An aerial photograph of three wooden fishing boats on clear, turquoise water. The boats are arranged diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right. The boat in the center is a traditional wooden dory with a white cabin. The boat to its left is also wooden but has a purple canopy. The boat on the far left is partially visible and has a purple canopy. The water is very clear, showing the sandy bottom and some small fish. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Evaluation of the Government of Mauritius & United Nations Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023

Feb 2023



DISCLAIMER

This report has been prepared by the authors for the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Mauritius for services specified in the term of reference and contract of engagement. This is the report of an independent evaluation and the opinions expressed therein are those of the evaluation team and do not necessarily reflect those of the UNCT. Responsibility for the opinions expressed therefore, rest with the authors.



PREPARED BY:

Dr Nedy Matshalaga	<i>Team Leader</i>
Dr Riad Sultan	<i>National Consultant</i>
Mr Whisper Nyandoro	<i>Project Manager</i>
Mr Lenard Turugari	<i>Quality Control</i>



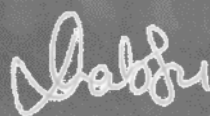
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Evaluation Team would like to extend gratitude to the Government of Mauritius and the United Nations Family for the opportunity to undertake the End Term Evaluation of the Mauritius United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2019-2023. Special thanks go to the Evaluation Steering Committee (ESC) for the constructive feedback throughout the process of the evaluation.

The staff from the Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) is greatly appreciated for their support in coordinating the evaluation process. Special mention goes to Mr Robert Banamwana, the Team Leader and Evaluation Manager for his leadership; Ms Varaluxmee Permall Mootoocurpen (the Data Management Officer) and Mr Jean Armando Fabiani Appavou (the Partnership Officer) for their support in the coordination of the evaluation. The Evaluation Team was able to meet most of the key stakeholders for this evaluation.

The team also wants to thank members of the SPF Coordination structure, including the Programme Management Team, Operations Management Team, Communications and Advocacy Group, who made themselves available to participate in online and physical consultations. The members of the Outcome Groups drawn from Government and the UN who participated in both Online and Physical interviews in Mauritius are appreciated for their contribution to this evaluation.

All stakeholders who participated in this evaluation from Government of Mauritius, Private sector and Civil Society are specially acknowledged for their role in this evaluation.



Dr Nedy Matshalaga

neddy@primson.org

On Behalf of the Evaluation Team

Contents

LIST OF FIGURES.....	iii
LIST OF TABLES	iii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	vi
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 COUNTRY CONTEXT	3
3 METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH	8
EVALUATION FINDINGS.....	9
4 RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY	9
5 COHERENCE.....	11
6 EFFECTIVENESS.....	13
6.1 Transformed Business	13
6.2 Ageing Society, Health and Labour Market Reforms	19
6.3 Strong economy, Sustainable development (Ocean Economy & Tourism)	25
6.4 Inclusive, Quality Education and skilling	29
6.5 Social Protection and Gender Equality	33
6.6 Sustainable Development and Safer Living Environment	38
7 EFFICIENCY	43
7.1 Normative Frameworks	43
Other Aspects of Normative Frameworks	46
8 COORDINATION	47
8.1 Adequacy and Effectiveness of SPF Structures	47
8.2 Management Accountability Framework (MAF)	48
9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	48
9.1 Conclusion	49
9.2 Recommendations.....	51
10 LESSONS LEARNED AND GAPS	53
References	55

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: UN Normative Frameworks Guiding UN Programming.....	
Figure 2: Alignment of SPF Outcomes to Government Development Priorities and SDGs.....	
Figure 3: Manufacturing Contribution to GDP	
Figure 4: Mauritius FDI Flows	
Figure 5: Rodrigues Craft Entrepreneur	
Figure 6: High Technology exports (% manufacturing goods).....	
Figure 7:Enrolment in Training Centers.....	
Figure 8:Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate 2018 to 2020.....	
Figure 9: Population Using ICT in Mauritius between 2018 and 2020.....	
Figure 10: Female representation in Parliament.....	
Figure 11: The UNCT SWAP Gender Equality Score Card and Supportive Indicators.....	

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: The SPF Focus Areas in Brief	6
Table 2: SPF Stakeholders	7
Table 3: Performance of Outcome 1 indicators	13
Table 4: Performance of SDGs for Transformed Business (2022)	18
Table 5: Performance of Outcome 2 indicators against targets	19
Table 6: Performance of SDGs for Transformed Business (2022)`	20
Table 7: Performance of SDGs for Transformed Business (2022)	24
Table 8: Performance of Outcome 3 indicators	25
Table 9: Contribution of Outcome 3 to SDG indicators	28
Table 10: Performance of Outcome 4 indicators	29
Table 12: Performance of Outcome 5 indicators	33
Table 13: Performance of Outcome 6 indicators	38
Table 14: Gender Equality and Human Rights Pillar rating	46
Table 15: High-Level Recommendations	51
Table 16: Additional Recommendations	52

ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AfDB	African Development Bank
BTI	Bertelsmann Stiftung's Transformation Index
BOS	Business Operations Strategy
CADRI	Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CPD	Country Programme Document
CSOs	Civic Society Organisations
DaO	Delivering as One
DFID	Department for International Development
DHIS2	District Health Information Software 2
DOVIS	Domestic Violence Information System
EDB	Economic Development Board
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ESC	Evaluation Steering Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GC	UN Global Compact Network
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
GGG	Global Gender Gap
GIE	Gender Inequality Index
GoM	Government of Mauritius
GTER	Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate
GVA	Gross Value added
HDI	Human Development Index
HSSP	Health Sector Strategic Plan
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
INIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
ISPS	International Ship and Port Security
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing
JMA	Joint Management Area
LFPR	Labour Force Participation Rate
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDA	Maritime Domain Awareness
MISF	Modernisation Investment Support Fund
MLA	Mutual Legal Assistance
MLE	Maritime Law Enforcement
MNV	Mauritius National Vision
MoETEST	Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSMEs	Micro-Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases

NDS	National Development Strategy
NPCC	Productivity and Competitiveness Council
NSERET	National Scheme for Emerging/Innovative Renewable Energy Technologies
OECD-DAC	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – Development Assistance Committee
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMT	Operations Management Team
PAGE	Partnership for Action on Green Economy
PIP	Productivity Improving Programmes
PMS	Primson Management Services
PMT	Programme Management Team
R&D	Research and Development
RCFMI	Regional Centre for the Fusion of Maritime Information
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
RCOC	Regional Maritime Operational Coordination Centre
RMNCH	Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SCORE	Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprise
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEN	Special Education Needs
SIT	Sterile Insect Technique
SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea
SPF	Strategic Partnership Framework
SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
TII	technology innovation Incentive
ToC	Theory of Change
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UN	United Nations
UN Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCWG	United Nations Communications Working Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UNWTO	World Tourism Organization
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WBI	World Bank Indicators
WHO	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction: The Government of Mauritius and the UN jointly signed the first ‘Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023: A Partnership for Sustainable Development’ on 20th August 2019. The SPF consolidated the work of the UN system in a single coherent strategy providing a platform for common policy work, strong coordination of programmes and timely delivery of results. The SPF presented a strong collaborative link with the Mauritius government’s national development priorities, related sustainable development goals, internationally and regionally agreed commitments and obligations including human rights treaties and the Africa Agenda 2063. Evaluation of the SPF is mandatory. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the achievement and progress made against planned results and in particular to make recommendation for the development of the successor SPF. The SPF had 6 outcomes with 53 outcome indicators and 69 Outputs on the following themes: i) Transformed business; ii) Ageing Society Health, Labour Market Reforms; iii) Open Economy and Tourism; iv) Inclusive quality education and skilling; v) Social Protection and Gender Equality and vi) Resilience to Climate Change. The **overarching objectives** of the evaluation of the SPF were to: i) ensure accountability of UN entities to stakeholders; ii) provide lessons learned, deliver clear recommendations to support the next SPF cycle and ensure accelerated progress towards SDGs; iii) serve decision makers at all levels by providing a transparent and participatory platform for learning and dialogue with stakeholders with respect to national progress, challenges and opportunities, and best practices in the context of system-wide response. The primary users of this evaluation included: UNCT, UN resident and non-resident agencies, government, civil society and other stakeholders with interest in the results of the evaluation. The data collection methods included extensive desk review, online interviews and physical data collection in Mauritius. The UN in Mauritius commissioned Primson Management Services (PMS) an independent consultancy firm which assembled a team consisting of international and national consultants to undertake the evaluation of the SPF over an average of 70 days stretching between 11th September 2022 to the 10th of December 2022.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

The following recommendations are structured following the OECD-DAC criteria.

Overall Findings

- The evaluation of the SPF for Mauritius noted a combination of unique features. The Cooperation Framework between, the UN and the Government of Mauritius was the **first experience**. The country is an Upper-Middle Income with peculiar development needs located more upstream than downstream. The physical footprint of UN agencies was limited with 80% of UN agencies operating as non-resident.
- Against the backdrop of the uniqueness of the country, results of the evaluation noted overall good progress in managing both processes of implementing a Cooperation Framework and performance against planned CF results.
- Key areas requiring attention for future SPFs included: the need for: i) strengthening an all-inclusive design and planning for successor SPF; ii) enhancing institutional capacities for generating SPF monitoring data, iii) establishment of a dedicated Monitoring and Evaluation Task Force; iv) selection of fewer outcome areas informed by the CCA and emerging development needs for greater focus and impact; and v) improved prioritisation of focus areas by participating UN agencies.

RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY

The Mauritius SPF was strongly aligned to the national development priorities and SDGs

- The SPF 6 outcomes were aligned to: i) national development priorities as outlined in the Mauritius National Vision (MNV) 2030 and the Mauritius Strategic Plan 2018/19-2020/21; ii) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and iii) the country's human rights commitments and other internationally agreed development goals and treaty obligations, including the Samoa Pathway and the Africa Agenda 2063;
- The aim of alignment of the SPF was to support the ongoing transformation of the Mauritian economy and society towards high income country status with sustainable job creation and economic growth, and efforts to secure lasting and inclusive prosperity, especially for vulnerable groups; and
- The UN in Mauritius was able to adapt to the negative impact of COVID-19 through the establishment of the Socio-Economic Response Plan to COVID-19, which allowed the UNCT to continue providing its pivotal support to the host country.

COHERENCE

Robustness of the SPF Results, Alignment issues and Theory of Change:

The Results Framework for the 2019-2023 SPF was relatively robust. An analysis of the chosen outcome indicators and supportive outputs, suggested a partially linked results framework which would not results in a sharp and logical results chain (**rating logical chain could be 75%**). The UNSDCF for Mauritius did not include the ToC section, nor a diagrammatic presentation of the ToC. The evaluation findings observed that the UN Agencies did not produce Joint Work Plan. Some UN agencies developed their CDPs without aligning them to the UNSDCF.

- Alignment of UN programmes to elements of the results framework in the SPF was relatively weak but the UN programmes were strongly linked to the national development priorities;
- Fewer UN agencies directly used the outputs contained in the SPF. This suggested the need for better selection of output results which the UN agencies could embrace and associate with programmes and use frequently in reporting towards the implementation of the SPF.
- Most UN Agencies were thinly spread across the 6 outcomes thereby weakening focus, impact and prioritisation of their core mandates;
- Distribution of UN agencies across the six outcome areas and also feedback from consultations with some UN agencies suggested relatively weak prioritisation on who does what in the six outcome areas;
- The UN programme was partially coherent, there was limited buy in of some UN agencies to the results framework. Some of the UN agencies had their programme strategy documents developed prior to the development of the SPF and had different timeframes to that of the SPF; and
- There was limited buy-in of results contained in the SPF by strategic stakeholders, including the private sector.

EFFECTIVENESS

Outcome 1: – Transformed Business

- Since 2019 the manufacturing sector contribution to GDP had gradually increased albeit COVID-19 limitations;
- Overall, inflows of FDI in Mauritius were declining, with the COVID-19 pandemic further worsening the situation;
- While the planned target for small scale industry contribution to value added was not reached, UN in partnership with government contributed significantly to the sector;
- Since 2019, the percent of high-tech exports to manufactured goods was generally on the decline. UN contributed to the development of the overarching policy and strategy for industry;
- R&D expenditure (% of GDP) in Mauritius was 0.37 in 2017. By 2020 it had grown to 0.42.
- For the period 2020 to 2021, a total of 4,262 certificates of registration was issued to SMEs compared to 2,508 issued in 2020; surpassing the 2023 target of 2,875; and
- The National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) serviced some 47 MSMEs companies between 2020 and 2021 under the Productivity Improvement Programme (PIP) for manufacturing companies in Mauritius.

Outcome 2: – Aging Society, Health and Labour Market Reforms

- The UN supported Mauritius in the development of relevant policy frameworks to address ageing in society;
- Mauritius made good progress on the implementation of updated, approved labour market and migration regulations to address labour market shortages;
- Good progress was made in aligning labour laws and regulations to meet international labour standards as set in the three target conventions (Convention Nos. 98, 100 and 111). Mauritius has made significant progress identifying compliance gaps with Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100);
- The female labour force participation rate (% of female population ages 16+) (modelled ILO estimate) has not been achieved;
- Relatively small positive changes had been noted on gender wage gap. The UN should intensify its campaign for gender equality to influence the “equal pay for work of equal value” paradigm;
- An operational multi-sectoral national strategy/action plan for NCDs, with time-bound national targets, indicators based on WHO guidance was developed and implemented; .
- Mauritius had in place evidence-based protocols, standards for the management of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) through a primary care approach.
- By 2020 the UHC Index had only moved two points from 64 in 2015 to 66 in 2020, making the target of 70 in 2023 unlikely to be met;
- Mauritius was successful in elaborating a National Population Policy; and
- By the time of this evaluation, the results of the Housing Census 2022 had already been officially released and made public.

Outcome 3: – Strong economy, Sustainable development (Ocean Economy & Tourism)

- Based on the initiatives from 2020 to the evaluation period, it was observed that while an approved, costed ocean economy strategy has not been achieved, there were some efforts towards its realization;
- The initiatives to establish a Marine Spatial Plan together with an ecosystems-based management were still ongoing;
- There was increasing attention given to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity;
- Limited involvement on combatting illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing (IUU) was observed from the UN;
- Intervention was limited to capacity building, but a framework was yet to be established. As far as mechanisms were established or strengthened to exchange information and intelligence on trans-national organized crimes, the UN played a crucial role on the limited initiatives taken at the national level, given the complexity of the issue. However, the mechanisms were yet to be established.
- Due to the COVID 19, there was a decline in the contribution of tourism to GDP. Mauritius was on a recovery phase in the tourism sector; and
- There was a significant decline in employment from 48,000 in 2019 to 36,000 in 2021 due to travel restrictions.

Outcome 4: – Inclusive, Quality Education and skilling

- Enrolment rate in TVET centres plunged from 8,024 in 2019 to 7,329 in 2020 mainly due to the impact of COVID-19;
- Gross Tertiary Enrolment had risen from 46.2% in 2018 to 48.9% in 2019. The negative impact of COVID-19 witnessed a drop to 47.8% in 2020;
- A significant proportion of the population in Mauritius used ICT which was, however skewed towards use of smartphones as compared to use of computers; and
- Mauritius had taken great strides in ensuring use of internet in schools and access to learning for disadvantaged learners during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Outcome 5: – Social Protection

- UN supported the development of the country's National Strategy and Action Plan of the High-Level Committee on the Elimination of Gender-Based Violence;
- Important achievements had been realised in the area of social protection, particularly in terms of the political commitment by Government towards financing the sector;
- Although the evaluation did not see any evidence of the existence of a gender expenditure tracking system, there were some ad hoc and independent analyses of the gender responsiveness of the national budgets;
- The UN supported the Government to develop the National Strategy and Action Plan to eliminate Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Mauritius (2020 -2024) and to create a mobile application (Lesparwar) for immediate protection response in cases of GBV;
- As of February 2021, only 20% of seats in parliament were held by women (14/70);
- The latest available data on incidences of HIV disaggregated by sex showed incidences of 0.56 female, 1.35 male (2019). WHO data also showed a total of <1,000 new infections in 2021; and
- As of February 2021, adolescent pregnancies – 23.2/1000 (2021). The UN needs to intensify its work on SRHR of adolescents and young people.

Outcome 6: – Sustainable Development and Safer Living Environment

- The indicator on the percentage reduction in water loss in the existing distribution network was under-performing at 61% water loss in 2021. In 2017, 54% of water was non-revenue water. However, the figure has increased to 61% in 2021;
- Mauritius had prepared its National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework at national level. At the Municipal level, there was progress in the design of the framework;
- The components of energy efficiency policy framework were in place in support of the Energy Efficiency Demand Side Management Master Plan and Action Plan of 2016. There was substantial progress in the area of promoting renewable energy. This policy framework had been developed, together with strategies to boot innovation and renewable sources;
- The 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity' in the Republic of Mauritius project was officially kick-started during an inception workshop held on 8th September 2022; and
- There were several projects that were connected to the sustainable management of forest and biodiversity conversation such as the project 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity'. Moreover, the Black River Gorges National Park Management Plan 2018-2025 and the Bras D'Eau National Park Management Plan 2018-2025 were published in 2018 and efforts are geared towards the achievement of the objectives in these plans.

EFFICIENCY

- There was evidence that the RC system and the UNCT mandates were being operationalised in line with the Management Accountability Framework (MAF) guidance, which is a framework for accountability of the UN system.
- The Operations Management Team (OMT) work in Mauritius has contributed to enhancing efficiency. Key achievements have been: joint procurement; joint HR services; common premises; use of common ICT and common editing services
- The Joint UN programmes involving more than two UN agencies have contributed to efficiency and reduction of transactional costs and duplication of activities.
- Mauritius presence a good practice in Gender human rights, where legal provisions and programmatic responses have addressed the welfare and human rights of migrant population.

Normative Frameworks

- The UN in Mauritius successfully applied the UN programming guidelines of results focused; partnership, coherent policy support, capacity building and risk-informed programming as well as the programming principles (LNOB, Human Rights, GEWE, accountability and use of quality data) across the 6 outcome areas;
- The evaluation observed the absence of timely and updated statistical data and information to inform performance of SPF results framework; and

- While the UNCT SWAP-Score Card is a mandatory accountability framework for gender mainstreaming by the UN, the evaluation results showed that Mauritius had not yet started operationalising this framework.

Delivering as One

- Despite being a country with 80% non-resident UN agencies, the UN in Mauritius successfully operationalised the principle of DaO through the RC who had leveraged her convening power to bring together different UN to work towards a common goal; and
- Key achievements included Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE); The 2021 UNCT retreat which drew multiple stakeholders including the Prime Minister; initiatives around blue and green bonds and private sector engagement through Business Mauritius and the Global Compact and collaboration on the SDG Fund proposal

COORDINATION

Adequacy and Effectiveness of SPF structures

- The few structures available (PMT, OMT and UNCWG) were relatively very effective in delivering on multiple roles; and
- While these structures recorded good results for their functions, the country would urgently require the establishment of the Monitoring Evaluation Group and Results Groups for the SPF themes.

Lessons learnt

- The impact of COVID-19 pandemic was felt across the 6 outcomes and affected performance of planned results;
- The Non-Physical Presence of UN in Mauritius (80% by Agencies) considerably reduced contact opportunities generated delays in communication by UN agencies and implementing partners;
- Buy-in of SPF results framework was a challenge not only to UN but also by relevant strategic stakeholders;
- Non completion of SPF results framework indicator data in some cases made some variables non evaluable. Almost 10% of the results framework outcome indicators lacked either baseline or targets; and
- Good practices in applying principles of gender equality and human rights: The design of all programmes across the outcome areas especially Pillars 1, 2, 4, 5) incorporated gender equality and human rights principles.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were informed by a systematic analysis of the emerging results of the evaluation against the TORs as well as suggestions generated during consultations with stakeholders who included; i) UN Agencies; ii) Government; iii) Private Sector and iv) CSOs.

RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY

Key Recommendations	Responsible	Time
i. The design of the successor SPF 2024-2028 should have a strong risk management plan supported with allocation of resources for unforeseen disasters that might affect effective smooth implementation of the CF	- UNCT -Government of Mauritius	August 2023

COHERENCE

Key Recommendations	Responsible	Time
i. The successor SPF should include a Theory of Change (ToC) outlining how planned results will be attained (pathways of change), expected outcomes, assumptions and risk assessment and risk mitigation measures.	- RCO - UNCT	By Mid 2023
ii. Develop Agency Programmes aligned to the successor SPF only in areas of comparative advantage.	- All UN Agencies - CSO - Private Sector	By end 2023

EFFECTIVENESS

Key Recommendations	Responsible	Time
i. Planning for the development of the successor SPF should be widely consultative to include all strategic stakeholders (All participating UN Agencies, Government, Private Sector and CSOs).	- RCO - UNCT	Mid 2023
ii. The successor SPF 2024-2028 should have a strong Results framework with indicators data that is trackable. The results framework should have baseline data, targets and sources of data.	- UNCT - Government of Mauritius -	August 2023
iii. Strengthen national systems for generations of indicator data that informed the successor SPF 2024-2028	- Central statistical Office and Relevant Government Agencies	Annually from 2023 to the end of 2028
iv. Capacities of SPF key stakeholders (UN programme staff, SPF M&E Group, Government, Private sector and CSOs) in Result Based Planning, implementation, monitoring and Evaluation should be enhances	- RCO - UNCT	By end 2023
v. Popularise the content of the results Framework for the successor CF 2024-2028 for stakeholder buy-in and use of the framework for programming monitoring and evaluation	- UNCT - RCO - Communication Group	By end of 2023
vi. The UN in collaboration with the Government should work towards stakeholder buy-in of planned SPF programme and results framework for greater utilization of the results framework. The effective engagement of the private sector in key for the country context.	- RCO	By Mid 2023
vii. The UN in collaboration with the Government should consider fewer outcome areas for greater impact of planned outcomes.	- UNCT	By mid 2023
viii. Prioritisation of UN agency contributions to the planned results is critical for effectiveness of delivery of the programme and impact. UN agencies should therefore focus only in areas of their comparative advantages and avoid spreading themselves thinly across all outcome areas of the SPF.	- UNCT	By Mid 2023
ix. Enhance the use of UN Info platform for tracking performance of the successor SPF. To this end, capacities of all UN on the utilisation of the platforms should be enhanced	- UNCT - PMT	By End 2023

Key Recommendations	Responsible	Time
x. Work on popularising the content of the successor SPF for buy-in in joint implementation by all strategic stakeholder (Government, Private Sector and CSOs)	- RC - UN Partnership and Communication Group	Mid 2023

EFFICIENCY

Key Recommendations	Responsible	Time
i. Develop a UNCT gender mainstreaming strategy for the effective implementation of the UNCT SWAP-Scorecard	- RC - UN Women	End 2023
ii. Develop JWP for the successor SPF	- UNCT - PMT	End 2023
iii. Efforts should be made to incorporate at least one gender responsive Outcome indicator across all selected CF pillars	- UNCT	End 2023
iv. Annual reports of the SPF should include monitoring of the 5 programming principle (normative frameworks).	- RC - UNCT	End 2023

COORDINATION

Key Recommendations	Responsible	Time
i. Consider the continuation of the current three SPF coordination structures (PMT, OMT and UN Partnership and Communication Group)	- UNCT	Mid 2023
ii. Consider establishment of an M&E Taskforce to work closely with RCO staff in tracking performance of successor SPF.	- UNCT	Mid 2023
iii. Consider the establishing of a Result Groups that are co-chaired by UN and Government for greater ownership and accountability of result.	- RC - UNCT	Mid 2023

I INTRODUCTION

The Mauritius United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), also referred to as the Strategic Partnership Framework {SPF} (2019-2023) formed the centerpiece of UN reform and represented the collective response of the UN to assist Mauritius address national development priorities and challenges as articulated in the Mauritius's National Vision 2030.¹ The evaluation of the SPF is a mandatory and independent process which ensures accountability, supports learning and informs decisions regarding the design of the successor SPF cycles. This SPF evaluation was guided by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation (2021)². The evaluation was grounded in the following principles: i) independence; ii) impartiality; and iii) rigorous methodology. This evaluation was commissioned by United Nations Country Team (UNCT). The evaluation was undertaken by a team of independent evaluators from Primson Management Services (an international consulting firm). The evaluators included an international and national consultant who were supported by a project manager.

Purpose of the Evaluation: The evaluation assessed the degree to which planned results (outcomes and outputs) were accomplished. The primary users of this evaluation include: UNCT, UN resident and non-resident agencies³, government, civil society, and other stakeholders with interest in the results of the evaluation.

The **overarching objectives** of the evaluation of the SPF were to: i) ensure accountability of UN entities to stakeholders; ii) provide lessons learned, deliver clear actionable recommendations to support the next SPF cycle and ensure accelerated progress towards SDGs; and iii) serve decision makers at all levels by providing a transparent and participatory platform for learning and dialogue with stakeholders with respect to national progress, challenges and opportunities, and best practices in the context of system-wide response.

Scope of Work: The evaluation covered the implementation period from 1st January 2019 to 31st August 2022. Six SPF outcomes under the six key pillars of the SPF, namely i) transformed business; ii) ageing society, health market reforms; iii) ocean economy and tourism; iv) education and skills development; v) social protection and gender equality; vi) environment, energy and water and agriculture were the main focus of this evaluation. The evaluation occurred for about two months starting on the 11th of October 2022. The geographical coverage included interventions in the 2 islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues. Key stakeholders consulted for this evaluation include UN agencies, Government of Mauritius, private sector, civil society and selected beneficiaries of the interventions.

Evaluation questions: The broad evaluation questions focused on relevance of the SPF to the development context; coherence of the ToC; effectiveness of planned outcomes; sustainability; impact; and efficiency. The evaluation also assessed responsiveness of the SPF, value added of the UN contribution, and derived key lessons and recommendations for the successor SPF. Furthermore, the evaluation assessed the degree to which UN agencies embraced the principle of delivering as one. See [Appendix 3: Tool I](#) for overarching evaluation questions.

Uniqueness of the CF Evaluation: Mauritius presents a unique country compared to other countries with respect to the CF evaluation. The following are some of the unique features which were considered in this evaluation: i) The first UNSDCF for the country (hence potential learning for SPF stakeholders); ii) A country with over 80% of UN agencies who were non-resident; iii) A significant proportion of UN agencies with regional as opposed to country programmes; iv) Greater use of online consultations as opposed to physical

¹ Government of Mauritius- Foreign Affairs (2017)

² UNEG (2021) Guidelines for the evaluation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

³ In Mauritius UN Resident Agencies include UNDP, WHO and IOM while Non-Resident Agencies include: UNFPA, UNEP, UNAIDS, FAO, UNIDO, IAEA, OHCHR, UN WOMEN, ILO, UNODC, UNECA, UNWTO, UN Habitat, UNESCO and IFAD. This suggest limited presence of UN agencies in the country.

consultation; v) Mauritius was straddling between upper middle income and developed country and thus the thrust of UN support was mostly upstream compared to huge downstream developmental programmes.

Structure of Evaluation Report: This report is presented in two parts. The first chapter of the report; 1. Introduces the report background, purpose, objectives and scope of the evaluation; 2. Presents country context and an overview of the status of the SPF; and 3) Methodological approach. The second part of the evaluation presents the evaluation findings which include 4) relevance; 5) coherence; 6) effectiveness; 7) efficiency; 8) sustainability; 9) Assessment of SPF structures; 10) normative frameworks; 11) impact of COVID-19; 12) gaps and lessons learned; 13) strategic positioning; 14) conclusions and recommendation.

2 COUNTRY CONTEXT

0.35

Gender Inequality
Index (2019-2021)

105 out of
148 countries
globally on
Global Gender
Gap(2022)

20 out of 36
sub-Saharan
countries on
Global Gender
Gap(2022)

Population of
1,263,888
(2021)

2,040 km²

1st

by Ibrahim
Index of African
Governance (2020)

66 out of 189
countries on the
Human
Development
Index

0.804

Human Development
Index (2019)

Geography and Demography: Mauritius is an island country made of three islands in the Indian Ocean that is volcanic in origin and is almost surrounded by coral reefs, the country is located off the eastern coast of Africa its capital city being Port Louis⁴. The country has an area size of roughly 2,040 square kilometers. According to Statistics Mauritius, the country continues to experience declining population growth since the late seventies, the major contributing factor being the decline in fertility⁵. The population in 2021 decreased by 2,142 from 1,266,030 recorded in 2020 to 1,263,888 recorded in 2021. A drop in the number of live births together with an increase in the number of deaths has contributed to a zero-growth rate or lower as from 2019 onwards⁶. English and French are de facto national and common languages and are used in government, administration, courts and businesses. In addition, Mauritian Creole is also widely spoken.

Economic Context: Mauritius moved from being a traditionally agriculture-based economy to a multi diversified economy, with key drivers such as tourism constituting 25 % of GDP⁷. Other drivers include manufacturing and employment sector. Emerging in the last decade are financial and ICT services. Despite the performance of the mentioned key economic drivers of the economy, Mauritius also experiences structural constraints as a Small Island Developing State – small land area and relative remoteness, limited economies of scale and fiscal basis, overreliance on strategic imports (food, fuel, etc) and high concentration of exports and external markets, high exposure to climate change-related events – that condition a higher-than average vulnerability to exogenous environmental and socioeconomic shocks and hinder economic progress. Limited state investment in key drivers of growth including inclusive growth and encouraging private sector-led growth is also a cause of concern for Mauritius. These vulnerabilities and the limitations in investments in socioeconomic and environmental resilience made the impact of multiple, overlapping crises amongst the highest worldwide: COVID19, supply chain disruptions, inflation, invasion of Ukraine, as well as climate change impact. ⁸ Mauritius experienced a 14.9% negative growth in 2020 due to these global shocks however, by 2021 the country experienced a recovery of 7.5%⁹. Contrary to this growth of 2021, the country continues to experience job losses despite government efforts to maintain employment and the unemployment rate reached 9.1%¹⁰. Persistent inflation in 2021 and 2022 hampered economic recovery and slowed down job creation and this weighed heavily on poverty and state finances as the government continued to subsidize some projects to include social safety nets, this pressure will probably continue throughout 2023.

Inequalities (Gini, Gender indexes, HDI): According to the World Bank Indicators, the Gini coefficient for Mauritius for 2006, 2012 and 2017 was 35.7, 38.5 and 36.8 respectively implying that there is inequality in the distribution of income in Mauritius, and that this inequality is growing. *Gender Inequality Index (GII) Has remained stable between 2019 (0.35) and 2021 (0.35)*. Three composite indices for GI are reproductive health, empowerment, and reproductive health. The level of inequalities between men and women is low as the GI is closer to zero than to one although a lot still needs to be done to push the index further downwards. *Gender Parity Not Improving:* According to the Global Gender Gap Report for 2022, gender parity is not improving, and this will take 132 years to close the global gender gap. Global Gender Gap (GGG) is measured in terms of economic participation and opportunities, education attainment, health and survival and political empowerment. Mauritius is ranked number 20 out of 66 countries in the Sub-Saharan Region and 105 out of 148 countries Globally with an average GGG score of 0.679¹¹. This implies that Mauritius is on the path to achieving gender parity. *The Human Development Index (HDI) value for 2019 was 0.804* placing the country in a high human development category. Mauritius ranks 66th out of 189 countries and territories.

⁴ <https://www.britannica.com/place/Mauritius>

⁵ https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/ESI/2022/EI1636/Pop_Vital_Yr21_110322.pdf

⁶ *ibid*

⁷ https://tourism.govmu.org/Documents/publication/Final_APF_FY_2020_21.pdf

⁸ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NE.IMP.GNFS.ZS?locations=MU>

⁹ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?locations=MU>

¹⁰ https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/By_Subject/Other/MIF/MIF_Yr21_100822.xlsx

¹¹ https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2022.pdf?_gl=1*17hy389*_up*MQ..&gclid=CjwKCAjwzY2bBhB6EiwAPpUpZtiT2ZjHhRyQII4MUvpX2PDhalEzcwEaHIJ-aD6TnFW2G4YJdel-2BoCtDoQAvD_BwE

Governance: Mauritius is usually portrayed as one of the most democratic countries in the world and a symbol of good governance¹². According to the 2020 Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance, overall governance is measured in terms of security and rule of law, participation, rights and inclusion, foundations for economic opportunity and human development. Considering the governance index Mauritius in 2019 maintains the top position in Africa for the 10th consecutive year with a score of 77.2¹³. Although the country seems to be performing well in terms of governance but there are signs that the score is declining at an increasing rate, and this is exacerbated by weakened social protection and deteriorated human rights in the country.¹⁴

Status of SDGs: Mauritius ranks 95 of 165 countries in terms of progress toward achieving all 17 SDGs¹⁵. The country has an SDG Index Score of 66.7, the country performs slightly higher than the average regional score of 51.9 and is moderately improving overall. Mauritius produced its first Voluntary National Review in 2019, in which the government reaffirmed its ambition to achieve the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Mauritius has achieved the No Poverty goal (SDG 1) and is in a good position to maintain this, with none of the population living below the extreme poverty line¹⁶. The progress on SDGs was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Before the pandemic the country was improving on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being (SDG 3), inclusive and equitable quality education as well as gender equality and women empowerment (SDG 4 and 5), access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (SDG 7), building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation (SDG 9), and making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (SDG 11)¹⁷. The COVID-19 pandemic reversed the recent gains in poverty eradication and women participation in the labour market.

The UNCT in Mauritius is composed of 20 members: FAO, IAEA, IFAD, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNECA, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, UN Women, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNIDO, UNODC, UNWTO, and the WHO¹⁸. The UN Resident Coordinator's Office is based in Mauritius and is for Mauritius and Seychelles. The bulk of these agencies about 80% are non-resident and the limited physical presence in the country reduces the efficacy of their activities.

OVERVIEW OF SPF STATUS AND UN NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS

The Strategic Partnership Framework 2019 – 2023: The Government of Mauritius and the UN jointly signed the first 'Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023: A Partnership for Sustainable Development' on 20th August 2019. The SPF consolidates the work of the UN system in a single coherent strategy providing a platform for common policy work, strong coordination of programmes and timely delivery of results. The SPF presents a strong collaborative link with the Mauritius government's national development priorities, related sustainable development goals, internationally and regionally agreed commitments and obligations including human rights treaties and the Africa Agenda 2063. Driven by the pillars of the Mauritius National Vision, the Three-year Strategic Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21 priorities, and related SDG, the SPF has six (6) priority or outcome areas. **Table I** presents the key outcome areas and participating UN agencies as provided in the SPF.

¹² <https://doi.org/10.1080/02589346.2021.1913806>

¹³ <https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2020-11/2020-index-report.pdf>

¹⁴ *ibid*

¹⁵ https://mauritius.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/UN_AR_REPORT_2021_MAUITIUS_FINAL.pdf

¹⁶ *ibid*

¹⁷ *ibid*

¹⁸ <https://mauritius.un.org/en/about/un-entities-in-country>

Table 1: The SPF Focus Areas in Brief

SPF Priority Areas		SPF Outcomes	# Outcome Indicators	# Outputs	Participating UN Agencies
Transformed Businesses	1	By 2023, there is a stronger policy and regulatory environment that promotes innovation and increased productivity in targeted traditional and new sector.	9	11	FAO, IAEA, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO
Ageing society, health and labor market reforms	2	By 2023, there is a comprehensive approach to address challenges posed by population ageing including its effects on population, health, labor market and economic growth.	10	14	IAEA, ILO, IOM, UNESCO, UNFPA, WHO
Ocean economy and tourism	3	By 2023, the marine sector has an integrated policy and regulatory environment that promotes sustainable resource management and private sector led diversification and job creation	8	6	IOM, ILO, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNODC, UNWTO
Quality education and skilling	4	By 2023, the education and training system offers higher quality, inclusive services and equips all learners with knowledge and skills for enhanced employability.	7	3	ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA
Social Protection and gender equality	5	By 2023, social protection policies and programmes are strengthened and rationalized to reach the most vulnerable including workers in informal economy eliminate GBV, and to enhance the socioeconomic and political empowerment of women.	13	13	ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNODC, WHO
Resilience to climate change	6	By 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.	6	22	IAEA, IOM, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, WHO
Total			53	69	

The Mauritius SPF comprises of 6 outcomes and 53 outcome indicators spread across the outcomes. It has a total of 69 outputs.

In line with the UN guidelines, the UN and partners are expected to operationalize the four principles of programming, and five mutual reinforcing programming approaches in the delivery of their work. **Error! Reference source not found.** presents the normative frameworks.



Figure 1: UN Normative Frameworks Guiding UN Programming

It should be noted that the implementation of the Mauritius SPF was delayed due to the onset and negative impact of the COVID-19. The scope of work included an analysis of the potential impact of COVID-19 on the implementation of the SPF. In terms of continuous assessment of the SPF, Mauritius did not conduct a midterm review (mid-term review not mandatory as per the new UN guidelines) but produced annual SPF reviews which guided progress on the implementation of the SPF.

Stakeholder Mapping: Table 2 presents the SPF stakeholders.

Table 2: SPF Stakeholders

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS	RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS
RCO	RCO SPF Evaluation Coordinators, RCO M&E and Data Manager, RCO SPF programme staff
SPF STRUCTURES	Steering Committee, UNCT, OMT, ORGs, UN Communication Groups
UN	UNDP, WHO, IOM, UNFPA, UNEP, UNAIDS, FAO, UNIDO, IAEA, OHCHR, UN WOMEN, ILO, UNODC, UNECA, UNWTO, UN Habitat, UNESCO and IFAD
UN RELATED FUNDS AGENCY	GCF, GEF, MPTF, IDF
GOVERNMENT	PMO, EDB, MoFED, MoCI, MoICCP, MoAIFS, MoBEC, MoLIRET, NPCC, MoHQL, MoGECDFW, MoSIEE, MACOSS, PMO-CSMZAE, MoOEMRF, MoSSNSESD, MoT, MLGOI, MoEHRTER, MoGECDFW, NEF, NDRRMC, MoAIFS, MoLGOI, MoEPU
CSOS/NGOs/Private Sector	Business Mauritius, MCCL, workers organisations, and others.
DONORS	Asian Development Bank, World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Islamic Development Bank, USAID, SDC, DFID, JICA, and selected country donors (at least 5 countries)
BENEFICIARY GROUPS	Youths, males, females drawn from site visit for the blue ocean economy, tourism, and improvement of coastal areas.

3 METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

Evaluability: During the inception phase involving mainly the RCO, an evaluability assessment was conducted. The results showed that Mauritius SPF was evaluable, albeit with the need to reconstruct the Theory of Change, which would also enable assessment on coherence. Furthermore, as the evaluation progressed the consultants needed to complete some missing outcome indicator variable (targets). About ten percent of outcome indicators had no targets. [Appendix 5](#), presents results of the evaluability exercise. Outcome indicators for the SPF are also shown in Tool 6 of the data collection tools.

Evaluation Conceptual framework: The evaluation was based on the criteria laid out in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) principles for evaluation of development Assistance as defined in the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) guidelines. OECD-DAC variables assessed include relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact. The evaluation assessed strategic positioning for successor CF looking at alignment to national priorities, value added for the UN and key recommendations. The evaluation also assessed the degree of incorporation of the four principles of programming in SPF implementation (LNOB, Human Rights, GEWE, sustainability and resilience and accountability) and the five programming approaches (results focus, capacities, risk informed programming, coherent policy support, and partnerships).

Data sources and data collection methods: The evaluation was mainly based on desk review and analysis of secondary data contained in various reports generated by all stakeholders of the SPF (UN SPF Annual Reports, UN agency reports including evaluation reports, Government reports informing the results of the SPF) and other sources informing the status of the SPF outcome indicators. The list of document reviewed is shown in the footnotes of this report. Online focus group and key informant interviews were conducted with SPF coordination structures to include Programme Management Team (PMT), Operations Management Team (OMT), United Nations Partnership and Communications Group (UNPCG), and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). Online interviews on SPF outcomes were conducted with respective UN agencies who shared their opinion of the status of results around the outcomes. An online FGDs were also conducted with private sector and a group of youth benefiting from UN programme in Rodrigues. Physical consultations were done with UN Agencies who were resident in Mauritius. The list of all consulted stakeholders is included in [Appendix 4](#).

Limitations of the evaluation: The incomplete outcome indicator data (especially targets) also meant the consultants had to estimate the targets for the outcome indicators. The SPF did not include a ToC against which coherence of the SPF could be assessed. Overall monitoring data and information is not up to date. As such mainly 2020 and part of 2021 data were used. There were also some outcome indicators which had no sources to inform the performances. However, these limitations did not weigh heavily on the evaluation and this evaluation report contains valid findings for the assessment.

Data Analysis: Data and information gathered were analysed using triangulation of both results and data sources to come up with the validated results. The consultants used manual data analysis which focused on the key themes of the evaluation. The analysis also included a gendered assessment of the results.

Governance: The evaluation was coordinated through the RCO. The Joint UN Evaluation Steering Committee was the apex governance structure that oversaw the evaluation process. It reviewed and approved the inception report.

EVALUATION FINDINGS

4 RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY

EQ 1: How relevant is the design of the SPF to national development needs and priorities as articulated in the key national development documents (Vision, NDS, etc.) and relevant global development protocols as well as SDGs?

EQ 2: How adaptable was the implementation of the SPF to emerging contexts?

Assessment of relevance entails establishing the degree to which the programme was related or useful in relation to a pre-defined standard or benchmark. To this end, evaluators looked at the relevance of the SPF in relation to: i) National development priorities (Vision 2030 and NDSs); ii) Agenda 2030 for sustainable development (SDGs); and iii) The development needs of the country in light of its changing context of moving from middle income country to upper income country including the changing global context.

The Mauritius SPF was strongly aligned to the national development priorities and SDGs: The SPF aimed to achieve the six SPF (6) outcomes during the period 2019-2023. These were aligned to: i) national development priorities as outlined in the Mauritius National Vision (MNV) 2030 and the Mauritius Strategic Plan 2018/19-2020/21¹⁹; ii) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and iii) the country's human rights commitments and other internationally agreed development goals and treaty obligations, including the Samoa Pathway and the Africa Agenda 2063²⁰. The MNV 2030 was organised according to five (5) pillars that set the country's long-term development priorities: i) Strong Economy; ii) Fully Open Country; iii) Coherent Social Development and Inclusive Society; iv) A Safer Living Environment for All and Higher Quality of Life; and v) Sustainable Development. Efforts were focused on developing the ocean and green economies, embracing the digital economy, accelerating the development of new and innovative sectors including information communication and Technology (ICT) and financial technology, and creating a next generation of critical thinkers and entrepreneurs to compete effectively in regional and global economies. Broadly stated, the aim of alignment of the SPF was to support the ongoing transformation of the Mauritian economy and society towards high income country status with sustainable job creation and economic growth, and efforts to secure lasting and inclusive prosperity, especially for vulnerable groups. Addressing gender inequalities was engrained in UN support to the country's development priorities. **Figure 2** shows alignment of UN programme support to the national development priorities.

Adaptability: The implementation of the SPF 2019-2023 was significantly and negatively impacted by COVID-19. However, Mauritius demonstrated high level of adaptability to the COVID-19 crisis through, "The Socio-Economic Response Plan to Covid-19 (SERP)" that ensured continuity of UN support despite the challenges presented by COVID-19. The UNCT continued its pivotal support to Mauritius. Furthermore WHO-Mauritius provided its sustained and close support to the country in its close support to the country. Though slowed down, the UN in Mauritius continued to implement the provisions of the SPF 2019-2023.

¹⁹ Republic of Mauritius, 3-year Strategic Plan, 2018/19-2020/21, Pursuing Our Transformative Journey.

