



INTERREG V INDIAN OCEAN

# SUMMARY FOR THE ATTENTION *of citizens*

Annual Implementation Report  
as of 31/12/2022

## 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 €41.3M,

**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 €21.7M.

**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**

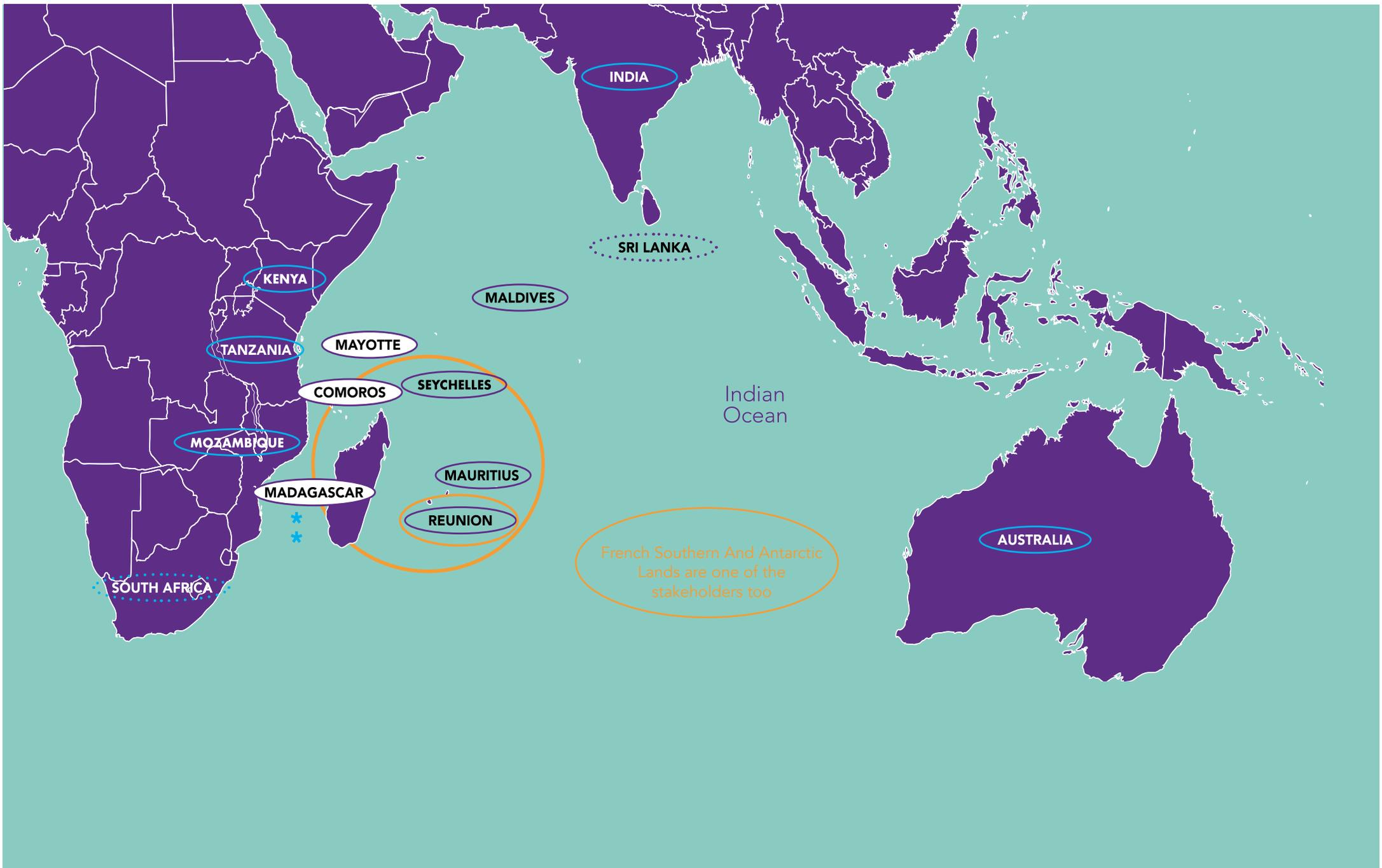
- Developing international research and innovation potential in the Indian Ocean
- Supporting the development of economic exchanges in the Indian Ocean
- Reinforcing collective capacities for adapting to climate change, as well as prevention and management of risks
- Reinforcing knowledge and promoting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

