

## COTER Seminar

The Outermost Regions : an opportunity for Europe. Test Stations for Innovative Projects

### Outermost Regions : Sentinels of Europe ?

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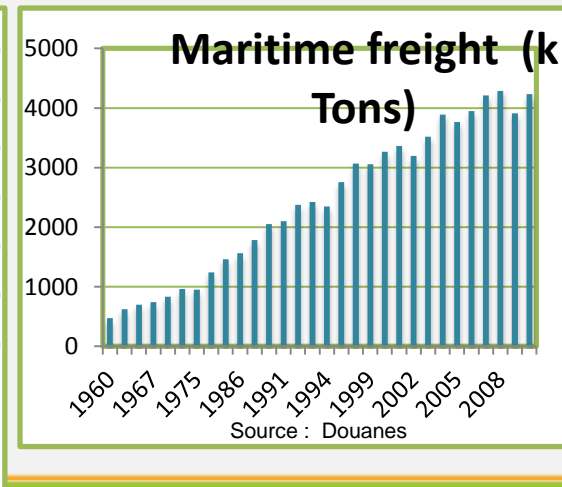
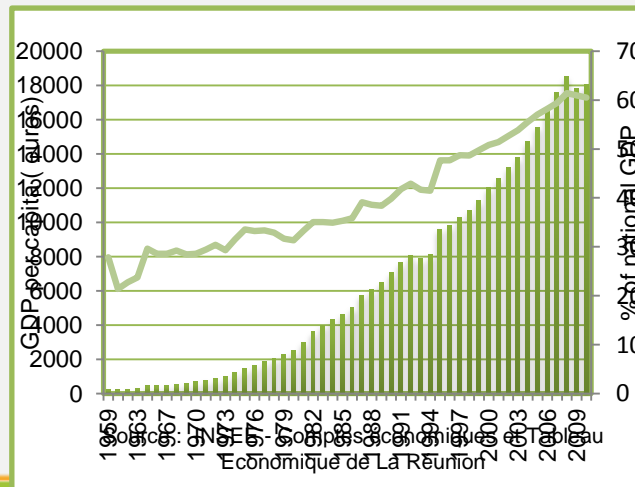
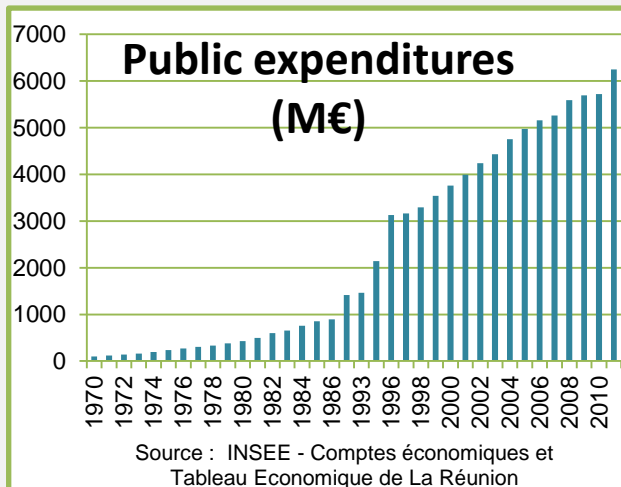
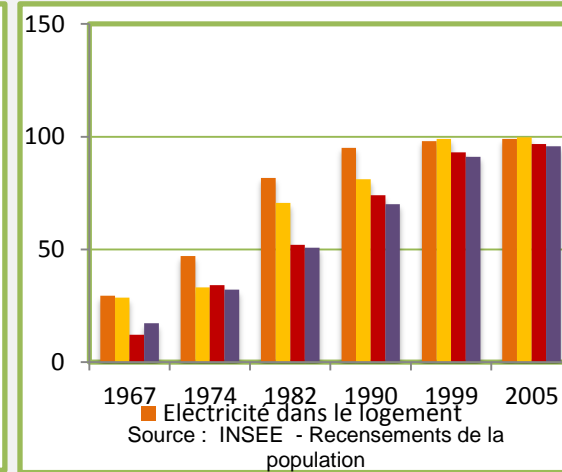
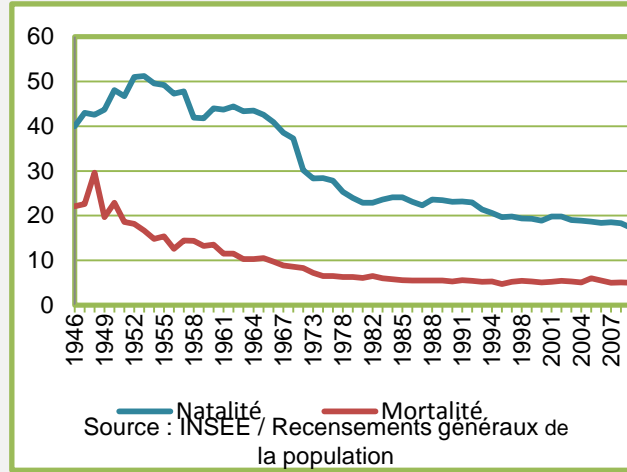
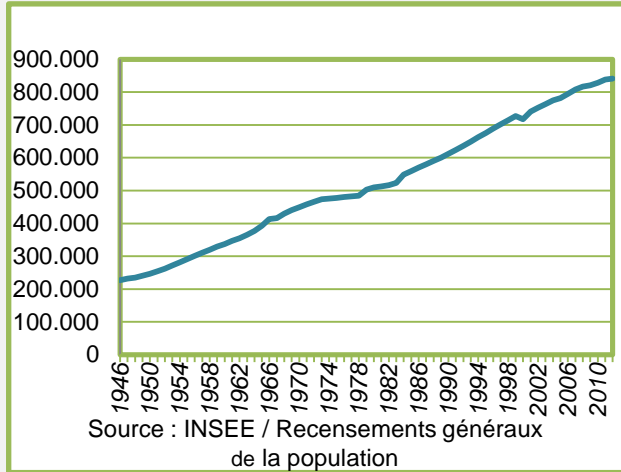
# Outermost Regions (OR), Success Stories or Vulnerable Economies ?

