

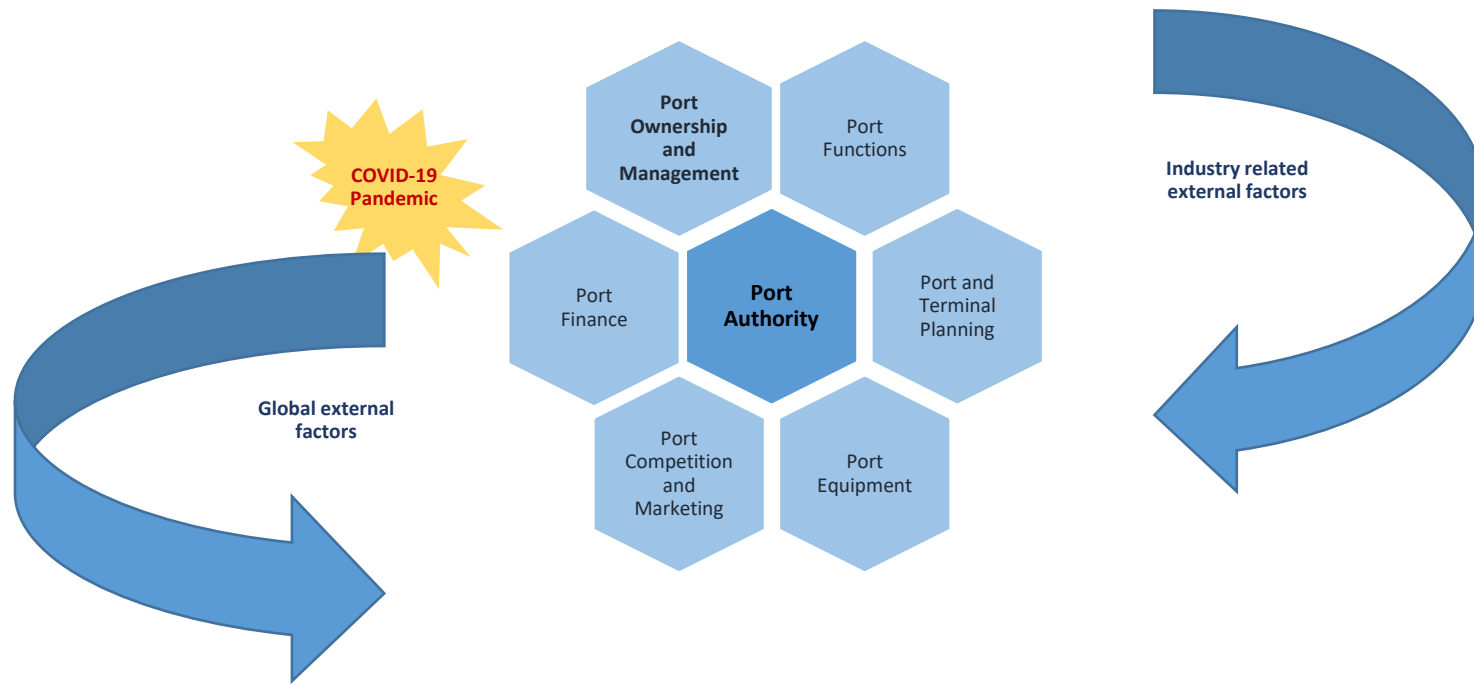


**WOMEN IN LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORT IN THE
INDIAN OCEAN WEBINAR**

**COVID-19 DRIVEN NEW NORMAL -
IMPACT ON PORT ACTIVITIES**

JULY 2021

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE PORT



- Resilience of the Port being put to test
- Only commercial gateway opened for international trade
- Even more vital for SIDS
 - 99% of total imports & exports transit through Port-Louis
 - Strategic products such as foodstuffs, sanitary and pharmaceutical items, petroleum products transit through the port

