



## **Best Practice Workshop – 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2022**

- Tourism being the main industry in Seychelles, we were doing very well pre-covid with over **380,470** in arrival (2019) with Europe being our strongest markets.
- The first case of Covid-19 arrived in the Seychelles mid-March 2020 by travelers coming in the country
- Seychelles being a small country with 97,000 in population, we were vulnerable.
- The government took the decision to close the airport in April 2020 and it stayed completely close for 3 months after which in August 2020 a red/green countries list was set up and reviewed every few weeks.

### *Measures put in place*

- The Tourism department created a dedicated website where all visitors could obtain updated information.
- Any local/resident coming back to Seychelles had to stay in designated quarantine facilities.
- The first community transmission in the Seychelles came in December 2020 – the population was able to avoid encountering the virus for a long time.
- The Seychelles government took bold and calculating steps to open the destination.
- 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021, National COVID-19 Immunisation Campaign is launched in the Seychelles.

Seychelles aims to be the first country in the world to vaccinate 70% of the over 18 years of age population to achieve herd immunity.

Seychelles is the first country in Africa to vaccinate the population.

To date 80% of the Seychelles population has been vaccinated.

- 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022, Seychelles opens to the world, no matter what your vaccination status is.
- Very simple procedures for entry into the Seychelles.

PCR test done 72 hours before travel

Covid insurance for your trip

Permission to enter Seychelles through the Health Travel Authorisation website.

Due to the successful handling of the pandemic and the ongoing positive results we are well on our way to recovery and forecast to meet the arrival target we were at in 2019.

The tourist office has re-started various marketing and PR campaign on the markets with several trade shows, workshops, consumer promotions, Press & Fam Trips organized.