



# 2020 Annual Report

Our mission:

Educate - Collect to Recycle - Advocate



**We-Recycle Mauritius**  
**Oui Recycle!**

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NGO Regd.No 14923 | BRN No A17000027 | CSR.No NCSRF/2018/0046



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A **BIG THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who have supported We-Recycle and continue to contribute their time and efforts to work with us, especially Karen, Antoine, Elaine, Ronnie, Eric, Roman, Madeleine, Angelique, Stephanie, Dayna, our contractors Yaveen and Denis as well as our 3 ambassadors Chloe, Chloe and Dimitri.

We-Recycle would like to express its sincere appreciation to the sponsors below for the CSR funding received in cash and in-kind from the private sector as well as the National Social Inclusion Foundation in order to fund our operations.

- ◆ RT Knits
- ◆ Goodwill Distribution (Rodrigues) Ltd
- ◆ Sir Jean Etienne Moilin Ah-Chuen Foundation
- ◆ A K King
- ◆ Fondation Medine Horizons
- ◆ Design Lounge
- ◆ Hilton Mauritius Resort & Spa

PLASTIC RECYCLING GUIDE			
CODE	ITEM	EXAMPLES	RECYCABLE IN MAURITIUS
 <b>PET</b> Polyethylene terephthalate		Plastic bottles Cool drinks Water bottles	
 <b>HDPE</b> High-density polyethylene		Detergents packaging Hair care products Six-pack rings Six-pack wrappers Caps for bottles	
 <b>PVC</b> Polyvinyl chloride		Pipes Toys Furniture	
 <b>LDPE</b> Low-density polyethylene		Sandwich bags Grocery bags	
 <b>PP</b> Polypropylene		Large yogurt tubs Ice cream containers	
 <b>PS</b> Polystyrene		Cups Small yogurt cups	
 <b>OTHER PLASTICS</b>		Acrylic Nylon Water fountain bottles Sunglasses	

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Oui-Recyclers

What a roller coaster year 2020 was. PET bottle collections in January 2020 exceeded PET collections in December 2019 – which was an all-time high.

This momentum came to a screeching halt with the event of the Covid-19 pandemic which forced Mauritius into lockdown from 20 March to 29 May 2020. Since then the Mauritius borders stayed closed for visitors and hotels opted to become quarantine centres, closed down or relied on local tourism during weekends.

As our collections from the hotels with tourists were substantial, collection activities were curtailed and the recyclables in need of collection emanated from the community.

I was locked up overseas for 6 months and was not able to return to Mauritius until September 2020.

During this time operations continued and were managed via the internet from South Africa. I therefore want to thank our contractors for their diligence during this period of extreme uncertainty. A sincere word of thanks to my fellow board members who assisted with keeping We-Recycle running during this time.

Time spent locked up was put to good use as many sponsorship proposals and plans were submitted to various forums – some successful while others were not. We-Recycle would like to thank Phoenix Beverages for supporting our successful application to The Coca-Cola Foundation to fund our operations for 12 months from January to December 2021.

We-Recycle is committed to doubling its collection volumes of recyclables and will only be able to reach this goal with the help of all individuals and moving to a recycling-based society.

We have already seen increased use of the 3 Phoenix Earth bins placed around Black River in 2021 which collects plastics and cans. More bins will be placed in the coming months.

We would like to call on the local community to join in our recycling initiatives, whether it be beach clean-ups, environmental training/sensitisation sessions or separation of waste at home for recycling.

On behalf of our team & all our volunteers, we thank you for your endless support!

**Karen van der Wath**  
President | We-Recycle

## SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

In 2020 We-Recycle re-confirmed its Principles of Management at its Annual Strategy Session.

### VISION STATEMENT

A sustainable future where recyclable waste is managed responsibly, and recycling becomes part of the Nation's DNA.

### MISSION STATEMENT

To educate, to collect for recycling and to help shape policies, legislation and recycling programmes that will keep Mauritius clean.

### VALUES

Passion | Teamwork | Professionalism | Collaboration | Making a Difference/Impact

### CODE OF ETHICS

Always do what is right, treat others with respect and ensure our actions reflect our core values, for our actions shape the views others have of us, hence making it important that we can always own our actions ethically and responsibly.

### CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Be inclusive | Be considerate | Be respectful | Be secure at work | Be able to associate freely |  
Be labour and compensation compliant

### GOVERNANCE

The Management Committee comprising volunteers are responsible for managing the activities of We-Recycle. Committee members meet monthly. Financial statements of We-Recycle are independently audited.

