



## PRESS CONFERENCE

On June 6th we had the pleasure to convene a press conference at the Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, for the official launch of our educational DVD and presentation of our pick-up van. We were delighted by the presence and show of support from our sponsors ([GML/Fondation Joseph Lagesse](#), [AfrAsia Bank](#), [Terra Foundation](#) and [IFS Ltd](#)), media representatives and environmental activists. We are also thankful for the coverage given to the event in both newspapers and television.



## EDUCATIONAL DVD PROJECT

Schools, social centres and companies

Since our last newsletter back in March when we introduced our Educational project, we have been very active in reaching out and passing on our environmental awareness message. We have so far achieved 41 presentations in 27 different schools and 6 social centres. We will be starting our Eco awareness company sessions in the first week of September.

These sessions are available to anyone. If you are interested or might know of a company, school or social group that might benefit from this awareness campaign, please make use of the following [link](#) for the inscription form.



## COMPOST WORKSHOPS

As you may be aware, most of our kitchen waste is organic. As responsible citizens, we have the option of composting it for use in our garden, rather than sending it to the landfill. Nadia d'Unienville, member of the [Mission Verte](#) committee, is doing a marvellous job at running educational and practical workshops for those interested in following this innovative ecological and self-gratifying trend.





## CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN WITH AIESEC

We had the opportunity to organize with **AIESEC - Mauritius** three rewarding clean-up days over the past month.

Even though we couldn't manage to gather as many local Mauritian citizens as we had hoped for, those present did a very nice team work to clean-up the following locations: Clavis School (Moka), the surroundings of St. Michel church (Grand Gaube) and the symbolic "Rivière Tanier" at Sainte -Croix. It was a great example of the "Fraternité Nord-Sud".

Following these humble beginnings, we are looking for voluntary support in order to keep these activities on-going. Our aim is to have at least 1 clean-up operation per month.

We welcome you to join us and help clean-up our social responsibility.



## PLASTIC BOTTLE COLLECTION AT RACES

Our Health is very closely linked to the Health of the environment. We must protect it and not pollute it.

In line with this frame of mind, special attention was given to the collection by Mission Verte of all recyclable waste generated by the **Dodo Trail** race by its organiser, Yannick De Spéville.

**Mission Verte** also held a stand at the venue to inform the general public of its activities.

We look forward to offer the same service on all 12 races held each year in Mauritius, and properly dispose of all plastic bottles and cans used during these events.

## COMMUNICATION - Facebook & Webpage

Mission Verte's committee is glad to announce the appointment of Ms Sophia López-Bassols as our "Responsable de Projets". Sophia will also look into improving our communication pathways to and from our members and partners. Our **Facebook** posts are being boosted to inform and "wake-up" everyone, and our **webpage** platform will be updated weekly.

We invite you to follow our progress using these two communication tools, and share their content with friends and contacts. The more people we can get to care about our environment, the more chance we all have to succeed.



## OUR RECYCLING CONTAINERS

Last but not least, our founding project is still on-going. We have now reached 20 waste sorting containers for the collection of plastics and paper/cardboard (click [here](#) for location map of our [20 containers](#)).

Thanks to our sponsors [GML/FJL](#), [Terra Foundation](#) and [IFS Ltd.](#), we now have a small truck to help with the logistics of bringing the waste to the recyclers.

Recurrent difficulties experienced concern mainly improper waste dumping in or outside our containers: we only offer recycling of plastic and paper/cardboard. All other wastes deposited at our collection sites are very difficult for us to deal with and prove an eyesore for users and passers-by.

We are seeing growing interest from businesses that wish to engage in recyclable waste collection and, with our collection van to assist those interested to follow the recycling route. Please contact us for more information.



## FACT OF THE MONTH

An astonishing amount of food that we buy is fed to the bin, either as scraps or because it's no longer fresh. This waste costs an average house-hold hundreds of money per year and results in a considerable amount of methane. The solutions are simple, though they may require a bit of getting used to: *planning more carefully* when shopping and cooking *using the freezer to prolong* the life of things that are likely to go stale; and *making use of leftovers* rather than letting them sit in the fridge decaying. Finally *try to compost* whatever green and organic waste you do create. This avoids the creation of methane because the food gets to break down aerobically, in the presence of oxygen. Aerobic composting doesn't contribute to CO2 emissions, the main contributors to greenhouse gases and global warming.

For more advice on food waste and how to avoid it visit the following website: [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

(Source: [The rough guide to Green Living](#))

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"When the Earth is sick and polluted, human health is impossible. To heal ourselves we must heal our planet, and to heal our planet we must heal ourselves."*

[Bobby McLeod](#)





## WHO IS MISSION VERTE?

Mission Verte was registered as an NGO back in August 2007. It was created by a small group of people concerned by the increasing exploitation and abuse of our environment.

The objective of our actions is to raise environmental awareness through real life actions which can be tied up to tangible results.

Our first and foremost desire is to bring the public and private sectors, and the public in general to realize that our resources and spare are very limited on our small island, and that we all need to reduce our consumption and waste production, as well as recycle whatever we can to ensure a healthier and safer future for the next generations.



## WISH TO CONTACT US?

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## WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

- **20 recycling containers** (supported by our members, and with the donations and CSR funds from the private sector as well as a grant from GEF Small Grants Programme implemented by [UNDP](#))
- **1 pick-up van** (sponsored by [GML/FJL](#), [Terra Foundation](#) and [IFS Ltd.](#)) and **2 employees** for the prosperity and sustainability of our containers project
- Part of recycling project “**Je recycle les mobiles et les piles**” that [Mauritius Telecom Foundation](#) has been carrying out since 2009
- **Composting workshops** given since April 2011, financed by the [MCB Forward Foundation](#) and partnered by the [University of Mauritius](#) and [MAMCF](#)
- An **educational DVD**, with the sponsorship of [Fondation Joseph Lagesse](#) and [AfrAsia Bank](#)