



UNITED NATIONS
Mauritius and Seychelles



2022 United Nations Annual Results Report Mauritius

March 2023



THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



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3.0 UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR 2023

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Art Direction & Design : **Ziyaad Pondor**

Foreword

On behalf of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Mauritius, I am pleased to present the Annual Results Report 2022. The report highlights progress on implementing the United Nations-Government of Mauritius Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023. The SPF is aligned to national priorities, the SAMOA pathway, Africa Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Recovery to resilience was the theme of the year for the United Nations family in Mauritius. 2022 was a year of uncertainty and mixed outcomes for the country. Post-pandemic economic recovery, driven by an acceleration in tourist arrivals, meant GDP returned to 2019 levels. On the other hand, inflation and other global disruptions overlapping with the effects of the pandemic and climate change meant further challenges to achieving Agenda 2030. As such the UNCT took a forward-looking, systems-thinking approach to enable collective efforts and greater synergies for long-term development while adapting to an ever-changing environment.

In 2022, United Nations programmes in the areas of education, health, decent work, and culture focused on institutional capacity building, policy strengthening, knowledge generation, awareness raising, and technology transfer, to address systemic challenges and contribute to improved results. For example, United Nations technical assistance was provided to ensure that the government's Housing and Population Census adhered to international standards; develop the National AIDS Secretariat's first annual operational plan for 2023; enhance workers' fundamental rights; and strengthen government capacity to engage Mauritian diaspora youth for national development. The year also marked the global Transforming Education Summit in response to the crisis in education. The convening power of the United Nations brought together stakeholders for national consultations, which contributed to new commitments by the government to a more resilient and responsive education system.

To bolster economic transformation the United Nations rolled out key initiatives, such as the launch of the SDG investor map to promote private capital investment. Facilitating access to appropriate and innovative technology the United Nations worked with the fishers, tea growers and small-scale farming communities to cement the resilience of food systems through sustainable agricultural practices.

Positioning the island as a safe and environmentally sustainable tourist destination, the United Nations provided technical assistance and training to Airport Mauritius and the tourism industry on protecting employees and customers against the risks posed by COVID-19. At regional level, the United Nations supported Mauritius to integrate with the other six trial countries selected to be part of the "African Continental Free Trade Area Guided Trade Initiative", which was established so business can be conducted without being subjected to tariff barriers.

As the guardian of a large ocean space with an Exclusive Economic Zone of 2.3 million km², the issue of maritime security is vital for Mauritius. A National Action Plan was developed with support from the United Nations to combat illicit fishing, drugs, and trafficking of persons with maritime law enforcement empowered to include regional joint operations at sea.

Mauritius, as a small island state, is disproportionately vulnerable to the vagaries of climate change. Providing expertise, technical and financial assistance, United Nations agencies joined forces to identify innovative solutions to increase climate resilience. Initiatives included monitoring the blue carbon storage capacity in seagrass; small-scale reef rehabilitation; habitat restoration and attraction of seabirds to Ile aux Aigrettes; piloting the potential for seaweed fertilizer; and advancing the circular economy and waste management, to name a few.

Gender was cross-cutting. Specifically, the United Nations system provided technical assistance to the Parliamentary Gender Caucus. To support women's economic advancement in agriculture and redress inequalities in the sector, gender training was provided to government officials. Meanwhile unskilled and unemployed women were empowered through capacity building initiatives to support education and income generation.

The United Nations family places partnership at the heart of its work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of Mauritius for the continued confidence it places in the United Nations. We appreciate the support of all our partners, including the Development Partners Group, multilateral development actors, regional cooperation bodies, international financial institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations, academia and others. I have no doubt that by continuing to engage in results-driven coordination we will make the transformative changes necessary to not only recover but also become more resilient and accelerate towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

As the current SPF comes to an end, we appreciate the government's commitment taking visible ownership and active engagement in the design of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and look forward to its successful implementation from 2024.



Ms. Lisa Simrique Singh
UN Resident Coordinator for Mauritius & Seychelles



UN Country Team in Mauritius

18 AGENCIES UNDER THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) comprises the heads of the United Nations agencies, funds, and programmes active in Mauritius. The UNCT leads the implementation of the **Strategic Partnership Framework 2019 – 2023**, which sets out the development cooperation between the Republic of Mauritius and the United Nations. There are currently three United Nations agencies with a representative in Mauritius:

RESIDENT AGENCIES



NON-RESIDENT AGENCIES WITH A PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN THE COUNTRY



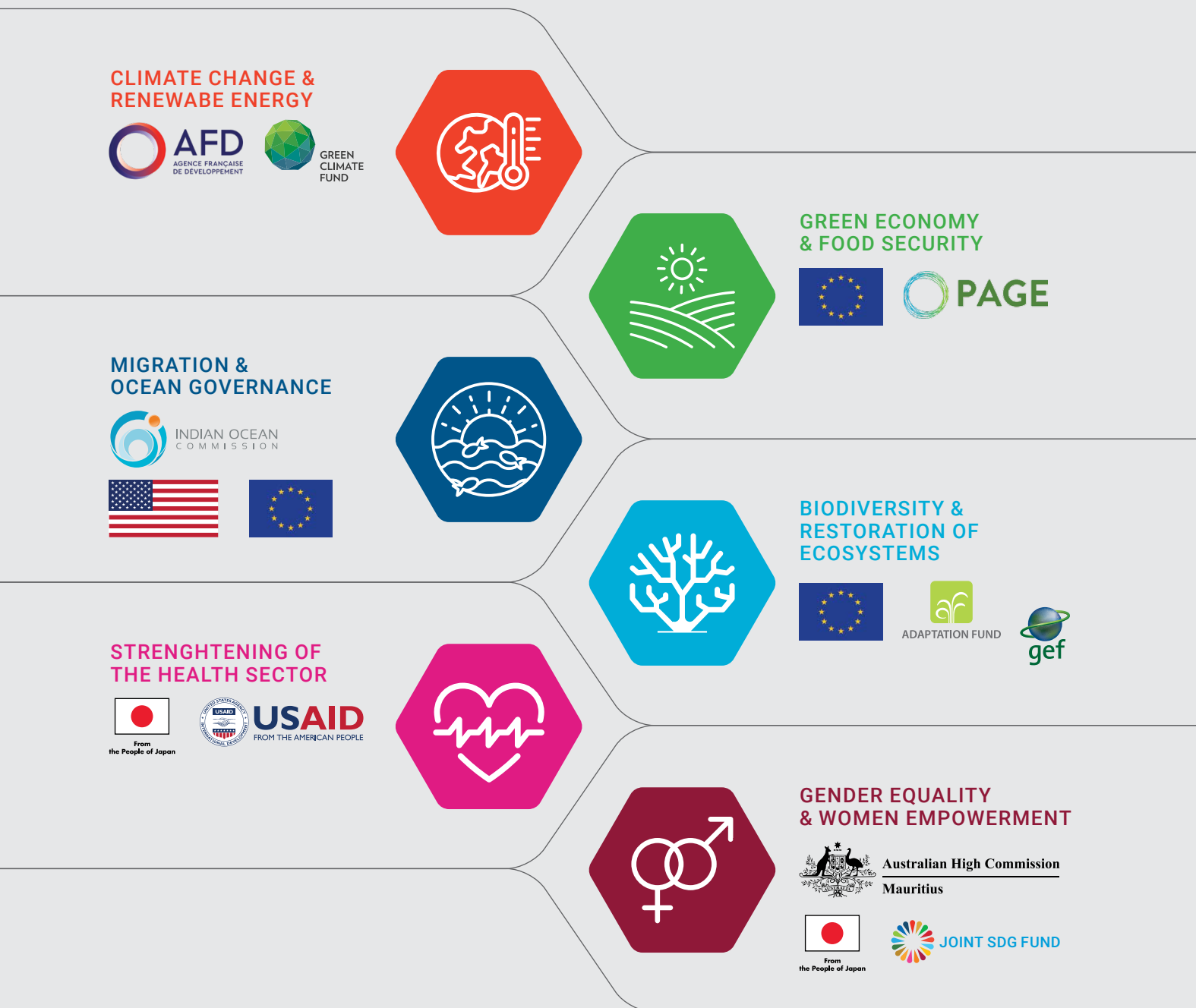
NON-RESIDENT AGENCIES



Key development partners of the United Nations development system in the country

Collaboration and partnership are at the heart of UNCT's work in support of the Government of Mauritius's efforts to build resilience, recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and achieve its development objectives.

As a result of technical and financial support from and results-driven coordination with the development partners, the effectiveness and impact of the UNCT activities in Mauritius have significantly improved in the following areas:



In 2022, the United Nations continued to work closely with key stakeholders from the Government of Mauritius, the private sector and civil society in many areas and sectors, to implement the outcomes set out under the Cooperation Framework and to accelerate towards advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The main ministries/institutions, private sector and civil society organizations with which the United Nations has partnered in 2022 as well as the areas of collaboration are encapsulated below:





1.0

KEY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

1.1 Mauritius at a Glance

2022 was a year of uncertainty and mixed outcomes for Mauritius. Post-pandemic recovery, driven by an acceleration in tourist arrivals, returned the economy to 2019 levels. On the other hand, inflation and other global disruptions coincided with COVID-19 and climate change effects, further complicating the SDG path.

GDP growth slightly accelerated in 2022 (to 8.7 per cent by Statistics Mauritius estimates in March 2023, compared to 7.5 per cent in 2021, and -14.9 per cent in 2020), thanks to the rebound of commerce and tourism, and reinvigorated foreign direct investment (up 60.6 per cent in the first semester of 2022 compared with the same period of 2021).

The main limitation to growth and job creation has been inflation, affecting Mauritius' economy due to its over-reliance on strategic imports, especially food, and fuel. However, the unemployment rate continued to fall throughout the first 9 months of 2022, reaching 7.5 per cent in September 2022 (down from 9.5 per cent in September 2021). In March 2022, the Government of Mauritius developed the "One Mauritius" plan to give a strategic boost to the tourism sector in 2022, with the goal of reaching one million tourist arrivals by the end of the year.

The multiple crises have dramatically increased demands on Mauritius' social protection system. Social spending accounts for 55 per cent of total Government expenditure, and social protection is by far the sector with the highest spending, with 30 per cent of total expenditure in 2022-23.

The national government made food security an overarching priority in its 2022-23 budget, with financial incentives and other measures to accelerate the development of local production of nutritious food, transformation of the agricultural sector through mechanization, innovation and sustainability, and reliance on local inputs, such as fertilizers and seeds.

The health and education systems resumed functioning closer to pre-pandemic levels, yet remained under pressure due to the backlog in non-COVID-19 treatments, including non-communicable diseases, which account for 80 per cent of the

JANUARY 2023 WORLD BANK PROJECTIONS FORESEE 5.5 PER CENT GDP GROWTH AND 6.1 PER CENT INFLATION IN 2023.

burden of diseases in a context of an ageing population; and in student learning due to COVID-19-related disruptions.

Gender gaps continue to narrow on some key indicators, such as the literacy rate (4.8 per cent less for women in 2011, 3.3 per cent in 2022); the sex ratio in higher education (138 men per 100 women in 2011; to 98 men per 100 women in 2022); or the sex ratio in the workforce (182 men for every 100 women in 2011, and 165 in 2022). However, in the second quarter of 2022, 58.9 per cent of economically inactive women explained that this situation was due to homemakers' duties (compared to 0 per cent of men), compared to 41.5 per cent a year before, highlighting deeply entrenched cultural patterns unfavourable to women¹.

Water scarcity and energy dependency were both high on the agenda, alongside food security, due to a prolonged drought for the former and the high fossil fuel prices for the latter.

At the regional level, the integration promised by the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) started gathering momentum with the publication of the Mauritian Strategy to leverage opportunities provided by AfCFTA.

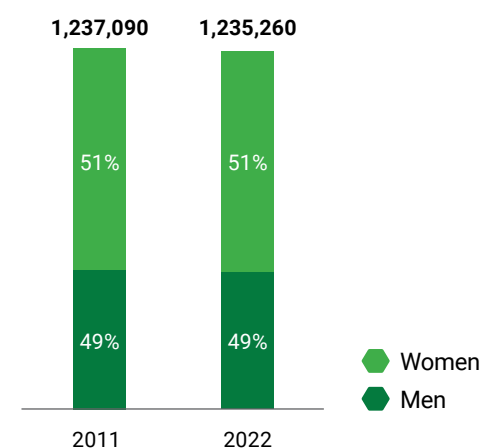
In terms of development finance, Mauritius was removed from the European Union Global Facility list of high-risk third countries for anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). The country also issued its first private green bond in January 2022.

January 2023 World Bank projections foresee 5.5 per cent GDP growth and 6.1 per cent inflation in 2023.

MAURITIUS AT A GLANCE

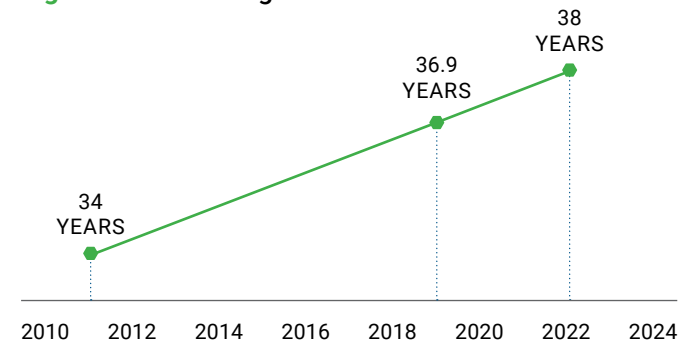
POPULATION

Figure 1 : Population



× **DECREASING POPULATION**
The population of the Republic of Mauritius fell from 1,237,090 (611,020 males and 626,070 females) in 2011 to 1,235,260 (608,090 males, 627,170 females).

Figure 2 : Median Age

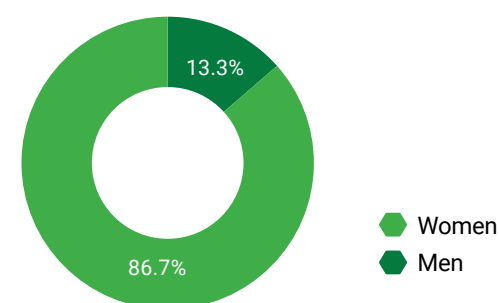


× **AGEING POPULATION**
The population continued to age, as indicated by an increase in the median age of the population from 34 years in 2011 to 38 years in 2022. (2022 Population Census²)

Source : 2022 Population Census¹

GENDER

Figure 3 : Gender-Based Violence



× **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)**
Among victims of domestic violence, 86.7 per cent were female and 13.3 per cent male. (ESI, Gender Statistics, Statistics Mauritius 2021²)

× **MAURITIUS RANKED 105 OUT OF 146 COUNTRIES** Mauritius ranked 105 out of 146 countries on the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap³ Report with the least gains made in political empowerment and the highest in health and survival and educational attainment.

