finance

25 – 26 February 2020 | Mauritius, Australia
Draft Agenda

Format: mix presentations and panel discussions

DAY 1 – 25 February 2020	
08:30	Arrival and registration
09:00	Welcome
09:30	Why blue carbon finance? Mat Vanderklift, IORA Blue Carbon hub
10:00	Opening plenary
10:30	Tea break
11:00	Theme 1. Blue bonds.
12:30	Lunch
13:30	Theme 2. Payments for ecosystem services and blue carbon commodities.
15:00	Tea break
	Theme 2 continued.
16:45	Close
DAY 2 – 26 February 2020	
08:30	Arrival
09:00	Recap
09:15	Open discussion
10:30	Tea break
11:00	Theme 3. Insurance and avoided costs.
12:30	Lunch
13:30	Theme 4. De-risking (public-private partnerships, blended finance, and more)
15:00	Tea break
	Theme 4 continued.
16:00	Closing plenary. The business case for blue carbon. Andy Steven, CSIRO Oceans & atmosphere