

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>RECOMMENDATION A : Reinforcing International Co-operation on Human Rights through Greater Commitment to Universal and Regional Human Rights Treaties and Greater International Engagement for Promotion and Protection of Human Rights</p>		
<p>1. Compilation of human rights treaties to which the Republic of Mauritius is a State party shall be made available on Government website.</p>	<p>List is available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade website: http://foreign.govmu.org as well the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms.</p>	<p>Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade</p>
<p>2. Studies shall be conducted to determine which Human Rights treaties, not yet adhered to, can be ratified or acceded to. Reasons why a particular instrument is not adhered to shall be made public.</p>	<p>Though we are not party to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Mauritius has abolished the death penalty by way of the enactment of the Abolition of Death Penalty Act in 1995. A three-quarter vote in the National Assembly is required for the amendment of constitution in Mauritius, which is currently not available to abolish death penalty.</p> <p>Though Mauritius is not proposing to accede to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, again in view of being already a densely populated island, we do however ascertain the principle of non-refoulement and treat requests for refugee status or political asylum on a humanitarian, case-to-case basis by facilitating their re-settlement in a friendly country willing to grant them refugee status. In this respect we work closely with the Office of High Commissioner for Refugee.</p> <p>It is practically for the same above-mentioned reasons, Mauritius does not plan to accede to the Statelessness the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. It is to be noted Section 11 (4)(b) of the Mauritius Citizenship Act provides that "<i>The Minister shall not deprive any person of his citizenship of Mauritius where it appears to him that the person would become stateless.</i>"</p> <p>The accession to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is presently not on the agenda of the State of Mauritius. Adequate avenues of redress already exist in our legal system. A person may have recourse to the provisions of chapter II of the</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms,</p> <p>Attorney-General's Office</p> <p>Prime Minister's Office</p> <p>Attorney-General's Office</p>

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	<p>Constitution, enter civil actions for damages in Courts, or make complaints to the various National Human Rights institutions and the Police.</p> <p>Though Mauritius is not a signatory to the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, Government as far as possible applies the essence of the Convention in cases of disputes between migrant workers and their employer. Migrant workers coming to Mauritius are allowed to come with their families, except for low skilled workers. The main reason is that Mauritius is geographically small and we are among the most densely-populated island state. In addition, the country has limited resources and will not be able to provide the core basic services that would be required. Hence, the ratification of the Convention is not envisaged at this stage.</p> <p><u>The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance</u> Mauritius does not envisage to accede to the International Convention for the protection of all persons from Enforced Disappearance as there are no cases of enforced disappearance being perpetrated or tolerated by the State.</p> <p><u>The African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance</u> The Government is presently considering the ratification.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>
<p>Mauritius shall consider making a declaration, under Article 34(6) of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights,</p>	<p><u>Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights- Article 34(6)</u></p> <p>There is no legal impediment for a declaration to be made permitting individuals and Non-Governmental organization access before the Court can receive petitions from them, as such declaration can be made by a State Party any time after ratification as provided under 34(6) of the Protocol. However, it is for the PMO to take a decision on this matter.</p>	<p>Prime Minister's Office</p>

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<p>accepting the competence of the African Court to receive cases instituted by individuals and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) with observer status before the Commission [under Article 5(3) of the Protocol].</p>		
<p>3. Reservations to human rights treaties shall, as far as practicable, be withdrawn. No reservations shall be made on ratification/accession of human rights instruments unless there are compelling reasons for doing so.</p>	<p><u>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</u></p> <p>Reservations made under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities cannot be withdrawn before the Disability Bill is enacted. The existing reservations will be withdrawn once the Disability Bill and Children’s Bill are enacted.</p> <p>Please note that the Disability Bill has been held in abeyance by Government in view of several constitutional, legal, technical and financial implications contained in the provisos. It has been decided that the implications are to be carefully studied and an action plan be drafted to implement the provisos, after discussions with all the stakeholders and with the cost, technical and legal implications and timelines included.</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Security is working with the State Law Office on this issue. Discussion with the State Law Office is still ongoing. The Disability Bill is still in process.</p> <p>The rights of a person with Disability is presently governed through 3 legislations, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Equal Opportunity Act 2) TEDP Act 	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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	<p>3) Building and Regulation Act deal extensively with the issue of discrimination against persons with “impairment”, employment of persons and construction of buildings to ensure that they are accessible to persons with disabilities respectively.</p> <p><u>The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</u></p> <p>The Reservations on Article 11, 24(2b) and 9. (2d) cannot be withdrawn before the Disability Bill is enacted.</p> <p><u>The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa</u></p> <p>On 16 June 2017, Mauritius acceded to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa subject to certain reservation.</p> <p>(i) The Republic of Mauritius declares that it shall not take any legislative measures under Article 6(b) and 6(c) of the Protocol where these measures would be incompatible with provisions of the laws in force in Mauritius;</p> <p>(ii) The Republic of Mauritius declares in relation to Articles 9 of the Protocol that it shall use its best endeavours to ensure the equal participation of Women in political life, in accordance with its Constitution;</p> <p>(iii) The Republic of Mauritius declares that it shall not take any measures under Articles 4(2)(k),10(2)(d) and 11(3) of the Protocol;</p> <p>(iv) The Republic of Mauritius declares that it shall use its best endeavours to achieve the aims in Article 12(2) of the Protocol, in accordance with its Constitution, and the accession to the Protocol should not be regarded as an acceptance of positive discrimination by the Republic of Mauritius; and</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</p>

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	(v) the Republic of Mauritius declares that it shall not take any measures under Article 14(2)(c) of the Protocol in relation to the authorisation of medical abortion in cases of sexual assault, rape and incest where the matter has not been reported to the police or where the pregnancy as exceeded its fourteenth week.										
<p>4. Studies shall be conducted on human rights treaties to which Mauritius is a State party with a view to making proposals on which provisions of those treaties are capable of being domesticated. Legislative measures shall be taken to bring domestic legislation in accord with human rights guaranteed in international instruments to which the Republic of Mauritius is a State party.</p>	<p>Mauritius is party to several conventions and treaties as shown in the table below and they have been domesticated in different pieces of legislation including the Constitution.</p> <p>*Consultations with all relevant Governmental Bodies are made on the treaties and the implementation of their recommendations.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Treaty/Convention</th> <th>Date of signature</th> <th>Date of ratification(r) / accession (a)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)</td> <td>-</td> <td>12 December 1973 (a)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPROP-1)</td> <td>-</td> <td>12 December 1973 (a)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Treaty/Convention	Date of signature	Date of ratification(r) / accession (a)	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)	-	12 December 1973 (a)	Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPROP-1)	-	12 December 1973 (a)	<p>Attorney-General's Office/ Relevant Line Ministries to take policy decisions and send drafting Document to NGO</p>
Treaty/Convention	Date of signature	Date of ratification(r) / accession (a)									
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)	-	12 December 1973 (a)									
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPROP-1)	-	12 December 1973 (a)									

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	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)	-	12 December 1973 (a)	
	International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)	-	30 May 1972 (a)	
	International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	-	09 July 1984 (a)	
	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW-OP)	11 November 2001	31 October 2008 (r)	
	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)	-	09 December 1992 (a)	
	Optional Protocol to the Convention against Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT- OP)	-	21 June 2005 (a)	

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	Convention on the Rights of the Child(CRC)	-	26 July 1990 (a)	
	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (CRC-OP-SC)	11 November 2001	14 June 2011 (r)	
	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (CRC-OP-AC)	11 November 2001	12 February 2009 (r)	
	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	25 September 2007	08 January 2010 (r)	
OTHER MULTILATERAL TREATIES				
	Treaty	Date of signature	Date of ratification (r)/ accession (a)	
	United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	12 December 2000	18 April 2003 (r)	

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	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational	-	24 September 2003 (a)	
	The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction	-	23 March 1993 (a)	
	Convention for the protection of individuals with regards to automatic processing of personal data (Convention 108)????????	-	17 June 2016 (a)	
III -REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS				
	Treaty	Date of signature	Date of ratification/ accession	
	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights	27 February 1992	19 June 1992 (r)	
	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	07 November 1991	14 February 1992 (r)	
	Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights	09 June 1998	03 March 2003 (r)	
	Protocol to the African Charter on Human and	29 January 2005	16 June 2017 (r)	

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	Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa			
	IV-INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW INSTRUMENTS			
		Treaty	Date Signed/ Acceded / Succeeded	Domestic Legislation enacted
	A.	The Four Geneva Conventions and their Protocols	Succeeded on 18 August 1970	Geneva Conventions Act
	1.	1949 Geneva Convention I for the Amelioration of the conditions of the Wounded and Sick in the Armed Forces in the Field		
	2.	1949 Geneva Convention II for the Amelioration of the condition of the Wounded and Sick and Shipwrecked members of the Armed Forces at Sea	Succeeded on 18 August 1970	Geneva Conventions Act
3.	1949 Geneva Convention III relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War	Succeeded on 18 August 1970	Geneva Conventions Act	
4.	1949 Geneva Convention IV relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War	Succeeded on 18 August 1970	Geneva Conventions Act	

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	5.	1977 Protocol I – Additional to the 1949 Geneva Convention relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflict	Acceded on 22 March 1982	Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Act 2003	
	6.	1977 Protocol II – Additional to the 1949 Geneva Convention relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts	Acceded on 22 March 1982	Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Act	
	B.	The Biological Weapons Conventions 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction	Signed on 10 April 1972 Ratified on 7 August 1972	Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Act	
	C.	Chemical Weapons Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production Stock-piling and Use of chemical Weapons and their Destruction	Ratified on 9 February 1993	Chemical Weapons Convention Act	
	D.	The CCW and its Protocols			

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	1.	1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain conventional Weapons (CCW) which may deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects	Acceded on 6 May 1996	The Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain conventional Weapons (CCW) which may deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects Act 2018	
	2.	1980 Protocol I on the Non- Detectable Fragments	Acceded on 6 May 1996		
	3.	1980 Protocol II on the Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-traps and other Devices	Acceded on 6 May 1996		
		Amended Protocol II on the Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-traps and other Devices (1998)	Acceded on 30 October 2018		
	4.	1980 Protocol III on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons	Acceded on 6 May 1996		
5.	1995 Protocol IV on Blinding Laser Weapons	Acceded on 6 May 1996			

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		Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War	Acceded on 30 October 2018		
	E.	The Ottawa Treaty 1972 Ottawa Convention on the prohibition of the Use of Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their destruction	Acceded on 24 December 2002	Anti-Personnel Mines (Prohibition) Act	
	F.	The Rome Statute 1998 Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court	Signed on June 1998 Ratified on 5 March 2002	International Criminal Court Act	
	G.	The Convention on the Rights of the Child The 2000 Optional protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict	Signed on 11 November 2001 Ratified on 12 February 2009		
	H.	Convention for the Protection of Cultural property in the event of Armed Conflict	Ratified on 22 December 2006		

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	I Arms Trade Treaty	Acceded on 23 July 2015	The Firearms Act (amended in 2016)
<p>5. With a view to ensuring timely submission of periodic reports to Human Rights Treaty Bodies, the preparation and drafting of periodic reports would be rationalized and systematized by entrusting this task to a Standing Technical Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Prime Minister's Office, who would also have the responsibility for the follow-up of recommendations/observations by those Bodies when they have examined periodic Reports by Mauritius.</p>	<p>A Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms has been set up in September 2017. The National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow Up ('NMRF') chaired by the Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms has been set up in December 2017 for that purpose.</p> <p>The National Recommendations Tracking Database is being implemented with the collaboration of the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights since July 2019.</p>		<p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms</p>
<p>6. The Government of the Republic of Mauritius shall where appropriate invite Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council, and the Special Rapporteurs of the African Commission, in order to better contribute to the progressive development of international</p>	<p>As regards the recommendation for the standing invitation to special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the Government would rather accept adhoc invitations at mutually agreed dates, as we have always collaborated on the visit of special rapporteurs in the past. This was also communicated to the Human Rights Council during the adoption of the outcome document for the Universal periodic Review. As such, recommendation made by member states on this aspect, was not supported.</p>		<p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms</p>

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human rights law by independent experts.	We do however accede to invitation requests from the Special Rapporteurs and AU Commissioners. With the setting up of the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms, such invitations will be better coordinated in the future.	
7. The Report of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture following its visit in Mauritius in 2007.	Due to security reasons, as at now, there is no policy decision to make the Report public.	Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues
8. The Government of the Republic of Mauritius shall explore measures of co-operation which can be taken with international organizations and other countries on human rights matters, such as the holding of regional workshops and joint research programs. It shall support international and regional initiatives aimed at better promoting, protecting and implementing human rights norms.	<p>In order to better promote, protect and implement Human Rights norms and activities, Government has been working in close collaboration with International Organisations, Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of High Commissioner for Refugees, NGOs and Civil society. Some of the activities conducted by ministries, departments, National Human Rights Institutions, the NMRF, as from 2015 onwards, is illustrated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A one-day Consultative Workshop was held on Thursday 10 December 2015 to have an interactive dialogue with Ministries/Departments, private sector, civil society's representatives and the National Human Rights Institutions, on the following 3 national periodic reports which Mauritius submitted to the respective Treaty Bodies, namely: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 4th periodic report on the Convention Against Torture (CAT); - The 5th periodic report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); and - The 6th-8th combined periodic report on the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR), which is being reviewed during this session. b) The Prime Minister's Office, in collaboration with the OHCHR and UNDP, organised a two-days' workshop with national stakeholders on Human Rights Indicators, on 21-22 September 2016 at the Gold Crest Hotel, Quatre Bornes. The objective of the workshop was to enable a better understanding, identification and use of Human Rights Indicators by the focal points in different Ministries/Departments and other stakeholders. 	<p>Prime Minister's Office;</p> <p>National Human Rights Institutions;</p> <p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms; and</p> <p>Other Ministries and Departments</p>

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	<p>c) The Commonwealth Secretariat (COMSEC) provided technical assistance for the inclusion of Human Rights Education (HRE) in the curriculum of secondary schools. The curriculum materials proposed by COMSEC was validated during a workshop was held in April 2015. A Toolkit for Educators was developed by COMSEC. The programme was implemented in 30 state and private schools, including one from Rodrigues since January 2016 in collaboration with PMO and COMSEC.</p> <p>d) A one-day Consultative Workshop was held in December 2016 to have an interactive dialogue with Ministries/Departments, private sector, civil society’s representatives and the National Human Rights Institutions, on the following 2 national periodic reports which Mauritius submitted to the respective Treaty Bodies, this year, namely:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CERD • ICESCR <p>e) On 11 December 2017, a one-day workshop which is a joint initiative of the National Human Rights Commission and the EU Delegation to Mauritius, brought together some 45 law enforcement officers.</p> <p>f) A three-day from 12 to 14 December 2017, Peer-to-Peer workshop relative to detention in the Indian Ocean and focusing on the humane treatment and conditions of detention for all prison detainees was held at the Prison Training School in Beau-Bassin. The workshop, an initiative of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in collaboration with the Mauritius Prison Service, was attended by representatives from Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar and the Comoros.</p> <p>g) In April 2018, a workshop was organized by the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission and the European Union. Professor Ludovic Hennebel, from the Law Faculty of Aix-Marseille, France conducted the workshop on International Human Rights Treaties for members of the National Reporting and Follow Up Mechanism.</p>	

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	<p>h) From 14 to 17 May 2018, the Ombudsperson for Children’s Office hosted the Annual Training on the Rights of the Child of the ‘Association des Ombudsmans et Médiateurs de la Francophonie’ (AOMF) on the theme “Article 12 de la Convention relative aux droits de l’enfants: Le droit d’exprimer librement son opinion” at the Gold Crest Hotel, Quatre Bornes. Delegates from Belgium, Benin, Canada, Cote d’Ivoire, Djibouti, France, Madagascar, Mauritius, Monaco, Senegal, Seychelles and Tunisia attended the workshop. The Ombudsperson for Children of the Republic of Mauritius is a member of the AOMF since 2014. One of the main objectives of the AOMF is to promote knowledge of the role of ombudsmen and mediators and to develop the concept of the institution in the Francophonie in order to promote democratic practices, social peace and the protection and advancement of human rights.</p> <p>i) From 12 to 17 November 2018, Mr Pierre – Yves Rosset, Délégué general aux droits de l’enfant de la Communauté de Belgique was on official visit to Mauritius in the context of the ‘Programme d’échanges’ de L’Association des Ombudsmans et Médiateur de la Francophone (AOMF). Mr Rosset has vast experience on working in the field of child rights. During his visit, he had working sessions with investigators of the Ombudsperson for Children and with around 20 children from Residence Barkly and Young Ambassadors of the OCO on the theme ‘Promoting Children’s Participation’. From 27 January to 03 February 2019, the Ombudsperson for Children’s Office welcomed Mrs Ingrid Olga Issacks, Children’s Advocate at the Office of the Ombudsman in Nambia for a familiarization programme. The programme aimed to familiarize Mrs Issack with the best practices at the OCO which would provide her with new insights in her work.</p> <p>j) A four-day (19-22 November 2018) workshop, focusing on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Disaster Law (IDL), was organized by the Ministry of Justice Human Rights and Institutional Reforms in collaboration with the Mauritius Red Cross Society and the San Remo University of Italy.</p>	

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	<p>k) On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms launched 8 video clips on Human Rights Awareness to mark the Human Rights Day. The video clips are entitled as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are Human Rights? • Right to Education • No to Sexual Harassment • No to Child Marriage • Rights of Disabled Persons • Yes, to Meritocracy and Equal Opportunity • Rights of Detainees • Rights of the Elderly <p>l) The talk focusing on “Disability and Human Rights” was delivered by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services of South Africa, Hon Tshililo Michael Masutha on 18 January 2019 at the Le Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel in Port-Louis. He was on a two-day visit in Mauritius to share his own experiences being himself visually impaired. Minister Masutha dwelt on the need for social inclusion and equal opportunities for people with disabilities and also expressed hope for these people to achieve success in various fields.</p> <p>m) A one-day Consultative Workshop for UPR was held on 23 January 2019 to engage consultative discussions with Ministries, Departments and the Civil Society on the recommendations of the UPR Working Group prior to providing feedback to the Human Rights Council of the Plenary Session scheduled in mid-March 2019.</p> <p>n) A Talk on “Progressive Realization of Rights through the Courts- the experience of the Supreme Court of India”. The Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms in collaboration with the Equality & Justice Alliance based in UK, organized a talk on the theme “Progressive Realization of Rights through the Courts: the experience of the Supreme Court of India” by Justice Deepak Misra, Former Chief Justice in India, on 22 March 2019 at Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel. The talk was attended by eminent personalities of the</p>	

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	<p>Judiciary including the Judges, Magistrates and Bar Council Members. Other sessions were organized with other groups; students, civil society, and NGOs.</p> <p>o) As for the Know Your Rights Pamphlet it was launched on 23 March 2019 and it was funded by the UK Government. It aims to inform prospective and current migrant workers of their rights and the possible remedial actions in case of violations. It also serves to make migrant workers aware of the dangers of human trafficking. The pamphlet was produced in 6 different languages, namely English, French, Hindi, Tamil, Bangladesh and Chinese. A short video clip encompassing the main information in the pamphlet has also been made and is occasionally being broadcasted on launched on different channels of the national television (Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation).</p> <p>p) A three-day workshop was organised from 24 to 26 April 2019 to have an interactive dialogue with Ministries, Departments, National Human Rights Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations who are members of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on ‘State Party Reporting to Treaty Bodies’ to strengthen the national capacity of Mauritius on engagement with human rights mechanisms particularly as it relates to reporting and implementing treaty body recommendations.</p> <p>q) A two-day workshop from 23-24 May 2019 on National Recommendation Tracking Database in collaboration with the OHCHR was organised to build capacity of participants on the use of the National Recommendation Tracking Database including data entry.</p> <p>r) The National Human Rights Commission, organized a half day awareness session on Human Rights for Senior Chief Executives and Permanent Secretaries of Ministries on 04 May 2019. The aim of the training was to promote awareness of the State obligations under the various international instruments within the Head of Ministries and Departments and ensure that the best conditions are put in place in Ministries and Departments for compliance</p>	

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	<p>therewith. The session which was attended by around 35 Senior Officials was facilitated by the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission.</p> <p>s) In May 2019, a two-day workshop on Asylum Seekers/ Refugees with Ministries, Departments and Civil society’s representatives was organized by the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms to work out a Protocol on the roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders when Mauritius will be faces with foreigners seeking International Protection as asylum seekers or refugees.</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATION B: Strengthening the National Human Rights Framework by Better Guaranteeing Constitutional Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms, by Providing for More Effective Enforcement of Protection Provisions, and by Enhancing the Effectiveness of National Human Rights Institutions</p>		
<p>9. Fundamental rights and freedoms shall be further entrenched in the Constitution and the mechanisms for ensuring enforcement of these standards shall be made more effective.</p>	<p>Fundamental rights and freedoms are already entrenched in Chapter II of our Constitution. Civil and Political rights are also found in our Constitution.</p> <p>Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are in different pieces of legislation and but not in our Constitution specifically.</p>	<p>Attorney-General’s Office</p>
<p>10. Provision shall be made in the Constitution that slavery and other similar practices constitute a crime against humanity, and that victims of slavery and other similar practices are entitled to reparation for the harm suffered.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slavery and forced labour are prohibited under Section 6 of the Constitution. The Employment Rights Act also provides that a child below the age of 16 cannot enter into an employment contract, and that an employer shall not keep in employment a young person where the work is of a such a nature, or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to jeopardise the health, safety, physical, mental, moral or social development of the young person. • Section 7 prohibits the torture or inhuman or degrading punishment or other such treatment to any person. Moreover, the Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act was enacted in 2009 and it caters for offences of human trafficking and also contain provisions for compensation. 	<p>Attorney-General’s Office,</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inter-Ministerial Committee has been set up for a concerted response to ensure a proper coordination in respect of trafficking in persons including child trafficking and forced labour. A draft National Action Plan to combat Trafficking in Persons is currently under preparation. • Mauritius has maintained the tier 2 in the US Trafficking in Persons Report in the last three years (2017-2019 Report) <p><u>The National Minimum Wage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius introduced a government-mandated minimum wage as from January 2018, and no worker in Mauritius can be paid less than this mandatory minimum rate of pay. <p><u>Equal Opportunities Act</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Equal Opportunities Act was enacted in January 2012. It ensures better protection against discrimination as it prohibits both direct and indirect discrimination on the ground of age, caste, creed, ethnic origin, impairment, marital status, place of origin, political opinion, race, sex or sexual orientation. The Equal Opportunities Act also prohibits discrimination by victimization. • Amendment was made to the Equal Opportunities Act which was enacted, in 2017. The amendment makes provision for the prohibition of discrimination in employment on the grounds of a person’s criminal record, both at recruitment and promotion level, where a person’s criminal record is not relevant to the nature of the employment for which that person is being considered. The burden of proof, that a discrimination on ground of criminal records is relevant, has been put on the employer. 	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training</p> <p>Equal Opportunity Commission</p>

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- From October **2018 to June 2019**, the Equal Opportunities Commission has carried out 14 awareness/sensitization campaigns covering 904 persons as tabled below:

S.No.	Date	Name of Institution	Number of audiences targeted	Target Group
1.	2.10.2018	MITD Flacq	50	Teaching and Administrative staff
2.	26.10.2018	MIE	150	Trainee Educators
3.	15.02.2019	The HSBC Ltd	32	Line Managers
4.	15.02.2019	Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives	20	Administrative & H. Resources staff
5.	20.03.2019	Rodrigues College	180	Students & Staff
6.	21.03.2019	Fire Services (Rodrigues)	20	Fire Officers
7.	22.03.2019	Creve Coeur Hospital (Rodrigues)	25	Nursing Officers

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	8.	22.03.2019	Mauritius Police Force (Rodrigues)	25	Police Officers	
	9.	29.03.2019	France Boyer de la Giroday SSS	126	Students	
	10.	03.04.2019	School of Nursing (Mauritius)	62	Senior Nurse Educators	
	11.	24.05.2019	Mauritius Prison Service	78	Prison Officers	
	12.	31.05.2019	Mahatma Gandhi State School (Moka)	60	Students and Educators	
	13.	14.06.2019	Curepipe Police District Headquarters	49	Police Officers	
	14.	21.06.2019	Mauritius Police Force, District Headquarters	27	Police Officers	
11. The powers of the National Human Rights Commission shall be strengthened and the scope of its activities broadened. Its operational capability shall be enhanced by amending the legislation	The National Human Rights Commission is operational with all its divisions as from 18 June 2014. However, the powers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) have not been strengthened nor has its activities been broadened. The mandate of the National Human Rights Commission does not allow it to probe into issues pertaining to economic, social and cultural rights.					National Human Rights Commission

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<p>to allow the Commission to recruit its own staff.</p>	<p>The Commission is serviced by a Secretary, of the rank of a Principal Assistant Secretary, and other administrative and technical staff made available by the Secretary to Cabinet and Head of Civil Service. The services of Investigating Officers are also provided by the Commissioner of Police whenever required.</p> <p>As an amendment to the Constitution requires a majority of $\frac{3}{4}$ vote in the National Assembly and this may not be easily achievable, consideration is being given for the mandate of NHRC to be widened through amendment in the Protection of the Human Rights Act so that the National Human Rights Commission can also investigate in cases pertaining to ICESCR.</p> <p>With the setting up of the Independent Complaint Commission since April 2018, the police complaints division of the NHRC is no longer operational and all cases have been transferred to the IPCC.</p>	
<p>12. The procedure for complaints and investigation against Police shall be simplified and enhanced, and an Independent Police Complaints Commission has been set up for the purpose of investigating such complaints.</p>	<p>The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) Act was enacted in July 2016. However, the Independent Police Complaints Commission became operational in April 2018.</p> <p>The IPCC investigates into complaints made against police officers in the discharge of their functions, other than complaints of acts of corruption or money laundering offences. The Chairperson is a former lady Judge of the Supreme Court. The present composition of the Commission is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson: Mrs Deviyanee Beesoondoyal, GCSK • Member: Mr. Phalraj Servansingh • Member: Mr Dick Christophe Ng Sui Wa <p><u>Statistics</u></p> <p>The Independent Police Complaints Commission has received 752 complaints from 10 April 2018 to 30 June 2019.</p>	<p>Independent Police Complaints Commission</p>

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No. of Complaints dealt by IPCC (10 April 2018 – 30 June 2019)			
	No. of Complaints	Disposed of after investigation	No. of complaints still under investigation
Assault	266	54	212
Verbal Abuse	115	55	60
Other complaints	371	158	213
Total	752	267	485

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Outcome of Complaints as at 30 June 2019.

Summary (10 April 2018 – 30 June 2019)

	No. of complaints received	No. of complaints disposed after investigation	No. of complaints still under investigation	No. of complaints withdrawn	No. of complaints referred to DPP	No. of complaints referred to DFSC	No. of complaints settled by conciliation
PCD (old files)*	277	178	99	33	1	0	6
IPCC 2018	456	208	248	30	4	2	8
IPCC 2019	296	59	237	10	0	0	6
TOTAL	1029	445	584	73	5	2	20

Note: (i) 277 pending files from the Police Complaints Division (PCD) was taken over by the IPCC.

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	<p><u>Achievements by IPCC (April 2018 to March 2019)</u></p> <p>Total number of Visit to Police Stations/Detention Centres/other police units: 10 Total number of workshop/seminars attended: 4 Total number of Talks organized (in collaboration with police): 4 Total number of working visits to Rodrigues: 2</p>	
<p>13. A National Preventive Mechanism which will ensure that the conditions prevailing in our prisons, police cells and other places of detention comply with human rights obligations and the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the UN Conventions against Torture will be set up.</p>	<p>Mauritius is party to Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT) and has fulfilled its obligation to establish National Preventive Mechanisms, which are independent national bodies for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment at domestic level. The National Preventive Mechanism Division was set up under the National Human Rights Commission in 2014.</p> <p>Since June 2015, its National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) Division investigates complaints which are made by detainees. Statistics on complaints from detainees received at the NHRC from January to December 2018 are:</p>	<p>National Human Rights Commission</p>

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NATIONAL PREVENTIVE MECHANISM DIVISION - STATISTICS 2017/2018

		2017	2018
No of Visits	Prisons (Mauritius including Rodrigues)	64	68
No of Visits	Police Cells (Mauritius including Rodrigues)	59	48
No of Visits	RYC/CYC	5	12
No of Visits	Police Detention Centres	11	8
No of Visits	Hospitals	11	4
Prisoners Interviewed	(522 Males & 152 Females)	674	????????????????
No. of complaints		235 (193 disposed of & 42 pending)	85 (76 disposed of & 9 pending for Prisons)

The National Preventive Mechanism Division is under the aegis of the National Human Rights Commission.

Its functions are:

- (a) to visit places of detention on a regular basis so as to examine the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty with a view to ensuring their protection against torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- (b) to investigate any complaint which may be made by a detainee and, where the detainee so requests, investigate the complaint privately;

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	<p>(c) to make to the Minister recommendations regarding the improvement of the treatment and conditions of persons deprived of their liberty in places of detention, taking into consideration the relevant norms of the United Nations;</p> <p>(d) to submit to the Minister and other relevant authorities proposals and observations concerning legislation relating to places of detention and the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty;</p> <p>(e) to work, where appropriate, in co-operation or consultation with any person or body, whether public or private, in connection with the discharge of any of its functions under this Act and the Optional Protocol.</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATION C : Better Protecting and Safeguarding Civil and Political rights by Securing Right to Self-Determination, Strengthening Democratic Rights, Better Protecting the Rights of Victims of Crime, Safeguarding the Rights of Suspects and Detainees, Enhancing the Efficiency of the Administration of Justice and Better Securing Access to Courts, and Enhancing the System of Freedom of Expression and Better Protecting Privacy and Human Dignity</p>		
<p>14. Strategies shall be evolved to further ensure that <u>the inhabitants of the islands forming part of the Republic of Mauritius</u> are effectively afforded facilities and opportunities, in the pursuit of their economic, social and cultural development, that are, as far as practicable, equivalent to what obtains in mainland Mauritius.</p>	<p>The Constitution, which is the supreme law of the country, prohibits discrimination and advocates equality for all. It also provides that no law shall be discriminatory either in itself or in its effect. Being a Welfare State, the State of Mauritius provides free education from pre-primary to tertiary levels; free transport to students and the elderly, free access to health services; social aid to vulnerable groups; and non-contributory universal pension benefits to the elderly.</p> <p>Government is investing heavily on modern and strategic infrastructure for the transformation of Mauritius, Rodrigues and the outer islands. Examples of such developments on facilities are as follows:</p> <p><u>Agalega</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the first time ever, in September 2018, inhabitants of Agalega island (about 1000 km to the north of Mauritius) have been connected to the internet by way of satellite bandwidth. Moreover, the construction of a new airport and a new jetty is under way. 	

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	<p>Social register of Mauritius</p> <p>The Social Register of Mauritius (SRM) has been developed since June 2015 and constitutes a national database of vulnerable households in Mauritius. The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development is the legal custodian of the SRM database and is responsible as from 15 November 2018 for the registration of potential households. Currently, there are around <u>9,582</u> SRM eligible households in Mauritius and 2,364 in Rodrigues.</p> <p>Housing</p> <p>In its 2015-2019 Government Programme, the Mauritian Government undertook to increase housing supply and home ownership for the economically and socially disadvantaged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The housing units are meant to beneficiaries of the National Housing Development Corporation, with subsidy from Government as follows:- <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Family Income (Rs)</th> <th>Government subsidy -2015</th> <th>Government subsidy -2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 200-10 000</td> <td>66.6% of the construction cost</td> <td>66.6% of housing unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 001-15 000</td> <td>50% of the construction cost</td> <td>60% of housing Unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 001-20 000</td> <td>20% of the construction cost</td> <td>30% of housing unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 001-25 000</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>25% of housing unit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25 001-30,000</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>25% of housing unit</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government has also reviewed in the budget 2019-2020 the roof slab grant and the purchase of building materials grant scheme and both schemes are now aligned as follows: 	Family Income (Rs)	Government subsidy -2015	Government subsidy -2019				5 200-10 000	66.6% of the construction cost	66.6% of housing unit	10 001-15 000	50% of the construction cost	60% of housing Unit	15 001-20 000	20% of the construction cost	30% of housing unit	20 001-25 000	Nil	25% of housing unit	25 001-30,000	Nil	25% of housing unit	<p>Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment</p> <p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>
Family Income (Rs)	Government subsidy -2015	Government subsidy -2019																					
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20 001-25 000	Nil	25% of housing unit																					
25 001-30,000	Nil	25% of housing unit																					

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	Existing Housing Schemes	Household Income Eligibility	Amount	Remarks	
Roof Slab Grant /	≤Rs10,000	Maximum one-off cash grant of Rs 100, 000	Loan already taken must be less than Rs 500,000	(i)Households who own a plot of land but cannot afford to complete construction of their house which has reached up to the beam level. The grant is for the casting of roof slab for an area up to 100m ²	
Purchase of Building Materials	>Rs 10,000- ≤Rs 15,000	Maximum one-off cash grant of Rs 70,000	Loan already taken must be less than Rs 750,000	Allowable building plan area may reach up to 150 m ²	
	>Rs 15,000- ≤Rs 20,000	Maximum one-off cash grant of Rs 50,000	Loan already taken must be less than Rs 900,000	(ii) Households who own a plot of land but	

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					cannot afford to start construction of a housing unit of up to 100m ² . The grant is for purchase of building materials to start construction.	Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training
<p><u>Employment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new website www.mauritiusjobs.mu which was launched in June this year, has been extended to Rodrigues. • The Rodrigues Regional Assembly through the Commission for Labour and Industrial Relations is responsible for the formulation and implementation of labour legislation in Rodrigues. • There is one Labour Office in Rodrigues and it is situated at 1st Floor, MHC Building, Camp du Roi, Rodrigues (Tel: 831-077 and 831-0888, Fax: 831-0392). • Regular inspections at workplace to ensure that workers enjoy minimum wages and conditions prescribed in law. 						

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	<p><u>Employment and Information Centres</u> The procedures for registration of jobseekers and processing of vacancies are the same both in Mauritius and Rodrigues.</p> <p>There is one Employment Information Centres (EICs)-in Rodrigues and it operates under the aegis of the Commission for Social Security, Employment and Others, and is manned by a Senior Employment Officer. For its daily operations, the Rodrigues EIC uses the same web-enabled operating system as used by the Employment Service in Mauritius, namely the Labour Market Information System (LMIS) which is connected to the main server at the Government Online Centre (GOC) in Ebene.</p> <p>With regards to labour migration, the Employment Service in Mauritius invites the Rodrigues EIC to submit applications from Rodriguan candidates for consideration particularly for jobs in Canada and Italy. There are Rodriguan candidates who have taken up employment in Canada and who have benefitted from training in Italy under the labour migration with these countries.</p>	
<p>15. Government will bring about reforms of our electoral system and the financing of political parties. Government will ensure that the country has an electoral system which is more equitable and which promotes nation building and provides for better representation of women.</p>	<p><u>Electoral Reform- Presented in 2019</u></p> <p>Following a complaint to the Human Rights Committee by a political party named “Rezistans ek Alternativ” regarding the need for a candidate to declare to which community he belongs to, the Human Rights Committee in its finding of 2012 stated that Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights had been violated.</p> <p>In light of findings of the UN Human Rights Committee, the Government pursued its discussions and consultations to work towards an electoral reform. A Ministerial Committee was set up in January 2016 to come up with proposals for an electoral reform. The report of the Electoral Reform was finalized in August 2018. The report was presented by the Honourable Prime Minister to the nation on 21 September 2018.</p> <p>A proposed electoral reform entailed (a) the introduction of a dose of proportional representation to provide for fairness, inclusion and a more equitable representation of parties in the National Assembly while maintaining the First Past The Post (FPTP) System so as to ensure stability in Government; (b) doing away with the mandatory declaration of community by candidates and (c)</p>	<p>Prime Minister’s Office</p>

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	<p>ensuring a better gender representation so as to guarantee an enhanced representation of women in the National Assembly.</p> <p>The bill was introduced in the National Assembly in 2019 and there were full debates thereon. Various dissenting opinions were voices and given that the three quarters majority which is required for amendment was not obtained, the vote was postponed.</p> <p>The salient feature are as follows:</p> <p>(a) Ensuring Stability of Government</p> <p>Government has maintained that its key concern is that the majority arising from the FPTP system should remain the same after the allocation of PR and Best Loser Seats, so as to ensure stability in Government. Any attempt to further reduce the disparity between the number of seats and the number of votes will directly affect the majority formed following FPTP elections. The majority can be made dangerously slim when FPTP results are tight. A slim majority becomes even slimmer, thereby creating a situation of permanent instability. This can pose a real threat to stability in Government.</p> <p>(b) Maintaining the Majority</p> <p>The proposed mechanism is aimed at ensuring that at all times, the majority ensuing from the FPTP results remains exactly the same after allocation of PR and Best Loser seats. Under the proposed system, the losing party too is compensated by the allocation of Best Loser seats, if it receives less PR seats than the winning party.</p> <p>(c) Increase in the Number of Members of Parliament (MP)</p> <p>The number of MPs has remained the same since the General Elections held in 1967- that is a maximum of 70 (62 FPTP + 8 Best Losers). Yet, the number of electors has nearly tripled since then. It has increased from 314,004 in 1967 to 923,316 in 2018.</p>	

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	<p>The proposal of Government, viz. a Parliament of 81 MP's (63 FPTP + 12 PR + 6 "Best Loser seats") is the lowest, as compared to proposals made in previous reports on Electoral Reform (Sachs Model C – 100 MPs; Sithanen's Report – 82 MPs; Labour-MMM Alliance 2014 – 83 MPs). The proposed increase in the number of MP's is 15.7%.</p> <p>(d) Role of Party Leaders</p> <p>Our Constitution already provides for party leaders to designate, in certain circumstances, MPs under the present Best Loser System.</p> <p>(e) Minorities</p> <p>The proposed reform ensures that all minorities are adequately represented in the National Assembly. Party leaders will be entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that PR lists provide for broad-based and inclusive representation. It stands to reason that leaders will field candidates who are likely to correct any under-representation.</p> <p>(f) Method of Allocating Proportional Representation (PR) Seats</p> <p>As a matter of policy, Government is proposing the parallel mode of PR, which allocates seats on the basis of the percentage of votes polled by each eligible party. This system is practical, simple and more importantly guarantees political stability, the more so in closely contested elections.</p> <p>(g) Electoral Boundaries</p> <p>The review of boundaries of Constituencies is a function performed by the Electoral Boundaries Commission under the Constitution and not by Government.</p> <p>(h) Preserving National Unity While Fostering Nation Building</p> <p>Government will never agree to a new population census being conducted on the basis of communal appurtenance. Government considers stability as being the pillar of our socio-economic progress.</p>	

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	<p>This is why it has adopted the present proposals for electoral reform. Government will continue to consider all reasonable and constructive proposals in order to obtain a broad consensus.</p> <p><u>Financing of Political Party –Presented in 2019</u></p> <p>The Ministerial Committee on Electoral Reform has already submitted its proposal on the Financing of Political Parties. Government’s proposals on the financing of political parties were released on 30 November 2018 as part of a consultation process and all political parties and public at large were invited to submit their views and suggestions. The recommendations aim at greater transparency and accountability in the Financing of political Parties.</p> <p>Cabinet has taken note of the recommendations relating to the financing of political parties and further noted that the proposals would be made public and uploaded on the website of the Prime Minister’s Office with a view to inviting suggestions/comments of political parties and any interested person. (30 November 2018 cabinet decision)</p> <p>Cabinet has taken note that following invitation made to the general public and political parties, suggestions/counter proposals have been received in relation to the proposals on the Financing of Political Parties. Cabinet has agreed to instructions being conveyed to the Attorney General’s Office for the drafting of the Financing of Political Parties Bill.</p> <p>Instructions were conveyed to the Attorney General’s Office for the drafting of the Financing of Political Parties Bill. The bill was introduced in the National Assembly for debates on 12 July 2019.</p> <p>The Constitution (Amendment) Bill (No. XIII of 2019) & The Political Financing Bill (No. XIV of 2019) did not receive ¾ of the majority votes in the National Assembly.</p>	<p>Prime Minister’s Office</p>
<p>16. Government will introduce new enabling legislation providing for the people to</p>	<p>No need for any further legislation as Section 47(3) of the Constitution provides for same. However, no referendum has ever been made.</p>	<p>Attorney-General’s Office</p>

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<p>be consulted by way of referendum on major constitutional and other issues.</p>		
<p>17. As part of the enlargement of our “<i>espace démocratique</i>” and revitalisation of the role of Parliament, Government will invite the National Assembly to engage in thematic debates. This will enable the National Assembly to have, in addition to its legislative function, a major role as a deliberative organ on policy issues. Government will propose the appointment of an all-party committee to discuss the modalities of such debates. These debates should be nonpartisan and focus on policy issues in the national interest.</p>	<p>Parliamentary Committee</p> <p>The Proposal of the setting up of a Parliamentary Committee dealing with Human Rights in line with the principles contained in HRC 38/25 has been brought to the attention of Madam speaker and she has taken note thereof. Moreover, as highlighted by the National Assembly, parliamentary practices and procedures allow oversight on the Executive, mainly through parliamentary questions, motions, petitions and matters raised at adjournment time</p> <p>Gender Caucus</p> <p>A Parliamentary Gender Caucus (PGC) was set up in March 2017. The PGC provides a platform for members of the National Assembly from all political parties to discuss on issues and policies relating to women in the society and to come up with concrete solutions. It helps the promotion of women’s descriptive and substantive representation. Such a Caucus also serves to ensure that gender equality issues are mainstreamed into legislative and policy processes and within parliamentary processes, as well as to facilitate dialogue within and across parties.</p> <p>The PGC commissioned in 2017/2018two studies namely the Gender Audit in the Civil Service in Mauritius: Follow up Actions and the findings on the Sociological profiling of perpetrators of Domestic Violence in Mauritius and produced a Gender Equality Kit. These have served effectively in shaping views and opinions of parliamentarians and decision makers on the issue of women’s empowerment and gender equality, and in enlisting their support and participation on gender mainstreaming programme.</p>	<p>Office of the Electoral Commissioner</p>

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<p>18. Measures shall be taken to further combat crime so that everyone can be safe and secure [such as CCTV Street Surveillance Systems in more regions, computer-assisted identification of suspects, new fingerprint and body-fluid search tools, increased patrols and police presence in crime prone areas, and a Crime Occurrence Tracking System]. The overall objective shall be to reduce crime rate yearly by at least 10 % [in particular larceny in dwelling houses and on public roads, drug offences, juvenile delinquency and truancy] and to improve crime detection rate.</p>	<p>National Policing Strategic Framework</p> <p>In accordance with the National Policing Strategic Framework, published in February 2010, Force Annual and Divisional/Branches Policing Plans are issued yearly with sets target to reduce crime and fear of crime and improve community well-being and quality of life, thereby increasing public trust and confidence in the Police. We are aiming at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) reducing larceny in dwelling houses or on public roads through closer monitoring of habitual offenders, installation of Closed-Circuit Television Surveillance System, increased police patrols in vulnerable and crime prone areas, setting up of Neighborhood Watch Schemes, public awareness campaign and enhanced criminal intelligence gathering; (b) reducing road accidents through intelligence-led crack down operations against speeding and drunken driving, road safety campaign and the introduction of penalty point system and installation of speed cameras; (c) reducing demand and curbing supply of drugs through intelligence-led anti-crack down operations, awareness campaign with collaboration of NGOs and enhanced regional and international co-operation; (d) reducing anti-social behavior and domestic violence through increase in number of operations against licensed premises (liquor shops) operating in breach of the law; (e) reducing juvenile delinquency and truancy through more frequent checks on licensed premises, places of amusement and entertainment, gaming houses, greater Police presence near traffic centers and public places; (f) increasing Victim Support and Advice; and (g) Attending to increasing number of problems identified during the conduct of Community 	<p>Mauritius Police Force;</p> <p>Forensic Science Laboratory; and</p> <p>Ministry of Defence & Rodrigues</p>

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CCTV Camera-

Cameras have been installed in different locations, including public places, Police Stateion, Prisons. Additional details are as follows:

- **(in Police station)**

SN	Divisions	No. of Police Stations	No. of Police Posts	Qty of Cameras
1	Northern	13	1	126
2	Metropolitain North	6	0	52
3	Metropolitain South	7	0	57
4	Eastern	12	0	110
5	Central	6	1	82
6	Southern	15	2	153
7	Western	14	1	157
8	CCID	0	0	18
	Total	73	5	755

b) In Detention centres

S. No	LOCATIONS	No. of Cameras (existing)	Additional Cameras Installed	Total
1.	Moka Detention (Male)	20	43	63

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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2.	Moka Detention(Female)	8	11	19
3.	Port Louis South Detention	20	29	49
4.	Vacoas Detention Centre (Male)	19	48	67
5.	Vacoas Detention Centre (Female)	11	19	30

c) CCTV Street Surveillance Systems

S. No	Location	No of Cameras initially installed	No of Cameras removed	No of Cameras Faulty due to no Spare Parts	No of Cameras in good operation
1.	Port Louis	273	36	16	221
2.	Grand Bay	68	1	1	66
3.	Flic en Flac	84	1	0	83
4.	Quatre Bornes	39	3	0	36
5.	Total	464	42	17	406

(d) **The safe city project** --was initiated in 2017. It comprises the installation of some 4000 Intelligent Video Surveillance (IVS) Cameras over 2000 Sites (major public areas, main roads and motorways, pedestrian walkways), 300 Intelligent Traffic Surveillance (ITS) Cameras over 75 Sites and some 2000 handheld radio sets for the police force. The project is being implemented. Moreover, cameras have been installed in 78 police stations.

