Partnering with Research & Innovation Stakeholders in Mauritius

Mauritius Research Council
Disclaimer:

The Mauritius Research Council has exercised due care and skill in the preparation and compilation of the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Mauritius Research Council, its officers or employees disclaim any liability, including liability for negligence, loss howsoever caused, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person or entity as a result of accessing, using or relying upon any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law. No representation expressed or implied is made as to the currency, accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information contained in this publication. The reader should rely on their own inquiries to independently confirm the information and comment on which they intend to act. This publication does not indicate commitment by the Mauritius Research Council to a particular course of action.
Introduction

Research, development and innovation are being widely acclaimed as the factors which will enable Republic of Mauritius to respond to the challenges it faces with regards to national prosperity and social wellbeing. Among the features which would contribute towards research, development and innovation are enhanced local, regional and international partnerships and collaboration among various stakeholders for the creation of an eco-system that thrives on creativity and pushes back the frontiers of development. To this effect, the Republic of Mauritius is looking forward to developing bilateral and multilateral connections to enable building ‘research and innovation bridges’ with local, regional and international partners thus allowing access to and use of globally-dispersed knowledge and technology. The Mauritian Government and the country’s businesses, universities and research institutions are all committed to fully exploit the country’s innovative capacity to break new ground in order to deliver on the vision of a high-income innovation driven economy.

It is therefore crucial to connect with important research and innovation partners while attracting global entrepreneurs. Adopting the right strategy and providing the appropriate eco-system will allow the promotion of collaborative efforts between local and international stakeholders, and multi-disciplinarity in projects.

It is in this context that this booklet was developed to allow potential regional and international collaborators to connect with the appropriate local partners in Mauritius for collaborative projects. This booklet provides a snapshot of Mauritian Companies and Organisations engaged in science, research and innovation. It also provides information on research and innovation grants available through the Mauritius Research Council and highlights some incentives and facilities available in the country.
Contents

Introduction 3
Research and Innovation Schemes available at the Mauritius Research Council (MRC) 5
Research and Innovation Grant Schemes available at the MRC (Contd.) 6
Incentives and Facilities 7
Research and Innovation Institutions 8
  Albion Fisheries Research Centre (AFRC) 9
  The Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) 10
  Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI) 11
  Mauritius Research Council (MRC) 12
  Mauritius Sugarcane Industry Research Institute (MSIRI) 13
  Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) 14
Academic Institutions 15
  Curtin Mauritius 16
  Fashion & Design Institute (FDI) 17
  Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) 18
  Rabindranath Tagore Institute (RTI) 19
  Mauritius Institute of Education (MIE) 20
  Mauritius Institute of Health (MIH) 21
  Middlesex University Mauritius 22
  National Co-operative College (NCC) 23
  Open University of Mauritius (OUM) 24
  Rushmore Business School 25
  Université des Mascareignes (UDM) 26
  University of Mauritius (UOM) 27
  Centre for Biomedical and Biomaterials Research 28
  University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM) 29
  Whitefield Business School 30
  YK Business School Ltd 31
Agencies & Associations 32
  Association of Communication Agencies of Mauritius (ACA) 33
  Association des Hôteliers et Restaurateurs - Île Maurice (AHRIM) 34
  Association of Mauritian Manufacturers (AMM) 35
  Business Mauritius 36
  Economic Development Board, Mauritius 37
  Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture 38
  Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) 39
  Mauritius Information & Technology Industry Association (MITIA) 40
  Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency (MARENA) 41
  Outsourcing and Telecommunications Association of Mauritius (OTAM) 42
  Pharmaceutical Association of Mauritius (PAM) 43
  SME Mauritius Ltd 44
Link to Ministries - Republic of Mauritius 45
Research and Innovation Schemes available at the Mauritius Research Council (MRC)

The Council drives innovation through the provision of a number of Innovation and Commercialization funding schemes. These schemes contribute directly and indirectly to promoting an innovation culture and have been developed to respond to the needs of innovators, researchers, businesses, academia, research institutions and the public. The MRC offers seven innovation schemes as follows:

1. **Collaborative Research and Innovation Grant Scheme (CRIGS)**
   Matching grant of up to MUR 5M per project to local Companies in partnership with local Academic / Research/ Tertiary Education Institution for innovative, collaborative research and development projects with commercial potential. Project duration should not exceed 24 months.

2. **Intellectual Property Promotion Scheme (IPPS)**
   Grant of 50% of official fees for filing of applications for the grant of a Patent or registration of an Industrial Design. The scheme, aimed at Mauritian National or organizations/ company(ies) registered in Mauritius, is an initiative/ joint collaboration between the Mauritius Research Council (MRC) and the Industrial Property Office (IPO).

3. **Social Innovation Research Grant Scheme (SIRGS)**
   Grant of up to MUR 1M per project to NGOs and/or public funded bodies in collaboration with academic/research institutions/private sector companies for proposals which combine action-research and a social innovation potential with tangible outcomes in social development research areas including but not limited to social integration of vulnerable groups, equal opportunities and environmental issues. Project duration should not exceed 24 months.
Rese
arch and Innovation 
Grant Schemes available at the MRC (Contd.)