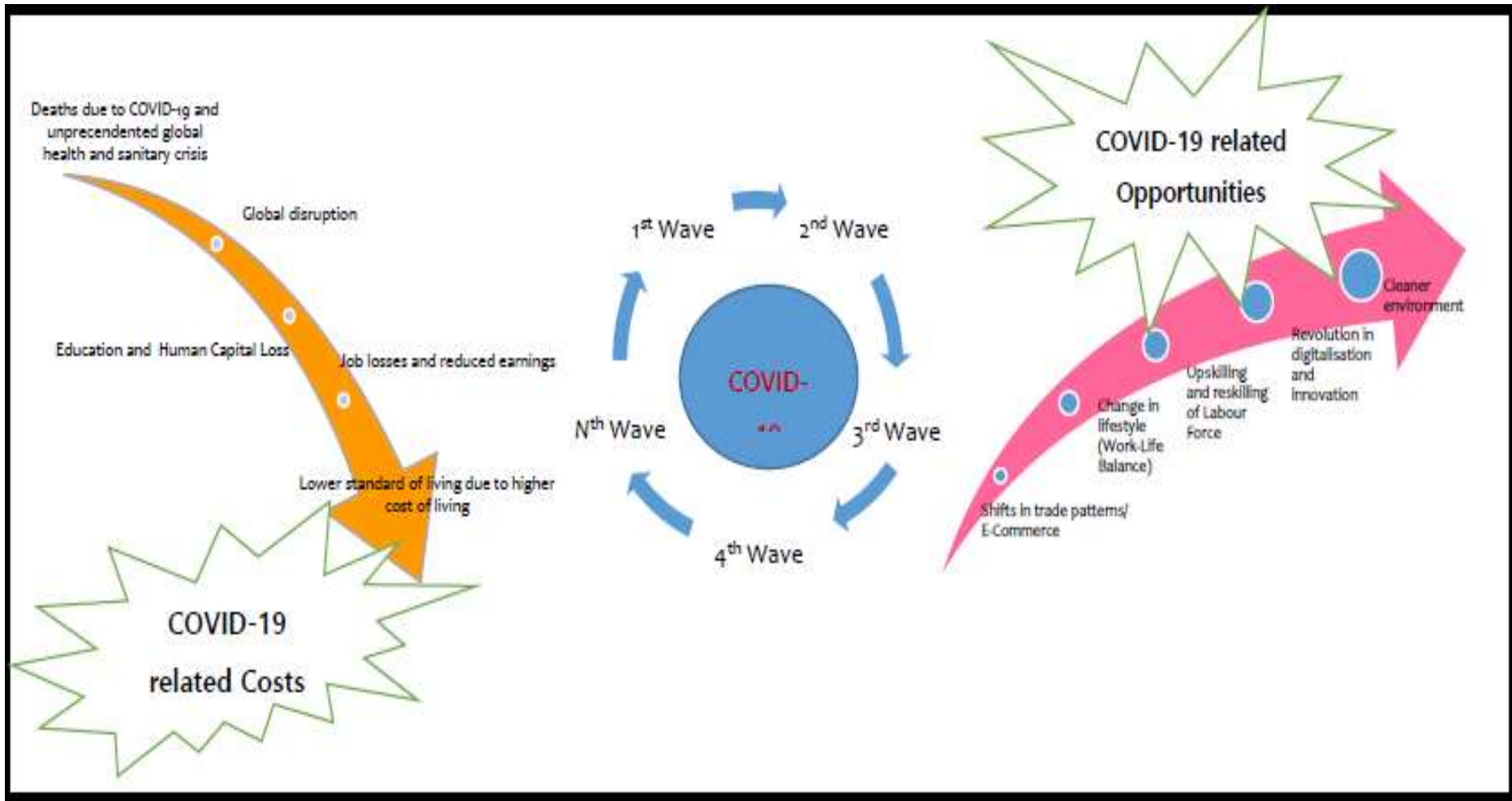
CHALLENGES IMPOSED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Disruption in the global logistics supply chain and service delivery
- Slump in Port traffic in 2020
 - Total Cargo Traffic 13% ↓
 - Captive Container Traffic 11% ↓
 - Vessel Traffic 21.5% ↓
 - Cruise Traffic 50% ↓
- Shipping Lines rerouting their vessels to other ports
- Delays in imports schedules. Importers having their cargo unloaded at other ports
- Export sector affected by erratic vessels' schedules
- Soaring freight rates
- Risk of infection among port workers thereby affecting port operations
- Reluctance of port employees to be vaccinated

HOW CHALLENGES WERE ADDRESSED

- Port remained opened on a 24/7 basis
- Change of operational shift pattern from 3 shifts of 8 hours to 2 shifts of 12 hours to limit mobility of port workers
- Non-operational employees encouraged to work from home
- Persuasive vaccination campaigns. As at date more than 65% of MPA personnel are vaccinated.
- Strict sanitary and hygiene protocols were observed
- Grant of incentives to shipping lines encouraging them to reinstate their activities at Port-Louis.
- Incentives to local trading partners in order for their products and services to remain competitive

COVID-19 - BOON OR BANE



COVID-19 RELATED LESSONS & OPPORTUNITIES

- Business Process Re-engineering leading to reduced cost of operations
- Increased use of digitisation and innovation in service delivery
 - Maritime Single Window
 - Cloud computing
 - Employee self service system
 - E-payment system for port services
- Increased use of on-line meetings limiting interactions. Training being dispensed on-line
- Adapting some features of port infrastructure such as the forthcoming Cruise Terminal Building.
- Rethinking of the Port Development Programme with some projects being postponed
- How to maintain sustainability of Port operations
 - Introduction of vaccination requirements for employees and contractors working in the Port area
 - Monitoring of access to port operational areas

THANK YOU