SOUFRIÈRE MARINE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION INC.

MPA Management Updates

Initiatives underway at SMMA Inc. — October 2026



SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

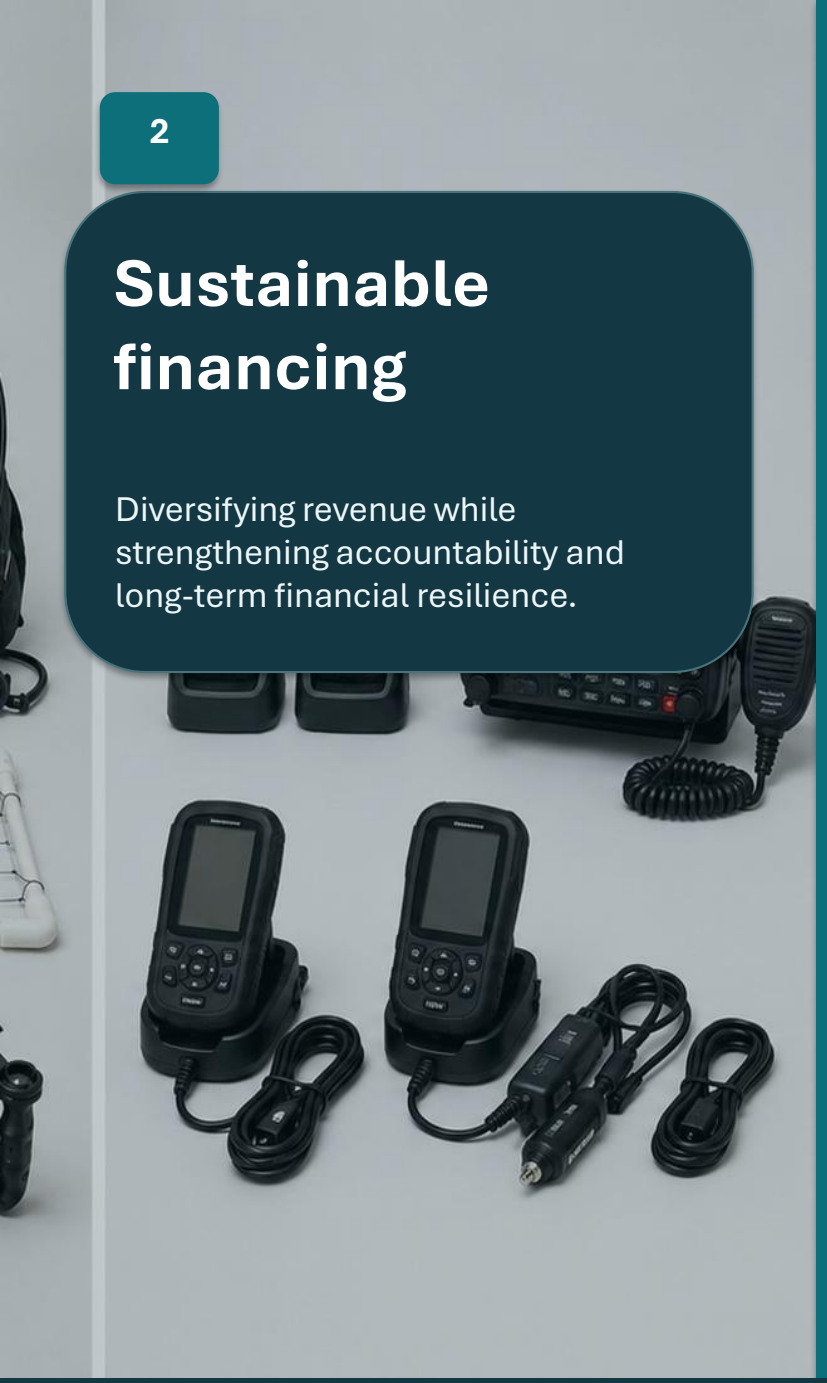
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Conservation delivery • resilient financing • managed marine use • stakeholder participation

Source: SMMA strategic & operational documents



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Sustainable financing

Diversifying revenue while strengthening accountability and long-term financial resilience.