Source : ESI, Gender Statistics, Statistics Mauritius 2021²

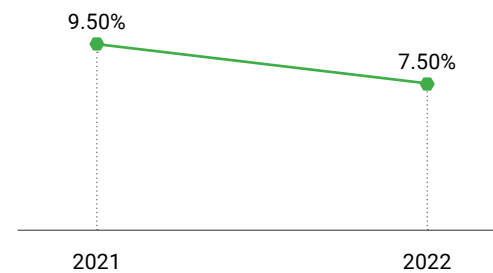
¹ Statistics Mauritius. Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment June 2022 Table 9: Population outside labour force by reason for inactivity, 1st Quarter 2021 to 1st Quarter 2022.

² <https://www.npcmauritius.org/images/download/290.pdf>

³ The Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) seeks to measure one important aspect of gender equality; the relative gaps between women and men across a large set of countries and across four key areas, namely: (a) economic participation and opportunity, (b) educational attainment, (c) health and survival and (d) political empowerment. The equality benchmark is considered

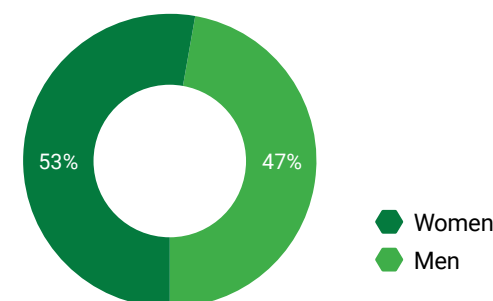
UNEMPLOYMENT

Figure 4 : Unemployment rate



- ✗ The unemployment rate fell from 9.5 per cent in 2021 to 7.5 per cent in 2022.
- ✗ 23 per cent of unemployed are aged between 16 and 24 years.

Figure 5 : Number employed by gender

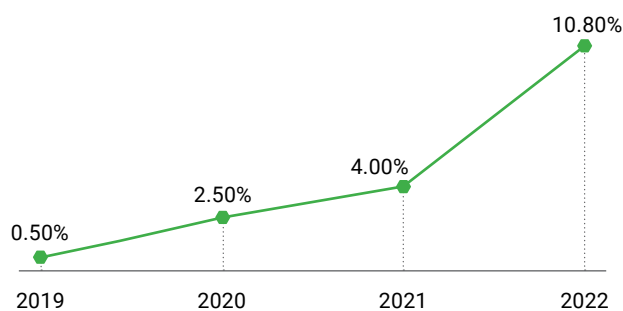


- ✗ Of the 42,800 unemployed, 20,200 were males (47 per cent) and 22,600 females (53 per cent).

Source : Statistics Mauritius

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX⁴ AND INFLATION (ESI – CPI 4TH QUARTER 2022⁵)

Figure 6 : Inflation rate



- ✗ **INCREASED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)**
The CPI, which stood at 113.3 in December 2021, registered a net increase of 13.8 points (or +12.2 per cent) to reach 127.1 in December 2022, with the main reasons cited for the net increase being higher prices of food and drinks, cigarettes and alcohol, and clothing, higher interest rates on housing loans, higher prices of washing materials and household items, higher health fees, higher travel fares, and so on.

- ✗ **INFLATION**
The headline inflation rate increased from 4.0 per cent in 2021 to 10.8 per cent in 2022.

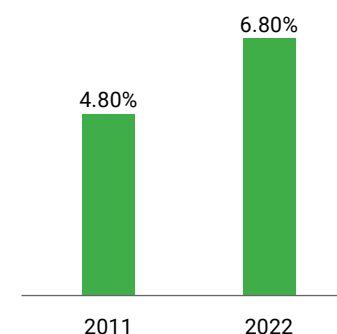
Source : ESI – CPI 4th Quarter 2022⁵

⁴ Consumer Price Index (CPI) is an indicator of changes over time in the general level of prices of goods and services acquired by Mauritian consumers. Source: Statistics Mauritius

⁵ Statistics Mauritius, 16 January 2023. https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/ESI/2023/EI1699/CPL4Qtr22_160123.pdf

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

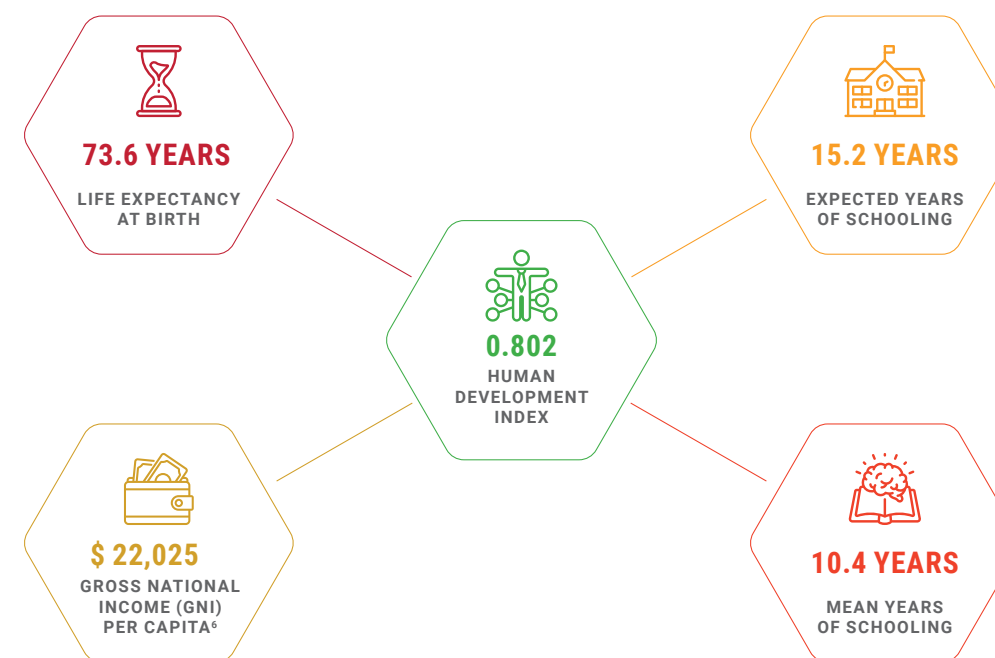
Figure 7 : Percentage of population of persons with disabilities



- ✗ In 2022, some 84,500 persons reported some form of disability, up from 59,900 in 2011. Persons registered with disabilities therefore made up 6.8 per cent of the population in 2022 compared to 4.8 per cent in 2011. The prevalence of disability generally increases with age. (2022 Population Census)

Source : 2022 Population Census

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX



Source : The 2021/2022 Human Development Report

- ✗ Mauritius ranks 63 out of 191 countries in the HDI ranking. The Human Development Index (HDI) is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and having a decent standard of living.

⁶ (2017 PPP \$)



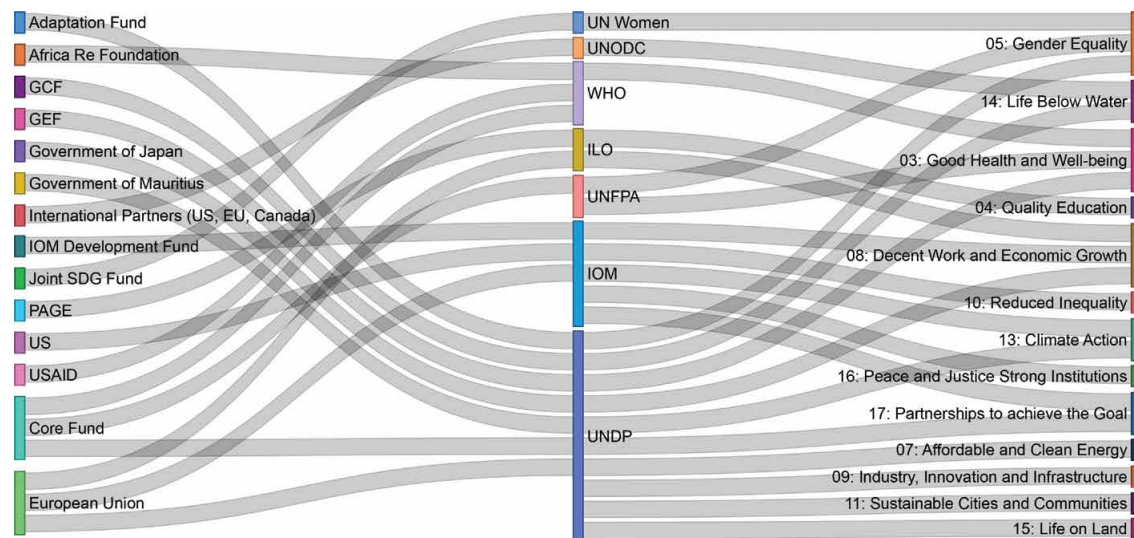
2.0

UN SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES

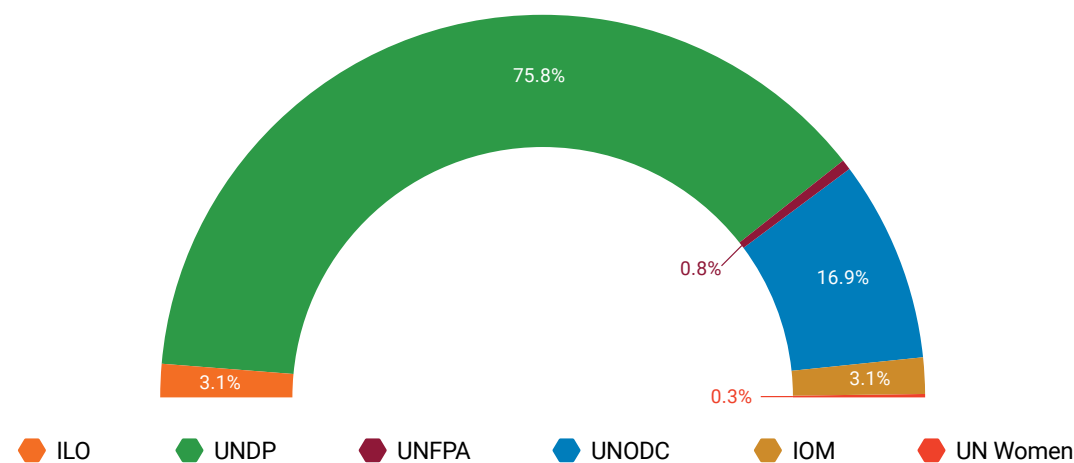
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2.1 OVERVIEW OF COOPERATION FRAMEWORK RESULTS

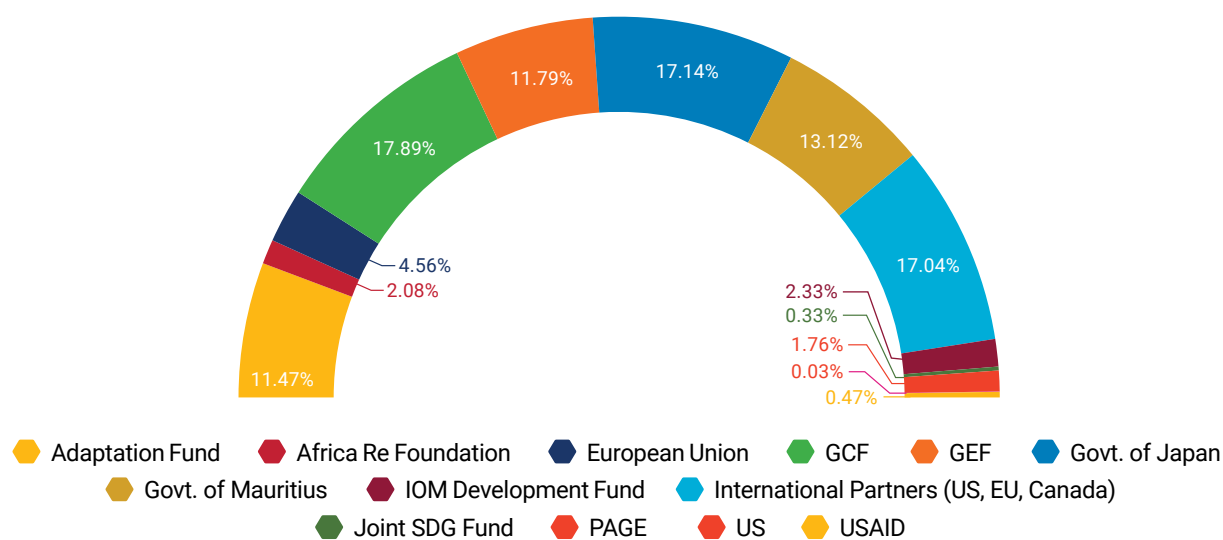
CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2022 BY STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK



CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2022 BY UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES



RESOURCES MOBILISED BY UN AGENCIES FROM DONORS IN 2022



TRANSFORMED BUSINESSES

- ✗ The United Nations delivered the SDG Investors Map, which considerably strengthened the dialogue with the private sector in Mauritius for higher capital investment in SDG priorities.
- ✗ The United Nations agencies provided strategic plans and generated knowledge to unlock the trade potential associated with the AfCFTA, and to enhance food security and transform the traditional Mauritian tea industry.
- ✗ Digitalization was a key enabler for the United Nations to empower the Mauritian public administration.
- ✗ The United Nations provided knowledge generation, technology transfer, and capacity building to uplift communities of small farmers and fishers from the country's poorest regions.
- ✗ 2000 SMEs were trained by United Nations experts to build back better post-COVID-19

AGEING SOCIETY, HEALTH, AND LABOUR MARKET REFORMS

- ✗ The National Census, the backbone of evidence-based policymaking, was delivered more efficiently and up to international standards with United Nations' technical support.
- ✗ The United Nations financed nationwide advocacy campaigns to increase awareness of safe childbirth and sexual and reproductive health for 1.2 million people. Fifty-six professionals enhanced their knowledge on fertility.
- ✗ A knowledge product on HIV status in Mauritius, which significantly contributed to the drafting of the National Strategic Framework on AIDS, was provided to the Government of Mauritius.
- ✗ The United Nations continued to support COVID-19 response and recovery by providing strategic plans and medical equipment.

- ✗ The United Nations' strong advocacy efforts led to institutionalization of a National and Regional Infection Prevention and Control Committee.
- ✗ The United Nations supported the Government to enhance workers' fundamental rights and support safe, regular, dignified, and orderly migration by technically and financially supporting data generation, drafting of national strategies, capacity building regarding labour migration management and development of a code of conduct for the Government and private sector.
- ✗ As part of the diaspora engagement initiatives supported by the United Nations, a Pilot Youth Diaspora Volunteering mechanism was initiated, and a Southern Africa Regional Diaspora Investment and Partnership Forum was held in Mauritius.

OCEAN ECONOMY AND TOURISM

- ✗ The United Nations drafted a national action plan, which directly fed into the national strategy to support tourism recovery.
- ✗ Two national action plans and United Nations capacity enhancement programmes improved the capability of Mauritian maritime law enforcement to participate in regionally coordinated joint operations at sea and improved maritime security and combat trafficking in persons.