4. National SME Incubator Scheme (NSIS)

The NSIS encourages the creation of Innovative businesses with socio-economic benefit through a training provided by Accredited Incubators. The Accredited Incubators which will select, coach and mentor innovative business start-ups as early as the idea stage.

Private sector Business Incubators are invited to submit their Expression of Interest to incubate Projects under pre-incubation, Incubation and Acceleration phases. Funding of up to MUR 50,000 for pre-incubation phase (9 months duration), MUR 400,000 for Incubation phase (18 months duration) and MUR 300,000 for Acceleration phase (6 months duration).

5. Proof of Concept Scheme (PCS)

Funding of up to MUR 1M to innovators for advancing their research outputs and ideas with a view to developing prototypes, establishing proof of concept and validating business cases. Project duration should not exceed 12 months.

6. Pole of Innovation Grant Scheme (PoIGS)

Matching grant of up to MUR 9M per project with an annual ceiling of MUR 3M to local Academic/ Tertiary Education institution and relevant Ministries/Parastatal bodies to submit proposals for Pole of Innovation Project duration should not exceed 36 months.

7. Research and Innovation Bridges (RIB)

Matching grant of up to MUR 10M per project to consortia of company(ies), comprising of at least a Mauritian Company and a Company or Research Institution from a Foreign Country for innovative, collaborative research and development projects with commercial potential. Project duration should not exceed 24 months.

For more details, visit the MRC website at http://www.mrc.org.mu
Incentives and Facilities

Innovator Occupation Permit

An Investor who will conduct Research and Development (R&D) in highly innovative sectors can apply for an Innovator Occupation Permit. The R&D expense component should constitute of at least 20% of total operational expenditure during the research phase. Applicants eligible to apply under this scheme will be required to make an initial investment of USD 40,000.

Incentives for R&D in the Smart Cities Sector

Smart cities provide for a conducive high-tech business environment for companies engaged in innovation, research and development activities. Research institutions and companies will be able to domicile in Mauritius and benefit from the incentives below:

- Deduction of capital expenditure incurred on scientific research.
- Eight-year tax holiday granted to universities, research and development institutions.

Incentives for R&D in Manufacturing Sector

- Accelerated depreciation of 50 percent per annum on capital expenditure incurred on R&D
- Companies can claim a double deduction in respect of qualifying expenditure on R&D until income year 2021-2022

Claims for Accelerated depreciation and deduction should be made with the Mauritius Revenue Authority.

Regulatory Sandbox Licence

The Regulatory Sandbox License (RSL) offers the possibility for an investor to conduct a business activity for which there exists no legal framework, or adequate provisions under existing legislation in Mauritius. The RSL will be issued by the Economic Development Board Mauritius to eligible companies willing to invest in innovative projects according to an agreed set of terms and conditions for a defined period.

Source: Economic Development Board Mauritius http://www.edbmauritius.org/
Research and Innovation Institutions
The Albion Fisheries Research Centre (AFRC) was established in 1981/1982 with the assistance of the Government of Japan under a Grant Aid Project and it is operational since June 1982, under the aegis of the then Ministry of Fisheries.

The AFRC is the technical arm of the Fisheries Division of Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping and carries out applied research, development and management activities. The infrastructure has been gradually expanded over the years so as to cope with the increasing diversity of projects being implemented. In 1987, a marine shrimp culture experimental station was added to it comprising a shrimp hatchery, laboratory block and ponds.

The AFRC was further extended in December 1995 to house a conference hall and laboratory facilities for marine ecology, marine chemistry, marine bacteriology and physical oceanography.

Furthermore, a Fisheries Monitoring Centre was set up at AFRC, in February 2005, to track movement of fishing vessels in the EEZ of Mauritius through a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). It monitors fishing activities of local and foreign licensed vessels as part of a coherent management strategy to improve the sustainable exploitation of resources to reduce illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in Mauritian EEZ.
The Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) has been established on 14 February 2014 as per the FAREI Act 2013 to take over the functions of the Food and Agricultural Research Council (FARC) and the Agricultural Research and Extension Unit (AREU). It operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security. This restructuring is part of the Government Programme to reform parastatals of the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security with a view to improve the cost-effectiveness, quality of services and optimal use of human resources at both organisations.

The Institute has the responsibility to conduct research in non-sugar crops, livestock, forestry and to provide an extension service to farmers in Mauritius including its outer islands. The FAREI is managed by a Chief Executive Officer who is also the Accounting Officer. Its management team comprises three Assistant Directors.
Established since 2000 following the MOI Act 1999, the Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI) is a parastatal body functioning under the aegis of the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping. The main role of the MOI is to undertake and coordinate oceanographic research and advise Government on the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes related to oceanography. In line with the Government Programme 2016-2019 and its Vision 2030, MOI has restructured its research agenda in order to support the development of the Ocean Economy. The Government has tasked the MOI with responsibility of fully characterising the aquaculture sites around mainland Mauritius. With a Vision to becoming a Centre of Excellence in the South West Indian Ocean, the MOI has relocated into its new facility at Albion. Its priority is now to equip its laboratories with state-of-the-art facilities in order to make it fully operational. The MOI has established collaborations with well-known institutions such as Macquarie University, Goethe University and University of Cape Town and is presently establishing other collaborations to enable its growth into a World Class Institute of Oceanography.
The Mauritius Research Council (MRC) was set up in May 1992 (Act no. 10 of 1992) as an apex body to promote and co-ordinate national investment in research. In order to strengthen the mandate of the Council while taking into account the changes in the research and innovation landscape in Mauritius since 1992, the MRC Act has been amended in 2014. The MRC (Amendment) Act (2014) was proclaimed in September 2014.

