

*Fi Titi = small fish in Comoros language

EDITO

This document is the first newsletter of the MOANA Initiative's association to keep the members and partners informed of its activities.

Now that we obtained the support of many passionate in the marine world and its safeguarding, in return we want you to share the strong moments of our adventure. Convinced of the promising future of this concept of marine larvae's collection and falling under the line of the sustainable development, Sven and I wanted to transmit our know-how to support the creation of new jobs from the sea.

This association is a non profit organization; it concerns the young people of the underprivileged overseas countries.

The headings of this newsletter are inspired from the song of Jean-Louis Aubert, "BLEU, BLANC, VERT". These colors correspond to the philosophy of MOANA Initiative:

BLEU (BLUE) concerning the marine environment and its valorization

BLANC (WHITE) for all that links with solidarity in this project, and finally

VERT (GREEN) for its environmental character.

We wish to publish this communication's support as often as possible in order to inform you of this exciting "human eco-venture" development.

Nice immersion!

Gilles Lecaillon and Sven Michel Lourié
Enthusiastic Founders

VERT (Green): small biological recall

Nature makes things well... to counterbalance the strong natural predation in all stages of the marine fish life cycle, the females will lay millions of eggs, drifting offshore, which will produce million of oceanic larvae, "sailing" during few weeks in the open ocean before returning near shore to recruit in their coastal habitat... A strong predation await them - more than 95% of these larvae (post-larvae) ready to settle disappear within few days – in order to get at least 2 adult individuals reproducing again... In most case, the current fisheries are focusing on the adult or juveniles fractions of this marine fish realm, therefore involving a reduction in stocks and resource. However, more than 25% of the planet (and more than 50% if one takes only the emerging countries close to the maritime areas) depend on its contributions. That is why the collection of larvae BEFORE this strong predation event is an alternative to the current fishing practices.

Sven and I both have the feeling the more the idea will make its way, more other people worldwide will use this technique of larvae collection, and the more the marine environment will go. So, the creation of this association has for main goal to try to popularize the technique and to establish tools to transfer our knowledge towards the populations from emerging countries.

BLANC (White): Creation chronology

The association was first to be called ECOCEANE, nice naming also for this adventure, but the name had been just taken, thus we choosed MOANA Initiative. We wanted a feminine name: **MOANA** means **OCEAN** as a Polynesian language and **Initiative** for the many initiatives that Sven and I took over the past 6 years.

Its sphere of international activities will mainly focus on emerging countries and French overseas territories.

MOANA Initiative was recorded to Montpellier district (France) on September 21, 2004 official number 0343033632. A copy of the constitution is available on request.

The first board of directors took place in the presence of its four members: Fabienne Dupuy, Doctor, who supported us since Sven and I are launched in this adventure. She is a good adviser and will give a necessary feminine touch in discussions; Sebastien Delecraz, oceanologist, who will be of a great help both by its friendship and its international network; and finally Sven and myself... This is the "TEAM" of this adventure.

Here is the logo which will be the image of our projects.... It is not a police of character but a hand made creation. You will remind the color of the lagoon and the waves shape.



This association is with vocation of 'General Interest'; to be recognized by the French administration as such, it is necessary to prove reliable and to draw-up, after 1 year assessment or more, a moral and financial balance sheet.

BLEU (Blue): access to a new marine resource

It is through collection tools named C.A.R.E (Collection by Artificial Reef Ecofriendly) that we want to work. These tools are lightened artificial reefs, inoffensive for the larvae, which even more decide to enter inside to protect themselves from predators... the tools are easily transportable and easy to use. You can find an article about CARE characteristics published by the CPS (<http://www.spc.org.nc/coastfish/News/lrf/12/LRF12-Lecaillon.pdf>) and which details the real advantages of this new technique developed by us.

The environmental impact is negligible; on the other hand, it has a positive impact in term of creation of jobs for a sustainable development.

This new alive marine resource relates to several marine field activities:

- 1 local aquaculture
- 2 tank raised animals for marine aquarium trade
- 3 Restocking and bio-monitoring on reefs (artificial or overfished)



How to become member?

To be part of the association, so simple: please print, fill in the inscription sheet attached (PDF format) and fax it to us at +33 4 67 67 02 84 (from USA 011 33 4 67 67 02 84) and you will become an active member of Moana. Do not hesitate to forward this newsletter around you. Be aware of time lag between your country to France, the fax is not far from Sven Bed!

Subscription in Fi TiTi:

This newsletter will be sent to you as a member, however let us know if you wish to continue to receive it systematically. This letter is also a support of expression for all of our members; if you want to write a paragraph to inform us of your projects, do not hesitate. A heading "readers speaking" will then be opened.

Reply and questions are to be sent by email to moana_initiative@yahoo.fr