INCLUSIVE, QUALITY EDUCATION AND SKILLING

- ✗ Key recommendations to make the education system more resilient were drafted following national dialogues held by the United Nations on the occasion of the Transforming Education Summit.
- ✗ The United Nations worked towards improved relations between security forces and journalists for the benefit of freedom of expression.

- × The Government and representatives of employers and employees adopted a roadmap to tackle skills mismatch and two pledges for enhanced protection of migrants.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND GENDER EQUALITY

- × The United Nations enabled the development of new capacities to implement and monitor the recommendations of United Nations human rights mechanisms.
- × Standard Operating Procedures on the Identification and Care of Victims of Trafficking in Persons in Mauritius were delivered to the Government.
- × 10,000 youth and women were sensitized to the concepts of GBV, sexual and reproductive health, and immediate response to GBV survivors.
- × 250 youth were trained in youth-responsive programming and youth counselling
- × 30 unskilled and unemployed women were trained as part of income generation, educational and sustainable agricultural initiatives.
- × The Parliamentary Gender Caucus institutionalized a gender eLearning module to monitor implementation of the GBV App.

RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

- × The United Nations analysed blue carbon storage capacity in seagrass in Mauritius.
- × The workforce was trained in coral culture in order to implement small-scale reef rehabilitation.
- × At least 1,000 participants were provided with necessary knowledge on the selection of healthy coral fragments for transplants.
- × Over 14 hectares have been weeded or re-weeded to restore and attract seabirds to Ile aux Aigrettes.



The biosecurity protocol was updated, and training was conducted with Mauritian Wildlife Foundation Eco-tours and Education staff to update these key staff on the new protocol.

- × The United Nations brought together over 100 stakeholders from the public sector, private sector, NGOs, local government, development partners, non-state actors, and academia to brainstorm about key factors in the creation of an enabling environment to advance the circular economy.
- × A rapid assessment diagnostic toolkit was delivered to Mauritius for scaling up public and private finance for nature-based solutions and climate-smart agriculture to support sustainable food systems.
- × The United Nations supported evidence generation on the circular economy, the innovation ecosystem for managing industrial waste, and mainstreaming environmental dimensions and linkages with migration, housing, and essential services for the most vulnerable.
- × The United Nations developed skills development schemes to promote solar photovoltaic (PV) systems and the solar PV value chain,
- × 240 youths have better understanding of the triple planetary crises and their impacts on Mauritius, as set out in Stockholm+50.

2.2 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES, AND OUTPUTS



1. TRANSFORMED BUSINESSES

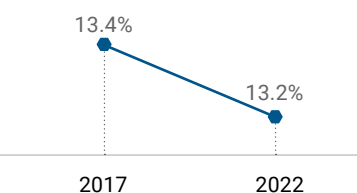
BY 2023, THERE IS A STRONGER POLICY AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES INNOVATION AND INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY IN TARGETED TRADITIONAL AND NEW SECTORS*

* For example: Information and communications technology (ICT), pharmaceuticals, renewable energy, and agri-food

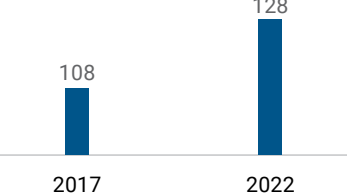
NATIONAL VISION: STRONG ECONOMY



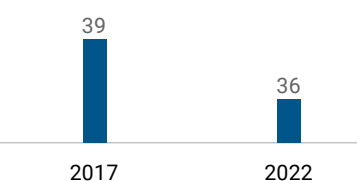
% contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP



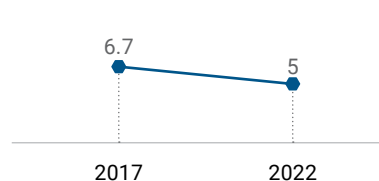
FDI in the manufacturing sector (annual Rs million)



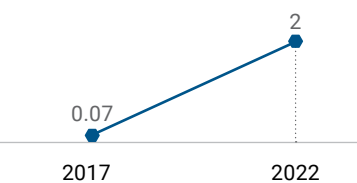
Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added (SDG 9.3.1)



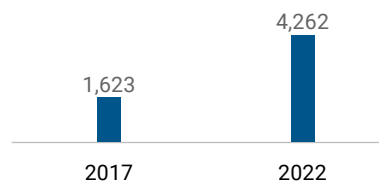
Proportion of medium and high tech industry value-added in total value added (SDG 9.b.1)



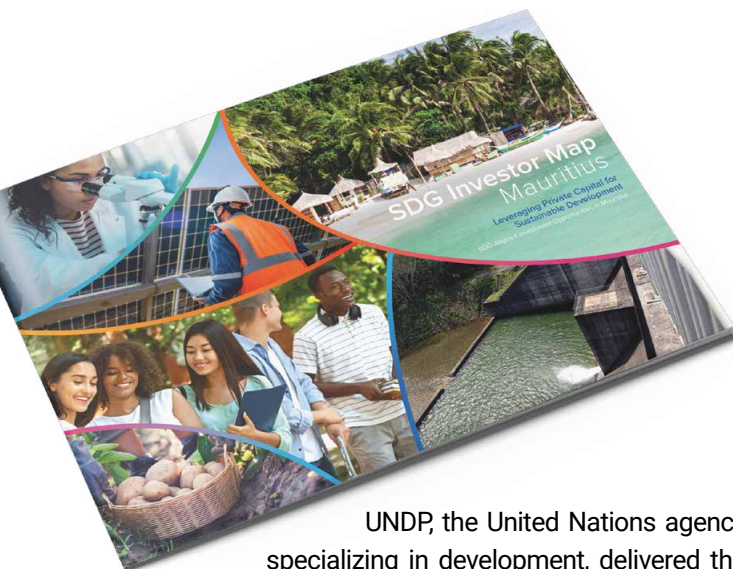
High-technology exports (% of manufactured exports)



Growth in registrations of new MSMEs



Mauritius continued to show signs of socio-economic recovery despite the economic headwinds from geopolitical tensions and persistent supply chain disruptions that continue to affect global economic activity. To deliver on this outcome, the United Nations in Mauritius focused on achieving sustainable economic growth and enhancing the protection of workers' fundamental rights by providing financial, technical, and expertise to support the government.



UNDP, the United Nations agency specializing in development, delivered the much-awaited SDG Investor Map to promote private capital investment in the SDG priorities. The Map identifies 6 priorities and 17 Investment Opportunity Areas where commercially viable private sector solutions can address development needs at scale. Private sector institutions such as the Rogers Group, a member of Business Mauritius, actively participated at the map's launch, demonstrating an opportunity to forge partnerships in advocacy. Following successful engagements on the SDG Investor Map preparation, new partnerships, for instance with the National Advisory Board of Mauritius – an independent body and member of the Global Steering Group for Impact Investment – are emerging and could potentially mature in 2023.

Mauritius is among seven countries selected to be part of the "AfcFTA Guided Trade Initiative". It joins Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia, Cameroon, Egypt, and Ghana in a trial phase to start trading under the **AfcFTA framework**, which will see these states conduct business without being subject to tariff barriers. In this context, United Nations agencies provided strategic plans and generated knowledge to support Mauritius' integration into the AfcFTA. This includes:

- ✦ The National AfcFTA Response Strategy of Mauritius, developed with support from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (the African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) and the Sub-Regional Office for Southern Africa (ECA-SRO-SA)), and with funding from the European Union.
- ✦ The National Strategy and Costed Action Plan to address multi-dimensional poverty and the Gender Responsiveness Plan for Women's Entrepreneurship Development, supported by UNDP, identifies eight key priority areas to promote women in regional trade.
- ✦ An information and sensitization workshop for the National Implementation Committee, as well as representatives of both the private and public sector, to promote the opportunities and challenges available for Mauritius to trade under the AfcFTA, especially under the AfcFTA Guided Trade Initiative with the aim of promoting inclusive trade that does not leave women and youth behind.

The pilot phase of **Electronic Document Management System** initialization focused on promotion of digitalization and the empowerment of the public administration. This increased access to, and provision of public services, legislative oversight, public registries, national statistics and business facilitation and was intended to improve the entire system, making it more adaptive and resilient. Implementation of the pilot Electronic Document Management System for the Ministry of Public Service was initiated, together with implementation of the Parliamentary Electronic Document Management System. These serve as catalysts to structurally transform and enhance processes, not only at the Ministry of Public Service level and in the National Assembly but also at the Economic Development Board, the Registrar General's Department and the Statistics Office.

Furthermore, to improve the management and rehabilitation of offenders and accelerate the correctional services' socio-economic and digitalization processes, UNDP provided technical assistance to conceptualize the E-Correctional Services in Mauritius. The project involved the development of an e-correction management system to create a flow of information in the criminal justice system, including prisons and probation centres.



UN in Action

Nathanielle Begue RODRIGUES CRAFT ENTREPRENEUR

Nathanielle Begue, a young female entrepreneur, related how she transformed a family art business into an export-oriented venture. Through innovation, the quality of the products has improved to a level accepted in the international market. With United Nations support Nathanielle has participated in regional forums for trade, and has further gained skills to grow her business. Initially, she sold her products in Rodrigues but now she sells to Mauritius and beyond. She is part of the Rodrigues Youth Centre, which supports youth in a wide range of skills including entrepreneurship.



In relation to food and sustainable agriculture, United Nations agencies FAO and UNDP, engaged with key government partners – and through them small farmers and fishers – to provide technology transfer and capacity building to increase efficiency and effectiveness so as to ensure a strong and resilient country with the eventual aim of achieving food security. The tea growers’ community have been actively encouraging strong participation in development of a **tea sector strategic plan** that would transform the industry landscape and provide the support tea growers need to be more confident in their work.



The fisher communities were provided with fish aggregating devices (FADs) and ice machines to improve the quality of fish reaching the consumer and ensure lower operating costs. The communities have also been engaged to build their capacity for coastal fishing and improving sustainability in the sector, and therefore ensuring their wellbeing in the long term.

To generate knowledge, UNDP conducted a baseline study of women’s and youth involvement in the fisheries industry with the fisher community in four regions around Mauritius and two regions in Rodrigues by. In Mauritius, 131 participants (13 per cent women) were reached through 12 focus groups. In Rodrigues, 62 participants (23 per cent women) were included in the awareness campaign. A Gender Action Plan was also produced.

The FAO is working to infuse technology into the livestock sector by building a livestock information system to increase the country’s readiness to face

adverse disease outbreaks as well as provide direct inputs towards procurement of vaccines and against foot and mouth disease (which weakens the farmers economically) and abandonment of the sector.

An e-commerce platform, “Bazar Moris”, linking horticulture farmers to local markets, was put in place to scale up farmers’ participation in the digital economy. Supported by UNDP, the system is intended to provide a modern digital trading facility to the farming community, wholesalers, retailers, transformers, delivery service operators and the consumers among others.

To improve the design and expand the implementation of productivity improvement programmes (PIP) for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, 15 Trainers of National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) were trained under ILO’s global programme “Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprises (SCORE)”. More than 2000 SMEs, including Airport of Mauritius were trained to face the impact of COVID-19 and 25 enterprises trained in Resource Efficiency in order to be more resilient, productive, and sustainable.

The United Nations-supported Operation COSHARE helped position Mauritius as a safe and environmentally sustainable tourist destination, encouraging foreign visitors to make Mauritius their destination of choice. The project also incorporated resource efficiency training and implementation as part of a Green Economic Recovery of Mauritius to help the tourism industry “build back better”. The project was also intended to protect both employees and customers from pandemic-related risks. In the first phase of the project, some 7,000 operators in the local tourism value chain were sensitized to the importance of sanitary protocols. The project reached out to 1,160 tourist accommodations, 860 food, beverage and entertainment organizations, 3,310 tourist activity places and 1,250 commercial pleasure crafts. The programme also conducted training on COVID-19 occupational safety and health for some 1,200 taxi operators based at hotels as well as for 45 companies at the airport of Mauritius. This has contributed to success in keeping COVID-19 cases to a minimum when opening the borders. Through the training, all the beneficiaries were provided with required skills and competencies on dealing with COVID-19 in their respective occupations.



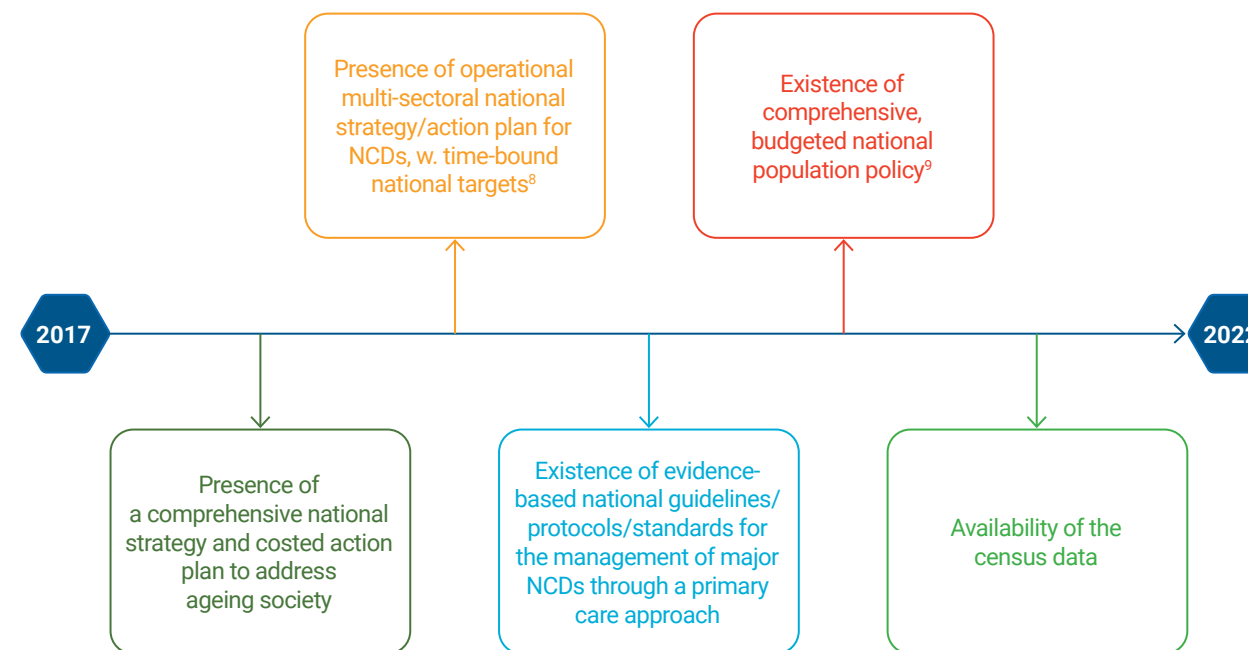
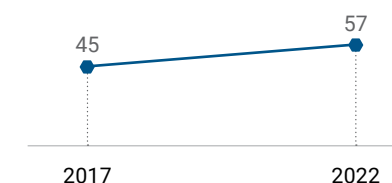
2. AGEING SOCIETY, HEALTH, AND LABOUR MARKET REFORMS

AS OF 2023, THERE IS A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES POSED BY POPULATION AGEING, INCLUDING ITS EFFECTS ON POPULATION HEALTH, THE LABOUR MARKET, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.