The MRC acts as a central body to advise Government on Science and Technology issues and to influence the direction of technological innovation by funding research projects in areas of national priority and encouraging strategic partnerships.

The MRC offers seven Research and Innovation Schemes (details on page 4) and is the home to three Centres which each operate within specific areas of Science, Research Technology and Innovation.

Technology Transfer Office (TTO)
The efficient transfer of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to industry and business partners is increasingly a key objective for many research institutes. As a vehicle for implementing the appropriate transfer of IPR, a Technology Transfer Office (TTO) has been established within the MRC to enhance cooperation between research institutes and industry.

MRC Rodrigues Office
The MRC also has an office in Rodrigues, MRC Rodrigues Office, to address potential research gaps in Rodrigues, act as a platform for technology transfer between Mauritius and Rodrigues and Promote Capacity Building in research and research related sectors.

Centre for Applied Social Research (CASR)
The Centre for Applied Social Research (CASR) is the social research arm of the Council. It has, over the years developed an expertise in carrying out nationwide social surveys as well as social research projects using a variety of relevant research methodologies. CASR undertakes all its research projects and its data collection with high standards of objectivity and academic rigour. The research outcomes of most of its studies are of direct policy relevance to address in a positive manner the problem areas investigated.
Mauritius Sugarcane Industry Research Institute (MSIRI) is heir to 123 years old tradition of agriculture research in Mauritius. Its mandate is focused on sugar cane. The R&D objectives of the MSIRI are reappraised every five years to be in line with agricultural policies and a constantly evolving cane industry. Its fundamental goal is to increase sugar productivity and profitability per unit area. The core competencies present at MSIRI include: Cane breeding, Biotechnology, Entomology, Pathology, Mechanization and cultural operations, Weed agronomy, Irrigation and land resources and Sugar Technology. The MSIRI has four experimental stations in the different agro-climatic zones of Mauritius covering some 50 ha of land. It has seven different laboratories comprising Agricultural Chemistry, Biotechnology, Tissue Culture, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Sugar Technology and Cane analysis. There are five glasshouses for breeding, entomology, pathology and weed agronomy experimentation. Nineteen of the tests provided are ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accredited. The Institute houses an international sugarcane quarantine facility for the safe transfer of sugar cane germplasm between countries. Its Library contains an extensive collection of journals, reports and books covering a wide range of biological and agricultural sciences.
The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) is a statutory body which has been set up under the Tertiary Education Commission Act 1988. The TEC is the regulatory body of the tertiary education sector and works in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research to further the Government’s policies on the sector.

The Tertiary Education Commission has as objects to promote, plan, develop and coordinate post-secondary education in Mauritius and to implement an overarching regulatory framework to achieve high international quality. It also has the responsibility to allocate government funds to the Tertiary Education Institutions under its purview and to ensure accountability and optimum use of resources.

Following major landscape changes in the tertiary education sector, the TEC Act was amended in 2005, bestowing the Commission with additional responsibilities in regard to quality assurance. Since then the Commission endeavours to provide accessible but quality post-secondary education to the future of the Republic of Mauritius.
Academic Institutions
The Charles Telfair Institute together with Curtin University have pioneered private tertiary education in Mauritius. Curtin University is a leading global Australian University ranked in the top 1% of universities in the world (ARWU, 2017). The Mauritius campus now includes close to 2000 students, 150 staff and state-of-the-art facilities.

In May 2018, the partnership reached new heights with the opening of an official branch campus of Curtin University. Curtin Mauritius is now one of five Curtin campuses strategically located around the world, joining Perth, Malaysia Singapore and Dubai. The integration with Curtin University provides even higher quality outcomes with regards to student experience, teaching, & learning and research. The integration also plays an integral role in the positioning of Mauritius an emerging education hub for the region.

Curtin Mauritius is well-known for its innovative learning and teaching approach. In line with the Australian education system, the campus embraces the philosophy of ‘Inclusive education’, offering a number of alternative pathways into a Curtin degree. These include its Foundation (Bridging) programmes and also, vocational certificates and diploma’s, awarded by the TAFE in state of Western Australia.

The management, administrative and academic staff at Curtin Mauritius adopt a student-centered approach in everything we do and there are a large number of student support programmes in place, including English support and Industry-readiness. By the time students graduate they are work-ready having been exposed to industry projects, guest speakers and internships throughout their studies.