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	<p><u>DNA EVIDENCE and Finger Prints</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The examination of scene of crime for the collection of scientific evidence and DNA Evidence is of a great importance for efficient and effective investigation. In a bid to reducing over reliance on confession, the MPF is harnessing on scientific evidence for the detection of crimes. • The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) who is the custodian of the Mauritian DNA Database (as per Section 10, DNA Records of the DNA identification Act 2009) currently holds DNA profiles of 7000 convicted persons and 11000 DNA profiles from arrestees as at June 2019. The total number of DNA profiles in the Mauritian Database amounts to 40653. (received 12 July 2019) • From January 2015 to 31 August 2018, five hundred and seventy-one (571) cases have been detected from prints collected at scene of crime (see table below). <p>The number of cases detected from fingerprints collected at Scene of Crime is shown below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Cases detected from fingerprints</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>194</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>139</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>163</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018 (as at 31.08.18)</td> <td>135</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019 (Jan-March)</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>663</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Cases detected from fingerprints	2015	194	2016	139	2017	163	2018 (as at 31.08.18)	135	2019 (Jan-March)	32	Total	663	
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NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION															
	<p align="center">RETURN OF CASES DETECTED FROM FINGERPRINT BY SOCO</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th colspan="2">NO OF CASES</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>01.09.18 TO 31.03.19</td> <td colspan="2">91</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Year 2018</td> <td>Year 2019 (as at June)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of Drug Cases</td> <td>3714</td> <td>2096</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of samples sent for DNA analysis</td> <td>5953</td> <td>2006</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Awareness/Sensitization Campaigns by ADSU</u></p> <p>From year 2014 to date (19 September 2018), The Anti-Drugs and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) have carried out five hundred and thirteen (513) awareness/sensitization campaigns covering some one hundred and twenty-one thousand, two hundred and twenty-six (121,226) persons as tabled below:</p>	YEAR	NO OF CASES		01.09.18 TO 31.03.19	91			Year 2018	Year 2019 (as at June)	Number of Drug Cases	3714	2096	Number of samples sent for DNA analysis	5953	2006	
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	Year 2018	Year 2019 (as at June)															
Number of Drug Cases	3714	2096															
Number of samples sent for DNA analysis	5953	2006															
<p>Local Community Policing Committees shall be set up for the elaboration of local crime reduction strategies. The purpose of each Committee will be to work towards a healthy and safe community environment for all</p>	<p align="center"><u>COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MPF is making optimum use of Community Policing Forums to support the systematic use of partnership and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address immediate condition that gives rise to public safety issues such as crime and social disorder. <p><u>Sensitisations carried out by Crime Prevention Unit (CPU)</u></p>	<p>Mauritius Police Force; Ministry of Defence & Rodrigues</p>															

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who live and work within a given area.

• **At Primary and Secondary school level**

Year	No. of sessions held in Primary & Secondary Schools	No. of person attended
2010	143	37994
2011	108	21840
2012	121	17790
2013	75	14192
2014	114	19471
2015	110	17686
2016	101	18028
2017	111	16899
2018	107	16995
Total (as at 19.09.18)	990	180895

(ii) At Community level

Year	No. of sessions held in Primary & Secondary Schools	No. of person attended
2010	281	19755
2011	253	17819
2012	318	21072

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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>327</td> <td>18838</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>360</td> <td>18966</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>481</td> <td>24486</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>434</td> <td>23650</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>495</td> <td>40647</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018 (as at 19.09.18)</td> <td>502</td> <td>32490</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>3451</td> <td>217723</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>STRATEGIC POLICING PLAN 2015-2018</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius Police Force (MPF) formulated its <i>Strategic Policing Plan</i> for 2015-2018 focusing on five main objectives with improving quality of life, enhancing service delivery, increasing speed of intervention, honing investigation techniques and detection skills and combating trafficking and use of illegal drugs. The Plan also aimed at taking advantage of innovation and technology in policing in order to improve the level of public confidence. • MPF aimed to achieve these objectives by strictly enforcing the law in a firm, fair and impartial manner and by promoting law abiding conditions in our society. The objectives is that citizens of the mainland and outer islands live, work and play in a safe environment in the knowledge that the guardian of peace are around performing their duties in a passionate and professional manner and committed with an incurable need to produce results without making an abuse of their powers. 	2013	327	18838	2014	360	18966	2015	481	24486	2016	434	23650	2017	495	40647	2018 (as at 19.09.18)	502	32490	Total	3451	217723		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPF has directed the arrow of its efforts towards creating safer communities. It has increased its crime preventing initiatives by gradually refocusing its paradigm of crime control from one that is centered on offenders to one that is centered on places. Emphasis is being laid on reducing opportunities for crime at places and not on waiting for crimes to occur and then arresting offenders. It has adopted a new concept such as place-based/hot spot policing to increase Police visibility and enhance public safety, hence reducing fear of crime. • A toll-free hotline service has also been put in place for the public on a 24/7 basis so that they can solicit Police assistance or to tip-off the Police of any irregular or suspicious activities that need immediate Police intervention. 	
<p>A National Crime Control Commission shall be established, with the special mandate of reviewing measures for the protection of vulnerable persons, including elderly persons, women, children and persons with disabilities.</p>	<p>It is not proposed to set up a new Commission. The work is being done through Committee Policing. This is being taken care of under the National Policing Strategic Framework and subsequently in the Community Policing Forum sessions</p>	<p>Mauritius Police Force</p> <p>Ministry of Defence & Rodrigues</p>
<p>With a view to significantly reduce road accidents casualties and fatalities, the effectiveness of the traffic monitoring system shall be enhanced and the “penalty point system” for driving licences shall be made operational</p>	<p><u>Penalty Points System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The penalty points system was implemented in 10 May 2013 with a view to reduce the fatality rate, encourage safe driving, re-educate drivers, stimulate the driver’s self-responsibility, change attitude regarding Road Traffic Offences and to be complementary with regular sanction scheme. <p><u>Cumulative Road Traffic Offences (CRTO)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By virtue of the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2015-Act No.7 of 2015, the ‘Penalty Points System’ was replaced by the Cumulative Road Traffic Offences, a new 	<p>Mauritius Police Force;</p> <p>Ministry of Defence & Rodrigues</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION																								
	<p>sanctioning mechanism, which is applicable for certain specified serious driving offences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In light of the above, Courts may suspend the driving licence of any persons convicted on a sixth occasion, within a period of 24 months, of one or more of the serious driving offences and to disqualify that person from holding and obtaining a driving licence for a period of 6 to 12 months. Following amendments to the RTA from the 1st October 2018 the “a sixth occasion” has been revised to a “fifth occasion” Effective date of CRTO: 27.07.2015 No. of drivers convicted under CRTO from 27 July 2015 to 31st March 2019, seventy-nine thousand two hundred and twenty-three (79,223) drivers have been convicted under the Cumulative Road Traffic Offences (CRTO). Details are as hereunder: <p>Road Traffic Convictions established for the period January 2010 to 31 March 2019 are tabled below: -</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>No. of contraventions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2010</td><td>161,217</td></tr> <tr><td>2011</td><td>193,577</td></tr> <tr><td>2012</td><td>210,424</td></tr> <tr><td>2013</td><td>206,390</td></tr> <tr><td>2014</td><td>220,719</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>202,170</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>228,189</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>235,994</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>239,495</td></tr> <tr><td>2019 as at 31/03/19</td><td>51592</td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td>1,949,767</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	No. of contraventions	2010	161,217	2011	193,577	2012	210,424	2013	206,390	2014	220,719	2015	202,170	2016	228,189	2017	235,994	2018	239,495	2019 as at 31/03/19	51592	Total	1,949,767	
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- No. of Licencees since 01 January 2015 to 31 March 2019:

Year	No. of Licencees
2015	769,170
2016	789,160
2017	812,584
2018	829,742
2019 as at 31 March	4641

Number of drivers convicted under CRTO from 27 July 2015 to 31 March 2019

Year	No. of Drivers Convicted
2015(27 July to Dec)	5,364
2016	27,277
2017	32,530
2018	23,350
2019 as at 31/03/2019	1,674
TOTAL	90,195

As at 29 April 2018 there were seven hundred and sixty-three thousand, and three hundred and ninety-two (763, 392) persons who were in possession of a driving licence issued at the Traffic Branch. Detail pertaining to their age group are shown below:

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	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Group</th> <th>No. of licensees</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Below 18 years</td> <td>2,260</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18 to 40 years</td> <td>313,188</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41-60 years</td> <td>269,471</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Above 60 years</td> <td>178,473</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>763,392</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Road Traffic Contraventions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Traffic Contraventions established for the period January 2010 to 31 March 2019 are tabled below: - <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>No. of contraventions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>161,217</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>193,577</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012</td> <td>210,424</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>206,390</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>220,719</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>202,170</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>228,189</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>235,994</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>239,495</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019 as at 31/03/19</td> <td>51592</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1,949,767</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Group	No. of licensees	Below 18 years	2,260	18 to 40 years	313,188	41-60 years	269,471	Above 60 years	178,473	Total	763,392	Year	No. of contraventions	2010	161,217	2011	193,577	2012	210,424	2013	206,390	2014	220,719	2015	202,170	2016	228,189	2017	235,994	2018	239,495	2019 as at 31/03/19	51592	Total	1,949,767	
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>CASE STATISTICS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The statistics for Crime, Misdemeanour and Drugs Related Offences for period January 2010 to 31 March 2019 are tabled below: - 	
<p>19. A Victims Rights Act and a Victims Charter shall be adopted so as to better safeguard the rights of victims of crime and set out the standards of service to which a victim of crime is entitled. Judicial and administrative processes shall be made responsive to the needs and expectations of victims: informing victims of their role in proceedings, of the scope, timing and progress of the proceedings, and of the disposition of their cases; allowing the views and concerns of victims to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of the proceedings where their personal interests are affected, without prejudice to the accused; providing proper assistance to victims throughout the legal process;</p>	<p>The Judicial Legal Services Provisions Act caters for inter alia the setting up of the Court of Appeal and High Court. Discussions still ongoing with Chief Justice. The Bill is still under consideration.</p>	<p>Attorney General's Office</p> <p>Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions</p>

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<p>minimizing inconvenience to victims, protecting their privacy, and ensuring their safety as well as that of their families; avoiding unnecessary delay in the disposition of cases and the execution of orders.</p>		
<p>20. In order to ensure that victims of crime obtain prompt redress for the harm they have suffered, a study shall be conducted as to the desirability of incorporating in our law a variant of the French system of ‘constitution de partie civile’, which would enable victims of crimes to obtain compensation for loss or injury suffered as a result of the crime when the accused is found guilty.</p>	<p><u>Constitution de Partie Civile</u></p> <p>There has been no decision taken yet on this matter but there is the possibility for victims to enter civil proceedings against the tort feisor to seek redress.</p> <p>However, The Judicial and Legal Provisions Act was passed in 2018 with a view to improving the administration of justice in Mauritius.</p>	<p>Attorney-General’s Office</p>
<p>21. In order to prevent intimidation of witnesses in drug-related cases and other serious cases, special measures shall be taken for the <u>protection of witnesses</u> and vulnerable persons, including the elaboration of</p>	<p>A special Unit (Victims and Witness Support Unit) has been set up under the Director of Public Prosecutions’ Office. The Unit acts as a liaison between the investigation phase of the enquiry made by the police, the advice stage and the lodging of cases in Court.</p> <p>A fast track procedure has been set up for all Court cases involving children, victims and juveniles, whereby the Magistrates ensure that the cases are in shape, that Counsel disclose all requested documents well before the date the child is due to appear before Court.</p>	<p>Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)</p>

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<p>a Witness Protection Program and circumstances where the out-of-court statements of such witnesses, video-recorded under oath, would be admissible as evidence in Court.</p>	<p>Members of the Unit have carried out several workshops with the police to discuss on the vulnerability of witnesses and victims in sexual abuse cases as well as domestic violence cases.</p> <p>A booklet entitled ‘Tanya so Zistwar’ has also been published by the Office of the DPP to sensitize victims on the steps to be taken to report sexual offences. It explains in caricature the different stages involved in relation to assistance given by police and the court to victims of sexual assault.</p> <p>In some sensitive cases of sexual nature, recourse has been made to have the witness depose through video-link in Court.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Office of the DPP has, since December 2015, participated in various Inter-Ministerial Committees in relation to human trafficking offences. Pursuant to these Committees, the ODPP has taken the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In January 2016, the ODPP, in collaboration with the US Embassy and the International Organisation for Migration, provided a training course to various stakeholders on investigation and prosecution of ‘trafficking in persons’ offences. - On 23rd January 2016, a second training was provided to senior officials of the police department by two prosecutors of the ODPP. - In December 2016, the ODPP had a working session with representatives of the police. - Several other workshops were organized in 2017 with a view to understand the vulnerability of witnesses in such cases. 	
<p>22. With a view to ensuring greater professionalism and transparency in the conduct of criminal investigations and safeguarding the rights of suspects and detainees, Government will adopt a <u>Police and Criminal</u></p>	<p>The Police and Criminal Justice Bill has been finalized and awaits Government instruction to be introduced in the National Assembly.</p>	<p>Attorney-General’s Office</p> <p>Mauritius Police Force</p>

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<p><u>Evidence Act</u>, with Codes of Practice designed to regulate the conduct of persons entrusted with the duty of investigating offences.</p>		
<p>23. The provisions of section 5 of the Constitution shall be made compatible with Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The Dangerous Drugs Act 2000 and the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2002 shall be reviewed.</p>	<p>No amendment has been brought to Section 5 of the Constitution so far. Any amendment to the Constitution requires $\frac{3}{4}$ majority. Furthermore, any change in Constitution should be in line with the security of the country.</p> <p>The Prevention of Terrorism Act was reviewed in 2016.</p>	<p>Ministry of Defence & Rodrigues</p>
<p>24. Measures shall be taken to ensure that</p> <p>(a) Persons arrested and detained in police stations have access at the outset of their detention, to a doctor, if possible, of their choice;</p> <p>(b) Visits by a doctor are conducted in a confidential manner;</p> <p>(c) They can inform their family or a person of</p>	<p>The Mauritius Police Force operates in a transparent, accountable, fair and responsible manner and pays due respect to Human Rights.</p> <p>Any person, who is arrested, is brought before Court within 24 hours. Since the Bail and Remand Court (BRC), is operational during weekends and public holidays, no person is detained unnecessarily. A person/detainee does not have to wait till Monday morning to be taken to Court.</p> <p>Furthermore, any person who is detained in a Police cell or detention centre is allowed to contact any of his family members or his lawyer or friend and to inform him/her of the place detention so as to receive visits. For such purpose, the detainee is given the necessary facilities to communicate with his/her family member or friend, except:-</p> <p>(a) where they have been detained incommunicado in virtue of the provisions of DDA or POTA; or</p> <p>(b) Where unreasonable delay or hindrance is caused to the processes of investigation or administration of justice.</p>	<p>Mauritius Police Force</p> <p>Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>their choice about their detention; and (d) Arrested persons will be entitled to legal aid at enquiry stage.</p>	<p>Where a detainee complains that he/she is suffering/ill or has been victim of an accident, he/she is immediately conveyed to hospital by the Police for medical examination/treatment before any interrogation starts or he/she is detained. Such medical examination also helps against allegation of Police abuse.</p> <p>Rights and welfare of detainees have been included in the Police Standing Orders (SO 137).</p> <p>The Commissioner of Police issued an order in March 2015 to be complied with by all Police Officers to the effect that as soon as a person is arrested and/or detained, the Station Manager or Officer-in-Charge (OIC) Unit should as soon as practicable forward a message/report with the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Name and address of person/s arrested and/or detained (b) Place of detention (c) Name and contact details of relatives informed and (d) Name of counsel (if known) <p>to the Police Information and Operations Room (PIOR) and Divisional/Branch Operations Room to be communicated to any counsel or relatives of the arrested/detained person by the OIC PIOR and Divisional/Branch OPS Room.</p> <p>Questioning of detainees has to be in line with Judges' Rules and the Standing Orders of the Mauritius Police Force. In addition, the "Rights of Detainees in Police Custody" are posted in all Police Stations for the information of detainees and their families in three languages (English, French and Creole). The Mauritius Police Force has also issued its Code of Ethics / Practice in 2018.</p> <p>In virtue of the Legal Aid (Amendment) Act 2012 - Act No.13 of 2012, proclaimed in November 2012 (<i>Proclamation No.46 of 2012</i>), suspects are entitled to legal aid and legal assistance during the recording of their statement under warning and during bail application provided that their wearing apparel and tools of trade do not exceeds Rs 500,000 and their monthly earnings are not more than Rs 15,000.</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION																		
	<p>Section 5 of the Constitution states that no person shall be deprived of his personal liberty save as may be authorised by law in a number of circumstances including where there is the need to ensure his appearance in Court. Moreover, if a person is not tried within a reasonable time, he should be released with or without conditions without prejudice to the appropriate authority’s power to bring fresh proceedings subsequently, including his right to be released on bail. Section 10 of the Constitution lays down provisions to secure the protection of the law. Every person charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed to be innocent until he is proved guilty. He shall be informed as soon as reasonably practicable of the nature of the offence in a language that he understands. He shall be given adequate time and facilities for the preparation of his defence. He shall be permitted to defend himself in person or by a legal representative of one’s own choice or by a legal representative provided at the public expense (under the Legal Aid Act and Legal Assistance Act, subject to eligibility conditions being satisfied). Where he cannot understand the language used at the trial, he shall be permitted, without payment, the assistance of an interpreter.</p>																			
<p>25. Training programs to law enforcement officers and medical personnel on human rights principles shall be reinforced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As far as members of the judiciary as well as officers of the Attorney General’s Office and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions are concerned, the latter have the opportunity to attend conferences, workshops and seminars on human rights. The Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies (IJLS) is equally conducting courses on human rights issues. Table below refers: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S N</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Course</th> <th>Judge s</th> <th>Magistra tes</th> <th>Law Practit ioners</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="6">2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">1</td> <td align="center">8th March</td> <td align="center">Human Trafficking & Gender-Based Violence</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td align="center">√</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S N	Date	Course	Judge s	Magistra tes	Law Practit ioners	2017						1	8 th March	Human Trafficking & Gender-Based Violence			√	<p align="center">IJLS</p>
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS						RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION		
	2	26 th May	Strengthening Judicial Response to Domestic Violence		√				
	3	31 st July	Judicial Training – Interaction with Supreme Court Judges	√					
	4	1 st August	Bail Law – Art.5 of the ECHR – The Right To Personal Liberty			√			
	5	2 nd August	Judicial Training Interaction with Magistrates – Functioning of European Court of Human Rights & Art.6 – Right To A Fair Trial		√				
	6	9 th August	International Humanitarian Law		√	√			
	7	28 th Nov 2017	Panel Discussion on Child Sexual Abuse seen from a psycho-socio-legal perspective		√	√			
	8	7 th Dec	Victim centric approach to Human Trafficking- an analysis of international & national laws relating to TIP			√			
	2018								
	9	30 th Jan	State reporting to UN Treaty Bodies			√			
	10	7 th Feb 2018	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women			√			
	11	15 th Feb	The Human Rights Situation in Eritrea- rule law & crimes against Humanity			√			
	12	20 th March	Human Rights, HIV & the Law: a decade later, where do we stand.			√			
	13	13 th April	Bail through constitutional Provisions: Principles and Challenges			√			
	14	3 rd May	La reparation des violations de droits de l’homme		√	√			
	15	10 th May	The Origins of Criminality – Evil Mind			√			

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS					RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION		
	16	16 th October	An Overview of the CERD- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination			√	National Human Rights Commission	
	2019							
		24 th Jan	Vulnerabilite et acces a la justice					√
		13 th Feb	International Good Practices in Combatting Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Violence		√			√
		13 th Mar	Mandate of the UK National Preventive Mechanism- An Overview of the UK PACE 1984					√
		19 th Mar	An Overview of the Convention on the Rights of the Child					√
		26 th Mar	Public Interest Litigation in India					√
		28 th Mar	Interpretation of Fundamental Human Rights in the Indian Constitution					√
		29 th Mar	Judicial Activism of Supreme court in respect to the interpretation of basic Human rights & the Challenges faced by the Indian Judiciary		√			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on Human Rights is an ongoing activity at the Mauritius Prisons Training School and the Police Training School including lectures by the National Human Rights Commission • In February 2019, the NHRC delivered lectures on ‘Human Rights ‘to new recruits of the Mauritius Police Force at the Police Training Schools in Beau Bassin and Curepipe, the SSU Training School at Line Barracks and the Coast Guard Police Training School at Le Chaland. 408 new recruits availed of this training. 							

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Training sessions conducted by National Preventive Mechanism Division with Prison Officers and the number of attendees, per year, during period 2014 -2017. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S/N</th> <th>Date and year of events</th> <th>No. of Participants \</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>04 July 2014</td> <td>06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>05 December 2014</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>09 February 2015</td> <td>69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.</td> <td>27 February 2015</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.</td> <td>19 May 2015</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6.</td> <td>20 May 2016</td> <td>72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7.</td> <td>30 September 2016</td> <td>109</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8.</td> <td>Year 2017</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Preventive Mechanism Division trained in October 2018 Prisons staff from Mauritius and Overseas as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - East African Community – three - The United Republic of Tanzania – two - The Republic of Kenya – two - Mauritius Senior Prison Officers Cadet – six <p>Training of Medical Personnel (Ministry of Health to provide information)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>2015</td> <td>2016</td> <td>2017</td> </tr> </table>	S/N	Date and year of events	No. of Participants \	1.	04 July 2014	06	2.	05 December 2014	36	3.	09 February 2015	69	4.	27 February 2015	10	5.	19 May 2015	75	6.	20 May 2016	72	7.	30 September 2016	109	8.	Year 2017	Nil		2015	2016	2017	
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS				RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	Law enforcement officers	399	587	151	
	Medical personnel	395	51	-	
<p>26. Police Standing Orders shall be revisited to make them more human-rights oriented.</p>	<p>The Standing Orders of the Mauritius Police Force cover issues for Prisoners and Accused parties (SO 120):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Safe custody of prisoners; (b) Care and Treatment of Prisoners; (c) Prisoners Property and Lock up register; (d) Interviews; (e) Escape from Custody; (f) Interviews of and warrants against prisoners. (g) Prisoner's in dock <p>Juvenile Offenders (SO 121) and Female Prisoners and Wardresses (SO 122).</p> <p>To ensure compliance regular visits are being held by the Police Inspectorate Team at Detention Centres and Station Cells.</p>				<p>Mauritius Police Force</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>A revised edition of the Police Standing Orders (SO) was published on 15.05.2015 and a copy has been issued to all ranks.</p> <p>As per the revised edition of the SO, Prisoners and Accused Parties, Juvenile Detainees and Female Detainees are now regulated by SO 133, 135 and 136 respectively.</p> <p>The Rodrigues Regional Assembly has power inter alia to propose and adopt Bills in relation to its areas of responsibility, which Bills, when adopted by Parliament shall be known as Regional Assembly Laws. The draft law has first to be transmitted by the Chief Commissioner of Rodrigues to the Minister who holds the portfolio for Rodrigues. Thereafter, Cabinet will have to give its approval for the Bill to be introduced in Parliament for its enactment in accordance with the relevant Standing Orders. The Regional Assembly may also make regulations which shall be known as Regional Assembly Regulations. Like other regulations, they will be subject to a negative resolution by the Parliament of Mauritius pursuant to section 122 of the Constitution. Section 31(7) of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Act provides that the Regional Assembly Regulations would be subject to a negative resolution of the National Assembly. The Regional Assembly Laws and the Regional Assembly Regulations apply only to Rodrigues.</p> <p>Questioning of detainees has to be in line with Judges' Rules and the Standing Orders of the Mauritius Police Force. In addition, the "Rights of Detainees in Police Custody" are posted in all Police Stations for the information of detainees and their families in three languages (English, French and Creole). The Mauritius Police Force has also issued its Code of Ethics / Practice in 2018.</p>	
<p>27. The law shall be amended setting out reasonable time limits for entering a prosecution after a person</p>	<p>Any person, who is arrested, is brought before Court within 24 hours. Since the Bail and Remand Court (BRC), is operational during weekends and public holidays, no person is detained unnecessarily. A person/detainee does not have to wait till Monday morning to be taken to Court.</p>	<p>Mauritius Police Force and</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>has been arrested so that pre-trial detention is not unduly prolonged and the accused is tried within a reasonable time (similarly that the appeal of a convicted person be heard within a reasonable time and the hearing of his appeal not be unduly prolonged when he is remanded to jail).</p>	<p><u>The Reform Institutions (Amendment) Bill</u></p> <p>It was passed in April 2018. The object of the Bill is to:</p> <p>(a) do away with the system of automatic remission whereby convicted persons were eligible to be discharged after having served two thirds of the period of sentence and to replace it with a new system of earned remission with a view to encouraging convicted persons to earn maximum remission not exceeding one third of the period of sentence where, during their term of imprisonment, they are of good conduct by not committing any prison default; (The new system of earned remission is not applicable to those convicted for drug dealing/ trafficking, sexual offenses on minors or handicapped persons.)</p> <p>(b) toughen the law against officers of the Mauritius Prisons Service, detainees and persons working in reform institutions who are convicted under the Act; and</p> <p>(c) provide that where, during his term of imprisonment, a detainee commits an offence under the Act, that detainee shall, on conviction for that offence, be ordered to serve immediately after the expiry of the sentence for which he was detained, any sentence imposed upon him by the Court.</p> <p><u>The Judicial and Legal Provisions Act 2018</u></p> <p>It provides inter alia:</p> <p>a. for the review of the offence of outrage against the public and religious morality and the offence of stirring up contempt or racial hatred so as to</p>	<p>Mauritius Prison Department</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>criminalize such offences committed through electronic means, and to provide for stiffer penalties;</p> <p>b. for an increase in the time limit for payment of a fine from 12 months to 2 years;</p> <p>c. that a person sentenced to a term of imprisonment or penal servitude shall, subject to certain conditions, be given full credit for the time he has spent in custody by deducting that time from the term of imprisonment or penal servitude imposed;</p> <p>d. that a convicted person who has, so far, not benefitted from full credit for the time he has spent in custody, may petition the President under section 75 of the Constitution with a view to obtaining full credit for the time he has spent in custody.</p> <p><u>Police and Criminal Justice Bill</u></p> <p>The Police and Criminal Justice Bill proposes to cater for these issues. The draft bill is accompanied by many codes of practice and DPP’s guidelines on specific provisions of this Bill.</p> <p>The Police and Criminal Justice Bill is in the stage of finalization. The Police and Criminal Justice Bill, once enacted, shall aim at striking a full balance between the rights of the individual and the practice of their powers by the Police and those in authority. It will inter alia bring together, in one enactment, provisions which relate to the exercise by police officers of the power to stop, enter, search, seize, arrest, and detain; to set a time limit for the detention of persons on remand/ awaiting trial, so as to better guarantee the citizen’s human rights and fundamental freedoms provided for in the Constitution of Mauritius. It further provides for the enforcement of the rights of victims and witnesses.</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>The Police and Criminal Justice Bill addresses inter-alia the abusiveness and arbitrariness of the present system of “provisional charges” is yet to be introduced in the National Assembly. It will further provide for the enforcement of the rights of victims and witnesses. It seeks to bring together, in one enactment, provisions which relate to the exercise by police officers of the power to stop, enter, search, seize, arrest, and detain; to set a time limit for the detention of persons on remand/ awaiting trial, so as to better guarantee the citizen’s human rights and fundamental freedoms provided for in the Constitution of Mauritius.</p> <p><u>The Deportation Act</u></p> <p>The Deportation Act also provides, <i>inter alia</i>, for detention in custody pending decision; how deportation orders are to be executed; deportation orders in respect of persons undergoing a sentence of imprisonment; and expenses of or incidental to deportation of a person to be met by the State.</p> <p><u>Pre-Trial Detention Period</u></p> <p>The Bail and Remand Court (BRC) is operational even during weekends and public holidays. Any person, who is arrested, is brought before Court within 24 hours and no person is detained unnecessarily as in the past during weekends. Police Standing Order No. 137 provides for the “Rights and Welfare of Detainees” which stipulates that detainees are allowed to contact their legal representative for bail formalities and communicate with family members or friends to inform of their place of detention. Moreover, they are allowed interviews with their legal representative.</p> <p>Remand and convicted detainees are located in different association yards and residential blocks/dormitories. In view of an increase in remand population, the Beau-Bassin Prison is in the process of being converted into a remand detention centre.</p> <p>In order to reduce the pre-trial detention period, a template has been designed since December 2016, enabling remand detainees who wish voluntarily to plead guilty, to directly inform the concerned authorities (DPP, Police etc) by filling the form. Some 695 applications from detainees have been processed up to October 2018, out of which 406 have been disposed.</p>	

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<p>28. The Criminal Code shall be revised to make acts of torture offences punishable by appropriate penalties that consider their grave nature. Provision shall also be made for the absolute prohibition of torture, and that no justification may be invoked in any circumstances to align this with concluding observations.</p>	<p>Torture is prohibited under Section 7 of the Constitution. Torture cases are prosecuted under Section 77 of the Criminal Code (DPP)</p> <p>The Law Reform Commission has made recommendations for amendments of the Criminal Code. Subject to such appropriate policy decisions be taken, the Attorney General will be given drafting instructions. The Parent Ministry will look into.</p> <p>Section 242 of the Criminal Code, which excuses manslaughter committed against a spouse caught in the act of adultery.</p>	<p>Attorney-General's Office;</p> <p>Mauritius Police Force</p> <p>Mauritius Prison Department</p> <p>The Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</p>																									
<p>29. Further measures shall be taken to reduce overcrowding and improve conditions in all prisons, including measures to ensure the separation of remand detainees from those who are convicted. A plan to reduce inter-prisoner violence shall be adopted. Social rehabilitation of prisoners shall be made more effective by increased efforts, with the assistance of NGOS, for the educational and vocational training to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Ten-year Strategic Plan was developed with the assistance of a UNODC consultant to address the problem of overcrowding use of alternative and non-custodial measures, reducing pre-trial detention methods and reducing the rate of recidivism. As at date there is no overcrowding in Prison. <p>Prison Population as at 24.07.2019</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Institution</th> <th>Maximum Capacity</th> <th>Total Convict</th> <th>Total Remand</th> <th>Grand Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Central Beau Bassin Prison</td> <td>1034</td> <td>53</td> <td>888</td> <td>941</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eastern High Security Prison</td> <td>906</td> <td>743</td> <td>0</td> <td>743</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phoenix Prison (Reopened on 28th march 2018)</td> <td>24</td> <td>8</td> <td>5</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Wing Prison</td> <td>282</td> <td>185</td> <td>99</td> <td>284</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Institution	Maximum Capacity	Total Convict	Total Remand	Grand Total	Central Beau Bassin Prison	1034	53	888	941	Eastern High Security Prison	906	743	0	743	Phoenix Prison (Reopened on 28 th march 2018)	24	8	5	13	New Wing Prison	282	185	99	284	<p>Ministry of Defence & Rodrigues</p> <p>Mauritius Prisons Department,</p>
Institution	Maximum Capacity	Total Convict	Total Remand	Grand Total																							
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS				RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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detainees and the detoxification drug-addicts.	Grand River North West Remand Prison	284	30	273	303	
	Richelieu Open Prison	166	121	0	121	
	Petite Verger Prison	326	288	0	288	
	Women Prison	160	30	107	137	
	Barkly Special Prison for Women	12	0	0	0	
	Open Prison for Women	20	18	0	18	
	Correctional Youth Center for Boys	44	7	19	26	
	Correctional Youth Center for Girls	14	0	0	0	
	General Population	3274	1483	1391	2874	
<p>With the coming into the operation of the Eastern High Security Prison (EHSP) in March 2014, majority of the convicted detainees are being kept thereat. Phoenix Prison was closed during the same period and all detainees located there at were also transferred to EHSP.</p> <p>To address new challenges identified as a result of the increasing cases of drug cases in Mauritius and the resulting threats to security, approval was obtained from the Cabinet in 2017 for the opening</p>						

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>of Phoenix Prison. The Phoenix Prison was re-opened on 29th March 2018 to cater for High Risk and Special category of Prisoners.</p> <p><u>Remand Detainees</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remand detainees and convicted detainees are kept separately. • In the Year 2018 as at 29.10.18, the Mauritius Prison Service received a total of 6,043 detainees on admission consisting of 2,913 convicted detainees and 3,130 remand detainees. As at 29.10.18, the Prison Department was currently housing 2,591 detainees including 1,148 remand detainees which represent 43%. <p><u>Open Prison for Women</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An open prison for Women is operational since December 2015 and has a capacity to hold 20. As at 24 July 2019, 18 convicted ladies are currently serving sentence. <p><u>Reducing Pre-trial Detention</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MPS with the collaboration of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and the Police Prosecution Unit designed a template to enable Remand Detainees who were voluntarily pleading guilty to do so by filling a form. They were being advised and assisted by Welfare Officers in this process since December 2016. As at February 2019, Prison Welfare Section sent 767 Plead Guilty Letters to Police Prosecution Office out of which 432 have been disposed. • In order to reduce the pre-trial detention period, a template has been designed since December 2016, enabling remand detainees who wish voluntarily to plead guilty, to directly inform the concerned authorities (DPP, Police etc) by filling the form. • <p><u>Drug Rehabilitation Centres</u></p>	

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	<p>A Residential Rehabilitation Lotus Centre was set up at the Eastern High Security Prisons in August 2017 to cater for detainees who have a history of Substance Abuse. It was launched on 05 October 2017. Initially, the program started with 20 detainees and in January 2018, 39 detainees were following the program. 32 Detainees are currently enrolled on the program. The Residential Program has been developed from Therapeutic Community perspective which is a participative multi-disciplinary approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moreover, there is a Lotus Day Care Centre at the Central Prisons, Beau Bassin which provides information and sensitization program on drug abuse and HIV/AIDS. It also provides daily therapeutic activities and counselling to detainees. Convicted as well as Remand Detainees are eligible to participate in the training program which last for a duration of three –month. • The Central Prison, Beau Bassin is currently in the process of being converted into a Remand Prison as most of the convicted detainees are being transferred to EHSP/Pettit Verger Prison (PVP) or Richelieu Open Prison (ROP). • The Day Care also provides effective programs to help inmates to reform and abide to Prison regulations while living a healthy life. The Day Care Centre can accommodate a maximum of 40 detainees and as at 11 January 2017, 30 detainees including 10 Peer Supports are following the program. Priority is given to the first time offenders to be enrolled in the program but however, for Methadone Induction Program, repeated offenders are also considered. <p><u>Detoxification of drug addicts</u></p> <p>(a) Detainees embarking on the programme are selected by the assessment team comprising of medical staff and welfare officers of the Prison Services. The programme implemented at the lotus centre is a rehabilitation-oriented program led by the welfare officer of the Prison Services.</p>	

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	<p>(b) There are no major challenges faced by the Ministry in delivering health services at the Prisons.</p> <p>(c) Health services provided to detainees who use drugs are not appropriate (Health services which are provided outside prisons are not available inside prisons, for example no condoms and no Needle. Health Services provided to detainees are the same for all. Irrespective of whether they use drugs or not. Besides, all detainees have access to all health services as per their needs just like any member of the population in the community.</p> <p>(d) Exchange Programmes are provided to inmates to protect their health) and NGOs are not included in the programmes to drug users. Drug addiction is a chronic, relapsing disorder which requires a long, term treatment. NGOs access to detainees is dealt solely at the level of prison authorities.</p> <p><u>Health Services</u></p> <p>Health service provided to detainees who are drug users are of the same importance and quality as those in the community, as it is currently being provided by the Harm Reduction Unit of the Ministry of Health & Quality of Life.</p> <p>Prisons statistic reveals that detainees are commonly addicted to heroin, cannabis and bupremorphine (Subutex), a high percentage amongst them are Injecting Drug Users. As per records available, there were 404 detainees on Methadone Maintenance Treatment located in five different prisons as at 25 July 2019.</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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SN	Institution	No of MST
1	Central Prison Beau Bassin	189
2	Eastern High Security Prison, Melrose	85
3	New Wing Prison	44
4	Women Prison	8
5	Petit Verger Prison	78

Tobacco cessation unit

To address the health hazards of cigarettes a tobacco cessation unit was inaugurated in June 2019 by the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life at Eastern High Security Prison (**EHSP**). Moreover, the prison department has already recruited its own psychologist and one psychologist is appointed under the Service to Mauritius Program of the Ministry of Finance. Both psychologists are assisting the prison department in the implementation of rehabilitation programs.

Assistance of NGOs

1. Residential Rehabilitation Lotus Centre, EHSP

NGOs Involved in Awareness Campaign and Therapeutic at EHSP

(i) Association Kinuete

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>(ii)Centre Mieux Vivre</p> <p>2. Lotus Day Care Centre, Central Prison, Beau Bassin</p> <p>NGOs assisting in the programs are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre Mieux Vivre • Prevention Information et Luttecontre le Sida (PILS) • Association Kinuete • Association Tai Chi Chuan • Action Familiale • Hope Foundation for Counselling session with Foreigners <p><u>Awareness to Detainees on treatment and other activities at:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residential Rehabilitation Lotus Centre, EHSP 2. The treatment program at the Residential Rehabilitation Lotus Centre at EHSP can be run with a batch of 50 detainees for a duration of 6 months in 3 phases. After completion of the program with one batch, another batch is selected. <p>Themes/topics of the campaign and activities held during the 3 phases.</p> <p>(i) <u>Phase 1 – Initial Treatment Phase (1 month)</u></p> <p>This phase is of one month duration. Detainees are expected to get adapted to his new environment and to participate in activities to bring balance in his being and</p>	

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	<p>doing – a stabilizing phase, where the detainees will have to sign Treatment Contract to move to the next phase –Intermediate Treatment Phase.</p> <p>Detainees participate in the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment Contract • Seminar:”ecoute, obeisance, responsibilities, take, boite de sentiment” • House hold task • Personal hygiene • Indoor Remedial exercise and outdoor games • Spirituality • Counseling • Outdoor activity: gardening <p align="center">(ii) <u>Phase 2 – Intermediate Treatment Phase (4 Months)</u></p> <p>This phase is of four months duration. It is considered as the core part of the program to help detainees bring meaning to their life through changes in their attitude and behavior.</p> <p>Detainees participate in the following therapeutic activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Therapy • Mirror Therapy • Seminar: self-esteem, decision making on their choices, freedom and responsibilities, family values and life skills • Spirituality • Remedial exercise • Therapeutic games • Counselling • Groupe Dynamic 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groupe Statique • Groupe Sondage <p><u>(iii) Phase 3 – Pre-Release Treatment Phase (1 Month)</u></p> <p>This phase is of one month duration. Detainees are assessed of their participation in this program and their readiness to live a drug free life upon release.</p> <p>The collaborating Resource Persons from NGOs and GOs are solicited when the need arises to support released detainees in the community.</p> <p>Detainees participate in the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relapse prevention • Spirituality • Remedial exercise • Seminar: family values, friendship, support, employability • Counselling • Re- settlement plan with emphasis on family support <p><u>Lotus Day Care Centre, Central Prisons, Beau Bassin</u></p> <p>Major Activities held are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoga by Peer Support • Tai Chi by Association Tai Chi Chuan • Drug Prevention Program in collaboration with Association Kinuete • Spiritual Support by Centre Mieux Vivre 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methadone Induction Program • Sexuality by Action Familiale • Counselling by Association Kinuete • Keep fit program by Prison Officers • Life –Skills by Association Kinuete , Centre Mieux Vivre, Prison Welfare Officers and trained Officers. • Talks and Film projections on Substance abuse and illicit trafficking by Officer and Association Kinuete. <p>For the year 2017, 725 detainees in all Prisons, including 378 detainees at EHSP, have followed Awareness Campaigns on Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS by NGOs.</p> <p>Only detox programmes are available; there are no long-term treatment for drug-users.</p>	
<p>30. The Reform Institutions Act will be revised to meet new priorities and challenges. The system of remission and release on parole would be reviewed to ensure that it serves as an incentive for good conduct in prison and meets the goal of rehabilitation. The concept of spent convictions shall be incorporated in the law.</p>	<p>The Reform Institution Act as well as the Parole Board falls under the purview of the Prison. However, the supervision of convicted detainees released on parole is vested in the Probation and Aftercare Service (Ministry of Social Security, NS & RI). The Prison Service is regulated by the Reform Institutions Act 1988 and Prison Regulations 1989.</p> <p><u>Concept of spent convictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the ruling of Callachand & Anors vs The State of Mauritius Ref: UK Privy Council 49 in 2008, concept of spent convictions was incorporated in our law. • Times spent on remand are now taken into considerations during the execution of the sentence. The sentencing magistrate makes an order to that effect so that the Prison Authority deducts time spent on remand when computing a sentence. Judicial and legal provision Act 18 accented on 4th May 2018 makes provision for the full credit for the time spent on custody. The time spend on custody includes the time during which an accused 	<p>Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</p> <p>Mauritius Prison Department</p>

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	<p>has been in police detention, on Remand or detained pursuant to Juvenile Offenders act, The Mental Health Care Act or the Reform Institution Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018, the Judicial and Legal Provisions Act was enacted and it provides that that a person sentenced to a term of imprisonment or penal servitude shall, subject to certain conditions, be given full credit for the time he has spent in custody by deducting that time from the term of imprisonment or penal servitude imposed. • In addition, a convicted person who has, so far, not benefitted from full credit for the time he has spent in custody, may petition the President under section 75 of the Constitution with a view to obtaining full credit for the time he has spent in custody. • The Reform Institutions Act (RIA) was amended in April 2018 to do away with the system of automatic remission. There is now a new system of earned remission with a view to encouraging convicted persons to earn maximum remission (one third of the period of sentence) based on their good conduct by not committing any prison default. This legislation has also toughened the penalties applicable to officers of the Mauritius Prisons Service, detainees and persons working in reform institutions who are convicted of defaults under the Act. <p><u>The Prison Bill</u></p> <p>The Prison Bill is still under consideration at the level of the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues, and Prison Department. A few amendments were brought to the Reform Institutions Act. The Reform Institutions Amendment Act 2018 was gazetted and assented in May 2018. The purpose of the amendment is to toughen the Law by doing away with the automatic one-third remission system and replacing it by an earned remission system to encourage participation in an approved rehabilitation program, good conduct and work habits. The Act will come into force following the</p>	

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	<p>amendments to Prison Regulations with regards to the delimitations of zones to control the use of Mobile Phones on the Prison compound.</p> <p><u>Training / Conference</u></p> <p>In October 2018 Mauritius Prison Service hosted a regional 1-week Conference Familiarization Training on Technological Application on Security within the Prison setting. Six delegates of East African Community and seven line managers of the Mauritius Prison Service attended the Conference held at the Prison Training School from 22 October 2018 to 27 October 2018. National Preventive Mechanism held a lecture on Human Rights in Prison Setting.</p>	
<p>31. Human Rights training for prison officials shall be reinforced and the Standing Orders of the Prisons Service revisited to make them more human rights compliant. A Detainee's Booklet and a Prison Officer's Handbook shall be elaborated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Rights courses are being dispensed to all recruits and refresher courses are being given to all officers. • Human Rights is a module which is incorporated in the curriculum of the Training School and Human Rights courses are on-going. • In November 2018 sixty senior officers of the prison, welfare officers and other technical staff attended a two-day workshop on Consequences of Drugs and HIV/AIDs in Prison and Human Rights in Prison. The Workshop was an initiative of Kinouete NGO under a Commonwealth Funded Program. • Since 2008, the Prison Service has already produced a detainee's booklet in Creole where the Rights and Privileges of detainees are clearly stated. It would be updated, as required. • Concerning the Prison Officer's Handbook, the Prison Standing Orders are being reviewed. 	<p>Mauritius Prison Department</p>
<p>32. Legislation shall be introduced to set up the Court of Appeal and the High Court. New legislation will provide the High Court with a Family Division, which would be conferred</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Family Division already operates within the Supreme Court with dedicated Judges hearing Family-related cases on a daily basis. • The setting up of the Court of Appeal and the High Court is still being awaited pending the enactment of the relevant legislation. 	<p>Master & Registrar Attorney-General's Office</p>