NATIONAL VISION: STRONG ECONOMY, A FULLY OPEN COUNTRY



Labor force participation rate, female⁷



7 (% of female population ages 16+) (modeled ILO estimate)

8 Indicators based on WHO guidance

9 Source: Ministry of Health and Quality of Life)

To contribute to the results and improvements of the health and labour sectors and to address the issue of ageing population, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP, IOM and ILO programmes were focused on awareness and policy mainstreaming, knowledge generation, capacity building and technology transfer and advocacy and policy support.

The Housing and Population Census 2022, for which UNFPA and UNECA provided technical assistance, provided sets of basic data for issues, challenges, opportunities and prospects for various demographic groups in Mauritius and Rodrigues, allowing for further analysis and research that can support evidence-based policymaking and decision-making in several sectors. UNFPA brokered technical support from Kenya for the use of tablets and information technology to collect data for the Housing and Population Census 2022. As a result of this digital collection and analysis, the census results were published seven months earlier than those of the previous census had been, allowing for efficient use of preliminary data in a timely manner to inform ongoing policymaking. UNFPA also ensured that the Housing and Population Census was carried out in accordance with international standards and made an expert demographer and a technical expert for available data collection and analysis.

The United Nations in Mauritius continues to advocate strenuously for safe childbirth and increased awareness of sexual and reproductive health through a series of media campaigns and capacity-building workshops. As part of a UNFPA programme, 56 health professionals trained in fertility issues for the functioning of fertility clinics and 290 women in the workplace were sensitized to pre-conception health knowledge, attitudes and behaviours, to encourage childbearing at an opportune time for good maternal and child health outcomes. Furthermore, 450 individuals in 5 communities, including elderly people, were sensitized to the importance of sexual and reproductive health and the availability of related public services.

A national campaign was carried out between June and August 2022 to sensitize the population and raise awareness of the importance of family and family planning, and two short promotional videos on breastfeeding were produced. In total, 1,025 adolescents aged 14-17 years benefited from life skills education, and more than 5,000 youth were sensitized

by youth-led video clips on healthy living and sexual and reproductive health and rights.



WHO technically supported the development of a costed national strategic planning framework, and the first annual operational plan for 2023 for the National AIDS Secretariat. The Secretariat was accompanied throughout the planning process by the provision of technical assistance, starting with a contextual analysis (serving as an evaluation of the previous plan). The contextual analysis conducted in 2022 to support the development of the new plan revealed – a 34 per cent decline in HIV incidence between 2010 and 2021 notwithstanding – only minor reductions in HIV prevalence over the period, with the figure remaining constant between 2018 and 2021. The National Dialogue conducted as part of the contextual analysis included discussions on how stakeholders perceive the programme, the services provided by the programme, whether these services were delivering as expected, issues and challenges facing the programme, and policy issues that could be affecting programme performance. The dialogue also included discussions on the governance of the HIV response by the national AIDS Secretariat, the AIDS Unit, and the harm reduction programme. The national dialogue gave national stakeholders an opportunity to share their perceptions of the response and what, in their opinion, could be done to advance the response towards attaining the goal of **ending AIDS by 2030**. The National Dialogue combined focus group discussions and in-depth interviews with key informants.

In 2022, WHO continued to support the Government's **COVID-19 response** in Mauritius and Rodrigues Island, across all 10 pillars, and particularly surveillance, outbreak investigations and calibration, laboratories and diagnostics, infection prevention and control and protection of health-care workers, case management, clinical operations and therapeutics, strengthening essential health services and ensuring continuity of services, and vaccination. The WHO response was aligned with the national plans as well as the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan for the African Region.

UNDP assisted the authorities to ease lockdown restrictions, ranging from incoming passengers to locals in various regions of the country with implementation of the All-in-One Travel Digital Form and the national Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS).

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC): WHO's advocacy to the COVID-19 High-Level Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, was vital in revamping and institutionalizing a National and Regional IPC committee. Through the two-tier IPC committees, WHO technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW) enabled the development, dissemination, and capacity building of new national IPC guidelines and several SOPs. A training of trainers' programme was mounted and rolled out, targeting dedicated IPC personnel at national level, and designated IPC officials in all five health regions. This contributed towards enhancing effective knowledge and skills in infection and control practices and hand hygiene among health-care workers at community-based primary health care facilities in the country (for example, knowledge of IPC improved from 53.6 per cent to 67.6 per cent among the 241 participants in Mauritius and from 49.8 to 57.5 per cent among the 110 participants in Rodrigues). WHO provided technical backstopping for the development of a National Action plan on IPC. WHO facilitated IPC training and rapid antigen testing for 100 trainee nursing officers in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, MOHW, and Mauritius Polytechnic. The Ministry of Education deployed these nurses as a testing team for contact tracing and testing.

The core challenge encountered was ensuring IPC training, as the health-care workers initially did not consider IPC their responsibility. Different

KNOWLEDGE OF INFECTION, PREVENTION AND CONTROL IMPROVED FROM 53.6 PER CENT TO 67.6 PER CENT AMONG THE 241 PARTICIPANTS IN MAURITIUS AND FROM 49.8 TO 57.5 PER CENT AMONG THE 110 PARTICIPANTS IN RODRIGUES.

strategies were adopted thereafter, including on-the-job training that offered incentives in the form of certification. Furthermore, staff flagged several issues with respect to the quality of the personal protective equipment supplied. WHO advocated and reviewed the specifications for ensuring that quality products were procured. New product specifications have now been adopted, and quality products have been supplied, alleviating the apprehensions of health-care workers and increasing their confidence in IPC measures.

Furthermore, in pursuance of the "test, test and test" strategy to control the pandemic, WHO helped to ensure the efficiency and quality of COVID-19 testing, including enlisting the participation of the laboratory networks in an external quality scheme. This was subsequently extended to private laboratories, which, together with the public laboratory, formed a network to guarantee harmonized practices and quality and safety standards as per WHO guidelines.

The United Nations continued to support the government to enhance workers' fundamental rights and to make migration safe, regular, dignified and orderly. Collaboration between ILO and, IOM, UNHCR, and UNODC, under the Southern Africa Migration Management (SAMM) project, built the capacity of government officials from the Ministry of Labour, Human Resource Development and Training and other relevant stakeholders engaged in labour migration management to systematically manage and regulate labour migration in Mauritius and to acquire knowledge in effective management of labour migration. In addition to learning about migration management frameworks, international

conventions, standards, concepts and tools, the interactive approach used by labour migration specialists helped to elaborate recommendations for the government to use as inputs in labour migration strategies and programmes in Mauritius to further contribute to sustainable development.

Also under the SAMM project, in order to strengthen and encourage evidence-based migration policymaking, IOM supported the development of a Migration Country Profile (report), produced for and with the support of the Prime Minister's Office. The Profile generated a wealth of robust data meeting international standards on migration stocks and flows, to increase understanding of which evidence is needed to support policies on migration and the mainstreaming of migration into development plans, and to facilitate regional processes such as Regional Consultative Processes and Regional Economic Communities through information sharing at the regional level.

IOM developed a Code of Conduct for hiring and management of expatriate workers for the Mauritius Export Associations. The Code presents the fundamental principles that Mauritian export-oriented enterprises should follow in hiring and employing migrant workers, to guide export-oriented enterprises in recruiting and employing migrant workers, and to promote fair and ethical practices that will respect the rights of foreign workers in Mauritius. This Code will also ensure that export-oriented enterprises adhere to and implement the best standards and practices for foreign labour in their organization. This will, in turn, build the trust of international buyers in Mauritian exporters, and position Mauritius as one of the best host countries for hiring and employing foreign workers, while also taking economic and social factors specific to Mauritius into account.

The limited availability of reliable, disaggregated and comparable data for the design, development and evaluation of migration policies affects efforts to provide services for various groups of people. To address these challenges, IOM, in coordination with stakeholders in the Government of Mauritius, initiated the assessment of national migration data to inform more evidence-based management strategies and policies. The migration data assessment exercise points to good practices in Mauritius that can be



replicated in other countries. The assessment reveals that a wealth of data is collected and stored in Mauritius. However, some challenges were identified with respect to data dissemination, as well as data harmonization, including the lack of a harmonization mechanism. Major gaps include the frequency of the national census, which is currently conducted every 10 years, and the paucity of detailed statistics on Mauritians living abroad and their contributions to national development.

As part of its support to the Government of Mauritius to engage and harness the potential of its diaspora, IOM supported implementation of a Pilot Youth Diaspora Volunteering mechanism, which is being implemented to strengthen government capacity to engage Mauritian diaspora youth with issues of national development. IOM also supported the organization of a Southern Africa Regional Diaspora Investment and Partnership Forum, which was held in Mauritius. The forum facilitated: (1) building a common understanding on Southern African diaspora processes and initiatives for effective engagement of the diaspora, member states, key actors and partners; (2) sharing of information and best practices on diaspora engagement and management at local, national, sectoral and regional levels; (3) identifying Southern African diaspora priorities; and (4) strengthening the voice of the Southern African diaspora by leveraging the experiences of other member states and contextualizing them to suit the region's overall development agenda.



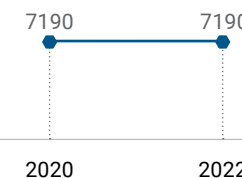
3. OCEAN ECONOMY AND TOURISM

AS OF 2023, THE MARINE SECTOR HAS AN INTEGRATED POLICY AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT THAT PROMOTES SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, AND PRIVATE SECTOR LED DIVERSIFICATION, AND JOB CREATION.

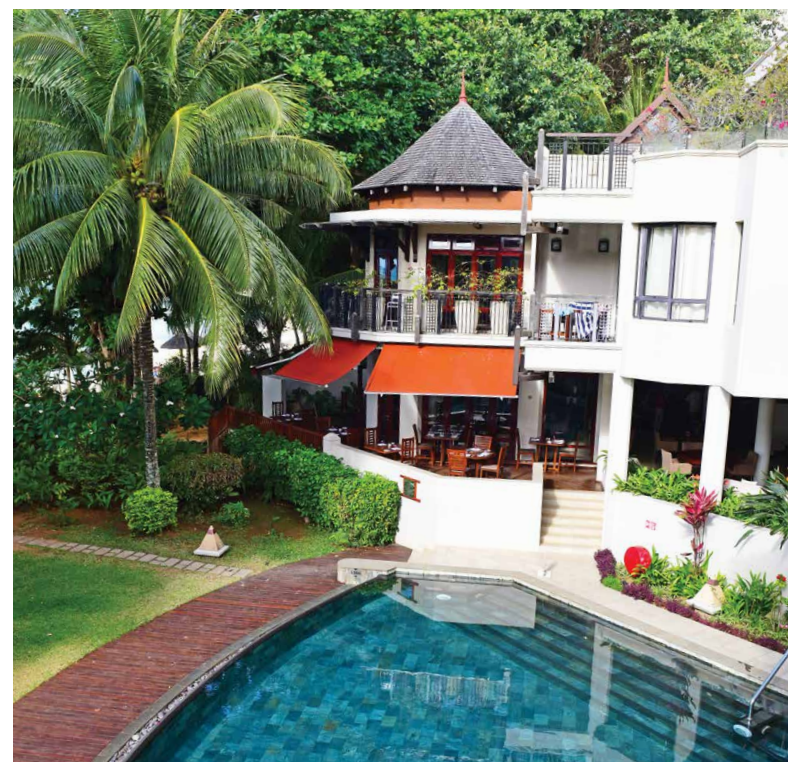
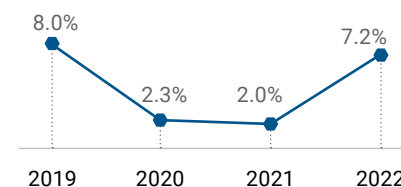
NATIONAL VISION: STRONG ECONOMY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Coverage of marine protected areas (ha) (CSO proxy SDG14.5.1)¹⁰



Contribution of tourism to G.D.P (%)¹¹



Tourism and maritime security were the centre of attention of our United Nations agencies, to support SPF Outcome 3.

The tourism recovery proposals from the Cabinet – which saw Mauritius nearly achieving its one million tourist target – were informed by the action plan produced by UNDP for the Ministry of Tourism. The action plan proposed strategies and initiatives to create further value for the market, to conquer digital nomads and silver-haired travellers from traditional markets and new markets, to better handle customer satisfaction and, as a result, to build loyalty.

IOM formulated an action plan and a set of recommendations to increase the understanding of key stakeholders on regional approaches to migration in the context of maritime security within the region. An analysis was also produced of cross-border migration and mobility flows, routes, and characteristic trends

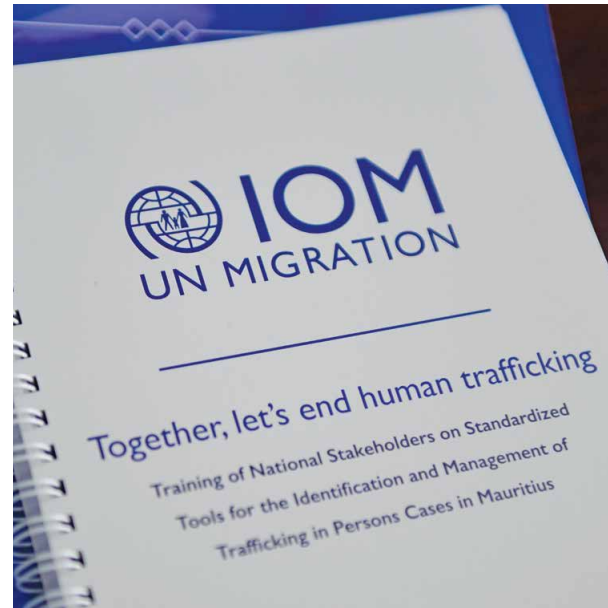
¹⁰ Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping

¹¹ Statistics Mauritius

in the Indian Ocean Commission regional maritime security context. The operational capacities of key stakeholders on migration in a maritime context were also expanded through the donation of better equipment and a series of simulation exercises that included gender-specific considerations.

In line with the recommendations of the United States Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report 2021, a **National Action Plan (NAP)** was developed to combat trafficking in persons, with technical support from IOM. The NAP identified institutional challenges and avenues for multi-sectoral partnerships, and presented a comprehensive roadmap towards eliminating trafficking in persons in Mauritius. The drafting of the NAP successfully generated a coordinated approach to combatting TIP and created a sense of accountability at the level of various ministries.