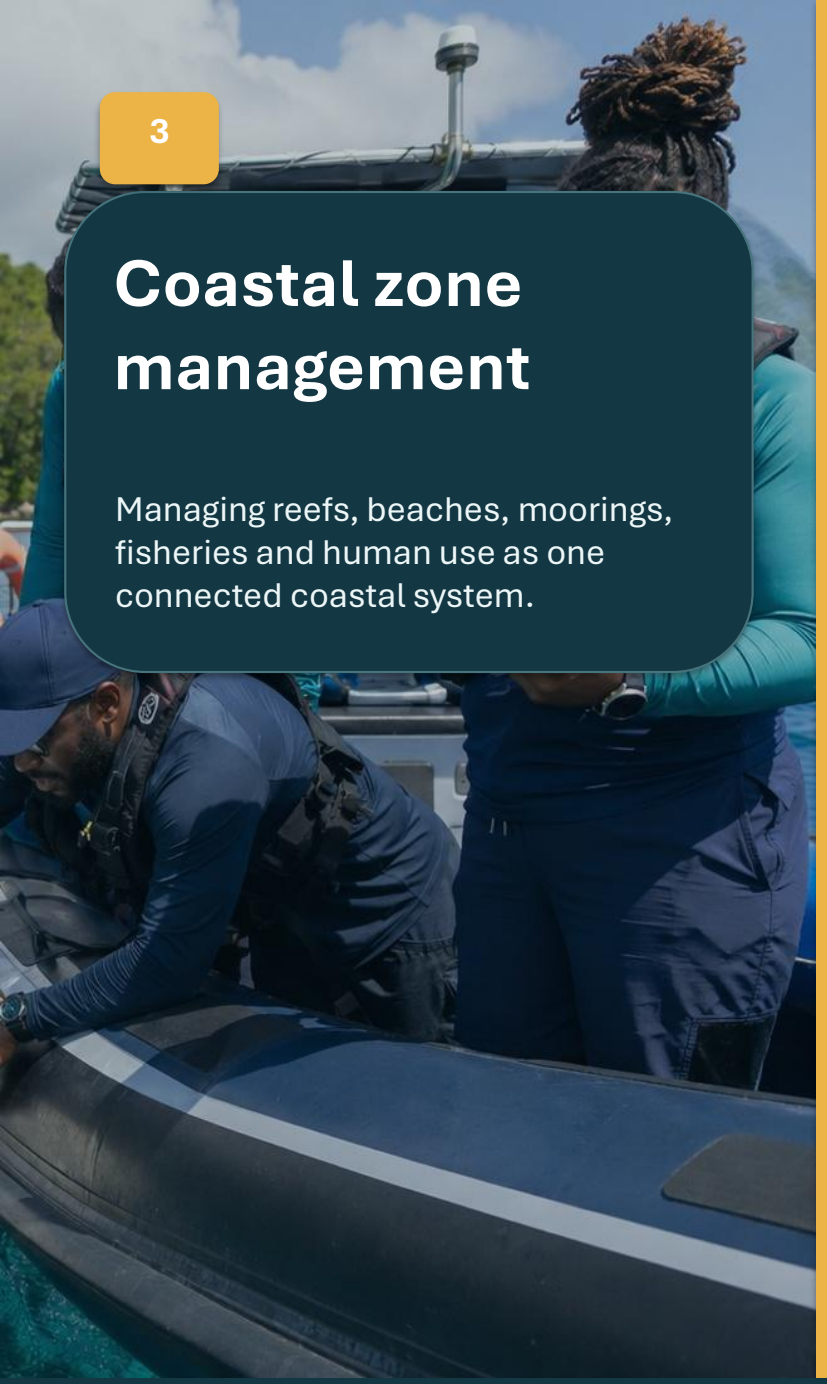
WHAT IS UNDERWAY

- Target at least 85% user-fee compliance and separate entrance, mooring and other revenue streams more clearly.
- Advance BlueFIN digital payments, with REEF Support favoured for lower cost and direct merchant-account potential.
- Develop grant financing for vessel replacement, conservation and marine-management capacity, including JICA and FISH ADAPT.
- Strengthen sponsorship, donation, CSR, audit and Board financial-reporting controls.
- Provide monthly management reporting to the Board of Directors.
- Progress the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 financial audits.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Reduces dependence on a single source of income.
- Improves transparency, accountability and donor confidence.
- Provides more reliable funding for moorings, patrols, reef monitoring and visitor management.

