

Port Developments, Expansions and Smart Port Initiatives in the Indian Ocean for a Viable Future

By: David Bianchi
Seychelles Ports Authority

Port Expansions/ Modernisation

- Required to:
- Cater for expanding trade, domestic populations and economies as well as facilitate export markets.
- Accommodate more and new generation/ modern ships and other port equipment and technologies.
- Raise and maintain same service standards across ports in the region where more or less the same vessels call.
- Meet Green Port and other FAL and MARPOL Conventions.



Current Status

- In the Indian Ocean, there are some deep water ports of high standards that meet professional, technological, operational and Terminal Operators standards;
- These ports contribute significantly to the development and evolution of shipping in the region thus helping to bring down freight cost;
- The smart port concepts in the region has the effect of increasing efficiency and facilitate the exchange of real time information between ships and shore and between port and other agencies;
- Digital inter- connectivity between ports in the region can add to the convenience and the benefits that a ship will get when it calls at different regional ports;
- Real time exit data from one port automatically serves as a sound basis for entry data at the next port of call;

Cont'd

Digitalisation reduces the need to submit multiples of the same forms and port data in printed copies to different ports and border control agencies thus contributing to cost savings and environmental sustainability;

Port Victoria – Port Expansion

- SPA has an ambitious expansion plan for its port infrastructure but which has experienced some delays because of a mis-match between budget and design;
- SPA is now exploring alternative design and innovative financing in order to deliver on its port expansion plans in the next 3 years;
- Project involves construction of new quay wall, new shorebased equipment and new container terminal and private Operator to be selected by way of open tender;
- Port Victoria seeks to have a modern and cost competitive port of international repute and standards within the coming years.

Port Victoria – Smart Port Initiative

- Up to now, most if not all processes and data exchanges in Port Victoria is manually based;
- Through a highly efficient and much valued Cooperation Agreement between SPA and GPMDLR, SPA is proud to have launched its digital project 2 years ago. We would like to take this opportunity to thank GPMDLR for this support;
- Now through a contract between SPA and our partners InfoPort of La Reunion and 4SH of France, we are again proud that SPA will launch its digital platform the PVMIS in October 2023.

Cont'd

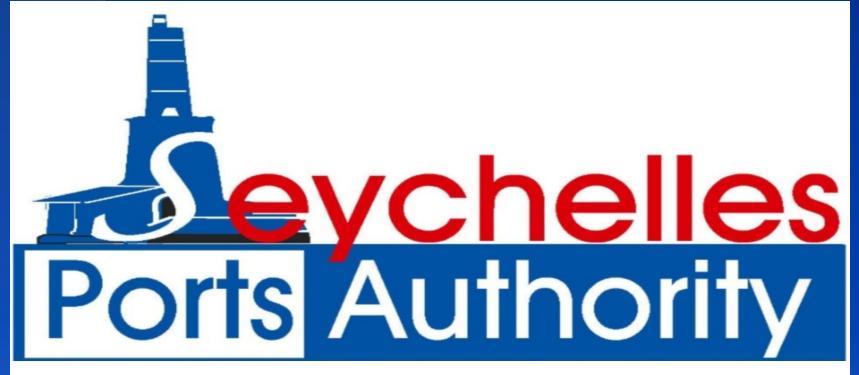
- Training and live trials of the PVMIS is taking place in September 2023 with selected port stakeholders;
- Port Victoria is almost ready to join the digital age and connect to the other ports in the region eventually in real time to increase the maritime efficiency of our Indian Ocean region.
- Again allow me to thank the GPMDLR, InfoPort and 4SH for this important collaboration in order for SPA to achieve this milestone before January 2024.

Port Victoria – Green Port Initiative

- We cannot talk about port expansion/modernization without mentioning about Green Port;
- Through the Cooperation Agreement between SPA and GPMDLR, we have a Green Port component which seeks to develop the framework, programmes and initiatives towards a Green Port;
- Now that the Smart Port component is making excellent progress, SPA has started to devote more time and effort to the Green Port;
- The Green Port solution will be an added innovation in Port Victoria and we hope that the entire Indian Ocean region will adopt it as another of its standards in order to enhance the maritime attractiveness and the environmental sustainability of our region.







Sustaining The Blue Economy And Growth

Website: www.seyport.sc

Tel: +248 4294 700

Email: enquiries@seyport.sc

Fax: +248 224 004