²⁰ United Nations, Draft outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States - SIDS ACCELERATED MODALITIES OF ACTION [S.A.M.O.A.] Pathways, A/CONF.223/3, 2014; (2) African Union, Africa Agenda 2063 Framework Document, The Africa We Want, Sept 2015

MAURITIUS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP MODEL

Mauritius National Vision 2030: Accelerate the pace of sustainable economic diversification so that Mauritius can join the league of high-income countries by 2030 with a per capita GNI of USD \$13,550 by 2023, progressing to USD \$19,000 by 2030.

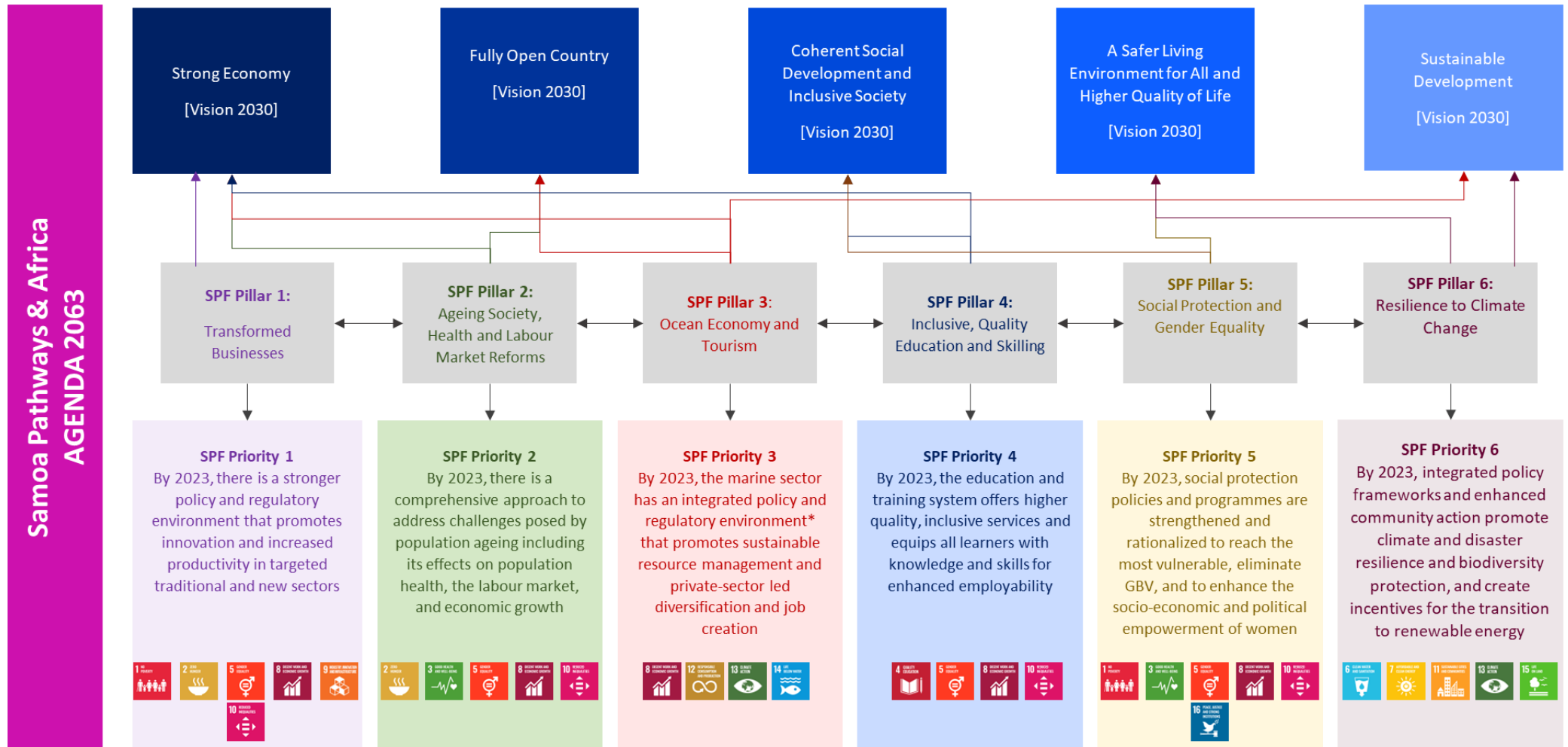


Figure 2: Alignment of SPF Outcomes to Government Development Priorities and SDGs

5 COHERENCE

EQ 1: Was the SPF supported with an appropriate Theory of Change?

EQ 2: How robust was the SPF Results Framework?

EQ 3: How aligned were UN programmes to the SPF Result Framework?

Robustness of the SPF Results: The Mauritius Strategic Partnership Framework 2019 to 2023 was robust with carefully selected outcome indicators and outputs that could contribute to the achievement of the planned outcomes: An analysis of the chosen outcome indicators and supportive outputs, suggest a **partially linked results framework** which would not result in a sharp and logical results chain (rating could be **75% logical**). Some of the outputs had no linkages to any of the outcome indicators. A good example of this is Outcome 6. Output results on coal ash disposal, mercury use, or fish poisoning had no relevant outcome indicators. The evaluation suggests a need for greater investment in the development of successor results framework where the outputs are closely linked to the outcome indicators and the outputs are pitched more at the UN contribution clearly showing UN footprint in the country. A good results framework should also have complete baselines and target for evaluability. The outcome indicators were systematically selected and if accomplished would contribute to the achievement of the outcome results. However, it should be noted that in terms of attribution to achievement of the results, the UN family could contribute partially to the achievement of the outcome while the other portions would be left to the government and role of other key stakeholder such as private sector and civil society. This observation suggests a strong need for strong partnership arrangement (UN, Government, Private Sector and CSOs) for the joint achievement of the set SPF outcomes. As such the focus of the evaluation of the SPF will mainly be on UN contributions for their relevant areas (particularly development of policy and regulatory frameworks and capacities across the six outcome areas).

Alignment of UN programmes to elements of the results framework in the SPF was relatively weak but the UN programmes were strongly linked to the national development priorities: Consultations with some UN agencies suggested that some of the SPF outputs were not closely linked to the programme support to the government. When tracking progress of their programmes or reporting to the RCO on the SPF, such agencies made use of their agency programme documents or strategy indicators. Very few of the UN agencies consulted made direct use of the outputs contained in SPF. One UN agency reported that there was not a single output or outcome indicators that was relevant to the work they did. The UN agency in question, however contributed significantly to the national development priorities. The agency worked closely with the relevant government ministries in its area of comparative advantage. This result calls for greater effort at design stage of successor SPF for a concerted effort to involve all relevant UN Agencies such that they also contribute to the development of the SPF results framework and use the elements of the results framework in the design of their country programme support. Another UN agency consulted indicated that the outputs contained in the SPF were linked to their work programme and also strongly aligned to the national development priorities and programme. The UN agency had strong working relationships with the relevant government ministries. However, in reporting progress the UN agencies in question used their agency strategy results frameworks more often than the SPF results framework to track progress. Fewer UN agencies directly used the outputs contained in the SPF. This suggested the need for better selection of output results which the UN agencies could embrace and associate with programmes and use frequently in reporting towards the implementation of the SPF.

Most UN Agencies were thinly spread across the 6 outcomes thereby weakening focus, impact and prioritisation of their core mandates: Analysis of the distribution of UN agencies across the six outcome areas and also feedback from consultations with some UN agencies suggested relatively weak prioritisation on who does what in the six outcome areas. The analysis noted UN agencies were running with areas that were not their core mandates. This situation was also worsened by the fact that 80% of UN agencies

were nonresident and that affected their effective participation in their main core areas of focus. Against the unique nature of Mauritius, a country transitioning from a middle to a higher income country, the analysis suggested **the potential need for having only relevant UN agencies** that fit neatly to the country's development challenges contributing to the SPF, where they **can apply their key mandates** in contributing to Mauritius development priorities. UN agencies less likely to find relevant contribution to development challenges could be left out of the SPF. The unique development requirements for Mauritius also supported this potential direction by the UN family. On the same vein relevant UN agencies that were non-resident also had to consider a more effective approach for contributing to the delivery of the SPF. **Prioritisation** of who does what in the SPF is thus a key procedure in preparation of the successor SPF.

Noted gaps in the Results framework: As at the time of the SPF evaluation, the SPF had missing targets for some outcome Indicators thereby partially effecting degree of evaluability: However, as the information was gathered through desk review, the missing targets were incorporated to allow for assessment.

The SPF did not provide a comprehensive Theory of Change (ToC): The SPF made reference to the ToC in passing. There was no elaborate ToC presented. However, despite the absence of the ToC narrative, the SPF was comprehensive in the provision of the development context for each of the outcome areas. The outputs for each of the outcome areas were adequately presented and so were the outcomes. From the information provided in the SPF documents, the consultants could deduce the ToC. The missing elements to the ToC were the assumptions and articulation of the risk and risk management strategies. COVID -19 and the impact of the Ukraine and Russia conflict significantly impacted on the planned results of the SPF and overall performance of the SPF. It was hoped that the successor SPF would include a complete theory of change covering the problems, pathways of changes (Outputs), Outcomes, assumptions and risk and risk mitigation measures.

Coherence of UN Programmes to the ToC: Analysis of the evaluation results suggest that the UN programme was partially coherent to the elements of the ToC (Development problem, planned outputs and outcome indicators). As discussed in earlier sections, the usability of the planned outputs was minimal. Some of the UN agencies had their programme strategies documents developed prior to the development of the SPF and had different timeframes to that of the SPF. This affected coherence. Some of the UN programmes did not explicitly support the SPF results framework. Other UN agencies reported relying more on their agency programme plans as opposed to the SPF. By coincidence their programmes could be linked to the SPF planned results. Furthermore, some UN agencies noted limited consultations in the development of the SPF results, which limited such agencies ownership of the results. The absence of the joint work plan which would link UN agency work to specific outputs and outcome areas also contributed to a weaker coherence of UN programmes to the ToC.

Stakeholder Buy-In for Results Framework and SPF Programme: Results of the evaluation suggest limited buy-in of results contained in the SPF by strategic stakeholders including the private sector. Given the focus development challenges for Mauritius and the need to transition from a middle to high income level country, the role of private sector and CSOs was key in the delivery of the SPF. Consultations with private sector players noted their limited knowledge of the SPF let alone the results contained in them. However some private sector players acknowledged their participation in the UN driven initiative for the country programme known as the **Global Compact**, which was planning to have meaningful involvement of the private sector in the economy. The successor SPF should step up consultation of other stakeholders to ensure they appreciate the development problem, participate in the development of the results framework and also own them for them to be accountable for the performance of elements in the SPF for which they have responsibilities. While consultations with government stakeholders were relatively minimal the evaluation findings also suggested limited involvement in the monitoring of the results contained in the SPF. Joint implementation and monitoring of the SPF results is critical for future SPFs.

6 EFFECTIVENESS

EQ 1: To what extent were planned SPF results achieved (What were the facilitating and militating factors)?

This chapter presents results of the analysis of performance of the planned results across the six outcomes. For each of the outcome areas, a snapshot of the status and development challenges for each outcome at the start of the SPF (2019) is presented. This is followed by an analysis of the performance of each of the six outcomes.











6.1 Transformed Business

Outcome 1: By 2023 there is a stronger policy and regulatory environment that promotes innovation and increased productivity in targeted traditional and new sectors.



Overall, good progress was made towards the achievement of Outcome 1. There were 9 indicators rated as: **Achieved (1); Good Progress Made towards Achievement (3); Satisfactory (0); and Not Achieved (3). No information (2).**

What follows is an analysis of the performance of outcome 1 during the SPF period.




Table 3: Performance of Outcome 1 indicators

Outcome 1 Indicators	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
Ia. % Contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP	13.4	14.2 est ²¹	13.2 Statistics Mauritius	
Ib. FDI in the manufacturing sector (annual Rs million)	108	500	128	
Ic. Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added (SDG 9.3.1)	39	TBD	36	
Id. Proportion of medium and high tech industry value-added in total value added (SDG 9.b.1)	6.7	TBD	5	
Ie. High-technology exports (% of manufactured exports)	0.07	TBD	2	
If. % firms with female participation in ownership	17	TBD		
Ig. Extent of implementation of fiscal strategy and measures to Promote innovation, R&D spending	Inadequate	Full		
Ih. Growth in registrations of new MSMEs	1,623	2,875	4,262	
Ii. No. MSMEs adopting and implementing productivity improvement programmes (PIP)	30	50	47	
Average rating:			Good progress	

Key: Indicator Performance Rating

-  Achieved
-  Good Progress Made

²¹ Source of the statistical data on manufacturing sector contribution to GDP is Economic Development Board (EDB) and Statistics Mauritius

	Satisfactory
	Not Achieved
	No information

Ia. % Contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP: Since 2019 the manufacturing sector contribution to GDP gradually increased albeit COVID-19 limitations.

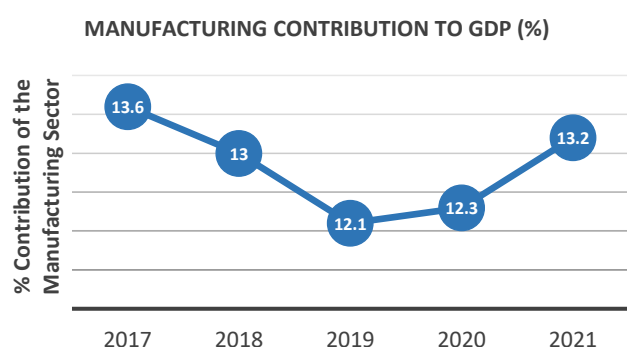


Figure 3: Manufacturing Contribution to GDP

over 1,500 product lines. The second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic impacted negatively on both operations and the timely implementation of strategies devised to reposition the sector (stoppages to factory operations, air and sea connectivity issues and disruption in the global supply chain including delayed and limited access to inputs from sourcing markets). The UN supported Mauritius in the development of an overarching Industrial Policy and Strategy Plan for Mauritius (2020 -2025) which focuses on the revitalisation of the country's economic growth²². Policy and strategic areas covered development of appropriate skills, competencies, research and innovation. Ease of doing business for the manufacturing sector is critical in improving performance of the sector and its contribution to GDP. The UN in Mauritius also supported the Government with programmes aimed at improving ease of doing business across the public sector. The UN family worked with government to reenergise economic growth through innovation and investment in productivity in targeted traditional and new sectors by creating a robust regulatory environment and market for a new generation of transformed businesses.²³ The country's ease of doing business ranking improved from 20th in 2019 to 13th in 2020. Priority areas for ease of doing business for Mauritius that would further trigger the growth of the manufacturing sector according to The World Bank standards, would cover the following key areas dealing with: i) construction permits; ii) registration of properties; iii) enforcement of contracts; and iv) resolving insolvents.²⁴

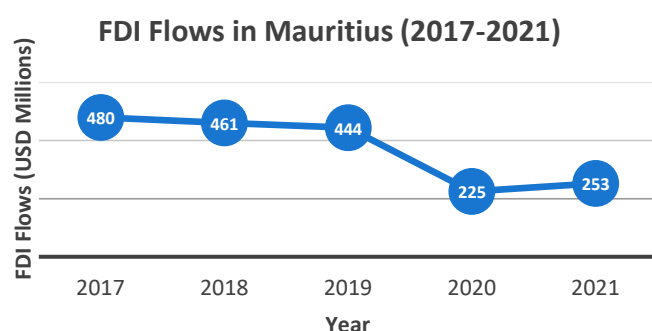


Figure 4: Mauritius FDI Flows

Ib. FDI in the Manufacturing sector:

Overall, inflows of FDI in Mauritius were on the decline, with the COVID-19 pandemic further worsening the situation. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 2021 report, FDI flows to Mauritius fell by almost half in 2020 to USD 246 million from 471 million in 2019²⁵. Figure 4 presents the flow of FDI in the manufacturing sector. Manufacturing sector FDI was reported at

²² Ministry of industrial development SMEs and Cooperative (Industrial development division and United Nations (UNCTAD)

²³ UN Annual Report for the SPF 2021

²⁴ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30749/131766-WP-DB2019-PUBLIC-Mauritius.pdf?sequence=1>

²⁵ United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2021) World Investment report 2021

MUR128 million for January to September 2021 as compared to MUR165 billion for January to September 2020.

I.c. Proportion of small-scale industry in total industry value added: While the planned target for small scale industry contribution to value added was not reached, UN in partnership with government contributed significantly to the sector. In Mauritius, SMEs are a major engine of growth and economic development, they provide 50% of employment. As of 2021 SMEs contributed around 36% to gross value added²⁶. The sector was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which brought it almost to a standstill.

Nathanielle Begue (Rodrigues Crafts Entrepreneur)

A female youth entrepreneur transforms a family subsistence business to an export-orientated entity. During an FGD with SPF evaluation consultants, the young female entrepreneur narrated how she transformed a family art business to an exported-oriented venture. Through innovation, the quality of the products improved to be accepted in the international market. With UN support Nathanielle participated in regional forums for trade and further gained skills to grow her business. Initially, she sold her products in Rodrigues but later on she was selling to Mauritius and beyond Mauritius. She was part of the Rodrigues youth centre which supported youth in a wide range of skills including entrepreneurship.



Despite limited contribution to gross value added, with the support of the UN the government of Mauritius has initiated schemes to revitalize the SMEs sector including: i) Internal Capability Development Scheme; ii) Technology and Innovative Scheme; and iii) SME Marketing Scheme and SME Utility Assistance Scheme. UN supported institutional capacities of the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) to implement the Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprise (SCORE), a programme aimed at improving Utility and working conditions in SMEs.

I.d Proportion of medium and high-tech industry (MHTI) value added in total value added: Overall, the proportion of MHTI remained constant since 2016 to 2019 at 5%.²⁷ The Competitive Industrial Performance index 2022 for Mauritius indicated that in 2020, the indicator slightly improved to 5.4%. The UN contribution for this outcome indicator, was through the Industrial Waste Cost Structure Study (2020) that provided a basis for creating government policies on Waste. Furthermore. In line with PAGE strategy for 2030, in 2021, the UN provided policy advisory services that established or strengthening 5 institutions, improved management practices of 53 firms and collaborated with 17 business actors.²⁸ An analysis of available monitoring data suggest gaps in regular tracking of this important indicator for industry performance. There was therefore need for the UN to support the relevant institutions to generate annual statistics to track the performance of the indicators. Where possible proxy indicators could be suggested in order to get up to date trends on Medium and High -Tech Industry.

²⁶ Budget debate 2021 -2022 Speech of the Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Hon. Soomilduth Bholah 14 June 2021.

²⁷ World Bank Indicators (2022) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/TX.VAL.TECH.MF.ZS>

²⁸ UNIDO Annual Report 2021

I.e. High Technology export (% of manufactured goods): Since 2018, the percent of High-Tech exports was generally on the decline. UN contributed to the development of the overarching policy and strategy for Industry. According to the World Bank report (2022), the percentage of high-tech export was at 2% in 2020²⁹. The UN supported the government of Mauritius with the development of the Industrial Policy and Strategy 2020-2025, which carried elements that could contribute towards the growth of proportion of high-tech experts if the policy and strategy was fully implemented. While the Industrial Policy and Strategy was not explicit on high tech experts, it made provisions which could encourage an increase in high tech experts. The policy and strategy provided for the establishment of the Modernisation Investment Support Fund (MISF) and the establishment of the technology innovation incentive (TII). The Industrial Policy and Strategy also contained strategies for upgrading technological capacities and development of new products. Diversification and modernisation of the manufacturing sector was also key in the strategy.

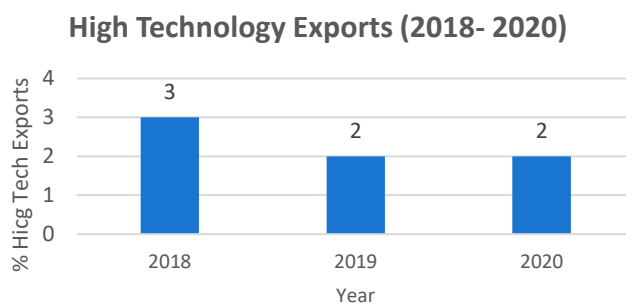


Figure 6: High Technology exports (% manufacturing goods)

Noted Gaps for consideration in the successor SPF. Monitoring data to track progress on proportion of high-tech experts lagged with latest data being for 2020. The UN could consider supporting the Government of Mauritius to build systems for regular (annual) monitoring of industrial statistical indicators. The UN had agencies specialised in this sector (UNCTAD, ILO and UNIDO). The UN could support capacities of existing institutions such as Economic Development Board and other relevant ministries, to enhance the monitoring of industrial statistics.

I.f. % firms with female participation in ownership: There were no statistics for this outcome indicator. Mauritius Statistics had information only up to 2018. This suggested a need for the UN to support the government in a study to appreciate the status of the indicator as well as support implementation of programmes that could encourage female participation as owners of business entities. The UN was working in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare in supporting the development of a National Strategy for Women in Entrepreneurship. In June 2020, a national consultative workshop was organised to brainstorm inputs to the development of this strategy.³⁰

I.d. Extent of implementation of fiscal strategy and measure to promote innovation, research and development (R&D) spending: There was no information available during the evaluation to inform the performance of this outcome indicator. R&D expenditure (% of GDP) in Mauritius was 0.37 in 2017. By 2020 it had grown to 0.42.³¹

I.h Growth in registration of new Micro Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs): For the period 2020 to 2021, a total of 4,262 certificates of registration was issued to SMEs compared to 2,508 issued in 2020 surpassing the 2023 target of 2,875.³² One of the facilitating factors was that new entities had an opportunity to receive training and operational grants. This acted as an incentive for growth of the sector. Other initiatives to support SMEs included the SME Equity Fund for equity financing, various facilities and

²⁹ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/TX.VAL.TECH.MF.ZS>

³⁰ UNDP.org Mauritius.