Source: Operational Work Plan 2026; September 2026 ED Report



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Coastal zone management

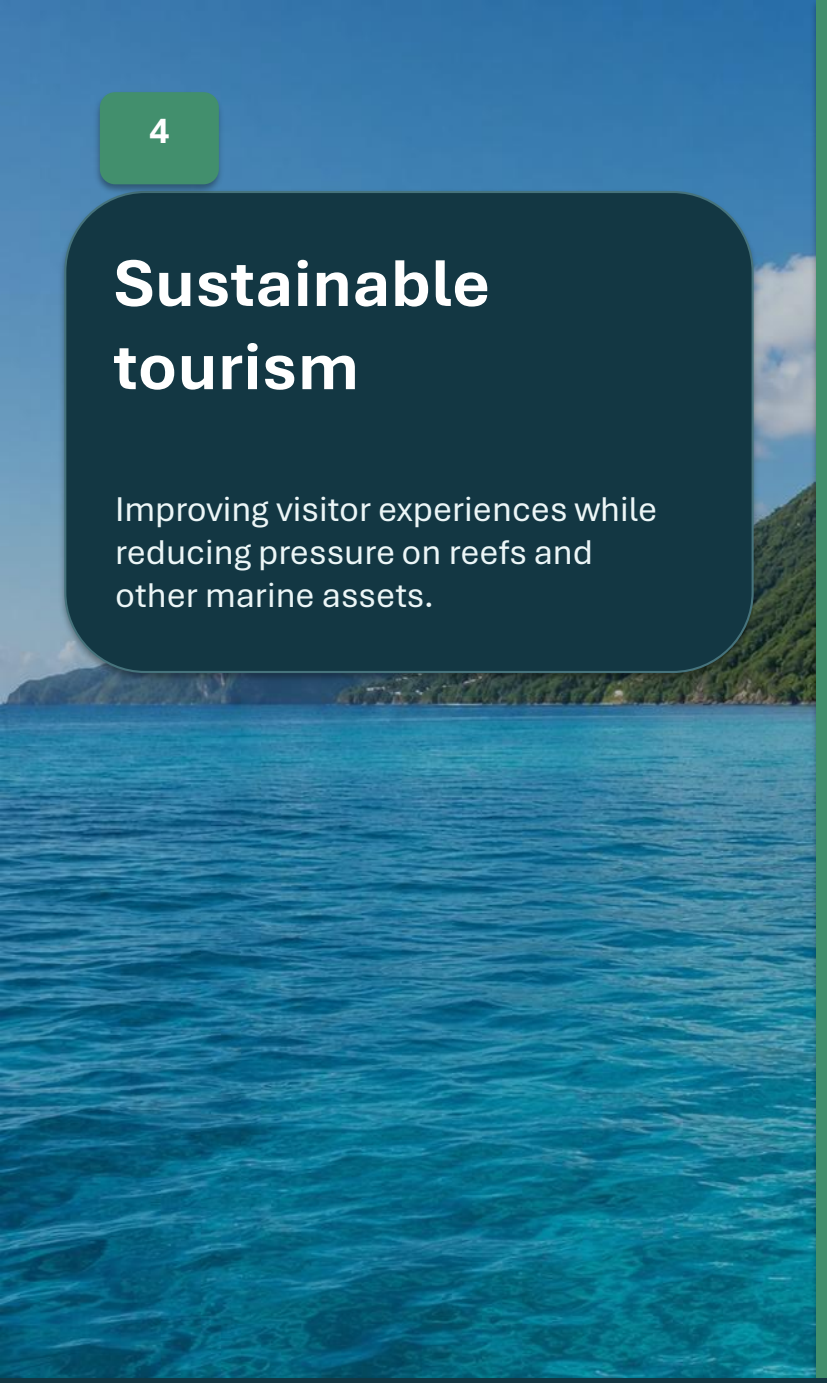
Managing reefs, beaches, moorings, fisheries and human use as one connected coastal system.