**€74,2M**

TOTAL BUDGET

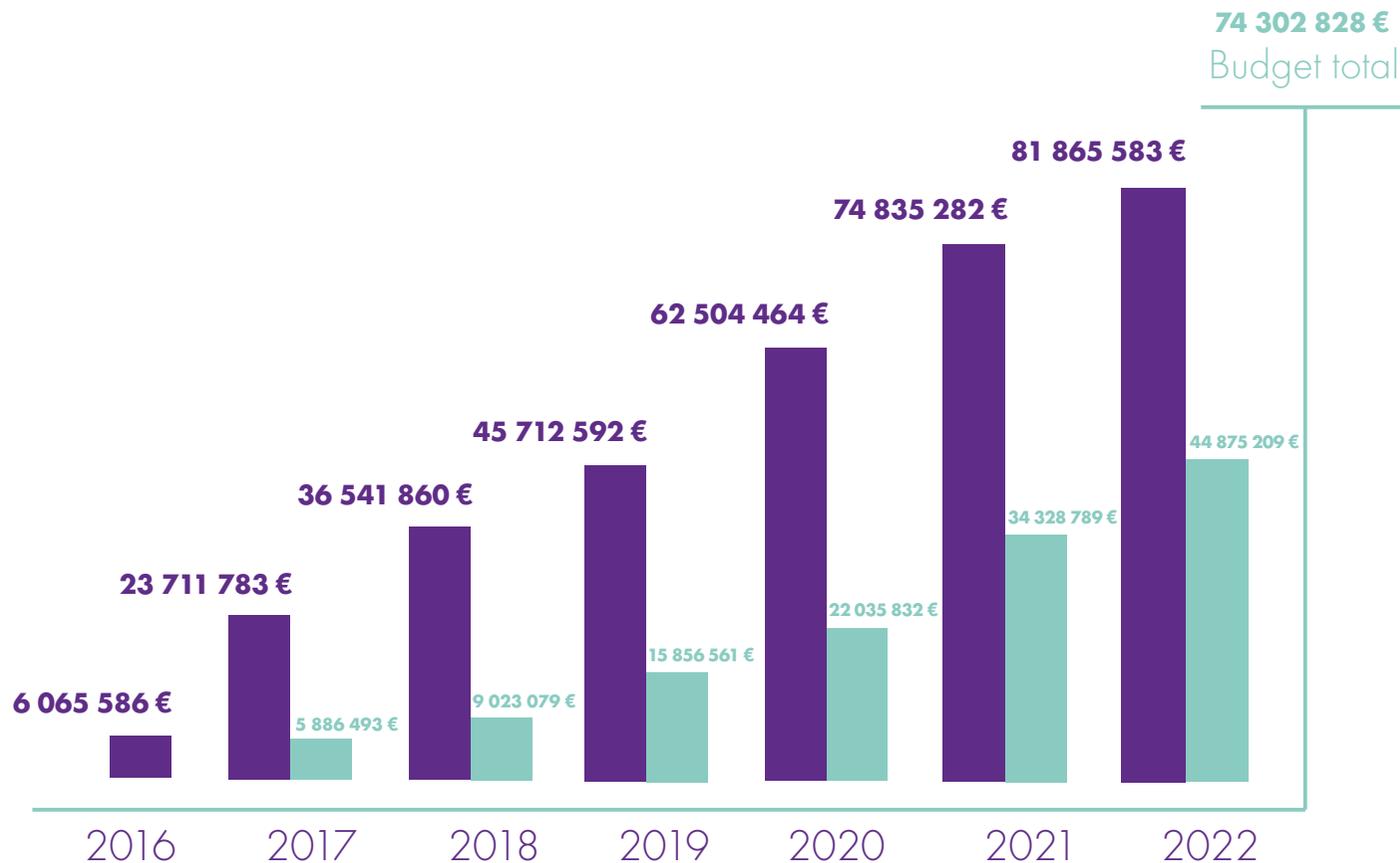
→ € 63,1M FEDER

→ €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

# POSITIVE PROGRESS SHOWN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAMME



## TOTAL CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF SELECTED PROJECTS

- TOTAL FUNDING ENGAGED
- TOTAL AMOUNT FUNDED AND CERTIFIED

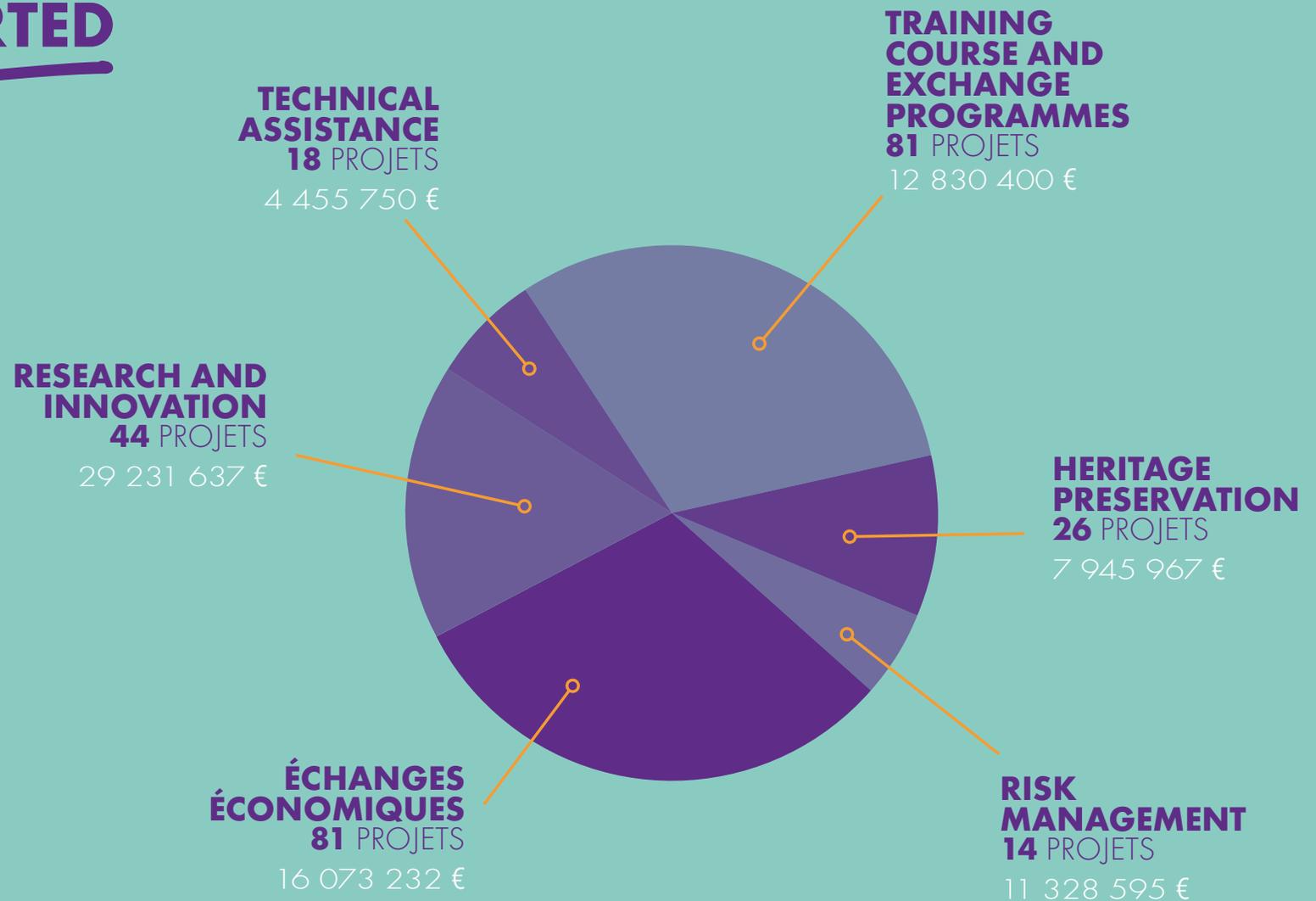
Since its inception in July 2016, the Interreg programme has funded 264 projects, including 29 programmed in 2022.

These programmed projects represent a total eligible cost of €81.8m (i.e. 110% of the full allocated amount), of which €68.9M was funded by the European Union. The number of projects has decreased recently as the end of the programme approaches, and the final projects eligible for INTERREG will receive support until the end of 2023.

The incurred and certified eligible spending has risen to reach a total of €44.8 million, i.e. 60% of the allocated amount.