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<p>exclusive original civil and criminal jurisdiction in respect of family matters and would have all the required support services.</p>		
<p>33. With a view to facilitating access to justice, the decentralization of the Supreme Court and the Intermediate Court, with Judges and Magistrates of these Courts, sitting elsewhere than in Port Louis, shall be given due consideration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to infrastructural problem the Judiciary could not envisage the decentralization of the Supreme Court and the Intermediate Court to sit elsewhere than Port Louis. • A New Supreme Court Building is scheduled for completion and delivery in December 2019 and it is found in Port Louis. The project of a total cost of Rs 1 Billion is financed wholly by a grant of \$30Million from the Government of India. The works are being undertaken by Contractor Renaatus and the project consultants are NBCC from India. Landscape Mauritius, on its part, is the Implementing Agency on behalf of the Judiciary. • The Judiciary is contemplating to increase the civil jurisdiction of District Courts but the matter is being looked into. • The amount of criminal cases has increased in the recent years. 	<p>Master & Registrar</p>
<p>34. Procedural and evidential rules shall be simplified in conformity with human rights norms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supreme Court Rules introduced through the Judicial and Legal Provisions Act 2000 already provide simplified procedural rules for actions lodged before the Supreme Court. These rules are under regular review by the Rules Committee. • The Police and Criminal Justice Bill has been drafted and is yet to be introduced in the National Assembly. The Police and Criminal Justice Bill, once enacted, shall aim at striking a full balance between the rights of the individual and the practice of their powers by the Police and those in authority. It will inter alia bring together, in one enactment, provisions which relate to the exercise by police officers of the power to stop, enter, search, seize, arrest, and detain; to set a time limit for the detention of persons on remand/ awaiting trial, so as to better guarantee the citizen's human rights and fundamental freedoms provided for in the Constitution of Mauritius. It further provides for the enforcement of the rights of victims and witnesses. 	<p>Master & Registrar Attorney General's Office Mauritius Police Force Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</p>

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<p>35. A framework shall be set up which would enable a panel of Judges to review convictions which may constitute miscarriages of justice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current criminal appeal process already provides safeguards against miscarriages of justice. • The Criminal Appeal Act was amended in August 2013 (a) to allow a person convicted by the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court or following appellate proceedings, to apply to the Court for a review of the proceedings relating to the conviction, and (b) to allow a person convicted following a trial before the Supreme Court to apply to the Human Rights Division of the National Human Rights Commission which may refer the conviction to the Court for a review of the proceedings if there is fresh and compelling evidence. • Pardon or respite also remains an option under section 75 of our Constitution. • Nevertheless, the possibility of having a mechanism set up to review wrongful convictions can be looked into, with the assistance of the Law Reform Commission. 	<p>Master & Registrar</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>36. The right to privacy and respect for human dignity shall be afforded better protection in our law.</p>	<p>Chapter II of the Constitution guarantees the enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms in Mauritius which are the right to life, the right to personal liberty, protection from slavery and forced labour, protection from inhuman treatment, protection from deprivation of property, protection for privacy of home and other property, protection of the law, freedom of conscience, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and association, freedom of movement and prevention from discrimination.</p> <p>The new Data Protection Act came into force in January 2018. It provides for the protection of the privacy rights of individuals in view of the developments in the techniques used to capture, transmit, manipulate, record or store data relating to individuals. The new Act aligns the law of Mauritius with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Mauritius is the first country in Africa to have aligned itself with the EU GDPR.</p> <p>Government has had recently to strengthen legislations to offer more protection to the citizens, from the dangers of new means of communications through the internet, electronic devices and on social media.</p> <p>Sec 106 (outrage against public and religious morality) and 282 (Stirring up racial discrimination) of the Criminal Code have been amended in 2018 and has been broadened to capture radio communication, and technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical and electromagnetic capabilities, and writing in different forms which includes writing by electronic means, communication in the form of speed or other sound.</p> <p>Under section 18 (1) m of the ICT Act 2001, as amended, one of the functions of the ICT Authority is to “take steps to regulate or <i>curtail harmful and illegal content on Internet and other information and communication services</i>”.</p> <p>As at date, the ICT Authority has enforced only the curtailing of <i>illegal content on Internet</i> by hinging on Section 15 of the Child Protection Act 1994 as amended, which makes child pornography illegal in Mauritius.</p>	<p>Attorney-General’s Office</p> <p>Ministry of Technology Communication and Innovation</p>

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	<p>Equipped with the above legal mandate, since February 2011, the ICT Authority has set up an online content filtering service that enables Internet service providers in Mauritius to effectively filter child sexual abuse (CSA) or child pornographic sites, which are considered as illegal in Mauritius. This implies that no Internet user from Mauritius can access these CSA websites and if they try to do so, a block page will appear instead.</p> <p>This filtering solution uses a blacklist provided, managed and regularly by the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), a non-profit organisation that is widely recognised as one of the best in the world at managing a URL list of CSA sites coupled with the Interpol blacklist.</p> <p>Statistics for 2019 are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (CSA) FILTERING</th> <th>JANUARY</th> <th>FEBRUARY</th> <th>MARCH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of attempts (hits) to access CSA websites by Mauritian Internet Users</td> <td>32,343</td> <td>25,402</td> <td>31,663</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of Mauritian IPs addresses to which access to CSA websites was blocked</td> <td>1,473</td> <td>1,131</td> <td>1,076</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of CSA URLs to which access by Mauritian Internet users was blocked</td> <td>1,129</td> <td>1,278</td> <td>1,359</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (CSA) FILTERING	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	Number of attempts (hits) to access CSA websites by Mauritian Internet Users	32,343	25,402	31,663	Number of Mauritian IPs addresses to which access to CSA websites was blocked	1,473	1,131	1,076	Number of CSA URLs to which access by Mauritian Internet users was blocked	1,129	1,278	1,359	
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<p>37. Media laws shall be brought in line with the norms of a democratic society. A mechanism shall be provided for the handling of complaints about factual</p>	<p>A working draft of the Freedom of Information Bill is currently under examination. In view of the numerous and far-reaching implications of this piece of legislation, this exercise is quite tedious and complex, ranging from constitutional to public interest issues.</p> <p>In-house consultations on the first working draft of the Freedom of Information Bill are ongoing. The numerous administration, financial, legal and institutional implications of this draft piece of</p>	<p>Prime Minister's Office</p> <p>Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation</p>																

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<p>inaccuracy or unethical behaviour by the media, and the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act shall be amended to provide for ethical conduct and safeguard of the fundamental rights of persons.</p>	<p>legislation are being examined and scrutinized in depth as there is need to strike a right balance between the delivery of effective and efficient Government and the right to know. Once the in-house consultation exercise is completed, relevant stakeholders concerned would also be consulted. There is no indication as to the time frame for the introduction of the draft legislation in the National Assembly.</p> <p>The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) was created in 2001 to oversee the provision of radio and television broadcasting services. Its objects also include the preservation and promotion of the plural nature of Mauritian culture by ensuring that licensees include, in their services, programmes reflecting the linguistic and cultural diversity of Mauritius. A Standards Committee set up under the IBA is responsible for the drawing up of a code of ethics for licensees and a code of advertising practice.</p> <p>The Code of Conduct for Broadcasting Services, in its Preamble, stresses on the upholding of the fundamental principle “that the freedom of all broadcasting licensees is indivisible from, and subject to, the same restraints as those relevant to the individual person, and is founded on the individual’s right to be informed and to freely receive and disseminate opinions.”</p> <p>Broadcasting licensees may not broadcast “any material which is indecent, obscene or offensive to public morals or offensive to the religious convictions or feelings of any section of the population or likely to prejudice the safety of the State or the public order or relations between sections of the population.</p> <p>The Authority has set up a Complaints Committee which considers and adjudicates, inter alia, on any complaint of breaches or anticipated breaches of the codes and unjust or unfair treatment or the likelihood of such treatment in a broadcast programme. Upon complaints made to the police, an investigation is carried out by the police and if charges are found to be substantiated, the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions advises prosecution.</p>	

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	<p>In the context of the merger of the Information Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) and the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), the ICTA Act and the IBA Act are being reviewed by the Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation with a view to setting up a new Regulatory body to supervise and regulate the communications and broadcasting activities in Mauritius.</p> <p>The courts in Mauritius as well as the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have also balanced the freedom of the press with other freedoms provided in the Constitution. Of particular relevance are the cases of Sornack Nandanev v Le Mauricien Ltd & Ors (2013) SCJ 5 and Gilbert Anhee & Ors v The Director of Public Prosecutions (Privy Council) (1999) MR 2008.</p> <p>Amendments to the Information and Communications Technologies Act in 2018 significantly reinforced the legislative arsenal, providing for prison sentences for those who post content that could cause “inconvenience, distress or anxiety.”</p>	
<p>38. In order to promote pluralism in the media, Government will encourage the licensing of Free to Air Private TV channels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding private radio licences, the number of applications received in 2018 was 17 and the Independent Broadcasting Authority has granted 2 license to two new private radios to operate in 2019. • Almost all the local radio stations use the social media platform and web tv to reach out the population. • In the Government Programme 2015-2019, it is already stated that private television broadcast will be permitted. Provisions already exist in the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act for the Authority to issue licences to private television operators. One factor that so far inhibited the advent of private television is the provisions of the latter Act, which restricted the limit of foreign shareholding in a company applying for a licence to 20%. Nevertheless, the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act has been amended through the Finance Act 2019 to cater for the new foreign shareholding ceiling of 49.9% instead of 20%. 	<p>Prime Minister’s Office</p> <p>Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No applications have been received so far for TV licences. • Government has already agreed to the merging of the regulatory bodies, namely the Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) and the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), and in order to adapt to the convergence of technology. • It is proposed to review the foreign shareholding threshold of 49.9% under the proposed new legislation with a view to attracting more applicants, especially foreigners to apply for a private television license. (update from ICTA/PMO-licenses: through Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation) • The local media has always enjoyed a tradition of freedom and pluralism. There is at present more than 35 dailies/weeklies/fortnightlies/ monthlies, whilst the audio visual landscape consists of the national radio and television (the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation) as well as private radio stations and web TV run by media houses. It is also important to point out that the press operates in an environment free from violence or coercion, with Journalists free to exercise their profession within the constitutional and legal framework in Mauritius. 	
<p>RECOMMENDATION D: Securing Greater Realization of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights so that Basic Necessities of Life are Adequately and Equitably Available to Everyone in Society: By Providing for Decent Work Conditions in a Safe and Healthy Working Environment & by Guaranteeing Social Security Entitlements; Ensuring Availability, Accessibility and Adequacy of Food; Ensuring Sufficient, Safe, Acceptable, Physically Accessible and Affordable Water Supply for Personal and Domestic Uses; Securing Adequate Housing; Achieving Highest Attainable Standard of Health (through Availability and Accessibility of Health-Care Facilities, Goods and Services of Quality); Developing Access to Education and Training Facilities; Developing Opportunities for Taking Part in Cultural Life and Affording Better Protection to the Moral and Material Interests resulting from any Scientific, Literary or Artistic production of which a Person is the Author</p>		

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<p>39. Government is fully committed to the effective protection of the workforce. In this respect, necessary amendments will be brought to the existing labour legislation to ensure better protection of workers' rights and to provide safer and more conducive working conditions.</p>	<p>The Employment Rights Act 2008, which replaced the Labour Act 1975 with effect from 02 February 2009, has revised and consolidated the legal provisions relating to employment, contract of employment or service, termination of employment, minimum age for employment, hours of work, payment of remuneration and other basic terms and conditions of employment, thereby ensuring a better protection of workers' rights.</p> <p>The Employment Rights Act was further amended in June 2013 with a view to, inter alia, –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) extending the grant of paid annual and sick leave to workers reckoning between more than 6 months' and less than 12 months' continuous employment; (b) introducing the concept of reinstatement in cases of unfair termination of employment on grounds of redundancy, discrimination and victimization for participation in trade union activities; (c) providing for the setting up of an independent Employment Promotion and Protection Division within the Employment Relations Tribunal to determine, within a specific time frame, whether cases of redundancy or closing down of enterprises are justified or not; (d) providing for the payment of a death gratuity in case of death of workers reckoning not less than 12 months' continuous employment; and (e) increasing the quantum of meal allowance from 50 rupees to 70 rupees per day where a worker is required to perform more than 2 hours overtime after having completed a normal day's work. <p>The Employment Rights Act was once more amended by end of 2013 to provide for the payment of an End of Year Bonus to those workers not specifically covered by Remuneration Regulations, on terms more favourable than those initially provided for under the End of Year Gratuity Act 2001 (Section 31A)</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>

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	<p><u>The Workers’ Rights Bill</u></p> <p>The Workers’ Rights Bill was introduced in July 2019. The object of this Bill is to repeal the Employment Rights Act and replace it by a modern and comprehensive legislative framework with a view to addressing the shortcomings of the present legislation and to provide the emerging forms of work in the industrial revolution so as to promote decent work and sustainable development.</p> <p>The Bill, inter alia –</p> <p>(a) protects workers against discrimination by expanding the definition of “discrimination” to include impairment and different treatment where a worker performing the same or similar work is employed by a subsidiary company or a parent company;</p> <p>(b) protects workers against precarious employment by –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restricting a fixed term contract to a work of a temporary nature; • considering the length of service of a worker on a fixed termcontract as being continuous employment where the contract is renewed and where there is no break of 28 days between 2 fixed term contracts; <p>(c) gives a person who performs atypical work, such as online platform work, the status of a worker;</p> <p>(d) provides for a compromise agreement to be vetted by a worker’s legal representative, trade union or representative of the Ministryresponsible for the subject of labour and employment relations so as to protect workers where they are compelled to sign an agreement to their detriment;</p> <p>(e) reconciles work with family by providing more flexible work arrangements, such as flexi time;</p> <p>(f) provides for a recourse to a protective order to safeguard workers’ remuneration and for an advance payment from a Wage Guarantee Fund Account where an employer fails to pay remuneration a worker;</p>	

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	<p>(g) extends maternity benefits to a mother who adopts a child of up to 12 months old;</p> <p>(h) harmonises core conditions of employment and provides for new benefits such as bank of sick leave, Juror's leave and other special leaves;</p> <p>(i) protects workers' jobs by the setting up of a Redundancy Board;</p> <p>(j) guarantees workers a gratuity on retirement which will consider their full length of service irrespective of the number of employers with whom they have been working; and</p> <p>(k) widens the scope of protection to workers against violence by making an employer vicariously responsible, in certain circumstances, for the act committed by a co-worker or any other person on a worker</p> <p>The Trade Unions and the Business Mauritius (representing the employers) have made proposals under the Worker's Rights Bill, and some of the comments have been taken onboard. An amended version of the Bill has been reintroduced in the parliament in August 2019.</p> <p><u>Maternity and Paternity Benefits</u></p> <p>The Act was again amended in 2015 and 2018 to provide for enhanced maternity benefits to female workers. In August 2018, the eligibility to maternity leave with pay was extended to female workers employed in both the Public and Private Sector who reckoning less than 12 months of continuous service. The restriction of 3 confinements which is applicable in the Public Sector has been removed in July 2019.</p> <p>The Employment Rights Act was already amended in 2015 to increase maternity leave from 12 weeks to 14 weeks.</p>	

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	<p>Section 31 of the Act provides that a male worker is entitled to 5 continuous working days’ paternity leave upon the production of a medical certificate certifying that his spouse has given birth to his child and a written statement from him that his spouse and himself are living under a common roof. This benefit is also extended on a pro-rata basis to part-time male employees. The leave is on full pay for a worker reckoning more than 12 months’ continuous employment. The application of this provision has been extended to all sectors of employment, including those covered by Remuneration Regulations. It is to be noted that under this section, “spouse” is defined as a person with whom the worker has contracted a civil or religious marriage.</p> <p>For a female worker, who is nursing her breastfed child, to be entitled to a daily break of one hour, or a break of half an hour twice daily with pay for the purpose of nursing the child; for a period of 6 months from the date of confinement or such longer period as may be recommended by a medical practitioner.</p> <p><u>Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183) of the International Labour Organisation</u></p> <p>Mauritius ratified the Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183) of the International Labour Organisation in June 2019. The Convention applies to all employed women, including those in atypical forms of dependent work and makes provision for the women, including those in atypical forms of dependent work and makes provision for the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) extension of protection to all employed women; (b) at least 14 weeks of maternity leave, including six weeks of compulsory postnatal leave; (c) additional leave in case of illness, complications or risk of complications arising out of pregnancy or childbirth; (d) cash benefits during leave of at least two-thirds of previous or insured earnings (or at an equivalent level where benefits are not calculated on the basis of previous earnings); 	

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	<p>(e) access to medical care, including prenatal, childbirth and postnatal care, as well as hospitalisation when necessary;</p> <p>(f) health protection, that is the right of pregnant or nursing women not to perform work prejudicial to their health or that of their child;</p> <p>(g) minimum of one daily break with pay for breastfeeding; and</p> <p>(h) employment protection and non-discrimination.</p> <p><u>Work from Home</u> In the same amendment of 2018 to the ERiA, the notion of “Homeworker” was introduced with a view to bring this atypical class of workers under the ambit and protection of the labour legislation.</p> <p>The Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, No. 11 of 2018, has amended the ERiA and has introduced the notion of “work from home”. A “home worker” is one who carries out work at his residential premises or at such other place, not being business premises, as may be agreed upon with his employer. Section 5 (Agreement) of the Employment Rights Act 2008 was amended with effect as from August 2018. The Regulations prescribing terms and conditions of work for home workers, as provided in the Act, are currently being finalized. As such no statistics has yet been compiled or gathered to quantify the impact of such measure.</p> <p><u>Forced Labour and Slavery</u> Section 6 of the Constitution provides protection from slavery and forced labour. It stipulates that no person shall be held in slavery or servitude, and no person shall be required to perform forced labour.</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>Mauritius had ratified the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No 29) of the ILO on 02.12.69. Its principles and articles have since long been incorporated in our legislation and that of Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105) also. The relevant provisions of the Forced Labour Convention are enshrined in Section 6 of the Constitution of Mauritius; Section 35 of the Reform Institutions Act 1988; Section 16 of the Prisons Regulations 1989 (Government Notice No. 19 of 1989) made under the Reform Institutions Act 1988; and Standing Order No. 16 of the Prisons Service.</p> <p><u>Wage Differentials</u></p> <p>The differential rates between male and female workers in the Salt-manufacturing Industry no longer exist. With effect from 01 December 2016, the basic wages of female workers were realigned at par with that of male workers.</p> <p><u>National Minimum Wage</u></p> <p>The National Minimum Wage was set at Rs 8,140 per month as from 01 January 2018 and it applies indiscriminately to all workers, including workers employed in Export Oriented Enterprises sector. Part-time workers are entitled to same on a pro-rata basis. Migrant workers are also entitled to the minimum wage. Every employer shall pay remuneration to a worker at monthly intervals, unless the parties agree to payment at shorter intervals.</p> <p><u>Recruitment and Promotion</u></p> <p>The Equal Opportunities Act was amended in 2017 to provide for the prohibition of discrimination in employment on the grounds of a person's criminal record, both at recruitment and promotion level.</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>40. Appropriate policies and programs, including the elaboration of a National Employment Policy, shall be put in place for an increase in Decent and Productive Employment. The ILO Employment Policy Convention 1964 (No. 122) shall be ratified.</p>	<p>The National Employment Policy (NEP) is a concerted and coherent vision of the medium and long term employment objectives of Mauritius and it will enable all Mauritian citizens, men and women alike, who are available and willing to work, to attain secured and sustainable livelihood through productive and freely chosen employment.</p> <p>A technical team has been set up at the level of the Ministry to contextualize the <u>National Employment Policy in view of aligning it with the Government Programme 2015 – 19 and its Vision 2030</u></p> <p>In collaboration with the ILO the Ministry organized a tripartite workshop on 22 and 23 May 2018 with a view to conducting consultations for the elaboration of the National Employment Policy (NEP).</p> <p>The objective was to brief all the constituents on the status of the NEP drafting, to take stock, and-most importantly to agree on key priority areas and structure that should be incorporated in the eventual NEP.</p> <p>It was agreed that a tripartite NEP Drafting Oversight Committee (NEP-DOC) be set up in order to ensure that the NEP formulation process is based on wholesome consultations throughout.</p> <p>The ILO has agreed to provide support for the elaboration of the NEP for Mauritius.</p> <p>The Ministry has already set up the Drafting Committee, comprising 3 representatives each of the tripartite constituents with a view to starting the process.</p> <p>Due consideration will thereafter be given to an eventual and possible ratification of Convention No. 122 once the main requirements of the Convention are complied with, that is, the NEP is formulated and the necessary review mechanism is set in place.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>
<p>41. With a view to securing workers just and favorable conditions of work, social dialogue shall be enhanced through the National Tripartite Forum and the functioning of existing</p>	<p>A National Tripartite Forum (NTF) was set up in October 2010 to impart a new boost to social dialogue in Mauritius. It comprises representatives of Government, employers and workers, and operates under the chairpersonship of the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment. Its role was to act as a permanent forum for discussion among social partners, with special focus on work issues such as labour and industrial matters; employment creation, skills and training; occupational safety and health; productivity and competitiveness; and social and economic policies in the light of changes in the world of work.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>Industrial Relations institutions improved.</p>	<p>5 Technical Committees (TCs) were set up under the NTF to examine specific issues and make proposals thereon to the main Committee, namely the:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Labour & Industrial Relations, (2) Labour Market, Employment Creation, Skills and Training. (3) Occupational Safety and Health. (4) Productivity and Competitiveness. (5) Economic and Social Development. <p>However, on account of shortcomings observed in the functioning of the TCs, in as-much-as meetings have not been held on a regular basis and no report has emanated from any of the 5TCs, consideration was given to provide the NTF with a legal framework.</p> <p>The above issue is being considered in the context of present labour law review exercise.</p> <p>Police officers who were not authorised by law to associate and form trade unions have now been authorised to do so by way of a new legislation which the Government passed in the National Assembly. Government passed The Police (Membership of Trade Union) Act 2016 in the National Assembly in 2016 to allow members of the Police Force to unionise, so that they can bring fundamental change in their conditions of employment.</p>	
<p>42. The desirability of introducing a cross-cutting national minimum wage, which would enable workers and their families to enjoy an</p>	<p><u>National Minimum Wage</u></p> <p>A National Wage Consultative Council Act 2016 was passed by the National Assembly on 26 May 2016.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>adequate standard of living, shall be considered.</p>	<p>The Council came into operation on 01 September 2016 with clearly defined objectives as spelt out under Regulations 5 of the Act to make recommendations for the introduction of a national minimum wage.</p> <p>The Council has had, among others, to consider also the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the need to improve the living conditions of the lowest paid workers and promote decent work and living conditions; - the overall economic situation; - the need to increase the rate of growth and to protect employment; and - the national competitiveness. <p>In December 2017, The National Minimum Wage Regulations 2017 (GN No. 1 of 2018), made under the National Wage Consultative Council Act, provides that the national minimum wage of every full-time worker shall be 8,140 rupees per month with effect from 01 January 2018. Part-time workers were entitled to same on a pro-rata basis.</p> <p>As from January 2019, with the Additional Remuneration and Other Allowances 2019 (Payment of Allowance) Regulation, GN 17 of 2019, the Minimum wage was revised to Rs 8540</p> <p>As per statistics for period February 2018 to March 2019 the Ministry had carried out 7078 inspections out of which 7071 visits were mainly effected to ensure compliance with the national minimum wage. It was observed that 6749 undertakings inspected (95.45%) were complying with the provisions of the National Minimum Wage Regulations 2017. Non-compliant employers were requested to take remedial actions regarding the payment of the national minimum wage. However, it was also observed that during the same period 4 cases were lodged at the Industrial Court for criminal action against those employers who have repeatedly failed to address the issue as required. 3 of them have been fined with cost to a total of Rs 8,800. 1 of the case is coming for trial on 15.01.2020</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION												
	<p><u>Negative Income Tax (NIT)</u></p> <p>Government has also introduced the Negative Income Tax (NIT) as from 01 January 2018. The Negative Income Tax (NIT) is a system whereby, instead of paying taxes, employees deriving basic salary not exceeding Rs 9,900 per month in 2018 receive financial support from Government as per hereunder Table.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Individual deriving the following earnings in a month</th> <th>Allowance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Less or equal to Rs 5000</td> <td>Rs 1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Between Rs 5001 and Rs 7000</td> <td>Rs 800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Between Rs 7001 and Rs 9000</td> <td>Rs 500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Between Rs 9001 and Rs 9750</td> <td>Rs 250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Between Rs 9751 and Rs 9900</td> <td>Rs 100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Individual deriving the following earnings in a month	Allowance	Less or equal to Rs 5000	Rs 1000	Between Rs 5001 and Rs 7000	Rs 800	Between Rs 7001 and Rs 9000	Rs 500	Between Rs 9001 and Rs 9750	Rs 250	Between Rs 9751 and Rs 9900	Rs 100	
Individual deriving the following earnings in a month	Allowance													
Less or equal to Rs 5000	Rs 1000													
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Between Rs 9001 and Rs 9750	Rs 250													
Between Rs 9751 and Rs 9900	Rs 100													
<p>43. The Quality of Employment shall be improved with increased Occupational Safety and Health activities and capacity enhancement of all social partners.</p>	<p><u>EMPLOYEES' LODGING ACCOMMODATION</u></p> <p>The Occupational Safety and Health (Employees' Lodging Accommodation) Regulations 2011 was promulgated on 28 January 2011. These regulations aim at establishing safety and health norms for workers' lodging accommodations which include water supply, amenities (toilets, bathrooms), space, lockers for personal belongings, cooking facilities, furniture, cleaning standard, electricity and fire standard.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>												

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>The regulations are enforced by the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training, the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life and the Fire Services. All the authorities concerned carry out inspection of the lodging accommodation prior to issue of health and fire clearances and subsequently the Lodging Accommodation Permit.</p> <p>INSPECTIONS AND FOLLOW UP VISITS Since the enactment the Occupational Safety and Health (Employees’ Lodging Accommodation) Regulations 2011 the OSH officers are visiting the lodging accommodations throughout the island.</p> <p>COMPLAINTS All complaints received are investigated into and improvement requests issued to employers. Complaints falling under Regulations 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of the (Employees’ Lodging Accommodation) Regulations 2011 are referred to the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life and the Fire Services accordingly.</p> <p>LODGING ACCOMMODATION PERMIT Furthermore, any lodging accommodation is required to have a Lodging Accommodation Permit granted by the Lodging Accommodation Committee after necessary clearances have been obtained from the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life and the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service. The Lodging Accommodation Permit is valid for a period not exceeding 3 years and may be renewed.</p> <p>PROSECUTION In cases where the employer fail to comply with the provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health (Employees’ Lodging Accommodation) Regulations 2011, legal action is instituted against the employer and the cases are referred to the Industrial Court.</p> <p>The penalty for breach of these regulations is a maximum fine of Rs 75,000 and imprisonment not exceeding one year.</p> <p>AMENDMENT TO EXISTING REGULATION</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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Further amendments to the Regulations are in the pipeline in order to enhance the provisions as regards to health, safety and fire standards in the lodging accommodations and to ensure proper enforcement of the Regulations by the enforcing authorities namely the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life and the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service who will be given power to issue enforcement notice and establish contraventions against defaulting employers.

STATISTICS FOR YEAR 2015 TILL JUNE 2019 ELA UNIT

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	As at June 2019
Number of complaints investigation carried out	38	31	35	38	32	27	50	73	34
Number of Visits	728	1774	892	894	976	932	1006	1,251	638
Number of lodging Accommodation permits issued	34	896	459	306	412	629	522	845	380
Number of cases lodged in Court	-	24	17	11	6	10	24	61	26

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>44. The need to afford to all working mothers, irrespective of their period of continuous employment, paid maternity leave, and to ensuring that all fathers exercising parental responsibilities are granted paid paternity leave, regardless of their marital status, shall be examined.</p>	<p>1. MATERNITY PROTECTION In August 2018, the eligibility to maternity leave with pay was extended to female workers employed in both the Public and Private Sector who reckoning less than 12 months of continuous service. The restriction of 3 confinements which is applicable in the Public Sector has been removed in July 2019.</p> <p>Section 30 of the Employment Rights Act 2008 (Act No. 33 of 2008) provides for maternity protection to all working mothers. With a view to better support working mothers and further protect their rights section 30 were amended in 2013, 2015 and recently in August 2018.</p> <p>The status in connection thereof as at end of August 2018 is as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 14 weeks’ maternity leave with pay, irrespective of years of service and the number of confinements, to be taken either before confinement or after confinement provided that at least 7 weeks’ leave is taken immediately after confinement. (b) Payment of a maternity allowance of Rs 3,000 applicable to all sectors of employment, to working mother reckoning at least 12 months continuous employment. Such allowance is calculated on a prorata basis for part time workers; [section 30(2)] (c) Still birth considered as a confinement with 12 weeks’ leave on full pay; [section 30(5)(b)] (d) 2 weeks’ leave on full pay in case of miscarriage irrespective of the length of service of the female worker; [section 30(4)] (e) An employer shall not require a pregnant female worker to perform overtime, two months before her confinement;[(section 30(7)] (f) a female worker shall not be required to perform duties necessitating continuous standing; or that may be detrimental to her health and that of her baby, (g) an employer is prohibited from giving a notice of dismissal to an employee on maternity leave or giving such notice which will expire during her maternity leave except on grounds that relate to the economic, technological, structural or similar nature affecting the employer’s activities; [section 30(9)] 	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>(h) an agreement shall not be terminated by an employer by reason of a worker’s absence from work during maternity leave; [section 38(1)(b)]</p> <p>(i) a female worker, who is nursing her breastfed child, to be entitled to a daily break of one hour, or a break of half an hour twice daily with pay for the purpose of nursing the child; for a period of 6 months from the date of confinement or such longer period as may be recommended by a medical practitioner. [section 30(6)].</p> <p>2. PATERNITY LEAVE</p> <p>Section 31 of the Employment Rights Act provides that male workers, in all sectors of employment, are entitled to 5 continuous working days’ paternity leave upon the production of a medical certificate certifying that their spouse has given birth to their child and a written statement that they are both living under a common roof.</p> <p>This benefit is also extended on a pro-rata basis to part-time male employees. The leave is on full pay for workers who reckon more than 12 months’ continuous employment. Being given that under this section, ‘spouse’ is defined as a person with whom the worker has contracted a civil or religious marriage, the issue of extending paternity leave to unmarried male employees upon the birth of their child calls for a policy decision.</p>	
<p>45. An enabling environment for gender equality shall be promoted through the implementation of appropriate capacity building programs. The gender-neutral wage determining mechanism shall be strengthened, and the implementation of the ILO Conventions relating to equality improved, through the provision of appropriate</p>	<p>The National Remuneration Board (NRB), set up under section 90 of the Employment Relations Act 2008 (EReA), is responsible for making recommendations on minimum remuneration and other terms and conditions of employment for workers in the private sector.</p> <p>While reviewing Remuneration Regulations, it remains guided by the principles outlined at Section 97 of the EReA and in so far as is consistent with the contextual evolution of the sectors of activity, ensures that wage determination, job appellations and classifications are based on the principle of “equal remuneration for work of equal value”, as outlined in ILO Convention No. 100 and section 20 of the ERiA.</p> <p>In that respect wages of workers employed in different sectors of economic activities and presently covered under a specific Remuneration Regulations have generally been determined having regards</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>training so that the concept “equal pay for work of equal value” plays a more effective role in the wage fixing exercise. The effectiveness of the legal framework in place to combat sexual harassment in the workplace shall be re-assessed.</p>	<p>to non-discriminatory factors/criteria including among others nature of work to be performed, degree of skill required, capacity and qualification.</p> <p>It is, however, observed that <u>differential rates</u> in Remuneration Regulations applicable in agricultural sectors, notably in the Sugar (Agricultural Workers) and Tea Industry are rather based on the inherent requirements of the jobs and as such <u>should not be viewed as being discriminatory</u>. They actually correspond to differences in the work performed in terms of tasks allocated, which is generally much lesser for female workers as compared to their male counterparts. Such differences in the work performed are further reinforced by <u>statutory limitations on assignment of tasks to women in those sectors</u>.</p> <p>The differential rates between male and female workers in the Salt-manufacturing Industry no longer exist. With effect from 01 December 2016, the basic wages of female workers were realigned at par with that of male workers.</p> <p><u>SEXUAL HARASSMENT</u></p> <p>The Employment Rights Act 2008 protects a worker against sexual harassment, a form of discrimination which affects women mainly. In fact, section 54 of the Act provides that no person shall harass, sexually or otherwise, a worker, in the course of or as a result of his work. Provision has also been made in the Act that any person who commits such an offence shall, on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding 75,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years. Moreover, a female worker is protected against unfair dismissal for reporting a case of sexual harassment against his employer, as there is specific provision at Section 38(1) (f) of the Employment Rights Act 2008 protecting any worker, who exercises <u>any</u> of the rights provided for in the Act, against termination of employment.</p> <p>For period January 2018 to June 2018, 6 cases of sexual harassment, involving 6 female workers, were reported to the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations & Employment and investigated into, out of which 1 was rejected, 2 were rejected, 2 were settled as appropriate, 1 processed for criminal action.</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	From January to March 2019, 4 cases have been registered of which 1 male and 3 female workers are involved. 1 case has been withdrawn and the remaining 3 are being investigated.	
46. A more inclusive society shall be created through the promotion of decent employment opportunities for the disabled. The law on the employment and integration of the disabled shall be enforced more effectively. (stats from Disable Unit)	<p>The Disability Bill has been held in abeyance by Government. It has been decided that the implications (constitutional, legal, technical and financial) are to be carefully studied and an action plan be drafted to implemented the provisions, after discussions with all the stakeholders and with the cost, technical and legal implications and timelines included.</p> <p>The Ministry is working with the SLO to ensure that this precedence is respected. Under Part 1 of the Schedule(B) of the TEDPB Act makes provision for any employer having a workforce of 35 or more workers to employ disable persons such that the recruitment amounts to 30%. However, it is noted that employers do not respect this limit and a committee is being set up to look upon the issue.</p>	Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development
47. The ILO Code of Practice on HIV/AIDS shall be adapted to reduce discrimination and stigma against workers affected by HIV/AIDS.	<p><u>(ILO code of Practice on HIV AIDS)</u></p> <p>(i) According to section 8 1(b) & 2 of the Immigration Act</p> <p>(a) Persons afflicted with any infectious or contagious disease shall be deemed to be prohibited immigrants and shall not be admitted to Mauritius; and</p> <p>(b) The Minister may authorise in writing, under his hand or under the hand of a person designated by him the admission of any person as mentioned above.</p> <p>(ii) Where a person is afflicted with any infectious or contagious disease, the matter is referred to the Prime Minister’s Office for decision.</p> <p>The Constitution legitimizes the enactment of laws that discriminate against non-citizens according to their health status (Immigration Act (Act No. 13)) on grounds that migrants living with a disability or disease may present a threat to public safety. The Republic of Mauritius still applies HIV -related restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of non-nationals. Migrant workers must</p>	Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>provide evidence of their negative HIV status to qualify for work and residence permits (Section 8 of the Immigration Act (Act No. 13)).</p> <p>THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL was passed in the National Assembly in April 2019, the provisions regarding prohibited immigrants have been revisited. Persons who suffer from any physical or mental infirmity or persons who are dumb, blind or otherwise physically defective or physically handicapped and who are likely to be a burden on the State shall no longer be treated as a distinct category of prohibited immigrants;</p>	
<p>48. A comprehensive legal framework for the protection of the rights of migrant workers, ensuring that the conditions of employment of all migrant workers are not less favourable than those granted to a local worker, shall be put in place.</p>	<p>Non-citizens working in Mauritius are covered by the same conditions as local workers under the labour legislation.</p> <p>Know Your Rights Pamphlet</p> <p>As for the Know Your Rights Pamphlet it was launched on 23 March 2019 and it was funded by the UK Government. It aims to inform prospective and current migrant workers of their rights and the possible remedial actions in case of violations. It also serves to make migrant workers aware of the dangers of human trafficking. The pamphlet was produced in 6 different languages, namely English, French, Hindi, Tamil, Bangladesh and Chinese. A short video clip encompassing the main information in the pamphlet has also been made and is occasionally being broadcasted on launched on different channels of the national television (Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation).</p> <p>Minimum Wage</p> <p>The minimum wage is effective since January 2018. It is currently eight thousand one hundred and forty Mauritian Rupees per month (Rs. 8,140) for export-oriented enterprises and eighteen thousand and five hundred Mauritian Rupees per month (Rs 8,500) for non-export oriented enterprises. Migrant workers are also entitled the national minimum wage, similar to the citizens of Mauritius.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>Protection under the NPF It is to be observed though that those working in export manufacturing enterprises, are not covered during their first two years of employment under the National Pensions legislation.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above Migrant workers are provided with an additional facility to obtain their share of NPF contributions along with accrued interest as a lump sum payment at the expiry of their contract of employment.</p> <p>Contract of Employment The contract of employment of a migrant worker, prior to his arrival in Mauritius, is examined and vetted by the Special Migrant Workers’ Unit of the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment to ensure that it contains no abusive clauses and that it is in full conformity with the prevailing labour law.</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding A MoU with Nepal has been signed.</p> <p>Inspection by Special Migrant Unit Regular inspection visits are carried out by officers of the Special Migrant Workers’ Unit of the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment at workplaces where migrant workers are employed to, inter- alia, ascertain that the employer is complying with the terms and conditions of employment as provided for in the vetted contract of employment and in the prevailing labour legislation.</p> <p>In the course of such inspections, the officers also check whether every migrant worker has received a copy of his/her vetted contract of employment. Furthermore, on their assumption of duty, migrant workers are informed of their rights and obligations arising out of their vetted contract of employment by the officers of the above Unit.</p> <p>Statistics</p>	

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Mauritius employs some 35,000 migrant workers in the secondary economic activities including construction and manufacturing of food products, beverages, textile and garments, paper products, chemical products, plastic products, fabricated metal products, furniture and machinery and equipment. Some 19,000 comes from Bangladesh, 9,000 from India, 4,500 from China, 3500 from Madagascar, and a few from Nepal.

Hereunder are statistics for period 2010 – 2019 regarding number of inspections/enquiries carried out to ensure compliance of provisions of the labour legislation with regards to the employment of migrant workers.

