

Hi Folks

The Sustainable Seas Trust together with their SEA Pledge Coastal Road Tour will be visiting St Francis on Monday 21 November 2011. A public presentation will be given at the Ski Boat Club at 18h00 on Monday night and all are welcome to attend. There is no charge for entry and a cash bar will be available.

[The SEA Pledge Coastal Road Tour is visiting St Francis 21 November 2011](#)

[The Sustainable Seas Trust's \(SST\) SEA Pledge Coastal Road Tour is rapidly gaining support for its messages of marine conservation. The campaign, which commenced in Port Elizabeth on 12 October, will see the SST team visit over 28 coastal towns on its way from Sodwana to Saldanha.](#)

With the impending *COP 17* climate change convention set to occur in Durban this month (28 November – 9 December), the aim of the SST SEA Pledge Coastal road Tour is to illustrate to all South Africans the impact that we are having upon our oceans and the environment, as well as the importance of us living sustainable lives. SST aspires to collect pledges from all of South Africa in which people undertake to set and achieve goals that will reduce their negative environmental footprints and increase their positive environmental hand prints.

PORT Elizabeth and the Eastern Cape are leading the way in an historic new initiative to promote sustainable use of our coasts and oceans, and thereby to combat climate change. The Sea Pledge Crusade team launched on Wednesday Oct 12 2011 at Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber, and rolled out immediately thereafter to take their message to 28 coastal towns. “We’re taking this thing by the scruff of the neck and aim to show how PE and the Eastern Cape can solve the problems of Africa and the world by people coming together in a huge positive crusade to change the future.”

The Sea Pledge message is premised on the fact that the oceans produce more oxygen and absorb more carbon dioxide than even the forests, and are home to the richest diversity of species on the globe, he explained. “It is the oceans too that drive climate and weather patterns, cause the floods and droughts.”

The Sea Pledge is aimed at alerting people about climate change and Cop17, at getting signatories for a petition which will be presented to the UN, and at obtaining commitments from a wide range of coastal users to reduce their impact on this key part of our world. It will also be used to collect voluntary donations, which will be used to build Sustainable Education and Skills’ Centers. These centers will create opportunities for indigent coastal communities to move away from their present unsustainable harvest of marine resources, which is wrecking eco-systems, driving species into extinction and increasing poverty, he said.

The pledge mission is a project of the NGO Sustainable Seas’ Trust, of which Ribbink, a senior South African marine biologist based at Rhodes University, is director. “The plan is that the pledge will be launched on December 3 at the Cop talks”, he said, “thousands of people will exchange pledges: yachts will sail to meet others, divers will exchange pledges underwater, surfers will do the same in the surf and also aim at

breaking records and putting on a stunning show. "Kite boarders will exchange pledges in the air above the sea, swimmers in huge numbers will also pledge support as will beach walkers, anglers, shipping companies, coastal municipalities, environmental agencies, hotels, restaurants, fish markets and many more."

Kind regards

Jacky

**SUSTAINABLE SEAS TRUST
AND SEA PLEDGE**

OCEAN CONSERVATION THROUGH
A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE



PORT ST FRANCIS SKI BOAT CLUB

Pledge to live a sustainable life & help others do the same



**PRESENTS
THE
BLUE PLANET COASTAL SEA PLEDGE TOUR
FOR
21ST NOVEMBER AT 18H00**

Join Dr. AJ Ribbink, founder of the African Coelacanth Ecosystem Programme, presenter to the United Nations and invited speaker at the World Climate Forum, to learn about what you can do to help South Africa's coasts and oceans

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

Ocean conservation through a
sustainable lifestyle



COASTAL ROAD TOUR

Your Future and Our Coasts and Oceans

Presented by

Dr. AJ Ribbink

Founder of the African Coelacanth Ecosystem Programme, presenter to the United Nations and invited speaker at the World Climate Forum

The SEA Pledge Team is taking COP 17 to coastal South Africa and will be in your town. Learn about what YOU can do to help South Africa's coasts and oceans!

18h00: Monday 21 November 2011

Ski Boat Club at the Port, Port St Francis



Making a difference starts with you!

For more information look us up at sst.org.za or join us on Facebook and Twitter.

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