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

### President: Karen van der Wath

Karen obtained an Executive MBA (Cum Laude & Gold Medalist) from the Graduate School of Business, UCT, B.Econ from the University of Stellenbosch and has a postgraduate Diploma in Tax Law from the University of Cape Town. She has extensive experience in sustainability issues, carbon footprint assessments, GHG verification of inventories and projects, energy audits and also assists organizations to obtain grant funding from DFIs for renewable energy projects to enable them to transition to a low-carbon economy.

### Vice-President: Antoine Kon-Kam King

Antoine has a BA in Economics, is a Chartered Accountant and has an MBA from the London Business School. He was a Director at UN-HABITAT, Nairobi and Senior Advisor at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), New York and Beijing. His main areas of expertise relate to Strategic Planning and Organizational development, Finance, Diplomacy, Fundraising, Donor Relations and Contract Negotiation. He is currently President of the Chinese Business Chamber (CBC) of Mauritius and Independent Director on the Boards of various Mauritian companies.

### Secretary: Eric Barry

Eric earned a BA (law) and LLB degrees from Natal University and was the senior partner and founding member of Attorneys Barry, Botha & Breytenbach Inc. of Port Shepstone, Kwa-Zulu Natal (KZN) specialising in the commercial, property and litigation fields and a founder board member of the approximately 230 bed Hibiscus Private Hospital Group in KZN. Eric is a past President of the KZN Law Society, an honorary member of the Law Society of South Africa and a retiring board member of the MUR 12 billion strong South African Legal Practice Fidelity Fund.



*Left-to-right : Ronnie Klotz, Antoine King, Elaine King, Karen van der Wath*

*Copyright (EU) – photographer: Eric Lee*

*Insert: Eric Barry*

### Asst/Treasurer: Ronnie Klotz

Ronnie obtained a B.Comm, CA(SA) from the University of Cape Town. He is a Chartered Accountant who was a partner with one of South Africa's largest Chartered Accounting / Management Consulting companies. Since retirement, Ronnie has volunteered his experience and skills in financial management, advising on financial matters, investment strategy and administration at various NGOs.

### Asst/Secretary: Elaine King

Elaine is a Chartered Secretary and has an MBA from the University of Newhaven. She has more than 25 years' experience in Finance and Programme Management in the private sector, international organizations, NGOs and government agencies. She managed the Climate Change Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded projects of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

## ABOUT US

We-Recycle was registered as a not-for-profit NGO in December 2016. We remove PET plastic bottles, cans and hard plastics (HDPE, LDPE, PP) from the solid waste stream so that less waste ends up in landfill resulting in a cleaner environment with less unsightly and unhealthy litter strewn around the island.

We-Recycle has a strong partnership with the Black River District Council and is contracted to collect the PET bottles from their 29 eco sites.

## FOOTPRINT

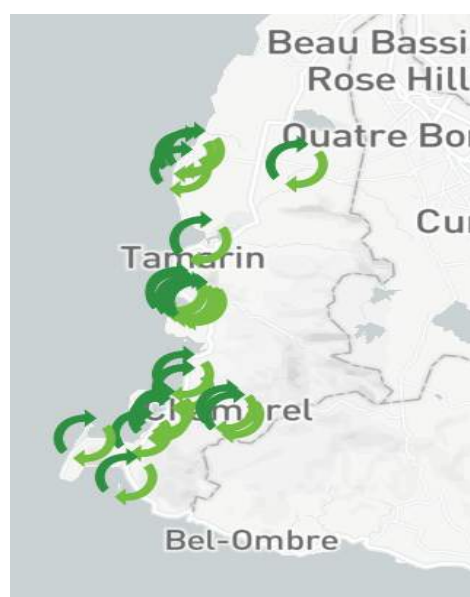
Our network of bins is located across the wider geographical spread in the west combined with the more densely populated urban centre of Mauritius, which reflects our strategic approach towards providing sustainable solutions to support the needs of local communities.

During 2020, we expanded our collectibles to include other recyclable plastics to ensure that as little residual material as possible is left to be disposed of.

We-Recycle further collects recyclables from 13 pairs of bins placed at selective bus stops in Black River and Tamarin emanating from the SPONSOR-A-BIN campaign launched in 2019, 6 hotels, 2 gated communities, 1 shopping mall, recreational facilities and restaurants.

## BIN LOCATIONS

The Black River District Council's 29 eco-bins can be seen on the map below and can be found at Richelieu, Petite Riviere, Albion, Gros Cailloux, Bambous, Beau Songes / Cascavelle, Flic-en-Flac, Grande Riviere Noire, Tamarin, La Gaulette, Case Noyale, Chamarel and Le Morne.








