

# Clean Up the World 2008

## Overview

CLEAN UP THE WORLD is an event which was initiated in Australia in 1989 by Yachtman Ian Kiernan, and since then has won universal acceptance and is celebrated all over the world during the month of September. Over the years there have been an increasing number of countries participating in this activity. Since the first campaign in 1993, Clean Up the World has inspired an estimated 35 million volunteers in 120 countries each year.

CLEAN UP THE WORLD is a community based environmental campaign that inspires and empowers communities from every corner of the globe to clean up, fix up and conserve their local environment. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with CLEAN UP THE WORLD brings businesses, community groups, schools and governments together in a range of activities and programs that positively improve local environments.

Clean Up the World weekend, celebrated globally on the 3rd weekend in September is the Campaign's flagship event of the Clean Up the World Campaign. Clean Up the World encourages its member organisations to organise an event on, or around, Clean Up the World Weekend and to think of ways to engage the community in long-term environmental initiatives.

## **Clean Up the World in Mauritius**

In Mauritius, clean up the world was first organised in 1993 by CLEAN UP THE WORLD – MAURITIUS in collaboration with Ministry of Environment. The clean up the world campaign was held during the weekend 18 and 19 September 1993 whereby several spots were identified and cleaned with the collaboration of volunteers, NGO's and all the concerned authorities.

## **Theme of Clean Up the World 2008**

In 2008, the Clean Up the World Weekend will be held on *week end 19-21 September* and the theme for this year is: *“Start Today, Save Tomorrow: Clean Up Our Climate.”*



The 2008 Clean Up the World theme "**Start Today... Save Tomorrow - Clean Up our Climate**" reflects the need for local communities to Clean Up Our Climate by getting involved in activities such as protecting water sources, energy conservation, education programs, planting trees, walk to work days and waste reduction projects.

Although climate change can seem like a complex issue, there is a wide variety of simple actions that every individual and community can take to make a difference. In 2008, Clean Up the World is encouraging and supporting participants to take action at a local level to help address this very global issue.

### **Activities organised for Clean up the World 2008, in the local context**

This year's activities are being marked by two main national events:

- 1) Mon-Choisy public beach on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2008, whereby clean up and sensitisation activities is being held.
- 2) Bois Cheri on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2008, whereby clean up and sensitisation activities is being held.

In addition, a general clean up and tree planting activity is being organised around the island. This activity will be organised by the local authorities in collaboration with Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Youth and

Sports, together with NGOs, the force vives and youth associations under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment & NDU.

Moreover, Beach Authority will undertake clean up of the following beaches: Sable Noire, Belle Mare and Blue Bay.

### **Environmental Tips**

- Do not throw rubbish along the road, on bare lands and in any water course (river, canal, etc).
- Encourage local people for the need to have a clean and healthy environment.
- Recycle waste food into compost for your garden.
- Clean up any place you have used for camping, picnicking and fishing. Bring your litter back home.
- Do not burn your waste. The burning of plastics in the open air may lead to the formation of noxious fumes e.g. dioxins.
- Use long lasting bags such as "tente vacoas" instead of plastic bags which are non-biodegradable products and may remain intact for hundred of years in the soil.
- Glass, metals, paper, plastics, textiles, used motor oil, wood can be reused.
- Set up watch groups in your area to prevent dumping of waste and report to police the matriculation number of any vehicle contravening to law by dumping waste.