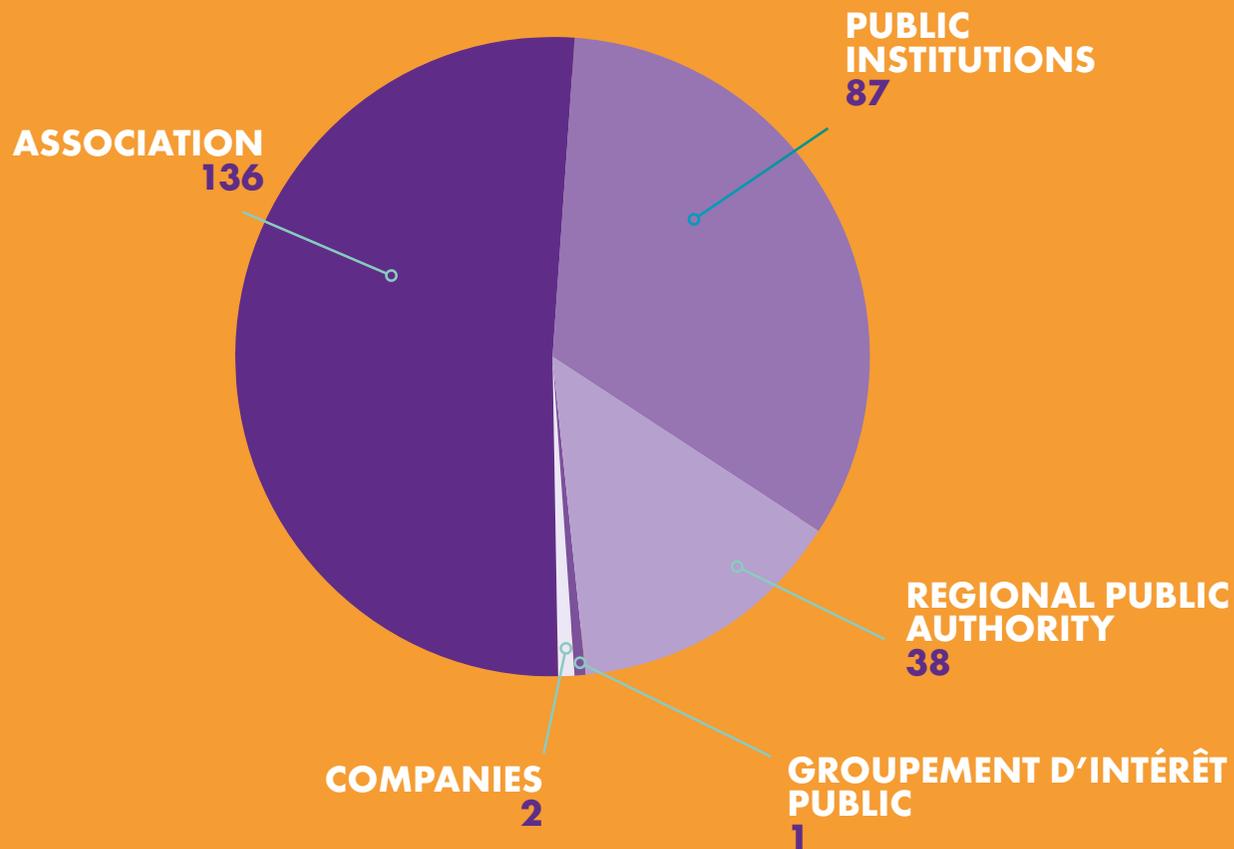
In 2022, the Managing Authority decided to make an exception and extend the programming period for some projects in order to fully benefit from the entire budget dedicated to the INTERREG V programme and, while still respecting the closure deadlines, to complete the different projects which had been postponed or placed on standby due to the COVID pandemic back in 2020.

