

SUMMARY FOR THE ATTENTION *of citizens*

Annual Implementation Report
as of 31/12/2019

PRESENTATION

As part of the regional policy of the European Union, the Interreg Indian Ocean programme is an instrument for financing European Territorial Cooperation, which aims to strengthen ties and exchanges between Reunion, Mayotte and the countries of the Indian Ocean.

The Interreg programme covers 2 strands:

Cross-border cooperation (CB), which covers cooperation between Reunion and the member-states of the IOC (Madagascar, Seychelles, Comoros, Mauritius), to the amount of €41.4M,

Transnational cooperation (TN); which covers cooperation between Reunion and the following countries: Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros, Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya, Maldives, India, Australia and the French Southern and Antarctic Territories, to the amount of €21.8M.

The Interreg Indian Ocean programme is managed by the Regional Council of Reunion.

The programme finances cooperative operations implemented by actors from Reunion or Mayotte, in partnership with actors from Indian Ocean countries.

11 COUNTRIES

France (Reunion, Mayotte, French Southern and Antarctic Territories), Mauritius, Comoros, Madagascar, Seychelles, Tanzania, Kenya, Maldives, India, Australia, Mozambique

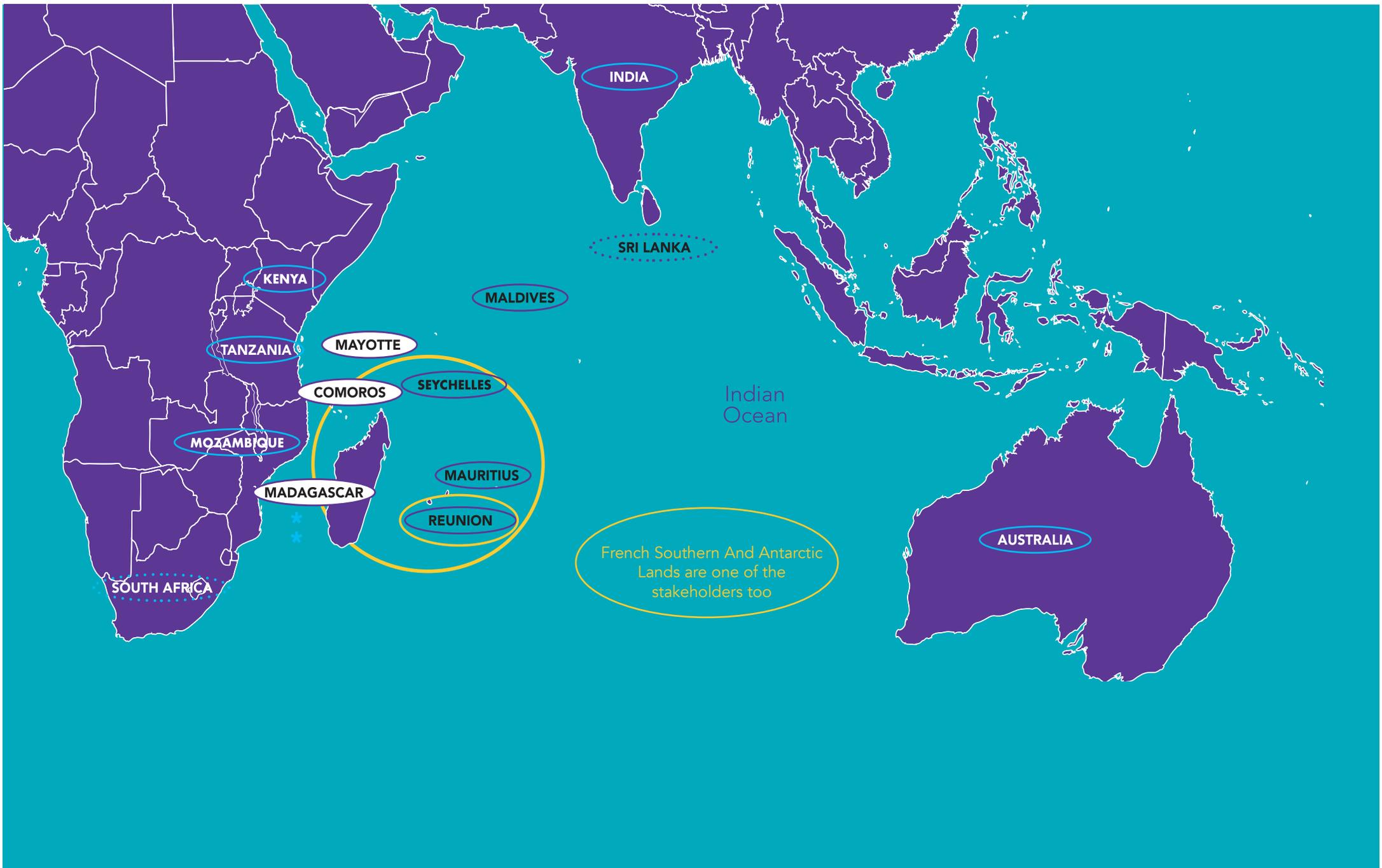
5 PRIORITIES

- Developing international research and innovation potential in the Indian Ocean
- Supporting the development of economic exchanges in the Indian Ocean
- Reinforcing collective capacities for adapting to climate change, as well as prevention and management of risks
- Reinforcing knowledge and promoting the natural and cultural heritage
- Increasing the level of skills through support for training and exchange operations

€74,3M

TOTAL BUDGET

- € 63,2M FEDER
- € 11,1M national funding



Area affected by cross-border cooperation

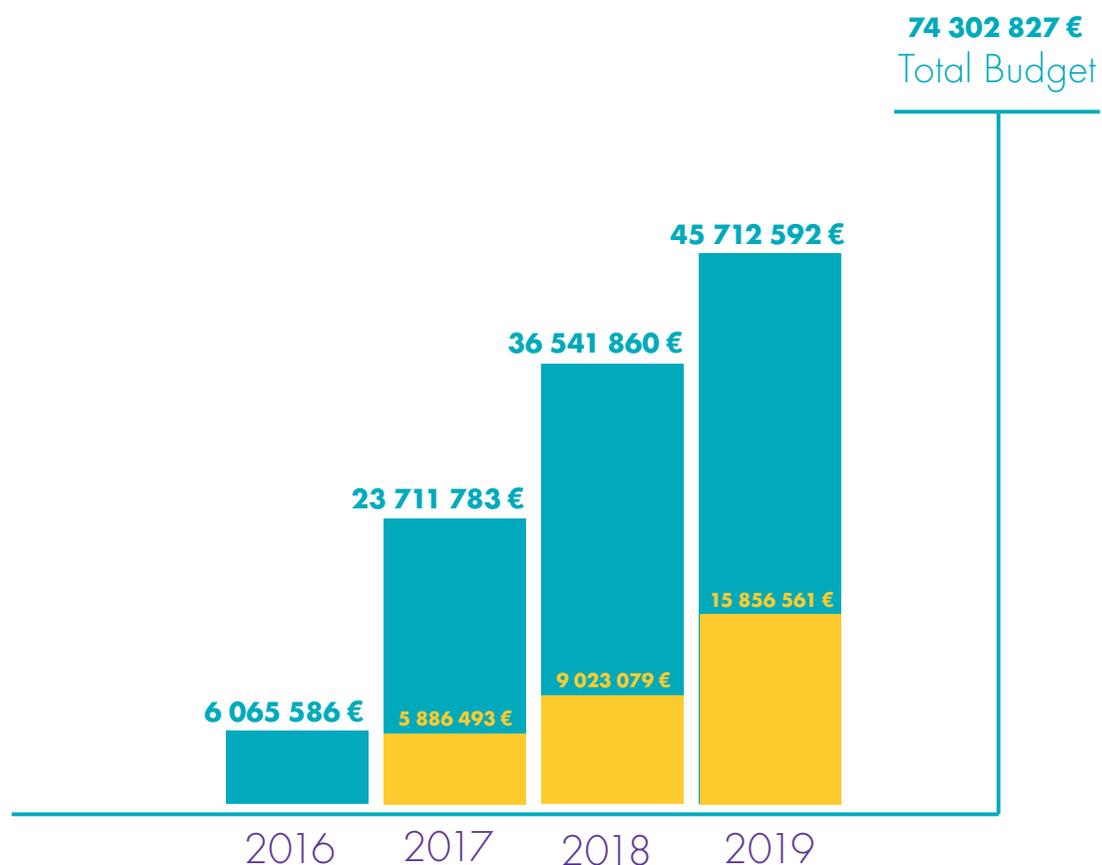


Countries affected by transnational cooperation



Countries affected by transnational cooperation that did not sign the agreements to this day