³¹ World bank, collation of of development indicators compiled form officially recognized sources. <https://tradengeconomics.com/mauritius/research-and-development-expenditure-of-gdp-wb-datahtml>

³² Budget Debates 2021-2022 Speech of the Minister of the industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Hon. Soomilduth Bholah






schemes to support SMEs through the Development Bank of Mauritius. The Economic Development Board (EDB) also implemented the SME refund scheme which focused on promotion of SMEs.³³

UN Contribution: The UN contributed to improving easy of doing business across Government. This entailed supporting capacities for e-government which indirectly contributed to the faster registration of SMEs. In addition, the UN assisted in the provision of quality business development services especially to SMEs through One Stop Shop Service centres.

Ii. Number of MSMEs adopting and implementing Productivity Improving Programmes (PIP): The National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) serviced some 47 MSMEs companies between 2020 and 2021 under the Productivity Improvement Programme (PIP) for manufacturing companies in Mauritius³⁴. The UN provided support to MSMEs in terms of capacity building on Information Communication Technology (ICT) and satisfied their need to better understand and use on-line marketing tools in a pandemic situation. This project is currently being carried out with the NPCC.³⁵

Overall Performance of SDGs for Outcome I

Table 4: Performance of SDGs for Transformed Business (2022)

SDGs	Focus	Description of Performance	
1	No Poverty		On track or Maintaining SDG achievement
2	Zero Hunger		Stagnating
5	Gender Equality		Moderately Improving
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth		Stagnating
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure		On track or Maintaining SDG achievement

Source: Sustainable Development Report 2022.

The performance of the SDGs for outcome I entailed that the country was moving towards a high-income country status. SDGs 1 and 9 on No Poverty and Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure were on track or maintaining SDG achievement. The SDG on Gender Equality was moderately improving while the SDGs on Zero Hunger and Decent Work and Economic Growth remained stagnated.

Overall observations for Transformed Business: The UN in Mauritius provided policy and regulatory framework to support Mauritius to revert back to a higher income country. Capacities of relevant institutions in industry were enhanced. However, the impact of COVID-19 and Ukraine-Russia war had an effect of slowing down the planned targets for the economic sector. The evaluation also observed gaps in institutional capacities to generate data on industrial indicators in a timely manner. The UN could support Mauritius industrial sector through its relevant UN agencies to narrow this gap.

³³ Enabling Small and Medium Enterprises to rise to the challenge:

<https://www.dentons.com/en/insights/articles/20222/April/22/enabling-small-and-medium-enterprises-to-the-challenge>

³⁴ NPCC Annual Report for 2020 to 2021.









³⁵ UNDP Mauritius Annual Report 2021: Building Forward Better.

6.2 Ageing Society, Health and Labour Market Reforms

Outcome 2: By 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.

Overall, good progress was made towards the achievement of Outcome 2. There were 10 outcome indicators rated as: Achieved (4); Good progress made towards achievement (1), Satisfactory (2) and not Achieved (3)

Table 5: Performance of Outcome 2 indicators against targets

Outcome 2 Indicators	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
2a. Presence of a comprehensive national strategy and costed action plan to address ageing society	No	Yes	WHO developed an action plan which was ready for launch	
2b. Extent of implementation of updated, approved labour market and migration regulations to address labour market shortages	National Employment Act	Implementation of measures for: issuance of work permits; labour agreements with partner countries; employability of young people, women, PwD	Visa protocols; skills transfer agreement implemented; labour agreements concluded; employability of young people, women, PwD, enhanced through skills development	
2c. Extent of progress to align national labour laws, regulations meet international labour standards (Proxy: SDG8.8.2) (8 core ILO conventions; 2 of 4 ILO governance conventions; 40 of 177 ILO technical Conventions	Identifying compliance Gaps with regards to a Number of ILO Conventions Particularly Convention Nos. 98, 100 and 111. To conduct capacity building of social partners to enhance their understanding and compliance of these conventions, with the technical assistance of the ILO	GoM presented its progress reports on the three conversations on the ILO Committee on standards	
2d. Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 16+) (modeled ILO estimate)	45	TBD	57% (2021)	
2e. Gender wage gap (% gap btw avg. female, male monthly earnings) (SDG8.5-equal pay for equal work)	28	TBD		
2f. Presence of operational multi-sectoral national strategy/action plan for NCDs, w. time-bound national targets, indicators based on WHO guidance (Y/N)	No	Yes	Yes	
Existence of evidence-based national guidelines/protocols/standards for the Management of major NCDs through a primary care approach	No	Yes	Yes, Included in the NCD Action Plan	
2g. Coverage of essential health services as measured by Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Index (SDG 3.8.1)	64	70 80	66 (2020) WHO interviews)	

Outcome 2 Indicators	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
			Limited factors- Access to services, CDs, health system need strengthening.	
2h. Existence of comprehensive, budgeted national population policy (Ministry of Health and Quality of Life)	No	Yes	Yes	●
2i. Availability of the 2021 census data	No	Yes	Yes	●
Overall Performance of Outcome 1		Good Progress	●	
Key: Indicator Performance Rating				
● Achieved ● Good Progress Made ● Satisfactory ● Not Achieved ● No information				

Overall Performance of SDGs for Outcome 2

Table 6: Performance of SDGs for Transformed Business (2022)

SDGs	Focus	Description of Performance	
2	Zero Hunger	➡	Stagnating
3	Good Health and Wellbeing	➡	Moderately Improving
5	Gender Equality	➡	Moderately Improving
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	➡	Stagnating

Source: Sustainable Development Report 2022.

2a. Presence of a comprehensive national strategy and costed action plan to address ageing society: The UN supported Mauritius in the development of relevant policy frameworks to address ageing in society. The UN supported the development of a National Integrated Care for older people Strategy and Action Plan, which was an important building block for National Strategy on Ageing. Aspects of ageing and elderly care were also elaborated upon in the Health Sector Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024, with the strategic goal of enhancing the health and well-being of the elderly. The UN also included the issue on population ageing and its effect on population health in its communication and advocacy campaign, focusing on reducing dementia risks and reducing risks of falls, osteoporosis, fractures and loss of mobility, menopause, erectile dysfunction and preconception care, and sexually transmitted infections.

Noted gaps for consideration in strategy design: The evaluation noted that the UN mainly viewed and supported ageing in the contexts of health and support to the elderly. This fell short of the broader economic, labour market and social perspectives related to an ageing population. A National Strategy on Ageing would consider issues like the mitigating measures against increasing friction in the labour market, resulting in structural unemployment and inactivity as well as rising skills shortages and exclusion in particular of low educated women and youth; age-related public expenditures, particularly the provision of education and health; and others. As a result of the narrow perspective of the effects of an ageing population, the development of the National Strategy on Ageing remained an unmet target.

2b. Extent of implementation of updated, approved labour market and migration regulations to address labour market shortages: Mauritius made good progress on the implementation of

updated, approved labour market and migration regulations to address labour market shortages.

Issuance of work permits: In 2022 GoM issued a total of 27,602 work permits and certificates of exemption. The gender disaggregation of the issuance shows that 23,869 of the recipients were male, while 3,733 were female.³⁶ Mauritius has been one of three COMESA member States, along with Rwanda and Seychelles, to have waived visa requirements for all COMESA citizens. Mauritius also implements the SADC Labour Migration Action Plan (2020–2025), which aims to promote skills transfer and match labour supply and demand for regional development and integration. The policy on free movement and elimination of visas has major positive impacts on issuance of work permits.

Labour agreements with partner countries: The country has concluded bilateral agreements to strengthen cooperation for safe, orderly and regular migration. In 2019, Mauritius signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Nepal to facilitate the ethical recruitment of Nepali citizens for employment in the manufacturing and hospitality sectors.

Employability of young people, women, PwD: The UN contributed significantly to modernization of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) facilities and provided a wide array of training to narrow skills gap in the world of work. A total of 12,000 youth benefitted from entrepreneurship and employability counselling sessions under the Rodrigues Matching Fund Project entitled “Preparing youths and women to be key stakeholders of the new transformative journey of the island”. The UN also supported the training and empowerment of young women aged 17 to 20 to become computer programmers, creators and designers, placing them on track to take up studies and careers in the information, communication, and technology sector. It also facilitated the training of more than 80 women entrepreneurs on the installation, operation, and maintenance of solar photovoltaic systems. The UN provided Mauritian citizens returning from abroad with social and economic assistance as well as business development services to start income generating activities after their return. Small enterprises have successfully been set up in sewing, fishing, fast food and small retail. They created employment and generated income for the returning migrants. To maximize the positive effects of migration on the country’s socio-economic development and to continue improving the conditions of the migrant population, the UN supported the development of an evidence-based approach to migration policies. It collaborated with Statistics Mauritius to ensure the collection of reliable data on migrants in Mauritius that to be used domestically and feed studies for the UN to help create an improved policy environment for labour migration across the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region, as well as improved access to legal and efficient means of labour mobility for labour migrants. The UN also assisted the Government to produce Guidance for Employers and Businesses on the Protection of Migrant Workers during the COVID-19 Crisis.

2c. Extent of progress to align national labour laws, regulations meet international labour standards: Good progress was made in aligning labour laws and regulations to meet international labour standards as set in the three target conventions (Convention Nos. 98, 100 and 111). *Mauritius has made significant progress identifying compliance gaps with Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100).* The country presented its report on the convention to the ILO Committee of Experts who urged the Government to amend the Salt Manufacturing Industry (Remuneration) Regulations 2019, the Sugar Industry (Agricultural Workers) (Remuneration) Regulations 2019, and the Tea Industry Workers (Remuneration) Regulations 2019 in order to remove all remaining gender-specific job appellations, and gender specific wage categories and rates in the same job occupations. The Committee also requested the Government to ensure that female-dominated occupations and skills were not undervalued in comparison with male-dominated occupations. With regards to the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), the ILO Committee on Experts urged

³⁶ Ministry Of Labour, Human Resource Development and Training (Human Resource Development and Training Division), Employment Services Monthly Bulletin January 2022

Government to take proactive measures to address discrimination in employment and occupation based on race, colour and ethnic and social origin, including against workers in Creole communities. In 2021 Mauritius became the first country in the Indian Ocean, the third in Africa and the seventh in the world to ratify the “ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190)” and its accompanying “Violence and Harassment Recommendation, 2019 (No. 206)” with the technical assistance of ILO. Mauritius is required to adopt, in consultation with representatives of employers’ and workers’ organizations, an inclusive, integrated and gender-responsive approach to prevent and eliminate violence and harassment through prevention, protection and enforcement measures and remedies well as guidance, training and awareness-raising. Moving forward, UN needs to provide technical assistance to the Government to address the compliance gaps identified by the ILO Committee of Experts.

2d. Labour force participation rate (LFPR), female: The female labour force participation rate (% of female population ages 16+) (modeled ILO estimate) had not been achieved. The indicator target was not achieved. In 2022 the LFPR for females and males was 43.40% and 70.45%.³⁷ According to modelled ILO estimates, the total labour force participation rate (LFPR) was estimated at 57% in 2021.³⁸ In 2022 it increased to 55.4 % in Jun 2022, compared with 54.5 % in the previous quarter.³⁹

Noted observations: LFPR is a macro level indicator that cannot be influenced through isolated, micro and projectized interventions. The UN should consider employment and labour policy influence as well as national level support in the successor CF.

2e. Gender wage gap (% gap btw avg. female, male monthly earnings): Relatively small positive changes have been noted on gender wage gap thereby rating this indicator as satisfactory. Despite the introduction of the minimum wage in 2018, the gender wage gap has persisted to be a challenge in Mauritius. In 2022 the country’s Wage Equality for Similar Work Index was 0.619, and a ranking of 87th. The difference in estimated earned income between females and males was (-)Rs12,560, resulting in an Income Gap Index of 0.514 and a global ranking of 116th. **The UN should intensify its campaign for gender equality to influence the “equal pay for work of equal value” paradigm.**

2.f Presence of operational multi-sectoral national strategy/action plan for NCDs, with time-bound national targets, indicators based on WHO guidance: Overall, the indicator target of having in place an operational multi-sectoral national strategy/action plan for NCDs, with time-bound national targets, indicators based on WHO guidance was achieved. UN supported a new NCD survey in 2021 with the aim to strengthen national strategies for the prevention and control of NCDs, as part of its effort to help the Government to prepare a National Service Framework for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and a National Integrated NCD Action Plan. This Integrated National Action Plan for the prevention and management of NCDs in Mauritius, along with the National Service Framework for NCDs, are a key policy and action tool for delivering a real change in the way health and social care bodies and their local partners will work with people with long-term conditions to plan and deliver the services which they need to make their lives better. The UN and other stakeholders recommended the setting up of a high level Multi-sectoral NCD Prevention Committee under the chairmanship of the Hon Minister of Health and Wellness. The UN also supported the Government’s efforts to address the high prevalence of NCD risk factors including alcohol abuse and provided the necessary guidelines to draft new alcohol regulations to align the national alcohol abuse policies with the Global Alcohol Strategy. Mauritius have set out a series of policies and actions to address the proliferation of drugs including law enforcement to combat trafficking under the National Drug

³⁷ World Economic Forum, 2022, Global Gender Gap Report <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-report-2022/>

³⁸ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.CACT.ZS>

³⁹ Mauritius Labour Force Participation Rate, 2004 - 2022 | Quarterly (%) Statistics Mauritius <https://www.ceicdata.com/en/indicator/mauritius/labour-force-participation-rate>

Control Masterplan in 2019-2023, developed in collaboration with the United Nations. The national response to the drug issue is overseen and led by the High-Level Drugs And HIV Council since January 2019⁴⁰.

Existence of evidence-based national guidelines/protocols/standards for the Management of major NCDs through a primary care approach: Mauritius has in place evidence-based protocols, standards for the management of NCDs through a primary care approach. The evaluation rated this outcome indicator as achieved. This indicator target was concurrently achieved with the development of the NCD Action Plan which outlined the national guidelines/protocols/ standards for the management of major NCDs through a primary care approach. The framework included technical protocols, service standards and aligns them with the individual NCD Action Plans. The NCD Action Plan was a policy set by the national health authorities to define standards of care for NCDs enshrined in a service protocol by setting appropriate quality standards. The purpose of the document was to support people with prevention and management of NCDs, maintaining independence and achieving the best possible quality of life through an integrated process of education, information sharing, assessment, care planning and service delivery. UN contributed significantly to this outcome working closely with relevant ministry of health.

2g. Coverage of essential health services as measured by Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Index: UHC remains unachieved in Mauritius and unlikely to be achieved by 2030. By 2020 the UHC Index had only moved two points from 64 in 2015 to 66 in 2020, making the target of 70 in 2023 unlikely to be met. It is, however, noteworthy that the SPF had its efforts directed towards the broad categories of service coverage that define UHC, with their 2019 UHC scores as follows: i) Reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) – Overall score 75 but underperforming with respect to tracer indicator related to family planning (55); ii) Infectious diseases: Overall score is 54 but underperforming with respect to tracer indicator TB treatment (21); iii) NCDs: Overall score was 55 but underperforming with respect to tracer indicator elevated blood pressure (45) and mean fasting plasma (54); and iv) service capacity and access – 78. The UN provided policy strengthening support to enhance the national health system and address the social determinants of health. It helped develop the Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP) 2020-2024 that charted a roadmap for health development and outlined actions to address health challenges across the lifespan of the population. The (HSSP) 2020-2024 has a very strong focus on prevention and treatment of NCDs. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the UN support to the health sector resulted in an effective national response to the health crisis that demonstrated, among other things, a strengthened capacity of the health system and its frontline workers.

Noted observations: To improve its performance on supporting UHC, the UN should focus on assisting Government to address health system challenges hampering scale-up of coverage of population-based interventions in Mauritius that include: insufficient political commitment; inadequate interagency cooperation; limited application of explicit priority setting approaches; sub-optimal distribution and mix human resources; insufficient population empowerment; limited integration of evidence into practice; and inadequate application of information and technology solutions.

2h. Existence of comprehensive, budgeted national population policy: Mauritius was successful in elaborating a National Population Policy, thereby making the indicator be rated as achieved. The UN supported the elaboration of a National Population Policy to address the multifaceted and interconnected issues arising from the changing demographic landscape in the country, including education, health care, climate change, and environmental sustainability.

2.i Availability of the 2021 census data: This indicator target was achieved. By the time of this evaluation, the results of the Housing Census 2022 had already been officially released and made public.

⁴⁰ WHO, 2022, Launching of the national survey report on people who use drugs by the Prime Minister of Mauritius in the presence of UN Resident Coordinator and WHO Representative

Other key planned outputs: Strengthened capacities in labour statistics and data for development:

The UN, in coordination with government stakeholders in Mauritius, conducted the assessment of national migration data in Mauritius in 2021 to better inform socio-economic development. Through the MGI assessment, IOM supported the government to track progress made on migration management and identify policy levers that can bolster migration governance. The UN's performance on this indicator was **not satisfactory**. Instead of regarding the labour statistics issue as a migration issue, the UN should have designed a comprehensive intervention that would have provided the labour statistics and data needs of the CF. Such an intervention should have insured availability of data on the wage gap, female labour force participation and evidence-based advocacy for the alignment of labour laws to international standards. Thus, the UN interventions needed to be strengthened in terms of their relevance to the labour statistics data needs of the CF, as well as linkages with the other labour statistics related indicators.

Draft strategy and policy developed to engage with and harness the potential of the diaspora and to position migration as a driver for social and economic development: UN supported the development of a strategy and policy to engage with and harness the potential of the diaspora and to position migration as a driver for social and economic development. It supported the capacity building of key staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the mapping and profiling of the Mauritian diaspora in three countries to better understand its needs and assess its potential to contribute to socio-economic development. A Diaspora Engagement Strategy and Action Plan had been prepared, and the strategy implementation was expected to start after July 2022.

Overall Performance of SDGs for Outcome 2

Table 7: Performance of SDGs for Transformed Business (2022)

SDGs	Focus	Description of Performance	
1	No Poverty	↑	On track or Maintaining SDG achievement
2	Zero Hunger	→	Stagnating
5	Gender Equality	↗	Moderately Improving
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	→	Stagnating
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	↑	On track or Maintaining SDG achievement

Source: Sustainable Development Report 2022.

6.3 Strong economy, Sustainable development (Ocean Economy & Tourism)

Outcome 3: By 2023, the marine sector shall have an integrated policy and regulatory environment that promotes sustainable resource management and private-sector-led diversification and job creation.

Overall, there was limited progress made towards the achievement of Outcome 3. There were 9 indicators rated as: Satisfactory (2); Not Achieved (4); No information (3).

Table 8: Performance of Outcome 3 indicators

Outcome 3 indicators	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
3.a Presence of approved, costed, consolidated ocean economy strategy and related legislation (Y/N) (Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping)	No	Yes	On-going	●
3.b Within/linked to above: Presence of approved strategy and plan For ecosystems-based management of the EEZ and JMA (SDG14.2.1) (Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping)	No	Yes	On-going	●
3.c Coverage of marine protected areas (ha) (CSO proxy SDG14.5.1) (Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping)	7190	10400	7190	●
3.d Extent of implementation of international instruments to combat illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing (SDG 14.6.1) (Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping)	7 fully implemented	9 fully implemented (2023)	Progress on legislations	●
3.e Existence of a trans-boundary, multi-stakeholder maritime safety and security framework (Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues)	No	Yes	No framework yet	●
3.f(i) Proportion of GoM research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology (%) (Proxy: SDG14.a.1) (Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping)	No	Yes		●
3.f(ii) Existence of CSO plan to collect and report data on R&D spending (public and private) for the ocean economy (Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping)	No	Yes		●
Contribution of tourism to G.D.P (Ministry of Tourism)	-	-	2% (2021)	●
3.g Growth rate of employment in tourism industries (CSO proxy, SDG8.9.2) (Ministry of Tourism)	3.8	TBD	36 000 (2021)	●
Overall Performance of the Outcome		Not Achieved		●

Key: Indicator Performance Rating:

● Achieved ● Good Progress Made ● Satisfactory ● Not Achieved ● No information

3a. Presence of approved, costed, consolidated ocean economy strategy and related legislation: Based on the initiatives from 2020 to the evaluation period, it was observed that while an approved, costed ocean economy strategy had not been developed, there were some efforts towards the realization of this indicator though. Mauritius was lagging in formulation and approving its Blue/Ocean Economy Strategy. The African Development Bank (AfDB) assisted the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fishing and Shipping to produce a Blue Economy Policy, Implementation Assessment and Action Plan. FAO also supported the development of a Policy and Strategic Plan for the blue economy sector,

through their Technical Cooperation Programme⁴¹. This initiative followed the UN initiative in helping shape the debate on the contents and application of the concept of a 'blue economy'. With the Indian Ocean Commission, the UN produced a regional action plan on the blue economy for collaboration among Comoros, Reunion, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles that informed the preparation of blue economy national action plans across the region. In Mauritius, the UN facilitated national consultations on marine spatial planning and produced analysis of operationalizing the Blue Economy in the Southwest Indian Ocean that focused on Mauritius.

3b. Within/linked to above: Presence of approved strategy and plan for ecosystems-based management of the EEZ and JMA (SDG14.2.1): This outcome indicator had not been achieved. The initiatives to establish a Marine Spatial Plan together with an ecosystems-based management were still ongoing.

3.c Coverage of marine protected areas (ha) (CSO proxy SDG14.5.1): There was increasing attention given to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity although there was no improvement in this outcome indicator. Marine Protected Areas for mainland Mauritius cover an extent of 7,190 hectares, including six fishing reserves and two marine protected areas⁴².

UN Contribution: In Rodrigues, the Southeast Marine Protected Area (SEMPA), funded by UNDP/GEF/RRA under the project "Partnerships in Mauritius and Rodrigues for Marine Protected Areas" was established to ease the pressure on the marine environment. While there is a greater emphasis on increasing MPA, there has been very limited progress in this area. It appears efforts are concentrated on the restoration of ecosystem services. The UN through the Adaptation Fund has launched a project titled 'Restoring Marine Ecosystem Services by Rehabilitating Coral Reefs to Meet a Changing Climate Future'⁴³. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) 'Mainstreaming Biodiversity into the Management of Coastal Zones of the Republic of Mauritius' project was launched since 2020. Both projects aimed at coral rehabilitation with a focus of increasing the livelihoods of the coastal population.