Curtin’s international reputation for research has grown rapidly. As we build on this momentum, we aim to strike a balance between research that solves defines problems for industry and society, and research that pushes the boundaries of understanding. Curtin Mauritius is fast-developing its research culture and capability with most of its academic staff having completed or currently engaged in a PhD. There are number of collaborative research projects in place between Curtin Mauritius and the other Curtin campuses.
The Fashion and Design Institute (FDI) operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection and its aim is to promote excellence in the field of design education. Its objective is to help the students discover their talents, realise their potential and develop a passion for learning that lasts through life. The FDI is currently offering full time and part time courses ranging from the Foundation Diploma, Higher National Diploma to Degree level. The following courses are being offered on a part time and full time basis:

**Foundation Studies**
- BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art and Design)

**Higher National Diploma in Art and Design**
- BTEC Level 4&5, Art and Design (Arts Practice)
- BTEC Level 4&5, Art and Design (Fashion)
- BTEC Level 4&5, Art and Design (Graphic Design)
- BTEC Level 4&5, Art and Design (Digital Design)

**BA Programme**
- BA (Hons) Interior Design

**BA (Top up) Programmes**
- BA (Hons) Art & Design
- BA (Hons) Fashion & Textiles
- BA (Hons) Graphic Design with Animation

The FDI Apparel Centre provides support to the SMEs in the apparel and textile industry through tailor-made programmes, commissioning and consultancy services.
The Mahatma Gandhi Institute was set up by an Act of Parliament which was passed on 23 December 1970 as a joint initiative of the Governments of India and Mauritius. The Act was repealed and replaced by MGI Act 1982 which was subsequently amended through MGI (Amended) Act 2002.

By broadening its scope, the Mahatma Gandhi Institute is well settled on its path to cater for the growing educational, academic and cultural demands of the country and to contribute to the regional role of Mauritius.

The Mahatma Gandhi Institute is today rightly viewed as a meeting ground for different cultures. The philosophy underlying the vision and the mission of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute takes example from Gandhian thought, rich in educational and social values.

The Vision of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute is to become an internationally recognized degree-awarding institution, excelling in education, research, arts and culture.

Mission Statement
- To provide quality education by modernizing the teaching and learning in Indian Studies, Performing Arts, Fine Arts, Indological Studies, Chinese Studies and Mauritian and Area Studies.
- To produce high quality research, cultural performances and artistic works.
- To continue to preserve, promote and disseminate cultural traditions and heritage.
- To continue to promote responsible citizenship inspired by Gandhian principles and values.

Teaching and research activities are regrouped under five Schools, namely School of Indian Studies, School of Performing Arts, School of Fine Arts, School of Mauritian and Area Studies and School of Indological Studies.

Main Areas of Research include:
Diaspora, Gender, Heritage, Folklore, Migration, Bhojpuri Language, Health care, Visual arts and design (advertising) 3D/VR and AR/Game Design, Philosophy of Language, Spiritual Ecology, Open Distance Learning (ODL), Sanskrit Literature, Grammar and Environment Ethics, Indian Philosophy, (Sanikhya-Yoga, Vedanta) Development of Philosophical Thinking in Mauritius, Culture society and pedagogy.
The Rabindranath Tagore Institute, an educational and cultural centre for the promotion of shared values, was inaugurated in December 2002 and operates today under the aegis of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute and Rabindranath Tagore Institute Council. The attractive campus of the RTI has been established in memory of Rabindranath Tagore.

The objects of the Institute as stipulated by its Act are to establish, as a tribute to Rabindranath Tagore, a Centre of studies for Indian culture and traditions and to promote education and culture generally.

The Vision is to foster the ideals of humanism and universality through academic and creative engagement with society.

Mission Statement
(i) To provide an innovative education in line with Tagore’s philosophy in the teaching of Theatre, Media Arts, Folk Arts and Craft
(ii) To foster the preservation of the rich and diverse Mauritius cultural heritage and encourage creativity.
(iii) To become a vibrant hub for research in Diaspora and in Transnational Communities.

Area of Specialisation of RTI
Research:
• Diaspora and Transnational Communities

Teaching:
• Drama
• Film Production
The Mauritius Institute of Education (MIE) is a Parastatal body, working under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research.

Set up in 1973 with the prime objective of modernizing the education sector and endowing it with a professional teaching workforce, the MIE provides training for the pre-primary, primary and secondary sectors of education, targeting all cadres, including teaching and management. The training provided is in line with state of the art pedagogical practices and the constant benchmarking of courses offered according to international standards ensures that the qualifications delivered by the MIE are recognised around the world.

MIE is also responsible for Research and Curriculum Development. It is the body in charge of developing the curriculum, textbook writing and evaluation.
The Mauritius Institute of Health (MIH), established in 1989, is the training and research arm of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. It is regulated by the provisions of the MIH Act of 1989 as amended in 2003, and as amended in December 2017 empowering the Institute to “conduct courses, hold examinations and grant certificates, diplomas, degrees and awards, acting on its own or jointly with any other educational institution”.

The MIH is the focal point for training in the health care sector and is the awarding body in respect of training provided by it.

The vision of the MIH is to be a leading institution in the region for training and research in the health sector.

The mission of the MIH is to respond to the needs of society through the excellence of its training and research programmes.