WHAT IS UNDERWAY

- Use the Marine Conservation Programme and Action Plan as an implementation dashboard for protection, monitoring and compliance.
- Combine conservation-hotspot inspections with routine reef monitoring and stronger incident documentation.
- Review mooring locations and use in the Fishing Priority Area with fisherfolk, Fisheries and SLASPA.
- Complete SMMA's five-year Management Plan as the overarching protected-area management framework.
- Expand the mooring network through SLUNCF support, improving managed access and reducing anchoring pressure.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Protects fishing access while accommodating legitimate tourism and marine uses.
- Improves zoning, mooring standards, maintenance, identification and compliance.
- Supports evidence-led, ecosystem-based and precautionary management.



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Sustainable tourism

Improving visitor experiences while reducing pressure on reefs and other marine assets.

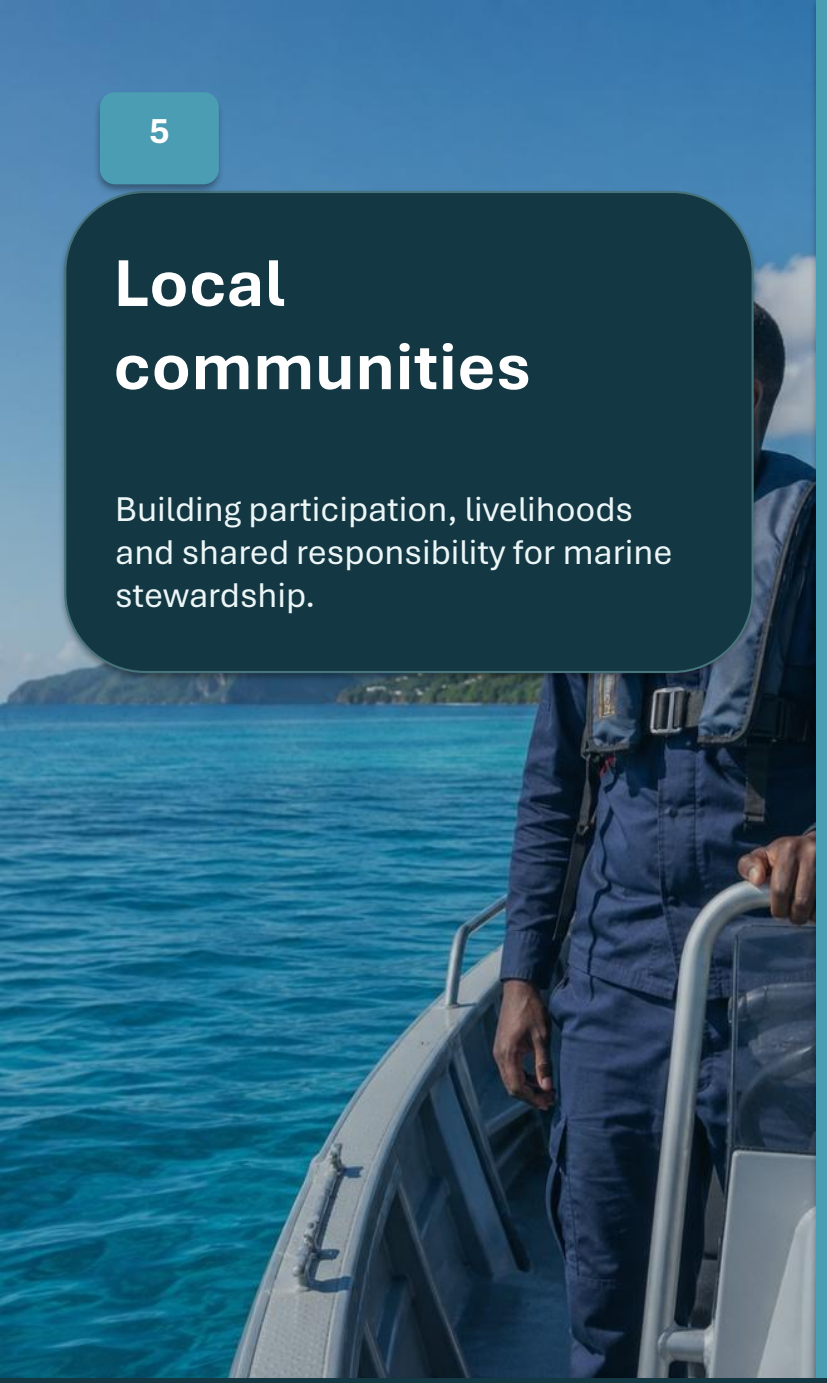
WHAT IS UNDERWAY

- Work with the Ministry of Tourism and partner agencies on management arrangements for the Underwater Sculpture Park.
- Participate in yacht-services planning for Baron's Drive and use yacht / super-yacht data to guide management and revenue decisions.
- Implement a Filming Authorization SOP and proposed fee schedule for commercial activity in the managed area.
- Advance the Reef Restoration and Sustainable Tourism Partnership concept linking coral recovery, visitor experiences and operator contributions.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Moves visitation toward controlled, conservation-compatible use.