3d. Extent of implementation of international instruments to combat illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing (SDG14.6.1): Limited involvement on combatting illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing (IUU) was observed from the UN. The IUU score⁴⁴ for Mauritius was 2.30 in 2021, compared to 2.15 in 2019, showing a worsening of the situation. Limited involvement has been observed in this area as well. While a National Plan of Action⁴⁵ against IUU was published in 2010, the implementation was very limited. The Government was considering the adoption of a "Zero tolerance approach" concerning IUU. In this respect, the Fisheries and Marine Resources (Vessel Monitoring System) Regulations 2022 were promulgated to enable the authorities to monitor the fishing activities of all fishing vessels to which licenses have been issued by the State of Mauritius in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Mauritius, on the high seas and/or in the maritime areas under the jurisdiction of another State, during the period of validity of the licenses. Fines relating to contravention of the Fisheries and Marine Resources (Vessel Monitoring System) Regulations 2022 were also increased to a maximum of one million Euros or its equivalent in Mauritian rupees⁴⁶.

3e. Existence of a trans-boundary, multi-stakeholder maritime safety and security framework: Intervention was limited to capacity building, but a framework was yet to be established. As far as mechanisms established or strengthened to exchange information and intelligence on trans-national organized crimes, the UN played a crucial role on the limited initiatives taken at the

⁴¹ NewsGov (2022) <https://govmu.org/EN/newsgov/SitePages/Blue-Economy--Inception-workshop-focuses-on-the-development-of-a-Policy-and-Strategic-Plan.aspx> (accessed on 29/11/2022)

⁴² <https://mpatlas.org/countries/MUS>

⁴³ <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/projects/restoring-marine-ecosystem-services-rehabilitating-coral-reefs-meet-changing-climate-future>

⁴⁴ The IUU Fishing Index provides a measure of the degree to which states are exposed to and effectively combat IUU fishing. The Index provides an IUU fishing score for all coastal states of between 1 and 5 (1 being the best, and 5 the worst). <https://iuufishingindex.net/about> (accessed 01/12/2022)

⁴⁵ <https://blueconomy.govmu.org/Pages/Publication/Fisheries--National-Plan-of-Action-to-prevent,-deter-and-eliminate-illegal,-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing.aspx>

⁴⁶ <https://mauritiushindinews.com/ion-news/illegal-fishing-in-the-eez-of-mauritius-fine-of-up-to-one-million-euros/>

national level, given the complexity of the issue. However, the mechanisms were yet to be established. One key initiative was the UN involvement to strengthen a regional approach to maritime security and migration. In this respect, the UN partnered with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the Regional Centre for the Fusion of Maritime Information (RCFMI) in Madagascar, and the Regional Maritime Operational Coordination Centre (RCOC) in Seychelles to help build the capacities of governments in the Western Indian Ocean to analyse and address the risks and threats posed by migration-related transnational organized maritime crime⁴⁷. The UN also assisted the Government to assess the feasibility of setting up a secure dedicated network and database for migration related information and intelligence sharing on maritime security. With the aim of disrupting transnational organised crime at sea, the UNODC through the GMCP programme was working with Western Indian Ocean States on capacity building and training for their criminal justice systems from maritime law enforcement agencies to judiciaries. The initiative included: effective patrolling of trafficking routes based on accurate maritime domain awareness (MDA); development of prosecutorial, investigative, and judicial expertise; and enhanced cooperation through sharing of information and active operational coordination to ensure legal finish for maritime crimes. These efforts included the deployment of a Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE) mentor in each of seven regional partner countries, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and Tanzania, on a long-term basis.⁴⁸

A port security and container control programme was established for safer trade in Indian Ocean. The UN supported the establishment of a programme for port security and container control in Mauritius as part of expanding safer trade in the Indian Ocean. This started in 2020 with virtual consultations to prepare a baseline understanding of maritime law enforcement capabilities in Mauritius. Moderate initiative from the UN was observed.

3f (i) Proportion of GoM research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology (%) (Proxy: SDG 14.a.1): No information to assess the status of this indicator.

3f (ii) Existence of CSO plan to collect and report data on R&D spending (public and private) for the ocean economy: No information to assess the status of this indicator.

Contribution of tourism to GDP (Ministry of Tourism): Due to the COVID 19, there was a decline in the contribution of tourism to GDP. Mauritius was on a recovery phase in the tourism sector. Tourism contributed to 8% in 2019, declining to 2% in 2021⁴⁹. The development of the tourism sector was significantly affected by the lockdown episodes and travel restriction of the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN consequently diverted its resources into analyzing the impacts of COVID-19 on tourism in Mauritius (as well as other sectors) in order to search for recovery pathways⁵⁰. The UN collaborated with the private sector association and youth in efforts to foster dialogue among stakeholders in the search for policies and strategies to revive the tourism sector, for example, through the UNDP Mauritius Accelerator Lab⁵¹.

3g. Growth rate of employment in tourism industries (CSO proxy, SDG 8.9.2): There was significant decline in employment from 48,000 in 2019 to 36,000 in 2021 due to travel restrictions.

Overall Assessment for Outcome 3

The overall performance of this outcome had to be gauged against the COVID-19 pandemic and the Wakashio Oil spill ecological disaster in July 2020, involving a Japanese bulk carrier. The two disasters shifted attention

⁴⁷ 2020 UN Country Results Report Mauritius

⁴⁸ <https://www.unodc.org/easternafrika/en/Stories/combating-transnational-organised-crime-in-the-western-indian-ocean-through-maritime-law-enforcement-mentoring.html>

⁴⁹ Statistics Mauritius (2022) Digest of National Accounts 2021.

https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Pages/Statistics/By_Subject/National_Accounts/SB_National_Accounts.aspx

⁵⁰ Assessing the impacts of COVID-19 on tourism businesses/Stakeholders





⁵¹ (UNDP (2021) Designing the Future of Tourism for the Republic of Mauritius: Re-Imagining Health Infrastructure <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/designing-future-tourism-republic-mauritius-re-imagining-health-infrastructure>

and resources (human, technical, infrastructural and financial) away from many development policy agendas. In this respect, when evaluating the SPF outcomes and outputs in this area, it is observed that there was limited success but intervention occurred in different ways. One constructive contribution was the dialogue established by the UN with the stakeholders (private operators, youth MSMEs).

Gaps and future opportunities: While efforts to achieve the outcome indicators were still ongoing, intervention was required to work towards the realisation of the outcome indicators and outputs in the development of the ocean economy. The dialogue, consultation and collaboration with stakeholders as established for the tourism development had to be extended to other sectors of the ocean economy. Due to inadequate information on ocean activities, along with the lack of a proper Fisheries Information System, none of the fishery's managements, policies and strategies had been implemented to their full potential⁵². Major barriers included data collection, compilation, analysis and reporting. This was an area which required the significant contribution of the UN.

Summary on performance of relevant SDGs.

Table 9: Contribution of Outcome 3 to SDG indicators

SDGs	Focus	Description of Performance	
8	Decent work and Economic Growth		Stagnating
12	Responsible Consumption and Production		Moderately Improving
13	Climate Action		Stagnating
14	Life Below Water		Stagnating

⁵² ECOFISH (2022)

6.4 Inclusive, Quality Education and skilling

Outcome 4: By 2023, the education and training system shall offer higher quality, inclusive services and equips all learners with knowledge and skills for enhanced employability.

Overall, limited progress was made towards the achievement of Outcome 4. There were 8 indicators rated as: **Achieved (1)**; **Good Progress Made towards Achievement (0)**; **Satisfactory (3)**; and **No information (3)**.

What follows is an analysis of the performance of outcome 4 during the SPF period.

Table 10: Performance of Outcome 4 indicators

Outcome 4 Indicators	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
4a. % Children and young people achieving minimum proficiency reading and mathematics, by sex (SDG 4.1.1)	88	90		●
4.b Enrolment in training centres (Proxy: SDG 4.3.1)	7,290	7,500	7,328⁵³	●
4.c Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate % (GTER)	Total 47 Female 54 Male 39	50 56 40	47.8	●
4.d % Population using a computer among (Proxy: ICT skills SDG 4.4.1)	46	60	46.8	●
4.e % Schools with access to: (a) internet; (b) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities (SDG4.a.1)	Internet, Primary 35	70	75	●
	Secondary 68	100	100	
4.f Existence of strengthened curriculum with new active teaching and learning methods and quality monitoring system	No	Yes		●
4.g Skill gaps: % Firms identifying an inadequately educated workforce As a major constraint.)	46	TBD		●
Overall Performance of Outcome 4	Good Progress			●

Key: Indicator Performance Rating:

● Achieved ● Good Progress Made ● Satisfactory ● Not Achieved ● No information

⁵³ Ministry of education, tertiary Education, science and technology: Education Card 2020

4a. % Children and young people achieving minimum proficiency reading and mathematics, by sex: There was no indicator information to assist in the performance of this indicator.

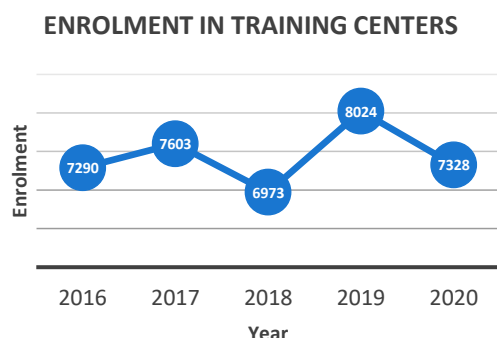


Figure 7: Enrolment in Training Centers

4b. Enrolment in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) centres: While monitoring statistical data was not available for the period 2021 and 2022, enrolment rate in TVET centres plunged from 8,024 in 2019 to 7,329 in 2020 mainly due to the impact of COVID-19⁵⁴. The main provider of TVET in Mauritius is the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development under the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Tertiary Education and Science Research. Figure 7 presents trends in enrolment in TVET centres.

UN Contribution: Within the CF time frame UN supported the development of the Institute of Technical Education and Technology Act in 2021. The Act made provisions for the establishment of the institution and its operations⁵⁵. In response to the negative impact of COVID-19, UN supported the development and strengthening of distance learning programmes. This improved access to online learning material, digitalised curriculum, and development of online resources for teacher and students. National survey during the national and post lockdown demonstrated that higher education institutions (HEI) exhibited higher resilient with institutions mixing blended options - 86% face to face and online 9.7%. In this sector the major gap was unavailability of monitoring data to track performance of indicators.

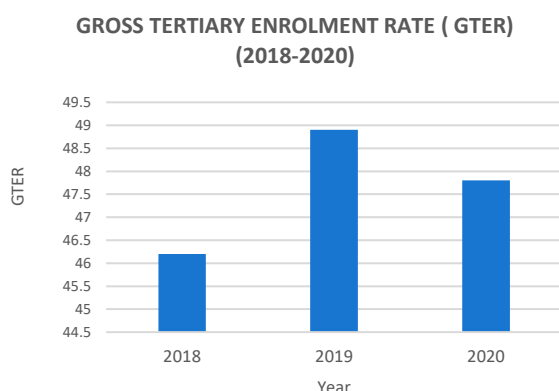


Figure 8: Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate 2018 to 2020 monitoring of this indicator.

4c. Gross Tertiary Enrolment GTER: Gross Tertiary Enrolment rose from 46.2% in 2018 to 48.9% in 2019. The negative impact of COVID-19 witnessed a drop to 47.8% in 2020. It could be noted that the GTER had varied between 47% and 50% during the last ten years⁵⁶. In 2020 the GTER was 47.8% while in 2019 the rate was 48.9%. Figure 8 presents GTER. UNESCO report noted that Mauritius had increased its enrolment in higher education more than any other country in Southern Saharan Africa⁵⁷.

UN Contribution: The UN contributed to this sector by documenting statistics on this outcome indicator. However, there was need for more regular and timely

⁵⁴ Ministry of education, tertiary Education, science and technology: Education Card 2020.

⁵⁵ Legal supplement to the government gazette of Mauritius Number 111 of 24 July 2021

⁵⁶ UNESCO National Commission Country Report 2022.

⁵⁷ Ibid

4d. % population using a computer ICT: A significant proportion of the population in Mauritius used ICT which was, however skewed towards use of smartphones as compared to use of computers⁵⁸. Speaking at the 77th session of the UN general assembly the Prime Minister of Mauritius emphasized the importance of ICT.

POPULATION USING ICT IN MAURITIUS 2018 AND 2020

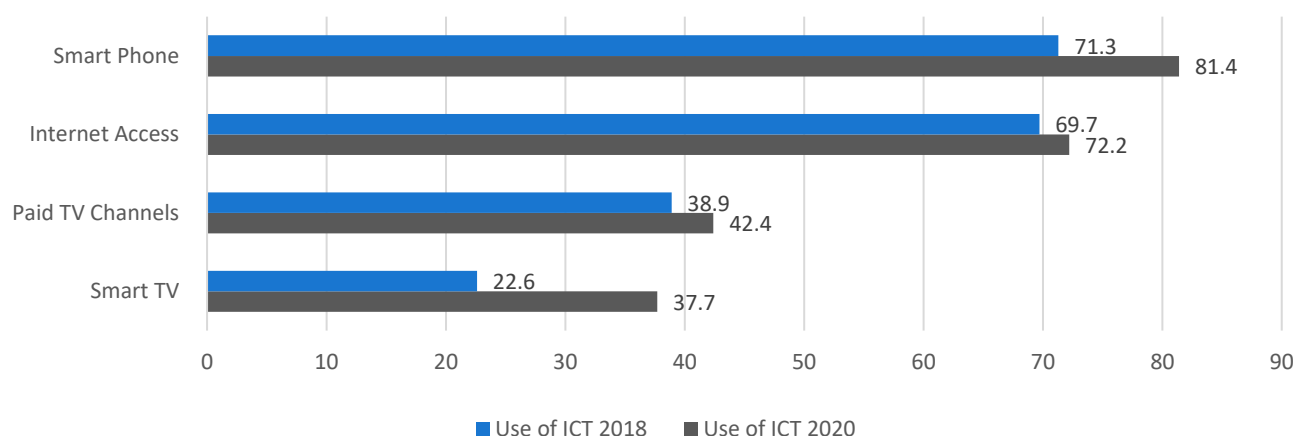


Figure 9: Population Using ICT in Mauritius between 2018 and 2020

“The pandemic has brought to light the role of ICT as a crucial enabler of economic and social development, but we need to be cautious of the misuse and abuse of this technology as well”⁵⁹.

There was a general increase in the use of ICT by households. Figure 9 presents the general increase over the period 2018 to 2020. On the other hand, in 2020, 91% of individuals aged five years and above used a mobile phone compared to 88% in 2018⁶⁰. Use of computers showed a decreasing trend. In 2020, 46.8% of persons aged five years and above used computers, a decrease from 49.6% in 2018.

UN Contribution: Through the Chendgu project funded by China, UN was supporting Mauritius to promote ICT in Education. The project contributed to gender equality and inclusion objectives in achieving education under the 2030 agenda, especially and SDG 4 through promoting integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital innovations⁶¹. The UN contributed through the newsletter on the role of women in ICT entitled gendered voices Women in ICT in the Republic of Mauritius (Volume 3-Issue 02-06 2022). Among other issues, the newsletter looked at empowering parliament through innovation and ICT, use of ICT in e-marketing among others⁶².

4e. % schools with access to: (a) internet; (b) adapted infrastructure; and (c) materials for students with disabilities: Mauritius had taken great strides in ensuring use of internet in schools and access to learning for disadvantaged learners during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Statistics Mauritius, availability of internet access for students in schools in 2021 was 75% in primary school and 100% in secondary schools. The proportion of schools with access to adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities was as follows: i) primary 30.8%; ii) lower secondary 46.4% and iii) upper secondary 46.4%. The proportions of schools using internet for pedagogical purposes were: i) primary –

⁵⁸ https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/ESI/2021/EI1596/ICT_Yr20_130721.pdf

⁵⁹ https://gadebate.un.org/sites/default/files/gastatements/77/mu_en.pdf

⁶⁰ *ibid*

⁶¹ <https://mauritius.un.org/en/103317-unesco-supports-ict-education-mauritius>

⁶² <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/publications/gendered-voices-women-ict-republic-mauritius#:~:text=This%20edition%20of%20the%20UNDP,the%20onset%20of%20COVID%2D19.>

66.7%; ii) lower secondary 100%; and iii) upper secondary 100⁶³. During the COVID-19, the Government with support from various stakeholders including the UN ensured access to e-learning to learners with disabilities and those speaking Creole, thereby leaving no one behind.

Box 1: Mauritius best practices in accessing online learning for learners with disability and those using Creole language

Disability issues best practice: The initiative was in response to the impact of COVID-19 and to ensure access to learning for the disadvantaged, particularly children with disability. The Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (MoETEST) played an instrumental role in ensuring continuity of learning for children with disabilities. The ministry approached various stakeholders willing to contribute to the initiative. The Ministry sent an expression of interest to all Special Education Needs (SEN) teachers who wished to participate in the production of educational videos. Many teachers responded positively to the request. The SEN Unite encouraged SEN teachers to communicate with their pupils and parents through e-learning platforms, social groups and social media. Around 32 videos varying in terms grades, levels and targeted areas of learning were produced. It is important to note that some of the videos were bilingual (English and Creole) to facilitate learner understanding. Two informative videos on COVID-19 were developed to provide greater awareness on COVID-19 and to enable learners with disabilities to deepen their understanding about the virus and precautionary measures that they should be taking. The report provides details on the success story⁶⁴.

UN Contribution and noted gaps: UN also ran services of virtual meetings with government to share experiences, tools and resources made available⁶⁵. There was need for development of a policy and regulatory framework for SEN for learners with special education needs.

4f. Existence of strengthened curriculum with new active teaching and learning methods and quality monitoring system: There was no information on this indicator.

4g. Skill gaps: % Firms identifying an inadequately educated workforce as a major constraint: There was no information on this indicator.

Overall performance of SDGs for outcome 4

SDGs	Focus	Description of Performance	
4	Quality Education	↑	On track or Maintaining SDG achievement
5	Gender Equality	→	Moderately Improving
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	→	Stagnating
10	Reduced Inequalities	→	Moderately Improving

Overall observations for outcome 4: Outcome 4 improved slightly and was rated as having satisfactory progress. Areas of good performance included relative increase in TVET centres, increase in GTER at 57% in 2020 surpassing the planned target of 50% in 2023, and an increase in the use of ICT since 2018. Though the COVID-19 was a drawback in many ways, it did encourage use of ICT. Good practices included efforts by government in collaboration with stakeholders to support disadvantaged learners, including learners with disabilities and those using Creole to access online learning throughout the COVID-19 lockdown period. Despite this progress the evaluation results noted gaps in generation of some outcome performance indicators (children and young people achieving minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics). The UN should

⁶³ <https://tcg.uis.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2021/12/Benchmarks-Country-Profile-Mauritius.pdf>

⁶⁴ <https://iite.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Education-and-disability-The-case-of-Mauritius.pdf>

⁶⁵ UN annual results report 2020.










consider supporting the government in the generation of indicator data to be used to assess the performance of planned outcomes. Conducting national level Early Grade Reading and Math (EGMAS and EGRAS) lower grade learners was key to inform learning outcomes. Furthermore, UN should consider supporting existing industrial institutions to include EDB to generate timely and regular statistics on percent firms noting skills gaps in the labour market.

6.5 Social Protection and Gender Equality

Outcome 5. By 2023, social protection policies and programmes are strengthened and rationalized to reach the most vulnerable including workers in informal economy eliminate GBV, and to enhance the socioeconomic and political empowerment of women.







The performance of Outcome 5 was rated Satisfactory. There were 13 indicators rated as: Achieved (3); Good Progress Made towards Achievement (0); Satisfactory (2); and Not Achieved (3); Not Rated (5). For the indicators that could be rated.

Table 11: Performance of Outcome 5 indicators

Indicator	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
5a. 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)	Yes	Yes	National Gender Policy 2022 – 2030 produced.	
5b. Spending, coverage, and benefit-incidence of government social protection programmes (Social Safety Nets) (SDG 8.b.1)		2022-23	34.4% of 2022/23 national budget	
i. Spending on SSN (% GDP)	3.5 (2015) 4.6 (2018)	TBD		 ⁶⁶
ii. Coverage of SSN (poorest/bottom 20%)	84 (2012)	TBD	300,000 pensioners (2022/23)	
iii. Benefit incidence of SSN (poorest/bottom 20%)	46 (2012)	TBD		 ⁶⁷
5.c. Existence of system to track public spending for gender equality and women's empowerment and produce gender responsive budget statements (5.c.1) (Y/N)	No	Yes	Spending on gender tracked ad hoc	
5.d Number of gender policies in place with costed action plans for gender mainstreaming at level of sectorial ministries	23	23	.	
5.e Existence of a consolidated domestic violence information system to track cases and rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence and status of GBV	No	System deployed	The Domestic Violence Information System (DOVIS) is in place under the Family Welfare and Protection Unit(FWPU)	
5.f Increase female representation at the level of Parliament through gender mainstreaming in legislative structures	12%	30%	As of February 2021, only 20% of seats in	

⁶⁶ Indicator was drawn from the World Bank 2018 Report on Status of SSNs in Mauritius. There is no follow-up publication with updated indicator performance.