The core mandates of the MIH are: -
- Enhancing the quality of health care services through capacity building of health workforce with focus on practice-based training, problem-based learning and patient centred practice.
- Improving effectiveness of health care services through health systems research and evaluation of health services that provide reliable data for evidence-based development of policies, programmes and management structures.
- Developing regional cooperation through training and research projects operated in collaboration with the health authorities of the countries of the region.
Middlesex University is a large London university with a long and proud history as a provider of high quality education, it is a world leader in transnational education and research. Our international status was reinforced when we opened our new campus, in Mauritius in 2017. Our programmes are recognised the world over since they are exactly the same as those offered at Middlesex's London campus. The academics that teach at Middlesex University Mauritius have the same impressive qualifications as those who teach at our London campuses, and many have received their own academic awards at British universities. Our staff, in addition to being well qualified, are all industry practitioners and many are active researchers collaborating with colleagues in Mauritius and across the world. Our distinctive student experience is defined by innovative teaching and learning, informed by research and practice. Our new campus demonstrates what can be achieved when all stakeholders share a clear vision. The result is a campus that provides a twenty first century learning experience, facilitates formal and informal learning and supports the development of a global learning and research community. All programmes offered in Mauritius are accredited by the Tertiary Education Council.
The National Co-operative College (NCC) operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives, and is the key training and capacity-building institution of the local cooperative movement which encompasses over ninety thousand members grouped into 1200 registered cooperative societies. Given that education and training is a hallmark of the global cooperative movement, NCC is statutorily mandated to impart education, training and capacity-building to the stakeholders of the cooperative movement in order to improve the operational efficiency of cooperatives while at the same time to promote and disseminate the concept and philosophy of cooperative entrepreneurship to youth, women and public at large in a bid to empower them to become micro entrepreneurs adopting the cooperative approach and hence integrate them in the local cooperative movement.

The vision statement sets out very clearly the type of training institution NCC aspires to be. Accordingly, NCC aims "to be the centre of excellence in capacity building for co-operative entrepreneurship."
One of the strong features of the Open University is that it delivers high quality education in a flexible way through the open distance learning mode. Students can therefore study at their pace and place and can also earn while they learn!

It is a fact that, with OU, learners can keep their full-time jobs and attend tutorial sessions once a week, without disrupting their work and family commitments. Learners can study from anywhere in the world and interact with peers, tutors and course materials through the university online platform. Full support is provided to students to enable them progress throughout their studies.

It is to be noted that OU works with a range of prestigious international partners like Imperial College London, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, UNISA and Stockholm University and is a member of international organisations such as the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the International Council of Distance Education and the African Council for Distance Education.
Rushmore Business School is an international tertiary education institution known for its academic excellence and state-of-the-art infrastructure. Rushmore Business School offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes covering areas such as Business Management, Tourism and Hospitality Management, Engineering, Architecture and Spa Therapy. The Business School is fully accredited and all its courses have been approved by the Tertiary Education Commission and the Mauritius Qualifications Authority in Mauritius and the British Accreditation Council in the United Kingdom.

The Business School has established links with a number of universities and professional awarding bodies worldwide.

Rushmore's aim is to be one of the leading business schools dedicated to the generation, dissemination, and application of knowledge in management. The business school aims to transfer its solutions to management problems through its students, research and consultancy.
The vision of the UDM is to place multi-disciplinary research at the forefront. Our strong commitment to achieve quality teaching and learning revolves around our strategy geared towards a strong research culture in all our academic disciplines. Although being a very new institution, UDM is already emerging as an important academic voice in the local and regional research landscapes through research projects in the field of energy, environmental protection, astronomy, ICT and management. The UDM is committed to both fundamental and applied research.

The University has developed from institutions that had strong links with industrial partners and we are building on this existing strength to enable researchers to work with the local industry in order to achieve technology transfer in key areas and nurture research ideas emerging from our local context. The long-standing partnership with the Université de Limoges, together with links established so far with other international universities and partners are largely contributing to enhance this research culture. The foundation for a conducive environment is being laid to facilitate academic research and attract outstanding graduate researchers in view of achieving high quality research, produce researchers with excellent research skills and produce research which will result in economic and social benefits.
Located in the lush green area of Réduit and having a branch in the heart of Ebène Cybercity, the University of Mauritius (UoM) is the flagship university of the country and is currently home to around 10,000 students. It is a vibrant community of learning, research, innovation and community engagement that stands in the service of the nation. Founded in 1965 by an Act of Parliament, the UoM was created around the nucleus of the former School of Agriculture, under the developmental concept to help in the general development of the newly independent Mauritius. It has, over the past 5 decades, contributed indelibly in building human and intellectual capacity for the socio-economic development of Mauritius. The UoM comprises, inter alia, 6 Faculties, 4 Research Centres, a Doctoral School, a Knowledge Transfer Office and 12 Poles of Research Excellence and provides a comprehensive range of degree, masters and doctoral programmes of international standard in diverse disciplines. Over the years, the UoM has established a strong and vibrant research culture, with academics engaging in pure and applied research and providing professional consultancy services to clients from both the private and public sector in diverse fields.
Founded in May 2011 as a research center of the University of Mauritius and designated Centre of Excellence in Oct 2011 by the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI), the Centre for Biomedical and Biomaterials Research (CBBR) set up its labs and offices in Dec 2011 on the premises of the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute.