During 2022, **the capability of Mauritian maritime law enforcement to participate in regionally coordinated joint operations at sea increased**, in order to support SPF Outcome 3. During 2022, the **UNODC Global Maritime Crime Programme** focused on capacity building to integrate various areas of previous training into streamlined activities to enable Mauritian maritime law enforcement personnel and judicial actors to rehearse the entire sequence of events from receipt of information on suspected illicit activity at sea through the launching of a maritime law enforcement operations with appropriately maintained vessels and on to successful prosecution. This was accomplished primarily through a coordinated and progressive package of training in maritime domain awareness (identifying and locating suspect vessels at sea), maintenance and maintenance planning, boarding operations and case package development for prosecution. Those skills were then integrated in a tabletop setting through a Maritime Rule of Law Tabletop Exercise involving all the agencies and personnel involved in this chain of events. Those skills were then put to practice through a two-week full scale simulated operation in Seychelles conducted alongside regional counterparts from Seychelles and Kenya in Maritime Rule of Law Exercise 1 (MROLEX 1). This exercise featured a simulated information flow from the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre (RMIFC) in Madagascar to the Regional Coordination of Operations Centre (RCOC) in Seychelles, leading to decision making regarding launching an operation, managing maintenance failures, safely boarding a



suspect vessel, handling evidence and detainees and then developing a compelling case package for handover to prosecutors.

These skills directly support SPF Outcome 3 by providing a credible enforcement mechanism to promote sea life resources. This was demonstrated clearly when the Mauritian authorities entered into and **successfully implemented Operation Yellow Fin** on 14-23 November 2022, a week after the completion of MROLEX 1. This was a combined operation with the Seychelles Coast Guard and coordinated by RCOC, based on information generated by RMIFC on a vessel fishing illegally in the Seychelles-Mauritius joint management area.

To promote maritime governance in relation to migration issues, IOM supported the development and facilitation of a regional table-top simulation exercise for Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) countries, including Mauritius. The main objective of the table-top exercise was to strengthen through practice the level of coordination between and within countries and the capacity of border management officials in addressing migration-related issues in the maritime context, especially to understand and improve law enforcement responses in the field as it relates to migration management and migrants in maritime contexts. In collaboration with the IOC, IOM also organized a regional stocktaking workshop on migration and maritime security in the regional context. The workshop provided an opportunity for national law enforcement officials from the region to meet and discuss regional cooperation and transnational organized crime.



UN in Action

OPERATION YELLOW FIN

The Mauritian authorities entered into and successfully conducted Operation Yellow Fin on 14-23 November 2022, one week after the completion of Maritime Rule of Law Exercise (MROLEX) 1. This was a combined operation with the Seychelles Coast Guard and coordinated by the Regional Operations Coordination Centre (RCOC), based on information about a vessel fishing illegally in the Seychelles-Mauritius joint management area provided by the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre (RMIFC).

The vessel of interest (VOI) was initially flying no flag, then described itself as a Taiwanese fishing vessel and later was observed with a Mauritian flag displayed. The vessel attempted to flee when approached by the Mauritian National Coast Guard. Using a proportional escalation of force based on national government decisions, warning shots were fired, and the VOI stopped. On boarding, Mauritian personnel found tuna and bonito fish along with 18 Taiwanese, Chinese, Indonesian and Filipino crew members onboard and no evidence of Mauritian registry. The vessel was then escorted to Port Louis to hand over evidence for legal finish procedures.





4. INCLUSIVE, QUALITY EDUCATION AND SKILLING

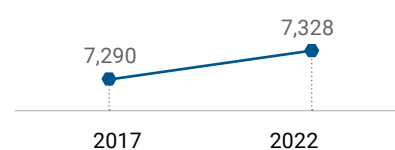
AS OF 2023, THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM OFFERS HIGHER QUALITY, INCLUSIVE SERVICES AND EQUIPS ALL LEARNERS WITH KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FOR ENHANCED EMPLOYABILITY*.

*Includes entrepreneurship skills and skills for emerging blue, green, and digital economy jobs, and cultural and creative industries

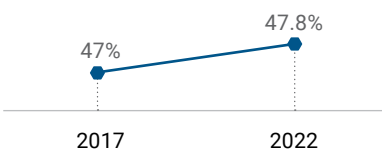
NATIONAL VISION: COHERENT SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & INCLUSIVE SOCIETY



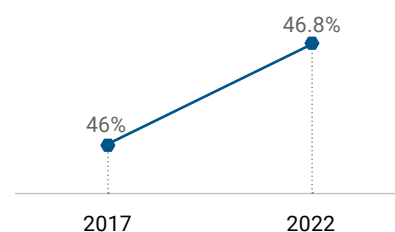
Enrolment in training centres
(Proxy: SDG 4.3.1)



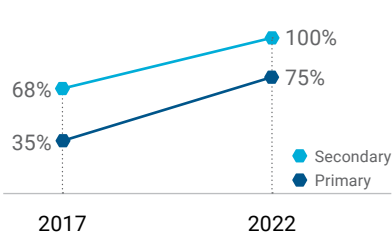
Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate %



% Population using a computer
(Proxy: ICT skills SDG 4.4.1)



% Schools with access to internet



Knowledge generation, dialogue and capacity enhancement were key to supporting transformation of the education system, uplifting of the cultural sector, addressing challenges of labour market and increasing freedom of expression in support of SPF Outcome 4 by United Nations agencies.

The year 2022 was marked by the Transforming Education Summit, in response to a global education – one of equity and inclusion, quality, and relevance. Slow-moving and largely invisible, this COVID -19

crisis is having a devastating impact on the futures of children and young people worldwide. **The convening power of the United Nations was vital in bringing together all stakeholders**, the government, the private sector, NGOs, youth, and civil society, among others, to have an inclusive dialogue and meaningful engagement, particularly with young people, students, and teachers. Developing a **shared vision of the future of education** supported the elaboration of new concrete commitments from the government to making the education system more resilient and more responsive to our changing environment.

In line with the **United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity**, UNESCO helped to strengthen the capacities of Mauritian security forces to uphold the right to freedom of expression and access to information of citizens, to provide for open dialogue between law enforcement and journalists in order to better understand the role and function of journalists in democratic societies and establish professional working relationships between the two groups. This Action Plan was developed due to the often-evident tensions and sometimes confrontational interactions between security forces and journalists in Africa, as law enforcement officers are not always familiar with the right to freedom of expression and information, or with ways to interact with journalists in a manner that respects the freedom of the press. UNESCO's training of trainers also facilitated the collection of **key recommendations to inform future interventions on the nexus between security forces and journalists, with the aim of improved relations between the groups** and finally, to encourage senior police officers to include aspects of freedom of expression and the safety of journalists in their own national police training modules.

Government officials also benefitted from a series of capacity building sessions and awareness-raising activities on underwater cultural heritage, protection of movable cultural property and the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural objects.

In terms of data production, ILO made available to the government a skills roadmap to provide policy advice on tackling skills mismatch. In addition,

IN TERMS OF DATA PRODUCTION, ILO MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT A SKILLS ROADMAP TO PROVIDE POLICY ADVICE ON TACKLING SKILLS MISMATCH.

stakeholders were trained on Green Jobs Modelling systems to create and use models to assess potential for green job creation by developing and implementing national green and blue economy and Just Transition policies.

Representatives of employers' organizations and of trades unions in the Indian Ocean sub-region adopted two pledges. The first of these fosters coherence between employment and labour migration policies in order to identify the market's needs, optimize skills matching, and enhance skills recognition. The pledge also ensures the extension of the portability of social security benefits to migrant workers, advocating for fair recruitment of migrant workers, endorsing the need to improve collection and dissemination of labour migration statistics, and establish the SADC Labour Market Observatory. The second pledge is for concrete actions to eliminate all forms of discrimination against migrant workers, as representatives work in collaboration with trades unions in countries of both origin and destination of migrant workers, particularly in the Indian Ocean Islands.





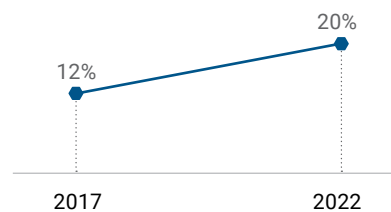
5. SOCIAL PROTECTION AND GENDER EQUALITY

AS OF 2023, SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED AND RATIONALIZED TO REACH THE MOST VULNERABLE, ELIMINATE GBV, AND ENHANCE WOMEN'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT.

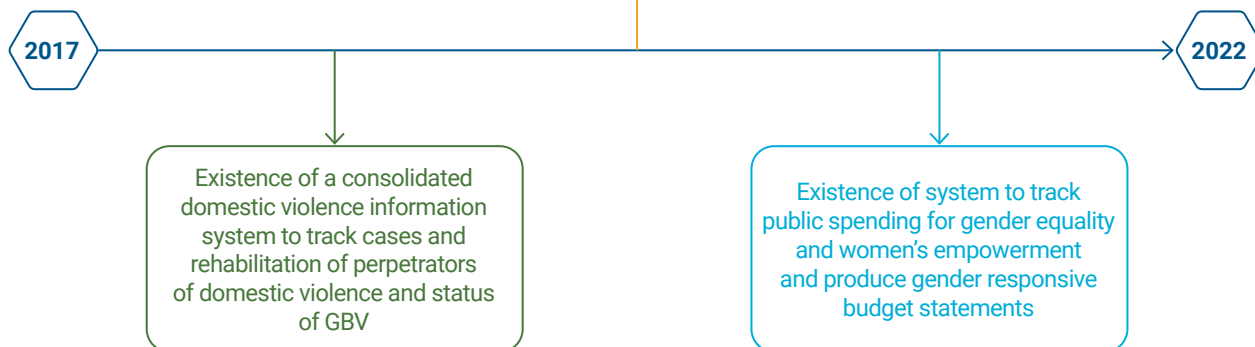
NATIONAL VISION: COHERENT SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT & INCLUSIVE SOCIETY, A SAFER LIVING ENVIRONMENT



Increase female representation at the level of Parliament through gender mainstreaming in legislative structures

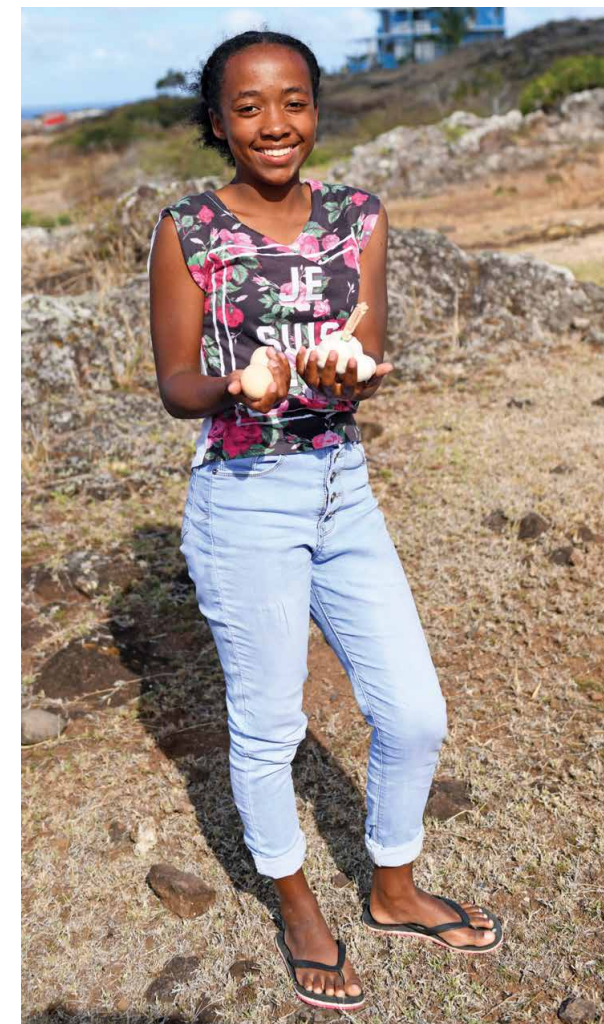


Existence of legal and policy frameworks to promote, enforce and monitor gender equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex (SDG 5.1.1)



The United Nations system supported the Government of Mauritius to strengthen legal frameworks and develop new capacities to advance gender equality in the country, protect human and social rights and implement and monitor the recommendations of United Nations human rights mechanisms.

The Regional Office for Southern Africa of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights provided technical support to the Government of Mauritius by enhancing the capacity of two officials from the Human Rights Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and International Trade to implement recommendations from all human rights mechanisms. The two officials were trained in use of the national recommendations tracking database. This database is an electronic system that facilitates recording, tracking, and reporting at national level on implementation of human rights recommendations emanating from international, regional, and national human rights mechanisms.

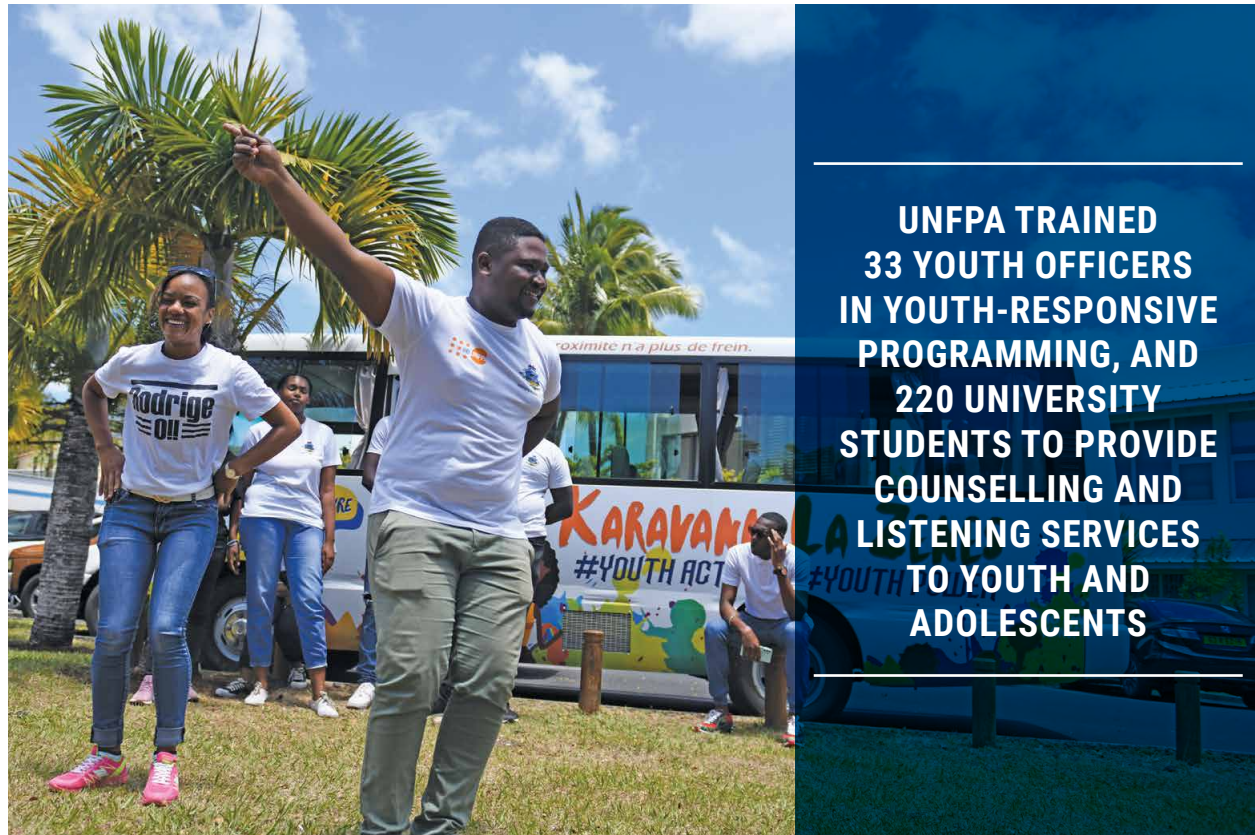


IN 2022, SIX WOMEN, THREE OF WHOM WERE VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND THE OTHER THREE VULNERABLE MIGRANTS, WERE ABLE TO RETURN HOME SAFELY.