- When we look at the framework into which OR evolve :
  - ✓ **Risk** : natural, geopolitics,
  - ✓ **Constraints** : size, location, space, remoteness from core
  - ✓ **Pressure** : population on a small area
  - ✓ **Challenges in the future** :
    - new paradigms and the end of some safety net : the road to globalization
    - Asymmetric Economic shocks : OR are small open economies and share the same challenges as Small Island States. Vulnerability with regard to some trade agreements
    - Risks and Systemic Constraints : small is beautiful but also fragile and bad habits
- We can see OR like success stories...but are **these processes eternal or non sustainable** ? Let's take the showcase of La Reunion



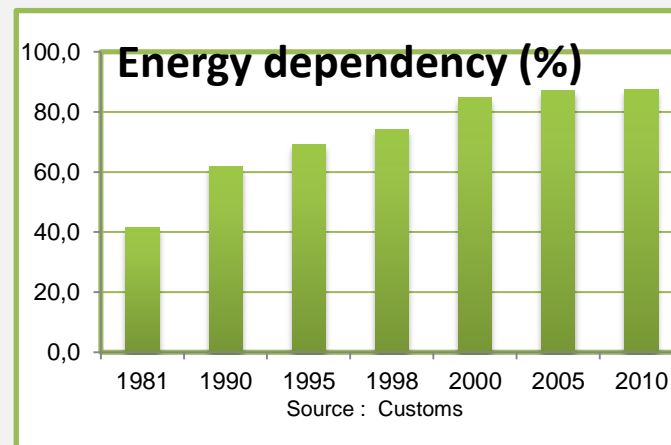
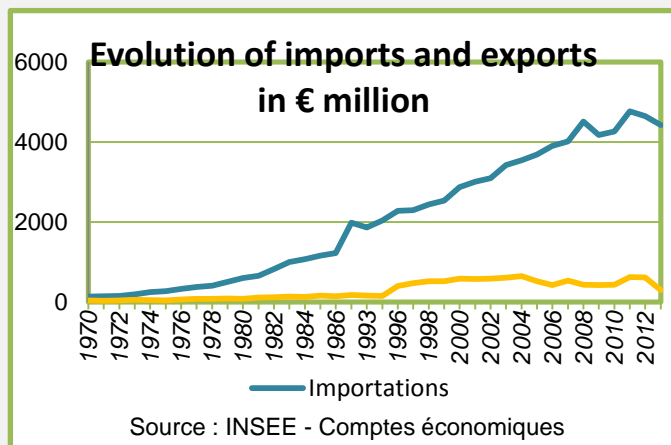
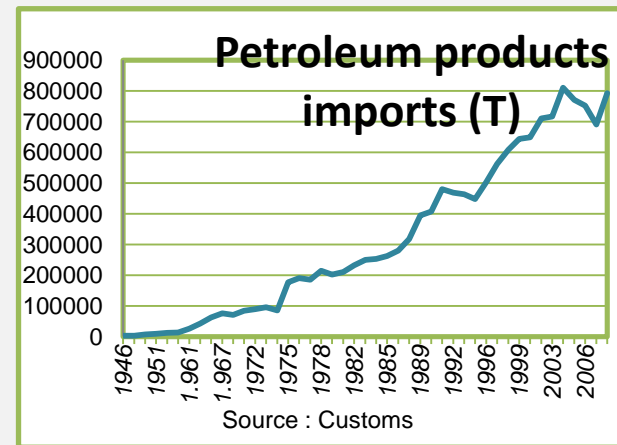
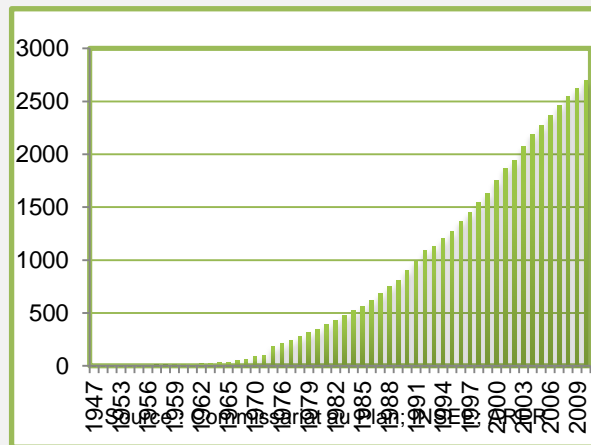
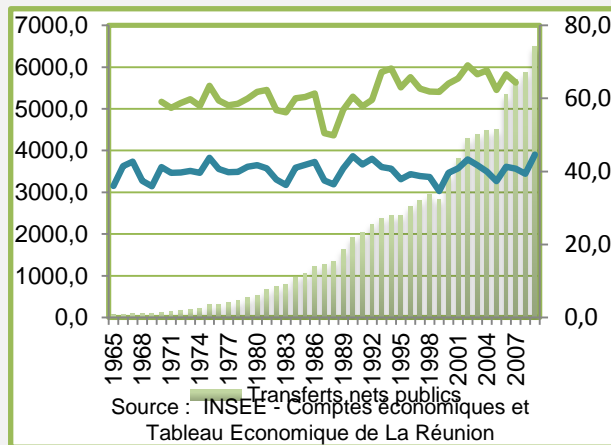
# **The puzzle case of La Reunion : 50 years of Great Transformation**

# Charts of the Success Story



**A great transformation or an ambiguous  
convergence based on a vulnerable process?**

# A vulnerable & non sustainable process



# From dependency to vulnerability

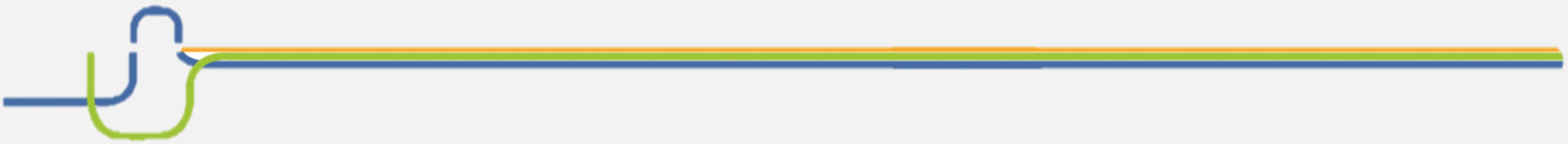
The **metabolism of Reunion** is sustained by imported flows Energy