# 264 PROJECTS SUPPORTED



**BREAKDOWN OF PROJECTS AND AMOUNTS PROGRAMMED  
BY PROGRAMME PRIORITIES**

# PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ACTORS IN REUNION AND MAYOTTE



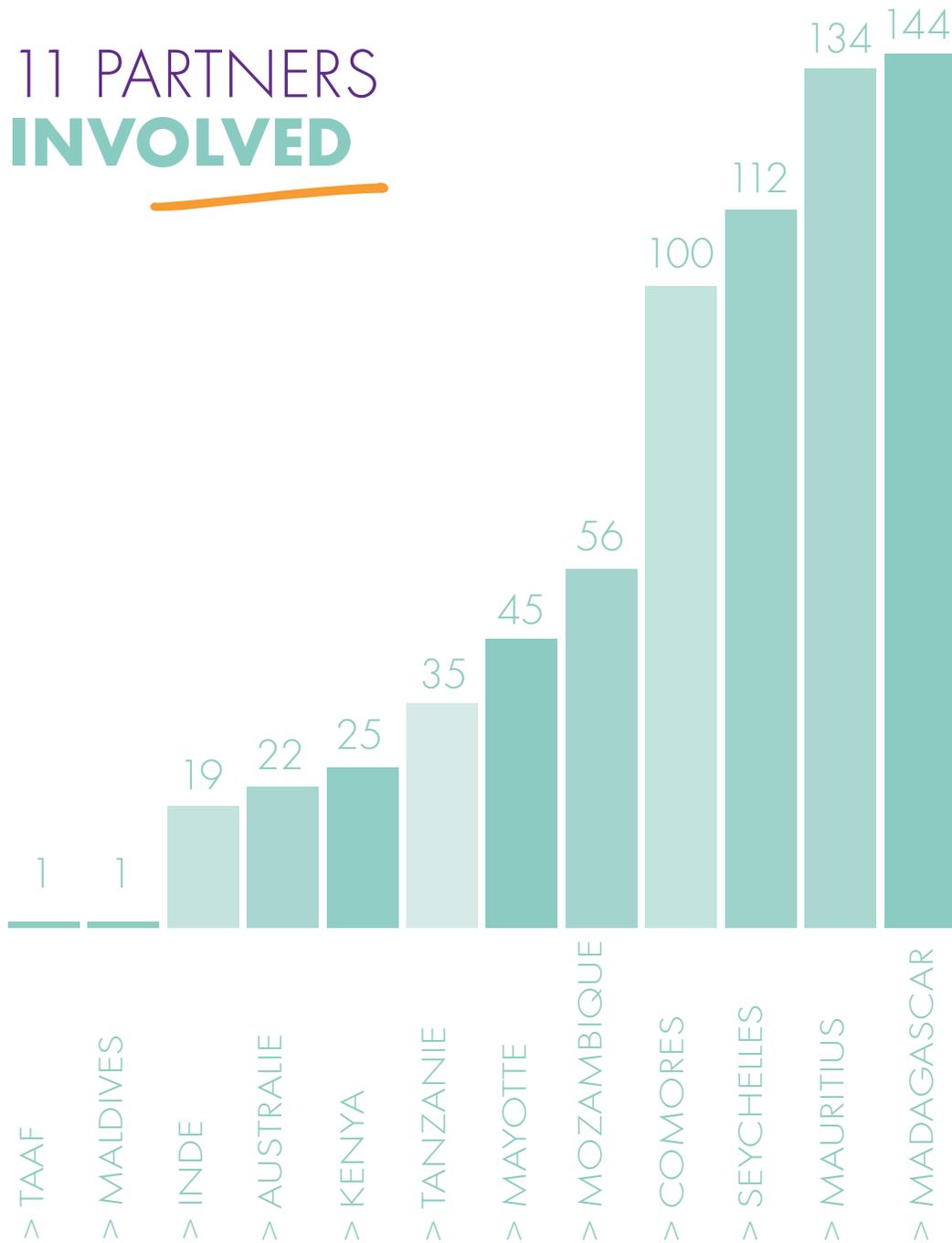
**BREAKDOWN OF PROJECTS BY TYPE OF SPONSOR**

The Interreg Indian Ocean programme is primarily aimed at French stakeholders from Reunion Island and/or Mayotte, who are the signatories of the funding agreements with the Regional Council of Reunion Island. Although most of project leaders are from Reunion, 45 projects concern stakeholders from Mayotte and 6 of these have project leaders from Mayotte.

The list of beneficiaries of the Interreg Indian Ocean programme can be found on the following page:

<https://regionreunion.com/sites/interreg/article/interreg-documents-telecharger>

# 11 PARTNERS INVOLVED



**NUMBER OF PROJECTS PROGRAMMED BY COUNTRY AND TERRITORY PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAMME**

All projects supported by the Interreg Indian Ocean programme involve at least one foreign partner from the area. Partners across the Indian Ocean generally contribute to project development and implementation, and sometimes to their financing and deployment of personnel when carrying out the projects. Most projects supported involve several countries, and IOC countries such as Madagascar, Mauritius, Comoros and Seychelles are strongly involved, as is Mozambique.

# SOME EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2022

## RESEARCH : EXTENSION OF THE PPP (PLANT PROTECTION CENTRE) - CONSTRUCTION OF A BIOTECH BUILDING FOR PLANT HEALTH AND IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO EXISTING LABORATORIES



CIRAD's 3P centre was inaugurated back in 2002, the goal being to create a research centre of excellence bringing a complete skillset (from the field to the laboratory) together in one place, and also to foster cooperation networks with the aim of pooling complementary skills. Previously covering an area of 850m<sup>2</sup>, the centre is now expanding in order to boost efficiency and innovation.