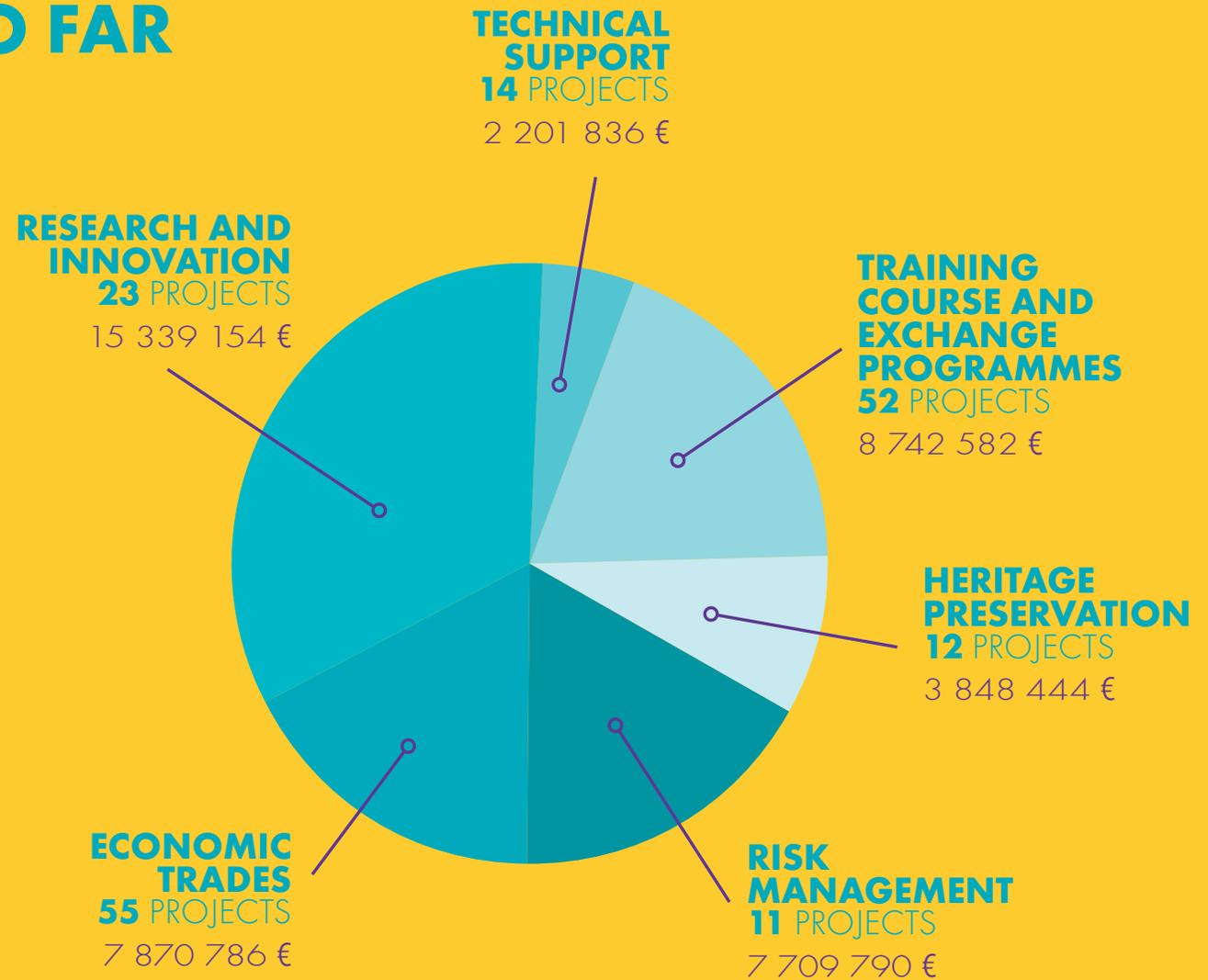
A DYNAMIC PROGRAMME



■ TOTAL FUNDING ENGAGED
■ TOTAL AMOUNT FUNDED AND CERTIFIED

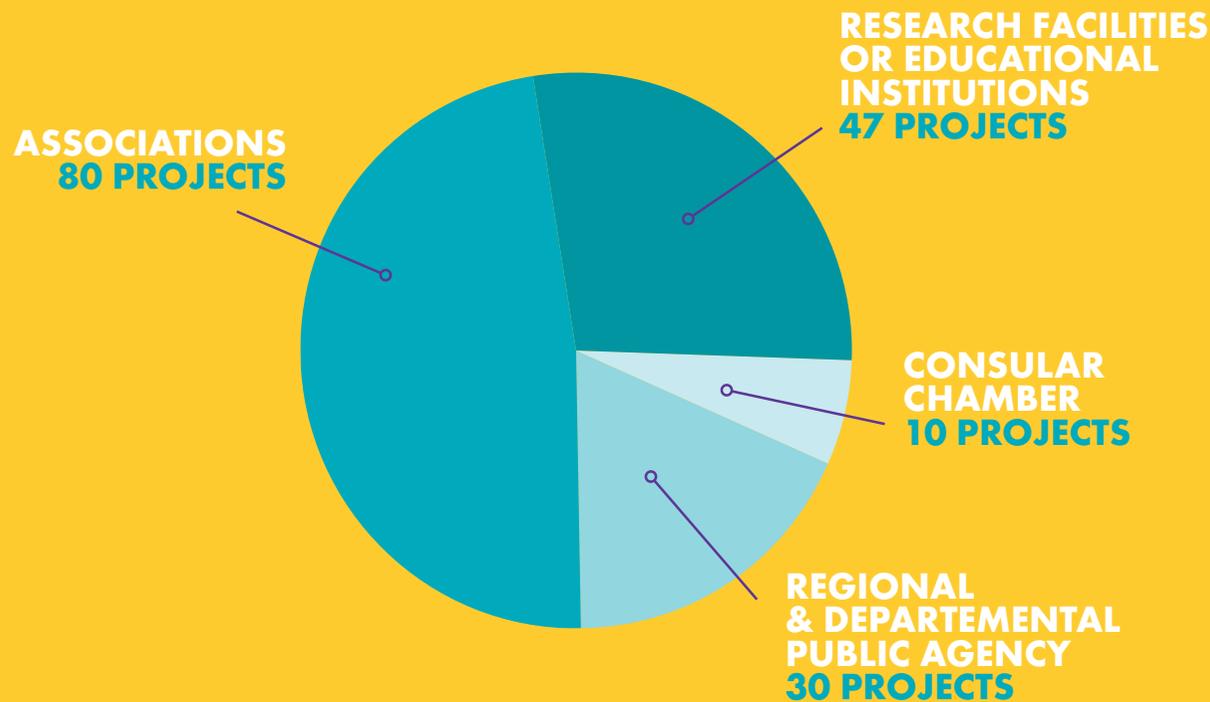
Since July 2016, when it was first set up, the INTERREG programme has supported **167 projects**, 41 of which for 2019 alone. These projects represent a total eligible cost of **€45,7M** (representing 61,5% of the financial plan). The funding provided by Europe amounts to **€38,5M**. The programme has therefore seen steady progress since its beginning. Eligible expenses funded and certified are also progressing and have now reached **€15,8M**, or 21,3 % of the financial plan as of 31st December 2019.