INSPECTIONS for Period JAN 2010 - May 2019

YEAR	No. of Inspections	Enquiry	Amount Recovered (Rs)
2010	235	342	1,088,977
2011	203	286	2,752,527
2012	442	223	863,292
2013	471	254	3,955,014
2014	403	306	3,149,028
2015	72	316	2,800,740
2016	402	399	2,147,252
2017	1,119	66	3,511,658
2018	2317	200	2,800,740
Jan – May 2019	626	183	18,029

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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The hereunder Table shows the number of complaints reported by migrant workers to the Special migrant Workers Unit and the amount recovered on their behalf

Complaints from Migrant Workers Jan 2010 - May 2019

YEAR	No. of complaints	Amount Recovered
2010	311	4,784,878
2011	303	5,129,028
2012	136	6,149,921
2013	247	2,242,824
2014	224	1,458,193
2015	271	4,271,509
2016	339	7,510,850
2017	603	12,094,225
2018	579	3,854,687
Jan-May 2019	356	2,233,190

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>Social Aid</u></p> <p>The Social Aid Regulations fall under the purview of the Ministry of Social Security. Section 3(1) of Social Aid Regulations 1984 specifies that no social aid shall be granted to a person unless he is a citizen of Mauritius.</p> <p>In regards to the extension of Social Aid to expatriate workers this requires a major policy decision, taking into consideration the financial aspect, legal and practical implications of such a decision.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>
<p>49. Adequate food shall be made more available by increasing food self-sufficiency through the establishment of a Food Security Stimulus Package to assist planters, breeders and fishermen to maximise local production.</p>	<p>Mauritius is almost self-sufficient in the production of foodcrops that covers some 20 major crops consumed regularly and some 10 crops that are used as fine herbs and condiments for our local cuisine.</p> <p>The annual crop production varies between 100,000 to 120,000 T. For the year 2018, around 118,000T was produced over an area of 7,900 ha.</p> <p>A number of schemes including Sheltered Farming have been introduced with a view to increasing our food production and minimizing the effects of adverse climatic conditions on crop production. The details are attached.</p> <p>As at date, more than Rs 54,335,715 have been disbursed by the Ministry with regard to sheltered farming and a total of 291 planters are producing food crop under that system. 368 promoters are engaged in crop production under hydroponic system covering a total area of 285,570m². Presently, production under sheltered structures and hydroponics cultivation is estimated at 12 000 T annually.</p>	<p>Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>In 2017, production was 5960 T over a physical area of 30 ha averaging a yield of nearly 200 T per ha compared to cultivation in open field where the average is around 12 T per ha. Production from these techniques is expected to increase further in the coming years.</p> <p>Through the Mini Sheltered Scheme, which was introduced last year, backyard gardening is being promoted with a view to encouraging households to produce the vegetables they require hence be self-sufficient. Moreover, organic backyard gardening is being promoted and some 122 households have been trained therein.</p> <p>With regard to strategic crops like potato, tomato and onion, these are constantly consumed and require a regular supply. Since potato and onion are seasonal crops, the annual requirements are not fulfilled by local production and hence some 5,000 - 7,000 T of potato and 10,000 – 12,000 T of onion are imported annually to cater for off season consumption.</p> <p>Small amounts of some exotic vegetables are imported to supplement the requirement of the hospitality sector of which bell pepper has a large share of around 300 T annually</p> <p>Efforts in terms of introduction of new technology, new varieties, better control and management of pests and diseases, adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change are being pursued so as to maintain/increase production.</p> <p>Melliferous crops are also being planted to encourage bees and border crops to curb the effects of heavy rains on soil erosion.</p> <p>In line with the Government vision of sustainable agricultural production, several actions have been initiated to encourage the farming community to adopt sustainable farming practices to ensure long term environment stability and health benefits. Use of non-chemical soil enricher is also being encouraged. Biological control of pests and diseases is being promoted.</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>In this respect, several predators and bioagents are being produced and released island wide, bio-insecticides and bio-fungicides are being evaluated and recommended.</p> <p>A small amount of production has started from organic and bio-agriculture. This method of production which is being promoted since 2017, is expected to take up with the increasing interest of farmers and demand for healthier food.</p> <p>To address the issue of food loss and food waste, postharvest treatment of fresh produce such as carrot, litchi, butternut etc is being developed to improve their shelf life, marketability and reduce postharvest losses.</p> <p>Support is also being given to agro-entrepreneurs in the development of value added products from local fruits and vegetables such as gluten free breadfruit and cassava flour, ginger paste, turmeric paste, lime paste, guava fruit paste, dehydrated papaya and fruit paste sorbet. Necessary training to that effect is being provided.</p> <p><u>Livestock</u></p> <p>Regarding the Livestock sector, Mauritius counts around 120 000 heads comprising of 4 000 cattle, 26 0000 goats, 3 500 sheep, 70 000 deer, 19 662 pigs, and 1 250 rabbits owned by around 4 000 farmers.</p> <p>We are self-sufficient in poultry and eggs (almost 100%) and are around 9% of our total requirement in meat and only 2.5% in milk. The country imports meat and milk to meet consumption levels.</p> <p>Schemes being implemented in the Livestock sector are: The Heifer productivity whereby a sum of Rs 4,607,500 has been paid to 1843 breeders and the Milk productivity whereby 160 breeders</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>have benefitted for a total amount of Rs 1,010,000</p> <p>Measures taken in this regard and incentives provided to achieve same are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new wholesale market is under construction at Wooton to ensure availability and accessibility. • Construction is in progress for a heifer farm and livestock zone in Melrose. • Seed and planting materials produced locally are being promoted. These include production of cucumber, squash, bean and onion seed under the Quality Declared Seed programme. • New Varieties of pulses, onion and potato which are more adapted locally have been developed and introduced. • 100 farms will be constructed over the next two years for the production of import substitution commodities. A first batch of 40 farms will be set up at Melrose and Plaine Magnien by the end of this year. • 20 ‘Schemes for Modernisation & Innovation in the Food Crop and Livestock Sectors’ have been initiated by the Ministry and implemented by the Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) to boost up local food production. • Processing of primary produce including products with locally produced milk is being promoted for value addition, increasing shelf life and reducing Post- harvest losses. • Training courses in this regard have been conducted for 198 participants. <p>The amount of funds disbursed from 2017 to 2019 are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheltered Farming: Rs 41,768,432 • Purchase of agricultural equipment (Crop): Rs 9,346,256 • Purchase of agricultural equipment (Livestock): Rs 2,157,339 • Purchase and installation of CCTV: Rs 559,614 	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Rain Water Harvesting: Rs 889,004 • Upgrading Livestock Farm: Rs 2,474,275 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>No of beneficiaries</th> <th>Total Amount disbursed (Rs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Purchase of Agricultural Equipment (Livestock)</td> <td align="center">38</td> <td align="right">3,649,123</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Upgrading of Livestock</td> <td align="center">28</td> <td align="right">5,182,225</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pasture Development</td> <td align="center">1</td> <td align="right">20,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pasture Development: Rs 20,000 • Fruit Protection and Banana Bagging: Rs 6,387,324 • Seed Purchase Scheme (onion, garlic and potato): a total of Rs 24,742,160 has been advanced to planters. • Agricultural Calamity Solidarity Scheme Rs 11,741,250 paid to 2121 planters. • Crop Loss Compensation Scheme: Rs 717,425 paid to 55 planters. • Bio farming Support Scheme: Rs 455,560 to 35 planters • Heifer productivity Rs 4,607,500 paid to 1843 breeders • Milk productivity Rs 1,010,000 paid to 160 breeders <p>It is to be noted that most of these schemes are being revisited to ensure that they meet the new requirements of the farming community.</p> <p><u>Number of beneficiaries and amount disbursed as at date</u></p>		No of beneficiaries	Total Amount disbursed (Rs)	Purchase of Agricultural Equipment (Livestock)	38	3,649,123	Upgrading of Livestock	28	5,182,225	Pasture Development	1	20,000	
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50. Measures shall be taken to improve significantly delivery of safe drinking water.	99% of the population already has access to piped potable water which is treated to meet the norms of the World Health Organisation. A Surveillance Committee at the level of the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, monitors the quality of water in reservoirs and feeder canals.		Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities																								

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>A Master Plan for a more judicious use of water resources to cater for projected needs up to 2050 shall be finalized. The Plan shall review and update the legal and institutional aspects of the water sector, including water rights.</p>	<p>A Master Plan for Water Resources was finalized in October 2012. This document is essentially a road map for an integrated management of water resources in Mauritius up to the time horizons 2025 and 2050, respectively.</p> <p>The main features of the master plan study are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauritius receives an annual rainfall of about 3,700Mm³, out of which 1,980Mm³ including water use for hydropower flows directly to the sea as surface run-off and ground water outflow and about 1,100 Mm³ is lost through evaporation. Only the balance of about 610 Mm³ representing 17% of the total rainfall is currently mobilized for water supply excluding hydropower, that is, 255 Mm³ for potable use and 355 Mm³ for irrigation; - water demand on a per capita basis was-170 liters/day in 2010 and is 180 litres/day in 2050 due to higher standard of living; - an additional volume of about 224 Mm³ should be mobilized to meet potable and irrigation water demand up to the horizon of 2050; <p>The water demand on a per capita basis was-227 liters/day in 2010 and is 237 litres/day in 2018 due to higher standard of living;</p> <p>An action plan, based on a package of measures namely direct river water intakes, exploitation of new boreholes, enlargement of existing dams, construction of new dams and re-use of wastewater, has been proposed to ensure water security up to the year 2050;</p> <p>the total investment to mobilize the additional raw water resources is estimated around 9, 938 Million MUR.</p>	<p>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</p>
<p>A Water Resources Act shall be adopted.</p>	<p>A Water Bill is under preparation for a clearer definition of the roles of institutions and for an integrated water resource management.</p>	<p>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</p>
<p>Water storage capacity shall be increased with the construction of two dams at Bagatelle and Rivière des Anguilles.</p>	<p>Bagatelle dam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The construction of the Bagatelle dam has been completed in June 2017 and consequently the total water storage capacity was increased by 14 Mm³ to reach approximately 104Mm³. 	<p>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The construction of Bagatelle Water Treatment Plant (WTP) with a treatment capacity of 60,000m³/day is ongoing. The tentative date for completion of work is in September 2019. <p>Rivière des Anguilles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A consultant has been appointed to prepare the design of Rivière des Anguilles dam and supervise the works. Construction works are scheduled to start in early 2019 with an estimated duration of three and a half years. - The construction of Rivière des Anguilles Water Treatment Plant will follow afterwards. <p>Other Reservoirs and Dams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A study for increasing the capacity of Nicolière Reservoir is presently ongoing. La Ferme dam also will be upgraded. - The construction of a new dam with a capacity of 14 Mm³ is in progress. It is in the detailed design phase and is expected to be commissioned by 2024. <p>Boreholes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three to four boreholes are drilled yearly to identify new sources of water. <p>Water supply in Rodrigues</p> <p>In 2018, Rodrigues pioneered an innovative project in the Indian Ocean with the construction of a solar desalination. The plant is producing 80 m³ of fresh drinking water for 2,400 inhabitants every day. At night, it uses a hybrid solar-grid powered source to produce 300 m³ of drinking water. This project was a collaboration between the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the EU, the AFD and Rodrigues Regional Assembly. To counter water shortages between two periods of supply, the RRA provides grants and facilities to encourage households to have rainwater harvesting system. It is also a requirement for new constructions to include such rainwater harvesting systems.</p>	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

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<p>The rehabilitation and upgrading of the water supply network (with the replacement of defective pipelines, the upgrading of dams and feeder canals, and the drilling of boreholes) shall be pursued to further reduce water losses and to alleviate hardship caused by water supply disruptions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A provision of MUR 8.7 Billion has been earmarked for CWA investment projects for FY 2019/20 including Pipelaying Programme, Upgrading of Water Treatment Plants and Construction of new Service reservoirs) - La Nicolière Water treatment plant will be rehabilitated to increase its treatment capacity from 66,000m³ to 100,000m³ daily. - The Pailles water treatment plant has been upgraded to operate at 80,000m³ daily. <p>In addition, new Water Treatment Plants at Pont Lardier (GRSE), Mon Blanc, La Nicoliere WTP, Riviere Du Poste WTP and Piton Du Milieu will also be constructed.</p>	<p>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</p>
<p>Government will legislate to ensure that hotels are equipped with their own water desalination plants.</p>	<p>The sustainable management of water by the private sector is of great relief to our national water supply system. The hotel industry, both in Mauritius and Rodrigues, has taken the lead by investing in desalination plants and addressing potential water shortages. Many luxury hotels, have such plants, using the reverse osmosis water purification technology enabling them to be water independent and meet their daily water demands.</p> <p>It is also mandatory for hotels with at least 50 rooms and located on the seaside to provide for a desalination plant. New hotels on beach front either over an area of 5Arp. or with more than 50 rooms, should include a desalination plant. This is taken into consideration for the grant of the EIA licence by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.</p> <p>Hotels with more than 50 rooms, including Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS) projects, shall be equipped with a wastewater treatment plant, if public sewer is not available.</p> <p>In accordance with the 5th schedule of the Environment Protection Act (as amended in 2008), the setting up of a desalination plant warrant on EIA licence. Guidelines for desalination have been developed. The Design sheet on Desalination Plant is effective as from the 13 August 2012.</p>	<p>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>Incentives for rainwater harvesting facilities shall be devised.</p>	<p>The Income Tax Act was amended through the Finance Act 2018 to allow an individual investing in a rainwater harvesting system for his house in an income year, a relief by way of deduction from his net income, of the amount invested in that income year. (received 30 April 2019)</p> <p>Since 2016, Government has decided to exempt some 64,061 households which consume up to 6m³ of water from payment of water charges. Also, grants are also provided to low income families for the purchase of water tanks. Some 57,000 families have been able to benefit of a water tank grant since this scheme came up. Moreover, grant for purchase of water pumps is also available</p> <p>99.4% of the population had access to piped potable water (2011 Housing and Population Census Survey, Statistics Mauritius). Some 440 kms of old and defective pipes have been replaced across the island since January 2015.</p> <p>Some 85000 water meters have been replaced by CWA.</p>	<p>Mauritius Revenue Authority</p>
<p>51. The Government is committed to protect the right of every family to a house and to creating the necessary conditions for the setting up of decent social housing at a reasonable and affordable cost (which include adequate planning of living space, basic services and amenities, security and access to transport, shopping facilities and education).</p>	<p>A first time buyer of a plot of land to build a house is eligible for duty free exemption on a land value of up to Rs 2.5 M. A first time buyer of a house or apartment of up to Rs 5 million is eligible for full exemption from registration duty as announced in the budget 2019/2020.</p> <p>Citizens can also benefit from the VAT Refund Scheme on the construction of their residence or the purchase of an apartment. The upper limit for the cost of construction of a residence or the purchase price of an apartment has been increased from Rs 4 million to Rs 5 million and the eligible household income threshold was increased from Rs 2 million to Rs 3.5 million.</p>	<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION								
<p>Government will ensure that Outline Planning Schemes provide for innovative policies to cater for social housing needs and make dedicated provision for land to that effect.</p>	<p>The housing units are sold to beneficiaries of different income thresholds by the NHDC Ltd with varying subsidy from the Government as follows: -</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Social Housing Schemes</th> <th>Income eligibility criteria and subsidy level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <p>Scheme I: Implementing Body: NEF For NEF beneficiaries who are owners of land/or lessee of state land</p> </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than Rs 6,200 per household per month (Eligible under SRM) • Government contribution: 75 % • Beneficiary's contribution: 25 % </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Scheme II: Implementing Body: NHDC Ltd 10 % of the NHDC integrated houses earmarked for NEF beneficiaries who are not land owners.</p> </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than Rs 6,200 per household per month (Eligible under SRM) • Government contribution: 75 % • Beneficiary's contribution: 25 % </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Scheme III: Implementing Body: NHDC Ltd NHDC housing schemes</p> <p>The NHDC scheme is for households not falling under Schemes I and II above</p> </td> <td> <p>Less than Rs 10,000 per household per month (Not eligible under SRM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government contribution: 2/3 • Beneficiary's contribution: 1/3 <p>(ii) Between Rs 10,001 to Rs 15,000 per household per month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government contribution: 60% • Beneficiary's contribution: 40% </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Social Housing Schemes	Income eligibility criteria and subsidy level	<p>Scheme I: Implementing Body: NEF For NEF beneficiaries who are owners of land/or lessee of state land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than Rs 6,200 per household per month (Eligible under SRM) • Government contribution: 75 % • Beneficiary's contribution: 25 % 	<p>Scheme II: Implementing Body: NHDC Ltd 10 % of the NHDC integrated houses earmarked for NEF beneficiaries who are not land owners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than Rs 6,200 per household per month (Eligible under SRM) • Government contribution: 75 % • Beneficiary's contribution: 25 % 	<p>Scheme III: Implementing Body: NHDC Ltd NHDC housing schemes</p> <p>The NHDC scheme is for households not falling under Schemes I and II above</p>	<p>Less than Rs 10,000 per household per month (Not eligible under SRM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government contribution: 2/3 • Beneficiary's contribution: 1/3 <p>(ii) Between Rs 10,001 to Rs 15,000 per household per month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government contribution: 60% • Beneficiary's contribution: 40% 	
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NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS		RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION								
		(iii) Between Rs 15,001 to Rs 20,000 per household per month. •Government contribution:30% • Beneficiary's contribution:70%									
		(iv) Between Rs 20,001 to Rs 25,000 per household per month. • Government contribution: 25% • Beneficiary's contribution : 75%									
		(v) Between Rs 25,001 to Rs 30,000 per household per month. • Government contribution: 15% • Beneficiary's contribution: 85%									
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The beneficiaries can settle the cost of the houses either by cash or through Government sponsored loans from financial institutions such as, the Mauritius Housing Company Ltd or from other lending institutions. Also, all beneficiaries are granted a long term residential lease expiring on the 30 June 2060 on the plot of land. Annual rentals for leases regarding sites built up with a housing unit are at a nominal rate based on the beneficiaries' income. 										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Household Income</th> <th>Annual Rental</th> <th>Remarks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><Rs 7,500</td> <td>Re 1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rs7501 – Rs 10,000</td> <td>Rs 1000</td> <td>50% increase for each subsequent period of 10 years</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Household Income	Annual Rental	Remarks	<Rs 7,500	Re 1	-	Rs7501 – Rs 10,000	Rs 1000	50% increase for each subsequent period of 10 years		
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	Rs10,001 – Rs 15,000	Rs 2000	50% increase for each subsequent period of 10 years		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For families earning less than Rs 9520 monthly, rather than providing land, for the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment or the National Empowerment Foundation to construct houses thereon, the Ministry of Housing and Lands would reserve 10% of the total number of housing units in all its new projects for the beneficiaries of the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment or the National Empowerment Foundation (NEF). • Criteria for the selection of sites for social housing projects consider closeness to existing infrastructure so as to lower construction costs, more specifically offsite infrastructure costs, and also to schools to facilitate access to education for children of eligible vulnerable and low income beneficiaries. • The housing programme also addresses the issue of community outreach and development by planning policies which help strengthen the social and cultural integration via the provision of adequate space/plots of land for the implementation of appropriate social and recreational facilities within social housing development by relevant stakeholders. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some 622 Arpents of land for social housing are being made under the agreement between Government and the Mauritius Sugar Producers Association. Up to now, some 305 out of the 622 Arpents have been acquired and negotiations are ongoing for regular release of the agreed sites. • As per the Social Integration and Empowerment Act 2016, Government has, since August 2016, adopted a new income threshold which is of a minimum of Rs 2,720 up to a maximum of Rs 9,520 per household, as follows:-
	Rs15,001 – Rs 20,000	Rs 3000	50% increase for each subsequent period of 10 years		
	Rs 20,001-Rs 25,000	Rs 3000	50% increase for each subsequent period of 10 years		
	Rs 25,001-Rs 30,000	Rs 6000	50% increase for each subsequent period of 10 years		

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

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<p>52. In line with the Social Housing Development Program, housing units shall be built for low income families. The size of the existing Housing Units for the poor shall be increased</p>	<p>The housing units are sold to beneficiaries of different income thresholds by the NHDC with varying subsidy from the Government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The eligibility criteria for the applicants to be allocated a housing unit are as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) not be owner of a house (including NHDC or ex-CHA house); (ii) not own a residential plot of land; (iii) not hold a residential plot of State Land by lease; 		<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>																								

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>taking into consideration the family size and affordability.</p>	<p>(iv) not have been granted any Government sponsored loan by MHC Ltd;</p> <p>(v) not have benefited from any Government grant for the casting of a roof slab; and</p> <p>(vi) not have received any financial assistance from Government for the purchase of construction materials.</p> <p>No of beneficiaries who have benefited an NHDC housing unit since its creation are 13834 (as at end of April 2019)</p> <p>As from the financial year 2015/2016, provisions have been made to increase the size of housing units to be constructed to 50 m² to accommodate at least two bedrooms compared to previous schemes wherein the size of the housing unit varied from 36m² to 39m².</p>	
<p>Serviced plots of land shall be made available to lower-middle income group for housing purposes, and grants shall be made to low income families under the Casting of Roof Slab Scheme to low income families to help them complete the construction of their housing unit. The scheme for concrete cum CIS houses, constructed on beneficiaries' own land, shall be expanded.</p>	<p>There are many families who want to build their houses or to improve them as time goes by in accordance with their needs and financial capacities. Many of these families already own a plot of land and are having difficulties to construct a concrete house. But many among them, due to financial constraints, are unable to complete their construction. Thus, the Government will continue to provide grant schemes to these families for either the casting of roof slab to complete their construction or for the purchase of building materials to start their construction thereby promoting self-help construction of their house.</p> <p>This Government has reviewed the scheme so as to align both grants (the roof slab grant and the purchase of building materials grant) as follows:</p>	<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	Existing Housing Schemes	Household Income Eligibility	Amount	Remarks			
	Roof Slab Grant / Purchase of Building Materials	≤Rs10,000	Maximum one-off cash grant of Rs 100, 000	Loan already taken must be less than Rs 500,000	(i)Households who own a plot of land but cannot afford to complete construction of their house which has reached up to the beam level. The grant is for the casting of roof slab for an area up to 100m ²		
		>Rs 10,000- ≤Rs 15,000	Maximum one-off cash grant of Rs 70,000	Loan already taken must be less than Rs 750,000			
		>Rs 15,000- ≤Rs 20,000	Maximum one-off cash grant of Rs 50,000	Loan already taken must be less than Rs 900,000	(ii) Households who own a plot of land but cannot afford to start		

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS					RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
					<p>construction of a housing unit of up to 100m². The grant is for purchase of building materials to start construction.</p>	
<p>Housing estates shall be rehabilitated with a view to ensuring that there is adequate sanitation, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities. Resources shall be mobilized so that all</p>	<p>Note: The Building Materials Grant Scheme and the Roof Slab Grant Scheme are also being extended to households who have already benefitted from Corrugated Iron Sheets and Concrete cum Corrugated Iron Sheet housing units and also to families living in Ex-CHA houses which contains asbestos. An additional amount of Rs 20 million has been made available under the National Environment Fund (NEF) for asbestos houses.</p> <p>From the start of the scheme, some 57063 beneficiaries have benefitted from the roof slab grant and purchase of building materials scheme and some Rs 3 Billion rupees have been spent.(as at end of April 2019)</p> <p>Rehabilitation projects as to waterproofing, water reticulation, wastewater disposal, repairs to cracks and structural remedial works are ongoing within the existing NHDC housing estates, with a view to improve the living environment of 6,247 families. Rs 131 Million has been earmarked for this financial year 2019-2020. Moreover, these families have been encouraged to set up syndics for the upkeep and maintenance of their common areas, and the Government contributes a monthly amount of Rs. 200 per family in respect of 41 syndics. Since 2014 to date, an approximate amount of Rs.76 million has been spent by Government in respect of payment to syndics.</p>					<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>NHDC housing estates have a functional syndic.</p> <p>The setting up of not-for-profit Housing Development Trusts, as a new vehicle to mobilize financing for housing development (with one third of the cost met from CSR fund of companies), shall be encouraged.</p> <p>Special consideration will be given to fire victims with a view to providing appropriate accommodation immediately after their dwellings are destroyed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funding come from either Government Budget / Consolidated Fund or Loans being contracted 	<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>
<p>Homeless and vulnerable families shall be provided with a decent housing unit, upon agreeing to a comprehensive social contract covering civic responsibilities, employability, education of children and family values.</p> <p>A shelter for the SDF ('Sans Domicile Fixe') shall be established.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with the Sustainable Development Goals regarding the right to housing for all, the Ministry of Housing and Lands has in August 2015 embarked on a project to do away with the problem of residential squatters living on State Land. It was decided to regularize all the residential squatters. However, for an effective control and to avoid abuse of this measure, a cut-off date as at 01 July 2015 was adopted. As such, all squatters living over State land prior to that date were eligible for regularization. • Following an assessment of the suitability of the squatted sites for residential purposes, it was found that:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) some squatters would have to be relocated due to environmental and sanitary reasons along with all the squatters found over land earmarked for projects; and 	<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>(ii) Some squatters would have to be regularized in situ where the site is found suitable for residential development and the availability of existing infrastructure in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry then proceeded for the regularisation of the squatters by adopting a phasing out approach on a priority-wise basis. • Two major sites were earmarked for the relocation of the Squatters as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) A site was identified at Pointe aux Sables to accommodate squatters to be relocated from Port Louis. A parcelling of 201 lots has been implemented. The necessary basic infrastructure such as roads, drains, water and electricity have already been provided to 128 lots. 82 residential units have already been built up to accommodate the squatters from Tranquebar found over the ring road site. The other squatters to be relocated have been/would be granted a lease over a plot of land; and ii) At La Valette, a parcelling is being implemented with all necessary infrastructure to cater for 159 squatters from La Ferme, Bambous and Eau Bonne. • As at 18 October 2018, a total of 1415 squatters were detected. Out of the 1415, 1158 are Pre July 2015 squatters and 257 Post July squatters. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-July 2015 squatters are considered for regularization either through relocation or regularization in situ. • The status of the 1158 squatters is as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regularisation in situ - 401 ➤ Relocation - 263 ➤ Vacated site - 45 	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cases under consideration - 288 ➤ Cannot be considered - 161 • The 161 squatters cannot be regularized <i>in situ</i> for the following reasons:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) sites are found over slopes which are above 20%; (ii) sites are found on land earmarked for airport in the North; and • Sites are already leased. 	
<p>53. Families in ex-CHA housing estates who have not yet taken advantage of the facility afforded to them to purchase state land, on which their houses stand, shall be granted ownership of the land free of charge (Government waiving payment representing cost of the land).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government intervention in social housing in Mauritius dates as far as 1955, with the construction of the first housing estates comprising 1000 houses and the creation of the Ministry of Housing and Lands, responsible for matters relating to social housing management, in addition to, some years later, the setting up of a Central Housing Authority (CHA) for the construction of some 19,442 low cost houses. These houses, and the land on which they had been built, were leased to the tenants by the CHA. • In order to empower families to take full responsibility of their assets, Government introduced the “Right to Buy” policy in 1989 for beneficiaries of CHA houses to become owner of their housing unit, against payment of around Rs 500-1000 per unit. As at date, almost all the CHA beneficiaries have become owners of their housing unit. • As at end of December 2015 to end of June 2019, almost all of the 19,442 CHA beneficiaries have become owners of their housing unit, out of which 11,465 families have also acquired the plot of land on which stand their house. Some 1776 cases have been approved for financial assistance regarding the purchase price and registration fees, out of which 1,267 deeds have been signed at the Notary level, with disbursement of an amount of Rs 2,748,500. A sum of Rs200,000 has been further earmarked in the Budget 2019/20 for that specific financial assistance, for period July 2019 to June 2020 	<p>Ministry of Housing and Lands</p>

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>54. The highest attainable standard of health shall be achieved by greater availability and accessibility of health care facilities, goods and services of quality.</p> <p>Primary health care services shall be improved to meet the requirements and expectations of the population. A master plan aiming at upgrading and reinforcing primary health care services shall be implemented.</p>	<p>At present a comprehensive primary health care package are being offered to the population of Mauritius through 143 Primary health points, (AHCs) and 117 community Health centres (CHCs)</p> <p>The services being offered at the primary health care are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General consultation Maternal and Child Health Immunization Family Planning services Community based rehabilitation services Non-communicable Disease (NCD) clinics Nutritionist Clinics Specialist clinics in psychiatric/ paediatric, gynaecology and obstetrics <p>All the infrastructures at primary health care level are constantly being upgraded as per the needs of the day. Furthermore, new clinics are being added to the existing ones. Service deliveries have been improved such as doctors consultation have been increase in all health points</p> <p>Access to key diagnosis and treatment for patients living with Hepatitis C are challenging, with no national plan on diagnosis, treatment and care of Hepatitis.</p> <p>Various supervisory levels have been appointed to oversee the work at the primary health care level, such as, Senior community Physicians, NCD Coordinators, Senior Diabetic Specialised Nurse.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Quality of Life</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>Medi-clinics</u></p> <p>Five medi-clinics are presently operational namely at L’Escalier, Belvedere, PlaineVerte, Triolet and Goodlands</p> <p>A new Mediclinic at Floreal will be operational in the coming month. Construction started on 11 November 2016, Intended completion date was scheduled for 10 November 2017 has been extended to 06 December 2017 and has been further extended.</p> <p>works for another two more Mediclinic at Stanley and Quartier Militaire will begin soon.</p> <p>All mediclinics and AHCs have extended hours of opening besides their normal working hours. During week days, they are opened from 4 p.m to 6 p.m and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m to noon,</p> <p>Other Mediclinic:</p> <p>The project has been initiated – working drawings and preparations of cost estimates are in progress at the level of MPI and the latter will seek the approval of the Building Plan Committee for the implementation of the project.</p> <p>The Medi clinic in Bel Air is in pipeline.</p>	
<p>The quality of health services and customer care in hospitals shall be enhanced through investment in high-tech medical equipment and through training and capacity building.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The budget 2019-2020 for the public health sector has been increased from Rs 12.2 billion to Rs 13.1 billion. • One of these priorities of the Government is to provide access to quality health care. Government is investing significantly to expand and modernise public hospitals with the construction of medi-clinics, 7 health centres, new hospitals (cancer, renal transplant unit, 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>eye, Flacq teaching hospital), purchase of mobile caravans, recruitment and training of personnels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 diabetic specialised nurses, 18 Specialised Nurses Diabetic Foot Care and Diabetic Eye Screeners have been trained and recruited to provide a more personalised care to diabetic patients. (It is to be noted that the 25 Health Care Attendants have followed training on diabetes eye screening but have not yet been recruited by the PSC). Additional doctors have been posted at primary health care level. • Government is putting in place a medical insurance scheme for employees of the public sector. Rs 200 million has been budgeted in the year 2019-2020. For those earning less than Rs 10,000, Government will pay fully the insurance premium. For those earning more than Rs 10,000, Government will contribute 50 percent of the premium. 	
<p>55. Greater access to specialized services shall be made available. An Institute for Women’s Health shall be set up to cater for the specific health and medical needs of women with state-of-the art technology and a National Paediatric Hospital established to treat, inter alia, complex congenital and acquired conditions which children suffer from.</p>	<p><u>Institute for Women’s Health</u></p> <p>A Feasibility study for an “Institute for Women’s Health” in the Republic of Mauritius is being finalized. Selection of Consultancy for Undertaking a feasibility study on the setting up of a Children’s Hospital is in progress. The project on “Institute for Women’s Health” has been put in abeyance. A policy decision is yet to be taken on that issue.</p> <p><u>Child Health</u></p> <p>Mauritius has made significant progress in enhancing child health. Since 1990, infant mortality rate per thousand live births and under-five mortality rate declined by almost by 33%. Immunization coverage rate has reached nearly 97% through the Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI).</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Quality of Life</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>Maternal Child Health (MCH) services, including ante-natal care and postnatal care have been strengthened through the inclusion of Gynecologist sessions in Area Health Centres for ante-natal care with echography facilities.</p> <p>In Mauritius, Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 12.2 in 2017 compared to 15.9 in 2001. Under Five Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 14.3 in 2017 compared to 18.2 in 2000. In 2017, Stillbirth Rate was 9.9 per 1,000 total births compared to 13.0 in 2000.</p> <p><u>Geriatrics Hospital</u></p> <p>Presently there are no specialised hospitals for Geriatrics. Elderly patients are at present being admitted in general wards. The Ministry of Health has just recruited a Specialist in Geriatrics. He will be called to organise the Geriatric services</p> <p>The elderly population is growing. Presently it stands at around 17% of the population. It is expected that by 2058 the percentage will increase up to 35% Geriatric Services in specialised hospitals as well as setting up of wards for the elderly in existing hospitals to be considered.</p>	
<p>56. Measures for the prevention and control of communicable diseases, and for maintaining a healthy living environment, shall be strengthened. The National Day Care Centres for the Immuno-Suppressed will be further decentralized to other regional hospitals so as to make HIV care, testing and anti-retroviral treatment more accessible.</p>	<p>Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)</p> <p>(a) National Action Plan 2017-2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the National Action Plan 2017-2021, the country's vision is to achieve "Zero new HIV infections. Zero AIDS-related deaths. Zero discrimination" while the mission is to provide high-quality HIV prevention, treatment and care services available and accessible to all Mauritians including the Key Populations (KPs) - sex workers, transgender, men having sex with men, people who inject drugs who are most at risk of HIV infection. • Worldwide, the HIV epidemic continues to be driven by gender inequalities and harmful norms that promote unsafe sex and/or reduce access to HIV and Sexual Reproductive Health particularly among the Key Populations. Also, the pervasive social, legal and economic disadvantages faced by women reduce their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection. To palliate this inequality gender sensitive HIV programmes and policies are 	<p>Ministry of Health and Quality of Life</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>implemented in Mauritius without any discrimination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NAP 2017-2021 promotes the following: a comprehensive sexuality and gender transformative intervention to prevent new HIV infections through risky sexual behaviour, support services utilization, enhanced retention in care and adherence to antiretroviral therapy. The NAP makes provision for tailored interventions in hard to reach areas/hot spots for Key Affected Populations (KAPs) through community mobilisation, and collaboration of NGOs. • The elaboration and implementation of the various National Strategic Frameworks 2001-2005, 2006-2011 and 2012 - 2016 have been successful in maintaining the HIV prevalence under 1 %. The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life has already initiated HIV testing through caravans moving across the island to reach a maximum number of persons. <p>(b) Mauritius has adopted new measures in order to reach the UN 90-90-90 targets by 2020, such as early initiation of treatment as per a “test and treat” strategy” since August 2017 and revision of the antiretroviral treatment protocol in 2018.</p> <p>(c) The eight Day Care centers for the Immuno-suppressed (N/DCCI) located in regional health hospitals are currently providing services to People Living with HIV. Out of the 4,965 patients Patient Living with HIV (PLHIV) registered in all day care centers, some 3,772 of them are benefiting from antiretroviral treatment (ARV).</p> <p>(d) Access to ARV is also available in prison settings. By end of October 2018 around 305 (294 Males and 11 Females) HIV positive inmates are on antiretroviral therapy. All HIV and AIDS infected persons are provided with the same facilities and have access to treatment, care and support as per guidelines.</p> <p>(e) Mauritius prisons do not have separate cells and dormitories for HIV prisoners. They share the same cell and dormitory and participate equally in any rehabilitation program in any prison. Detainees with HIV are not discriminated in prisons.</p>	

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- (f) Moreover the country is aiming towards elimination of Mother to child transmission of HIV.
- (g) Consistent and correct condom use as primary and secondary prevention is being promoted among the Mauritian population in addition to targeted preventive measures, namely: HIV testing and counselling, universal access to antiretroviral treatment (Prevention of Mother-to-child Transmission, Post Exposure Prophylaxis, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis), harm reduction measures, distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for adoption of safe behaviours.

(h) Condoms

Male, female condoms and gels are available and accessible to all at the Family Planning Clinics, the eight service points of care for People Living with HIV and at the 46 Needle Exchange distribution sites for NEP clients and their partners. This service is also being provided during the sensitisation and awareness sessions on HIV and AIDS held by the health care personnel of the AIDS Unit. Therefore, Female sex workers, Men who have Sex with Men, People who Inject Drugs and transgender can access condoms free of user costs. The sexually active youth and young people who are considered to be a vulnerable group can freely access condoms.

No. of Condoms distributed for 2016, 2017 and 2018 is illustrated in table below:

	Male condoms	Female condoms	Total No. of condoms	Grand Total
<i>Year 2016</i>				
MOH & QL	870,525	10,133	880,658	
NGO	276,576	31,738	308,314	
				1,188,972
<i>Year 2017</i>				

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS				RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	MOH	888,576	10,112	898,688				
	NGO	264,892	8,072	272,964				
					1,171,652			
	<i>Year 2018</i>							
	MOH & QL	815,382	13,863	829,245				
	NGO	253,682	21,642	275,324				
					1,104,569			
	(i) Needle Exchange Programme							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Needle Exchange Programme (NEP) is a Government-led Outreach programme, which involves distribution of syringes and needles to people who inject drugs (PWID) in exchange of used ones. The aim of the programme is to prevent spread of blood borne diseases. These services are provided in mobile caravans and as at date 46 sites are operational throughout the island out of which 35 are covered by caravans of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life and 11 by NGO CUT. • The quality of the services (e.g. needle exchange programme) is yet to be up to the best standards since patients/clients are awaiting for recommendations to be implemented by the Government. • No Needle Exchange Programme or condoms are available in prisons and prisons inmates are not receiving Hepatitis C diagnosis and treatment inside prisons. • The number of needles/syringes distributed has increased more than two-fold in the last five years. It is worth noting that thanks to the different harm reduction measures being implemented, the prevalence of HIV among PWIDS has gone down from 45% to 32%. 							

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>(j) Drugs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opioid detoxification in residential setting is offered at the detoxification and rehabilitation centre in Mahebourg Hospital and 331 injecting drug users have already undergone detoxification with suboxone followed by naltrexone, which is a relapse prevention medication. • Rehabilitation ward for young drug addicts have been set up whereby they are admitted as per their needs after having been under treatment in general hospitals. This program is run by a multidisciplinary team that ensures psychosocial services to the patients with the main objective to facilitate the rehabilitation process for the ultimate reintegration in the mainstream society. • A DRUG addiction Unit has been set up in each regional hospital since September 2016 and is operational under the direct supervision of psychiatrists of the regions for treatment counselling and referral services. • In view to facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration of methadone beneficiaries in the mainstream society a project with regard to methadone dispensing at primary health care settings has started since June 2018. • Since April 2016, the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life is conducting extensive national sensitization campaigns on substance abuse. The objective is to create awareness among the population at large, and in particular, the youth, with a view to empower them with the right knowledge about ill effects of drugs. • No National Prevention Plan, in the absence in which, there has been no evaluation of such sensitization campaigns and their impact on drug use among population at large. • The quality of the services (e.g. needle exchange programme) is yet to be up to the best standards since patients/clients are awaiting for recommendations to be implemented by the Government. <p>(k) The Methadone Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 6000 People Who Inject Drugs (PWIDS) have been induced on methadone between 2006-2015 and the programme was reviewed and put on hold in July 2015 to be reintroduced in June 2017. As at date more around 8400 injecting drug users have been induced on 	

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	<p>methadone and around 5000 beneficiaries are on the maintenance programme and accessing their daily doses at 42 dispensing points throughout the country including in the Prisons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2015, the number of Methadone dispensing sites was increased from 17 sites to 42 sites, bringing this service closer to users and last year, government has embarked on a pilot project to integrate Methadone dispensing within primary Health care settings. A dedicated centre set up in 2018 has greatly facilitated the induction of female injecting drug users onto Methadone. <p>Methadone in Prisons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methadone treatment is provided to prison inmates particularly injecting drug users who have already been induced on methadone in the community. Moreover initiation on methadone has been introduced in the prisons department since the year 2011, a first of its kind in the African region. <p>(I) Treatment of Hepatitis C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mauritius is at the doorstep of launching a nationwide treatment programme on Hepatitis C(HVC) to eliminate HCV by 2030 in line with the WHO recommendations. Previously HCV has been treated in only one regional hospital with approximately 100 patients treated Over the past 10 years. The Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life presided over the Conference of Hepatitis C which provided vital recommendations from key international experts in view to setting up an elimination programme in Mauritius. Since the Conference, the National Committee on Viral Hepatitis has been set up and significant progress has been made to training of medical and paramedical staff, to the acquisition of required laboratory consumables and required infrastructure to start treating patients with HCV. Gilead Pharmaceuticals has also agreed to the unconditional donation of Sofosbuvir/ Ledipasvir for 4500 patients to initiate the programme. The current project aims to treat 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>approximately 5000 patients over the next 24 months with a view of eventually launching a nationwide screening programme and HCV elimination.</p> <p>(m)Cancer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project for a new comprehensive cancer centre is being implemented and the centre is expected to be fully functional by 2018 with state of art radiotherapy and laboratory diagnostic equipment. • The expertise of the International Atomic Energy Agency has been requested for the new radiotherapy unit. • The Government is committed to provide new services to improve palliative care for cancer patients. A new national vaccination programme as a preventive measure against cervical cancer in women was introduced in 2017 across the country. 	
<p>57. The control of non-communicable diseases shall be enhanced in line with WHO Global Strategy for Prevention and Control of non-communicable diseases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An <u>Action Plan on Tobacco Control</u> for the period 2015-2018 is being implemented. A new National Plan of Action for Nutrition has been prepared for the period 2016 to 2020 and is being implemented. An Action Plan on the harmful use of Alcohol is under preparation. • The project for a new comprehensive <u>cancer centre</u> is being implemented and the centre is expected to be fully functional by 2018 with the state of art radiotherapy and laboratory diagnostic equipment. • A new national vaccination programme as a preventive measure against <u>cervical cancer</u> in women has been introduced this year across the country and is on-going. • <u>Public Health Awareness campaigns</u> on various health issues are ongoing throughout the year in collaboration with the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation and private radios. <p><u>NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES</u></p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Quality of Life</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<p>The Last NCD survey was carried out in 2015 and it revealed several positive findings. Comparison for Mauritius NCD Survey 2009 and 2015</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2009</th> <th>2015</th> <th>Remark</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Age (25-74 yrs)</th> <th>Age (25-74 yrs)</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Diabetes</td> <td>23.6%</td> <td>22.8%</td> <td>Stabilized</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pre-diabetes (IGT/IFG)</td> <td>24.2%</td> <td>19.4%</td> <td>Decrease (4.8%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Blood Pressure</td> <td>37.9%</td> <td>28.0%</td> <td>Decrease (9.9%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overweight</td> <td>34.9%</td> <td>35.2%</td> <td>Stabilized</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Smoking</td> <td>21.7%</td> <td>19.3%</td> <td>Decrease (2.4%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical Activity</td> <td>16.5%</td> <td>23.7%</td> <td>More people are doing physical activity (7.2%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Mauritius increased its spending on early disease detection programmes from Rs 2.80 million in 2014 to Rs 47.84 million in 2016. In 2016, we spent around Rs 16.5 billion, which is around 66.5 per cent, on NCDs, the largest share of health expenditure on diseases. We have increased</p>		2009	2015	Remark		Age (25-74 yrs)	Age (25-74 yrs)		Diabetes	23.6%	22.8%	Stabilized	Pre-diabetes (IGT/IFG)	24.2%	19.4%	Decrease (4.8%)	High Blood Pressure	37.9%	28.0%	Decrease (9.9%)	Overweight	34.9%	35.2%	Stabilized	Smoking	21.7%	19.3%	Decrease (2.4%)	Physical Activity	16.5%	23.7%	More people are doing physical activity (7.2%)	
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>taxes on alcohol and tobacco. We also introduced a sugar tax since 2013 on the amount of sugar in soft drinks and banned soft drinks from school canteens. These intensive screening and sensitization programmes have, in 2017, reversed the trend in mortality due to NCDs which we registered between 2011 and 2016.</p> <p>Blood Glucose Strips has been placed on the list of controlled commodities and has resulted in a decrease in price Rs 40 to Rs 114 for a box of 50 strips according to brands.</p> <p>In 2017, 48 595 persons were screened though the NCD programme and persons found with abnormal results were referred to the nearest hospital, Area or Community Health Centre for follow up and further investigations. Additionally, through the School Health Programme for Secondary schools, some 179 schools were visited and 39,936 students were screened.</p>	
<p>A National Health Literacy Program shall be devised. A National Food Safety Action Plan, focusing on enhanced food inspection activities, capacity building and review of legislative framework, public awareness campaigns and quality control shall be implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Food Act regulates, inter alia, the determination of fitness of food, its preparation, packaging, storing, conveyancing, distribution as well as sale. Food safety ranks high on our agenda and as such the need for closer food monitoring is being emphasized. Water quality is also being monitored regularly to detect contamination. In the Budget Plan 2019/2020, it was announced that a Food Standards Agency will be established to set standards on fast food and soft drinks and also for the certification of vegetarian and halal foods, among others. • Government introduced the Use of Pesticides Act in 2018. The object of the Act is to regulate, control and monitor the importation and use of pesticides in or on certain fresh fruits, plants, seeds or vegetables with a view to, inter alia, minimising risks to human health and the environment. The Act provides for the setting up of a Pesticides Regulatory Office. Island wide sensitisation campaign to create awareness on the sound and prudent use of pesticides in agriculture has also been organized in 2018. • Government is working for the branding of Mauritian tea as a pesticide free product with unique health benefits. 	<p>Ministry of Health and Quality of Life</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
A National Service Framework for cardiovascular diseases and an Action Plan on harmful use of alcohol shall also be formulated and implemented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have increased taxes on alcohol and tobacco. • In 2017, 647 surgical interventions were done at the Cardiac Centre. 	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
An Action Plan to mitigate cancer risks in the population shall be prepared and a National Cancer Centre set up.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 5, 529 women were screened for breast and cervical cancer in 2017. • We also introduced the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination, which protects girls against the four strands of HPV most associated with cervical cancer. Some 24,804 doses were administered to girls in 2017. Around 6,122 women were screened under the various programmes in 2018. • In 2018, 2,861 new cancer cases were registered, representing an increase of approximately 86 per cent from 2009 and cancer has decreased from 547 in 2016 to 534 in 2017 	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
58. The rights of mental patients shall be better protected. The Mental Health Care Act shall be reviewed. A mid-way home shall be set up for the rehabilitation of patients currently cared for at the Brown Sequard Mental Health Care Centre.	<p>Mental Health</p> <p>The Mental Health Act dates as far back as 1906 and was last revised in 1998. There are certain sections in the Act which are giving rise to practical problems, for example a Medical Officer should have 5 years post qualification experience to be posted to the mental hospital. Furthermore there are no provisions in the Act for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Mental treatment in regional hospitals (b) Community treatment (c) Trial leave to security patients (mentally ill offender sent from the court) with the result that they tend to stay all their lives in the mental hospital (d) Involuntary admission of psychiatric patients from regional hospitals to Brown Sequard Mental Health Care Centre. <p>In order to address these lacunae and also to take into consideration developments and trends in the delivery of mental health care services, the Ministry is proposing to review the Act and in the first instance, it has been decided to implement the Community psychiatric care on a pilot basis at</p>	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life

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	<p>regional level. Given that trained staffs are not available in the market, the Ministry proposes to train its own staff. In this respect the new curriculum is being finalized at the School of Nursing in collaboration with Mauritius Institute of Health.</p> <p>The Mental Health (Amendment) Bill 2019 has been passed in the National Assembly on 2nd April 2019. The Mental Health (Amendment) Act will be proclaimed shortly. In this new act a medical officer should have post qualification instead of 5 years' experience to be posted at Brown Sequard Mental Health Care Centre. Community psychiatry services are being carried out at Flacq and SSRN hospitals and will be extended to other hospitals. Psychiatric treatment has been decentralised and is at present available in all health regions.</p> <p>To better protect the rights of mental patients, specialised services in the field of Mental Health Care have been decentralized and there is now also a Psychiatric Unit at the Regional Hospital at Flacq to cater for the eastern part of the island. In the other Regional Hospitals, Liaison Psychiatry is being practiced. Mental Health Care is also being provided at Primary Health Care Centres by Psychiatrists and Community Physicians.</p> <p>Health problems such as Alzheimer Disease and Dementia is increasing. Provision of care services preferably at home in Day Care Centres as well as in Residential Care Homes would need to be contemplated for those suffering from these diseases. This is being reviewed by the Residential Care Home Board.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>
<p>59. Government is committed to further developing access to education and training facilities, and further consolidate equity, quality and relevance at all levels of the education and training system. To align the educational sector with</p>	<p><u>The Nine-Year Continuous Basic Education (NYCBE)</u></p> <p>The Nine-Year Continuous Basic Education commonly called the nine-year schooling project has been implemented in primary schools since 2017 and at secondary level as from January 2018. This programme is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4). It makes provision for quality and inclusive education for all. It also caters for the mixed ability group of learners and Special Education Needs (SEN) students.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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<p>international best practices, Government has introduced the Nine Years Continuous Basic Education (NYCBE)</p>	<p>The NYCBE emphasizes the holistic development of the child. The aim of holistic education is to focus on the learner’s intellectual, socio-economic, physical, creative and aesthetic potential and promote their development through a range of activities.</p> <p>An array of subjects such as Art, Music, Road and Safety, Civics Information Technology, Physical Education and Sports; and Communication Skills are taught on the curriculum.</p> <p>A modular approach assessment has been adopted to alleviate the stress on learners.</p> <p>The main objectives of the NYCBE are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equip all learners with knowledge, foundation skills and attitudes leading to their self-empowerment and holistic development. • Focus on the learners’ intellectual, socio-emotional, physical, creative and aesthetic potentials and promote their development through a range of activities. • Provide equitable learning opportunities to all in order to attain high levels of achievement. • Inculcate in all learners a sense of moral responsibility, a set of values and a strong identity for the country. • Give greater recognition to the value of TVET in building human capital for sustainable development. <p><u>Implementation of the NYCBE</u></p> <p>With a view to implementing the Nine-Year-Schooling Project, the following pedagogical measures have been taken: The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for basic education has been redesigned to ensure continuity in learning.</p> <p>The implementation of the NYCBE started in the secondary sub-sector in January 2018. A new curriculum has been introduced for Grade 7 to Grade 9, comprising a range of both academic and non-academic subjects that focus on the holistic development of the students.</p>	

