

Noël Mône, Fontanel & Mône Ltd co-founder and CEO

Fontanel & Mône Ltd is a property development company that has its origins in France but set up operations in Mauritius 2 years ago. Thanks to a culture of integrity and accountability, it has managed to develop a vast network locally.

Interview of Noël Mône, Director.

Could you introduce us to your company?

Fontanel & Mône Ltd is a property development company born out of a partnership between Gérard Fontanel, CEO of Fontanel Promotion, a promoter in Lyon - France, and myself, Noël Mône, CEO of Amone Group, a specialist in property development.

The Mauritian company draws on the wealth of invaluable experience acquired by Fontanel Promotion during some 20 years spent building facilities at the heart of cities, hotels and housing, and AMONE Group in property development and the set-up of property projects. Our approach consists in expanding our property development activity based on two core competencies: a plurality of location choices and construction quality.

It also includes engaging, right from the design stage, all the players involved in our projects, such as banks and hotel operators.

What added value does your company bring to the property market in Mauritius?

Before the creation of Fontanel & Mône Ltd, I spent 1 year travelling to and fro between France and Mauritius to familiarise myself with the Mauritian legal framework and property market and better serve our future customers.

As soon as I was settled in Mauritius, I applied a methodology that had been time-tested in France. I studied approximately hundred pieces of land for sale and met with numerous professionals in order to work with the best locations and partners.

Location is crucial. The environment must provide unique and rare advantages, and the zone must be undergoing urban densification for the property to appreciate in value.

After these 2 years spent prospecting and looking for partners, I approached one of the most well recognised and respected hotel groups of the island, VLH, itself belonging to one of the Top 5 Groups of Mauritius: ENL Group (also the country's number 1 player in property development).

This collaboration led to a "Heritage Villas Valriche – Fontanel & Mône Ltd" co-promotion development on the grounds of the Heritage Bel Ombre estate: **"Maison Edouard."**

What are the specific characteristics of this "Maison Edouard" programme?

"Maison Edouard" is located at the heart of the Heritage Bel Ombre estate. An estate straddling sea and land and home to the historic Château de Bel Ombre.

From "Maison Edouard"'s 11 villas, guests can access at will an exceptional natural reserve classified as biosphere reserve by UNESCO, the lagoon of the Heritage C Beach Club or an 18-hole golf course voted for the 5th consecutive year the most beautiful course of the Indian Ocean, as well as all of the 5* hotel services provided by VLH.

The villas have been designed and developed in collaboration with VLH, the estate's hotel management and our French architect, Alain Gourdon, in order to present customers with a luxury villa fit to be included in any rental management company's pool of short-term rentals.

To ensure the optimum quality of our programme, we chose to work with the best talents Mauritius and France have to offer, and this at all levels: legal, financial, technical and architectural design, construction, insurance and control.