

# **Small Islands Developing States – Response on Water Advisories**

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# Water Advisories

## Advisories

- An **announcement** or **formal message** released to the public in order to **forewarn** **against specific risks or dangers.**

## Water Advisories

- Often related to water quality - Pollution
- Or water quantity – drought
- Water Safety - Floods

# Water Related Challenges in SIDS

- **Challenges**
  - Cyclones – contamination in water pipelines
  - Torrential Rains – flash floods
  - Long dry periods
  - Need to reduce losses & wastages

**Water Advisories**

**–**

**Some Examples**

# Advise to Consumers ...1/4

- **Regular Basis:**

Advise to Consumers (Cleaning of Water Tanks at home; Actions to be taken when detecting a leak in the international reticulation systems) - website of local water providers

### *Detecting a leak in the internal reticulation system (also known as the supply pipe)*

- Close all outlet taps, except the stop-cock near the meter.
- Observe the meter dial to see if the meter is registering consumption. If such is the case, then there must be a leak somewhere along the supply pipe.

### XXIII. OUR GUIDE AND ADVICE TO ASSIST CUSTOMERS

#### *Save Water*

Do not leave the tap open unnecessarily, for example, when brushing your teeth, washing your clothes, etc. Do not use water to wash cars instead of a water hose. Verify your installations regularly.

#### *Cleaning of Water Storage Tank*

Follow the following steps for the cleaning of a household water storage tank:

- Brush the bottom, sides and ceiling of the tank.
- Wash out the dirty water.
- Wash with clean water.
- Disinfect with bleaching agent (Eau de Javel). For a tank with a capacity of more than 1,000 litres, put in about 10ml of bleach. Adjust accordingly for tanks of different capacities.
- Leave the bleaching solution in for the night.
- Wash out the bleaching solution. The tank is now disinfected and can be used to store water for consumption.
- Clean your water tank on a regular basis (at least once every six months) and make sure that the tank is properly covered to prevent contamination through algae formation or grub accumulation.



# Advise - Pamphlets – No water/No life..2/4

### Eski ou ti coné ?

- Eski ou ti pou lèye plizyè, espere an akonvès. Eski akonvès pou lèye ou si ou te fè an ajans ou.
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**Duive**  
Water  
Sauve  
Life

UNION DE LA GUYANE  
Département de l'Énergie  
et de l'Environnement  
11, rue de la République  
97300 KAYES

## Pena Dlo Pena Lavi




**Ena Dlo  
Ena Lavi**

### Quelques conseils pour économiser l'eau...



Faites votre arrosage  
à l'heure adéquate, et évitez de l'arroser  
trop souvent.



Ne laissez pas l'eau couler  
sans cesse, même si c'est un peu.



Arrosez les plantes  
à l'heure adéquate, et évitez de l'arroser  
trop souvent.



Lavez votre linge  
à l'heure adéquate, et évitez de l'arroser  
trop souvent.



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# Water Saving Campaigns ...3/4

During dry periods - Radio/TV ads/ Newspaper/Social Media/Billboard & Private sector HSBC (Bank) teaming up with the local water providers



### Aiming the young ones

- Trendy easy popular song was used
- Reach people at various times and different categories



### Reach maximum people


- Keep in touch with new publications and publishing plans
- Posters, press adverts and brochures



### T.V caption at 19.30 before evening news on MBC1

- Blend of colour, movement and sound


### Water Saving Campaign



To mark the World Environment Day 2008, HSBC Mauritius has teamed up with the Central Water Authority (CWA) to launch its Water saving Campaign on 5th June 2008 in the presence of the Minister of Public utilities, Dr. Abu Kasenally. This campaign was designed to increase knowledge on scarcity of water and informing the Mauritian nation on simple ways to save water. Along the same line, HSBC Mauritius made us of:

- 60 billboards across the country
- Daily radio advertisements
- Daily tips in the local newspapers
- Distribution of 12000 educational leaflets

Internally, HSBC Mauritius organised various activities among the theme "Be Part of the Solution", where staff got the chance to visit the Meteorological Station of Vacoas, viewing of the movies: "11th Hour" and "An Inconvenient Truth", learning about recycling and composting, amongst others.



# Reduce Wastage – Dry Spells ...4/4

Do not waste water

&

During long dry spells  
there is a fine  
accompanying this  
statement





# Water safety – torrential rain

## Updates

It has just been announced that companies of the public and private sectors will be closed for today because of the potential dangers that might be caused by the weather.

The torrential rain being experienced all across Mauritius today morning (09.03.15) is expected to persist till 17h00. The warning has thus been maintained by the experts of the Vacoas meteorological station.

Yesterday, a communiqué was issued to inform the population that all educational institutions will be closed for today because of the potential dangers that might be caused by the weather.

**After Consultation with the PMO, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committee has advised the employees of the public and private sector to go home at 11 am.**

The public is strongly advised not to venture near river banks and other water courses and keep away from flooded areas.

# **Response to Water Advisories**

# Water Advisories – Importance for SIDS

- Needs Effective Water Resources Management
  - Cannot afford to **buy water** from neighbouring countries
  - Relatively poor – **low financial investments** in storage capacity

# **How do the Public Respond to Water Advisories?**

# THE IMPACTS

- Use of rainwater for secondary purposes – RWH (residential, schools, industries, agriculture)
- Dual water cisterns – available on the market
- Water efficient taps – available on the market
- Provision for Water tankers
- Take precautions – Cyclones/Torrential rains
- Change in mindset – Questionnable!

# CONCLUSION

- Water Advisories – a necessity & a guide
- Easily **catches the attention** of the general public – Warnings
- At times – need to be packaged in a better way to touch the lives of the people
- Brings out the key issues **at the right time** – specific legislation

*Thanking you for your attention*