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	<p>The new curriculum also ensures gender parity by offering the same subjects to both boys and girls.</p> <p>The MIE has equally proposed a new set of learning measures aligned on the new teaching syllabi for the last three years of the basic education cycle. The programme is grounded on the underlying philosophy of an inclusive and equitable education for all, so that these students pursue the same curriculum as other students for Grades 7 to 9 and take the new National Certificate of Education (NCE) at the end of the basic education cycle.</p> <p><u>PSAC</u></p> <p>The Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) has been replaced by the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) as from the year 2017.</p> <p>The PSAC assessment comprises a combination of external assessment conducted by the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate and a school-based assessment (except for private candidates) and is modular in approach) The first cohort of pupils sat for the PSAC in October 2017.</p> <p>All pupils sitting for the PSAC Assessment will be promoted to Grade 7 based on the following criteria; parental choice, overall grading at the PSAC and proximity of residence to regional secondary schools.</p> <p>Those students who do not attain the required level at PSAC will be admitted to the Extended Stream. They will, therefore, gain additional support to cover the curriculum that will be spread over an extended four-year period instead of three years.</p> <p>At the end of the Grade 9, all students will sit for a national assessment namely the National Certificate of Education (NCE). After successful completion of the Grade 9, students will be faced with three options:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Either</u> pursue their schooling in the same Regional Secondary Schools where they are already enrolled as from Grade 7 • <u>or</u> pursue their studies in Academies which will run classes from Grade 10 to 13, if eligible; <u>or</u> follow technical and vocational studies in training centre run by the MITD. A pathway will exist for them to later access polytechnics. <p>After the PSAC results, the PSAC re-assessment is organised for pupils who have not attained the required level in only one subject which gives them the opportunity to improve.</p> <p>The percentage of pupils meeting PSAC requirement, including re-assessed school candidates, works out to 78.77.</p> <p>Pupils who do not meet the PSAC requirements proceed to Grade 7 in the Extended Programme.</p> <p><u>TVET</u></p> <p>With a view to making TVET a more attractive pathway to students after NYCBE, the TVET sector is being reviewed with the objectives of improving the quality and relevance of MITD training programmes and providing a more attractive pathway to students.</p> <p>The curricula for 17 courses are being reviewed in consultation with experts from industry in the current year to ensure greater relevance of training; the courses will be pitched at higher level National Certificate Level 4.</p>	

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	<p><u>Mauritius Polytechnics Limited (PLM)</u></p> <p>In the year 2017, The Mauritius Polytechnics Limited (PLM) was established as a body corporate under the aegis of the Ministry with the objective of running training programmes to cope with the existing needs of Mauritius and the neighbouring region including Rodrigues for a qualified and skilled human capital at mid-professional level. In this respect, infrastructures of modern standards have been built-in decentralised region namely at Montagne Blanche, Pamplemousses and Reduit, to run a variety of programmes which are offered in collaboration with well-established and renowned international higher education institutions.</p> <p><u>Zones D'Échanges Prioritaires (ZEP)</u></p> <p>The “Zones D’échanges Prioritaires (ZEP) project has been institutionalised for schools which have had a pass rate of less than 40 % over the last five years at the CPE and PSAC. The project aims at improving the performance of those pupils who are generally socio-economically disadvantaged. Moreover, hot-free meals are offered to pupils in ZEP schools.</p> <p><u>Continuous Professional Development and Training of Teachers</u></p> <p>The NYCBE Policy Paper “Inspiring Every Child” provides for Continuous Professional Development (CPD) as one of the strategic pillars of the reform. Competencies and reinforcement of skills of teachers and building their capacity has been a priority during the past years.</p> <p>Heads of Schools, Inspectors, Trainers, Quality Assurance Officers and Educators have been provided with capacity building programmes. Other capacity building programmes have also been organised for Heads of Schools and Educators on Drug Education and Sexual and Reproductive Health.</p>	

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	<p>Moreover, newly appointed Educators, Senior Educators and Deputy rectors have been offered Induction Courses.</p> <p><u>Academy for Teachers</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Education, and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research will also proceed with the setting up of an Academy that will be mandated to provide creer-long professional development opportunities for teachers and school leaders. CDP will look at lifelong learning and will focus on improving instructional practices and increase the performance of all students and is responsive to the explicit needs of teachers and school leaders.</p>	
<p>In line with internationally accepted best practices, Government will encourage the use of mother tongues to facilitate teaching and learning.</p>	<p><u>Use of Mother Tongue:</u></p> <p>With a view to promote teaching of mother tongue, the Kreol Morisien was introduced in Standard I in 2012 as an optional subject. Bhojpuri has also been integrated in the existing Hindi curriculum.</p> <p>The Kreol Morisien (KM) was introduced as an optional subject with the same status as all other Asian Languages in all primary schools (as from 2012). KM has been given due recognition and is an examinable subject at all grades at Primary level and is assessed in the PSAC as from 2017. KM is also offered as an optional subject at secondary level as from 2018 for Grades 7 to 9 and will be assessed in the NCE as from 2020.</p> <p>KM is also used as a support language to explain challenging concepts in subjects that are taught on the curriculum.</p> <p>Teachers have been trained by the MOE to be able to provide a professional pedagogical approach to the teaching/learning process. Currently, the roll of primary school pupils stands at 18,036 (for 178 primary schools) while the roll at secondary is some 1000.</p> <p>The KM staff reckons a total of 182 Primary School Educators and Secondary School Educators (as at January 2019). In so far the use of KM as a medium of instruction is concerned, it has not been</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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	<p>officially proclaimed. But the use of is encouraged to facilitate the teaching learning process as a support language.</p> <p><u>Akademi Kreol Repiblik Moris (AKRM)</u></p> <p>With a view to follow up on the development and use of the kreol language in the Republic of Mauritius, the Akademi Kreol Repiblik Moris (AKRM) is being set up.</p> <p>In May 2019, Government decided to set up the Akademi Kreol Repiblik Moris (AKRM) to follow up on the development and use of the Kreol language in the Republic of Mauritius. The AKRM would have the following key objectives -</p> <p>(a) develop further the orthography, grammar, lexicon, usage and norms of Kreol Repiblik Moris (KRM) as the national standard language of the Republic of Mauritius;</p> <p>(b) develop and promote KRM as the key medium, component and expression of Mauritian heritage, culture and traditions in its unity and diversity;</p> <p>(c) commission and publish linguistic studies and descriptions of KRM and its usage, its varieties and registers, its evolutionary norms and standards, while assuring its development as a living and dynamic medium;</p> <p>(d) encourage literary, non-fiction and scientific writing and promote creative productions in audio-visual, electronic and other formats;</p> <p>(e) promote quality and excellence in the study, description and creative use of KRM and reward talent and achievement in KRM; and</p> <p>(f) advise the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research on matters related to KRM.</p>	
<p>The Government is committed to sustaining the digital revolution in education. The teaching and learning process as well as school</p>	<p><u>Digital Assistance for Teaching and Learning</u></p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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<p>management will be digitally assisted.</p>	<p>Digital assistance for Teaching and learning exists at all levels of primary schools. In January 2014, Headquarters have sent through Zones DVDs with Pedagogical content prepared by MIE for Std. I – III</p> <p>Teachers of Standards IV – VI have also been using <i>Sankore</i> interactive projectors.</p> <p>Each primary school has an email address which enables rapid and accurate exchange of information with the school.</p> <p>In line with the NYCBE Reform, the Early Digital Learning Programme (EDLP) has been introduced as from 2018 in the first instance for Grade 1 and Grade 2 pupils. The main aim of the project will be aligning integration of ICT into teaching and learning.</p> <p>The components of this project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Improvement of ICT infrastructure. (ii) Development of digital content (e-books). (iii) Capacity building of the Educators (workshops to empower the Teaching Staff and Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster and Inspectors) (iv) Procurement of ICT devices. <p>Tablets and its accessories have been delivered to schools and projectors are being installed.</p> <p>Each Grade 3 pupil has been given an e-book incorporated tablet that will be used as a teaching and learning tool.</p> <p>Grade 4 pupils will receive their e-book incorporated tablets in year 2020.</p>	
<p>The School Psychological Service will be reinforced and community participation encouraged for tackling effectively the issue of indiscipline and misbehaviour in schools.</p>	<p><u>Community participation and issue of indiscipline in schools:</u></p> <p>The Ministry including its National Education Counselling Service has been working in close collaboration with the Brigade pour la Protection des Mineurs, the CDU and Probation and After Care Service and such networking is being reinforced by exchange of information and new approaches for a synergistic modus operandi.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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	<p>An effective networking has been established with the community and major stakeholders such as Police and CDU to support schools in addressing problems of indiscipline.</p> <p>School Psychological Service has been reinforced with the setting up of the National Educational Counselling Service and the recruitment of additional Educational Psychologists and Educational Social Workers for the different Zones. There are in all, 4 Senior Educational Psychologists, 18 Educational Psychologists and 18 Educational Social Workers providing services in the 4 zones. The Unit will further be reinforced with the creation of a new post of Senior Educational Social Worker</p>	
<p>60. To ensure that no single child is denied his/her opportunity for early self-development, Pre-Primary education will be made compulsory for the age group 3 to 5 as from January 2013. Government will introduce a support scheme to empower private pre-primary schools to improve the quality of care and education.</p>	<p><u>Pre-Primary Education</u></p> <p>Pre-primary education is not free in Mauritius. To ease the financial burden on parents and ensure equitable access to education, Government provides subsidies to private preschools in the form of a per capita (Rs 200 monthly per child). All school going children from low income families are eligible to a monthly cash allowance (Rs 750/-) provided they meet the criterion of 90% school attendance. This allowance is paid to their families.</p> <p>In view of pre-primary education to be made compulsory, the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority Act/Regulation need to be amended. Needful is being done by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, TE & SR and the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority (ECCEA).</p> <p>Besides, as stipulated in the Education Act, education is already compulsory till the age of sixteen.</p> <p>As at March 2018, there are 846 schools providing pre-primary education: 812 in the Island of Mauritius and 34 in Rodrigues. 22% of these schools are run by the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority (ECCEA) and the remaining 28% are privately run by either Roman Catholic Authority or Hindu Education Authority or Municipal/Village Council or Non/Government Organisation or by private individuals.</p> <p>The Gross Enrolment Ratio was 96% in 2017 and as at date, 98% has been attained at the pre-primary level</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

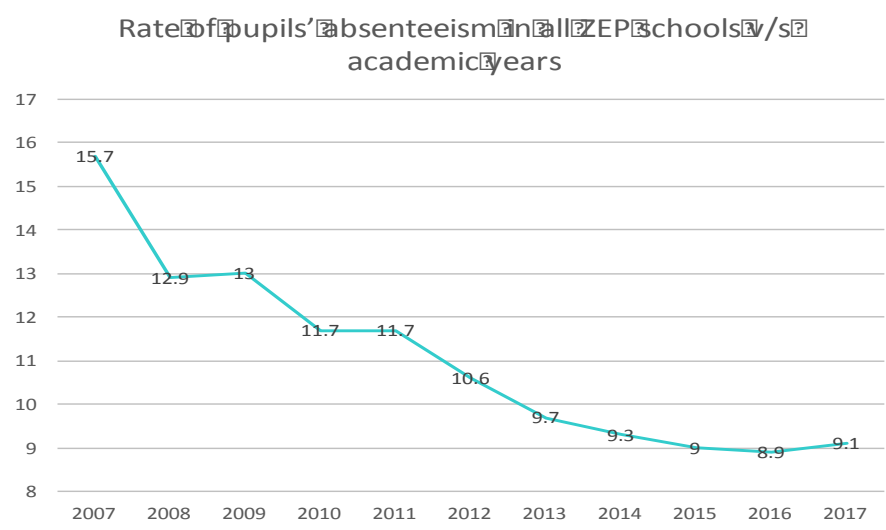
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With a view to ensure that quality pre-primary education is provided to all pre-school children in the Republic of Mauritius, the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority (ECCEA) in collaboration with the Mauritius Institute of Education, University of Technology and the Open University of Mauritius have been delivering courses in the field of Early Childhood Education. Both the Open University of Mauritius and the University of Technology have been running such courses as BEd and BSc courses in Early Childhood for pre-primary teachers as well as Diploma in Educational Supervision and Inspection 2016 – 17 (DESI – Pre-primary) for Assistant Coordinators (pre-primary school inspectors). Each school term, in service courses are dispensed to pre- school teachers with a view to keep them updated of the latest trend in Early Childhood.

Under the current reform in education, the Primary School Readiness has been introduced to assess the level of pupils following their pre-primary schooling. This assessment gives a detailed profile of each pupil to the primary school teacher before embarking on a more adapted teaching and learning process during the pupils’ transition from the Pre-Primary to Primary Education.

Note: Rate of absenteeism in regard to ZEP schools:



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<p>61. The Special Needs Education Sector will be restructured in order to ensure that no child is deprived of education on account of any form of impairment or disability.</p>	<p><u>The Special Education Needs Sector</u></p> <p>Inclusion is the leitmotiv that runs across the education system of the Republic of Mauritius. The provision of equality of opportunities to all students explains the diversity of actions projects and programs mounted to ensure that no child is deprived of Education on account of his/her disability. In fact, the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research being fully conscious of the difficulties of pupils with disabilities usually face, has taken several measures to eliminate situations that may be discriminatory towards them while facilitating their access to education in the mainstream schools.</p> <p><u>Measures for the inclusion and integration of children with Special Education Needs</u></p> <p>As from the financial year (2016/2017), five scholarships are being offered annually to students with SEN to pursue Post-Secondary/Tertiary courses. These students also benefit from a stipend of Rs 5,000 monthly.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Human Resources has taken several measures for the inclusion and integration of children with Special Education Needs so as to ensure that no child is deprived of education on account of any form of impairment or disability. The facilities are:</p> <p>(a) A flexible approach is adopted towards parents who wish to call at school during the day to provide assistance to their physically disabled pupils. Parents are strongly encouraged to register their wards in the nearest primary schools.</p> <p>(b) schools are being retrofitted with ramps to facilitate access to the classrooms and all new secondary schools constructed have already been provided with adapted toilets for the disabled. Links between building blocks have been made to facilitate access, using wheelchairs to the first floor where specialist rooms are located;</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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	<p>(c) facilities like music room, library, science laboratory, computer room are available on the ground floor where necessary. In primary schools, Head Masters usually make arrangements to move the whole class to the ground floor wherever necessary</p> <p>(d) students with disabilities are released earlier than the other students so that they do not face any movement difficulties;</p> <p>(e) school Attendants usually help students on wheelchair to move around the school compound;</p> <p>(f) educators are encouraged to provide individual extra assistance to children with disabilities so as to allow them to keep pace with their classmates. children with disabilities benefit from extra time for the CPE examination. Enlarged print school books/manuals and question papers are produced for children suffering from visual impairment;</p> <p>(g) A Mauritian Sign Language has been developed to ease communication for children with deafness. Children with hearing impairment are provided with the service of sign language interpreters for the purpose of examinations;</p> <p>(h) The Ministry of Education and Human Resources has put up integrated units in government primary schools around the island so as to reach out those who have to travel long distance. There are at present 13 such Integrated Units and the majority of them are run in partnership with specialist NGOs; (same as last report)</p>	

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	<p>(i) The Mauritius Institute of Education is providing courses to build capacity of Teachers/ Educators with the appropriate skills/knowledge to deal with children with disabilities;</p> <p>(j) Provision of a Carer is made on a case to case basis to children with special needs requiring extra assistance;</p> <p>(k) refund of bus fares to accompanying parents of disabled children attending schools / Special Needs Schools;</p> <p>(l) Refund of taxi fares to students with disabilities to university students with severe disabilities who cannot travel by ordinary means of transport. In 2018/19, this facility has been extended to those students with special needs confined to wheelchair who are attending secondary schools as well as primary school;</p> <p><u>Francois Sockalingum Award (Scholarship Scheme for Students with disabilities):</u></p> <p>Through this award, students with disabilities who pass the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC) and pursue their secondary studies are eligible to a monthly stipend of Rs 750;</p>	
<p>The SEN strategy document 2006 has been reviewed by International Experts in the field and a validation workshop was held in October 2017. The inputs received from the validation workshop are under study and the strategy document</p>	<p>A sub-committee has also been set up by ECCEA Board to identify pre- school children with disabilities as well as to look into the means of integrating them in a normal pre-schools for inclusive education. Some schools have the facilities required for SEN pupils, however needful has to be done where such facilities do not exist.</p> <p>In fact, the Ministry has over the years taken a series of measures towards an all-inclusive schooling system. The Ministry has come up with a new Policy Framework and Strategy Document for the Special Education Needs Sector in the wake of the nine year schooling reform. The new vision of the sector is now “Inclusionary and empowering measures/practices for all persons with diverse</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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<p>will be updated. Then after an action plan will be devised for implementing the recommendation of the new strategy document.</p>	<p>learning needs today for a fully inclusive society tomorrow”. An Action Plan is being worked out to achieve the 8 strategy goals enunciated in the Policy Framework and Strategy Document.</p> <p>In line with the measure enunciated in the budget 2018/2019, and in line with strategy Goal 2 of the Policy Framework, the Ministry has come up with a Special Needs Authority Act (SENA) Act.</p> <p>The Special Needs Authority has been set up since 8 February 2019 and the SEN Authority will become operational shortly.</p>	
<p>62. Government will consolidate measures and actions to reduce the failure rate at the end of the primary cycle. Special pedagogical programs will be introduced to enhance performance. To enhance the ability of students to exploit the opportunities of the 21st Century and acquire new global skills, the primary school curriculum will be enhanced by including new topics such as Civic Education, Health Literacy, Information Technology, and Sustainable Living. To promote collaborative learning practices Government will provide to each Standard IV child attending publicly-funded primary schools a rugged, power efficient children’s laptop. Government will also introduce a</p>	<p>21 Remedial teachers for Std. III had been posted part-time (6 to 8 hrs/week) in 2013 in 21 primary schools. A special remedial part-time class (2 days/week) for Std. 6 repeaters.</p> <p>The Mauritius Institute of Education has already reviewed the National Curriculum Framework for the primary and secondary sectors New subjects have been introduced at secondary level like Social Studies and Kreol Morisien (KM), Home Economics and Design and Technology are being taught to both boys and girls with a view to ensuring gender parity.</p> <p><u>Implementation of the Nine-Year Continuous Basic Education (NYCBE)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nine-Year Continuous Basic Education commonly called the nine-year schooling project has been implemented in primary schools since 2017 and at secondary level as from January 2018. This programme is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4). It makes provision for quality and inclusive education for all. It also caters for the mixed ability group of learners and Special Education Needs (SEN) students. • The NYCBE emphasizes the holistic development of the child. The aim of holistic education is to focus on the learner’s intellectual, socio-economic, physical, creative and aesthetic potential and promote their development through a range of activities. • An array of subjects such as Art, Music, Road and Safety, Civics Information Technology, Physical Education and Sports; and Communication Skills are taught on the curriculum. 	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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<p>Student Health and Wellness Program to promote Health Literacy, Basic Nutrition, Lifelong Fitness and sound development of learners across the education system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modular approach assessment has been adopted to alleviate the stress on learners. • With a view to implementing the Nine-Year-Schooling Project, the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for basic education has been redesigned to ensure continuity in learning. • The implementation of the NYCBE started in the secondary sub-sector in January 2018. A new curriculum has been introduced for Grade 7 to Grade 9, comprising a range of both academic and non-academic subjects that focus on the holistic development of the students. • The new curriculum also ensures gender parity by offering the same subjects to both boys and girls. • The MIE has equally proposed a new set of learning measures aligned on the new teaching syllabi for the last three years of the basic education cycle. The programme is grounded on the underlying philosophy of an inclusive and equitable education for all, so that these students pursue the same curriculum as other students for Grades 7 to 9 and take the new National Certificate of Education (NCE) at the end of the basic education cycle. <p><u>E-Book</u></p> <p>Each Grade 3 pupil has been given an e-book incorporated tablet that will be used as a teaching and learning tool.</p> <p>Grade 4 pupils will receive their e-book incorporated tablets in year 2020.</p> <p><u>Sensitisation in schools</u></p> <p>Ministries, departments, NGOs, NHRIs conduct regularly sensitization campaigns on drug abuse, HIV, Non-Communicable Diseases, Trafficking in Persons, child abuse, International Humanitarian Law and International Disaster Law among others for their holistic development.</p>	

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<p>63. Government will introduce a quality assurance and inspections framework with a view to improving quality of teaching and student performance in both State and Private Secondary Schools. Government will review the legal and institutional framework for the management and operation of private secondary schools and has revisited the role and function of the Private Secondary Schools Authority (PSSA) which is now known Private School Education Authority (PSEA) and this, with a view to enhance support to private secondary schools.</p>	<p>A Quality Assurance Framework has been prepared after consultation with different stakeholders and is awaiting its validation. With the implementation plan of the Nine Year Continuous Basic Education (NYCBE) the Quality Assurance Framework will be revisited accordingly. The system is being set up at the level of the PSEA to enhance support to private secondary schools. PSSA Act is being reviewed.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>
<p>To inculcate an entrepreneurial culture in our youth, Government will, in consultation with all stakeholders, introduce new Entrepreneurship studies as part of the secondary school curriculum. Government will consider extending the Scholarship Scheme on a regional basis so as to provide more opportunities for students who excel at HSC level.</p>	<p>Entrepreneurship education was introduced at Form I level on a pilot basis in some 16 state and private secondary schools. It has been rolled out at lower secondary level in all secondary schools of the Republic. A 15 hrs course which was run for Grade 12 students of pilot schools, is now being carried out in 92 schools as from 2016.</p> <p>The importance of the subject has been further underlined with its assessment at the level of Grade 9 National Assessment.</p> <p>The subject will be maintained at lower secondary level in the new NCF in the context of the NYCBE.</p> <p>The Enterprise syllabus (4054) has also been introduced at ‘O’ Level.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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	<p>It is being offered, as from 2016, at the level of Grade 10. The first cohort of students have taken part for School Certificate Examinations in 2017.</p> <p>A Regional Scholarships Scheme has been worked out in the context of the NYCBE and will be submitted for consideration for budgetary approval in forthcoming financial year.</p> <p>As from January 2013, 24 Additional Scholarships on the basis of Merit and Social Criteria are awarded under the New Government Scholarship Scheme i.e to meritorious students coming from low income groups.</p> <p>As from the financial year (2016/2017), five scholarships are being offered annually to students with SEN to pursue Post-Secondary/Tertiary courses. These students also benefit from a stipend of Rs 5,000 monthly.</p>	
<p>64. In order to improve access to upper secondary education, Government will establish new and innovative pathways for students who have successfully completed the O-level/School Certificate either in the academic or technical/vocational stream.</p>	<p>The NYCBE reform provides for two distinct pathways at the end of Grade 9. Students may opt for the traditional academic pathway to pursue their secondary education in Grades 10 and 11 towards SC/GCE O-Level and ultimately in Grade 12 and 13 towards HSC/GCE ‘A’ Level. Alternately, they may choose the Technical and Vocational Education and Training pathway, where the offer is being enhanced and revalorised.</p> <p>The NYCBE has made provision for those who wish to enter the Technical Stream. A revalorised and attractive TVET is also being put in place for students opting for a vocational path.</p> <p>The setting up of Polytechnics, on the other hand, provides students with an alternative Post Grade 9 of the NYCBE pathway and for an alternative post O-level pathway.</p> <p>A new TVET qualification framework has been developed defining clear pathways between mainstream education and TVET. The framework also provides pathways for progression to higher level TVET and higher education.</p> <p>The HSC Professional Qualification has been introduced in some 11 pilot schools since 2015. Besides Travel and Tourism, introduced recently has gained popularity as our youth envisage to pursue career in the Tourism Industry.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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	<p><u>Secondary education</u></p> <p>The Gross Enrolment ratio (secondary education enrolment as a percentage of the population aged 12 to 19 years) for the general and extended streams was 73% in 2018.</p>	
<p>65. Government will introduce a Tertiary Education Bill which will provide a framework for the development and regulation of tertiary education in Mauritius. The Bill will also provide Tertiary Education Commission with enhanced tools to ensure Quality Assurance across the tertiary educational sector.</p>	<p><u>The Higher Education Act (HEA)</u></p> <p>The Higher Education Act (HEA), which is in line with the Government’s vision 2030 to transform Mauritius into an education hub, was passed on 18 December 2017 and the promulgation of the various sections of the legislation act are to be effected in a phased manner. The Sections of the HEA relating to the Quality Assurance Authority (QAA) was proclaimed on 17 November 2018.</p> <p>The Board of the QAA will set up shortly after their Higher Education Commission (HEC) will be set up.</p> <p>The HEA 2017 makes provision for the setting up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A Higher Education Authority Advisory Council which shall, inter alia, advise the Government on policies for the effective direction, promotion and development of higher education. (ii) A Higher Education Commission (HEC) which shall inter alia, monitor and oversee the higher education sector and be responsible for the registration of institutions; and (iii) A Quality Assurance Authority (QAA) which shall, inter alia, promote and maintain quality and sound standards in higher education through appropriate quality assurance mechanisms 	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>
<p>66. The National Institute for Civic Education (NICE) shall run programs to inculcate in young people a sense of common purpose, patriotism, civic</p>	<p>The programme is no longer sustained.</p>	<p>Prime Minister’s Office</p>

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<p>responsibility and common national identity.</p>		
<p>67. Government will provide a wider and enhanced spectrum of cultural products and services to the public, including the holding of an international film festival.</p>	<p><u>The Mauritius Cinema Week</u></p> <p>The first edition of the Mauritius Cinema Week was held from 05 to 08 October 2017, in the context of the celebration of the 50 years of Independence of Mauritius. The objectives of the Mauritius Cinema Week were, inter alia, to promote the film industry and the Film Rebate Scheme to International film producers and celebrities from the global cinema industry. The Cinema Week focused on celebrity marketing so as to position Mauritius as an attractive film production location, consequently boosting the tourism industry.</p> <p>A second edition was held from 18 – 20 October 2018. In the context of the celebration of the 50 years of Independence of Mauritius.</p> <p>The event was graced by the presence of 20 high-profile guests from Bollywood, Hollywood, Tollywood, France, the United Kingdom and South Africa. It received wide coverage from the international press and was a unique opportunity to further develop the film industry as a pillar of the Mauritian economy.</p> <p>Following the Cinema Week, Paul Brett, one of the guest-producers for the event, has submitted an application for a feature film project under the Film Rebate Scheme. The estimated production budget for Mauritius amounts to MUR 353 Million.</p> <p>International exposure is given to artists through financing their participation in events of worldwide repute under the ‘International Development Grant Scheme’. Cultural entrepreneurs and artists have been empowered through the different forms of assistance and incentives, thereby promoting the cultural industry to ensure sustainable development. The Ministry of Arts and Culture ensures respect for cultural diversity by promoting cultural pluralism through cultural exchanges with foreign countries.</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p> <p>Board of Investment</p> <p>Mauritius Film Development Corporation</p>

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	Mauritius has established Cultural Exchange Programmes with friendly countries, such as India, Egypt, Seychelles and China whereby it provides for exchanges of artists, groups of artists, exchange of documentation as well as exchange of professionals in various artistic and cultural fields.	
A White Paper on Arts and Culture shall be prepared.	A White Paper on Creative Mauritius – Vision 2025 was published in September 2014.	Ministry of Arts and Culture
A ‘Conseil National de la Culture’ will be established for the promotion of intercultural dialogue.	<p>No ‘Conseil National de la Culture’ has been established.</p> <p>Different Cultural Centres have been created by way of legislation, namely the Mauritius Marathi Cultural Centre, Mauritius Telugu Cultural Centre, Mauritius Tamil Cultural Centre, Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture and the Islamic Cultural Centre, amongst others, to carry out activities which promote intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>The Ministry of Arts & Culture through its cultural centres and speaking unions has been promoting, protecting and preserving the diversity of languages and cultures and has been enhancing unity in diversity and international understanding, and recognising the importance for the peoples of the world to communicate in their own language.</p> <p>It continuously promotes national cultures, artistic creation in all its forms and international and regional cultural cooperation, and acknowledges the importance of strengthening national efforts and regional and international cooperation mechanisms for cultural action and artistic creation. The Ministry in all its actions recognizes respect for cultural pluralism, policies for the inclusion and participation of all citizens that guarantee social cohesion and the vitality of civil society and peace, enhance cultural development and contribute to sustainable development.</p>	Ministry of Arts and Culture
68. The right of access to and enjoyment of cultural heritage shall be strengthened.	<p><u>Inscription on the UNESCO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Sega Tipik’ was inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in December 2014. 	Ministry of Arts and Culture

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhojpuri Folk Songs of Mauritius – ‘Geet Gawai’ was inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in December 2016. • ‘Sega Tambour’ of Rodrigues was inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 07 December 2017. • On 12 April 2018, the ICH-nomination form was submitted in view of nominating the Segga Chagos into the list of ICH in need of Urgent Safeguarding. The file is to be examined by the Committee at its 14th session in November/December 2019. • The nomination file of the Segga Tambour Chagos for inscription on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in need of urgent safeguarding will be examined at the 14th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the safeguarding of ICH. <p><u>Heritage sites and its rehabilitation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and opening of a public access to Le Morne Brabant mountain of Le Morne World Heritage Site, on 24 July 2016, after 8 years of its inscription as a World Heritage Site. • 8 heritage sites have been earmarked for rehabilitation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ile de la Passe 2. Tour Hollandais 3. Dutch Cemetery 4. Ruins World War II 5. Batterie Pointe du Diable 6. La Tour Koenig 7. Le Lavoir de Mahebourg 8. Fort Albert 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenders have been relaunched for the Rehabilitation and Restoration of the following sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) La Tour Hollandais (ii) Ruins World War II (iii) Batterie Pointe du Diable (iv) La Tour Koenig • Tender for restoration of Lavoir and L'Abrevoir will be launched shortly. • In the Budget for the year 2018-2019, the Government of Mauritius allocated a budget of Rs5.3 million for the rehabilitation and restoration of national heritage namely for Indentured Labourers Barracks at Trianon and Batterie de L'Harmonie at Black River. Measures are also being taken to provide facilities to the disabled to enjoy our national heritage. • Access to many cultural heritage sites is free to the public such as Aapravasi Ghat, Le Morne Cultural Landscape, National Museums among others. • Each year in the context of International Day for Monuments and Sites, open days are organised to give the public the opportunity to discover and enjoy our cultural heritage sites that are not usually accessible such as Government House, State House, Chateau Riche en Eau among others. <p><u>Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture is working towards a better memorialisation of the economic and cultural contribution of the slaves to Mauritius through a roving exhibition entitled: 'Kontribisyon Esklav dan Konstriksion nou Pei'. Each year the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture conducts research, publish and disseminate information with respect to all aspects of slavery and slave trade. 	

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	<p><u>Cultural Activities and programmes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cultural programme organized by the NHF, there are cultural items on Geet Gawai, Sega Tambour of Rodrig, Sega Tambour Chagos and Sega Tipik. • Many activities such as the Festival Kreol, Bhojpuri Mahotsav, Journée Rodriguaise, Geet Gawai Utsav are organised for the promotion of our Cultural Heritage. • In the context of music day, musical instruments have been distributed to groups performing the Sega Tipik, Sega Tambour Rodrig, Geet Gawai and Sega Tambour Chagos. • The following informal schools have been set up across the country for the transmission of ICH: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) 6 Sega Tipik Schools (ii) 1 Sega Tambour Rodrig School (iii) 50 Geet Gawai Schools <p><u>Slave museum</u></p> <p>Mauritius is working towards the setting up of Intercontinental Slavery Museum in Port Louis. The Concept Committee is working out the historical content and concept of the Museum, the displays to be contained therein and the use of the indoor and outdoor spaces thereat. The Museum would give more visibility to slavery and the slave trade in the Indian Ocean, promote slave history, and emphasize the contribution of the African Diaspora in the world development.</p>	
<p>A Genealogy Institute shall be set up.</p>	<p>No Genealogy Institute has been set up. However, issues on genealogy are being catered for as follows:</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genealogy: Data on genealogy is made available free of charge to Mauritians to enable them to reconstruct their family tree. The Research Unit of the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture is providing a Genealogy Service free of charge. The staff of the Centre assists Mauritians of African origin to trace out their genealogy. Moreover, the information is available online on the website of the Centre to facilitate researchers and the general public. This service is continually being provided by the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture • The Mahatma Gandhi Institute Indian Immigration Archives contain information for around 454,000 Indian Indentured Immigrants who came to Mauritius, from 1842 to 1910 and include registers of arrival, emigration, and marriage certificates as well as a collection of immigrants' photographs. The Mahatma Gandhi Institute caters for requests from public members in search of their roots by issuing information sheet containing late Indian Immigrant bio-data free of charge to them. The Mahatma Gandhi Institute Indian Immigration Archives receives an average of 30 requests on a daily basis. More than 90% of the 454,000 Indian Immigration records have been already computerised. • The National Archives Department also makes available information on genealogy to members of public and researchers. Officers of the National Archives Department advise and orient researchers in their research undertakings and also assist them in creating their genealogical tree. Records pertaining to French period and early British period are accessible to the public for genealogical research. It is to be noted that for any service rendered to the public, prescribed fees are applicable in accordance with the National Archives Regulations. Members of the public are required to pay a nominal fee of Rs 30 for inspection and consultation of documents. <p><u>RECORD SERIES CONTAINING GENEALOGICAL AND RELATED INFORMATION</u></p> <p>A – Arrival of passengers for the period 1794 – 1801</p> <p>B - Government Gazettes for the period 1811 – 1840</p>	

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	<p>F - Registers of arrivals for the period 1791 - 1803</p> <p>GB - Registers of arrivals for the period 1803 - 1809</p> <p>HA – Oaths of Allegiance for the period 1810 – 1811</p> <p>JL – Family Councils for the period 1770 – 1916</p> <p>K – Civil Status Registers and Indexes for period 1722- 1810</p> <p>K – Census Returns for period 1776 – 1835</p> <p>NA – Notarial Deeds for the period 1724 onwards</p> <p>OB & OC - Registers of arrivals for the period 1766 - 1791</p> <p>Z2D – Passenger Lists Inwards & Indexes for the period 1826 – 1956</p>	
<p>A Virtual Museum on Arts and Culture shall also be set up to highlight our rich cultural diversity, including a component on Heritage as well as another on the peopling of Mauritius.</p>	<p>A concept paper on the Virtual Museum project has been prepared by the Mauritius Museums Council and the assistance of experts from India has been sought for the finalization thereof.</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>
<p>The aims and objectives of the National Heritage Fund shall be reviewed and enlarged for better management, preservation and protection of our National Heritage.</p>	<p>The draft National Heritage Fund Bill has been submitted to the parent Ministry for consideration.</p> <p>A workshop was held in August 2019</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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<p>Records of the National Archives will be restored and digitalised to make them accessible online to the public.</p>	<p>E-ARCHIVES SYSTEM</p> <p>The Electronic Archiving System (EAS) is one of the web-based portals which has been developed to manage and preserve archival records of the National Archives Department. The portal and server is hosted at the Government Online Centre in Ebene and is accessible to users, both local and international via internet. Users have to register and once their account has been activated, they can have access to the database of online records. Around 530,000 images have been digitized and uploaded on the EAS. The objectives of the project are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of online access to an ever-increasing number of the holdings of the National Archives to a national and international audience through access via internet. • The preservation of the original records by reducing wear and tear on the originals. • Provision of access to those materials that can no longer be accessed in their original format. • Improvement of our service to customers by responding to their evolving expectations • Promotion of online access to Government information to the public. <p>Phases Two and Three of the project have been merged to enable the digitisation of records of Indentured Immigration, housed at the National Archives Department. They comprise a total of 1.5 million pages. For Phases 2 and 3 of the projects, records pertaining to Indentured Immigration covering the period 1834 to 1930 will be digitized.</p> <p>Objectives of the project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To preserve the original records by reducing wear and tear on the physical volumes through handling. 2. To increase and facilitate access to the Documentary Heritage of Mauritius to a national and international audience through access via internet. <p>Main scope of project:</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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	<p>The project will be completed over a period of two years. It will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration of data from old to new Document Management System (DMS) <p>Scanning of records following specifications made in tender document, including any alterations to a digital copy to overcome problems in the original document (e.g. colour fading or water damage). The existing software and database will be migrated on a new one (DMS) with new functionalities and features, with a higher capacity for the storage of the scanned images will be completed by September 2019.</p> <p>The digitisation of records of Indenture Immigration, housed at the National Archives Department. They comprise of the scanning, indexing and uploading of some 1.5 million pages of archival documents. Tender will be floated by end of this week.</p> <p>The Electronic Archiving System is one of the web-based portals which has been developed to manage and preserve public records of the Government of Mauritius. The portal and server are hosted at the Government Online Centre in Ebene and is accessible to citizens via internet.</p>	
<p>69. Government shall further promote the effective development of Mauritian creators and performers and shall better protect their moral and material interests. A new Copyright Act shall be adopted, in line with International Conventions such as the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty.</p>	<p><u>Copyright Act 2014</u></p> <p>The Copyright Act of 1997 was reviewed and replaced by the Copyright Act 2014. This Act is presently being reviewed to, inter alia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> make provisions regarding phonograms; increase the length of the duration of copyright; make better provisions in relation to the payment of equitable remuneration; replace the Mauritius Rights Management Society by the Mauritius Society of Authors and provide for the composition of its Board and for its functions; and provide for the procedure regarding membership of the Mauritius Society of Authors. <p>Amendments in the Act, new Board, change of name and publication of Membership Rules are being implemented.</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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	<p><u>Management of Related Rights</u></p> <p>The Introduction of Management of Related Rights is under consideration. The prodigious development of modern means of communication has made it practically impossible for an author to exercise his rights individually.</p> <p>It is therefore indisputable that an efficient organisation of authors - a Collective Copyright Administration Society - is the most appropriate means of protection of the rights of authors.</p> <p>The Collective Copyright Administration Society is also the link between the authors and the users of intellectual reactions. This collective administration of copyright not only serves the interests of the authors but also accommodates the users' concern to avoid in a simple and practical manner any possible infringement of copyright in their activities.</p> <p><u>Establishment of MASA</u></p> <p>These are the main reasons which led to the setting up of the Mauritius Society of Authors - a body corporate established in accordance with Section 12 of the former Copyright Act of 1986.</p> <p>The Mauritius Society of Authors, set up by an Act of Parliament (Copyright Act 1986) became operational in September 1989.</p> <p><u>Aims and Objectives</u></p> <p>The aims and objects of the Society are to represent and defend the interests of its members in Mauritius and abroad;</p> <p>(i)to administer, on an exclusive basis within Mauritius, such economic rights of its members as the Society may determine;</p> <p>(ii)to collect copyright fees from the users of works on behalf of its members and distribute those fees among those members;</p> <p>(iii)to help in the preparation of standard forms of contracts for the benefit and use of its members;</p>	

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	<p>(iv)to foster such harmony and understanding between authors and the users of their works as are necessary for the protection of the authors' economic rights;</p> <p>(v)to make reciprocal agreements within foreign societies of authors for the issue of exclusive authorisations in respect of their members' works and for the collection and distribution of copyright fees deriving from those works;</p> <p>(vi)to endeavour to obtain the transfer of membership of Mauritian authors who are members of foreign societies of authors and safeguard in favour of Mauritian authors whose membership has been transferred all the advantages which may have accrued to them before the transfer.</p>	
<p>A National Art Gallery shall be set up.</p>	<p>The Ex-Military Hospital will be converted into a 'Galerie d'Art Nationale'.</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>
<p>To provide school children with the opportunity to develop their musical talents, Government will provide all schools with a range of musical instruments. A National Symphonic Orchestra shall be set up.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No National Symphonic Orchestra has been set up. • Courses are being offered in the following fields at the Centre de Formation Artistiques:- Guitar, Violin, Tabla, Sculpture, Painting, Glass painting, Pyrography, yoga, Indian Classical Dance, Modern Dance, Yoga. • The provision of musical instruments to schools would have to be looked into by the Ministry of Education and H.R, T.E and S.R. • The Ministry of Arts and Culture, through the Centres de Formation Artistique, provides short term training courses to children and adults, amongst others, in the following disciplines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guitar; - Tabla; - Ravanne playing; and - Violin (Indian, Western) • The objectives of the training courses, which are provided free of charge, are as follows: 	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p> <p>The Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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<p>An Artist Welfare Fund shall be established to encourage artists in their quest to live by their talents. An “Agora des Artistes” shall be set up comprising space for the practice of all artistic expressions, including a recording studio and exhibition facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of new artistic talents; - Provision of appropriate “encadrement” to artists; and - Capacity building in the artistic field. <p><u>The Artist Welfare Fund and the ‘Agora des Artistes’</u></p> <p>The Artist Welfare Fund and the ‘Agora des Artistes’ have not been set up yet.</p> <p><u>Conservatoire de Musique Francois Mitterand).</u></p> <p>We also have a Conservatoire (Conservatoire de Musique Francois Mitterand).</p> <p>The Conservatoire de Musique François-Mitterrand is a para-statal body under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources. It was first set up in 1987 as a section of the then Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. In 1992 it was established as a Trust Fund by Act of Parliament, thus becoming a body corporate.</p> <p>The seat of the Conservatoire was initially at Ebène until the inauguration of new premises at Murphy Avenue in Quatre-Bornes.</p> <p>The Conservatoire is run by a Trust Fund Board consisting of the Chairman, the Director, a representative of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, a representative of the Ministry of Finance, a representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture, the Chairman of the Parents/Teachers Association, a representative of employees of the Conservatoire, appointed by the Minister, and three persons with experience or special knowledge in the matters specified in the objects of the Trust, appointed by the Minister.</p>	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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	<p><u>Theatre halls</u></p> <p>The Ministry also has two theatre halls (Serge Constantin and Pointe Canon) which are put at the disposal of the artist community at a reduced rate with a view to promoting arts and culture and encouraging the Mauritian public to attend cultural events.</p> <p><u>Status of Artist Bill</u></p> <p>The Ministry is presently working on the Status of Artist Bill.</p> <p>Mauritius is one of the pioneer African countries to work on the Status of Artist Bill. UNESCO provided technical assistance to Mauritius for the preparation of an appropriate legislation. The Ministry of Arts and Culture with the support of UNESCO launched an initiative to design a new law to professionalize the status of artists in Mauritius. Defining their professional status, improving their economic and social working conditions - including through preferential treatment measures - and recognizing their role in the sustainable development of the island.</p> <p>Miss Vesna Copic, expert in the field was in Mauritius in February 2017 for the first phase of the project and was back in October 2017 for the second phase to help consolidate proposals from all stakeholders and support the design of the new law.</p> <p>The project is being worked upon and consultations have been held by UNESCO Expert with Stakeholders</p>	
<p>Additional Centres de Formation Artistique shall be created.</p>	<p>To date there are 5 Centres de Formation Artistique (CFA), namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CFA Paillotte; - CFA Plaine des Papayes; - CFA Pointe Canon, Mahebourg; - CFA Goodlands; and - CFA Bel Air 	<p>Ministry of Arts and Culture</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CFA in Bel Air was opened on 08 May 2017. • Courses are being offered in the following fields at the centre de Formation Artistiques:- Guitar, Violin, Tabla, Sculpture, Painting, Glass painting, Pyrography, yoga, Indian Classical Dance, Modern Dance, Yoga • The Ministry of Arts and Culture, through the Centres de Formation Artistique, provides short term training courses to children and adults, amongst others, in the following disciplines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guitar; - Tabla; - Ravanne playing; and - Violin (Indian, Western) The objectives of the training courses, which are provided free of charge, are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of new artistic talents; - Provision of appropriate “encadrement” to artists; and - Capacity building in the artistic field. 	
RECOMMENDATION E :Strengthening Women’s Rights in the Context of Gender Equal Opportunities		
<p>70. Policies aimed at the promotion of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making in all areas of public, political and professional life shall be pursued. Government shall take the necessary measures to ensure the effective</p>	<p><u>Women in decision making</u></p> <p>The Government of Mauritius has enacted a Local Government Act 2011 which stipulates that at least 1 out of 3 candidates to be fielded for elections at local/Municipal level should be of the opposite sex. With this gender-neutral legislation, there has been a significant leap in the number of women participating in Municipal and Village Council elections. At Municipal level, there has been an increase from 12.5% in 2005 to 28.2% in 2012. At Village Council level, the increase has been from 5 % in 2005 to 30.3% in 2012.</p> <p>The country has its first ever female President who held office from June 2015 to March 2018. Moreover, both the National Assembly and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly is presided by a woman. Mauritius had her first female Speaker of the National Assembly in <u>December 2014</u> We</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</p> <p>Equal Opportunities Commission</p>