- Creates tourism-sector contributions to conservation and recurring maintenance costs.
- Protects the quality of diving, snorkelling and yachting experiences.

Source: September 2026 ED Report; Reef Restoration & Sustainable Tourism Concept Note



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Local communities

Building participation, livelihoods and shared responsibility for marine stewardship.

WHAT IS UNDERWAY

- Introduce a structured outreach planning, budgeting and evaluation system for community programmes.
- Support coastal-cleanup activity with SMMA vessel and land-transport resources.
- Build fisherfolk engagement into mooring and Fishing Priority Area reviews.
- Expand public education on MPAs, reefs and marine conservation, with youth and stakeholder participation.

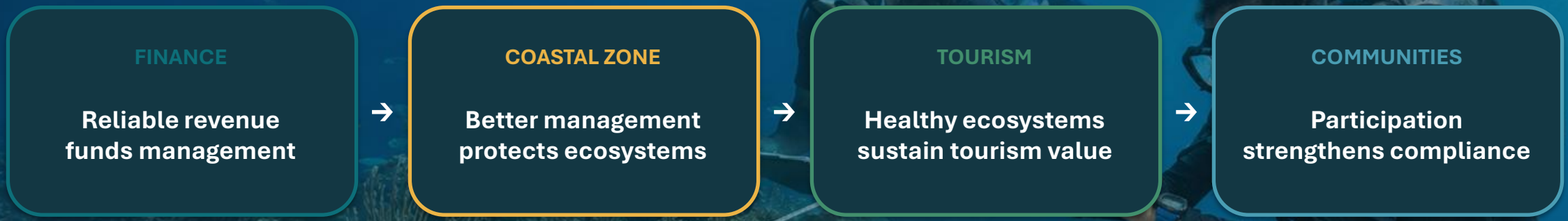
WHY IT MATTERS

- Strengthens local ownership of MPA rules and conservation outcomes.
- Improves conflict resolution among fishers, tourism operators and other users.
- Supports livelihood resilience through sustainable tourism, fisheries recovery and training.

BRINGING THE FOUR AREAS TOGETHER

One integrated management model

Finance enables management, healthy ecosystems sustain tourism, and community participation strengthens stewardship and compliance.



NEXT PHASE Move from plans and pilots to measurable implementation: finalize financing, strengthen legal and inter-agency frameworks, operationalize tourism agreements, and sustain community participation.

Source: Synthesis of SMMA strategic and operational documents