CBBR is a first multi-disciplinary research Centre of its kind in Mauritius. It consists of two units the Biomaterials, Drug Delivery and Nanotechnology (BDDN) Unit and the Biopharmaceutical Unit. The BDDN Unit focuses on fabrication of scaffolds for tissue engineering (diabetic wound healing, bone, nerve), nano carriers for multi drug delivery targeting cancer (cancer nanomedicine) and biomaterials from land and marine resources such as bagasse & seaweeds for high-end application. The Biopharmaceutical unit’s focus is on cancer, diabetes and marine pharmaceuticals with emphasis on biochemical, cellular, molecular, animal and clinical studies to provide a firm basis for innovative products derived from functional foods/plant and marine biofactors for commercialisation.

CBBR aims at assisting Mauritius in its endeavor to develop knowledge-based industries and innovation. CBBR’s objectives are to build a critical mass of expertise and resources, foster multi-institutional partnerships, assist in technology transfer and act as an interface between University and private sector. It can also provide a range of analytical services.
The University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM) was created in year 2000 by Act of Parliament as the Government implemented its plan to have a second University which would focus towards development-oriented sectors in particular. Two state institutions namely the Mauritian Institute of Public Administration and Management (MIPAM) and the State Information Training Centre (SITRAC Ltd) were merged to form the University of Technology, Mauritius. This historic step in the field of higher education was prompted mainly by the need to cater more vigorously for the increasing demand for ICT and Management professionals in a country which is seriously committed to accelerate, by all means, the realization of its ambition to become a major service provider in the field of Information Technology, Management and Finance, Sustainable Development and allied areas. The University started operation by the end of year 2000. The Board of Governors (B.O.G), was in place and in year 2001, created its senior management personnel.

The UTM presently comprises of four schools namely: School of Business, Management and Finance, School of Sustainable Development and Tourism, School of Innovative Technologies and Engineering and School of Health Sciences.
Whitefield Business School is an established tertiary education provider, offering a diverse portfolio of tertiary qualifications from UK. The qualifications of the school are awarded by Confederation of Tourism and Hospitality, UK; NCC Education, UK; University of Worcester, University of Central Lancashire, OTHM and ASCL from India.

The courses offered at WBS range from, tourism and hospitality, Information technology, business administration, computer forensics and IT. The programmes of the school are accredited by the Tertiary Education Commission and the Mauritius Qualifications Authority and are recognized in over 50 countries across the globe.

Students from Ghana, Cameroon, Madagascar, Mauritius, India, and Pakistan to name a few have trusted the high quality of education offered at the school and WBS has now grown into a highly reputed institution, rated among the best in the country. Students have a wide choice of qualifications ranging from diploma, Bachelor’s Degree and Master’s degree, offered on part-time, online and full-time mode of study.
YKBS has, since its inception, opened avenues and opportunities in higher education of Mauritius. As a wide range of Business, Management, IT and Legal subjects is offered, the Institution has played an important role in accomplishing higher education needs of the country and contributing to education regionally and globally.

Having successfully completed more than 15 years of instituting quality education, YKBS has made meaningful educational transformations and achieving world-class standards of academic excellence.

As from February 2018, YKBS has joined the first pan-African Educational Network – Honoris United Universities, which includes renowned institutions from Morocco, Tunisia and South Africa and, now, Mauritius.

YKBS has committed itself to the mission of creating a life-changing educational experience through quality, research and education to individuals and society. YKBS seeks to contribute to the changing education demands of Mauritius and neighbouring countries through learning programs responsive to the needs of students, the Government and the private sector.

The continuous effort to achieve helps students discover and reach their personal and professional goals in life. This is reflected in YKBS consistent show of excellent academic results and the current leading positions occupied by its alumni in the Business and Industrial arena speaks for itself.
Agencies & Associations
The Association of Advertising Agencies (AAA) of Mauritius was launched in 1970. The AAA was officially registered to the Registrar of the Associations on 6 July 1990. The AAA has become, during its existence, an influential professional body. The AAA Code of Ethics was first published in April 1994 and is respected by all members of the AAA and the media. The code of ethics was fully updated in January 2011 named 'The Little Red Book: Code of Advertising Practice in Mauritius' and a new AAA Constitution was officially launched on 30 October 2011. The Association of Advertising Agencies of Mauritius (AAA) decided to change its name to 'Association of Communication Agencies of Mauritius' (ACA). This new identity now reflects the reality of the industry: it is about interacting with the public! The Association is open to new members in the field of communication in general with two types of membership: Full-Fledged members and Associate members. The ACA is now a member of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and of the Asian Federation of Advertising Associations (AFAA).

- Valuing each facet of the industry from advertising to communication
- Defending the interests of advertising communication by informing and guiding clients
- Promoting the association and its member-agencies
AHRIM ‘Association des Hôteliers et Restaurateurs, Ile Maurice’ was created in 1973 with the primary objective of representing and promoting the interests of hotels and restaurants in Mauritius.