167 PROJECTS SUPPORTED SO FAR



NUMBER OF PROJECTS AND ENGAGED FUND IN TERMS OF THE PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

PROJECTS HELD BY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ACTORS FROM REUNION AND MAYOTTE

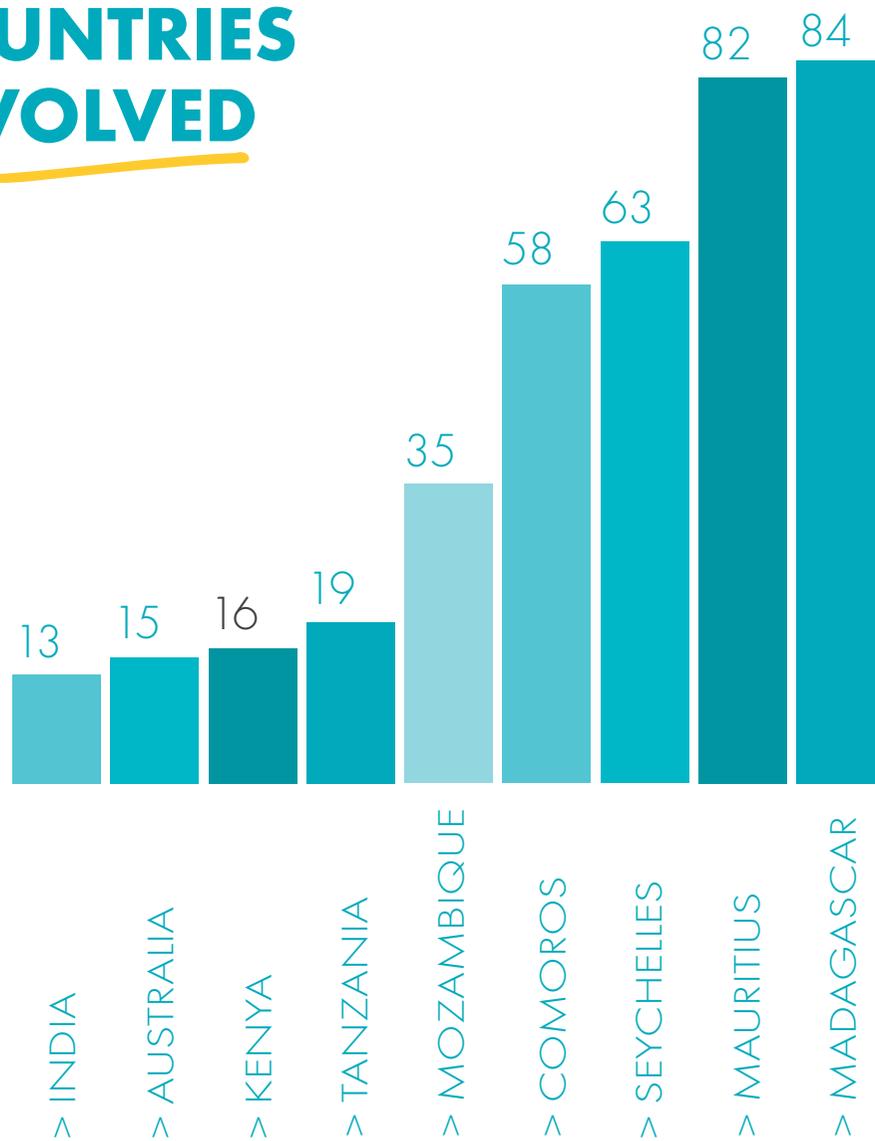


All the projects supported by the INTERREG Indian Ocean programme are established by French carriers from Reunion Island or Mayotte. If most projects are held by Reunionese carriers, 30 projects involve partners from Mayotte. Among these 30 projects, 3 are conducted by carriers from Mayotte.

The list of the INTERREG programme's recipients can be found on the following page:
<https://www.regionreunion.com/sites/interreg/article/interreg-autres-informations>

NUMBER OF PROJECTS IN TERMS OF PROJECT CARRIERS

9 PARTNER COUNTRIES INVOLVED



NUMBER OF PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES

INTERREG projects involve at least one foreign partner in the zone, said partner usually contributes to the development, establishment and sometimes funding of the projects. Most projects involve several countries. A strong engagement of the Indian Ocean Commission countries (Madagascar, Maurice, Comoros and the Seychelles), as well as Mozambique, can be noticed.

A FEW EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN 2019

RESEARCH: BOURBON VANILLA CHARACTERIZATION WITH MAURITIUS, MADAGASCAR AND REUNION ISLAND



This project involves the University of Reunion Island, in partnership with the Universities of Mauritius and Antananarivo, and deals with the biochemical and microbiological characterization of *Vanilla planifolia*, this vanilla grows in different areas in Reunion Island, Mauritius and Madagascar. Comparative research will allow to confront this characterization with pedological, climatic and biotic (microflora) data from the production areas. This research will provide insight on the impact of environmental factors on the quality of the vanilla's aroma, namely a "terroir expression". These studies will be shared and promoted during annual meetings with partners and during restitution seminars for a larger audience.