Around 30 staff from the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare and youth and agriculture associations now have better comprehension of structural issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment at global and country level, gender normative frameworks and the Government of Mauritius' commitments with regard to the agriculture sector; and to key gender issues in Mauritius' agriculture sector. These topics were covered in depth during a workshop to strengthen women and girls' engagement in the agriculture sector for strengthened resilience and food security in Mauritius, delivered by UN Women, UNDP and FAO under the United Nations Joint SDG Programme entitled: "Building the Resilience of Food Systems in Mauritius and Seychelles by leveraging sustainable agricultural practices."

In 2022, six women, three of whom were victims of trafficking and the other three vulnerable migrants, were able to return home safely. An additional six asylum seekers were resettled so they could find a humane and dignified way of life. More than 12 returnees to Mauritius were assisted to reintegrate into society with IOM support. IOM is leading an ongoing conversation on the ill-equipped nature of the judicial and regulatory frameworks in place to cater for victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants, particularly women.

IOM developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Identification and Care of Victims of Trafficking in Persons in Mauritius, and delivered them to the Government. IOM provided the technical expertise to develop the SOPs, by conducting stakeholder mapping, compiling a list of best practices, and generating a list of recommendations in the core areas of intervention



of protection, prevention and prosecution. Before the development of the SOPs, cases of trafficking in persons, which overwhelmingly involved gender-based violence, were managed haphazardly in accordance with outdated instructions. The SOPs now provide a comprehensive, evidence-based roadmap on how to refer and assist women and children who are victims of trafficking. Government officials – including frontline professionals dealing with GBV, CSOs, and diplomatic missions – developed enhanced understanding of the proper use and application of the SOPs. Consensus was reached that the SOPs must be widely utilized and disseminated, if not publicized, as a tool to combat trafficking in persons and GBV. These capacity-building sessions have demonstrably been productive as government officials, in turn, trained their peers and colleagues to enforce the SOPs when dealing with cases of GBV and trafficking in persons.

Advocating for the empowerment of women and young people, the UNFPA trained 33 Youth Officers in youth-responsive programming, and 220 university students to provide counselling and listening services to youth and adolescents. A Youth Caravan was procured, customized, and equipped, and various behavioural change

communication materials were disseminated on the island of Rodrigues. Over 10,000 youth and women were sensitized in relation to GBV, sexual and reproductive health, and immediate response to GBV survivors through a mass media campaign.

UNDP was involved in Stepping Up, a project empowering 30 unskilled and unemployed women in two regions that are low ranked in the Relative Development Index. UNDP also continued to provide technical assistance to the Parliamentary Gender Caucus through the National Gender Expert until September 2022, ensuring that the eLearning gender module was institutionalized and participating in the steering committee to monitor the implementation of the GBV App.

The Small Grants Programme (SGP) implemented by UNDP continued to provide innovative support to grassroots and vulnerable communities. In 2022, the programme funded green job initiatives and small-scale financially self-sustaining and income-generating projects that enhanced welfare and capacities. Some of these included projects on seaweed as nature-based solution in Rodrigues and empowerment of 15 migrant vulnerable women in the suburbs of Port Louis.



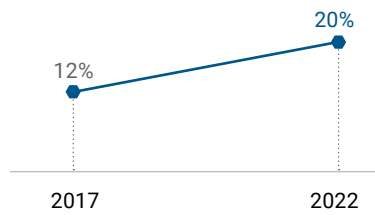
6. RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

AS OF 2023, INTEGRATED POLICY FRAMEWORKS AND ENHANCED COMMUNITY ACTION PROMOTE CLIMATE AND DISASTER RESILIENCE AND BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION, AND CREATE INCENTIVES FOR THE TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

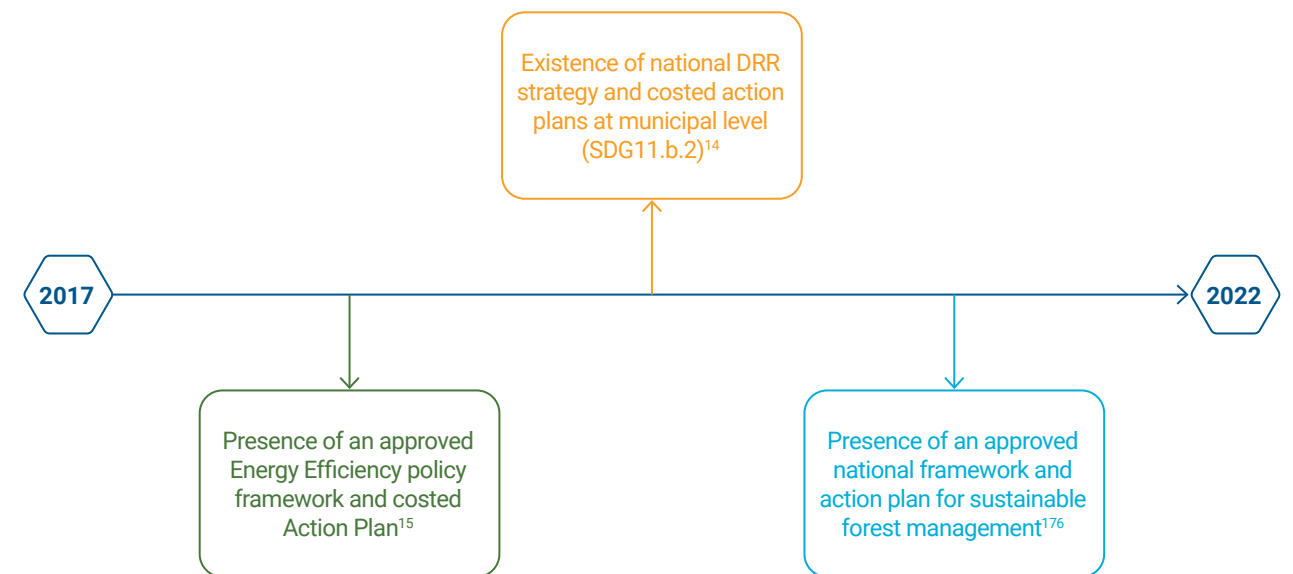
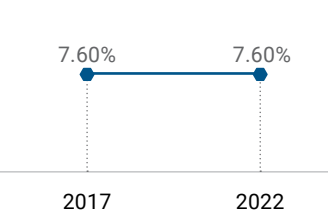
NATIONAL VISION: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, A SAFER LIVING ENVIRONMENT



% Reduction in water loss in existing distribution network¹²



Protected land areas (as % total land area) (CSO Proxy: SDG15.1.2)¹³



¹² Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities

¹³ Ministry Of Agro Industry and Food Security

¹⁴ Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development

¹⁵ Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities

¹⁶ Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security

Progress has been limited in this outcome area, with one of them (percentage reduction in water loss in the existing distribution network) moving in the wrong direction, despite considerable efforts from the United Nations system.

In 2022, UNEP, UNDP, IOM, and UN Habitat joined forces on the issue of climate change, providing expertise, technical and financial assistance, and building the capacity of stakeholders to increase Mauritius' resilience and to bring about innovative solutions for the country.

The Nairobi Convention, through the Western Indian Ocean Strategic Action Programme (WIOSAP), has three active demonstration projects in Mauritius.

- ✘ One of the projects is the assessment of a **Blue Carbon Ecosystem (Seagrass)** around the island of Mauritius. This project has increased seagrass monitoring capacity, and is delivering analytical data on blue carbon storage capacity in seagrass.
- ✘ The second project concerns **coral culture for small-scale reef rehabilitation** in Mauritius. The project outputs include establishment of a sea-based farm comprising three nursery units at each site, training a workforce in the field of coral culture and reef rehabilitation, training eco guides, restoring the reef ecosystem, sensitizing at least 1,000 members of the public, and disseminating results through



technical reports. The project is 70 per cent complete, although the activities were affected by the COVID-19 prevention measures imposed in Mauritius. So far, the surveys for identifying appropriate sites for transplanting nursery grown corals have been completed, and coral fragments for donor colonies have been sampled for culture in nurseries. The training has been completed, with participants provided with knowledge needed to select healthy coral fragments for transplants. The project team has also conducted awareness-raising sessions, and shared basic coral culture concepts and experience during the project life cycle.

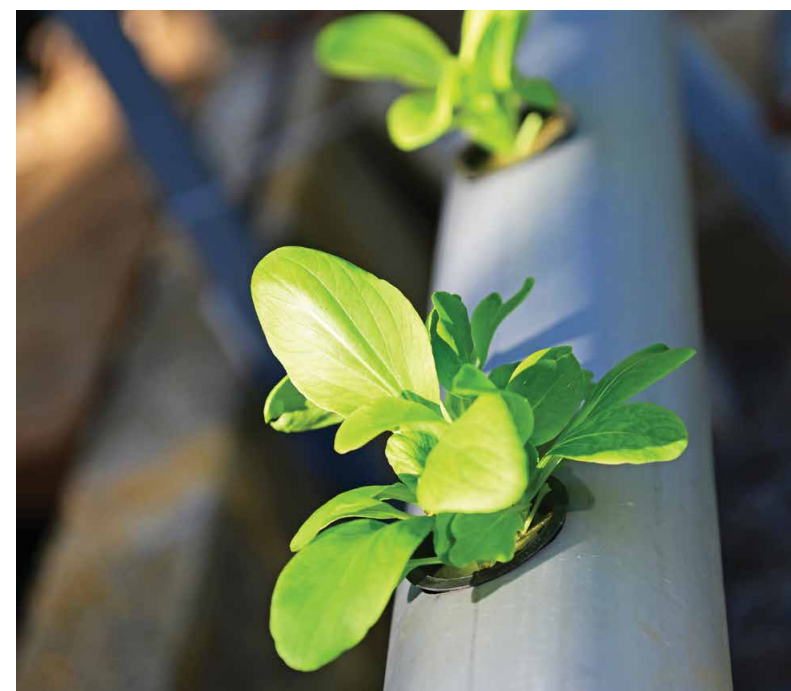
- ✘ The third project relates to **habitat restoration and attraction of seabirds to Ile aux Aigrettes**. Weeding is ongoing, and 13.14 of the 14 hectares initially proposed for weeding have already been weeded, with 4.9 ha also re-weeded since the start of the project. In effect, over 14 ha has been weeded or re-weeded to date. Additional labourers were employed to add to the manpower and catch up on the delays related to COVID-19 restrictions and the 2020 Wakashio oil spill. Plant propagation and planting continued during the project period, with 486 plants planted on the island during the project period, including extensive planting of a native grass in seabird areas to create suitable habitats for returning seabirds. The Biosecurity Protocol was updated for the second time and is now more comprehensive, including information from the technical working session held in the previous project period. Training was conducted with Mauritian Wildlife Foundation Eco-tours and Education staff to update these key staff on the new biosecurity protocol, and a seabird presentation was also conducted for new staff but also served as a refresher for others. With the reduced impact of COVID-19 and removal of restrictions in Mauritius, the number of visitors has increased on Ile aux Aigrettes.

With regard to advancement of a circular economy in Mauritius, a National Networking Forum was held under the SWITCH Africa Green programme, entitled: **"The National Conference on Circular Economy"**. The Conference attracted over 100 stakeholders from the public sector, private sector, NGOs, local government, development partners, non-state actors

and academia. Various sessions were held over three days, based on the key sectors identified as priorities for Mauritius. Sector experts made presentations and discussed how circularity is currently being integrated in the various sectors or how it can be used to drive sustainability in these sectors. Each session began with the responsible Minister addressing the sector before the presentations and discussions. This indicated that the country was committed to the transition to a circular economy from the highest level of government. Overall, six ministers participated in the conference.

It was noted that the transition to a circular economy requires that barriers be overcome and that a conducive and enabling environment be established. The barriers identified are multiple and predominantly relate to current deficiencies at legal, fiscal, technical and institutional levels. Enablers thus involve the introduction of an appropriate legal framework, revisiting the institutional set up focusing also on the establishment of a common platform to connect key sectors and facilitate information-sharing; identifying capacity building opportunities; acquisition of novel technologies; and devising policies to promote consumer demand.

Looking ahead, a national roadmap on circular economy is currently being developed by an inter-ministerial steering committee chaired by the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change.



IT WAS NOTED THAT THE TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY REQUIRES THAT BARRIERS BE OVERCOME AND THAT A CONDUCTIVE AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT BE ESTABLISHED.

UNEP's support has focused on building on the results of the United Nations Partnership for Action on Green Economy's (PAGE's) four-year presence in Mauritius to inform policy development, foster national ownership and strengthen national capacities in sustainable agriculture and food systems to help mitigate the impacts of the pandemic. In this context, a series of consultative meetings were organized with the relevant ministries to present the fiscal study on the agricultural sector and receive comments on the study's outline. The project was also presented during the PAGE Green Recovery Fund National Steering Committee Meeting organized on 23 March. The study outline was finalized in April. Data collection, study and toolkit drafting are on-going, with a draft finalized in June.

In October 2022, a rapid assessment diagnostic toolkit for scaling up public and private finance for nature-based solutions and climate smart agriculture to support sustainable food systems was delivered to Mauritius.

Additionally, UNEP launched the PAGE study entitled: "Promoting sustainable urban food systems in Mauritius by enhancing urban and peri-urban agriculture with circular economy approaches", elaborated in collaboration with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and the University of Mauritius, under the technical coordination of the UNEP Cities Unit, and in close consultation with the Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) and the Ministry of Agriculture. The study entailed case studies of the capital city, Port Louis, and the town of Vacoas-Phoenix, and a smaller study on the Island of Rodrigues, using a holistic urban food systems assessment approach. It explored the main food systems

challenges (environmental, socio-economic, food and nutrition security), and the policy framework and interventions that can enhance urban and peri-urban agriculture for improved sustainability, circularity and food security. Two stakeholder workshops were organized to validate and disseminate the results.

Under the leadership of UNEP, a validation and dissemination workshop was organized for two reports completed under PAGE, one of which was led by UNEP on "Improving SME Access to Green Finance", and the other by UNIDO on "Providing an Innovative Ecosystem for the Management of Industrial Waste in Mauritius".