- **Matter**
- **Money**

Which **support the growth of its population and economy...**

... and in the same time

**worsens our dependence** regarding to these flows



# We are at a turning point

## Growth drivers...

Demography

Energy & material  
flows

Public  
funding

Import - substitution

Limited carrying  
capacity

Global ecological  
crisis

European  
economic crisis

Market saturation

High density

Peak oil

Austerity  
measures

Free-trade  
agreements

...Are Major Threats





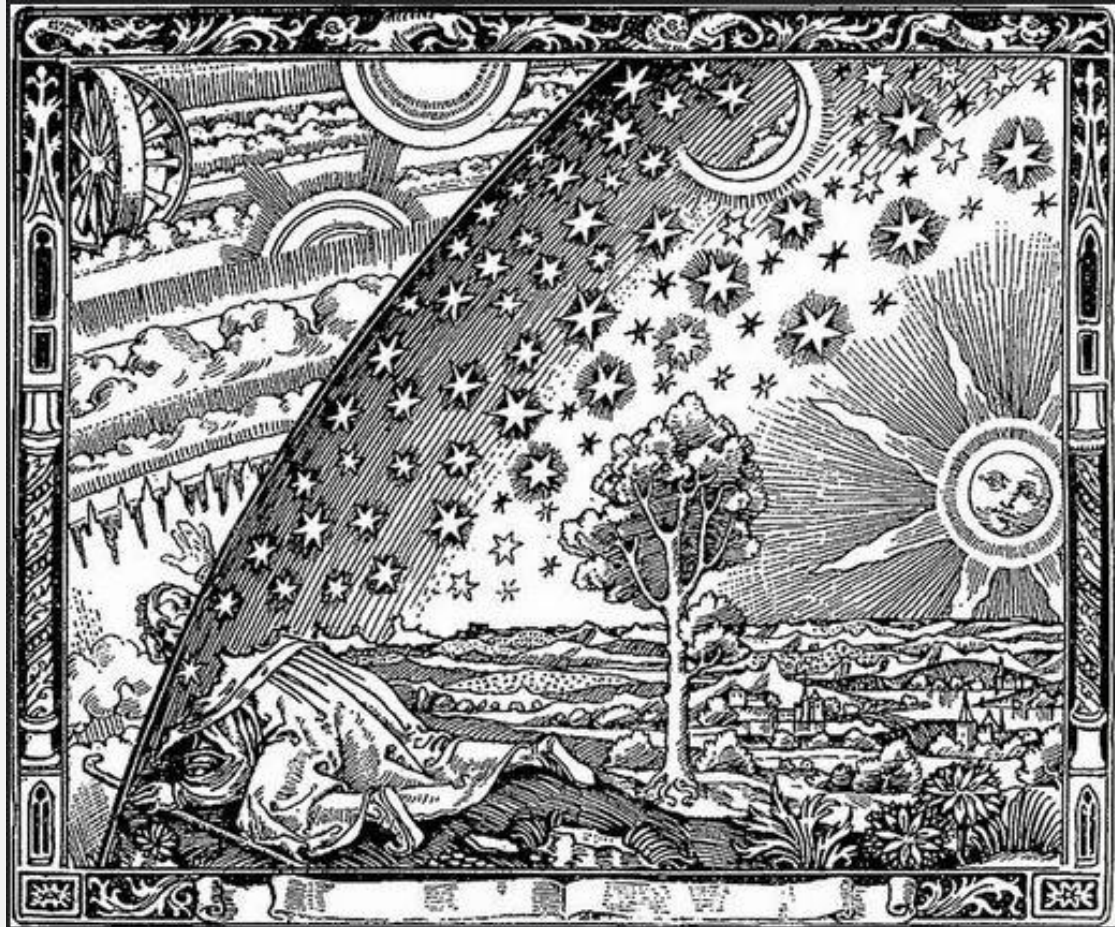
# Beyond 2020

## New challenges, opportunities & ambition !

- **WE HAVE TO CHANGE**

- To project our lands in the middle of this century
- To face the new challenges : next cohesion policy and new paradigms : climate change ; health ; digital era
  - To Turn constraints into opportunities :
    - **BUT HOW ?**

# A solution : THE Paradigm shift



# A solution : changing representations

The current crisis stems from **the transposition of the Fordist model**, a **standard unsuitable for a small island** :