## SECTION 2: SUSTAINABILITY

### OPERATIONS AT A GLANCE

We-Recycle is an acknowledged specialist in the field of collecting plastic for recycling. With our dedicated team, tireless volunteers and trusted collaborators, and one truck on the roads collecting recyclables, we are demonstrating that our Vision of making a sustainable future is indeed possible for all Mauritians.

<b>15+</b> <b>VOLUNTEERS</b> 	<b>1</b> <b>VEHICLE</b> 	<b>45+</b> <b>COLLECTION POINTS</b> 
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### COLLECTIONS DURING 2020

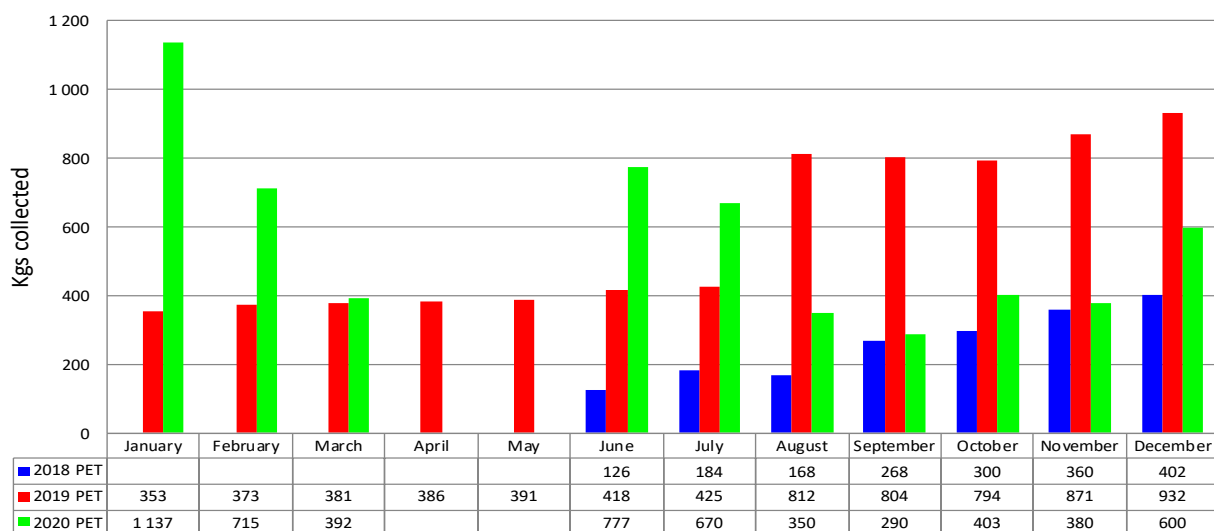
During 2020 We-Recycle collected 9 205 kgs (2019: 9 712 kgs) of PET bottles, cans and other plastics and sent it for recycling instead of landfill, avoiding approximately 8.8 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per annum using Defra's 2020 carbon emission factors. During 2018 1 808 kgs of PET bottles were collected.

Collections during 2019 increased tremendously. In December 2019, We-Recycle collected 932 kgs of PET plastic, 144 kgs of cans and 571 kgs of other plastic (HDPE, LDPE, PP).

This was surpassed in January 2020 when We-Recycle collected 1 137 kgs of PET plastic as can be seen in the graph below.

However, this growth was short lived as Covid-19 slowed down collections and then brought it to a halt during April and May 2020. Once the government-imposed lock down was lifted, We-Recycle resumed collection activities in June 2020 in compliance with the protocols set by the government to ensure the safety of workers collecting recyclables.