⁶⁷ Ibid

Indicator	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
			parliament were held by women (14/70)	
5g No. of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex (SDG3.3.1)	Total: 0.2 Female: 0.3 Male: 0.2	Total: TBD Female: TBD Male: TBD	Total <1,000 new cases (2021) ⁶⁸	
5h. % Ever -partnered women and girls (15 yrs +) subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner (previous 12 months) (SDG 5.2.1)	Physical: 12 Sexual: 9 Psychological: 6-8%	10 8 6		
5i % Women aged 20 -24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18 (SDG5.3.1)	15 (2011)	TBD		
5j. % Women (15 -49) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (SDG 3.7.1)	42 (2014) 56 (2019)	TRD	Unmet need for family planning (15-49 yrs) – 12.5%	
5.k % Teenagers (15 -19 yrs) mothers or pregnant with 1st child	Total: 12% 2014 29.5% (Rodrigues)	TBD TBD	Adolescent pregnancies – 23.2/1000 (2021) ⁶⁹	
5l. % Children aged 1 -17 years who experience physical punishment, psychological aggression by caregivers (SDG16.2.1 *) Proxy: No. Reported child victims of offences (homicide, assault, sexual offences)	129 (2016)	TBA		
5m. Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live (SDG16.1.4) Proxy: Change in public perception on the level of crime in their neighbourhood	Up: 38 Down: 20 Same: 32	TBD TBD TBD		

Key: Indicator Performance Rating:

 Achieved
  Good Progress Made
  Satisfactory
  Not Achieved
  No information

5a. 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 indicator target was achieved with significant UN contribution. UN supported the development of the country's National Strategy and Action Plan of the High-Level Committee on the Elimination of Gender Based Violence. The National Strategy Document and its accompanying Action Plan presented the new strategic direction of the Government of Mauritius to eliminate Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Mauritius. It reflected stakeholder engagement consultations and was drafted in a participatory manner to capture the current specificities of the Republic of Mauritius. In order to address the multifaceted aspects of GBV, four sub-strategies were developed that were aligned to the National Strategy. These included: (i) Change societal norms and beliefs that are against principles of gender equality and equity; (ii) Priority support services for survivors while holding perpetrators accountable; (iii) Identify and redress discriminatory practices that perpetuate gender-based violence; and (iv) Coordinated Monitoring and Evaluation. The UN further supported GBV interventions by (i) drafting the Conceptual Framework of the Integrated Model Shelter in Mauritius and Rodrigues, and (ii) strengthening the Police Family Protection Unit

⁶⁸ WHO, 2021, Sexual and reproductive health and rights infographic snapshot Mauritius 2021 <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/349597/WHO-SRH-21.130-eng.pdf>

⁶⁹ UNWOMEN, 2021, [Country Fact Sheet | UN Women Data Hub](#)

and the Family Welfare Protection Unit Community Response Mobile Unit on domestic violence and perpetrator rehabilitation in Mauritius and Rodrigues.

5b. Spending, coverage, and benefit-incidence of government social protection programmes (Social Safety Nets) (SDG 8.b.1): This indicator was achieved. Important achievements have been realised in the area of social protection, particularly in terms of the political commitment by Government towards financing the sector. However, the contribution of the UN towards the performance of the social protection sector was not evident. Mauritius has achieved or was approaching universal old-age pension coverage. Social protection expenditure constituted 29.3% of total expenditure in 2020-21 FY, a 12.4% increase over the 2019-20 expenditure. In the 2021-22 FY Social protection was 31.1 % of total expenditure, a 3.7% increase over the previous year. In the 2022-23 FY social protection was 34.4% of total expenditure, an increase of 16.7% over 2021-22 FY. For the period 2022-23 Government realised that in the prevailing context, the burden of social protection could not be passed directly to the private sector which was still healing its wounds from the pandemic. On-going geo-political uncertainties, further disruptions to production and trade, indicated an outlook without respite. (Social protection - Ensure that 75% of people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV benefit from HIV-sensitive social protection by 2020)⁷⁰.

Observed gap: It has to be noted that the evaluation could not adequately assess the performance of the sub-indicators of social protection because the sub-indicators and their baselines relied on a World Bank 2018 Report on State of Social Safety Nets. A follow-up report had not been published and the indicators had not been reviewed and updated through any other source.

5b (i) Spending on SSN (% GDP): The performance of this indicator could not be assessed because the relevant data was not available.

5b (ii) Coverage of SSN (poorest/bottom 20%): During the pandemic, the UN supported the implementation of social protection initiatives for vulnerable groups by mobilizing resources for the COVID-19 Solidarity Fund and advocating the accessibility of basic services to the most vulnerable. The UN worked with Mauritian authorities and service providers to ensure that migrant workers and asylum seekers received the same support as the rest of the population, including in terms of social protection and health care.

5b (iii) Benefit incidence of SSN (poorest/bottom 20%): The performance of this indicator could not be assessed because the relevant data was not available.

5c. Existence of system to track public spending for gender equality and women's empowerment and produce gender responsive budget statements: Progress towards the indicator target was satisfactory. Although the evaluation did not see evidence of the existence of a gender expenditure tracking system, there were some ad hoc and independent analyses of the gender responsiveness of the national budgets. For example, the Gender Country Profile for the Republic of Mauritius 2022 made an analysis of the gender related issues associated with the 2022/23 national budget. These initiatives were supported by the UN. However, the tracking of this indicator in a systematic way remained a major gap that could be addressed through UN technical and financial assistance.

5d. Number of gender policies in place with costed action plans for gender mainstreaming at level of sectorial ministries: The evaluation could not assess the performance of this indicator because there appeared to be a mix-up between the baseline and target. Both of them had values of 23. In addition, the evaluation could not locate the data source that was tracking this indicator.

5e. Existence of a consolidated domestic violence information system to track cases and rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence and status of GBV: This indicator target was achieved with significant UN contribution. The UN supported the Government to develop the National Strategy and Action Plan to eliminate Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Mauritius (2020 -2024) and to create

⁷⁰ UNAIDS Country progress report – Mauritius, 2020

a mobile application (Lespwar) for immediate protection response in cases of GBV. The UN established a Gender Information System, designed an e-learning course on gender mainstreaming, and supported gender mainstreaming at the legislative and executive levels, including training members of the Parliamentary Gender Caucus to ensure that bills and policies use gender-sensitive language. The Domestic Violence Information System (DOVIS), a computerized system for the registration of reported cases of domestic violence is used as a tool to monitor, assess, record and generate specific reports on such cases dealt at the Family Support Bureaux under the aegis of the Ministry. Government was also in the process of setting up of an Observatory on GBV which would lead to harmonised data collection for informed policy making and monitoring and evaluation of initiatives on gender based violence.

Observed gap: The evaluation noted that the DOVIS still required further strengthening. The system had remained paper-based, which was leading to the delayed capturing and aggregation of data, a weakness which resulted in under-reporting of GBV cases. This was an area the UN needed to attend to in order to solidify its achievements under this indicator.

5f. Increase female representation at the level of Parliament through gender mainstreaming in legislative structures: The indicator target was not achieved. As of February 2021, only 20% of seats in parliament were held by women (14/70) (Source: IPU Parline – Global data on National Parliaments). The proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government was 24.4%. (UN WOMEN 2021). UN needed to support advocacy work towards the improvement of this indicator.

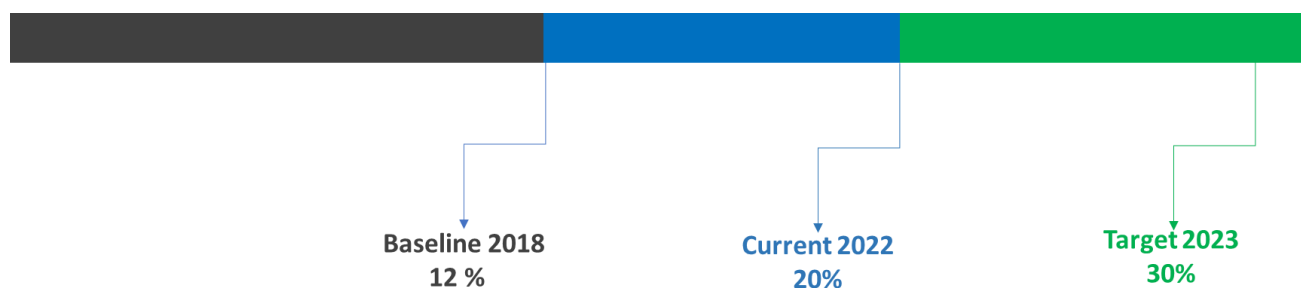


Figure 10: Female representation in Parliament

5g. New HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex (SDG3.3.1): Available data showed that the indicator targets were not achieved. The latest available data on incidences of HIV disaggregated by sex shows incidences of 0.56 female, 1.35 male (2019)⁷¹. WHO data also showed a total of <1,000 new infections in 2021. In pursuit of this indicator target, the Single Registry Mechanism database was strengthened to address categories of vulnerability other than the income-poor (GBV, HIV, Drug users): UN supported the development of a National Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) Policy and National SRH Implementation Plan 2022-2027. The strategic intent of the SHR Policy and implementation plan was to tackle health-related challenges, including HIV/AIDS and STIs, teenage pregnancy, unsafe abortion. At the core of the policy was promoting a comprehensive ‘life-course approach’ to SRH through awareness, capacity building of health work force and education. The SRH Policy and its five-year Implementation Plan were expected to contribute significantly towards the achievement of SDGs 3, 5 and 10. The UN helped to ensure that key populations at risk of HIV continued to receive services and supported key populations with hygiene packs. In Rodrigues, the UN provided support on testing to ensure that over 19,000 persons would know their HIV status. During the pandemic response, the UN also supported national authorities to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty, of persons with disabilities, and of urban families being evicted.

⁷¹ UNAIDS Country progress report – Mauritius, 2020

Prevalence of HIV, total (% of population ages 15-49) in Mauritius was reported at 1.4 % in 2021, according to the World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially recognized sources.

Whilst the incidence and prevalence of HIV in Mauritius were low compared to other countries in the SADC Region, there was scope for UN support for further improvement of these results.

5h. Prevalence of physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner: Data on proportion of ever-partnered women and girls (15 yrs +) subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner (previous 12 months) was not available. There was also no data on early marriages and on children aged 1 -17 years who experience physical punishment, psychological aggression by caregivers (SDG16.2.1). For most countries these indicators are tracked through the Demographic Health Surveys and or District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2). The evaluators could not access these or similar sources for Mauritius.

5i. Proportion of women aged 20 -24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18: For most countries this indicator. Just as in the previous target tracked through the Demographic Health Surveys and or District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2). The evaluators could not access these or similar sources for Mauritius.

5j. Need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (SDG 3.7.1): The progress towards the indicator target was satisfactory. This indicator could not, however, be adequately assessed because there were no data sources that were tracking the indicator in the format it was designed in the CF. Notwithstanding, an available report by the Gattmacher Institute showed that In 2020, among all women aged 15–49 in Mauritius, 160,000 wanted to avoid a pregnancy: 90,000 (56%) had their need for modern methods met and 71,000 (44%) have an unmet need for family planning.⁷² The possible UN contribution towards the achievement of the indicators target could be attributed to the UN's work in sexual reproductive health.

5k. Adolescent pregnancies: The indicator target was not achieved. As of February 2021, adolescent pregnancies – 23.2/1000 (2021)⁷³. The UN needs to intensify its work on SRHR of adolescents and young people.

5l. Children aged 1 -17 years who experience physical punishment, psychological aggression by caregivers: The evaluation could not find data on this indicator

5m. Safe walking alone: There was no data on the proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live (SDG16.1.4): The evaluation could not find data on this indicator.

⁷² Gattmacher Institute, 2020, Country Profile Mauritius

⁷³ UNWOMEN, 2021, [Country Fact Sheet | UN Women Data Hub](#)

6.6 Sustainable Development and Safer Living Environment

Outcome 6: By 2023, integrated policy frameworks and enhanced community action shall promote climate and disaster resilience and biodiversity protection and create incentives for the transition to renewable energy.

Overall, good progress was made towards the achievement of Outcome 6. There were 6 indicators rated as: **Achieved (2); Good Progress Made towards Achievement (1); Satisfactory (0); and Not Achieved (1). No information (1).**

Table 12: Performance of Outcome 6 indicators

Outcome 6 indicators	Indicator Baseline (2017)	Target 2023	Status by Nov/Dec 2022 and source	Outcome rating
6a. % Reduction in water loss in existing distribution network (Proxy: Change in water-use efficiency over time, SDG6.4.1) (Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities)	54%	37%	Ongoing 61% in 2021	●
6b. Direct disaster economic loss (est. millions USD)(Proxy: SDG1.5.2/11.5.2) (Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development)	\$110m	TBD	No information	●
6c. Existence of national DRR strategy and costed action plans at municipal level (SDG11.b.2) (Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Environment and Sustainable Development)	No	Yes	Yes National DRR and Management Strategic Framework in place (2021)	●
6d. Presence of an approved Energy Efficiency policy framework and costed Action plan (Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities)	No	Yes	Action Plan for low carbon and resource efficient accommodation in Mauritius (published)	●
6e. Protected land areas (as % total land area) (CSO Proxy: SDG15.1.2) (Ministry Of Agro Industry and Food Security)	7.6%	16%	No change	●
6f. Presence of an approved national framework and action plan for sustainable forest management ¹⁸⁵ (Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security)	No	Yes	No	●

Key: Indicator Performance Rating:

● Achieved ● Good Progress Made ● Satisfactory ● Not Achieved ● No information

6a. % reduction in water loss in existing distribution network: This indicator was under-performing at 61% water loss in 2021. In 2017, 54% of water was non-revenue water. However, the figure increased to 61% in 2021⁷⁴. The Government expected to reduce non-revenue water to 37% by 2030 through replacement old pipes⁷⁵, with a budget of around Rs2billion. The replacement of pipes was ongoing and given the capital budget allocated to this sector, performance was rated as satisfactory. **Given**

⁷⁴ Republic of Mauritius (2018) Three Year Strategic Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21

⁷⁵ Republic of Mauritius (2018) Three Year Strategic Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21

the nature of the outcome indicator, requiring capital investment, and the priorities of Mauritius, there has been limited intervention in this area by the UN.

6b. Direct disaster economic loss (est. millions USD): Disaster risk reduction was a major output in the SPF 2019-2023, corresponding to indicators 6a and 6b. There was no information to assess the status of indicator 6b.

6c. Existence of national DRR strategy and costed action plans at municipal level: Mauritius had prepared its **National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework at national level. At Municipal level, there was progress in the design of the framework, but it had not been achieved yet.** The evaluation in relation to the intervention, policy advice and programmes show that the involvement of the UN was remarkable in the formulation of policies towards Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). This involvement was ongoing. Despite the absence of statistical data in 2020, the UN helped to strengthen the policy framework for climate and disaster resilience through the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI)⁷⁶, an initiative which led to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework, published in 2021 to guide Mauritius's approach to disaster risk reduction and management up to 2030^{77,78}. The UN also assisted disaster risk reduction at local level through the training of officers of the Municipality of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill on urban resilience participatory planning⁷⁹. It also produced a Regional Assessment on Urban Vulnerability and Resilience to deepen understanding of disaster risk and urban vulnerability dynamics in the SADC Member States, including Mauritius⁸⁰. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Regional Office for Africa also provided technical support since June 2022, to the Municipal Council to develop its Local Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Strategy and Action Plan with the technical support.

6d. Presence of an approved energy efficiency policy framework and costed action plan: The components of energy efficiency policy framework are in place in support of the **Energy Efficiency Demand Side Management Master Plan and Action Plan of 2016**. The components include: the amendment of the Energy Efficiency Act was amended in 2021, the publication of Energy Efficiency Label for Appliances, establishment of Guidelines for the Installation and Maintenance of Air Conditioners and Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation in Hotel⁸¹. In May 2022, the 'Renewable Energy Roadmap 2030 for the Electricity Sector' was published setting a target to reach 60% renewable energy in the energy mix by 2030⁸². **There was substantial progress in the area of promoting renewable energy. This policy framework has been developed, together with strategies to boost innovation and renewable sources.** The UN played a key role in assisting the Government in the implementation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) "Accelerating the transformational shift to a low-carbon economy in the Republic of Mauritius" project⁸³, with the USD 28 million grant (coupled with more than USD 162 million of co-financing).⁸⁴ The UN in collaboration with the British High Commission and MARENA also contributed in bringing on a common platform public and private sectors to discuss on the Government policy to phase out the utilisation of coal⁸⁵. In Budget 2020/21, the government announced the

⁷⁶ 2020 UN Country Results Report Mauritius

⁷⁷ Republic of Mauritius (2020), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework 2020-2030. <https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/mauritius-national-disaster-risk-reduction-and-management-strategic-framework-2020-2030>

⁷⁸ International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2021. IOM Disaster Risk Reduction Report 2021. Addressing Mobility Challenges in the Context Disasters and Climate Change: A Global Stocktake of IOM Activities in Disaster Risk Reduction. IOM. Geneva. <https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/IOM-DRR-Report-2021.pdf>

⁷⁹ 2021 UN Country Annual Results Report Mauritius, page 19.

⁸⁰ 2021 UN Country Annual Results Report Mauritius, page 19

⁸¹ <https://eemo.govmu.org/Pages/Reports%20and%20Others/reports-and-others.aspx>

⁸² Minister of Energy and Public Utilities (2022). Renewable Energy Roadmap 2030 for the Electricity Sector Review 2022, <https://ceb.mu/files/files/publications/RENEWABLE%20ENERGY%20ROADMAP%202030%20FOR%20THE%20ELECTRICITY%20SECTOR.pdf>

⁸³ <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/projects/accelerating-transformational-shift-low-carbon-economy-republic-mauritius>

⁸⁴ <https://ceb.mu/projects/battery-energy-storage-system>

⁸⁵ <https://govmu.org/EN/newsgov/SitePages/Energy-Sector--Minister-Lesjongard-presents-the-key-features-of-the-Renewable-Energy-Roadmap-2030.aspx>

installation of 1,000 solar panels on houses of low-income families⁸⁶. A subsidised approach to deployment of PV technology was envisaged. This followed the National Scheme for Emerging/Innovative Renewable Energy Technologies (NSEIRET)⁸⁷ to foster Research & Development (R&D) and stimulate industrial innovation in the field of RE. Over and above these initiatives, the national greenhouse gas inventory of the Republic of Mauritius to improve climate reporting and transparency was financed through the GEF.⁸⁸

6e. Protected land areas (as % total land area): There has not been any improvement in this area. However, progress in this area was still ongoing. The 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity' in the Republic of Mauritius project was officially kick-started during an inception workshop held on 8 September 2022⁸⁹. The project aimed at scaling up the adoption of sustainable land management (SLM) and to put the country on the path of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) with key results include (i) to secure an additional 2,063 ha of land under improved sustainable land management regime; (ii) achieve Land Degradation Neutrality targets; (iii) develop an Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) plan, and (iv) adopt incentive mechanisms to ensure sustainable financing of sustainable land management practices.

6f. Presence of an approved national framework and action plan for sustainable forest management: This outcome indicator had not been achieved. However, there were several projects that were connected to the sustainable management of forest and biodiversity conservation such the project 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity'. Moreover, the Black River Gorges National Park Management Plan 2018-2025 and The Bras D'Eau National Park Management Plan 2018-2025 were published in 2018 and efforts are geared towards the achievement of the objectives in these plans.

Biodiversity conservation and forest management: One specific project to biodiversity conservation was the GEF 6 project on 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity Conservation' which expected to address the gaps in terms of the need for a socio-economic study to fully quantify the impacts of land degradation in Mauritius and Rodrigues in 2020⁹⁰. In 2020, the UNESCO International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme designated the Black River Gorges-Bel Ombre as the new Biosphere Reserve for Mauritius and as a compliant member of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves⁹¹. Forest management is an area which has received limited attention by the UN. It is observed that the UN intervention in this field was related to agro-forestry. In this respect, a national action plan was developed under the 'Enhancing livelihood and Agriculture productivity through Agroforestry development in Mauritius' project, which resulted in a programme for upscaling agroforestry in underutilized or abandoned agricultural land was developed and implemented by the Ministry for Agro-Industry and Food Security with Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) support⁹². The UN supported Rodrigues towards developing effective import substitution in agricultural value chains by helping the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (RRA) strengthen its rural development planning capacities to allocate land use according to its suitability for specific crops and forestry activities. The assistance produced land suitability maps using satellite imagery complemented by field surveys, alongside upgrading information technology equipment and capacities and establishing the Rodrigues Land and Water Information System, a centralized database accessible electronically to all RRA departments.

Environmental protection

- (i) **Coal ash disposal** – The IAEA provided the Ministry of Environment, Environmental Laboratories with lab equipment and related consumables to improve monitoring of the impact of coal ash

⁸⁶ Para 258. Budget Speech 2020/21, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development

⁸⁷ The NSEIRET aims to explore emerging/innovative RE Technologies under a pilot phase basis for small unit sizes not exceeding 200 kW in capacity, and which may be replicable and scalable.

⁸⁸ https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/10260_Project_Document.pdf

⁸⁹ <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/news/inception-mainstreaming-sustainable-land-management-and-biodiversity-republic-mauritius-project>

⁹⁰ <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/blog/towards-sustainable-land-management-republic-mauritius>

⁹¹ Government Information System

⁹² 2021 UN Country Annual Results Report Mauritius

disposal and landfill solid waste disposal on groundwater and air quality using nuclear and nuclear-related techniques

- (ii) **Enhanced national capabilities for analysis, monitoring and mitigation of Ciguatera and other fish poisoning:** A national training course on using portable fluorimeters to monitor petroleum hydrocarbons in seawater was delivered by IAEA to boost national capabilities for analysis, monitoring, and mitigation of ciguatera and other fish poisonings⁹³. A national team was set up equipped with knowledge and expertise to enhance national capacities for long-term post-oil spill contamination mitigation in response to the accident caused by the MW Wakashio cargo in Mauritian waters.
- (iii) **Mercury containing wastes disposed in environmentally sustainable conditions:** So far, mercury is not an issue considered for national focus in Mauritius⁹⁴. Through the 'Indian Ocean Regional Project - Mauritius - Implementing Sustainable Low and non-Chemical Development in SIDS' (ISLANDS) Project, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and supported by the UNDP Mauritius Country Office, the UN intervention led to Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, in October 2022⁹⁵. The ISLANDS project aimed at preventing the future build-up of materials and chemicals that contain Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), mercury and other harmful chemicals. It also aimed at providing solutions to safely manage and dispose of existing harmful chemicals, and to ensure the management of products continuing to enter the country.
- (iv) **Invasive Alien Species:** A National Invasive Alien Species Strategy and Action Plan 2008-2017 was published in 2008, but it had never been really implemented⁹⁶. The UN strengthened capacity through the GEF-UNDP online inception workshop on the 'Mainstreaming Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Prevention, Control and Management' project in collaboration with the Ministry of Agro-industry and Food Security in 2021⁹⁷. This two-day webinar gathered several experts in the field who shared their know-how and expertise to ensure the project's success.