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<p>implementation of the Gender National Policy Framework. The policy aimed at boosting women entrepreneurship through innovative SME schemes shall be sustained. Women and girls shall be encouraged to enroll in technical and vocational training courses. A Research and Documentation Centre on Women Affairs shall be set up.</p>	<p>also have a lady who is a Vice Prime Minister since November 2017. 47 % of the Puisne Judges are women and Mauritius has the highest percentage of female Permanent Secretaries in Africa. Among legislators, senior officials and managers in the public sector, 40% are women.</p> <p>The 2012 and the 2015 local elections reflected the value of special measures with the provision of gender neutral approach in the Local Government Act 2011. This led to quadrupling of women’s representation in local government elections but they are still under represented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raising the gender neutral quota, to be applied across the board, from 30% to 50%. - Barriers for women in business in Mauritius include: low level of education; lack or information; lack of gender capacity building in the private sector - Too few women on Board both in private and public sector <p>Gender Links did training to encourage women to join politics. GL is doing lots of awareness and advocacy on the New Local Government Act.</p> <p><u>Equal Opportunities</u></p> <p>Following amendments brought to the Equal Opportunities Act in 2012, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and the Equal Opportunities Tribunal have been set up to address cases of discrimination made on the basis of race, religion, status and sex amongst others so as to ensure greater equality in term of access to opportunities and life chances to all citizens. This Act coupled with the setting up of the Commission and the Tribunal contributes to address the issues of Gender Equality and discrimination against women.</p> <p>The text was amended to “promoting equal opportunities for all, irrespective of sexual orientation’</p> <p>Inclusion of “Gender equality programmes have been limited to two specific genders and have not included other existing genders” in the document.</p> <p>In terms of capacity building of women in the political arena, the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare in collaboration and the National Women’s Council (NWC)</p>	

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	<p>collaborate with the EOC and act as facilitators in mobilizing women to attend awareness campaigns on the Equal Opportunities Act 2012 and the New Local Government Act 2012.</p> <p><u>Legislation:</u> The enactment and review of legislation has been pivotal in the promotion of gender equality. For instance, the <u>Employment Rights (Amendment) Act 2015</u> stipulates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the duration of maternity leave has been increased from 12 to 14 weeks with a view to better support working mothers to fulfill their family obligations; (b) the number of weeks of maternity leave to be taken immediately following the confinement has been increased from at least 6 weeks to at least 7 weeks; and (c) the maternity leave in case of still birth has been increased from 12 weeks to 14 weeks. <p><u>Implementation of the National Gender Policy Framework (NGPF):</u></p> <p>The National Gender Policy Framework of 2008 is a generic document providing an overarching framework for all actors, namely the public and private sectors; the media and civil society to incorporate gender in their policies and programmes.</p> <p>All Ministries have formulated their gender policy statement relevant to their sector. Some Ministries have lately reviewed their policy statements so that these are aligned to their mandates.</p> <p>For the financial year 2016/2017, an amount of <u>Rs 200,000</u> has been allocated within the National Budget of 5 Ministries on a pilot basis, namely, Ministry of Youth and Sports; Ministry of Health and Quality of Life; Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research; Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Disaster and Beach Management; and Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms to implement specific programmes and projects geared towards gender equality and women’s empowerment.</p> <p>No updated Gender National Policy Framework produced since 2008 and so far no consultation has been done to produce a new National Gender Policy Framework. Gender equality programmes have been limited to two specific genders and have not included other genders which exist in our country.</p>	

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	<p>The Ministry is not envisaging, at this point of time, to review the NGPF including policy measures pertaining to other genders. The issue of the rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) has been raised by the NGOs on a few occasions. A policy decision on this issue will have to be taken by Government.</p> <p>The National Steering Committee on Gender Mainstreaming is composed of representatives of Ministries only and has been set up to closely monitor the Gender Cell at the level of Ministries and evaluate the overall implementation of the National Gender Policy Framework (NGPF) with regard to progress made towards the formulation of their sector-specific gender policies. As such, only representatives of Government are involved and not NGOs.</p> <p><u>National Gender Policy (2019-2029) Discussion ongoing</u></p> <p>In light of the Government’s Vision 2030 and taking into consideration the intergenerational, demographic, economic and cultural changes that have occurred in the last 10 years that directly influence content and scope of the gender policy, the MGECDWF spearheaded the process for the preparation of a new National Gender Policy (2019-2029) aimed at integrating to the greatest extent possible, principles of participation, accountability and transparency in the development of a national policy framework.</p> <p>The MGECDWF has benefitted funds from the UNDP to the tune of USD 10, 000 for this exercise. The services of an International Consultant and Gender Expert was retained for the assignment. Consultative meetings have been held with the Gender Focal Points; representatives from the private sector; the media; academia and Civil Society Organizations to brief them on the relevance of the framework and to have their commitment regarding the promotion of gender equality within their organizations. A draft policy is ready and is in the phase of finalization.</p> <p>The MGECDWF has benefitted technical support from the European Union for the formulation of a National Costed Action Plan on Gender Mainstreaming for the Public Sector and setting up of</p>	

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	<p>four (4) Gender Technical Working Groups for the Private Sector, Media, Academia and Civil Society’s Organisation. Consultations have been held regarding the formulation of the National Costed Action Plan on Gender Mainstreaming as well as the setting up of four (4) Gender Technical Working Groups. These are in the process of being finalized.</p> <p>The MGECDW has also been providing technical guidance and entry points to line Ministries to enable them to identify gender gaps; propose short/medium/long term remedial actions; and implement concrete actions within their respective sectors.</p> <p><u>Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative</u></p> <p>The MGECDW has provided technical assistance to line Ministries regarding the implementation of gender-sensitive projects and activities using the Rs 200, 000 allocated to Ministries. As regards to implementation of measures enunciated in the Budget 2018/2019, a status is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of 250 government officials to deal with gender issues: • The Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms has already organised a capacity building programme whereby 56 Officers of the Human Resource Cadre were trained by the Civil Service College with the technical assistance of the UNDP Office; • The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development has organised a training programme on “Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Budgeting” for Officers from the Finance Cadre of all Ministries in April 2019. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare will shortly organise the training of the remaining 135 officers, i.e Permanent Secretary, Gender Focal Points (firm and alternate) and officers of the Ministry. <p><u>Gender Equality Bill</u> –(Still in policy discussion)</p> <p>The MGECDFW spearheaded the process for the drafting of a Gender Equality Bill that would enshrine a high-level strategy to tackle gender inequality; and provide for structures to implement gender mainstreaming; strengthen ministerial responsibility and accountability processes. With the technical support from the European Union in terms of consultancy services of an International Expert, wide consultations have been conducted with a number of stakeholders, i.e, public and private sectors; academia and Civil Society Organisations, in order to have their views and recommendations for the drafting of the Bill.</p> <p><u>Awareness Raising by Ministry of gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</u></p> <p>With regard to the Equal Opportunities Act 2011 and Local Government Act 2011, one national awareness raising activity was organised by the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare (MGECDFW) in collaboration with the National Women Council, from September 2012 to December 2016, some 1,186 women were sensitized on the two legislations. The Equal Opportunities Commission and the Ministry of Local Government & Outer Islands had provided Resource Persons.</p> <p>Promotion of the full and equal participation of women in decision making in all areas of public, political and professional life</p> <p>The (MGECDFW) has sustained its capacity building programme and awareness campaigns on the pertinence of having more women at different levels of decision-making instances. For instance, a Dialogue on “Promoting Women’s Participation in Politics” was held on 18 June 2018 as a joint venture with the US Embassy. The objectives were mainly geared towards encouraging collective intelligence and participatory democracy, including effective ways to promote greater democratic participation of civil society through greater inclusion of women; and promote fruitful dialogue between elected officials and other political figures and female constituents, and how to extend that</p>	

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	<p>dialogue into areas such as how to leverage increased female constituent feedback on legislative proposals and implementation of policies. The dialogue was facilitated by Mr Lex Paulson, Consultant in International Governance. Some 50 participants (female representatives from each Municipal Council and District Council; Women in Networking; and each Political Parties represented in Parliament and the Opposition Side) attended the activity. Further, the National Women’s Council conducted awareness sessions from October 2012 to December 2018 whereby 5,756 women/girls were politically empowered.</p> <p><u>High Level Capacity Building Programmes for Gender Focal Points</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A High Standard Capacity Building for Members of Gender Cells (Organised in response to one of the priorities of the Decent Work Country Programme (2012-2014) was held in July 2015. The objective, thereof, was to provide participants with knowledge and skills to plan, develop, mainstream and implement gender responsive policies and programmes within their sectors. It also provided them with knowledge to move from policy to strategy and action from a gender perspective. The capacity building programme was facilitated by Mrs Chigaga, ILO Gender Specialist. 2. Capacity Building Programme on Gender Mainstreaming was held during the month of April 2018. The capacity building programme comprised two components namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an awareness raising session for Gender Focal Points to empower them on the basic gender concepts as well as identifying possible entry points in mainstreaming gender within their respective gender policies; and • a Training of Trainers programme for Senior Officials of all Ministries. The objective of which was to build the capacity of one Senior Officer of each Ministry, including one from the address the issue of providing Resource Person from this Ministry to attend the several requests made to intervene at the level of their Ministries. 	

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	<p><u>Empowerment Programmes - Women</u></p> <p>In line with the set targets of SDG 5 that speaks of “Achieving Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls”, the Gender Unit implemented two specific projects for girls’ empowerment. The first one is about the “Goal Programme” which is a joint venture with the Standard Chartered Bank. The second one is entitled the “3E’s project: Empowerment through Education and Entertainment”. These projects are reaching out to girls from deprived regions aimed at ensuring that the latter are not left out of mainstream development. Officers of the Ministry act as facilitators to empower girls on thematics ranging from Sexual and Reproductive Health, Values, Leadership to Substance Abuse and Money Savvy. These two projects have so far empowered about 600 girls and will be sustained.</p> <p>In a bid to ensure that the concept of gender equality is well understood by all our stakeholders and the public at large, the Gender Unit has consolidated its capacity building programmes as well as its awareness campaigns; using innovative tools and targeting various audiences - students from secondary schools; Gender Focal Points; female councilors at Municipal and District Councils level; police and prisons officers; youth ambassadors; members of the committees operating at the level of Social Welfare Centres and Community Centres; new recruits <i>in the public sector and</i> other public officers. Some 2, 200 participants have benefitted from the awareness campaign on the Gender Concept.</p> <p>With a view to promoting the economic as well as social empowerment of women and to achieving gender equality, the Home Economics Unit organised a wide range of capacity building programmes in a network of more than 125 venues spread over the whole island.</p>	

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	<p>Range of courses were increased from 9 courses in year 2012 to 23 courses in year 2019. Training Programmes are of 3 to 8 months duration.</p> <p>Out of the latter courses 15 courses are MQA recognised and 04 are awaiting MQA Approval. Around 20,000 persons (mostly women) benefitted from the capacity building programmes.</p> <p>These programmes were extended to working persons (both men & women) in order to enable men also to participate actively in the various activities at household level. Around 450 persons were reached in the last 4 years out of which 20% were males.</p> <p>The Home Economics Unit also proposes to promote agriculture among women through the Agricultural Women’s Clubs. Latter clubs are organised over the island and encourages income generation and food security at household level. 4582 women have benefitted from these agricultural training activities.</p> <p>Enterprise Development Programmes were organised over the island in order to encourage development of income generating activities among women as well as to alleviate poverty. This was coupled with the organisation of mini fairs where our trainees (female entrepreneurs) could market their products and earn income. 8202 women benefitted from Enterprise Development Programmes and around 100 mini fairs were organised.</p> <p>The Plaine des Papayes Production Centre cum Sales Outlet was set up in 2012 with a view to empowering vulnerable women and their families economically and to help them become self-reliant. Services/facilities offered are: - training, production on semi-industrial scale, on site exhibition & sales of products as well as counselling, networking and exchange programmes.</p>	

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	<p>The centre was awarded a ‘Special Mention’ for its creativity and innovation icw the Public Service Excellence Award 2013. Each year more than 100 women are trained at this centre and around 40% start an income generating activity.</p> <p>In a bid to sensitise the young children and youth (boys & girls) on healthy lifestyle, care of the environment, budgeting, basic housekeeping skills etc., ‘Creativity & Leisure activities ‘as well as ‘Life skills Development Programmes for Youth’ were organised over the island. 5303 & 3157 persons respectively were reached out of which 47% were male.</p> <p>Additionally, various workshops were held on issues dealing with the role of women in achieving Food Security & Sustainable Development. A recipe booklet on local foods was produced & vulgarised in Year 2009. Given the success of this booklet, another one was worked out & posted on the website of the Ministry.</p> <p><u>Gender Empowerment Programme</u></p> <p>(a) <u>December 2018 and January 2019:</u></p> <p>In December 2018 and January 2019, the Child Development Unit, carried out a ‘Training of Trainers’ on the Gender Empowerment Programme (Be Gender Empowered)’ whereby 44 Officers of the Child Development Unit, Alternative Care Unit and the National Children’s Council were sensitised.</p> <p>The 44 Officers comprised of: 37 female Officers and 07 male Officers.</p> <p>The objectives of the training were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To uplift the counselling skills of officers vis-à-vis the victims/clients reporting at the level of Head Office; • To promote the ‘sharing of knowledge’ among officers; 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create a pool of trainers/resource persons in the subject matter and Revamp the agenda of those activities falling under the aegis of the National Children’s Council. <p>(b) <u>Information, Education and Communication programmes on issues related to women’s empowerment and gender equality:</u> (Ongoing discussion)</p> <p>For the period July 2017 to June 2018, some 2,630 persons have been reached in 29 deprived regions. During the period December 2015 to August 2018, a total of 8,716 women have been reached in 78 regions across the island.</p> <p>Since <u>November 2018</u>, the Child Development Unit has also made use of the ‘Caravan’ of the National Women Council, to carry out its awareness campaigns on: the services of the CDU’ and ‘Child Abuse and Child Protection Services.’</p> <p>The campaigns carried-out are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>In November 2018</u>: Total number of persons targeted: 20 (05 women, 01 man, 06 girls and 08 boys) at the Pamplemousses Social Welfare Centre. ➤ <u>In January 2019</u>: Total number of persons targeted: 19 (18 females and 01 male) at the Goodlands Social Welfare Centre. 	

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	<p>(c) <u>Road Safety</u></p> <p>For the period March 2018 to June 2018, some 1,763 women/girls/students have been reached through sensitization campaigns carried out in Schools. Colleges, Women’s Associations amongst others. The campaign is ongoing till December 2018 and a greater number of audience is targeted.</p> <p>(d) Micro-Egg Production Project</p> <p>The beneficiaries were also enrolled for a training programme on “start your own enterprise” to inculcate a culture of entrepreneurship amongst the beneficiaries and how to become successful entrepreneurs. The training programme was carried out in November 2018 and the following topics were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics entrepreneurship; • Business card; • Permits and licence needed for a small poultry unit; • Support organization on Enterprise Development; • Developing a Poultry Incubator; and • By products of poultry and its training formation; • Addressed/innovation to Poultry Incubator; • Financing Poultry Enterprise; and • Loan Facilities and Business Plan. <p>(e) National Women Entrepreneur Council (NVEC)</p> <p>Sensitization campaigns have been conducted to enable women get access to information regarding facilities offered by NVEC to start and develop their enterprises. From July 2017 to June 2018, Business Development Officers have conducted 31 sensitization campaigns across the island. Some 2133 potential & existing women entrepreneurs have benefited from these sensitization campaigns.</p>	

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	<p>Continuous training programmes have been organised at Phoenix and Triolet with the objective to motivate, empower and enhance skills of Women Entrepreneurs. The National Women Entrepreneur Council have offered both technical and managerial courses.</p> <p>From July 2017 to June 2018, 16 training courses in the fields of Leadership, Go-Export, Customer Care, E-Marketing, Adult Literacy for Entrepreneurship Development, Branding, Packaging and Creativity & Innovation have been carried out and 372 women entrepreneurs have benefited from the training courses.</p> <p>(f) Atelier de l'Entrepreneuriat Féminin</p> <p>From July 2017 to June 2018, the National Women Entrepreneur Council (NVEC) in collaboration with various stakeholders organized 3 “Atelier de l'Entrepreneuriat Féminin” in Triolet, Port Louis and Phoenix with a view to maximizing awareness campaigns for potential entrepreneurs and eventually increase the number of women owned businesses. 353 women attended the forum.</p> <p>New Registrations from July 2017 to June 2018: 145</p> <p>Membership as at June 2018: 5687 (Active members: 2698)</p> <p>Number of women reached through the Business Development Services provided by the NVEC from July 2017 to June 2018: 4786</p> <p>(g) The National Code of Corporate Governance (2016)</p> <p>It was launched in 2017 and the Financial Reporting Act was amended putting the responsibility on licensed auditors to report on the extent of compliance with the code in the annual report of all public interest entities. The Code prescribes the following:</p> <p>(i) Principle 3: Director Appointment Procedures.</p>	<p>Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance</p>

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	<p>There should be a formal, rigorous and transparent process for the appointment, election, induction and re-election of directors. The search for Board candidates should be conducted, and appointments made, on merit, against objective criteria (to include skills, knowledge, experience, and independence and with due regard for the benefits of diversity on the Board, including gender).</p> <p align="center">(ii) Board Diversity</p> <p>All organisations should have directors from both genders as members of the Board, i.e at least one male and one female director. All boards are encouraged to have a non-discrimination policy that covers its senior governance positions, which includes disability, gender equality, race, religion, beliefs and age.</p> <p>The Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance is conducting a survey on the participation of women and gender balance in the Board of listed companies. It is expected that the Report will be published by May/June 2019.</p> <p><u>"Women's Economic Empowerment through Financial Inclusion"</u></p> <p>In terms of women's empowerment, the Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance organised an awareness programme on the theme "Women's Economic Empowerment through Financial Inclusion" on 24 April 2019. Around 400 women attended the programme. The aim of this programme was to disseminate information on different financial products and services which in line with the "Nation des Investisseurs" initiative and to encourage women to save and invest on financial products. Information was also provided on the importance of financial inclusion and existing financial and grant schemes for Small and Medium Enterprises.</p>	<p>Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance</p>
<p>71. A National Action Plan to End Gender-based violence</p>	<p><u>National Action Plan to End Gender-based violence</u></p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child</p>

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<p>shall be formulated. Sensitization campaigns on gender-based violence shall be scaled up. A Victim Empowerment and Abuser Rehabilitation Policy shall be formulated. A Domestic Violence Information System (DOVIS) shall be set up. Women victims of domestic violence shall be provided with alternative safe-living-settings. Greater support shall be afforded to local NGOs who offer legal aid and shelter to women and girls who are victims of domestic violence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with the actions required under the Costed National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (2012-2015), from January to November 2015: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 177 participants comprising of representatives of different Ministries / Departments were reached out during Capacity Building Programmes organised to address the problem of Gender- Based Violence. b. 87 members of the religious organisations and Officers were reached during Capacity Building Programmes organised under the Shared Faith Belief Programme • In view of addressing the scourge of domestic violence, the Government has, as announced in Government Programme 2015-2019, set up a National Coalition against Domestic Violence Committee under the aegis of the Prime Minister’s Office. The Committee in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions has to ensure that victims of domestic violence are given immediate shelter in a Government institution and provided with a job and a house within a reasonable time frame to lead a normal life anew”. • The Prime Minister’s Office launched the Report of the National Coalition against Domestic Violence Committee on 06 April 2016. The Report provides for a series of recommendations to enable Government to re-enforce its measures to effectively address the issue of domestic violence in Mauritius. These comprise amongst others, the setting up of a Command Centre, the review of relevant legislation and training of officers involved in the fight against domestic violence. • Actions have already been initiated by all stakeholders to implement the recommendations. • The Protection of Domestic violence Act was enhanced in 2016 by widening the definition of the term ‘domestic violence’. Domestic Violence include inter-alia, the willful infliction or attempted infliction of injury, intimidation, forcible engagement in an act from which the spouse 	<p>Development and Family Welfare</p>

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	<p>had a right to refrain. Moreover, withholding of resources has also been captured in the definition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A rehabilitation programme for the perpetrator of domestic violence has been initiated in 2018. • The Victim Empowerment and Abuser Rehabilitation Policy was launched in November 2013. During its implementation in 2014, 327 employees of both private and public sector were reached. <p><u>Domestic Violence Information System DOVIS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MGECDFW has initiated a Domestic Violence Information System (DOVIS) which is a computerised system for data collection. The (DOVIS) is operational as from May 2016 to better register reported cases of domestic violence and to be used as a tool to monitor, access, record and generate specific reports. • Statistics on cases of domestic violence for the year 2017: Number of cases reported at Family Support Bureaux: 3436 Number of cases of domestic violence reported at Family Support Bureaux : 1703 Number of applications of Protection Orders: 619 (spouse: 478; other than spouse: 138) Number of Protection Orders issued: 361 (spouse: 283; other than spouse: 78) Statistics on Domestic Violence reported at the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare – 	

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	YEAR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
	2015	174	1452	1626	
	2016	225	1852	2077	
	2017	220	1483	1703	
	Jan 2018 to Aug. 2018	158	885	1043	
	<u>Integrated Support Centre</u>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Integrated Support Centre was launched on 08 March 2019 by the Hon. Prime Minister to ensure prompt intervention in cases of domestic violence. Through the use of technology, hotline 139 for domestic violence is now being attended to through four parallel digital phone lines. The system has moreover been connected to the Domestic Violence Information System (DOVIS) which is an informatised platform for monitoring cases of domestic violence and which is also a repository for all data pertaining to cases of domestic violence. 				
	<u>Information, Education and Communication Campaigns</u>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information, Education and Communication Campaigns are conducted on a monthly basis by officers of the 6 Family Support Bureaux (FSBx) to sensitise the public at large on issues pertaining to gender-based violence and the welfare of families. For the year 2018, 189 sensitisation campaigns were conducted and some 9403 people were sensitised on issues pertaining to “Gender Based Violence” and “Family Welfare”. For the period January 2019 to February 2019, 15 sensitisation campaigns were conducted and some 592 people have been reached. 				

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Economic Empowerment Programme for survivors of domestic violence is being implemented since February 2018 to help survivors establish the financial stability and independence they need to move forward. • Training was conducted for 12 survivors of Domestic Violence in pastry from April 2018 to June 2018. • Moreover, 6 survivors of Domestic Violence followed a leadership course conducted by the National Women Entrepreneur Council. • Furthermore to further provide assistance to survivors of domestic violence for them to establish financial autonomy, 25 companies, including private firms under the aegis of Manufacturing Sector Workers Welfare Fund (MSWWF), Hotels, Recruiting Agencies and other stakeholders, were contacted. Out of which, 12 companies informed that they would consider employing survivors subject to them fulfilling their criteria. Moreover, in January 2019, a list of 32 victims were sent to Natec company for possible consideration for recruitment. • A Training Programme for 70 victims is envisaged for the period of May – July 2019 in collaboration with MITD. 	

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	<p><u>Sensitisation campaigns on ‘the services of the CDU’ and ‘Child Abuse and Child Protection Services.’</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November 2018: Total number of persons targeted: 20 (05 women, 01 man, 06 girls and 08 boys) at the Pamplémousses Social Welfare Centre. • In January 2019: Total number of persons targeted: 19 (18 females and 01 male) at the Goodlands Social Welfare Centre • On 12 February 2019 the CDU carried-out an awareness campaign on the above mentioned subject at the Candos Government School - 15 males, 17 females (students) • On 14 February 2019: THE CDU carried-out an awareness campaign on the above mentioned subject at the Universal College - 12 males and 17 females. <p><u>Sensitisation Campaigns on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July 2018: Total number of persons targeted: 64 students from the Cite College of Port-Louis. • January to August 2018: Regular IEC Campaigns are carried out by Officers of the Ministry to sensitise and educate people at different levels about the problem of child trafficking. From January to August 2018, 1811 persons have been sensitized on child trafficking in primary and secondary schools, social welfare and community centers by Officers of the CDU and by psychologist of the Drop-In Centre. • Other related campaigns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of Campaigns done: 18 - Number of persons reached: 705 	

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	<p><u>Other Awareness campaigns:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CDU delivered an awareness talk on ‘Adult and Child safeguarding, including domestic violence’ at PILS on 08.10.2019. <p><u>Girls victims of violence</u></p> <p>Being given that the NGOs which provide accommodation/shelter to girls victims of violence. It is to be noted that the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare has taken a bold initiative to set up a new unit named the Alternative Care Unit(ACU). As such, with a view to providing sustained continuum of care, service provision and avoiding the issue of overcrowding of Centres (previously known as Shelters)/RCIs, mainly catering for children victims of abuse/violence. The Unit’s major focus is to design and implement policies and programmes are mainly towards rehabilitating children in places of safety and providing them with a substitute family, through the Foster Care Programme and assisting those with mild behavioral problems through Child Mentoring Programme.</p> <p>The following programme are being implemented at the level of ACU;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation Programme (RCI’s/ Shelters); Back-to-Home Programme; Foster Care Programme and Child Mentoring Programme 	

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	<p><u>Shelters</u></p> <p>The Ministry accommodates children’s victims of violence in 3 Government-owned shelters and 14 RCI’s managed by NGO’s. Some 515 children were placed thereat as at end March 2019.</p> <p>L’Oasis Residential Care at Grand River North West is operational since 26 May 2016 and caters for victims of sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation of children including Child Trafficking. The setting up of the above Centre is in line with the recommendations made by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child with a view to strengthening policies and programmes for the prevention, recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration of children victims of CSEC. As at February 2019, 30 children victims of sexual abuse are rehabilitated at the centre which is managed by the National Children Council. It is to be noted that an earmarked amount of Rs 5 M has been allotted to for the running expenses of the Shelter.</p> <p>Additionally, various services are provided at the centre which comprise the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First hand counselling • Pyschological counselling by Ministry’s psychologist • Indoor and outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities • Follow-up by Brigade pour La Protection des Mineurs; and • Information Education Communication Campaigns on issues related to children and • Creativity Classes; Embroidery, painting and flower-making (received 28 May 2019) 	
<p>72. The law shall be amended so that it is expressly stated that rape includes marital rape.</p>	<p>There is no specific law on marital rape. However, the Protection against Domestic Violence Act (PDVA) was amended in June 2016 to with a view to widen the definition of Domestic Violence so that it now includes sexual violence (reference is made to the sentence “compelling the other person,</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child</p>

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	<p>by force or threat, to engage in any conduct or act, sexual or otherwise, from which the spouse or the other person has the right to abstain” of the PDVA).</p> <p>In amendment made to the Protection from Domestic Violence Act in 2016, the definition of domestic violence includes inter-alia “compelling the spouse or the other person by force or threat to engage in any conduct or act, sexual or otherwise, from which the spouse or other person has the right to abstain”.</p> <p>Rape as an offence is criminalised and prosecuted under section 249 of the Mauritian Penal Code. Sodomy is an offence under section 250(1) of the Criminal Code.</p> <p>Article 242 of the Criminal Code has not been amended yet to remove from the Code that “Manslaughter committed by any person on his spouse, as well as on his accomplice, at the very moment he finds them in the act of adultery is excusable’. No cases have been registered where Article 242 has been applied.</p>	Development and Family Welfare
<p>73. Government shall prepare a White Paper on Reproductive Health to facilitate the formulation of modern policies that provide women with better information and services in this area.</p>	<p>(a) There is no White Paper on Reproductive Health. Instead, the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy was developed in 2007, for steering the sexual and reproductive health programme of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. Based on this policy, the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and Plan of Action 2009-2015 was prepared and implemented. A new National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and Plan of Action 2018-2020 has now been drafted and is under consideration.</p> <p>(b) The measure to provide contraceptives to teenagers is being considered in the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and Plan of Action 2018-2020 and will be discussed by stakeholders. Awareness on SRHR to young people forms part of the activities which have been</p>	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life

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	<p>listed in the new National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and Plan of Action, and will be carried out once the National SRH Strategy and POA 2018-2020 has been approved.</p> <p>(c) Measures to prevent unwanted pregnancies include awareness campaigns in line with the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy & Plan of Action 2009 – 2015; provision of skilled medical aid and universal access to medical services free of user cost; free distribution of condoms to female sex workers; and special care is given to teenage mothers. They are followed up by Obstetricians.</p> <p>(d) Measures to provide safe termination of pregnancy health services and contraceptives to teenagers, awareness on SRHR to young males and females and inclusion of young people in drafting SRHR policies have not yet been done.</p> <p>(e) The MFPWA (Mauritius Family Planning & Gender Association) in partnership with MACOSS organized training workshops for Community Leaders, representatives of NGOs and educators of Schools with Children with Disabilities on “Population, Development & Sexual & Reproductive Health: Challenges and Issues” during August - October 2016, sponsored by the Ministry of Health & Quality of Life under the UNFPA Country Programme.</p> <p>(f) Gender Links worked in collaboration with other partners to campaign on teenage pregnancy and encourage parents to send their pregnant adolescents to continue with schooling. Gender Links did a research for the European Union on Gender Statistic in the Republic of Mauritius to understand gender inequalities that persist in the Republic of Mauritius and its causes, how it intersects with other inequalities and how it impacts on human rights.</p>	Macoss
RECOMMENDATION F: Strengthening Rights of the Youth		
74. Government will pursue policies aimed at youth empowerment with a view to enhancing their effective participation in the development	<p>Government reviewed in 2016 the National Youth Policy which aims at strengthening effective youth participation in the developmental process.</p> <p>The National Youth Policy 2016 focusses on the following Five Strategic Policy areas:</p>	Ministry of Youth and Sports

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<p>process as agents for innovation and change in Society.</p>	<p><u>Informal Education</u></p> <p>The objective to set up an integrated programme geared towards promotion of youth responsibility for their own learning and development and for an all-inclusive life. The programmes implemented in 2018/2019 include Youth leadership training courses, Life Skills Education programme, Mini-sheltered Farming, Adolescent Reproductive Health Programme, Volunteering and civic service, Youth Parliament and Sensitisation programme on substance abuse, suicide, Human Rights, gender-based violence, HIV& AIDS and other youth-related issues. The actions targeted 20,000 youth from all walks of life- including students and out of school youth. The collaboration of Youth clubs, Colleges and Non-Governmental Organisations was also solicited.</p> <p><u>Employment and Employability</u></p> <p>The objective is to enhance youth employability and young people’s active participation in the labour market by equipping them with the ability and skills to gain initial employment, maintain current employment and develop new career paths. Job Fairs and Salon des Jeunes entrepreneurs have been held in 2018/2019 targeting around 2000 youth to give young entrepreneurs a platform.</p> <p><u>Entrepreneurship</u></p> <p>The policy objectives are to provide youth with training to develop their entrepreneurial skills and to promote sustainable youth enterprises as a significant strategy for fostering economic development and growth. Three- month intensive training has been organized in 2018/2019 targeting 300 youth aged 18-35 years. This culminated with the preparation of business plans and setting up of enterprises.</p> <p><u>Wellness and Attitudes</u></p> <p>The objective is to develop and implement a comprehensive programme that seeks to improve the overall wellbeing of young people and to address issues that impact negatively on them. In this respect, 3 editions of the Carrefour des Jeunes have organized for around 150 young people. This 3-days residential program includes interactive activities like Theatre, arts, music and sports lead</p>	

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	<p>by a team of dedicated resources persons. The aim is to enable young people to share their feelings on issue affecting them and be equipped to address contemporary life challenges.</p> <p><u>Recreational Activities</u></p> <p>The objective is to mandate the provision of quality leisure for the self-development of youth and to set up non-competitive and friendly recreational activities to reduce negative behaviours, improve educational performance and promote higher productivity. In 2018/2019 ‘Animations sportive’ have been organized in 28 youth centres targeting around 20,000 youth from all walks of life. The activities included sports activities, literary competitions, music and dance, camping, chasse au tresors, hiking, mountaineering, cycling, play station competition, beach games and others. In addition, activities like Inter-Quartier, Pedaler en Securite, Street Dance Battle and Zenes Montrer to Talents targeted around 5400 youth.</p> <p><u>National Sport and Physical Activity Policy (NSAPAP)</u></p> <p>A National Sport and Physical Activity Policy (NSAPAP) has been formulated and launched in October 2018 by the Honorable Prime Minister. The policy addresses the challenges facing the sport and physical activity landscape of the Republic of Mauritius over the next ten years (2018–2018). 20 transformative actions have been identified for all citizens of Mauritius under the following three themes:</p> <p>(i) Foster a culture of community sports and physical activity</p> <p>This will enable youth to join several sport programmes that are part of the Sport for All activities organized at the Mauritius Sports Council(MSC) and the newly created body Active Mauritius.</p> <p>(ii). Create an amateur to elite sport environment.</p> <p>This will create a system for young talents to be supported so that they can train and aim excellence on world stage. The Liverpool Football Academy has been launched and is part of a</p>	

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<p>Youth Centres operate with the support and input from civil society, faith-based organisations, the private sector and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>programme that allow young adults to join as per their technical ability. Other academies are going to be launched in the near future.</p> <p>(iii) Develop a vibrant and growing economy.</p> <p>Programmes on Sports for All are open for the public and are under the purview of the MSC. Additionally, there are also several Ecoles de Sport that have been launched by the Ministry under the department of the Grassroots and Talent Identification. Sport Infrastructure are also accessible to the public.</p> <p>26 Youth Centres are operational around Mauritius. They are open 6 days per week from 9.00 am to 8.00 pm. They are fully staffed and equipped with facilities to enable youth to practice sports, literary and recreational activities. The youth centres also provide free WiFi access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Residential Youth Training centres are also operational at : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pointe Jerome ○ Anse la Raie ○ Flic en Flac and ○ Belle Mare <p>Youth centres work in close collaboration with a number of stakeholders namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Ministries • Private Firms and organisations • NGOs • Regional Youth Councils • Youth Clubs and Organisations 	<p>Ministry of Youth and Sports</p>

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<p>The services provided by Youth Centres shall encompass:</p> <p>(a) Information and training on youth entrepreneurship and employment;</p> <p>(b) Training in functional literacy and self- development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Federations and Clubs • Community Leaders/ Forces Vives/Parents • Independent Resource persons • Comites de gestions <p><u>Activities organised at youth centres</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on Youth Entrepreneurship for young people aged 18 to 35. This ‘Programme pour la Promotion de l’Entrepreneuriat Jeunesse’ is implemented under the aegis of CONFEJES. It comprises a 3-month intensive training course on various components of entrepreneurship whereby participants are exposed and enlightened on all aspects and stages in the process of setting up and sustaining a business enterprise. The course culminates with the participants writing up a Business Plan of their project. Best projects receive financial support from both CONFEJES and the Ministry of Youth and Sports. • Organisation of Young Entrepreneurs Fairs to give a boost to youth led enterprises. • Organisation of 3 Job Fairs in 2017 and with the participation of 2700 youth • Inter college literary activities comprising Elocution Contests (English and French), Quiz competitions, Des Chiffres et des Lettres, Power point competition and Hand Writing Competition. 	<p>Ministry of Youth and Sports</p>

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<p>(c) Youth-friendly health services and more holistic health strategies; and</p> <p>(d) Recreational programmes, including dance, music and sports activities.</p> <p>The Youth Centres would also:</p> <p>a. Ensure democratic participation of young men and women in their own organisations and society as a whole;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth sexual and reproductive health promotion programmes • Sensitisation campaigns on current health issues such as HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections, Non-Communicable Diseases (like Diabetes, Hypertension and Cardio-vascular diseases) • Emphasis on Healthy Life Style and access to health services as a basic human right. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animations sportives in youth centres (Yoga, Zumba, Taichi, Karate, Judo and fitness classes) • National and international youth day celebrations • Special Vacances • Music Day Celebration • Youth and talent shows • Artistic pursuit (Zenes Montre To Talan) • Training camps in Citizenship education <p>A National Youth Council (NYC) has been set up since 1998 to provide the youth with a platform to actively participate in actions and decisions affecting them. The objectives of the NYC are (a) to establish and maintain effective communication between government and youth organisations;(b) to ensure coordination of activities of youth organisations;(c) to assist in the implementation and evaluation of government policies relating to the needs of youth; (d)to initiate youth development projects with the aim of encouraging active participation of youth in the process of their own empowerment.</p> <p>The NYC also provides opportunities to young people to have local, regional, national and international exposure in view of enabling them to acquire knowledge, best practices and</p>	<p>Ministry of Youth and Sports</p>

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<p>b. encourage the participation of young people in the development process of the country;</p> <p>c. assert the views and needs of young people;</p> <p>d. ensure that youth rights and responsibilities are fulfilled;</p> <p>e. provide young people with a platform for practice in democratic governance; and</p> <p>Government shall recognize youth service contributions to society by accrediting volunteering by youth in the educational system and by providing service-learning</p>	<p>experiences to be better equipped to cope with emerging challenges. 9 Regional Youth Councils have been set at district level to ensure a better coordinating mechanism with the NYC.</p> <p>Youth Advisory Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strengthening of Youth Advisory Committees in youth centres to further develop the synergy between young people and the MYS • Involving Forces Vives and the Private Sector for partnering and sponsorship for civic actions/projects. • Gender based activities, setting up of girls clubs • Support youth initiatives • Involvement of young people in policy decisions • Operation of 28 youth centres across the country which serve as a platform for exchange of best practices, views, needs and ideas • Training of young people in Human Rights. Make them aware of youth rights and responsibilities • Youth Parliament, MUN, IYF, Online Youth Forum • The launching of WIFI Mauritius to encourage young people to have more access to services provided by youth centres • National Youth Celebrations- in 2017/2019 within the context of 50 years Independence a Stele de L'Unite was unveiled at Champs de Mars with a rallye of 3000 youth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A National Young Volunteer Scheme (under the appellation Volunteer Mauritius) has been launched since 2015. As at July 2018, 2400 youth have been enrolled in this programme which consists of providing training and involving the participants in volunteering actions. • The training includes : 	<p align="center">Ministry of Youth and Sports</p>

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<p>courses in schools and universities as well as in vocational training centres.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leadership and Communication Skills ➤ Police Assistance Course ➤ Fire Fighting and Emergency Rescue ➤ First Aid and Life Saving ➤ Water-wise Training ➤ Participants also have the opportunity to volunteer in projects such as Cleaning Campaigns, Tree Planting & Forests Restoration project, Visits to Homes, Mother’s Day celebration in Hospitals, Help to victims of flooding. <p>National Youth Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With a view to empowering the youth to play more meaningful roles as responsible citizens and develop life skills that will enhance their employability, the National Youth Civic Service will be implemented early next year. The programme is of a duration of 18 weeks and targets 1000 youth aged 17-25 years. a team of trained Creative Coaches will be recruited and the curriculum will cover the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Physical Development o Character Building o Teaming up for progress o Nation Building o Civic Education o Peace Education o Entrepreneurial Culture o Community Work o Volunteering and civic engagement <p>Sessions were highly interactive and consisted of both in-class and outdoor sessions/visits.</p>	<p>Ministry of Youth and Sports</p>

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STATISTICS ON YOUTH PARTICIPATION (2018/2019)																										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SN</th> <th>POLICY STRATEGIC AREA</th> <th>ACTIVITIES</th> <th>PARTICIPATION/REMARKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td><u>Informal Education</u></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Life Skills Education - National Slam Competition - Sketch Based Animation - Workshop Teenage Pregnancy - Inter College Literary Competitions - The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - Mauritius - Sensitization on Human Rights </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 575 117 852 456 3, 000 11, 520 500 </td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td><u>Employment and Employability</u></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Job Fairs (Moka, Curepipe, Barkly and Souillac) </td> <td>3000 Youth and 50 Firms/Compar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td><u>Entrepreneurship</u></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training in Youth Entrepreneurship - Best Business Plan Competition - Salon des Jeunes Entrepreneurs </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 35 projects (7 projects awarded prizes by CONFEJES) 100 youth and 50 exhibitors </td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td><u>Recreational Activities</u></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PS4 PlayStation Competition - Carrefour des Jeunes - Conver Rally- Dubreuil - Volunteer Mauritius Academy - Chasse aux Tresors - Animation Vacances - Hiking/ Mountaineering - Music Training (La Flute) - National Youth Day Celebration - Community based Activities - Youth Concert on Peace - Zenes Montre To Talan </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1, 000 45 510 102 173 250 548 200 5, 000 2, 000 2, 700 5, 000 </td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td><u>Wellness and Attitudes</u></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animation Sportive in youth centre: (Judo, Karaté, Yoga, Zumba/Aerobics, Boxe Educative, Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball, Pétanque) - Youth Sexual Reproductive Health Programmes </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10, 000 5, 000 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SN	POLICY STRATEGIC AREA	ACTIVITIES	PARTICIPATION/REMARKS	1	<u>Informal Education</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Life Skills Education - National Slam Competition - Sketch Based Animation - Workshop Teenage Pregnancy - Inter College Literary Competitions - The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - Mauritius - Sensitization on Human Rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 575 117 852 456 3, 000 11, 520 500 	2	<u>Employment and Employability</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Job Fairs (Moka, Curepipe, Barkly and Souillac) 	3000 Youth and 50 Firms/Compar	3	<u>Entrepreneurship</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training in Youth Entrepreneurship - Best Business Plan Competition - Salon des Jeunes Entrepreneurs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 35 projects (7 projects awarded prizes by CONFEJES) 100 youth and 50 exhibitors 	4	<u>Recreational Activities</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PS4 PlayStation Competition - Carrefour des Jeunes - Conver Rally- Dubreuil - Volunteer Mauritius Academy - Chasse aux Tresors - Animation Vacances - Hiking/ Mountaineering - Music Training (La Flute) - National Youth Day Celebration - Community based Activities - Youth Concert on Peace - Zenes Montre To Talan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1, 000 45 510 102 173 250 548 200 5, 000 2, 000 2, 700 5, 000 	5	<u>Wellness and Attitudes</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animation Sportive in youth centre: (Judo, Karaté, Yoga, Zumba/Aerobics, Boxe Educative, Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball, Pétanque) - Youth Sexual Reproductive Health Programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10, 000 5, 000 	<p>Ministry of Youth and Sports</p>
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	<p><u>National Leadership Engine (NLE) project</u></p> <p>In January 2019, the National Leadership Engine (NLE) project was launched by the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) targeting some 600 graduates with a view to developing a leadership culture in Mauritius. The training programme started simultaneously in 10 other Youth Centres across Mauritius. The training programme will help build self confidence in youths across Mauritius and empower them with leadership and problem-solving skills since they will be expected to develop projects based on unemployment, entrepreneurship, obesity, drug addiction, self-esteem, teenage pregnancy and poverty which are now becoming a serious challenge.</p>	
<p align="center">RECOMMENDATION G :Better Protecting and Safeguarding Rights of Vulnerable Persons [Children, Older Persons, Persons with Disabilities, and Poor Persons]</p>		
<p>75. A Children Act shall be adopted, which shall incorporate the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Government will formulate and implement a rights-based and comprehensive National Child Protection Strategy.</p>	<p>Mauritius ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1990. Mauritius has also ratified the African Charter on the rights and Welfare of the Child in February 1992. Since then, a number of measures have been undertaken to implement the Convention. Children rights are protected under the Child Protection Act.</p> <p>The Ombudsperson of Children`s Act (2003) provides for the establishment of the Ombudsperson for Children. Section 5 of the Ombudsperson for Children Act provides that “The Ombudsperson for Children shall: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure that the rights, needs and interests of children are given full consideration by public bodies, private authorities, individuals and association of individuals; ○ Promote the rights and best interests of children; and ○ Promote compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.” 	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</p>

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	<p>The Ombudsperson for Children carries out sensitization campaigns such as talks, seminars, workshops, conference and activities to promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and issues related to children concerning child sexual abuse, drug trafficking, child marriage and discrimination against children with disabilities.</p> <p><u>Children’s Bill.</u></p> <p>Following the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2006, Government has taken measures to prepare a Children’s Bill that will incorporate the spirit of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, include all its main principles and obligations, and bring together the different pieces of legislation dealing with children under one single legislation.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Children’s Bill are to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Give effect to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (caters for Non-discrimination, Best Interest Principles, Respect for the views of the child, Child Participation, protection of rights of the child) (b) Afford better care and protection to children (c) Promote the development and welfare of children (d) Enable assistance and protection to be available to families (e) Give guidance on best interest principles 	