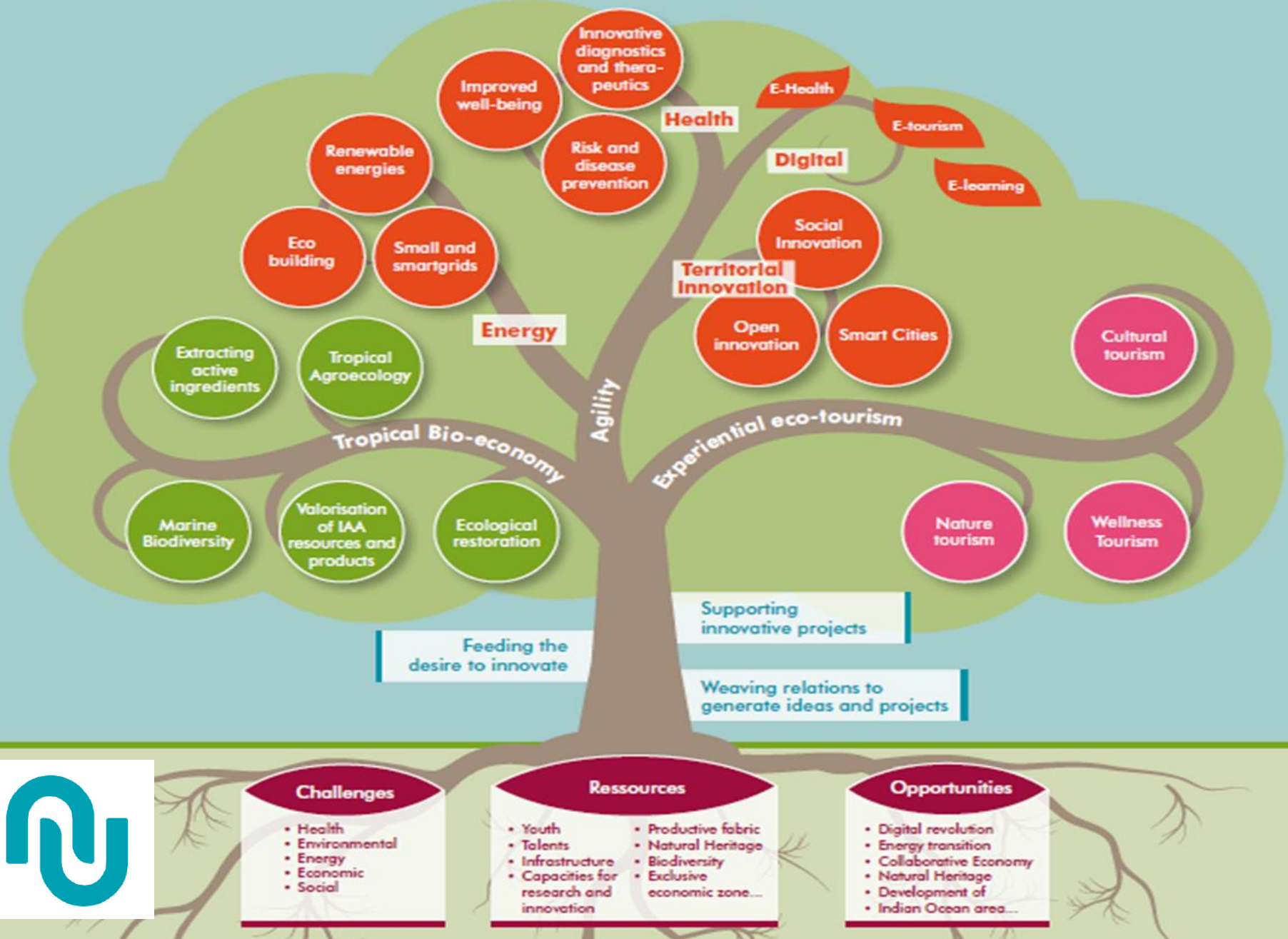
- **Dependent economies of scale**, it turns our physical characteristics into handicaps
- **Based on fossil energies**, it ignores the ecological inscription and impact of economic activities
- **Focused on GDP**, it ignores the high social value activities

# A solution : Pursuing and Deepening the RIS3

## How to change the mindset ?

- **Zero Absolute Advantage is not a fatality !** : « impossible is just a word and not a fact »
- **Pursuing and Deepening the RIS3** = A « Master Transformation Plan »
  - to **built a resilient territory** in reducing dependency and vulnerability through innovations
  - to **prioritize and to concentrate** the scarce resources on a **selected number of sectors i-e Strategic Business Units** allowing to set up **new activities to build competitive advantages**
- **Becoming « THE territory of »**