SKILL BUILDING: EXCHANGE PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHINGS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INDIAN OCEAN FOR AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTES (REAP)



Since its creation thirty years ago, the agricultural secondary school of Saint-Paul engaged in many cooperative actions. With INTERREG support, exchange programmes involving students and trainers within the French Southern Africa and Indian Ocean Network for Agricultural Training Institutes (REAP AAOI) grew in magnitude. This project allows young Reunionese students to study abroad and facilitates the internship of students, trainers and administrative agents from partner institution in Reunion Island. "Students gain in technical proficiency, open their mind to other cultures. This experience is an asset for their resumes and will enable them to be less skittish when the opportunity for international mobility appears". Says Fanny Payet, deputy director of the secondary school.

ECONOMY: BACKING UP CAP BUSINESS (EX UCCIOI)



The INTERREG programme supports undertaken by Cap Business Indian Ocean (ex-Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Indian Ocean) to strengthen the economic bonds within the islands of the area for 15 years now. Cap Business organises on a yearly basis an Economic Forum of the Indian Ocean Islands (FEIOI) a gathering point for business opportunities for regional companies. The 12th edition was held last September in Reunion Island, with the financial support of INTERREG. This programme ensures co-funding for position such as the direction of the Trade Capacity Building Program in the Indian Ocean as well as 2 volunteer positions for the International Solidarity, they implement actions in the digital technologies, ecotourism, port training, waste management, essential oils and natural cosmetics, with the aid of the French Development Agency (AFD).

NATURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION THE INDIAN OCEAN'S CORAL REEF IN OUR HANDS



The institute of Research and Development initiated an innovative environmental educational project, combining new technologies, playful knowledge transmission, establishment of a network of actors and concrete conservation actions, involving associations from the Seychelles and Mauritius. 100 classes in Reunion Island, Mauritius and the Seychelles are sensitized towards coral reef conservation, with the help of innovative and ludic tools like pedagogical kits, artistic performances, virtual scuba diving. "With this game I became aware of the solutions to protect the corals, and that I could take action, it gives me hope and the urge to act." (testimony of a young Mauritian student)

A FEW INDICATORS

14

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED
(SUPPORTED SINCE 2016)

12

NEW RESEARCHERS
WORKING ON THESE PROJECTS

145

COMPANIES THAT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN ACTIONS
ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL (PROSPECTING ATTENDING INTERNATIONAL
FAIRS/SEMINARS ETC.) (ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR 2017, 2018 AND 2019)

54

TRAINING SESSIONS ON PREVENTION
AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL HAZARDS SINCE 2016

10

**COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS ON PRESERVATION AND
PROMOTION OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE SINCE 2016**

1,419

PARTICIPANTS IN JOINT EDUCATION
AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES SINCE 2016

103

PARTICIPANTS IN CROSS-BORDER MOBILITY INITIATIVES SINCE 2016

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN 2019

→ 2 appeals for projects launched in 2019 around the following Interreg programme mechanisms:

✓ appeal for collaborative projects of preservation and promotion of cultural heritage (from November 25th 2019 to February 4th 2020)

✓ appeal for educational cooperation projects for secondary schools (lower and upper high schools) and vocational school (from August 16th to October 18th 2019) followed up by information meeting targeted at all these institutions.

→ The framework convention for INTERREG between the Regional Council of Reunion Island and the Seychelles was signed on April 6th and was added to the conventions already signed by Mauritius, Comoros and Madagascar. The 4 members of the Indian Ocean Commission have a Regional Council antenna handling the animations and the monitoring of INTERREG projects with the local authority.

→ In July 2019, the articulation between INTERREG programmes in Mayotte - and Reunion was defined and approved. An information meeting was held in Mayotte on July 2019 targeted at project carriers from the region.

→ A starting scheme was set up with a funding granted by the Regional Council of Reunion Island, to help those piloting projects to prepare their INTERREG project in collaboration with their partner in the zone. A call for projects was launched around this scheme in 2019 (from July 22nd to September 16th). 11 projects were approved in areas such as economic trades and training courses.

→ 9 steering committees held in 2019, enabling steady selection of projects.

→ 1 monitoring committee held on December 3rd 2019, with the participation of representatives from Mayotte, Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and the Seychelles. A presentation of the state of progress of the programme for 2021-2027 by the European Commission services was held as well as the preparation calendar considered by the managing authority.