Founding members included five hotels and nine restaurants, and since then, the association has grown into a major industry stakeholder playing an increasingly significant role in furthering the tourism industry and enhancing the development of the island. Today, AHRIM membership regroups some 150 operators - hotels, restaurants, IRS Projects, and affiliate/associate member associations of tour operators, airport management, scuba diving, golf estates, chefs, and professional training.

AHRIM endeavours to promote tourism as an integral component of the island’s sustainable development agenda. It encourages constructive stakeholder dialogue, manages conflicting positions, and leads the industry through consensus building and informed decision-making. AHRIM also promotes the well-being of all those working directly or indirectly in the tourism sector.
With a history of twenty-two years with a historic mission defending the interests of Mauritian industrialists, the AMM has entered a metamorphosis.

A necessity imposed by profound technological developments and new geostrategic challenges, the need for increased competitiveness in a domestic market strongly challenged by imported products and crossed by new aspirations of consumers, or internationalization via export and E-commerce that calls for new business models.

Following a one-year mobilisation of the local manufacturing and its partners - under the terms “Team up for industry!”, the Association of Mauritian Manufacturers shifted from a classic private sector organisation to a Think & Do Tank for manufacturing, in order to serve as the collaborative platform of projects supporting an industry in transformation.

**Added value of the AMM for its members and partners:**
- Planning experience-sharing among manufacturers.
- Connecting the best expertise to our projects (local and international).
- Connecting manufacturers with private & public partners, and civil society.

**Fields of intervention:**
- Industrial strategy and regional cooperation
- Made in Moris - branding and promotion of local production
- Training
- Innovation
- Going global
- Social and environmental responsibility
Business Mauritius is an independent association that represents over 1200 local businesses and has, through them, a national, regional and international reach. Business Mauritius is the coordinating body and the voice of local business, and delivers services that sustain the progress of both business and community.

Business Mauritius stems from the merger, in October 2015, of two business associations, namely the Mauritius Employers Federation and the Joint Economic Council. Leveraging on over 50 years of cumulated experience of strategic accompaniment to local business in multiple ways, Business Mauritius remains focused on 3 strategic goals:

1. Engaging business in National Economic Development. As a business advocacy body, the mission of this strategic division of Business Mauritius is to promote the voice of our members. Business Mauritius endeavours in understanding the challenges of business, in linking the right individuals, in being present in the right forums and at the right time, and proactively participating in policy formulation, to assist in finding the right solutions.

2. Developing a strong Social Capital through promotion of Re-engineered Corporate Culture, Re-engineered Human Capital, Development and Reinforced Industrial Relations.

3. Promoting Sustainability and Inclusive growth through CSR, increased engagement of members in community development, with strengthened structure and coordination with authorities on community development actions, Governance & Ethics and sustainable Corporate governance practices, championing active involvement of Business in environmental protection.
The setting up of the Economic Development Board (EDB), operating under the aegis of the Prime Minister’s Office, was announced in the Budget Speech 2017/2018 with the mandate to, inter alia provide strong institutional support for strategic economic planning and ensure greater coherence and effectiveness in economic policy formulation; promote Mauritius as an attractive investment and business center, a competitive export platform as well as an international financial center; Act as the main institution responsible for country branding for investment promotion and facilitate both inwards and outwards investment and ensure a conducive business environment.

The overarching objective is to ensure greater coherence and effectiveness in implementing policies and actions and draw the vision for the economic development path to be adopted to reach the high-income economy status.

Following the proclamation of the Economic Development Board Act 2017, the Board of Investment, Enterprise Mauritius and the Financial Services Promotion Agency have merged into the Economic Development Board with a transitional structure that translates the core functions of the new organization.
With more than 150 years of existence and a long-standing experience, the Chamber is the oldest private sector institution representing the Mauritian agricultural community. Its membership comprises about a hundred companies/producer groups/individuals, which represent practically all the agricultural producers of Mauritius. It is a recognised and well-established organisation, which has been at the forefront of the construction of the local sugar industry, and a privileged partner in various initiatives aimed at developing agriculture in Mauritius.

The Chamber provides a high-level forum for an exchange of ideas and views and for the formulation of general policies and strategies on all major issues pertaining to the development of agriculture and agricultural industries. Alert to the economic situation of agricultural producers as well as to their problems and concerns, the Chamber acts as a honest broker in bringing to the attention of the authorities, representations referred to it by its members or by producer groups of the sector.

The Chamber fully supports the initiatives of its members as concerns the development of specific projects. The Chamber is regularly consulted by the authorities and by other partners of the sector for the definition of action plans and the realisation of impact studies.
The MCCI, established in 1850, is the oldest non-profit making institution representing the private sector in Mauritius.

Amongst its different functions, the MCCI conducts advocacy with the Government in order to promote the interests of the business community in playing a leading role in the economic development of the country. The MCCI also acts as a business facilitator through a number of business support services ranging from the provision of barcodes, training of students, to alternative dispute resolution for businesses.

Since its establishment, the MCCI has evolved from a purely representative and consultative body to a dynamic actor in the socio-economic development of the country.

The MCCI conducts the largest business tendency survey in Mauritius, and further makes growth forecasts on key economic indicators for the Mauritian economy.