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	<p align="center">(f) Set up structures, services and means for promoting and monitoring the sound physical, psychological, intellectual, emotional and social development of children</p> <p>A consultative meeting was held on 26 February 2018 with Governmental Organisations and NGOs, to gather views and comments from key stakeholders for consideration and discussion in the presence of the Attorney General, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms and Ministry of Gender Equality Child Development and Family Welfare.</p> <p>The services of an International Consultant have been made available to the Ministry by the European Union, under the 11th EDF to finalise the draft children’s bill as from 20 February 2018. The Consultant also held meetings and consultations in Rodrigues from 09 to 10 April 2018 with the Rodriguan authorities and as well as NGOs.</p> <p>The National Children’s Council had organized a consultative workshop with children to gather their views for the bill, on 12 April 2018. The Validation workshop for the Children’s Bill was held on 28 May 2018.</p> <p>There are still pending policy issues to be discussed internally as well as policy issues to be discussed bilaterally with inter alia Police, Ministry of Education, Probation and After Care Services, amongst others.</p>	
<p>76. Corporal punishment of children shall be prohibited in all settings. Awareness-raising campaigns shall be conducted among adults and children on the promotion of non-violent, positive,</p>	<p><u>corporal punishment in schools and violence against teachers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporal punishment is prohibited in schools in article 13(4) of the Education Regulations 1957. Every year the Ministry of Education issues a circular to all schools to raise awareness about positive, non-violent forms of child discipline and guard against corporal punishment and that perpetrators of corporal punishment are liable to legal action under the Child Protection Act. 	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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<p>participatory methods of child-rearing and education. Activities under the National Parental Empowerment Program and the Community Child Development Program shall be scaled up. Preventive measures to combat child abuse shall be strengthened.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There exists an incident reporting form whereby it is the onus of the Heads of schools to report any cases of Corporal Punishment to the zonal Director and the respective Primary or Secondary Directorate. • Thus, any case of corporal punishment reported is subject to an enquiry and dealt with under the relevant sections of the legislations. • Some of the cases, upon receiving parental consent are seen by the Educational Psychologists and the Educational Social Workers. • For the school year of 2018, 7 cases (6 in Primary Schools and 1 in Secondary School) of corporal punishment were referred to the Educational Psychologists to provide psychological support. Counselling sessions were also held. • schools have the duty to ensure early detection of children at risk and child abuse cases and report suspected cases of child abuse to the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child development and Family Welfare to ensure prompt and remedial actions. Community Child Watch Committee (CCWC) is a surveillance mechanism for children who are exposed to all forms of violence at community level. <p><u>District Child Protection Committee (DCPC)</u></p> <p>DCPCs act as a mediator between the community and the main institutions providing services for children, through meetings. Meetings are held every 2 months at the level of each district.</p> <p>DCPCs have been set up to take cognizance, review and monitor Child Protection issues at District level.</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Community Child Development Program</th> <th><u>Number of Children Reached</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mahebourg Child Creativity Centre</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Year</u></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012</td> <td>9, 749</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>7, 985</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>(January to April) 1618</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>9218</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Community Child Watch Protection Programmes under the Community Child Protection Programmes.</u></p> <p>The project has been handed over to the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Since January 2018 through a Ministerial decision and was officially launched on 17 April 2018. Since the project has been rebranded, the programme covers some 50 regions through the island.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There are currently 47 Community Child watch committees – 03 CCPPs are inactive. ➤ Number of activities done for Children: 78 and ➤ Number of children reached through the activities: 2464. ➤ Other statistics are as follows: 	Community Child Development Program	<u>Number of Children Reached</u>	Mahebourg Child Creativity Centre		<u>Year</u>		2012	9, 749	2013	7, 985	2014	(January to April) 1618	2015	9218	
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NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th>NUMBER OF CCWCs</th> <th>NUMBER OF MEETING HELD</th> <th>NUMBER OF CASES REFERRED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>50 (3 were inactive)</td> <td>147</td> <td>127</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019 (as at Feb 2019)</td> <td>47</td> <td>36</td> <td>38</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Atelier Parents</u></p> <p><u>Partage</u></p> <p>Statistics for the Atelier Partage Parents are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th>NUMBER OF PARENTS REACHED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>110</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Sensitisation Campaigns on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July 2018: Total number of persons targeted: 64 students from the Cite College of Port Louis. • January to August 2018: 	YEAR	NUMBER OF CCWCs	NUMBER OF MEETING HELD	NUMBER OF CASES REFERRED	2018	50 (3 were inactive)	147	127	2019 (as at Feb 2019)	47	36	38	YEAR	NUMBER OF PARENTS REACHED	2016	25	2017	30	2018	110	
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NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<p>Regular IEC Campaigns are carried out by Officers of the Ministry to sensitise and educate people at different levels about the problem of child trafficking. From January to August 2018, 1811 persons have been sensitized on child trafficking in primary and secondary schools, social welfare and community centers by Officers of the CDU and by psychologist of the Drop-In Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other related campaigns: Number of Campaigns done: 18 Number of persons reached: 705 <p><u>Crafts And Art Activities</u></p> <p>The Mahebourg Creativity Centre organised crafts and Art Activities during weekdays and some 64 schools benefited from the Programme reaching 8607 students. During this period, 1714 children benefited from residential camps.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Children attendance in Children's Clubs</u> <u>Year</u></th> <th><u>No of Children Reached</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2012</td> <td>3, 260</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>11,093</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>19,791</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>17,241</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Children attendance in Children's Clubs</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>No of Children Reached</u>	2012	3, 260	2013	11,093	2014	19,791	2015	17,241	
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2015	17,241											

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>77. Government shall strengthen its efforts to combat drug abuse by children, and in particular the awareness campaigns, prevention measures and programmes for recovery and social reintegration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A High-Level Drugs and HIV Council has been set up in 2019, under the chair of the Prime Minister. The Council has a key role to, inter alia, oversee the implementation of the National Drug Control Master Plan 2018-2020 commissioned by the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues and the National Action Plan for HIV and AIDS 2017-2021 of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. The main objects of the Council are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i). foster a multi-sectoral approach with a view to providing a stronger response to Drugs and HIV; and ii). organise concrete measures to minimize the personal, social and economic impact of Drugs and HIV. <p>A National Drug Secretariat, operating under the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues will follow up on proposals made by the Council.</p> • Fear-based approach and prevention led by police officers (ADSU) or former drug user have been preferred over evidence based drug prevention strategies. • The Probation and Aftercare Service organizes programmes at its Attendance Centres for offenders released on probation by the court. The Programme comprises eleven modules including one on Substance Abuse, delivered by the NaTRESA. NaTRESA has been dismantled. • The public awareness/sensitization campaign is maintained with a view to better sensitizing the community on the dangers of drugs and commercial sexual exploitation of children. • ADSU has intensified its awareness campaign in collaboration with the community, schools and other NGOs. Details are as hereunder: - 	<p>Mauritius Police Department</p> <p>Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Sessions carried out</th> <th>Attendees</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>69</td> <td>26,620</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>106</td> <td>24,649</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>142</td> <td>29,630</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>80</td> <td>10,577</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>141</td> <td>44,195</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019 (as at 31/03/2019)</td> <td>40</td> <td>7278</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Police Crime Prevention Unit</p> <p>Awareness campaigns carried out by Police Crime Prevention Unit at School and Community Level are as follows: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work sessions carried out at School Level (as at 31.10.17) <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th>NO. OF SESSIONS HELD IN PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS</th> <th>NO. OF STUDENTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>143</td> <td>37994</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>108</td> <td>21840</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012</td> <td>121</td> <td>17790</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>75</td> <td>14192</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Sessions carried out	Attendees	2014	69	26,620	2015	106	24,649	2016	142	29,630	2017	80	10,577	2018	141	44,195	2019 (as at 31/03/2019)	40	7278	YEAR	NO. OF SESSIONS HELD IN PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS	NO. OF STUDENTS	2010	143	37994	2011	108	21840	2012	121	17790	2013	75	14192	Mauritius Police Force
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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2014	114	19471
2015	110	17786
2016	101	18028
2017	111	16899
2018	109	17716
2019 (as at 31.03.2019)	65	9862
Total	1057	191478

2. Work sessions carried out at Community Level (as at 31.10.17)

YEAR	NO. OF SESSIONS HELD WITH COMMUNITY LEVEL	NO. OF PERSONS
2010	281	19755
2011	253	17819
2012	318	21072
2013	327	18838
2014	360	18966
2015	481	24486
2016	434	23650

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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2017	495	40647
2018	564	41677
2019 (as at 31.03.2019)	138	8972
Total	3651	235882

Measures to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children shall be intensified.

Sensitisation Campaign

Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare

- With a view to combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) more effectively, the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare has made it a priority to also set up and maintain an ongoing training programme for public and non-public officers working with children so much so that they are empowered to deal with cases of child prostitution in a more professional and child friendly manner.
- From January 2016 to July 2016, 4 cases of CSEC including child prostitution have been reported at the CDU
- In 2015, 25 persons have been trained on “Child Protection and Psycho-Social rehabilitation of Sexually Abused Children” by the Consultant and Director of CEDEM. The training was carried out in three phases as follows:

Phase 1: 21 July to 24 July 2015
Phase 2: 04 August to 07 August 2015
Phase 3: 08 September to 11 September 2015
- Ongoing campaigns in respect of CSEC, the dangers begetting our children by prostitution network as well as the ill effects of child prostitution are carried out by the CDU Officers

Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION												
	<p>as well as the National Children`s Council (NCC) at the level of schools in School Child Protection Children`s Clubs and in deprived areas through “Ecole des Parents”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From January 2016 to July 2016, 1188 persons have been sensitized on child prostitution in schools and in Social Welfare Centres by officers of the Child Development Unit and Psychologist of the Drop in Centre. • From January 2015 to October 2015, 5382 children have been reached on commercial sexual education and teenage pregnancy by the National Children`s Council (NCC) <p><u>The Brigade Pour la Protection des Mineurs (BDM)</u></p> <p>The Brigade Pour la Protection des Mineurs (BDM) and the Police Family Protection Unit (PFPU) continue to strengthen their action through a series of measures to prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute Trafficking in Persons and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children related offences. In this context, for period January 2017 to date (as at 31 October 2017), widespread awareness/sensitisation campaigns were maintained with a view to better sensitise the community on their dangers and consequences as follows: -</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="792 1086 1608 1426"> <thead> <tr> <th>Unit</th> <th>No. of people Sensitised</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2"><i>Year 2016</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brigade pour la Protection des Mineurs</td> <td align="center">33,452</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Police Family Protection Unit</td> <td align="center">13,558</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2"><i>Year 2017</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brigade pour la Protection des Mineurs</td> <td align="center">44,327</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Unit	No. of people Sensitised	<i>Year 2016</i>		Brigade pour la Protection des Mineurs	33,452	Police Family Protection Unit	13,558	<i>Year 2017</i>		Brigade pour la Protection des Mineurs	44,327	
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NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS		RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION		
		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Police Family Protection Unit</td> <td>18,834</td> </tr> </table>	Police Family Protection Unit	18,834	
Police Family Protection Unit	18,834				
<p><u>Shelter for Children</u></p>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with the recommendations made by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in January 2016 with a view to strengthening policies and programmes for the prevention, recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration of children victims of CSEC, a Residential Care Centre named L’Oasis has been set up at Grand River North West and is operational since 26 May 2016. Some 25 victims of Sexual Abuser and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children including Child Trafficking are placed thereat. • 3 NGOs namely Chrysalide, Passerelle, and SOS Femmes are currently providing for emergency accommodation to women and children survivors of domestic violence. 					
<p><u>Activities by Ombudsperson for Children</u></p>					
<p>The Ombudsperson for Children carries out sensitization campaigns such as talks, seminars, workshops, conference and activities to promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and issues related to children concerning child sexual abuse, drug trafficking, child marriage and discrimination against children with disabilities.</p>					
<p>For the reporting year 2017-2018, more than 13,000 persons were sensitized, more than 6000 children and 7500 adults were attained in sensitization programmes, 20 workshops were organised by the Ombudsperson for Children’s Office, 25 talks were organised at the Citizens Advice Bureaus,</p>					

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>more than 125 media interviews, 3 visits effected in Rodrigues, more than 60 visits to Residential Care Institutions, 40 Sensitization Sessions and Talks, and more than 135 field visits.</p> <p><u>Media</u></p> <p>The media is also being used to sensitise and create awareness among the community. In this respect, for year 2016, eight (8) such radio programs were done by the BDM and five (5) by the PFPU. Likewise, for year 2017, five (5) such radio programs were done by the BDM and seven (7) by the PFPU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking and work sessions with other stakeholders and service providers (CDU, NGOs working with children) • Proactive identification of potential victims and vulnerable groups • Increased Police patrols and vigilance near vulnerable areas and place of complaints • Checks at places of amusements, complaints, night clubs, boarding houses etc.. • Counseling and guidance to parents in cases of child beyond control/behavioural problems/unruly life and those who are exposed to risks. 	
<p>78. Government will devise policies and a National Action Plan to address the issue of teenage pregnancy.</p>	<p>Funds have been allocated by UNFPA to the Ministry for year 2016 amounts to Rs 700,000, Rs 287,000 for 2017 and Rs 209, 160 for the year 2018.</p> <p>A press communiqué was released in July 2018 to gather all views/ suggestions/recommendations from members of the public and NGOs regarding Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy. A team at the Ministry is working on same.</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION										
<p>79. Government shall ensure that children with disabilities shall, as far as practicable, be integrated into the regular educational system.</p>	<p><u>Policy Framework and Strategy Document for the Special Education Needs (SEN) Sector</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research has come up with the formulation of revised Policy Framework and Strategy Document for the Special Education Needs (SEN) Sector. It focuses more on ‘Inclusive Education for Children and Youth with SEN in Mauritius. Concept to Reality is also directly in line with the policy directions of the Sustainable Development Goals and The National Curriculum for Nine Years of Continuous Basic Education through the six E’s of the philosophy of Inclusive VIZ. Equity, Equal access, Equal opportunity, Equal dignity, Effective Communication and Embrace Culture. (Ministry of Education)</p> <p>In Mauritius, education is compulsory up to the age of 16; as for children with disabilities, education is provided up to the age of 20. SEN is a priority domain of the Ministry in ensuring quality Education for All (EFA) goals. In this context, the SEN sector has witnessed a lot of positive measures being taken and implemented in the recent years as listed below:</p> <p><i>Table 1.1 Number of children with disabilities in mainstream and special schools in Mauritius (2013-2018)</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Number of children</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>1964</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>2252</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>2301</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>2381</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Number of children	2013	1964	2014	2252	2015	2301	2016	2381	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research</p>
Year	Number of children											
2013	1964											
2014	2252											
2015	2301											
2016	2381											

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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2017	2466
2018	2520

2212 children benefit from the Grant-in-Aid. The number of children with disabilities in mainstream and special education needs schools in Mauritius in 2018 is 2520.

Outreach exercise through Registration

An outreach exercise for the registration of SEN children was initiated for the first time in 2010. In the first year only 6 children were registered. Over the years, the number of children has kept on increasing and for 2018 it stood at 54. It is to be noted that in the absence of the outreach exercise, these children would have remained out of the education system.

Budget for SEN

In Budget 2018/2019, the budget provision is Rs 203.5M. Below is the evolution of the SEN Budget from 2003-2017/2018. *Table 1.2 Evolution of Budget for SEN (2015-2017/2018)*

Year	Budget (Rs)
2015	Rs 112.2 M
2016/2017	Rs 143 M
2017/2018	Rs 168.7 M
2018/2019	Rs 203.5M
2019/2020	Rs 206,000

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>Integrated Units</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research has set up Integrated Units in mainstream primary schools around the island with a view to reaching out to children with special education needs who usually have to travel long distances to go to SEN schools. There are at present 12 such Integrated Units. Out of those 12 which 7 are run in partnership with NGOs catering for children with special needs. The number of children attending integrated units stand at 107.</p> <p><u>The Special Education Needs Authority (SENA)</u></p> <p>The Special Education Needs Authority Act was proclaimed on 19 December 2018. The SENA has been set up to ensure, inter alia, the regulating, monitoring and facilitating and implementing of the new policies and to develop a Quality Assurance Frame work and set norms and standards for the SEN Sector in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Pursuant to the enactment of the SENA, in accordance with Section 7 of the Act, a Special Education Needs Board has been constituted on 08 February 2019.</p> <p>Specialised equipment for use by Psychologists, Occupational therapists and physiotherapist’s equipment for Multi-Sensory rooms, as well as specialised furniture have been procured for these Centres.</p> <p><u>SEN Resource & Development Centres (SENRDCs)</u></p> <p>The SENRDC operates as a One-Stop-Shop to provide specialised services, such as those of psychologists and occupational therapists and parent mediator to students with special needs. Seven (7) SENRDCs are fully operational at Ferney, Beau Bassin, Plaine des Papayes, R. Gujadhur, Rivière des Anguilles and Allée Brillant and Moka with the collaboration of four NGOs registered</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>with the Ministry. All these SENRDCs have at least 2 classrooms where the educational activities of barriers with heavy impairments are catered for.</p> <p><u>Braille Displays</u> This Ministry has procured 58 Personal Computers fitted with Screen Reader and Screen Magnifier Software which have been distributed to all students with Visual Impairment in 2015. Provision is being made for braille note for blind students attending the Secondary Level.</p> <p><u>Digitisation – Sankoré project</u> As part of this project, six (6) NGOs have already been provided with the appropriate equipment (projectors and laptops). Additionally, this year the 6 SENRDC have been provided with appropriate projectors.</p> <p><u>Barrier-Free Access and inclusive Education-</u></p> <p>In a bid to provide a barrier-free access to education to students with disabilities, the Ministry has in recent years taken a series of measures, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Schools are being retrofitted with ramps to facilitate access to the classrooms in a phased manner. ii. For the year 2017/2018, 16 schools have been made architectural disabled-friendly; iii. All new secondary schools constructed have already been provided with adapted toilets for the disabled. iv. Links between building blocks have been made to facilitate access, using wheelchairs to the first floor where specialist rooms are located. v. Facilities like music room, library, science laboratory, computer room are available on the ground floor where necessary. In primary schools, Head Masters usually make arrangements to move the whole class to the ground floor wherever necessary. 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. Students with disabilities are released earlier than the other students so that they do not face any movement difficulties. vii. Carers have been provided in mainstream primary and secondary schools to help student with SEN. Those Carers usually help students on wheelchairs to move around the school compound. viii. The same facilities are available in Private Grant-Aided Secondary schools to enable children with disabilities to move around the school compound and participate actively in academic activities. ix. As from this financial year (2016/2017), five students with SEN have been offered a scholarship to pursue Post-Secondary/Tertiary courses. They are also benefitting from a stipend of Rs 5,000 monthly. <p><u>Inclusion of SEN children in schools</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research has taken additional measures to bring inclusive, quality and free primary and secondary education to these students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Educators are encouraged to provide individual extra assistance to children with disabilities so as to allow them to keep pace with their classmates. ii. Children with disabilities are benefitting from extra time for the CPE examination; iii. Children with hearing impairment are provided specialist Teacher/Interpreters in the mainstream secondary school with the active collaboration of NGOs and for the purpose of examinations. iv. Adoption of a flexible approach to parents to provide any extra assistance to their children with disabilities during schooling hours. v. Enlarged print school books / manuals and question papers are provided to children with low vision. 	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>80. The minimum age below which children shall be presumed not to have the capacity to infringe the penal law shall be prescribed.</p>	<p>The existing statutory framework with regard to juvenile offenders is currently being reviewed. There is no minimum age of criminal responsibility and this is at the discretion of the Director of Public Prosecution to decide as to whether or not to prosecute. However, section 44 of the Criminal Code provides that an accused person under the age of 14 who has acted without discernment will be acquitted but shall according to the circumstances of his case, be handed over to his relations or be placed in a reformatory to be brought up and detained during such number of years as the sentence may determine, but 'which period shall not exceed the period at which the minor will have reached the age of 18. It is proposed to address the question of minimum age of criminal responsibility in the Children's Bill.</p> <p>Furthermore, under section 45 of the Criminal Code where the minor has acted with discernment, he shall be condemned to imprisonment in a reformatory for such time as shall be determined in the judgment.</p> <p>The age of criminal responsibility is being taken into consideration in the Children's Bill.</p>	<p>Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare</p>
<p>81. A new Juvenile Offenders Act shall be adopted, which shall inter alia provide for mediation between interested parties with a view to exploring diversionary measures as an alternative to prosecution of child offenders and for the filing of a probation report before sentencing of a juvenile offender.</p>	<p>The Children's Bill (purported to deal with uncontrollable juveniles using a welfare approach) and the Juvenile Justice Bill have not yet been finalised.</p>	<p>Attorney General's Office</p> <p>Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>Provision shall also be made for uncontrollable juveniles to be dealt with in a manner which is compliant with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.</p>		
<p>82. Training programs shall be regularly conducted for professionals involved with the juvenile justice system concerning relevant international human rights standards.</p>	<p><u>NHRC</u> Regular training and sensitization programmes on International Human Rights for Officers of the Social Welfare Division/Committee Members/Social Leaders are organised by the National Human Rights Commission.</p> <p>On 21 June 2018, the National Human Rights Commission in collaboration with the EU Delegation to Mauritius and the Ministry of Education, Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research held a half-day workshop on ‘Human Rights and Children’s Rights ‘at the Renganaden Seeneevassen SSS with 115 students of Grades 12 and 13.</p> <p>The NHRC and the EU Delegation to Mauritius jointly organized a half-day workshop on 28 November 2018 in the context of the International day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The event brought together 99 public officials and representatives of civil society.</p> <p>On 13 December 2018, a Forum Debate on ‘Protecting and Promoting Human Rights of LGBTI together 94 representatives of relevant Ministries, human rights institutions, NGOs and diplomatic missions.</p> <p>Under its EU-Funded Project, the NHRC invited Professor Ludovic Pierre Hennebel, Professor of Law at Aix-en-Provence and Member of the Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council, in May 2018 to deliver a series of lectures to legal practitioners, law enforcement officers, students,</p>	<p>IJLS DPP Mauritius Police Force Mauritius Prison Department</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION												
	<p>media and civil society on international human rights law. A total of 405 individuals benefitted from these activities.</p> <p>In November 2018, under its EU-Funded Project, the NHRC invited Ms Karen Grayson and Ms Lynn Welsh from the UK Equality Act and Human Rights Commission to give lectures to different stakeholders on the UK Equality Act and the Commission’s legal levers. These activities reached a total of 228 participants.</p> <p>In March 2019, Mr John Wadham, Chair of the UK National Preventive Mechanism, visited Mauritius under the NHRC’s EU-Funded Project to provide training to law practitioners, law enforcement officers, human rights institutions and civil society on human rights in places of detention and the UK Police and Criminal Evidence Act. Some 405 individuals benefitted from these sessions.</p> <p>Commencing April 2019, staff of the NHRC deliver talks to elderly persons residing at the Lady Sushil Ramgoolam Recreation Centre as part of a series of seminars hosted by the Senior Citizens Council. The talks focus on the rights of elderly persons and the legal and social framework for their protection in Mauritius.</p> <p><u>IJLS</u></p> <p>The IJLS also organizes training for members of the legal professions.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S N</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Course</th> <th>Judge s</th> <th>Magistra tes</th> <th>Law Practit ioners</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S N	Date	Course	Judge s	Magistra tes	Law Practit ioners							
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NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS				RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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2017					
1	8 th March	Human Trafficking & Gender-Based Violence			√
2	26 th May	Strengthening Judicial Response to Domestic Violence		√	
3	31 st July	Judicial Training – Interaction with Supreme Court Judges	√		
4	1 st August	Bail Law – Art.5 of the ECHR – The Right To Personal Liberty			√
5	2 nd August	Judicial Training Interaction with Magistrates – Functioning of European Court of Human Rights & Art.6 – Right To A Fair Trial		√	
6	9 th August	International Humanitarian Law		√	√
7	28 th Nov 2017	Panel Discussion on Child Sexual Abuse seen from a psycho-socio-legal perspective		√	√
8	7 th Dec	Victim centric approach to Human Trafficking- an analysis of international & national laws relating to TIP			√
2018					
9	30 th Jan	State reporting to UN Treaty Bodies			√
10	7 th Feb 2018	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women			√
11	15 th Feb	The Human Rights Situation in Eritrea- rule law & crimes against Humanity			√
12	20 th March	Human Rights, HIV & the Law: a decade later, where do we stand.			√
13	13 th April	Bail through constitutional Provisions: Principles and Challenges			√

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS						RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION		
	14	3 rd May	La reparation des violations de droits de l'homme		√	√			
	15	10 th May	The Origins of Criminality – Evil Mind			√			
	16	16 th October	An Overview of the CERD- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination			√			
	2019								
		24 th Jan	Vulnerabilite et acces a la justice			√			
		13 th Feb	International Good Practices in Combatting Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Violence		√	√			
		13 th Mar	Mandate of the UK National Preventive Mechanism- An Overview of the UK PACE 1984			√			
		19 th Mar	An Overview of the Convention on the Rights of the Child			√			
		26 th Mar	Public Interest Litigation in India			√			
		28 th Mar	Interpretation of Fundamental Human Rights in the Indian Constitution			√			
		29 th Mar	Judicial Activism of Supreme court in respect to the interpretation of basic Human rights & the Challenges faced by the Indian Judiciary		√				
	83. Government will set up an Observatory on ageing to carry out action oriented research on the socio-economic aspects of ageing. The legal	<p><u>Protection of Elderly Persons Act</u></p> <p>The Protection of Elderly Persons Act has been introduced in 2005 for the protection of the rights of the elderly. This Act has also provided for the institution of Elderly Watch Committees around the island to identify and report abuse against the elderly.</p>						Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>framework for the prevention of elder abuse shall be strengthened.</p>	<p>The Protection of Elderly Persons Act was amended in 2016 to enhance the level of protection of, and security to the elderly.</p> <p>This Act also empowers Officers of the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions to summon perpetrators of elder abuse and in case of non-attendance, the perpetrator is liable to be Rs 5000 or imprisoned for a period not exceeding 6 months.</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions is considering reviewing the legislations pertaining to the protection of the elderly and to step up penalties against offenders who are involved in criminal activities against the elderly.</p> <p><u>Welfare and Elderly Persons Protection Unit (WEPPU)</u></p> <p>Cases of Elder Abuse are reported to the Welfare and Elderly Persons Protection Unit (WEPPU) of the Ministry of Social Security. From Jan 2018 to August 2018, 717 cases of Elder Abuse have been reported.</p> <p>There are 20 Elderly Watch Committees which will be increased to bring a “service de proximité” to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) promote the welfare of elderly persons in the region for where it is responsible; and (iii) endeavor to prevent acts of abuse on elderly persons. 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>Protocol to The African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on The Rights of Older Persons in Africa</u></p> <p>Following the promotional visit of the Commissioner’s from the African Union Commission in December 2018, Government is looking into the possibility of acceding to the Protocol to The African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on The Rights of Older Persons in Africa. A technical committee is looking at the implications for an eventual signature / ratification since January 2019.</p>	
<p>84 Government shall adopt appropriate policies geared towards promoting active and healthy ageing of older persons, which consider their particular needs and care, and the special protection that should be afforded to them.</p> <p>Additional Recreation Centres shall be established. A Carer’s Strategy shall be implemented with a view to creating a pool of some 3000 carers for the elders over the next five years; the carers</p>	<p><u>Centres for the Elderly</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three recreation centres are currently in operation with an approximate annual intake of 34,000 residents. A fourth recreation centre is currently under construction at Riambel which will increase our annual intake capacity to 46,000 residents. This is still ongoing. • Two additional elderly day care centres are being opened at Bambous and Chemin Grenier and the number of day care centres for the elderly will increase to 22. • In addition, 2 independent homes will be constructed for the elderly living alone and in rented dwellings. • In view of the ageing population, Government is making necessary provision to meet the increasing demand for carers. A training programme in collaboration with MITD regarding Training of Carers has been initiated where a first batch of 35 Carers would be completed by Mid-March and for the second batch would be completed by May 2019. Some 118 formal carers have been trained from 2010 – 2013. 	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>shall be provided with basic training on home-based care.</p> <p>An IT Literacy Program shall be run for the benefit of older persons with a view to promoting lifelong learning and to enable them keep pace with development issues.</p> <p>Government will set up a Legal Counselling Programme on property rights for senior citizens to enhance legal and financial protection to the elderly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moreover, a new elderly Day Care Home in Goodlands will be opened. It is already in process. • Persons aged 90 above benefit from the domiciliary visit of doctors on a monthly basis. Since 2017, persons aged 75 are entitled to domiciliary visits of doctors on a monthly basis, if they are bedridden or severely disabled. Presently only bedridden persons aged 75 years or older are eligible for domiciliary visits of doctors. This service has been extended to bedridden persons of 60 years and above, following the Budget 2019/20. • The Ministry has set up Computer Clubs in all of its 20 Elderly Day Care Centres IT literacy programming some of these centres being held for the elderly. 24 Health Clubs have been set up where educational, adult literacy, IT Literacy, Handicrafts and Embroidery classes, proper cooking methods and health programmes are organized. • The Legal Counselling Programme has been set up and it is being held regionally in Mauritius and Rodrigues since Nov 2012. Senior Citizen association use Day Care Centre and Recreation Centres to provide Legal Counselling Programme and to enhance legal and financial protection to the elderly. Senior Citizen has been requested to work on this issue. The opening of 6 training centres on a regional basis is in process. 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>Social Welfare Division</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular programmes on various social and health issues geared towards promoting active healthy ageing are organised at 20 Elderly Day Care Centres (EDCCs) and 57 Social Welfare Centres (SWCs) taking into consideration the particular needs of the elderly persons in collaboration with other Ministries, NGOs etc. • To promote the intellectual development of the elderly persons and persons with disabilities, IT/adult literacy/capacity–building/skill development programmes are being held at EDCCs/SWCs. • Income-Generating Programmes are also held with a view to enhance their life style. • Recreational/leisure/sports/cultural/social and intergenerational activities are also organised at EDCCs and SWCs for elderly persons and persons with disabilities. <p><u>Senior Citizens Council</u></p> <p>A number of activities are being regularly organised by the Senior Citizens Council which is the apex body for elderly in Mauritius and operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Security, NS & RI. These activities organised for elderly persons grouped in Senior Citizens Associations relate to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitions (Drama, Dance, Quiz, Story Telling), Best Senior Citizens Association Award to reward those Associations which are doing their best to organise activities for their Members, Essay competition for secondary school students on Intergenerational Solidarity, Intergeneration Solidarity Programme in State Secondary Schools, Legal Counselling Sessions, IT computer courses, Preventive Health Care Sessions 	

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN 2012-2020 (UPDATED IN JULY 2019)

RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION																
	<p><u>Financial and Non Financial Assistance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Retirement Pension A universal Basic Retirement Pension is provided to all elderly aged 60 years and above, as follows: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Range</th> <th>Rupees (Year 2017)</th> <th>Rupees (Year 2018)</th> <th>Rupees (year 2019)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>60-89 years</td> <td>5,450</td> <td>5,810</td> <td>6,210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>90-99 years</td> <td>15,450</td> <td>15,810</td> <td>16,210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Centenarians</td> <td>20,450</td> <td>20,810</td> <td>21,210</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Financial Assistances provided to Needy Elderly persons include, Incontinence allowance to elderly aged 70 and above and bedridden, Carer’s Allowance, Rent Allowance to elderly persons living alone and in receipt of Social Aid, Allowance for dentures, Income Support, Funeral grants in respect of beneficiary or any of his/her dependent, Grant for the purchase of medicine to centenarians. • Non-Financial Assistances include, Free issue of assistive devices such as wheelchairs, hearing aids and spectacles, Free domiciliary Medical Visits to all persons aged 60 is being implemented <p><u>The National Strategy Paper & Action Plan on Ageing 2016-2020.</u></p> <p>The Ministry is finalising a National Strategy Paper and Action Plan on Ageing 2016-2020 to plan ahead for the inevitable challenges of an ageing population</p>	Age Range	Rupees (Year 2017)	Rupees (Year 2018)	Rupees (year 2019)	60-89 years	5,450	5,810	6,210	90-99 years	15,450	15,810	16,210	Centenarians	20,450	20,810	21,210	
Age Range	Rupees (Year 2017)	Rupees (Year 2018)	Rupees (year 2019)															
60-89 years	5,450	5,810	6,210															
90-99 years	15,450	15,810	16,210															
Centenarians	20,450	20,810	21,210															
85. Laws shall be reviewed in line with the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights with Disabilities	Mauritius will accede to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and all the implications is being looked into. Though, Mauritius has already ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities since 2010, it still cannot remove the reservations under the Articles 9(2)(d), 11, 24(2)(b). Continuous	Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and																

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>and an Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act adopted.</p>	<p>progress is being made regarding accessibility. The Building Control Act 2012 provides for enhanced accessibility to public infrastructure by disabled persons. The Building Control (Accessibility and Gender Compliance in Buildings) Regulations 2017 provide for a universal design requirement in respect of new buildings and building under major renovation. For the granting of the Land Use and Building Permit, a technical sheet of the Planning Policy Guidance (PPC) regarding access for people with disabilities, which gives guidance for the needs / requirements of people with disabilities.</p> <p>Following a national workshop on a Policy Paper and Plan of Action on Disability in 2014, a Disability Bill was being mapped out. Official consultations have been held with Ministries and Departments concerned in May and June 2016. The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions has received draft zero of the Disability Bill from SLO in January 2016. The draft zero is currently being reviewed.</p> <p>The Disability Bill has been held in abeyance by Government in view of several constitutional, legal, technical and financial implications contained in the provisos.</p> <p>It has been decided that the implications are to be carefully studied and an action plan be drafted to implement the provisos, after discussions with all the stakeholders and with the cost, technical and legal implications and timelines included. The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions is working with the SLO on this issue.</p>	<p>Sustainable Development</p>
<p>86. Sensitization campaigns shall be pursued on the need to adopt a Human Rights Approach to disability issues. Greater emphasis will be laid on the training and employment of persons with disabilities</p>	<p>The issue of sensitisation campaigns has been taken into consideration in the recommendations of the Steering Committee on the UNCRPD.</p> <p>The Training and Employment of Disabled Persons Board has already taken commitment with training institution such as Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD), food and Agricultural Research Extension Institute (FAREI) and Accenture. For Outbound Training 212 persons with disabilities, training such as Mushroom growing, Housekeeping, waiter, IT etc, is being provided to persons with Disabilities.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>87. Government is committed to eradicate poverty. Measures for the empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged persons shall be relentlessly pursued, in partnership with business and NGO organizations. The support provided under the different programmes of the NEF will be harmonised and made more effective in the context of the Social Register of Mauritius.</p> <p>Effective participation of the poor shall be enlisted in the setting of priorities for the eradication of poverty and greater emphasis shall be laid on the need for an attitudinal change to their predicament.</p> <p>Proper education is critical for moving out of the poverty trap. For primary students who are from less privileged background,</p>	<p>The Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment, through its executive body which is the National Empowerment Foundation (NEF), implements several empowerment programmes/schemes with the aim of eradicating extreme poverty and creating a more inclusive and equitable society. The Ministry works towards supporting and empowering the vulnerable group with a view to mainstreaming and improving their quality of life in a sustainable way.</p> <p>In order to properly and effectively implement its empowerment programmes/schemes, MSIEE has put in place its legal framework through the enactment of the Social Integration and Empowerment Act in 2016.</p> <p>MSIEE offers its empowerment programmes/schemes and other related support to families living in absolute poverty and who are found eligible under the Social Register of Mauritius (SRM).</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity (MSS) has developed, since June 2015, the Social Register of Mauritius to constitute a national database of vulnerable households in Mauritius and MSS is the legal custodian of the SRM database.</p> <p>1. <u>Marshall Plan Against Poverty</u></p> <p>As provided in the Government Programme 2015-2019, a Marshall Plan against Poverty has been elaborated. The Marshall Plan, which provides for short and long term measures to combat poverty, lays down the foundation for major interventions to eradicate poverty in a sustainable manner, eliminate exclusion, promote inclusive growth and facilitate social progress.</p> <p>One of the key measures forming part of the recommendations of the Marshall Plan against Poverty Report is the Income Support Scheme which caters for the payment of a monthly subsistence allowance to those families who are living in absolute poverty and who are striving for decent living conditions.</p> <p>The monthly subsistence allowance scheme was introduced in the Budget Speech of 2016-2017 and it became effective as from December 2016. The Scheme provides to every adult who is eligible under the SRM a monthly allowance which is based on a minimum income threshold of Rs 2720</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>Government shall put in place a system of one-off cash transfer where attendance rate is over 90% and the student has successfully completed yearly examinations. The one off cash transfer will be increased for those who succeed in their CPE exams. The National Empowerment Foundation will increase the provision of learning corners with internet facilities in deprived areas to enable children of those regions to access educational sites to improve their knowledge. Counselling will be provided to children from needy families throughout their school life with a view to boosting their interest in education and overall school performance. Parents of such children will also benefit from such counselling sessions.</p>	<p>and a maximum of Rs 9520. These income thresholds apply to households comprising of two adults and three children. As at April 2019, there are around 12,040 households which have been found eligible on the SRM</p> <p>In order to benefit from the monthly subsistence allowance and other conditional cash transfers, beneficiaries are required to sign a social contract through which they formally express their agreement to participate in relevant empowerment programmes and to commit themselves in making the necessary effort towards improving their conditions of living. The objective of the monthly subsistence allowance is to ensure that the basic needs of people living in absolute poverty are effectively met and they ultimately move out of the poverty trap. As at April 2019, there are 10,400 households which have signed the social contract and are being paid the monthly subsistence allowance.</p> <p>The other Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) are effected through various empowerment schemes which are as follows:</p> <p>(i) <u>School Premium Scheme</u></p> <p>The scheme currently applies to students who have passed the examinations of School Certificate and Higher School Certificate it provides a one-off cash award of Rs 25,000 to students of the School Certificate and Rs 35,000 to those of the Higher School Certificate. In due course, the Scheme will apply to students who successfully complete grade 9 under the nine-year schooling and it will entitle them to a cash award of Rs 15, 000. A total of 222 students in Mauritius and Rodrigues have benefitted from the Scheme for the academic year 2018</p> <p>(ii) <u>School Materials Scheme</u></p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>School materials worth Rs 1500 to 2000 are being provided to the responsible parties of children of pre-primary, primary, secondary schools and pre-voc institutions so as to facilitate the latter to attend the educational institutions. There are around 18,474 children in Mauritius and Rodrigues benefitting from the Scheme for the academic year 2019.</p> <p>(iii) <u>Child Allowance Scheme</u></p> <p>Under the Child Allowance Scheme, since January 2019, the monthly payment of Rs 893 per child has been revised to Rs. 929 and is being effected as an incentive to eligible households to send their children to school. In order to benefit from this Scheme, the child must meet 90% school attendance and 75% school attendance for the disabled child. Some 12,000 children for both Mauritius and Rodrigues are benefitting from the Scheme.</p> <p>(iv) <u>Crèche Scheme</u></p> <p>The Crèche Scheme provides for children aged between 03 months to 3 years to be placed in the care of registered child day-care centres and thereby allowing their mothers to take up employment or follow a training course for the purpose of empowering them. Under this Scheme, a maximum monthly payment of Rs 2000 is effected to day-care centres in favour of each child admitted. As at March 2019, there are 26 children who are concerned with the Scheme.</p> <p>(v) <u>Free Examination Fees Scheme</u></p> <p>The Free Examination Fees Scheme provides a second chance to students of SRM beneficiaries who have passed their School Certificate and Higher School Certificate exams but wish to improve their qualifications. The amount of the fees from which eligible students are exempted from payment ranges from Rs 10,478 to Rs 13,028. A total of 275 students in Mauritius and Rodrigues have received support under this Scheme for the academic year 2019</p>	

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2. National Corporate Social Responsibility

MSIEE has also set up the National Corporate Social Responsibility (NCSR) Foundation for the allocation of CSR funds to NGOs to enable them to undertake programmes and projects for the benefit of target groups in ten identified priority areas, most of which are directly related to poverty alleviation.

All companies shall set up a CSR Fund equivalent to 2% of their chargeable/book profits of the preceding year and should contribute 75% of this amount to the NCSR Foundation to be used in the implementation of CSR projects in the priority areas.

