

SARSEA

HIGH LEVEL KICKOFF CEREMONY



SARSEA KICK-OFF MEETING

OCTOBER 28, 2025
BAY GARDENS HOTEL, SAINT LUCIA

Time	Discussion/Item
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	■ Welcome and registration of participants
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	■ Welcoming remarks ■ Dr. Didacus Jules, Director General, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) ■ H.E. Mrs. Marie-Noëlle Duris, Ambassador of France to the Eastern Caribbean States, Barbados, and the OECS ■ H.E. Mr Arnaud Mentré, Ambassador-at-large in charge of regional cooperation in the Atlantic zone, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Ministry of the Overseas, France ■ PANEL 1: Shaping the Future of Sustainable Sargassum Management: SARSEA Partner Country Perspectives ■ Facilitator: Jane Nurse, Sargassum Valorisation Project, Ministry of Blue Economy and Marine Affairs, and Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy, Grenada ■ Hon. Alfred Prospere, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development, Saint Lucia ■ Hon. Lennox Andrews, Minister for Economic Development, Planning, Agriculture and Lands, Forestry, Marine Resources, and Cooperatives and Minister for the Blue Economy and Marine Affairs, Grenada ■ Hon. Saboto Caesar, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour, St. Vincent and the Grenadines ■ Hon. Julian Defoe, Minister of State in Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Blue and Green Economy, Commonwealth of Dominica ■ COFFEE BREAK ■ PANEL 2: Regional Collaboration: Challenges and Opportunities under the SARSEA project

Time

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Discussion/Item

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

■ Lunch

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

■ Presentation of the SARSEA project including the Collective Scientific Assessment

Questions and comments

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

■ Coffee break

4:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

■ Conclusions and next steps

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

■ Discussion about the coordination mechanism on sargassum initiatives (reduced format)

6:30 p.m.

■ Cocktail at the French Residence hosted by the French Ambassador

- Facilitator: Mrs Anne-Laure François, SARSEA Team Leader, Expertise France
- H.E. Arnaud Mentré, Ambassador-at-large in charge of regional cooperation in the Atlantic zone, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Ministry of the Overseas, France
- Dr. Sylvie Gustave-Dit-Duflo, Vice Presidente for the Guadeloupe Region
- Mrs Susana Aguero, Program Manager, Delegation of the European Union to Barbados, the Eastern Caribbean States, the OECS, and CARICOM/CARIFORUM
- Official launch of the SARSEA project**
Video presentation of the SARSEA project
- Mr Marc Dubernet, Regional Director, Atlantic Ocean, of Agence Française de Développement
- Mr Chamberlain Emmanuel, Head, OECS Environmental Sustainability Division
- Mrs Mathilde De Williencourt, Deputy Director, Sustainable development department, Expertise France
- Signing of partnership agreement: OECS - Expertise France
- Press conference with Her Excellency Ambassador Marie-Noëlle Duris, His Excellency Ambassador Arnaud Mentré, the OECS Commission's Representatives, high-level representatives of the four beneficiary countries, and Dr. Gustave-dit-Duflo for the Guadeloupe Region
Press conference will be held at 12:15 p.m.