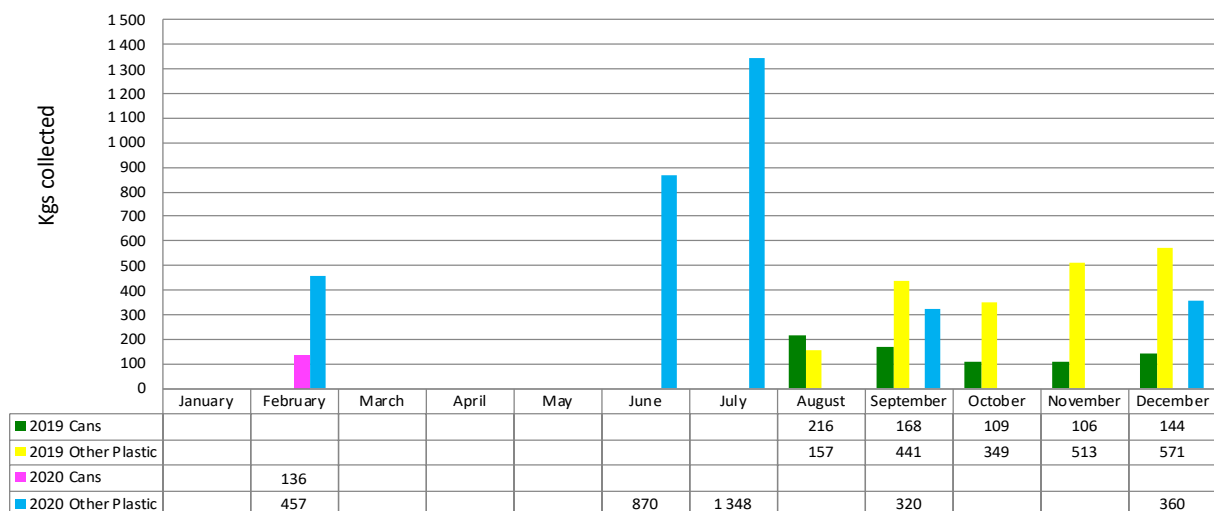
**We-Recycle**  
**Total PET Bottles Collected: 14 462 kgs**  
**2018 - 2020**



The recyclables that piled up at homes were placed in the eco bins, giving rise to collecting 777 kgs and 670 kgs of PET plastic during June and July 2020. Some hotels closed down as international tourists were not allowed into Mauritius for the remainder of 2020.

The collection of cans and other plastics were very sporadic as can be seen in the graph below as the main source of these recyclables were consumption at hotels which were closed during 2020 since lock down.

**We-Recycle**  
**Total Cans & Other Plastic Collected: 6 263 kgs**  
**2019 - 2020**





## SECTION 3: SNAPSHOT OF OUR ACTIVITIES

### BRINGING OUR MISSION TO LIFE



**Jan-Dec 2020**

**Flic en Fet monthly flea market**

Partners: Flic en Flac community, Zero Waste

We know that change starts at home – and that genuine engagement and working in partnership with the communities in which we operate is an important part of our path for the future. Flic en Fet supports small business owners who bring their art and craft products, home-baked cakes, paintings, etc. to sell.

Zero Waste focus on educating the public on a zero waste lifestyle approach, whilst We-Recycle informs on recycling best practices and collects recyclables brought by the public.



**Jul-Aug 2020**

As our contribution to the MV Wakashio's cleanup, We-Recycle donated 30 kgs of bottles to make the floating booms that contain the leaked oil. Our team also took away the recyclable plastic waste remaining at the storage site after the cleanup was completed.



## 26 Sep 2020 World Cleanup Day

An annual global social action program aimed at combating the global solid waste problem. As part of Black River District Council's 2-month cleanup campaign, We-Recycle was requested to design signage to raise awareness of the waste crisis.



## 14 Oct 2020 Recycling bin at Schools

We-Recycle's venture into education begins with the delivery of the first recycling bin at BPS Beau Bassin. This marks the start of the collaboration with PhoenixEarth to raise environmental awareness of our youth on recycling in particular PET bottles and aluminium cans.

## 18 Oct 2020 Joint Ministry of Tourism European and Union Delegation-hosted public sensitization event, Mon Choisy

At this this event which focused on protecting the marine eco-system, including mangroves, We-Recycle had the opportunity to showcase our educational, collection and recycling activities, at the same time supporting the Tourism Authority in delivering sustainable messages.

<https://mbcradio.tv/article/le-journal-t%C3%A9l%C3%A9vis%C3%A9-octobre-18-2020>







**25 Oct 2020**

### **Family Fun Day, Flic en Flac**

Our young Ambassadors provided information to the public on recycling best practices and raise awareness of the importance of recycling. Our team encouraged people to respect the environment by making use of the rubbish bins available to dispose of their non-recyclable waste. 10 kgs of plastic bottles were collected by We-Recycle at the end of the day.

**7 Nov 2020**

### **InterUniversities Digital Solutions Challenge.**

First Prize awarded for We-Recycle's app designed by Team RessRekt.



**11 Dec 2020**

### **Delivery of PhoenixEarth ecobin at SuperU Cap Tamarin**

Launch of new collaboration model between producer, distributor and NGO to help boost recycling volumes in Mauritius. We-Recycle will keep data on the volumes of plastic PET bottles and cans recycled/carbon emissions avoided.