The National CSR Foundation supports NGO projects and programmes subject to defined Guidelines and criteria, and based on a comprehensive framework that, in addition to funding also comprises key aspects such as monitoring, mentoring and capacity building, evaluation and learning. From its First Call for Projects 2017, the Foundation has already approved 230 projects for a total amount of around Rs 202million. 172 NGOs have benefited from funding from the Foundation. The details are as follows:

Type of project	No of projects	Amount	% of total amount
Socio-economic development as a means for poverty alleviation	43	36.5 M	17.9
Educational support and training	71	58.9 M	28.9
Social housing	8	9.9 M	4.9
Supporting people with disabilities	38	30.9 M	15.2
Dealing with health problems	30	27.7 M	13.6

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS				RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
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	Family protection including gender-based violence	14	18.1 M	8.9	
	Leisure and sports	10	6.8 M	3.3	
	Environment and sustainable development	9	9.2 M	4.6	
	Peace and nation-building	8	5.6 M	2.7	
	Road Safety and Security		-	-	
	Total	231	203.7 M	100	
	<p>3. <u>Poverty Observatory</u></p> <p>The Ministry is also in the process of setting up a Poverty Observatory to create a permanent platform for all relevant stakeholders to sustainably address poverty in all its manifestations and create linkages with the SADC Regional Poverty Observatory and other research institutions for the sharing of information and best practices and carry out research on poverty.</p> <p>4. <u>Housing Support</u></p> <p>One of the main objectives of the Ministry is to improve the living conditions and environment of vulnerable families and eliminate social exclusion. Government looks forward to those living in absolute poverty to have decent living conditions whereby facilitating the integration and economic empowerment.</p> <p><u>Full Concrete Housing Scheme</u></p> <p>This scheme is provided to vulnerable families who are land owners/ state land owners and who do not have a concrete house of their own. Under this scheme, housing unit of a minimum size of 40</p>				

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	<p>sq/m – 50 sq/m is constructed at a maximum cost of Rs 900,000 (75% funded by NEF and 25% by the beneficiary).</p> <p>For period July 2017 to April 2019, 73 full concrete houses have been constructed and 155 is in pipeline.</p> <p><u>Upgrading of Housing Scheme</u></p> <p>Under the ‘Upgrading Housing Scheme, NEF provides support to enable families with limited means to make needed improvements in their houses, for instance, provision of toilet and bathroom, roof repairs (CIS and Concrete), consolidation of housing units and plastering & flooring for incomplete house. The total cost for upgrading works inclusive of labor and vat should not exceed Rs 85, 000 and beneficiaries are required to repay 15% on upgrading cost. As at date, 15 houses have been upgraded and 22 upgrading works are in pipeline.</p> <p><u>Social Housing support to Landless Families</u></p> <p>The National Housing Development Company (NHDC) intends to provide 10% of all NHDC housing units constructed across the island, for beneficiaries of the NEF who are landless and eligible in the SRM, allowing them to acquire a decent housing unit with a view to empower the households.</p> <p>Accordingly, the NEF has been requested to come out with a short list of potential beneficiaries for the mentioned scheme. In order to have a fair and authentic list of potential beneficiaries, the NEF has come up with a set of criteria and methodology to shortlist the neediest ones. As at date, out of 1840 families identified as being landless, 103 have been shortlisted and support would be provided as and when houses are handed over to the Ministry/ NEF by NHDC.</p> <p>5. <u>Community Development</u></p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating Working Group (CWG) is being launched per district, regrouping private and public partners, NGOs/"Force Vives" and Civil Society to work together for a holistic community development approach. In October 2017, 2 districts have launched their CWG and the other 7 districts would be launching same by end of December 2017. • Community Working Groups have been set up in 9 districts in Mauritius and in Rodrigues. The main philosophy behind the setting up of the CWGs is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To coordinate participation of different stakeholder involved in alleviating by bringing under one platform all actors involved in alleviating poverty. ➤ To align efforts of different stakeholders to find possible solutions for social problems in targeted M/VCA's to avoid duplication of services/facilities, to ensure result-based interventions and pool resources for community-based service delivery and community development projects targeted to improve the lives of vulnerable families and upgrade the living environment in M/VCA's. • Functions of the Community Working Groups are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To facilitate collaboration and build synergies among stakeholders dealing with the issues of poverty, individuals and community empowerment. ➤ To increase access to services to beneficiaries and ensure that each institution provides services/facilities/schemes to beneficiaries, not available at the NEF. ➤ To strengthen the commitment of stakeholders to advocate and support in the implementation of the Marshall Plan. ➤ To ensure sustained funding for projects where the NEF has limited or no resources. • Some projects implemented and ongoing through CWGs are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Medical Screening b) Training for Empowerment and self-entrepreneurship c) Sports & Recreational Activities 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>d)Support to hardship cases e)Sensitization Campaigns</p> <p>6. <u>Child Welfare</u></p> <p>With a view to improving the life chances of children of vulnerable families, various support are provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 222 students who successfully passed School Certificate and Higher School Certificate benefitted from School Premium Scheme to improve their educational achievements and encourage students for higher studies. • 275 secondary students have benefitted from Free Examination Fees to improve their educational outcomes. • Around 12,000 children are benefitting from Child Allowance Scheme to ensure that all school going vulnerable children are not deterred from full participation in their academic field due to lack of financial means. • Around 18,474 children would benefit from School Materials for the academic year 2019 to provide educational support. <p>7. <u>Family Welfare</u></p> <p>Projects are also implemented to promote the integration of vulnerable families in the mainstream society.</p> <p>For the year 2019, 32 infants who are attending 14 registered Day care centres are benefitting from Creche Voucher Support, to ensure that children are being cared for in a safe environment conducive</p>	

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	<p>for their early childhood development, and to encourage unemployed mothers to take up employment/ training opportunities.</p> <p>As at date, 242 beneficiaries have been trained in Life Enhancement Education Programme and training for some 600 beneficiaries has started as from April 2019 throughout the island. Training for some 90 beneficiaries is scheduled in Rodrigues in May 2019.</p> <p>Recreational activities have been organized for some 650 children in year 2018 and 660 children for year 2019, to provide them with sports and leisure opportunities as extra-curricular activities, during school holidays. Through the recreational activities, children are also provided opportunities to get exposure to career prospects, sensitization on social issues and personal development.</p> <p>Life Enhancement Programme for some 498 SRM eligible beneficiaries from Mauritius and 300 Rodrigues have been completed in November 2018-</p> <p><u>Training and Placement</u></p> <p>The Training and Placement Programme of the NEF aims at enhancing the employability of unemployed persons in skilled and semi-skilled jobs through the provision of vocational and technical training to those with poor academic achievement so that they acquire technical knowledge and expertise to enhance their chances of employability and/or to start their own micro business.</p> <p>MSIEE/NEF provides training and placement facility to job seekers, in collaboration with training institutions such as HRDC and MITD. Unemployed beneficiaries have been referred to institutions such as HRDC, MITD, Ministry of Labour, National Women Entrepreneurship Council, SMEDA and Fashion & Design Institute.</p> <p>Training in the field of Eco Bag Making, Hairdressing, Pastry Making, MITD (Electrical Installation/ Housekeeping/ Plumbing & Pipe Fitting), Beekeeping, Quail Egg Production and</p>	

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	<p>Footwear is being implemented for capacity building of beneficiaries and to empower them to start small business or obtain an MQA approved certificate to secure a job. For Rodrigues, training in crop production, garment making, housekeeping and automobile mechanics have been initiated for vulnerable beneficiaries.</p> <p>As at date, some 540 beneficiaries have followed training is in pipeline for another 700 persons for both Mauritius and Rodrigues.</p> <p>Some 170 beneficiaries have been able to secure an employment or start a self-employment through initiatives such as training, job fairs, referrals to potential employers. Job fair has been organised in the regions of Pamplémousses, Grand Port, Savanne and Port-Louis in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and with potential employers.</p>	
RECOMMENDATION H: Securing Right to Sustainable Development		
<p>88. Government will, through the Maurice Ile Durable Strategy and Action Plan, secure sustainable development.</p>	<p>In a document entitled ‘Achieving the Second Economic Miracle and Vision 2030’, published in August 2015, Government has announced that it remains committed to adopting responsible and environmentally sustainable policy regarding energy production, waste management and physical infrastructural development and that Government will invest massively in these sectors during the next five years.</p> <p><u>Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency</u></p> <p>The Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency Act was enacted in August 2015 and came into force in December of the same year. The main object of the legislation is to promote the development and use of renewable energy in Mauritius and Rodrigues with a view, inter alia, to attaining the sustainable development goals and increasing the use of renewable energy in the energy mix.</p> <p>MARENA has finalized its strategic Plan 2018-2023 in August 2018.</p> <p>The Maurice Ile Durable Commission falls under the PMO. As from January 2015, further to government decision, the Maurice Ile Durable (MID) Commission under the PMO was dissolved.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Prime Minister’s Office</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p><u>Switch Africa Green project</u></p> <p>Mauritius is implementing the Switch Africa Green project with the financial support of the European Union and the technical support of United Nations Agencies - UNEP, UNOPS and UNDP. The objective of the project is to promote a shift to Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) patterns with a view to achieving sustainable development. In this context, the project aims at encouraging green business development.</p> <p>A policy review exercise was carried out in 2016 and a Country Implementation Plan developed to facilitate action for greening businesses and setting up of new green businesses in the following sectors: Manufacturing, Tourism and Agriculture.</p> <p>Capacity building requirements, legal and policy instruments to promote greening of the economy and sensitisation needs have been formulated.</p> <p>A National Networking exercise was also carried out in 2017 with practitioners of Green Economy, the public sector, the private sector and the civil society for outreach and networking.</p> <p>The Switch Africa Green Programme also has a component known as ‘Green Business Development’ and which is supported by grants to promote the setting up of green enterprises. Under phase 1 of the programme, 6 projects from the Republic of Mauritius obtained grants to promote capacity building and skill development for SMES. The following activities were carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promoting Sustainable Local Agriculture through Green Retail and Green Hospitality - University of Mauritius ○ Programme National d'Effacité Energétique- PNEE - Business Mauritius ○ Greening the Mauritian Tourism Industry - Association des Hôtels de Charme Mauritius 	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Model for Sustainable production and consumption practices and Eco-Entrepreneurship development- Centre de Formation Agricole Frère Remy (Rodrigues) ○ Increase capacity building of Fisher's community of Rodrigues through training for the biocultivation of Combava lime plants and the production of chili paste - The Department of Fisheries (Rodrigues) ○ Developing capacity amongst Rodriguan to adopt green businesses through training to key stakeholders and the development of a green business guidebook- Commission for Environment (Rodrigues) <p>.</p> <p>Under phase 2 of the project which spans from January 2018 to December 2021, policy recommendations of the Country Implementation Plan are being implemented. In this context, funds have been secured from the EU for the project “Development of a standard for manure from animal wastes”. This project seeks to generate a standard that specifies the requirements for treated manure from farm animals and at the same time ensure quality sustainable fertilizer for food crop production. The project will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and environmental pollution from animal husbandry. The MS 196: Specifications for treated farm animal manure has been developed.</p> <p>Also under phase 2 of the programme, Mauritius Tourism Authority has also secured a grant of about 1.2 M Euros to implement a project entitled ‘Improving Sustainable Tourism in Mauritius through greening the value chain of tour operators’. The project, launched in July 2018 will end in December 2021 and aims at mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production patterns through capacity building.</p> <p>Furthermore, 2 networking forums have been organised with stakeholders namely the women sector and the cooperatives sector in February 2019 to raise awareness on opportunities that exist for green business development. The participants were sensitised on the concept of Green Economy and</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	Sustainable Consumption and Production practices and provided information on existing enabling conditions to support transition to a Green Economy.	
<p>89. Government will come up with comprehensive legislative and institutional frameworks to protect and enhance Environmentally Sensitive Areas, such as rivers, wetlands, beaches, lagoons and coral reefs. Legislation shall be strengthened for the better protection of marine resources.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping is the Government institution responsible for the overall implementation of the project through a Steering Committee under their chair, while other lead agencies include the Mauritius Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security , Ministry of Tourism and Leisure and the Rodrigues Regional assembly, with the support of various government and parastatal bodies, as well as representatives from the private sector, academia and NGOs.</p> <p>In 2016, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) approved a project for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into the Management of the Coastal Zone in the Republic of Mauritius (“the Project”), with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the Executing Agency. The project is funded with a grant of USD 4.66 million from GEF, and co-financing contributions (largely in-kind) of USD 15.31 million, for total funding of USD 19.97 million. The UNDP/GEF/GoM project is being implemented over a period of five years, from 2017 to 2021. The overall purpose of the project is to address the urgent need for more effective management of resources in the coastal zone of Mauritius, with specific emphasis on preservation of biodiversity and reversal of land degradation.</p> <p>The overarching objective of this project is geared towards mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services into coastal zone management and into the operations and policies of the tourism and physical development sectors in Mauritius.</p> <p><u>Fisheries and Marine Resources –New Bill</u></p> <p>To protect the lagoons and coral reefs, the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping (Fisheries Division) has completely reviewed the Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007, and a new Fisheries Bill is to be tabled, shortly.</p>	<p>Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lot 4: Development of management plans for six fishing reserves and a Lagoon Rehabilitation Plan in Mauritius (October 2018). -Consultancy firm: MacAlister Elliott and Partners Ltd (MEP) ➤ Lot 2: Development of an investment framework and financing strategy to realise the values and benefits of MPAs, and increase the financing flows to MPAs - Consultancy firm: MacAlister Elliott and Partners Ltd (MEP) ➤ Lot 1: carry out economic evaluations of coastal and marine ecosystems for Rodrigues and one District (Black River) in Mauritius, two MPAs (SEMPA and Blue Bay) and the northern coastal wetlands (April 2019). -Consultancy firm: Sustain Value Ltd <p>The Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development is one of the several local agencies involved in the implementation phase, specifically tuned towards three project outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To have an updated ESA study including policies, strategies and action plans and recommendations for ESA management, as well as updated ESA maps (including ground truthing) which are transcribed into the appropriate instruments so that ESAs are taken into consideration when planning for new developments and are conserved b) To support the development of a holistic approach to ICZM planning that fully addresses biodiversity, reflects principles and international best practices being developed for ICZM planning and the “ridge-to-reef” approach for Rodrigues and Black River District (the latter to act as a demonstration for replication in other Districts). c) To develop ICZM plans using a participatory and consultative approach which will ensure that marine and coastal ESAs (including steep slopes where feasible) are fully integrated into the legal and administrative planning framework 	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>Awareness and educational programs shall be pursued to bring about a more responsible behaviour and attitude towards nature.</p>	<p><u>Greener, cleaner and sustainable Mauritius.</u></p> <p>The UNDP has already recruited consultants to address the different tasks under the project.</p> <p>The Information and Education Division of the Department of Environment is responsible for awareness-raising and sensitisation of the general public. Its role is to promote informal environmental education to change attitudes and behaviours of people for a greener, cleaner and sustainable Mauritius.</p> <p>The Division has developed a broad-based sensitization programme aimed at different target groups, namely: children, youth, women, senior citizens, trade unions, private sector, NGO's and the public in general, among others. Various communication tools are regularly adopted and information is disseminated through media, talks, exhibitions and other programmes. Resource materials such as pamphlets, posters, roller banners, short clips/films and TV/radio spots are developed. The Division also provides resource person to deliver talks on various environmental issues.</p> <p>Each year, the Division coordinates and organises activities including major international environmental events such as Earth Day on 22nd April, World Environment Day on 5th June and Clean up the world during the 3rd weekend of September.</p> <p>Guided visits at the Albion Fisheries Research Centre are on-going for sensitization on activities to manage, protect and conserve marine biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems. The public is also encouraged to visit the Blue Bay Marine Park Centre and the Blue Bay Marine Park, which is also a RAMSAR Site, that is, a Marine Wetland of International Importance for the species and ecological diversity it sustains and, for information on Marine Protected Areas.</p>	<p>Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>90. Government will take bold and firm actions to take up the challenge of climate change through a vulnerability assessment. National Climate Change</p>	<p>Government has placed Climate Change high on its agenda and is fully committed to put Mauritius on the track of sustainable development by promoting a low carbon economy pathway as well as building resilience against the growing threats of climate change. The Government Programme 2015-2019 as well as the Vision 2030, which was spelt out by resilient nation and have left no stone unturned to meet adaptation and mitigation objectives, and to abide the requirements of all international obligations.</p> <p>Mauritius is also party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement, the Kyoto protocol, the Sendai Framework as well as the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (S.A.M.O.A) Pathway. Mauritius is doing its fair share to implement recommendations of these international agreements, with the development of several national as well as sectoral strategies and action plans.</p> <p><u>Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies</u></p> <p><u>Legislative And Policy Measures</u></p> <p>Government has come up with strategic legislations to deal with the challenges and impacts of climate change. Legislation has been promulgated while others are being finalised to strengthen the environmental management and sustainable development frameworks of the country. It has mainstreamed a culture of meaningful and constructive stakeholder participation and involvement in the decision-making process with a strong focus on public-private partnership and close collaboration with civil society to embrace good governance and transparency and “leaving no one behind” along the sustainable development pathway.</p> <p>Some of the key legislative and policy measures set in place include the following:</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act (2016) was promulgated with the objective to provide for; prevention and reduction of the risk of disasters; mitigation of the adverse impacts of disasters; disaster preparedness; effective response to disasters; and management of post-disaster activities, including recovery and rehabilitation. This piece of legislation provides for a National Disaster Risk reduction and Management Council, which oversee the implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Policy, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework and National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan. It also lays down national guidelines for disaster risk reduction and management at sectoral levels. • The Land Drainage Authority Act 2017, which provides for the setting up of a Land Drainage Authority whose objects are the development and implementation of a Land Drainage Master Plan. The act also makes provisions for a complete inventory and mapping of all existing natural and man-made drainage infrastructure with a view to enhance our resilience against flash floods. • The Local Government (Amendment) Act 2018, which establishes penalties of up to 500 000 rupees for any person who undertakes development works without being the holder of a Building and Land Use Permit and who undertake development works not in accordance with that permit. The Act also provides for the pulling down of illegal constructions on any canal, river or drain. • The Mauritius Renewable energy Agency Act 2015 was promulgated with the setting up of the Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency (MARENA) in 2016 to oversee the development of renewable energy in Mauritius and to achieve at least 35% of renewable energy production by 2025 with the formulation of Renewable Energy Management Master Plan. • A national Climate change adaptation Policy Framework was developed in 2012to integrate climate change and disaster risk reduction into core policies, strategies and plans in key sectors such as water, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and coastal zones. 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A National Disasters Scheme (NDS) was prepared in 2015, to support agencies and stakeholders in understanding and undertaking their roles, responsibilities and actions in emergencies. The document provides for the following: Cyclone emergency Scheme; Heavy rainfall, Torrential rain and Flooding Emergency Scheme; Tsunami Emergency Scheme; High Waves Emergency Scheme; Water Crisis Emergency Scheme; Earthquake Emergency Scheme Landslide Emergency Scheme and Port Louis Flood Response Plan. <p>A number of institutions have been set up to implement measures including strategies and action plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dedicated Climate Change Division has been established under the aegis of the Department of Environment since 2010, to develop, coordinate and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, programmes and initiatives. The Division also ensures compliance with international commitments taken at regional and international climate negotiations. • The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre(NDRRMC) was set up in 2013 following the fatal flooding event of March 2013 which cause the death of 11 people in port Louis and was strengthened in 2014. The centre ensures risk reduction and preparedness planning at all levels and has taken the following measures to strengthen operations in terms preparedness and response. • The decentralisation of the activity of the NDRRMC through the setting up of the National Emergency Operations Command (NEOC) and Local Emergency Operations Command (LEOC), at central and local levels, respectively, to coordinate, monitor and sensitise concerned authorities on the implementation of appropriate risk reduction measures and crisis situation. • A Disaster Response Unit consisting of a specialised unit of the Special Mobile Force, to assist disaster response operations from the National Emergency Operations Command, the Local Emergency Operations Commands and the Regional Emergency Operations Commands. 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Disaster Response Teams in specific flood prone areas under the Community Disaster Programme to assist vulnerable communities during extreme weather events and disasters. • A Landslide Management Unit has been set up in 2008 at the Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport to carry out investigations and propose remedial mitigating measures for specific areas prone to landslides. • The setting up of a Land Drainage Authority (2017) for the development and implementation of a Land Drainage Master Plan to increase our resilience against flash floods through the construction of new drains, upgrading and rehabilitation of existing drain structures, dredging of rivers and construction of retaining walls. <p><u>Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)</u></p> <p>The Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) approved and submitted by the Republic of Mauritius on 28 September 2015 is now considered as the first Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Mauritius. The Mauritius NDC pledges for a quantified economy-wide target to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by up to 30% by the year 2030 relative to the business as usual scenario, subject to support from the international communities. The implementation of the NDC for the Republic of Mauritius will require over USD 1.5 Billion for mitigation measures and about USD 4 Billion for adaptation measures across all the sectors.</p> <p><u>Mitigation measures identified in the NDC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius will promote and implement the following mitigation activities: • Smart use of marine resources; • Expansion in solar, wind and biomass energy production and other renewable energy resources; • Sustainable consumption and production in all sectors of the economy; • Gradual shift towards the use of cleaner energy technologies, such as LNG, among others 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION												
<p>Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies and Action Plans shall be developed and implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernisation of the national electricity grid through the use of smart technologies, which is a prerequisite to accelerate the uptake of renewable energy; • Efficient use of energy through the deployment of appropriate technologies in all sectors of the economy and awareness raising on energy conservation • Sustainable transportation, including promotion of energy efficient mass transportation systems based on hybrid technologies and cleaner energy sources; • Climate smart agriculture including bio-farming; • Sustainable and integrated waste management, including waste to energy; • Sustained tree planting programme within the context of the cleaner, greener and safer initiative; and • Leapfrog to low global warming potential refrigerants. <p><u>Adaptation measures identified in the NDC</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sector</th> <th>Priority adaptation Actions</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Infrastructure</td> <td>Protection of Infrastructure will be enhanced against climate change calamities.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td> <td>Objective is to understand disaster risk, implement disaster risk strategy, strengthen management of related governance and invest in resilience.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coastal Zone Management</td> <td>Improve awareness, enhance rehabilitation and strengthen regulatory framework for protection of beach, dunes and vegetation.</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sector	Priority adaptation Actions		Infrastructure	Protection of Infrastructure will be enhanced against climate change calamities.		Disaster Risk Reduction	Objective is to understand disaster risk, implement disaster risk strategy, strengthen management of related governance and invest in resilience.		Coastal Zone Management	Improve awareness, enhance rehabilitation and strengthen regulatory framework for protection of beach, dunes and vegetation.		
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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS		RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
		Water Resources Management Improve forecasting, management, protection and quality of water resources, including upgrading and building of new treatment plants and reservoirs and reducing water losses in the distribution system.	
		Rainwater Harvesting Procurement and installation of rainwater harvesting systems and improvement in policy, legal and regulatory water framework in mainland Mauritius, Rodrigues and other outer islands.	
		Desalination Small desalination projects, especially for Rodrigues island.	
		Integrated Pest and Disease Management Develop an integrated strategy and policy to foster adoption of Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM) practices including the review of policy and regulatory framework to facilitate the upscaling of IPDM technology and regulate the use and disposal of pesticides.	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS		RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION	
		Efficient Irrigation Techniques Development	Investment in water infrastructure to support irrigation projects and development of a policy framework to enhance access to, and productive use of, water in the agricultural sector. Promote climate smart agriculture practices.	
		Climate Smart Fisheries	Development and implementation of sustainable fishing management plans, strengthening of institutional capacity and adaptation of infrastructure(quay) to climate change (sea level rise).	
		Improve Marine and Terrestrial Biodiversity Resilience	Improvement of the management of marine and terrestrial protected areas and expansion of protected area network including rehabilitation of wetlands, sea-grass, mangrove plantation, increase in tree coverage areas and coral reef rehabilitation/ farming.	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS		RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>Health Sector</p>	<p>Mainstream climate change adaptation in health sector to respond to population increase and its additional climate- related health burden. Develop and implement a communication, education and awareness strategy with respect to climate change risks and impacts on human health. Improve surveillance of diseases associated with climate change and develop and implement a decentralised alert and rapid response mechanism.</p>	
	<p><u>Adapt ‘Action Programme- NDC Implementation</u></p> <p>The French Government, through the Agence Francaise de development (AFD), has set up the Adapt ‘Action Programme to help 15 vulnerable developing countries from Africa and Small Island Developing States to achieve low-carbon and climate resilient development with a focus on adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>Under this assistance Mauritius would benefit in terms of capacity building, feasibility studies and impact assessment worth EURO 2M. The assistance will help Mauritius to access funds from the Green Climate Fund and other funding institutions for the implementation of thr Mauritius’ NDC.</p> <p>The assistance programme has 3 axes namely:</p>		

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen climate governance to ensure effective implementation of NDC by conducting capacity building activities for all sectors; • Translate measures identified under NDCs into sectoral public policies, combined with concrete action plans focusing on key relevant sectors; and • Design transformational climate programmes and projects with a priority focus on adaptation based on a robust analysis of issues concerning vulnerability to climate change and the various potential adaptation solutions, and integrating the management of uncertainty. <p>The assistance was formalised through the signing of a MoU between Mauritius, Agence Française de Développement and Expertise France on 12 December 2017 during the ‘One Planet Summit’ held in France.</p> <p><u>Technical Assistance for the review and update of the Mauritius’ NDC</u></p> <p>Under the Adapt’ Action Programme, a proposal has been made for the recruitment of a Consultant specialised on climate change to support the review and update of the Mauritius’s NDC.</p> <p>The overall objective of this consultancy is to assess, review and update the NDC for submission to the UNFCCC Secretariat ahead of COP26 in 2020. The support that will be provided by the French Government, through the AFD and Expertise France, has the following specific objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis of mitigation and adaptation measures in key sectors identified in the NDC and its action plan and identify the gaps and needs for the full operationalisation of the NDC; 	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and update the initial targets set in the NDC based on measures taken since its submission to the UNFCCC, and provide recommendations for the mainstreaming of climate change in regulatory and legal documents; • Capacity building of main stakeholders for NDC implementation and monitoring, notably through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a domestic Monitoring, reporting and Verification (MRV) framework; • The setting up of a mechanism for assessing Carbon Footprint of implemented measures; and • Elaboration of a Communication Plan for awareness-rising about UNFCCC, Paris Agreement and NDC Process. <p>Estimated Cost Implication: Euro 164,000</p> <p><u>Other Strategies/ Measures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technology Needs Assessment (2012) <p>A technology Needs Assessment (TNA) for climate change adaptation and mitigation was prepared in 2012. The TNA report has assessed the technology needs for adaptation in the water, agriculture and coastal zone sectors, and mitigation technologies in the energy Industries. The key aim of the TNA was to bridge the gap between the mere identification of appropriate technologies and the design of action plans that would enable Mauritius to implement technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support adaptation to climate change that are consistent with the national development priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disaster Risk Reduction Strategic Framework and Action Plan (2013) <p>A Disaster Risk reduction Strategic Framework and Action Plan (DDR), including Risk Maps in relation to inland flooding, landslide and coastal inundation, for the Republic of Mauritius has also</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
	<p>been developed under the AAP in January 2013. National Risk Profiles(Risks and Hazards Maps) , strategy Framework and Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management have been developed under this project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2050 pathways Calculator for Mauritius <p>A 2050 Pathways Calculator for Mauritius has been developed with the technical and financial assistance of the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). The tool allows countries to answer the fundamental questions of how far greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions can be reduced and how energy needs can be met. The 2050 Pathways Calculator is a ground-breaking instrument which can assist to proactively plan for future energy efficient strategy. It is also a decision-making instrument for policy makers as well as technical cadres to develop low emissions strategies while promoting sustainable development over the coming decades.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Third National Communication (2016) <p>The third National Communication (TNC) has been prepared and submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat in January 2017. The report comprise of a national inventory of the greenhouse gas emissions for the period 2006 - 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mainstreaming climate change into decision making <p>The EPA 2002 is being amended to, amongst others, promote and mainstream climate change. A Climate Change Bill is also being formulated. The purpose of the Bill is to implement the obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol and to address adverse effects of climate change towards making Mauritius climate change resilient and achieve a low emission and green economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) project 	

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	<p>Mauritius is formulating a Low Carbon Development Strategy in order to develop an appropriate national mitigationaction plan. A grant funding of USD 1.45 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for its implementation. The main objective is to enhance the national capacity for formulating and prioritising NAMAs and further develop the local capability to design and implement NAMA in the energy sector.</p> <p><u>National Adaptation Plan - Vulnerability Assessment</u></p> <p>Under the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) project proposal submitted to Green Climate Fund (GCF), vulnerability assessment would be carried out in the following sectors: coastal zone, agriculture and fisheries. The project is being considered for approval by GCF.</p> <p><u>A too/kit for climate change Vulnerability Assessment and Identification of Adaptation Options</u></p> <p>A toolkit for climate change Vulnerability Assessment and Identification of Adaptation Options for Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix has been formulated. It is designed to strengthen the internal capacity of both the council and its staff to manage the local impacts of climate change and engage its communities in risk management processes.</p> <p>A capacity building workshop on vulnerability assessment and adaptation under the Third National Communication project was conducted from 16 to 19 July 2018 for the following target groups: youths, women, NGOs and private sector.</p>	

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	<p><u>A Study on the Real Cause of Flooding in Flood-Prone Areas in Mauritius</u></p> <p>The objectives of this study were to identify the regions most affected by recurrent flooding; and conduct a desk assessment of the state of drains in the flood prone areas.</p> <p><u>Coastal Protection Works</u></p> <p>The coastal zone has been subject to increasing pressure from both land- based and sea-based activities which are further exacerbated by the impacts of climate change and associated sea level rise. One of the most visible impacts is the accelerated rate and magnitude of beach erosion.</p> <p>Based on the recommendations made under Expert studies, a continuous coastal rehabilitation programme is being implemented at priority eroded sites by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, Environment and Sustainable Development (Environment and Sustainable Development Division) to increase the resilience of our beaches to climate change. Coastal protection and rehabilitation works have been undertaken at many critical eroded sites, namely Grand Baie, Pointe Aux Sables, Poudre d'Or, Cap Malheureux, Beach adjacent to the cemetery Quatre Soeurs, Grand River South East, Bain Boeuf, Baie du Cap, La Prairie, La Preneuse, Le Morne, St Felix, Grand Sable, Grand Port, Roche Noires, Case Noyale, Residence La Chaux .and Grand Baie Sunset Boulevard</p> <p>Rehabilitation of other eroded sites is also being undertaken namely at Baie du Tombeau; St Martin-Bel Omhre, Pointe aux Feuilles to Grand Sable, Providence- East coast, Petit Sable to Bambous Virieux, Bambous Virieux to Anse Jonchee, Bois des Amourettes, and Deux Freres.</p>	

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	<p><u>Climate Change Adaptation Programme in the Coastal Zone of Mauritius</u></p> <p>The Republic of Mauritius secured a grant of USD 9,119,240 in 2012 from the Adaptation Fund Board for implementation of the project 'Climate Change Adaptation Programme in the Coastal Zone of Mauritius'. The project is being implemented over a period of 7 years to end in August 2019.</p> <p>The objective is to increase climate resilience of communities and livelihoods in coastal areas of the Republic of Mauritius including coastal adaptation works at 3 pilot sites; Quatre Soeurs, Riviere des Galets and Mon Choisy.</p> <p>The following works have been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangroves Plantation Project (20,000 Mangroves planted in region of Grand Sable); • Implementation of a fully operational Warning System for Storm and Tidal Surge by the Mauritius Meteorological Services which can predict where and when storm surges can occur every six hours giving authorities enough time for evacuation of the area; • Training and Capacity Building (13 Short Courses completed; 500 Participants trained; 4 Training Manuals Developed; and Collaboration with 6 International Universities); • Knowledge Dissemination and Management (15,000 people sensitized and Mobile Education Unit 'Bis Lamer' introduced); • Construction of a dedicated Refuge Centre at Quatre Soeurs: Coastal Adaptation Works at Riviere des Galets; • Policy Mainstreaming (Development of a National Coastal Zone Adaptation Strategy including coastal vulnerability maps); and • Coastal Adaptation Works at Mon Choisy (Installation of Artificial Reefs, Beach Re-profiling, Groyne Removal). 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community based project in region of Grand Sable and Quatre Soeurs. The project aimed at enhancing the livelihood of women at Grand Sable in response to climate change impacts by promoting alternative income-generating activities such as sewing of cloth bags <p><u>Incentives</u></p> <p>The Government of Mauritius has put in place several schemes to promote renewable energies, re-use and recycling (composting) and resource efficiency for a low carbon development pathway. Mauritius has pledged in its Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 30% by 2030 and major achievements pertain to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of green design elements in school building - The design includes bioclimatic and site-specific design considerations including ceiling fans, sun breakers and louvered openings, rainwater harvesting, water saving devices, recharge of ground water, renewable energy (PV panels), eco-friendly materials, reuse of demolished materials, segregation of waste, endemic garden etc. • Promotion of Renewable energy - As per the Long-term Energy Strategy (2009-2025) Government aims to increase the renewable energy share on the grid by 35% by 2020. • Promotion of waste minimization • Household Compost Scheme: compost bins have been distributed to at least 6,000 households and 3,000 Small Planters in Mauritius and at least 1,000 households in Rodrigues to promote reuse and recycling and climate change mitigation through reduced greenhouse gas emissions. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting up of a solid waste recycling programme (compost scheme) - A compost plant with a capacity of 300 tonnes of unsorted municipal waste daily is operational at La Chaumiere since October 2011. As at June 2014, a total of 115,554 tons of waste have been composted. 	
<p>91. The Environment Protection Act and other associated environmental laws will be reviewed. The framework legislation on land use planning shall be strengthened.</p> <p>An integrated waste management strategy and legislation shall be adopted to promote waste reduction, reuse, sorting and recycling.</p> <p>Energy efficiency and conservation programs shall be further promoted.</p>	<p><u>Energy Efficiency Awareness Campaign</u></p> <p>(a) The Energy Efficiency Management Office (EEMO), under the aegis of the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, has been carrying out sensitization for youth and the public through media, talks and competitions. Awareness campaigns being carried out by the Energy Efficiency Management Office on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness raising is a continuous activity and talks on energy saving and the efficient use of energy are made in primary schools, Community Centres and Social Welfare Centres and Hotels. The primarily aim of is to sensitize people on how to save energy and use energy efficiently. Presentations made lay emphasis on common forms of energy used in everyday life that is, electricity, LPG and fuel. The difference between energy saving and energy efficiency is also explained. A large part of the presentation concentrates on household tips, the application of which can benefit to people through decreasing the amount of electricity, LPG and fuel used, hence reducing household expenditure on energy. Explanation on how to read an energy label is also provided. The presentation ends by a session of Questions and Answers. <p>(b) Energy labelling of 3 domestic appliances have become mandatory through regulations as from 01 July 2017.</p> <p><u>Environment Protection</u></p>	<p>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</p>

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	<p>The Environment Protection (Standards for Air) Regulations promulgated in 1998 under the Environment Protection Act has been amended to be in line with the World Health Organisation, World Bank and European Union Guidelines. In the new regulations, maximum allowable limits for mercury emissions and its compounds derived from coal burning activities will be prescribed. Particulate matter of less than 2.5 microns will also be regulated. New provision is being introduced to regulate incinerators burning solid wastes, medical wastes and sludge from petroleum products.</p> <p>The Environment Protection Act 2002 is being amended with a view to strengthen the existing enforcement and compliance mechanisms, to make provision for the protection and conservation of ESA's and to render the law more effective to cope with emerging challenges. The existing provisions are being consolidated for better environmental protection and management, promotion and mainstreaming of both sustainable development and climate change. Hence it will contribute towards a cleaner, greener and safer environment.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, Environment and Sustainable Development</p>
<p>92. Local Authorities shall be empowered to play a more effective role in environmental management and sustainable development.</p>	<p>The Environment Protection Act 2002 was amended in 2008 so as to empower the local authorities as enforcing agencies to enforce an environmental law within its administrative area.</p> <p>Mauritius continues to make significant progress in developing and implementing policies, strategies for the sound management of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development. An Environment Policy, Strategy and Action plan for the coming decade is being formulated. The framework for the Integrated Management which were previously developed are currently being implemented. A Sustainable Integrated Development Plan for Rodrigues is being implemented. Through the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Mechanism, Government ensures that development is complying to National Legislation and are mitigating environmental impact optimally.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, Environment and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATION I: Enhancing Human Rights Education and Awareness</p>		

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION
<p>93. A comprehensive human rights education strategy shall be elaborated following assessment of the needs of various groups.</p>	<p>The Prime Minister’s Office in collaboration with Ministry of Youth and Sports and Equal Opportunities Commission implemented a 12-hours Human Rights Education Programme in all youth centres around the island for around 500-750 youths each year.</p> <p>Integration of human rights across the Curriculum will cover training teachers, school textbooks and extracurricular activities at pre-primary, primary and secondary level.</p> <p>At the primary level components of Human Rights, are infused across the various modules found in History and Geography textbooks. At the lower secondary level, Human Rights Education is taught both in an integrated manner during Social and Modern Studies classes and during stand-alone activities in the Life Skills & Values Education. At tertiary level, Human Rights Education already forms part of the curriculum of LLB courses and other courses at the University of Mauritius.</p> <p>Training of social studies teachers during piloting phase on HRE has been completed. Implementation in pilot schools is also completed.</p> <p>Officers of the National Human Rights Commission also acted as Resource Persons in the Programme.</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research.</p>
<p>94. Public awareness campaigns on human rights issues in CAB centres shall be pursued. Educational TV programs on human rights issues shall be organized.</p>	<p><u>NHRC</u> As part of its mandate to promote human rights in the country, the NHRC in collaboration with the PMO holds weekly talks in different Citizens Advice Bureau. The sessions which target members of the general public, focus on the work of the Human Rights Division and the National Preventive Mechanism Division, as well as pertinent human rights issues in the country. 1063 people were sensitized. The Chairman and members of the NHRC participated in the campaign and acted as Resource Person. Statistics relating to sensitization by the NHRC are:</p>	<p>National Human Rights Commission</p>

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RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION								
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2015</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>No. of persons sensitized</td> <td>1348</td> <td>1518</td> <td>2133</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Ombudsperson for Children’s Office</u></p> <p>Every year, the Ombudsperson for Children’s Office carry out sensitization campaigns on topic pertaining to the rights of the child in all Citizen Advice Bureaux across the island. For the year 2018, around 1400 people have been sensitized. For the year 2019, the sensitization campaign is ongoing.</p> <p><u>Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues</u></p> <p>In 2018, to mark the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons and the Human Rights Day, a number of sensitization campaigns through several modes of communication, including media, meeting, workshops, posters and brochures were carried out to raise public awareness and a way to build the national capacity to counter TIP.</p>		2015	2016	2017	No. of persons sensitized	1348	1518	2133	Ombudsperson for Children’s Office
	2015	2016	2017							
No. of persons sensitized	1348	1518	2133							
<p>95. Human Rights Education shall be integrated into all levels of formal education, from pre-primary to university. Essay competitions on human rights issues shall be organized for secondary school students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prime Minister’s Office in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the National Human Rights Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission has implemented a Human Rights Education Programme in all youth centres around the island reaching out about 500-750 youths each year. The Human Rights Education Programme was conducted in 4 sessions whereby emphasis was laid on, inter alia, the basic Human Rights, Human Rights treaties to which Mauritius is a party, the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius and on Human Rights Institutions. Resource persons include personnel of the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Mauritius Police Force, Lawyers, and the Ombudsperson for Children. Around 1555 youths have been reached through this programme from 2011 to 2015. With a view to promoting human rights through teaching and education, the Commonwealth Secretariat was approached by the Prime Minister’s Office to ensure the integration of 	Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research.								

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	<p>human rights across the curriculum at pre-primary, primary and secondary levels. The terms of reference have been finalized through a joint collaboration between the Prime Minister’s Office, the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research and the Commonwealth Secretariat. Curriculum materials have already been prepared by Commonwealth Secretariat. A validation workshop on the document has been held with different stakeholders in April 2015. A capacity building workshop on the toolkit for Educators was organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat in January 2016 and the programme has now started in Form I classes on a pilot basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Rights are also an essential component in the training of Police and Prison Officers. The Prison Authorities have worked out a new Prison Bill which has been submitted to the Prime Minister’s Office for discussion. The Prison Bill is also making provisions for the implementation of Human Rights recommendations related to Prison Management. <p><u>Human Rights Education in schools</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to enhance Human Rights Education and awareness’ among citizens, components of Human Rights Education are integrated in the primary and secondary school curriculum. Awareness of same is also created among the pre-service and in-service educators through the various teacher education programmes offered by the Mauritius Institute of Education. • At the primary level, issues of Human Rights Education are addressed in History and Geography textbooks through an integrated approach. • At the secondary level, Human Rights Education is addressed in an integrated way through Social and Modern Studies (SMS); and as stand-alone activities in the Life Skills and Value Education (LSVE) for Grades 7 and 8. Both SMS and LSVE aim at preparing the learners to better understand and make informed decisions about the social and civic issues that affect them and their families. Human Rights Education (HRE) in the SMS curriculum aims at making learners aware that all human beings have a right to dignity, equality, freedom and peaceful living. Through the SMS curriculum, learners are also made to understand that the 	<p>Ministry of Education and Human Resources Tertiary Education and Scientific research</p>

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	<p>actions they take should ensure a sustainable and equitable future, which is an essential pre-condition for safety and good living.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The integration of HRE in the LSVE syllabus is a multifaceted process that promotes critical thinking among students in a participatory way and enables them to reflect on their role as actors in society who contribute to increase respect for and understanding of human rights and human dignity. Further, the Social Studies Department of the MIE offers modules for primary and secondary pre-service and in-service Educators that address issues of Human Rights and Citizenship Education. Modules for Citizenship Education and Values Education were offered as compulsory modules for Teacher’s Diploma programme since 2005. The modules focus on project-based teaching with the aim to enable primary Educators to integrate aspects of citizenship and values education in the primary curriculum. • A new module titled “Human Rights Education” for primary educators will be offered by the departments as an elective for Bed (PT) students ‘primary Educators’ as from July 2019. The aim of the module is to empower primary educators with knowledge, skills and attitudes to promote Human Rights Education at schools through an integrated approach. • Components of Human Rights are integrated in the Teachers’s Diploma Primary Holistic Education Programme in the module ‘Citizenship Education’. The module which is a compulsory one, is being offered since 2017. One of the main focus of the module is the learning of the 3 R’s (Rights, Respect and Responsibilities). Through this component, the trainees are given the opportunities to acquire the necessary knowledge, attitude and skills that will prepare them to engage themselves in promoting human rights and also equip them to teach basic components of the 3 R’s to their students in primary school. 	

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	<p>Human Rights and Institutional Reforms in collaboration with the Mauritius Red Cross Society and the San Remo University of Italy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The talk focusing on “Disability and Human Rights” was delivered by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services of South Africa, Hon Tshililo Michael Masutha on 18 January 2019 at the Le Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel in Port-Louis. He was on a two-day visit in Mauritius to share his own experiences being himself visually impaired. Minister Masutha dwelt on the need for social inclusion and equal opportunities for people with disabilities and also expressed hope for these people to achieve success in various fields. • A one-day Consultative Workshop for UPR was held on 23 January 2019 to engage consultative discussions with Ministries, Departments and the Civil Society on the recommendations of the UPR Working Group prior to providing feedback to the Human Rights Council of the Plenary Session scheduled in mid-March 2019. • A Talk on “Progressive Realization of Rights through the Courts- the experience of the Supreme Court of India”. The Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms in collaboration with the Equality & Justice Alliance based in UK, organized a talk on the theme “Progressive Realization of Rights through the Courts: the experience of the Supreme Court of India” by Justice Deepak Misra, Former Chief Justice in India, on 22 March 2019 at Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel. The talk was attended by eminent personalities of the Judiciary including the Judges, Magistrates and Bar Council Members. Other sessions were organized with other groups; students, civil society, and NGOs. • As for the Know Your Rights Pamphlet it was launched on 23 March 2019 and it was funded by the UK Government. It aims to inform prospective and current migrant workers of their rights and the possible remedial actions in case of violations. It also serves to make migrant workers aware of the dangers of human trafficking. The pamphlet was produced in 6 different languages, namely English, French, Hindi, Tamil, Bangladesh and Chinese. A short video clip encompassing the main information in the pamphlet has also been made and 	

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	<p>is occasionally being broadcasted on launched on different channels of the national television (Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A three-day workshop was organised from 24 to 26 April 2019 to have an interactive dialogue with Ministries, Departments, National Human Rights Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations who are members of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on ‘State Party Reporting to Treaty Bodies’ to strengthen the national capacity of Mauritius on engagement with human rights mechanisms particularly as it relates to reporting and implementing treaty body recommendations. • A two-day workshop from 23-24 May 2019 on National Recommendation Tracking Database in collaboration with the OHCHR was organised to build capacity of participants on the use of the National Recommendation Tracking Database including data entry. • The National Human Rights Commission, organized a half day awareness session on Human Rights for Senior Chief Executives and Permanent Secretaries of Ministries on 04 May 2019. The aim of the training was to promote awareness of the State obligations under the various international instruments within the Head of Ministries and Departments and ensure that the best conditions are put in place in Ministries and Departments for compliance therewith. The session which was attended by around 35 Senior Officials was facilitated by the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission. • In May 2019, a two-day workshop on Asylum Seekers/ Refugees with Ministries, Departments and Civil society’s representatives was organized by the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms to work out a Protocol on the roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders when Mauritius will be faces with foreigners seeking International Protection as asylum seekers or refugees. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms launched 8 video clips on Human Rights Awareness to mark the Human Rights Day. The video clips are entitled as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What are Human Rights? ➤ Right to Education ➤ No to Sexual Harassment ➤ No to Child Marriage ➤ Rights of Disabled Persons ➤ Yes, to Meritocracy and Equal Opportunity ➤ Rights of Detainees ➤ Rights of the Elderly 	
<p>97. Programs shall be run for NGOs, including workers' and employers' organizations, women associations, youth organizations, and associations of elderly persons and persons with disabilities or suffering from HIV/AIDS.</p>	<p>The National Action Plan 2017-2021 for HIV/AIDS has been approved by the cabinet of Ministers. Programmes on HIV are ongoing according to the plan.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Quality of life</p>
<p>98. A Human Rights Documentation Centre shall be established at the National Library.</p>	<p>A Human Right Documentation (virtual library) will be set up at the level of the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms. The CIB and the CISD have been consulted in July 2019 and they are working on the terms of reference for the recruitment of a consultant and a service provider to that effect. Budgetary provision has been made available in the budget 2019/2020.</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms</p>

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RECOMMENDATION J: Encouraging and Facilitating Greater Involvement of Civil Society and Business in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights		
<p>99. An Institutionalized Platform, regrouping representatives of Government, business sector and NGO sector, would be set up for identifying areas of intervention where they would work together for the improvement of the human rights of vulnerable persons in society.</p>	<p>The NGOs are represented in the NMRF. The NGOs can discuss issues pertaining to Human Rights with representative of several Ministries and Departments and the Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms.</p> <p>The NMRF Committee holds meetings on a regular basis to discuss matters pertaining to human rights with all the stakeholders. The implementation of HR Plan and recommendations from Treaty Bodies are monitored on periodically. The Ministry is implementing the National Recommendations Tracking Database with the collaboration of OHCHR.</p> <p>The MJHRIR has also organized workshops to build capacity of the members of the NMRF, including NGOs.</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms</p>
RECOMMENDATION K: Follow-Up and Evaluation of National Action Plan		
<p>100. A Human Rights Monitoring Committee shall be set up at the Prime Minister's Office, composed of representatives of Government and other stakeholders, for</p>	<p>Reporting process at the national level</p> <p>A National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-Up comprising representatives of various ministries and non-governmental organisations, has been established under the aegis of the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms to monitor the reporting requirements under the human rights instruments.</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms</p>

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<p>Follow-Up and Evaluation of measures taken in pursuance of this Action Plan.</p> <p>Human rights indicators and benchmarks shall be developed for assessing progress in the implementation of the Action Plan.</p> <p>A Human Rights Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit shall be set up at the Prime Minister’s Office for the elaboration of human rights indicators/benchmarks and the gathering of data to assess the human rights situation at any given point in time. The Unit would also be responsible for evolving policies/strategies which would help improve the human rights landscape, and it shall over time engage in Human Rights Impact Assessment</p>	<p>The MJHRIR is implementing the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) for a better monitoring of the implementations of recommendations from treaty bodies. Access to the NRTD system will be granted eventually to all relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>A Human Right Documentation (virtual library) will be set up at the level of the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms. The CIB and the CISD have been consulted in July 2019 and they are working on the terms of reference for the recruitment of a consultant and a service provider to that effect. Budgetary provision has been made available in the budget 2019/2020.</p> <p><u>Human Rights Portal</u></p> <p>The Human Rights Portal was developed to provide for a better diffusion of information on human rights, and was developed in collaboration with the National Computer Board. This Portal aims at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) informing all stakeholders about the human rights status and strategy of the Republic of Mauritius; (b) lending support to policy makers, trainers in human rights and students in terms of database of human rights indicators; (c) acting as a platform for training and sensitisation; and (d) acting as a communication tool between all human rights stakeholders <p>The website of the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms is also being redesigned and will incorporate the Human Rights Portal, that will be moved from the PMO website.</p> <p><u>Human Rights indicators</u></p>	

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<p>[HRIA] of any given policy/project.</p>	<p>The Prime Minister’s Office, in collaboration with the OHCHR and UNDP, organised a two-days’ workshop with national stakeholders on Human Rights Indicators, on 21-22 September 2016 at the Gold Crest Hotel, Quatre-Bornes. The objective of the workshop was to enable a better understanding, identification and use of Human Rights Indicators by the focal points in different Ministries/Departments and other stakeholders.</p> <p>A data base of Human Rights indicators has also been developed in collaboration with Ministries/Departments concerned to monitor progress regarding human rights recommendations. A database indicator has already been created but in view of its complexity simplified version will have to be worked out.</p>	