Climate-resilient practices by local communities: The UN involvement was key to linking climate-resilient practices, green economy and COVID-19 recovery. The agricultural sector was the focus, strategically chosen to meet food security as well. In this respect, the UN developed a project to promote innovative approaches for a green recovery following the COVID-19 crisis in collaboration with the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security. Building on the work done over the last five years through the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), the project assisted the COVID-19 economic recovery through a focus on promoting sustainable food systems that would have positive impacts on the development of agricultural value chains, livelihoods, food security, nutrition, and sustainable tourism. The IAEA, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), also assisted the national Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) to develop new tomato varieties using the nuclear technology⁹⁸.

Coral reefs restoration: The UN supported the restoration of reef habitats at Blue Bay Marine Park and the South East Marine Protected Area, located off the coast of Rodrigues, through the Adaptation Fund⁹⁹. At least 3.2 Ha in Mauritius and Rodrigues were restored, with one new ocean-based nursery established and

⁹³ 2021 UN Country Annual Results Report Mauritius

⁹⁴ <https://mercury.unitar.org/site/country/MUS>

⁹⁵ <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/news/undp-supports-government-mauritius-effectively-manage-healthcare-waste-through-islands-project>

⁹⁶ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2017 – 2025, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security

⁹⁷ <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/news/gef-undp-mainstreaming-invasive-alien-species-ias-prevention-control-management-project-inception-workshop>

⁹⁸ <https://www.fruitnet.com/asiafruit/heat-tolerant-tomatoes-developed-in-mauritius/182417.article>






⁹⁹

<https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/mu/69129a4299c0745a9435b63707ba4b416a2182bcb476deb956cf6ddd7526b76b.pdf>

operational with 100 basal tables, 100 multi-layered ropes nursery units in Mauritius. Land-based nurseries in Mauritius were also established. Moreover, at least 10 % increases in live coral cover, fish density and diversity in Mauritius and Rodrigues were observed. This was one case which provided an important lesson on the link between livelihoods and ecosystem restoration. The UN also provided technical assistance to improve the framework for sustainable management of wetlands and fragile ecosystems for Mauritius to meet its commitments under the Ramsar and Biological Diversity conventions.

Overall Assessment for outcome 6: Overall the evaluation shows that there was remarkable intervention in the areas where the UN-supported policy advice and programmes that were the focus of the SPF 2019-2023. Interventions were observed at three levels: advisory and technical support to the design of policies and programmes, capacity building and implementation of specific projects to achieve the expected outputs. There were two major factors that might have influenced the outcome indicators and outputs. The first one was that the realisation of the outcome indicators and attaining the outputs fell within the medium to long-term period. In this respect, the evaluation considered the efforts and intentions in relation to the outcome. The second one was the COVID19 pandemic which impacted on the realisation of the indicators. In this respect, the interventions were seen to be context specific, addressing some aspects of the outcome, not necessarily achieving the identified indicators. Even if the involvement departed from the specific realisation of the indicators in the SPF 2019-2023, they responded directly to the outputs, existing policy oriented as well as new vision and policy direction of the Government, emanating during the COVID19 pandemic.

Summary on performance of relevant SDGs.

SDGs	Focus	Description of Performance	
6	Water and sanitation: efficiency		Moderately Improving
7	Renewable energy		On track or Maintaining SDG achievement
11	Disaster risk reduction (DRR)		On track or Maintaining SDG achievement
13	Climate Action		Stagnating
15	Life on land		Stagnating

SDGs 7 (Renewable energy) and 11 (Disaster Risk Reduction -DRR) were on track. SDG 6 on water and sanitation efficiency was moderately improving while the SDG on life on land and climate action were stagnating, suggesting a need for greater effort on the sector in the successor SPF.

7 EFFICIENCY

EQ I: How efficiently were resources of the SPF used in the implementation of the programme?

The UN OMT in Mauritius had considerable focus on enhancing efficiency of UN operations. (Details on the key achievements of the OMT through BOS have already been provided under earlier section on adequacy and effectiveness of SPF structures). The following UN agencies were participating in Mauritius BOS: UNDP, WHO, RCO and IOM. Efficiency will also analyse the application of normative frameworks.

7.1 Normative Frameworks

Management Accountability Framework (MAF)

The United Nations Sustainable Development Group, provided updated guidance for the role and functions RC system and role of the UNCT including other areas of accountability.¹⁰⁰ MAF is a foundational piece in reinvigorating the RC system. It makes provisions for a clear unambiguous framework for management accountability by the RC, RCO and UNCT.

Evaluation Results suggested good progress by the operationalisation of the RC system as well and functionality of the UNCT: Through the leadership of the RC, the UNCT in Mauritius successfully developed its maiden CF, implemented and monitored it albeit in the difficult environment of the negative impact of COVID-19. There was evidence of a functional RC system executing its mandate as provided in the UNSDG guidelines. As discussed in earlier sections, despite the country having 20% of resident UN agencies, other structures critical for the implementation of the CF were in place (PMT, Communication and Advocacy Group; BOS). RC's leadership of the UNCT and engagement with host government and other stakeholder was evident. However regularity of UNCT meetings expected every month was an area requiring attention.

Delivering as One (DaO)

The evaluation results indicated that despite being a country with 80% non-resident UN agencies, the UN in Mauritius successfully operationalised the principle of DaO through the RC who had leveraged her convening power to bring different UN to work towards a common goal. DaO was the backbone of UN work and guided joint UN initiatives in the country. Key achievements on joint UN programming included the following:

- i) **Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE):** The initiative brought together five UN agencies (UN Environment; ILO; UNDP; UNIDO and UNITAR). The initiative provided integrated and holistic support to Mauritius on inclusive Green economy. This also ensured coherence and avoidance of duplication, leveraging the UN comparative advantage and knowledge expertise.
- ii) **SDG Leadership Lab:** In 2021 under the leadership of the RC and with support from DCO, the UNCT participated in the SDG Leadership Lab, aimed at enhancing holistic collaboration among the UN entities towards achieving SDGs. As such, strong bonds and commitment were established among the UNCT and PMT.

¹⁰⁰ Un Sustainable Development

- iii) **UNCT Retreat within COVID-19 Environment attracting many stakeholders including the Prime Minister of Mauritius:** Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, the RC organised a successful UNCT virtual retreat with attendance of other strategic stakeholders to include: private sector and development partners. More than 70 participants attended the virtual retreat. The annual retreat allowed for joint discussion of emerging development priorities with stakeholders.
- iv) **Private Sector Engagement:** Under the leadership of the RC, the UN supported the initiatives around blue and green bonds and private sector engagement through Business Mauritius and the Global Compact. These initiatives were planned to increase participation of the private sector in the economy. The coordinated the efforts of the UN Agencies (UNFPA, UNECA, UNDP, ILO, UNEP and IOM) to jointly collaborate in the SDG Fund Proposal and initiated discussions on how to support the country in the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) for financing programmes around SDGs,

UNCT SWAP-SCORE Card



Figure 11: The UNCT SWAP Gender Equality Score Card and Supportive Indicators

Mauritius had not yet started to implement the UNCT SWAP- Gender Equality Scorecard, an accountability framework for gender mainstreaming. Achieving gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls is integral to the attainment of the 17 SDGs. In order to achieve the 17 SDGs, and their promise to leave no-one behind, the UNCTs are expected to systematically mainstream these principles in their delivery of work. The UNCT- SWAP Score card is a standardised assessment of UNC Country level effort in gender mainstreaming. It is an accountability framework that incorporates fifteen performance indicators to support coordinated and coherent gender mainstreaming by UN country Teams. The UN Women is responsible for coordination of the implementation of this framework.¹⁰¹ The framework has 7 pillars: i) Planning; ii) Programming and Monitoring and Evaluation; iii) Partnerships; iv) Leadership

and Organisational Culture; v) Gender Architecture and Capacities; Vi) Resources and vii) Results.

The UNCT is expected to implement this framework starting with a baseline against which progress will be assessed.

¹⁰¹ UNCT SWAP Gender Equality Score Card (2018) Framework and Technical Guidance.

The evaluation findings observed that the Mauritius UNCT had not yet started implementing this important accountability framework. An effective implementation of such a framework should be supported by a UNCT Gender Mainstreaming Strategy informed by the seven pillars of the framework.

Integrating Gender and Human Rights in the implementation of SPF

The design of the programme with respect to gender equality and human rights: To a larger extent gender and human rights issues were incorporated in the design and expected results of the SPF programme. Key areas from which the results were drawn included: inclusion of gender equality and human rights in national development protocols (SDGs, Samoa Pathway and Africa Agenda 2063), comprehensive analysis, measures of success by pillar comprehensive analysis under the title 'Rationale and inclusion of gender related indicators in the result framework'. The following colour grading was used to show the degree to which gender equality and human rights were applied in the design and expected results. **KEY:** Green for good compliant; Amber - partially compliant; and Red - noncompliant.

Pillar 1: Transformed Businesses: The analysis for this pillar showed inclusion of gender and human rights in both situational analyses, expected results and relevant indicators. Key issues highlighted included limited participation of females as owners of businesses and the strategy to enhance their participation. Strategy for pillar 1 also included addressing gender discrimination in the economy which could unleash innovation and business potential of women in the labour market. Analysis also noted sex segregation in the Mauritius labour market which reflected gender base streaming in tertiary and TVET centers. (If) Therefore, Pillar 1 was compliant to addressing gender and human rights in the design and expected results, hence the pillar was rated **Green**.

Pillar 2: Ageing society, health, labour market reforms: Both national development plans and global protocols highlighted importance of addressing gender equality and human rights. Key issues raised in analysis and results included the need to design programmes that addressed gender gaps in the labour market especially employment in decent jobs and the need to address the gender wage gap. Furthermore, the strategy for this pillar included strengthening gender mainstreaming in the labour market. (2d. Labour force participation rate; and 2e. Gender wage gap including monthly earnings) Therefore, Pillar 2 was compliant to addressing gender and human rights in the design and expected results hence, the pillar was rated **Green**.

Pillar 3: Ocean economy and tourism: Overall, there was inexplicit application of gender equality and human rights for this pillar. There was use generic terminology such as vulnerable communities without spelling out the gender of the said group hence, the pillar was rated **Red**.

Pillar 4: Inclusive, equality education and skilling: The analysis noted gender gaps in gross enrolment for both primary and secondary enrolment. The analysis also noted lack of inclusive education policy and services for Creole-speaking children and learners with disabilities. The human rights focus was strong with a design to make accessible internet, computers for students with disability and also a need to address infrastructure. There is a specialised section on the situational analysis for this pillar focusing on people with disabilities (paragraph 85). Furthermore, analysis of the sector proposes a design to expand advisory and counselling services including mental health support programmes. (4.c Gross tertiary enrolment rate). Therefore, Pillar 4 was compliant to address gender and human rights in the design and expected results hence, the pillar was rated **Green**.

Pillar 5: Social protection and gender equality: The design of the pillar advocated for a stronger legislative framework to promote gender equality and protection of women and children and the development of the National strategy and Action Plan on ending SGBV. The strategy included a system to track public spending for gender equality and women's empowerment. Other gender responsive strategies included implementation of a comprehensive education on sexual and reproductive health rights, use of modern contraceptive methods. These would also contribute to national vision (Global Gender Gap Index 2030 target: 80). Analysis of the pillar noted acute poverty among female headed 17% and male headed 7%. Furthermore,

analysis for this sector noted challenges related to early sexual activity, increased teenage pregnancies and unsafe abortions. Gender-based violence, particularly intimate partner violence was noted to a growing development, an estimate of 50 000 women were reported to experience violence on a yearly basis¹⁰². Most of the indicators (over 80%) were gender responsive (5.a, 5. c, 5.d, 5.e, 5.f, 5.i, 5j, 5.k, 5.l) .Therefore, Pillar 5 was compliant to addressing gender and human rights in the design and expected results hence, the pillar was rated **Green**.

Pillar 6: Resilience to Climate change: Overall, there is inexplicit application of gender equality and human rights for this pillar hence the pillar was rated **Red**.

Table 13: Gender Equality and Human Rights Pillar rating

Pillar	Gender and Human rights in design of SPF Pillars	Gender and Human rights in Results Framework
1	●	●
2	●	●
3	●	●
4	●	●
5	●	●
6	●	●
Overall Performance		

Overall observations: The design of the SPF for Mauritius was based on a sound gender and human rights analysis. The results framework of the SPF carried at least one gender outcome indicator with outcome 5 having more than 80% indicators which are gender responsive. The evaluation of the SPF also noted programing that was responsive to gender and human rights. However, an analysis of the 2019, 2020, and 2021 UN annual report for the SPF notes that monitoring was reported on LNOB without particularly monitoring the application of the five normative framework.

Other Aspects of Normative Frameworks

The UN in Mauritius successfully applied the UN programming guidelines of results focused; partnership, coherent policy support, capacity building and risk-informed programming: Analysis of UN programming across the six outcome areas suggested a strong adherence to the UN programming guidelines. Across all the six outcome areas, UN agencies supported government in the development of respective policy and regulatory frameworks which would pave way for programming for better results. Institutional strengthening was also a key component of UN work. Capacities were also extended to beneficiary groups through CSOs. Most UN agencies consulted indicated how they included risk assessment and risk mitigation measures in the design of the programmes.

Most of the programming principles LNOB, Human Rights, GEWE, accountability and use of quality data were to a large extent upheld by UN agencies in Mauritius: Analysis of programme delivery and results across the 6 outcome areas suggested that the UN applied the programming principles. A good number of programmes focused on disadvantaged groups (PwD, learners using Creole language and migrant groups in search of work opportunities). The programmes also addressed gender equality issues and women empowerment. However, the evaluation observed the absence of timely updates of statistical data and information to inform performance of SPF results framework. This remained an area requiring attention for the successor SPF.

¹⁰² Mauritius SPF document 2019 -2023

Box 2. Good Practices in Gender and Human Rights Application

Wellbeing of Migrants' Rights Upheld: The UN in Mauritius has contributed to respect of human rights of immigrants through strengthening policy provisions, capacities of governments and implementation of other innovative programmes. Since 2019, legislative provisions were amended that were favourable to the wellbeing of immigrants. The Immigration Act of 1970, was amended while sections 8(1)(a) and 8(1)(c) were repealed and become supportive of non-citizens. The Finance Act 2020, extended investor and self employed permits from 3 years to 10 years. Further, investor financing base was reduced from USD 100 000 to USD 50 000¹⁰³. UN in Mauritius supported 3 000 migrants in irregular situations to regularise their stay in Mauritius. Interviews with relevant UN agencies noted support provided to immigrants (accommodation and food) for those immigrants who had to go through the court systems to regularise their stay.

Contributing to Gender Equality: The UN supported Mauritius to ratify the Convention 190 on violence and harassment at work, strengthening the protection of women. Some UN agencies have also built the capacity of judges and members of parliament to create their gender competencies. Support was provided to the ministry of gender to promote gender equality and encourage female participation in the ownership of business. This contributed to the attainment of the results on outcome 1 (Transformed Business), indicator 1.f “% firms with female participation in ownership”. Female entrepreneurs are also supported by UN Agencies to enhance their skills through involvement in regional capacity strengthening workshops.

Box 1: Good Practices in Gender and Human Rights

8 COORDINATION

8.1 Adequacy and Effectiveness of SPF Structures

The evaluation findings noted that due the unique nature of Mauritius (a country with 80% of UN agencies being non-resident and also being the first time, the UN was having the cooperation framework with the Government of Mauritius), there were relatively fewer coordination structures than is the tradition in other countries. However, the few structures available were relatively very effective in delivering on multiple roles. The existing SPF structures included the Programme Management Team (PMT), the Operations Management Team (OMT) and the UN Partnership & Communication Group (UNPCG). Highlights of key achievements of the existing SPF structures are shared.

PMT: At the time of the evaluation, terms of reference for the PMT were finalised. The chair of the PMT was UNFPA, a non-resident agency. The PMT in Mauritius was unique in the sense that it also played the roles of other non-existent SPF structures. The PMT also did resource mobilisation for joint programmes. It was also a clearing house doing quality control for key outputs of the UN including overseeing the operationalisation of the SPF evaluation. It also plays quality assurance, reviewing UN annual reports. The evaluation noted that the PMT had a strong and dynamic leader who was results oriented. Besides the majority of members being non-resident, the establishment of the PMT was not mandatory but for Mauritius this structure drove most key operations and it would benefit the UN in Mauritius if the structure could be maintained.

OMT: The OMT was made up of a very small team of resident UN agencies serving both Mauritius and Seychelles. The overall function was to support the UNCT and increase efficiency through reducing operation costs. The OMTs made good progress in many ways.

Key achievements: The OMT conducted a review of the Business Operations Strategy (BOS). Key areas of success included joint services for editors, use of the same cleaning services, harmonised procurement of ICT,

¹⁰³ IOM UN Migration Republic of Mauritius Second Profile 2021, Migration, Governance indicators.

(this has resulted in a lot of savings) printing services and having common premises. In the Seychelles HR services were harmonised and the services were also extended to non-resident agencies. The OMT also managed to conduct training on prevention of sexual harassment.

Noted challenges: The OMT did not meet regularly. This was because the UN agencies shared the same building and often went to each other desks when there were issues requiring attention. The Seychelles still had fewer UN agencies (WHO). However, of late there was an increase in footprint of UN agencies which could change the operations in future.

UNPCG: The structure was still in its infancy having been operational for a little over a year. Given the limited presence of UN agencies it was proposed to merge the partnership and communication groups. The Partnership Group focused on partners for UN programmes while the Communication Group dwelt more on publishing UN programmes and programming results. The TORs for the group were being finalized. Key achievement included the existence of an approved Communication strategy.

M&E - A missing and mandatory structure of the SPF: The absence of the M&E group made the compilation of the UN ARs difficult. Having an M&E group was mandatory for effective and continuous monitoring of the SPF. Evaluation results showed Mauritius did not have an M&E group. However, plans were underway to establish the group. RCO officials played key role in filling the gap but still this was overloading the non-programme team with the analysis and tracking of results. The M&E group would check on robustness of results framework, track indicators at least bi-annually and work with the RCO to operationalise the UNINFO platform which was developed but not utilised. The UNINFO could be used to track results of the successor SPF. The evaluators therefore recommend the establishment of the M&E group in time for the development of the successor SPF so that they can contribute to the development of robust M&E framework and ensure 100% evaluability of the successor SPF.

8.2 Management Accountability Framework (MAF)

The United Nations Sustainable Development Group has provided updated guidance for the role and functions of RC system and role of the UNCT including other areas of accountability.¹⁰⁴ MAF is a foundational piece in reinvigorating the RC system. It makes provisions for a clear unambiguous framework for management accountability by the RC, RCO and UNCT.

Evaluation Results suggest good progress by the operationalisation of the RC system as well as functionality of the UNCT: Through the leadership of the RC, the UNCT in Mauritius has successfully developed its maiden CF, implemented and monitored it albeit in the difficult environment of the negative impact of COVID-19. There is evidence of a functional RC system executing its mandate as provided in the UNSDG guidelines. As discussed in earlier sections, despite the country having 20% of resident UN agencies, other structures critical for the implementation of the CF were in place (PMT, Communication and Advocacy Group; BOS). RC's leadership of the UNCT and engagement with host government and other stakeholder was evident. However, regularity of UNCT meetings expected every month was an area requiring attention.

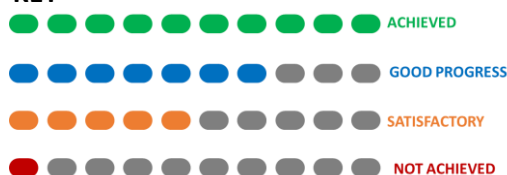
9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

¹⁰⁴ Un Sustainable Development

9. I Conclusion

Relevance and Adaptability: The Mauritius SPF is strongly aligned to the national development priorities and SDGs

KEY



- The SPF 6 outcomes were aligned to: i) national development priorities as outlined in the Mauritius National Vision (MNV) 2030 and the Mauritius Strategic Plan 2018/19-2020/21; ii) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and iii) the country's human rights commitments and other internationally agreed development goals and treaty obligations, including the Samoa

Pathway and the Africa Agenda 2063.

- The aim of alignment of the SPF was to support the ongoing transformation of the Mauritian economy and society towards a high income country status with sustainable job creation and economic growth, and efforts to secure lasting and inclusive prosperity, especially for vulnerable groups.
- The UN in Mauritius was able to adapt to the negative impact of COVID-19 through the establishment of the Socio- Economic Response Plan to COVID-19, which allowed the NCT to continue providing its pivotal support to the host country.

Coherence: The Results Framework for the 2019-2023 SPF was relatively robust. An analysis of the chosen outcome indicators and supportive outputs, suggest a partially linked results framework which would not results in a sharp and logical results chain (**rating logical chain could be 75%**). The UNSDCF for Mauritius did not have a ToC. The evaluation findings observed that the UN Agencies, did not produce Joint Work Plan. Some UN agencies developed their CDPs without aligning them to the UNSDCF.

- Alignment of UN programmes to elements of the results framework in the SPF was relatively weak but the UN programmes were strongly linked to the national development priorities;
- Fewer UN agencies directly used the outputs contained in the SPF. This suggested the need for better selection of output results which the UN agencies could embrace and associate with programmes and use frequently in reporting towards the implementation of the SPF;
- Most UN Agencies were thinly spread across the six outcomes thereby weakening focus, impact and prioritisation of their core mandates;
- Distribution of UN agencies across the six outcome areas and also feedback from consultations with some UN agencies suggest relatively weak prioritisation on who does what in the six outcome areas;
- The UN programme was partially coherent, the elements of the ToC were contained in sections of the CF document under Development problem, planned outputs and outcome indicators. Some of the UN agencies had their programme strategies documents developed prior to the development of the SPF and had different timeframes to that of the SPF; and
- There was limited buy-in of results contained in the SPF by strategic stakeholders including the private sector.

