



M. Murday & E.R. Gundiach:

Oil spill contingency plan for Mauritius

UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 125

Prepared in co-operation with:



Note:

This report was commissioned by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), under project FP/5102-82-04 through a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), as a contribution to the Eastern African Action Plan, and was prepared by Mr. M. Murday and Mr. E. R. Gundlach. Additional support to the project was provided by the Government of Mauritius and IMO.

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For bibliographic purposes this document may be cited as:





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PREFACE

In 1986 the Government of Mauritius approached the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) with a request for assistance in the development of a national oil spill contingency plan for Mauritius.

In response to this request, and in close co-operation with the Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment of the Government of Mauritius, a mission was organized by IMO in co-operation with UNEP. The terms of reference of the mission were to:

- determine the legal authority requirements for the implementation of an oil spill contingency plan;
- determine the shoreline sensitivities for all geomorphic coastal segments;
- review the known sensitive biological coastal resources;
- review the socio economic coastal resources;
- develop an environmental sensitivity atlas for Mauritius at a scale of 1:25,000, indicating priority areas for spill response and preferred cleanup methods;
- determine the available equipment for oil spill cleanup operations:
- recommend mitigation techniques for the preservation of birds and vegetation;
- recommend methods of the disposal of oily wastes;
- conduct a three day seminar to discuss the implementation of the recommended contingency plan;
- conduct a spill drill to test the response to a simulated spill.

The mission was undertaken in 1987 in consultation with local officials and national institutions to ensure that proper consideration was given to local and national problems and priorities in drafting the national oil spill contingency plan.

Data and information contained in this document were gathered in part during field work and meetings with the Mauritius government and private organizations.

The "Coastal Sensitivity Atlas of Mauritius for Oil Spill Response", also produced under this project, has been published by the Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment, Port Louis, Mauritius.

Special thanks are due to Dr. J. Wonham and Cdr. T. M. Hayes of IMO for information and views contributed during discussions in London, and for reviewing the draft report. Funding for the project was provided by the Government of Mauritius, the International Maritime Organization with support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), and the United Nations Environment Programme.

1. EMERGENCY ACTIONS

1.1. Form No. 1: Alert and notification

The check list below initiates the alert procedure when an oil spill is reported. It should be at the disposal of personnel at the Emergency Communications Center - Phone 999.

The officer on duty at the Emergency Communications Center will take the following actions when an oil spill is reported:

- (a) Ascertain location and nature of spill (tanker truck/ship/tank farm) from person reporting spill. Ask about injuries, deaths, and fire hazard.
- (b) Notify ambulance/fire station if needed.
- (c) Notify the Director of NOSCP.

Office Phone:	Home	Phone:	
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- (d) Contact appropriate District Police Station and ask to verify directly or through National Coast Guard Post or Fisheries Post or Fire Station. Ask for return phone call on emergency basis.
- (e) When verification report comes in, immediately communicate it to the Director of NOSCP.
- (f) Fill out Oil Spill Report Form (Form No. 2).
- (g) Stand by to alert key personnel as directed by the Director of NOSCP or the OSC in charge (Form No. 3).

1.2.	Form No. 2: Oil spill report			
offic	This form must be filled out by the Emergency Co er and submitted to the Director of NOSCP.	ommunications	Center	duty
Date/	Time:	_		
(a)	Report of oil spill (to be obtained from person)	reporting spil	11):	
Name/	'Address/Phone number of person reporting spill			
Locat	tion of reported spill			
Name	and type of facility involved (tank truck/ship/ta	ank farm, etc	.)	
Quant	tity and type of spilled oil			
Fire,	/injuries/deaths reported			

(b) Actions taken by desk officer:

Director of NOSCP alerted/Time

Ambulance or Fire Station alerted/Time

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