**Jan-Dec 2020**

### **Citadelle Native Re-Vegetation Project**

We-Recycle supplies 2L PET bottles at the beginning of each planting season to irrigate the native trees to be replanted. This is an ongoing partnership between We-Recycle and Friends of the Environment (FoE) to reinstate the original vegetation which was a dry forest. The ultimate goals for this restoration project are biodiversity recovery, environmental protection, enhancing human well-being and ecotourism. <https://foecitproject.com>



## OTHER COLLABORATIONS

<b>February 2020</b>	<b>Georgetown University USA</b>
The MA candidates were working with Global Technology and Environment Foundation USA to develop a strategy for corporate investments in PET recycling for Sub-Saharan Africa. The collaboration seeks to identify the gaps/opportunities foreseeable in PET Recycling investment and map out strategic investments for corporations in PET recycling.	
<b>June 2020</b>	<b>World Without Waste Due Diligence Project</b>
We-Recycle participated in a due diligence project with Ethical Trade Services Africa Ltd, Nairobi, Kenya related to the Coca-Cola Company's World Without Waste programme. The project seeks to identify the most prevalent type of collection system in Mauritius, its legal framework, map relevant key stakeholders in the recycling value chain and identify the key challenges in solid waste management that affect the PET recycling value chain.	
<b>July 2020</b>	<b>University of Stellenbosch Business School, Cape Town, South Africa</b>
The purpose of the project was to enable its MBA students to learn from what We-Recycle does to fulfil its mandate. The result of this study to be published in a research report by the University of Stellenbosch Business School and made available to the community of academics and professionals with an interest in the roles of Non-Profit Organizations and their stakeholders in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).	
<b>September 2020</b>	<b>University of Mauritius/National Social Inclusion Foundation</b>
We-Recycle was invited to participate in the study entitled "Capacity Assessment of the NGO Sector in Mauritius" to assess the present capacities of NGOs and classify them according to a framework that will facilitate and meet the funding requirements.	
<b>November 2020</b>	<b>Circular Design Workshop and Exhibition – Ellen McArthur Foundation, B-Corp, The Good Shop, and The British Council</b>
This event, organized as part of the Ellen McArthur Foundation Circular Economy Pioneers Network, spans ten African countries and aims to foster collaboration amongst key players to bring forward innovative initiatives to promote circular thinking and design. The overall aim is to raise awareness, motivate and develop an action plan through strategic connections and work sessions. We-Recycle was able to initiate future collaborations with participating SMEs (e.g. training program for the non-formal education network), recyclers and corporates to move from being a collector to be a circular economy practitioner.	
<b>December 2020</b>	<b>"SigneNatir" Community Initiative led by Business Mauritius</b>
We-Recycle participated in this Forum for Recycling and Circular Economy organized as part of the environmental and social pact "SigneNatir". The mission of "SigneNatir" is to ensure that the business community adheres to some or all of the initiative's commitments to the circular economy to make Mauritius more respectful of people and environment.	
<b>December 2020</b>	<b>Consultative Workshop on National Environment Policy and Launch of the Human Development Report 2020 organized Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change and UNDP</b>
As a stakeholder, We-Recycle participated in the consultations and pre-validation exercises of the recommendations arising from the December 2019 'Assises de l'Environnement' and post-Assises working sessions on the 10-year Master Plan for the Environment.	



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Income Statement for the year ending 31 December 2020	31/12/2020 Rs	31/12/2019 Rs
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3 756 876</b>	<b>1 458 228</b>
<b>Main sources of funds</b>		
CSR - Private sector *	3 661 606	1 084 218
Fundraising	0	270 700
Other	95 270	103 310
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>523 389</b>	<b>1 245 565</b>
<b>Operating costs</b>		
Bins & Consumables	48 502	108 410
Contractor costs	352 700	209 050
Electricity	4 884	92 047
General expenses	54 538	22 921
Management and administrative HR	0	0
Rent	2 500	29 500
Vehicle expenses (fuel, insurance, maintenance)	60 265	103 037
Sub-total	<b>523 389</b>	<b>564 965</b>
<b>Capital expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>680 600</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>3 233 487</b>	<b>212 663</b>

\*Inclusive of The Coca-Cola Foundation sponsorship for 2021

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2020	31/12/2020 Rs	31/12/2019 Rs
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Motor Vehicle	554 811	695 712
Equipment	69 167	89 916
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors and Prepayments	15 769	19 294
Cash and bank	3 482 005	248 518
	<b>4 121 752</b>	<b>1 053 440</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accumulated Fund	4 121 752	1 053 440
	<b>4 121 752</b>	<b>1 053 440</b>