PROJECT SUMMARY

Ref No.: MRIC/IBG3-RI-A012	**Title:** Marine Underwater Eco-trail
Local Business: Jean Claude Cupidon	
Collaborating Institution: Coral Garden Conservation Mauritius	
Project Leader	
Mr Jean Claude Cupidon	Jean Claude Cupidon
Research Collaborator(s)	
Name	**Organisation**
Mr Joy Gregory Cedric Catherine	Coral Garden Conservation Mauritius

TECHNICAL ABSTRACT

The Marine Underwater Eco-Trail Project, is designed to integrate marine conservation, eco-tourism, and community engagement within the marine reserve of Rivière Banane of Rodrigues. The project will commence with a rapid assessment of local marine habitats to evaluate biodiversity, ecosystem health, and anthropogenic impacts, thereby establishing a robust scientific foundation for targeted conservation strategies. A comprehensive coral reef restoration program will be implemented using proven coral transplantation techniques to rehabilitate degraded reef areas. Local stakeholders will actively participate in monitoring and maintaining these restoration sites, ensuring community ownership and long-term ecological resilience. A designated eco-trail will be developed along a carefully mapped underwater route that highlights restored coral sites and key marine ecosystems such as seagrass beds and reef zones. Informative signage and underwater markers will be installed to enhance visitor education and awareness. To promote sustainability, the project will transition from motorized to non-motorized transport methods, reducing environmental disturbances. In addition, real-time data loggers will be deployed along the trail to continuously monitor environmental parameters, supporting climate change studies.

Key Words: Marine conservation, Eco-Tourism, Coral Reef Restoration, Climate Monitoring