EFFECTIVENESS: Performance of Planned results for the 6 Outcomes:

Outcome 1 Transformed Business: Overall COVID-19 negatively impacted on the planned results. Despite COVID-19 limitations areas of achievements included: an increase manufacturing sector to GDP; an increase on the proportion of GDP towards Research and Development; an increase in MSMEs supported by the National Productivity and Competitive Council to participate in Productivity Improvement Programme (PIP) and an increase in SMEs over the SPF period. Areas which presented challenges included: declining FDI for manufacturing sector; percent of High-Tech exports to manufacturing on the decline. Another observation was the limited capacities by relevant Institutions to generate industrial statistics in a timely manner to track the performance of the sector. The UN in Mauritius contributed to the development of the overarching Industrial policy.



Outcome 2: Ageing Society, Health and Labour Market Reforms: Overall good progress was recorded for this outcome. Key achievements included: implementation of updated and approved labour market and migration regulation to address labour market shortages; aligning labour laws and regulations to meet international labour standards; the country having in place evidence protocols, standards for the management of NCDs through a primary care approach; elaborating a national population policy and having the Household Census 2022 officially released. The UN contributed in development relevant policy frameworks to address ageing. Areas whose performance was below expectations include: the female labour force participation remain low; only small changes on female wage gap had been noted; by 2020 the UHC Index had only moved two points from 64% in 2016 to 66 in 2020;



Outcome 3: Strong economy, Sustainable development (Ocean Economy & Tourism): Overall this outcome did not perform as planned. While an approved costed ocean economy strategy had not been achieved, there were some efforts towards its realisation. The initiatives to establish a Marine Spatial Plan together with an ecosystems-based management were still ongoing. There was increasing attention given to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity. Areas of gaps include: Limited involvement on combatting illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing (IUU) was observed from the UN. Due to the COVID 19, there was a decline in the contribution of tourism to GDP. Mauritius was on a recovery phase in the tourism sector. There was significant decline in employment from 48,000 in 2019 to 36,000 in 2021 due to travel restrictions.



Outcome 4: Inclusive, Quality Education and Skilling: Good progress was recorded for this outcome. Key achievements included: an increase in Gross Tertiary Enrolment from 46.2% in 2018 to 48.9% in 2019. However negative impact of COVID-19 witnessed a drop to 47.8% in 2020. A significant proportion of the population in Mauritius used ICT which was, however skewed towards use of smartphones as compared to use of computers Mauritius had taken great strides in ensuring use of internet in schools and access to learning for disadvantaged learners during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Despite these positive results*, the enrolment rate in TVET centres plunged from 8,024 in 2019 to 7,329 in 2020 mainly due to the impact of COVID-19.



Outcome 5: Social Protection. The performance of Outcome 5 was rated as Satisfactory. Important achievements have been realised in the area of social protection particularly in terms of the political commitment by Government towards financing the sector. 100% of population above statutory pensionable age, both female and male, were receiving a pension, but only 1.2% of unemployed persons are receiving unemployment cash benefit. Although the evaluation did not see any evidence of the existence of a gender expenditure tracking system, there were some ad hoc and independent analyses of the gender responsiveness of the national budgets. UN supported the development of the country's National Strategy and Action Plan of the High-Level Committee on the Elimination of Gender-Based Violence as well as the development of the National Strategy and Action Plan to eliminate Gender-Based Violence (GBV) (2020 -2024). The UN also supported the creation of a mobile application (Lespwar) for immediate protection response in cases of GBV. Some outcome indicators still required attention. As of February 2021, only 20% of seats in parliament were held by women (14/70). The latest available data on incidences of HIV disaggregated by sex showed incidences of 0.56 female, 1.35 male (2019). WHO data also showed a total of <1,000 new infections in 2021. As of February 2021, adolescent pregnancies – 23.2/1000 (2021). The UN needed to intensify its work on SRHR of adolescents and young people.



Outcome 6: Sustainable Development and Safer Living Environment: Good progress was made towards the achievement of planned results. Mauritius had prepared its National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework at national level. At the Municipal level, there was progress in the design of the framework. The components of energy efficiency policy framework were in place in support of the Energy Efficiency Demand Side Management Master Plan and Action Plan of 2016. There was substantial progress in the area of promoting renewable energy. This policy framework was developed, together with strategies to boost innovation and renewable sources. The 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity' in the Republic of Mauritius project was officially kick-started during an inception workshop held on 8 September 2022. There were several projects connected to the sustainable management of forest and biodiversity conversation such as the project 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity'. Moreover, the Black River Gorges National Park Management Plan 2018-2025 and The Bras D'Eau National Park Management Plan 2018-2025 were published in 2018 and efforts are geared towards the achievement of the objectives in these plans. Despite the positive results, the outcome area still had areas requiring attention. The indicator on the percentage reduction in water loss in the existing distribution network was under-performing at 61% water loss in 2021. In 2017, 54% of water was non-revenue water. However, the figure has increased to 61% in 2021 but remain below expectations.



Efficiency: The work of the OMT in harmonizing procurements and that of the RC in coordinating joint programme contributed to efficiency by the UN in Mauritius.

Adequacy and Effectiveness of SPF structures: The few structures available PMT, OMT and UNCWG effectively delivered on their mandate however the Monitoring and Evaluation Group was a missing important structure.

Delivering as One: Despite the SPF being the first for Mauritius, the UN had made great strides in DaO.

Normative Frameworks: Overall, the UN in Mauritius have successfully applied the UN DaO.

9.2 Recommendations

The development of the recommendations that follow was informed by a systematic analysis of the emerging results of the evaluation against the terms of reference as well as suggestions generated during consultations with stakeholders who included UN agencies, government, private sector and CSOs.

Table 14: High-Level Recommendations

High-Level Recommendations	Responsible	Time
RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY		
i. The development of the successor SPF 2024-2028 should be informed by the Common Country Analysis Report, national development frameworks and recommendations drawn from the implementation of the 2019-2023 SPF.	- UNCT - Government of Mauritius	August 2023
COHERENCE		
ii. The successor SPF should include a Theory of Change (ToC) outlining how planned results will be attained (pathways of change), expected outcomes, assumptions and risk assessment and risk mitigation measures.	- RCO - UNCT	By Mid 2023
EFFECTIVENESS		
iii. The successor SPF 2024-2028 should have a strong Results Framework (RF) with indicator data that can be measured and tracked. The RF should have baseline data, targets and sources of data.	- UNCT - Government of Mauritius	August 2023

EFFICIENCY		
iv.	Develop Joint Work Plans for the successor SPF	- UNCT - PMT
End 2023		
COORDINATION		
v.	Consider the establishing of a Result Groups that are co-chaired by UN and Government for greater ownership and accountability of result.	- RCO - UNCT
Mid 2023		

Table 15: Additional Recommendations

Additional Recommendations		Responsible	Time
RELEVANCE AND ADAPTABILITY			
i.	The design of the successor SPF 2024-2028 should have a strong risk management plan supported with allocation of resources for unforeseen disasters that may affect effective smooth implementation of the CF	- UNCT - Government of Mauritius	August 2023
COHERENCE			
ii.	Develop agency programmes aligned to the successor SPF only in areas of comparative advantage.	- All UN Agencies - CSO - Private Sector	By end 2023
EFFECTIVENESS			
iii.	Planning for the development of the successor SPF should be widely consultative to include all strategic stakeholders (all participating UN Agencies, Government, Private Sector and CSOs) for buy in of planned results and effective tracking of results.	- RCO - UNCT	By Mid 2023
iv.	Strengthen national systems for generations of indicator data that are informed by the successor SPF 2024-2028.	- Central statistical Office and Relevant Government Agencies	Annually from 2023 to the end of 2028
v.	Capacities of SPF key stakeholders (UN programme staff, SPF M&E Group, Government, Private Sector and CSOs) in Result Based Planning, implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation should be enhanced.	- RCO - UNCT	By end 2023
vi.	Popularise the content of the RF for the successor CF 2024-2028 for stakeholder buy-in and use of the framework for programming monitoring and evaluation.	- UNCT - RCO - Communication Group	By end of 2023
vii.	The UN in collaboration with the Government should work towards stakeholder buy-in of planned SPF programme and RF for greater utilization of the results framework. The effective engagement of the private sector is key for the country context.	- RCO	By Mid 2023
viii.	The UN in collaboration with the Government should consider fewer outcome areas for greater impact of planned results.	- UNCT	By Mid 2023
ix.	Prioritisation of UN agency contributions to the planned results is critical for effectiveness of delivery of the programme and impact. UN agencies should therefore, focus only in areas of their comparative advantages and avoid spreading themselves thinly across all outcome areas of the SPF.	- UNCT	By Mid 2023
x.	Enhance the use of UNINFO platform for tracking performance of the successor SPF. To this end,	- UNCT - PMT	By End 2023

Additional Recommendations	Responsible	Time
capacities of all UN on the utilisation of the platforms should be enhanced		
xi. Work on popularising the content of the successor SPF for buy-in in joint implementation by all strategic stakeholder (Government, Private Sector and CSOs)	- RCO - UN Partnership and Communication Group	By Mid 2023
EFFICIENCY		
xii. Develop a UNCT gender mainstreaming strategy for the effective implementation of the UNCT SWAP-Scorecard	- RCO - UN Women	By End 2023
xiii. Annual reports of CFs to include monitoring of five programming principles such as gender and human rights, results focus, GEWE, and risk programming.	- RCO - UNCT	By End 2023
xiv. Efforts to be made to incorporate at least one gender responsive outcome indicator across selected pillars of the SPF	- UNCT	By End 2023
COORDINATION		
xv. Consider the continuation of the current three SPF coordination structures (PMT, OMT and UN Partnership and Communication Group)	- UNCT	By Mid 2023
xvi. Consider establishment of an M&E Taskforce to work closely with RCO staff in tracking performance of successor SPF.	- UNCT	By Mid 2023

10 LESSONS LEARNED AND GAPS

The following are the key lessons drawn from the implementation of the SPF.

- i. **Impact of COVID-19 was felt across key areas of SPF programming:** COVID-19 related restrictions limited the number of activities carried out in 2021. The pandemic created delays and cancellation of activities like no face-to-face training and workshops, international recruitment and international purchasing and sensitisation campaigns.
- ii. **Non-physical presence of UN in Mauritius (80% of Agencies):** The situation considerably reduced contact opportunities and generated delays in communication by UN agencies and implementing partners. To remedy this situation, some UN agencies opted for employment of local staff or recruitment of focal staff to represent then UNCT and oversee implementation of their programmes.
- iii. **Inadequate data to effectively adapt to government needs:** The high turnover of Mauritius government line ministries, presented a huge challenge in enhancing institutional capacities for reporting on implementation of the SPF.
- iv. **Buy-in of SPF results framework, a challenge not only to UN but also by reluctant strategic stakeholders:** The buy-in and total ownership of elements of the SPF results framework by UN agencies had limited focus, implementation and monitoring of the SPF results. Contributing factors included having some UN agencies with country programmes that were developed before the SPF and whose timeframes varied from that of the SPF. However, most UN agencies in such situations worked closely with respective government departments which made their work relevant to government priorities.

- v. **Non completion of SPF results framework indicator data in some case made some variables non-evaluable:** Almost 10% of the results framework outcome indicators lacked either baselines or targets. This made such indicators difficult to evaluate. Closely related to this issue was lack of statistical data to monitor the performance of some outcome indicators.
- vi. **Good practices in applying principles of gender equality and human rights:** Consultations with UN agencies noted that the design of all the programmes across the outcome areas incorporated gender equality and human rights principles. Mauritius presents some good practices around legislative reforms and programmatic interventions that addressed the human rights of immigrants. Significant support was provided to the Ministry of Gender to enhance the participation of women in ownership of businesses.

References

- ASIAFRUIT (2020) Heat tolerant tomatoes developed in Mauritius:
<https://www.fruitnet.com/asiafruit/heat-tolerant-tomatoes-developed-in-mauritius/182417.article>
- Bowman (2023) Republic of Mauritius: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Mauritius>
- Budget Debate (2021 -2022) Speech of the Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Hon. Soomilduth Bholah 14 June 2021.
- Budget Speech (2020/21), Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
- Central Electricity Board (2009-2025) Energy Strategy:
<https://ceb.mu/projects/battery-energy-storage-system>
- Dentons (2022) Enabling Small and Medium Enterprises to rise to the challenge:
<https://www.dentons.com/en/insights/articles/2022/april/22/enabling-small-and-medium-enterprises-to-rise-to-the-challenge>
- Gattmacher Institute (2020) Country Profile Mauritius
- Government of Mauritius and United Nations Strategic Partnership Framework (2019-2023) A Partnership for Sustainable Development
- Government of Mauritius- Foreign Affairs (2017), Mauritius Vision 2030- Innovative and globally competitive
- Government of Mauritius-Statistics Mauritius (2022) Population and Vital Statistics Republic of Mauritius:https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/ESI/2022/EI1636/PopVital_Yr21_I10322.pdf
- Industrial Policy and Strategic Plan for Mauritius (2020-2025) Revitalizing Mauritius' Economic Growth
- International Organization for Migration (2021). IOM Disaster Risk Reduction Report 2021. Addressing Mobility Challenges in the Context Disasters and Climate Change: A Global Stocktake of IOM Activities in Disaster Risk Reduction. IOM. Geneva:
<https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/IOM-DRR-Report-2021.pdf>
- IOM UN Migration Republic of Mauritius Second Profile (2021), Migration, Governance indicators.
- Legal supplement to the government gazette of Mauritius Number 111 of 24 July 2021
- Linganaden Murday, Sadasivam Jaganada Reddi and Sheetal Sheena Sookrajowa (2021) Challenges of Governance During COVID-19 Pandemic: The Case Study of Mauritius, Politikon, 48:2, 226-241, DOI: [10.1080/02589346.2021.1913806](https://doi.org/10.1080/02589346.2021.1913806)
- Marine Conservation Institute (2022) <https://mpatlas.org/countries/MUS>
- Minister of Energy and Public Utilities (2022). Renewable Energy Roadmap 2030 for the Electricity Sector Review 2022:<https://ceb.mu/files/files/publications/RENEWABLE%20ENERGY%20ROADMAP%202030%20FOR%20THE%20ELECTRICITY%20SECTOR.pdf>
- Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping (2010): National Plan of Action

to Prevent, deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
<https://blueconomy.govmu.org/Pages/Publication/Fisheries--National-Plan-of-Action-to-prevent,deter-and-eliminate-illegal,-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing.aspx>

Ministry of education, tertiary Education, science and technology (2020) Education Card

Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change (2020) Strengthening the national greenhouse gas inventory of the Republic of Mauritius to improve climate reporting and transparency:
https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/10260_Project_Document.pdf

Ministry Of Labour, Human Resource Development and Training (Human Resource Development and Training Division), Employment Services Monthly Bulletin January 2022

Ministry of Tourism (2020/21) Annual Report on Performance for Financial Year 2020/21:
https://tourism.govmu.org/Documents/publication/Final__APF_FY_2020_21.Zf

Mo Ibrahim Foundation (2020) Ibrahim Index of African Governance- Index Report:
<https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2020-11/2020-index-report.pdf>

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2017– 2025) Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security

NewsGov(2022):
<https://govmu.org/EN/newsgov/SitePages/Blue-Economy--Inception-workshop-focuses-on-the-development-of-a-Policy-and-Strategic-Plan.aspx> (accessed on 29/11/2022)

NPCC Annual Report for 2020 to 2021.

Republic of Mauritius -COVID-19 Response (2020) COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response Plan

Republic of Mauritius (2018) Three Year Strategic Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21

Republic of Mauritius (2020), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Strategic Framework 2020-2030:
<https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/mauritius-national-disaster-risk-reduction-and-management-strategic-framework-2020-2030>

Republic of Mauritius, 3-year Strategic Plan, (2018/19-2020/21) Pursuing Our Transformative Journey

Statistics Mauritius (2020) Economic and Social Indicators Information and Communication Technologies(ICT)Statistics:
https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/ESI/2021/E11596/ICT_Yr20_130721.pdf

Statistics Mauritius (2022) Digest of National Accounts 2021
https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Pages/Statistics/By_Subject/National_Accounts/SB_National_Accounts.aspx

Statistics Mauritius (2022) Mauritius labour Force Participation Rate 2004-2022 Quarterly:
<https://www.ceicdata.com/en/indicator/mauritius/labour-force-participation-rate>

Statistics Mauritius- Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development Statistics Mauritius (2021):Mauritius in Figures:
https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Documents/Statistics/By_Subject/Other/MIF/MIF_Yr21_100822.xlsx.

The IUU Fishing Index provides a measure of the degree to which states are exposed to and effectively combat IUU fishing. The Index provides an IUU fishing score for all coastal states of between 1 and 5 (1 being the best, and 5 the worst). <https://iuufishingindex.net/about> (accessed 01/12/2022)

UNAIDS Mauritius (2020) Country progress report

UNCT SWAP Gender Equality Score Card (2018) Framework and Technical Guidance.

UNDP (2020) Restoring Marine Ecosystem Services by Rehabilitating Coral Reefs to Meet a Changing

UNDP (2021) Designing the Future of Tourism for the Republic of Mauritius: Re-Imagining Health Infrastructure <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/designing-future-tourism-republic-mauritius-re-imagining-health-infrastructure>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2020) Towards Sustainable Land Management in the Republic of Mauritius: <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/blog/towards-sustainable-land-management-republic-mauritius>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2021) GEF-UNDP 'Mainstreaming Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Prevention, Control & Management' Project Inception Workshop: <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/news/gef-undp-mainstreaming-invasive-alien-species-ias-prevention-control-management-project-inception-workshop>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2021/22) Accelerating the Transformational Shift to a Low-Carbon Economy in The Republic Of Mauritius: <https://www.undp.org/mauritiuseychelles/projects/accelerating-transformational-shift-low-carbon-economy-republic-mauritius>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2022) Gendered Voices: Women in ICT in the Republic of Mauritius: <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/publications/gendered-voices-women-ict-republicmauritius#:~:text=This%20edition%20of%20the%20UNDP,the%20onset%20of%20COVID%2D19.>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2022) Restoring Marine Ecosystem Services By Rehabilitating Coral Reefs to Meet a Changing Climate Future: <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/projects/restoring-marine-ecosystem-services-rehabilitating-coral-reefs-meet-changing-climate-future>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2022), Inception of the Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management and Biodiversity in the Republic of Mauritius project: <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/news/inception-mainstreaming-sustainable-land-management-and-biodiversity-republic-mauritius-project>

UNDP Mauritius and Seychelles (2022): <https://www.undp.org/mauritius-seychelles/news/undp-supports-government-mauritius-effectively-manage-healthcare-waste-through-islands-project>

UNDP Mauritius Annual Report (2021) Building Forward Better.

UNEG (2021) Guidelines for the evaluation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

UNEP-UNITAR Mercury Platform (2022): <https://mercury.unitar.org/site/country/MUS>

UNESCO (2020) CESA 16-25 and SDG 4 – Country Profiles:

<https://tcg.uis.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2021/12/Benchmarks-Country-Profile-Mauritius.pdf>

UNESCO (2021) COVID 19, technology-based education and disability: The Case of Mauritius:

<https://iite.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Education-and-disability-The-case-of-Mauritius.pdf>

UNESCO (2022) National Commission Country Report

UNIDO (2021) Annual Report

United Nations (2015) Draft outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States – SIDS ACCELERATED MODALITIES OF ACTION [S.A.M.O.A.] Pathways, A/CONF.223/3, 2014; (2) African Union, Africa Agenda 2063 Framework Document, The Africa We Want

United Nations (2020) Country Results Report Mauritius

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2021) World Investment report 2021

United Nations Mauritius (2020) UNESCO Supports ICT Education in Mauritius:

<https://mauritius.un.org/en/103317-unesco-supports-ict-education-mauritius>

United Nations Mauritius (2022) 2021 UN Country Annual Results Report:

https://mauritius.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/UN_AR_REPORT_2021_MAUROITIUS_FINAL.pdf

United Nations Mauritius (2022) UN Entities in Mauritius:

<https://mauritius.un.org/en/about/un-entities-in-country>

UNODC (2022) Combatting Transnational Organized Crime in the Western Indian Ocean through Maritime Law Enforcement Mentoring:
<https://www.unodc.org/easternafrika/en/Stories/combating-transnational-organised-crime-in-the-western-indian-ocean-through-maritime-law-enforcement-mentoring.html>

UNWOMEN (2021), [Country Fact Sheet](#) | UN Women Data Hub

WHO (2021), Sexual and reproductive health and rights infographic snapshot

Mauritius: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/349597/WHO-SRH-21.130-eng.pdf>

World Bank (2018) Report on Status of SSNs in Mauritius.

World Bank (2021) GDP growth (annual %) – Mauritius:

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?locations=MU>

World Bank (2021) High-technology exports (% of manufactured exports):

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/TX.VAL.TECH.MF.ZS>

World Bank (2021) Imports of goods and services (% of GDP)- Mauritius:

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NE.IMP.GNFS.ZS?locations=MU>

World Bank (2021) Labour force participation rate, total (% of total population ages 15+)
(modelled)(ILO estimate): <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.TLF.CACT.ZS>

World Bank Group (2019) Comparing Business Regulation for Domestic Firms in 190 Economies:
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30749/131766-WP-PUBLIC-Mauritius.pdf?sequence=1> DB2019-

World Bank Indicators (2022) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/TX.VAL.TECH.MF.ZS>

World Economic Forum (2022) Global Gender Gap Report:
https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2022.pdf?_gl=1*17hy389*_up*MQ..&gclid=CjwKCAjwzY2bBhB6EiwAPpUpZtiTZ2jHhRyQII4MUvpX2PDhalEzcwEaHIJ-aD6TnFW2G4YJdel-2BoCtDoQAvD_BwE

World Health Organisation (2022) Launching of the national survey report on people who use drugs
by the Prime Minister of Mauritius in the presence of UN Resident Coordinator and WHO
Representative