## TRANSFORMING LA REUNION





# Tropical bioeconomy



- Ecological conservation/restoration
- Tropical agro-ecology
- Marine biodiversity
- Biodiversity extracts : solutions for health
- Digital and health

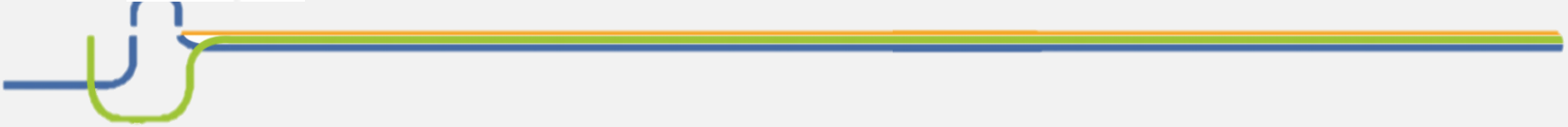
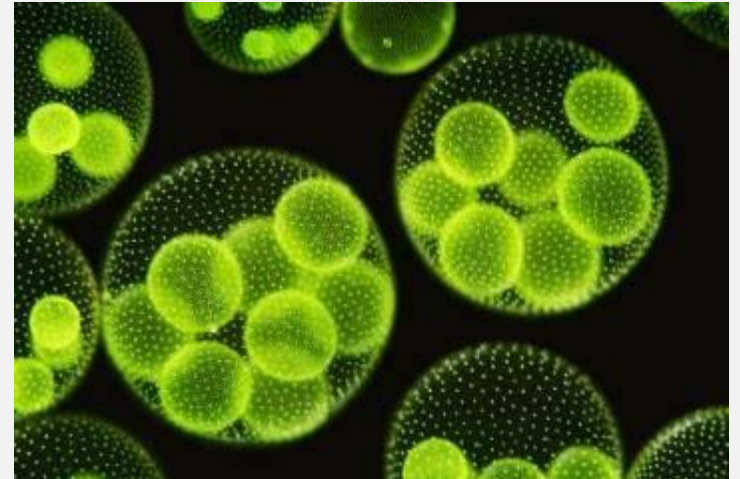


# A Platform for Energy Transition

## In isolated and remote areas



- Tropical constructions and global efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Smart grids
- Circular economy
- Transports and EV



# How Reunion Island drives energy transition ?

- ✓ **Two goals** : Electricity transition (2030) and Energy Transition (? Transport)
- ✓ **OP-2014-2020 aim** to boost the production of RE, to increase the energy efficiency, production (firms and social households), develop the use of public transports. But new context implies bigger ambition
- ✓ EU energy policy and France new ambitions imply new targets are implemented to :
  - **Increase all tools producing and distributing RE**:Swac, Biomass, Biogaz, and solar-autogrids
  - **Support energy efficiency** based on : solar water and inclusive households policies, LED public lights, energy efficiency for economic sectors, development of EV using RE
  - **Boost the sustainable mobility** : cable, soft, stations
  - **Support investment in R&D and innovative projects** using new tools
  - **Mobilize the Task Force** to focus & unlock some key points to allow more consistency energy policies at the different levels and to speed up the implementation of the decisions and investments





# Conclusions

## Outermost Regions, The « Sentinels» of Europe !

- ✓ C. CRETU (12/4/18, Lux) : “no Region is immune from today’s and tomorrow’s challenge”
- ✓ So, **building resilience is not a choice but a unambiguous** goal for OR
- ✓ WHY NOT ? : based on local assets (location, biodiversity, maritime area) to anticipate global challenges to develop solutions for a post-fordist era towards small territory and the emerging World
- ✓ **Change our mindset** : OR are lands of investments and opportunities and not only of spending
- ✓ OR = **The Real Frontier of Europe for several issues and to provide smart solutions to face** : disease challenges, ecological transition, energy solutions to tackle climate change, downsizing models built for big area, waste management in circular processes, societal challenge in area under social pressure
- ✓ OR = **sentinels platform of the Odyssey into the future**

Thank you for your attention!