

Republic of Mauritius  
Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives  
(Cooperatives Division)

# STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

2018 – 2020

*Propelling Cooperatives towards Excellence*

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# \* Republic of Mauritius

**Island nation in the Indian Ocean**

**Highly ranked for democracy and for economic and political freedom**

## \* Independence from the United Kingdom

**Constitution of Mauritius: 12 March 1968**

**Republic: 12 March 1992**

## \* Government: Parliamentary Republic

**President: Mrs Ameenah Gurib-Fakim**

**Prime Minister: Hon. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth**

## \* People of Mauritius – multi-ethnic, multi-religious, multicultural and multilingual.

# Republic of Mauritius

## Island Nation in the Indian Ocean

- \* **Land area:** 1,864.8 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* **Capital:** Port Louis
- \* **Legislature:** National Assembly
- \* **Currency:** Mauritian Rupees (US \$ 1 = MUR 33)
- \* **Population:** 1,263,500 (2016 estimate)
- \* **Official Languages:** English and French
- \* **GDP:** \$12.117 billion
- \* **Per capita:** US\$9,588

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## **VISION**

- \* A conducive legal and institutional framework for a rejuvenated, engendered and inclusive cooperative movement for the sustainability of a sound economic and social environment facilitating business development.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

- \* To facilitate the promotion of diversified, emerging and innovative cooperatives and involve more young persons and women in the development, consolidation and advancement of the cooperative movement.

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**The Cooperative Movement In Mauritius**

**The Cooperative Movement in Mauritius and Rodrigues has a three-tier structure:**

- tertiary cooperative society, comprising secondary cooperatives - 1
- secondary cooperatives, comprising primary cooperatives and - 17
- primary cooperatives - 1,100 active

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**The Cooperative Movement in Mauritius**

**\* ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT COOPERATIVES IN MAURITIUS AND RODRIGUES:**

- **120,000 active members**
  - **Around 40 different socio-economic activities**
  - **Over Rs5.5 billion yearly turnover**
  - **Contribution to GDP: 2%**
  - **40% of sugar-cane planters are in cooperatives**
- \* 160 Cooperative Credit Unions with total number of active members of around 55,000 and loans issued nearing Rs2 billion.**
- \* 90 active women cooperative societies.**

## Salient Features of the Co-operatives Act 2016

- \* **Ease of doing business**
  - Simplifies Registration Process – Registration of a Co-operative society in three days.
- \* **Transparency and Accountability**
  - Schedule of Good Co-operative governance.
  - Audit Report to be tabled with financial statements at Annual General Meeting.
  - President now allowed to hold office for more than 3 years.
- \* **Computerization Project (E-Cooperative)**
  - Use of technologies to encourage young generation to join the movement through E-Registration and E-Submission of accounts.

## **Salient Features of the Co-operatives Act 2016**

- **Setting up of a Co-operative Audit Unit to abide by the concept of independence – Regulating and Auditing**
- **Implementation of Anti-Money Laundering and compliance with the Financial Intelligence and Anti-money Laundering Act**
- \* **Joint Venture - Nationally or Internationally**



## **Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020**

\* **Action Plan 2015-2017 for the Re-Engineering of the Cooperative Sector almost completed.**

\* **New Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020**

**The New Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020 is in line with the following:**

- 1. the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for Agenda 2030;**
- 2. the International Labour Office 2014 Report, which highlights cooperatives as the builder of the economy;**
- 3. the Government Programme 2015-2019; and**
- 4. the Economic Vision Statement 2030 of Government of Mauritius.**

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## **Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020**

### **Cooperatives and SDGs**

- \* The New Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020 comprises 12 programmes which aim at encouraging the cooperative movement to focus their activities on sustainable development**

## Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020

### ❖ Objectives

- \* Promoting the cooperative model of doing business among the general public, especially among the youth and women
- \* Encouraging the formation of cooperatives in poverty regions, and in non-traditional and emerging sectors
- \* Ensuring that cooperative societies are abiding to the new cooperative legislation
- \* Facilitating access to market and finance for cooperatives
- \* Encouraging sustainable agriculture and sustainable use of the oceans among cooperatives
- \* Empowering and supporting cooperatives in their development process, and in making use of information technology
- \* Enhancing the cooperative image of Cooperative Sector

## Strategic Action Plan 2018-2020

### Programmes and SDG Targets

**Programme I: Greater contribution of the Cooperative Movement in the Mauritian economy**

#### *Objectives:*

- \* Increase the number of Cooperatives operating in pockets of poverty to the benefit of the community
- \* Promote the Cooperative Business Model

**SDG 1 : End Poverty in all its forms everywhere with focus on Target**

**1.4**

## **Programme II: Adoption of sustainable Agricultural Practices**

### ***Objectives:***

- \* Contributing towards food security**
- \* Encouraging Green Agriculture**
- \* Access to new technologies, mechanisation and practices for climate resilient and green agriculture**
- \* Regrouping and clustering**
- \* Value addition**

**SDG2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture with focus on Target 2:3**

## **Programme III: Enhanced Managerial capacity and capability in cooperative societies**

### ***Objectives:***

- \* System in place for financial reporting and auditing purposes**
- \* Improved entrepreneurship skills specially among youth and women in cooperatives**
- \* Improved computer literacy among cooperators**
- \* Recourse of international expertise and exchanges**
- \* Promote transparency and good governance**

**SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all with focus on Target 4.3**

## **Programme IV: Gender equality and empowerment of women in cooperatives**

### ***Objectives:***

- \* **Equal pay for men and women**
- \* **Increased women participation at Board Level**
- \* **Equal opportunity in career prospect and doing business**

**SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls with focus on Target 5.1**

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**Programme V: Formation of Cooperatives in non-traditional,  
emerging sectors and green business development**

***Objectives:***

- \* Diversification of Business Portfolio in emerging and green sectors**

**SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; and**

**SDG12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns with focus on Target 12.2 and 12.5**



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**Programme VI: Computerisation of the cooperative  
sector (E-Cooperative)**

***Objectives:***

- \* **Modernisation of Cooperatives**
- \* **Operationalisation of the e-Registration platform for on-line registration, on-line filing and on-line payment**
- \* **Improvement of efficiency and productivity in the cooperative sector**

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**Programme VII: Product Differentiation through Cooperative Branding**

***Objectives:***

- \* Increasing visibility of cooperatives products and services
- \* Enhancement of cooperative products and service quality

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**Programme VIII: New Legal Framework for Cooperatives**

**Objectives:**

- \* Increasing operational efficiency and effectiveness of Cooperatives in line with the new Co-operatives Act 2016
- \* Promotion of Cooperative Governance and Ethics
- \* Audit

**Programme IX: Increased access to finance through the Central Financing Agency**

**Objectives:**

- \* Creation of a Central Financing Agency for cooperatives

**Programme X: Market accessibility**

**Objectives:**

- \* Facilitation of market access to cooperators
- \* Policy of preferential access to government contracts for cooperatives

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**Programme XI: Attracting young persons to join the cooperative movement**

***Objectives:***

- \* **Increase youth participation in cooperatives**
- \* **Promotion of cooperative education, self-employment and entrepreneurship development among the youth**

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**Programme XII: A sustainable and prosperous fishing sector**

***Objectives:***

- \* Encourage offshore fishing
- \* Fishermen cooperatives encouraged to undertake value-added fish products for sale in hotels, restaurants and hypermarkets
- \* Increased aquaculture entrepreneurs

**SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development with focus on Target 14.2**



**THANK YOU**