

Waste management

UniSey and ETH students confront waste

On Monday, 18 University of Seychelles and 18 ETH-Zürich students launched their three week research project on waste management in the Seychelles. To provide insight on how waste is managed currently, Lemmy Payet, a consultant for Landscape and Waste Management Authority (LWMA), organised a site visit to five waste sites on Mahé.



Lemmy Payet shows the students around on Providence Landfill II.

Contributed by Pius Krütli

Students from both universities found the size of the Providence landfills shocking. But what was more astonishing was the rate at which they are being filled. The latest landfill, called Providence Landfill II, is estimated to reach its capacity in just six years, which differs from the original design of lasting for 10 years.

However, after seeing these landfills, students saw sites where important work was being done to lower the filling rates.

They attended the Samlo & Sons and Surya scrap metal yards, as well as Harini's PET and aluminium processing facilities. There, operators and owners demonstrated how they could squeeze out value from waste while saving the rapidly filling landfills from reaching capacity.

The site visits demonstrated the clear need for waste management improvements. The students are now excited to jump into their research to see the ways that waste can be diverted from the landfill and to improve the environmental health of the Seychelles.