PAGE Mauritius, led by UNEP, celebrated its graduation ceremony to reflect on the key achievements of PAGE engagement, promote national ownership of outputs and discuss the National Sustainability Plan.

As an evidence-based contribution to the sustainability of integration, reintegration, and planned relocation programmes as adaptation strategies to climate change in Mauritius, IOM made available a research report on mainstreaming environmental dimensions and linkages with reintegration and integration support to reduce the effects of climate change on migration in Mauritius.

Leveraging its convening power, the United Nations collaborated with the European Commission (EC) and the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), to bring together 40 stakeholders from ministries, municipalities, independent experts, academia, NGOs, civil society and the private sector, who have been actively involved or delivered housing and essential services to the most vulnerable in Mauritius, to exchange ideas and address the gaps together. Led by UN Habitat through the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP), the technical meeting jointly identified and proposed solutions to address households struggling to access land and existing housing schemes or green building methods. The consultation revealed the need for a platform of exchange and education to improve access to information and professional advice and services in view of ensuring access to sustainable decent housing. A group of NGOs are willing to engage in

UNDER THE UNDP CORAL RESTORATION PROJECT, 117 BENEFICIARIES (62 FEMALE AND 55 MALE) WERE TRAINED IN MAURITIUS AND RODRIGUES

this platform as the main actors in collaboration with UN Habitat. This would be an opportunity for UN Habitat and the local United Nations agencies to collaborate with Region Reunion and Agence Française de Développement for a south-south exchange of expertise.

In terms of skilling, seed funds were provided to various skills development schemes related to the installation, operation, and maintenance of solar PV systems and the solar PV value chain, enabling more than 65 participants, mainly women, to benefit and eventually find jobs in the renewable energy sector or invest in PV systems (E47). Highly qualified and skilled women technicians and engineers are actively involved in the schemes. Under the UNDP Coral Restoration project, 117 beneficiaries (62 female and 55 male) were trained in Mauritius and Rodrigues.

Under Stockholm+50, UNDP partnered with the Ministry of Education on environmental awareness. In total, 240 tertiary students were sensitized to the triple planetary crises.

UNODC also supported SPF Outcome 6 by hosting a regional meeting on maritime law enforcement, and maritime domain awareness training on Oil Spill and Marine Pollution Enforcement. This addressed challenges, such as the delayed response and complicated coordination mechanisms, that surfaced during the MV Wakashio incident, which led to a fuel oil spill and marine environmental disaster in August 2020. After receiving this training, the Mauritius National Coast Guard contributed to a more successful response to the FV Yu Feng running aground off the Mauritian coast in December 2022, in this case with no spill or environmental impact.

2.3 SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIP AND FINANCING AGENDA 2030



ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS WILL REQUIRE A PARADIGM SHIFT FROM THE USUAL SILOED APPROACH TO ONE THAT PROMOTES EFFECTIVE AND INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS.

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will require a paradigm shift from the usual siloed approach to one that promotes effective and inclusive partnerships. This will require that we build at national, regional and international level "collaborative relations between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or

undertake a specific task and as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits".¹⁷

Collaborative and effective partnerships between stakeholders across all sectors are the foundations for a green and inclusive recovery from the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS IN ADVANCING EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE AGENDA 2030 / THE SDGS



Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires the active engagement of the private sector, with the aim of incentivizing the business community to fill resource gaps – both financial and non-financial – and enhancing the

innovative capacities needed for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2022, the **United Nations in Mauritius and the Global Compact Local Network Mauritius and Indian Ocean** organized a **CEO Breakfast Meeting on the SDGs**

¹⁷ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnerships/about>



UN in Action

Doorgesh Ramseook THALI EXPRESS LTD

Doorgesh Ramseook, Director of Thali Express Ltd, with three female and one male staff, was facing spike in electricity bills with time spent looking for items needed in the refrigerator, adversely affecting productivity. But with adoption of better resource efficiency practices suggested under Operation COSHARE, a 19.6 per cent energy saving was induced along with a 98 per cent reduction in search time. This culture change at Thali Express resulted in less waiting time for customers, leading to increased satisfaction and at the same time increased energy efficiency. Measures generated through the Employee Suggestion Scheme, Daily Work Management and 5S – such as defrosting food prior to microwaving, switching off the microwave when not in use, and only using glass containers during heating – helped to optimize time, electricity consumption and food safety practices for the business.



to discuss the private sector's role in achieving the SDGs in Mauritius as well as its priorities and challenges. This was also an opportunity to gather the insights of the private Sector on how the United Nations in Mauritius can enhance its collaboration with businesses and support them on their sustainable development pathway.



Given their specificities and vulnerabilities, small island developing states (SIDS) need to leverage resources and expertise at regional level to address sustainability challenges and achieve the SDGs'. In 2022, through the SAMM project the ILO has catalysed collaboration between the IOC and Cap Business, an association of the Chambers of

Commerce and Industry and professional organizations from six territories of the Indian Ocean (Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mayotte, Reunion and Seychelles). With United Nations support, the IOC and Cap Business will be working together on the following themes, among others: drafting a free labour mobility agreement in the Indian Ocean region; improving systems for skills recognition and professional mobility in the region; and evaluating the positive contribution of migrant workers to the IOC economies.

UNDP in Mauritius catalysed unique collaboration with the Mauritius Research



and Innovation Council (MRIC) to promote grassroots innovation in the country. Through its Accelerator Lab, the two institutions will be fostering innovative initiative approaches and solutions from individuals, civil society and the private sector to support achievement of the SDGs and the National Priorities, namely in the fields of the green economy and digitalization. Planned projects under this partnership included a financial

literacy experiment with women-led SMEs and a grassroots innovation database initiative for Mauritius and Rodrigues.



Mobilization of the required resources is one of the main challenges to achieving the SDGs. However, the issue of financing the SDGs is not simply a question of funding. It requires a systemic approach and an informed SDG Financing Strategy that identifies the scale and types of investment needed to achieve the SDGs. The United Nations in Mauritius

partnered with the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development and the Economic Development Board (EDB), with the support of the Government of Japan, to develop the Mauritius SDG Investor Map to attract private capital in high-impact areas for the SDGs in the country. This includes 17 investment opportunity areas across 6 priority sectors, namely renewable resources and alternative energy, infrastructure, services, education, health care, and food and beverages.



To catalyse an integrated and regional approach for maritime security in the Indian Ocean region, IOM is building the capacity of the governments of the Western Indian Ocean countries, including Mauritius, to better

understand and address the risks and threats posed by migration-related transnational organized maritime crime in the region, in collaboration with the IOC, the European Union and the Australian High Commission. The project on promoting Maritime Governance on Migration Issues is being implemented in close collaboration with the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre (RMIFC) and the Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC).

KEY PARTNERSHIPS LEVERAGED FOR FINANCING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGS

Digital transformation offers a unique opportunity to improve both service delivery and the resilience of the health systems. The United Nations in Mauritius mobilized resources from the **Government of Japan in 2022 to modernize the public health system in the country with an integrated e-Health system.** The implementation of the national e-Health project also benefited from **co-financing from the Government of Mauritius**, highlighting its commitment to and ownership of this initiative.



trained 60 women at various training events on solar PV, entrepreneurship and communication skills. The training on “Entrepreneurship and basics of photovoltaic” and “Skills development for the solar PV value chain” was undertaken in collaboration with the Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency (MARENA), the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD), and the University of Mauritius.

The United Nations in Mauritius has successfully mobilized resources for two key projects from the **Joint SDG Fund in 2022 to accelerate implementation of the SDGs in Mauritius.** Through: "Contributing to establish an enabling environment to promote a sustainable green and blue economy in Mauritius and Seychelles", United Nations agencies including UNEP, UNDP, UNECA, ILO, IOM, UNFPA will support the country to create an adequate enabling environment for the deployment of ocean renewable energy technologies to achieve the renewable energy target of 60 per cent by 2030. Through the “Building the Resilience of Food Systems in Mauritius and Seychelles by leveraging on sustainable agricultural practices” project, UNDP, FAO and UN Women will support the country to produce locally low-cost bio-fertilisers from seaweeds for its food security needs, thereby reducing its dependence on imported chemical fertilisers.



The United Nations in Mauritius continued in 2022 to leverage its partnerships to promote gender equality and encourage the empowerment of women. **UN Women, with support from the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), explored the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women's economic empowerment** in the tourism sector and identified innovative responses to these challenges across the region. With support from the **Australian High Commission, the Clinton Climate Initiative and the Green Climate Fund, UNDP has**



SOUTH-SOUTH PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE THE 2030 AGENDA/SDGS.

The National Statistics Office of Mauritius has undertaken, with the support of UNFPA, its Housing and Population Census in 2022. With a view to improving the effectiveness of this exercise, **UNFPA has catalysed a unique partnership**



between Kenya and Mauritius on the use of digital tools to collect data for the Housing and Population Census 2022. As a result of this digital collection and analysis, the census results were published seven months earlier than those of the previous census, allowing for efficient use of this data in a timely manner to inform key policy decisions in the country.

2.4 RESULTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WORKING TOGETHER

RC/UNCT : FROM RECOVERY TO RESILIENCE

United Nations actions better coordinated for increased coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency.

The COVID-19 pandemic showed the crucial importance of coordination for effective and efficient results. Leveraging lessons learned during the pandemic, the United Nations continued to work together to support the Government of Mauritius' transition from recovery to resilience through integrated coordinated policy dialogue. The COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP) was completed, with the remaining actions fully integrated into Strategic Partnership Framework implementation. The UNCT organized capacity building of the Programme Management Team (PMT) in Joint Programming and UNINFO for more coherent joint planning and monitoring of the Cooperation Framework.

The development of a new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework strengthened synergies amongst United Nations agencies, especially non-residents, allowing a stronger engagement with non-traditional stakeholders such as the private sector, and the international financial institutions.



The UNCT organized a multi-sector Strategic Policy Dialogue attended by ministers, UNCT members, and regional directors. The policy dialogue enabled the UNCT to discuss with national counterparts emerging development challenges, and the government's directions to address them. The UNCT further explored system thinking and SDG integrated planning, as well as discussing financing for development for the SIDS.

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT TEAM



In 2022, the PMT's level of engagement of to support the implementation, monitoring, reporting of the SPF and joint resource mobilization was even stronger. The first comprehensive Annual Work Plan was developed for the PMT to support the UNCT to coordinate implementation of the SPF. Capacity building was conducted for PMT and monitoring and evaluation officers on UNINFO to strengthen the capacity of the UNCT Mauritius and Seychelles to plan, monitor, and implement the Cooperation Framework effectively through UNINFO. The PMT spearheaded the elaboration of the Common Country Assessment (CCA) for Mauritius, to generate empirical evidence that will feed into the new Cooperation Framework, 2024-2028.



The PMT supported the elaboration of three joint programmes namely : (i) The Joint SDG Fund Programme on Blue and Green Economy (UNDP, ILO, UNEP, UNECA, UNFPA) – US\$1,437,800 to develop the enabling environment to scale up investments in the ocean renewable energy sector in Mauritius and the Circular Economy in Seychelles; (ii) the Joint SDG Fund Project on Resilient Food Systems in Mauritius and Seychelles (UNDP, FAO, UN Women) to support Mauritius to produce low-cost bio-fertilizers locally from seaweeds and to support Seychelles to promote the use of climate-smart agricultural methods and approaches; and (iii) the Southern Africa Migration Management (SAMM) (ILO, IOM, UNODC, UNHCR) to improve migration management in the Southern African and Indian Ocean region (through three regional communities: COMESA, IOC & SADC).

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT TEAM (OMT)

INCREASED EFFICIENCY

The OMT supported the implementation and review of the Business Operation Strategy (BOS 2020-2023). The BOS identified seven common services for collaboration, namely, common administration services, common cleaning services, common United Nations premises, common procurement services, common parking services, common security services, common gender-responsive services, and common procurement sourcing. The following United Nations agencies are participating in the Mauritius BOS: UNDP, WHO, UN RCO and IOM. Furthermore, the UNCT completed the common premises stock take, noting that three agencies are already in a “One UN House”. The United Nations care and staff wellbeing activities and the

Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse training were integrated into the BOS during the 2022 annual review.

COMMUNICATING AS ONE

The United Nations Partnership and Communication Group (UNPCG) for Mauritius and Seychelles was established in 2021 to promote joint communications and advocacy initiatives among the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). Still relatively new, the UNPCG began implementing its first multi-year Joint UNCT Communications Strategy and work plan. During 2022 the UNPCG connected the work of the UNCT with strategic partners in Mauritius in support of the objectives of the communications strategy.

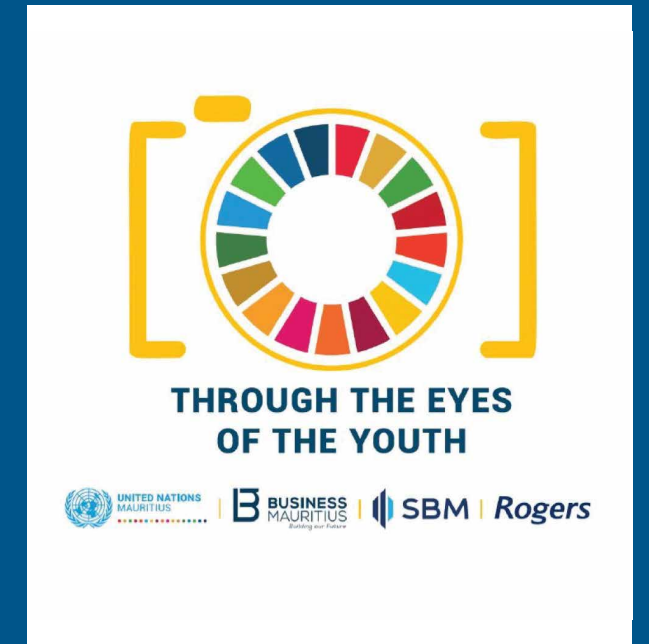
MOBILIZE POLICY-MAKERS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS (WOMEN, YOUTH, AND THOSE WITH DISABILITIES) TO ADVOCATE FOR ACCELERATED ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGS: SHOW THAT EVERYONE CAN TAKE ACTION AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

As an example of cooperation between UNESCO as the lead agency and civil society – the Mauritius Chapter of the Organisation for Women and Girls in Science (OWSD) - International Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11 February 2022 was celebrated with a webinar to address the gender gap in the fields

of science and technology subjects and careers. The event provided girls and young professionals with role models and concrete examples of Mauritian women's achievements in these areas. Three Mauritian women successful in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)

shared the opportunities taken and challenges faced to achieve their professional goals. The webinar audience included secondary school and university students, young professionals, and the public. The informative and lively discussions facilitated a pathway for advocacy around SDGs 4, 5, 8, and 13. It was also an opportunity to liaise with participants' schools to invite them to join the SDG photograph competition launched in 2022.