The centre now benefits from a biotech hall of almost 400 m<sup>2</sup> and its existing research laboratories have been improved and optimised.

The Interreg V OI programme is supporting this large-scale project by financing the construction of tertiary premises and laboratories (670 m<sup>2</sup> in total) to accommodate CIRAD researchers working on cooperation projects and other researchers from partner organisations across the Indian Ocean.

## ENVIRONMENT : THE INDIAN OCEAN'S CORAL REEF HERITAGE IS IN OUR HANDS - PAREO PHASE 2



This cooperation project, supported by the IRD (Research Development Institute), seeks to protect and preserve the coral reef heritage across the Indian Ocean. Following on from the actions of phase 1 (known as PAREO), phase 2 consists of reproducing and deploying existing educational tools to train new teachers in how to raise awareness about the challenges of coral reef conservation by combining art and science, and strengthening ties between pupils in Mauritius and the Seychelles.

The aim is to learn more about the different coral reefs and subsequently improve the sustainable management of these resources and natural environments. The PAREO 2 project concerns pupils aged 8 to 11 from the beginning of the school year 2022-2023.

Individuals are thus placed at the very heart of this process of protecting their natural heritage, which in turn will develop both education and tourism.

## CULTURAL HERITAGE : KNOWLEDGE, TRANSMISSION AND PROMOTION OF TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN



Moring, a forgotten martial art that was once practised in the Indian Ocean, was the subject of a research project by the Inventory Department of Reunion's Regional Council between 2013 and 2014. The conclusion was that this cultural heritage deserved to be conserved, developed and promoted via a network covering the whole Indian Ocean zone. This intangible cultural heritage is at the heart of a project which lists a number of artistic, historical and anthropological practices, the idea being to promote them and their related professional activities to a wide audience, ensuring that their memory and identity live on, particularly among young people.

Eventually, the aim is to ensure that these 'traditional martial arts from plantation societies' are added to UNESCO's list of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

## TRAINING : COOPERATION PROGRAMME WITH THE SEYCHELLES FOR TRAINING COURSES AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION CONCERNING CHILD PROTECTION AND SOCIAL WELFARE



With the emergence of new vulnerabilities across society (violence against women or minors in difficult circumstances), the Secular Association for Education, Training, Prevention and Autonomy is broadening its field of action and now provides training courses in these areas.

Due to its experience and expertise, this association was approached by the Seychelles Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, the objective being to build a cooperation project which would design training courses to strengthen the capacity of professionals working in child protection and preventing violence against women in the Seychelles.

It is divided into two main areas: one concerns child protection, seeking to prevent family-related violence and to support minors in difficulty; the other concerns violence against women, focusing on both prevention and also support in cases of domestic violence. This latter action will result in the construction of a shelter for domestic violence.

# A FEW FIGURES

1

**NEW COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT**

5

**NEW FTE RESEARCHERS**

WORKING ON INTERREG PROJECTS IN 2022

318

**COMPANIES**

HAVING PARTICIPATED IN INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS  
(ON AVERAGE FROM 2020 TO 2022)

92

**TRAINING COURSES**

ON RISK PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

14

**COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS FOR THE PRESERVATION  
AND ENHANCEMENT OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

323

**PARTICIPANTS** IN TRAINING ACTIVITIES

22

**ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY VOLUNTEERS**

IN 2022

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2022

## Health crisis

In anticipation of the end of the programme and in order to take into account the pandemic's impact on programming and certification processes, some adjustments have been made to the programme in 2022. An initial modification of the programme's financial model was made in the first quarter of the year.

A second modification of the programme came about in order to respect provisions stipulated in EU regulation 2022/562, also known as the C.A.R.E. regulation. This modification allowed co-financing rates to come down temporarily by 100% for the accounting year 2021-2022, and thus to decommit €1.5M and reach the automatic decommitment threshold, fixed at €37.7M for the year 2022.

### Preparation of the Interreg VI Indian Ocean programme 2021-2027

The INTERREG VI Indian Ocean programme for the period 2021-2027 was adopted on 13th December 2022. The members of the Monitoring Committee were consulted by written procedure from 21st December 2022 to 6th January 2023 on the Committee's draft rules of procedure for this future programme.