The MCCI is the main dialogue partner of the Government on issues concerning the industry and commerce sectors and the lead negotiating body at all bilateral and multilateral negotiations for the country. It is represented on regional and international forums on industrial and economic development, from the COMESA Business Council to the World Chambers Federation General Council. The MCCI has over the years further established a number of Joint Business Forums with other countries.

The MCCI has been a strong advocate of an innovation-driven economy and works closely with its members and stakeholders to promote innovation and technology transfer to Mauritius enterprises.
The Mauritius IT Industry Association (MITIA) was founded by leading industry members and have today grown to encompass the majority of all well established and reputed IT companies in Mauritius.

Our members are all Mauritian based companies or in a few cases the local presence of international companies, but in all cases companies which employ primarily Mauritian people, and have Mauritius as part of their active business territory.

We have all a profound interest in the development of Mauritius, its people and future success and we realize the importance of the maintenance of a constant growth and quality of this sector.

The MITIA appreciates the active interest which the Government takes in developing the IT Industry as well as the interest in furthering the support for export from and development of our sector. We work with many government bodies to further national interest and the interest of our members. We are counting on this collaboration as engine of growth and development in the years to come.
The Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency (MARENA) was enacted by the MARENA Act of 2015. It was set up under the aegis of the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities to oversee and promote the development of renewable energy in Mauritius. It is responsible to promote renewable energy and create an environment conducive to the development of renewable energy.

In line with the Government’s vision (Mauritius envisages to increase the share of renewable energy to 35% of the energy mix by 2025 and maintain it at this target by 2030), the Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency (MARENA) has been set up in January 2016 and has as main objective promoting the adoption and use of renewable energy with a view to achieving sustainable development goals and increasing the share of renewable energy in the national energy mix.

In this regard, MARENA is in the process of building capacity with more exchange with regional and international peer institutions in the following areas:

- Emerging renewable energy technologies
- Managing production and grid penetration of renewable energies
- Finding alternative for LPG as main source of energy for cooking
- Development of legislations and guidelines for the renewable energy sector
Outsourcing and Telecommunications Association of Mauritius (OTAM), created in 2004, is the main association for the ICT industry which regroups ITOs, BPOs, International Long Distance (ILD) operators and Internet Service Providers. It represents those with a common interest in promoting and developing the industry both locally and internationally. Its membership is highly representative of the ICT industry.

The Mission of OTAM is to promote a business friendly and competitive environment conducive to the growth of the ICT industry in Mauritius.

Its objectives:

• Develop and promote the ICT sector in Mauritius
• Create a business-friendly environment conducive to the growth of and fair competition in the ICT sector
• Develop successful working relationships with regional and global ICT organisations
• Encourage networking and business opportunities between ICT operators of Mauritius and the Indian Ocean Region, and the world at large.
The Pharmaceutical Association of Mauritius (PAM) is a professional society serving pharmacists in Mauritius. It was founded by a group of pharmacists in 1979. The goal of the association "is to meet members' needs, encourage personal and professional growth and provide information about events, issues and continuous education opportunities, industrial news, and a wide variety of membership activities, and to ensure the well-care of patients". The association currently have around 300 members who are registered with the Pharmacy Council and are licensed to practice in Mauritius. The association promotes the Continuous Medical Education of its members as well as awareness on ongoing issues in pharmaceutical industry. The Executive Committee of PAM is composed of 11 members who are elected at its Annual General Meeting, and is constituted as follows: President, Vice - President, Secretary, Assistant - Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant – Treasurer and 5 Members. The pharmaceutical Association of Mauritius is affiliated to the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA) and The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP).
SME Mauritius Ltd is a private company wholly owned by the Government of Mauritius, and was incorporated in July 2017. This newly incorporated institution has taken over the role and functions of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA). SME Mauritius Ltd operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives and is committed to support and facilitate the development of the entrepreneurship and MSMEs in Mauritius.

Among its function are the promotion of a conducive business environment and empower MSME’s to emerge and grow, promotion of a service delivery network which increases the contribution of MSMEs in the national economy, enhancement of the competitiveness of the MSMEs, facilitation of market access and business opportunities for MSMEs to enable them to compete successfully nationally and internationally.
Link to Ministries - Republic of Mauritius
• Prime Minister's Office, Home Affairs, External Communications and National Development Unit
  http://pmo.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
  http://mof.govmu.org/

• Ministry Of Energy and Public Utilities
  http://publicutilities.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues
  http://mdr.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands
  http://localgovernment.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade
  http://foreign.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation
  http://mtci.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport
  http://publicinfrastructure.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research
http://ministry-education.govmu.org/

- Ministry of Tourism
  http://tourism.govmu.org/

- Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
  http://health.govmu.org/

- Ministry of Arts and Culture
  http://culture.govmu.org/

- Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development
  http://socialsecurity.govmu.org/

- Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development
  http://environment.govmu.org/

- Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security
  http://agriculture.govmu.org/English/Pages/default.aspx

- Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection
  http://industry.govmu.org/
• Attorney General's Office, Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms
  http://attorneygeneral.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms
  http://mjhrir.govmu.org/

• Ministry of Youth & Sports
  http://mys.govmu.org/

(Source: http://m.govmu.org/English/GovernmentBodies/Pages/Ministries.aspx)