The national photo contest entitled: “Narrating the Sustainable Development Goals through the Eyes of Youth”, supported by the UNCT aimed to give voice to the aspirations of young people in Mauritius for a sustainable future. In collaboration with the public and private sectors and schools nationwide, including the island of Rodrigues, the UNPCG amplified the campaign on social media. As a result of the campaign over 300 submissions were received, which indicated that young people were motivated to examine and illustrate why the SDGs are important to their lives and to their country. During the prize-giving event, a local primary school was invited to perform an original song about



pursuing your dreams. The combination of the competition and the prize-giving event generated an increased number of followers and engagement on UNCT social media pages providing access to a wider audience to enhance the visibility of United Nations actions in Mauritius.

REPOSITION THE UNITED NATIONS IN MAURITIUS AS A KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNER TO THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS PEOPLE BY DEMONSTRATING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPF.

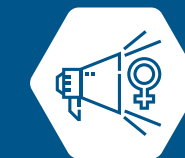
Throughout the year UNPCG worked collectively to provide fresh, relevant content for the UNCT social media platforms. Twitter followers of @UN_Mauritius have increased by over 60 per cent. Facebook followers of the United Nations in Mauritius and Seychelles page have increased by 40 per cent. In this way, the UNPCG can engage with followers through these channels to promote the process and results of the Cooperation Framework, the SDGs, and other development agendas. For example, for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence from 25 November to 10 December 2022 the UNPCG mobilized United Nations agency staff to provide a headshot and add a caption using the campaign slogan #PushForward, describing how they act to end violence against women. The message was then put on a social media card template with the United Nations in Mauritius campaign logos. This coordinated action led to a significant increase in tweet impressions over



60% INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS



40% INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS



#PUSHFORWARD GENERATED 8,200 TWEET IMPRESSIONS OVER THE 16 DAYS

the 16 days of 8,200 compared to the norm for that month during the non-campaign period of 2,900. Tweet impressions importantly indicate an organization's brand presence by measuring how many times the tweet is shown to people across the platform.

2.5 EVALUATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

As we enter the penultimate year of implementation of the Strategic Partnership Framework, there is enough evidence to say that the United Nations delivered on its promise to the people of Mauritius, in at least three outcome areas. However, Mauritius as a SIDS is particularly susceptible to its inherent vulnerabilities and exogenous shocks, which constantly jeopardize the development gains achieved so far.

The final independent evaluation of the SPF, conducted in 2022, states that, due to the unique nature of Mauritius (a country where 80 per cent of United Nations agencies are non-resident, and where the United Nations had a cooperation framework with the government for the first time), there were relatively fewer coordination structures than is usual in other countries. However, those structures which were available were relatively very effective in delivering on multiple roles.

THE FOLLOWING KEY LESSONS CAN BE DRAWN FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPF.

1. **The impact of COVID-19 and the unstable geopolitical landscape on key areas of the SPF demonstrate the need to invest more in strategic foresight tools and risk management and mitigation.**
2. **Non-physical presence of United Nations in Mauritius (80 per cent of agencies) considerably reduced contact opportunities and generated delays in communication by United Nations agencies and implementing partners.**
3. **Inadequate data or human resources to effectively adapt to government needs:** The high turnover of line ministries presented a huge challenge to enhancing institutional capacities for reporting on SPF implementation. Inadequate data or delays in production of statistics are also challenging to the proper real time monitoring of the SPF.
4. **Increased buy-in for the next CF results framework by strategic stakeholders will be key for the focus, implementation and monitoring of the results.** While the current SPF has had limited buy-in from stakeholders, the process of its elaboration also serves as a lesson for the next one. As such, 2022 marked the kick-off of a series of national consultations with all stakeholders to increase awareness and buy-in for the next results framework.
5. **Non-completion of SPF results framework indicator data in some cases made some variables non-evaluable.** Almost 10 per cent of the results framework outcome indicators lacked baselines or targets. This made these indicators difficult to evaluate. Closely related to this issue was lack of statistical data to monitor the performance of some outcome indicators.

COVID-19 related restrictions limited the number of activities carried out in 2021 and 2022. The pandemic created delays and cancellations of activities. There were no face-to-face training and workshops, international recruitment, or international purchasing and sensitization campaigns.

To remedy this situation, some United Nations agencies opted for employment of local staff or recruitment of focal staff to represent them and oversee implementation of their programmes.



2.6 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

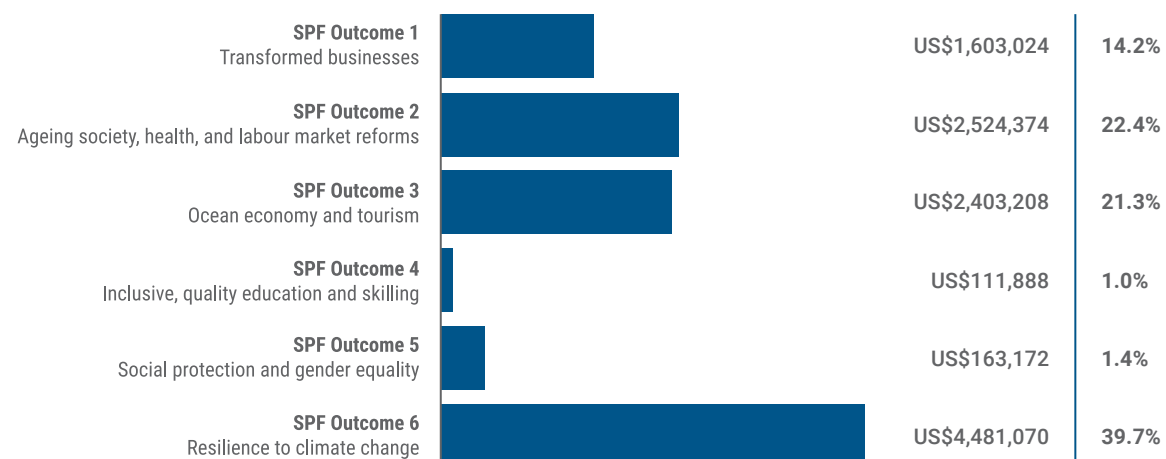
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

\$11,286,736
was contributed by the UN Country Team in Mauritius towards the SPF in 2022.

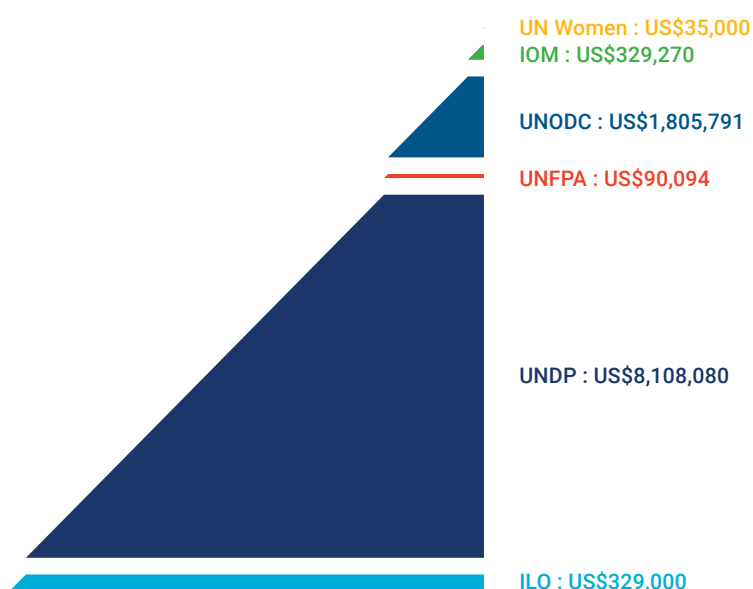


Representing **14.1%** of the total required budget to implement the SPF

CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2021 BY STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK



CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2022 BY UN AGENCIES

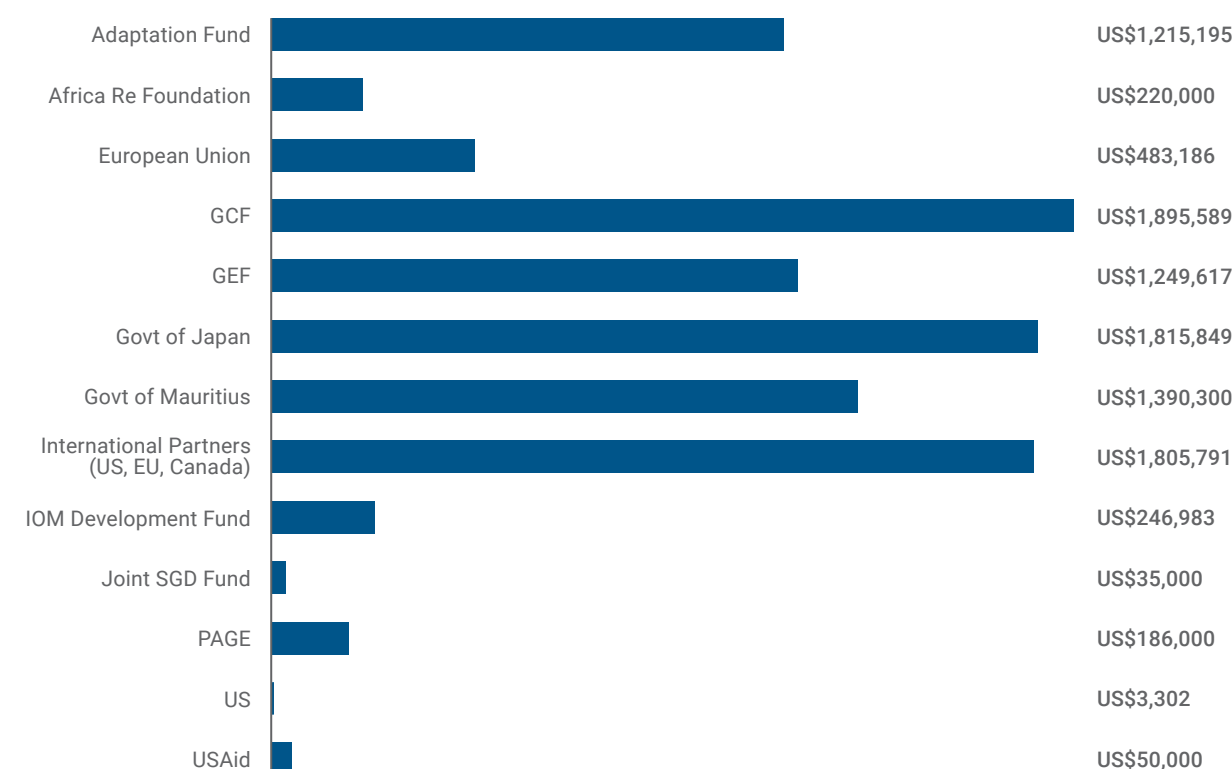


RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

In 2022, the UN Country Team in Mauritius mobilized resources from the government, development partners and multilateral funds to finance the implementation of the Strategic Partnership Framework.



\$ 10,596,813
was mobilized by the UN Country Team in Mauritius towards the implementation of SPF in 2022.





3.0

UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR 2023



1. The United Nations system will finalize the elaboration of the new UNSDCF

The current United Nations-Government Cooperation Framework will end in December 2023. In preparation for a new UNSDCF, the UNCT completed key preparatory milestones, including the **final evaluation, the CCA and comprehensive stakeholder consultations, which culminated in the Strategic Prioritization Retreat (SPR)**. The SPR established key priorities for the new UNSDCF. In 2023 the United Nations will finalize elaboration of the new CF, agree on the UNCT configuration, and develop the Joint Work Plans to be uploaded in UNINFO. The UNCT will also complete the Gender Scorecard and the PSEA training which are vital for the implementation of the CF, in the spirit of leave no one behind.



2. The United Nations system will accelerate implementation of joint programmes

In 2022, the UNCT mobilized funds through the Joint SDG Fund to support Mauritius to deploy ocean renewable energy, bringing together the expertise of ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNECA, UNEP and UNFPA. The United Nations will accelerate implementation of the SDG Fund Joint Programme. The expected results are intended to strengthen the policy framework, establish financial mechanisms and build capacity to catalyse public and private sector investment in ocean renewable technologies.



3. Strengthen the capacities of national institutions for policy coherence and system thinking

In collaboration with UNDESA and UNITAR, the United Nations initiated a partnership with the Government of Mauritius and academia, to strengthen SDG mainstreaming, system thinking and its impact on decision-making and institutional reform to advance implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The capacity building is intended to improve policy coherence. The UNCT will continue to work with government sectors and academia for more coherent, risk-informed policies.



4. The United Nations will support the National Bureau of Statistics to produce Thematic Reports on the National Housing and Population Census of Mauritius

Mauritius completed the 2022 NHPC National Housing and Population Census. The United Nations will support the National Statistics Bureau to produce Thematic Reports based on international standards and the government's needs. The United Nations will also strengthen the capacity of the NSB to utilize the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPro) software package. The United Nations will also continue to support the National Population Policy process.



5. Support a systemic approach to food security in Mauritius and Seychelles

The United Nations will engage with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture, and other relevant line ministries, as well as the private sector and the academia, on strategic, forward-looking processes including public debate, planning, policy making, and budgeting, on food security. Within a broad, transformative approach based on the water, energy, food, environment and waste nexus.



6. Boost the Development Partners Group (DPG) to renew participation and reinforce government ownership

The United Nations will build on the great collaboration among United Nations agencies and international partners in response to the Yu Feng 67 wreckage crisis in late 2022 to regroup international partners, renew the government's commitment to the DPG at the highest level, and ensure participation at decision-making level within new modalities of dialogue.



7. Promote the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index

In an effort embedded in the support to the government for partnerships and resources mobilization the United Nations will continue its advocacy for better access to finance for SIDS, including concessional and climate finance, based on the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index.



8. Foster dialogue with the youth on key SDG issues

Building on the consultations leading to the Education Summit, the United Nations will organize quarterly dialogues with students and other youth, co-organized with universities and CSOs, to spur discussion with and among youth on critical issues related to the SDGs, such as climate action, food security, employment, and the blue and green economies.

ACRONYMS

AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Agreement	SADC	Southern African Development Community
AFD	Agence Française de Développement	SAMM	Southern African Migration Management
ATPC	African Trade Policy Centre	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
CPI	Consumer Price Index	SERP	Socio Economic Response Plan
CSO	Civil Society Organization	SIDS	Small Island Developing State
EU	European Union	SME	Small to Medium-Size Enterprise
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization	SPF	Strategic Partnership Framework
GBV	Gender Based Violence	SPR	Strategic Prioritization Retreat
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	UN	United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ILO	International Labour Organization	UN ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IOM	International Organization for Migration	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IORA	Indian Ocean Rim Association	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
MARENA	Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities	UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
NAP	National Action Plan	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	UNRCO	United Nations Resident Coordinators Office
NPCC	National Productivity and Competitiveness Council	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
OACPS	Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States	UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	WHO	World Health Organization
PAGE	Partnership for Action on Green Economy		
PIP	Productivity Improvement Programmes		
PV	Photovoltaic		

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