

**AGRO-INDUSTRY & FOOD SECURITY
DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO-
INDUSTRY, FOOD SECURITY, BLUE
ECONOMY & FISHERIES**



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

**FINANCIAL YEAR
2024-25**

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Message from The Hon. Minister

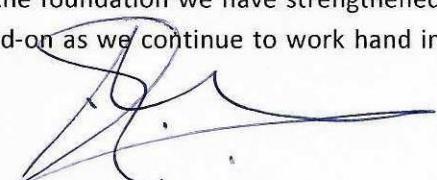
I present the 2024/2025 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy, and Fisheries. This report chronicles our strategic commitment to insulating our nation from external shocks and building a self-reliant and resilient agricultural sector. I would like to highlight several key achievements from this period. In the face of drought, our sugar sector demonstrated resilience, producing 223,552 tonnes of sugar and pioneering a Biomass Framework that saw the export of over 193 million kWh of electricity from bagasse, directly benefiting thousands of planters and millers.

Our support for the farming community is unwavering. We disbursed over MUR 125 million in fertiliser subsidies to more than 5,500 planters and provided machinery services for land preparation across thousands of arpents for both sugar and food crop planters. Through some 40 support measures and schemes, my Ministry has injected over MUR 204 million in FY 2024/25 to empower our farmers and entrepreneurs. In comparison, the level of support under the previous government in FY 2023/24 was much lower and amounted to some MUR 155 million only.

Innovation was at the heart of our mission. We successfully developed seaweed composting technology, established organic community gardens, and introduced new, resilient crop varieties, such as the heat-tolerant 'Jupiter' tomato. Our research encompassed pioneering work with Black Soldier Fly larvae for poultry feed and the advancement of the Loop-mediated Isothermal Amplification (LAMP) technology for disease detection. We have also recently partnered with a French company (GMD SAS) and received necessary financial and technical support to establish a pilot ultra-modern demonstration greenhouse.

Critical legislative strides were made with the enforcement of the Seeds Act, ensuring high-quality seeds for our planting community. Furthermore, our vigilant Plant Quarantine Division safeguarded our biosecurity by processing thousands of permits and inspections, while successfully securing market access to the European Union for our agricultural exports. Reforms have also been initiated to improve the efficiency of parastatals in line with the Government Programme 2025/29.

None of these outcomes would have been possible without the dedication, professionalism, and unwavering team spirit of every member of staff within the Ministry. To them, I convey my most profound appreciation. As we look ahead, I am confident that the foundation we have strengthened will enable us to meet future opportunities and challenges head-on as we continue to work hand in hand for a more prosperous and food-secure Mauritius.



Dr the Hon Arvin BOOLELL, GOSK
Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries

Message From The Senior Chief Executive

It is with great privilege that I present the Annual Report of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries for the fiscal year 2024/25. This document reflects the collective dedication and resilience of our staff, partners, and the entire agricultural community.

The Ministry is entrusted with the critical mandate of safeguarding our nation's food security and fostering a sustainable, competitive, and inclusive agro-industrial sector. This year, that mission was tested by significant challenges, including global supply chain disruptions and climatic adversities. A commitment to innovation, partnership, and strategic investment guided our response.

Throughout this period, we focused on several key strategic priorities, as hereunder: -

- Enhancing Productivity and Resilience: We implemented advanced agricultural techniques and provided critical support to our farmers, ensuring they remain at the forefront of driving socio-economic development and national food self-sufficiency;
- Strengthening Value Chains: Through targeted policies and schemes, we worked to optimise the allocation of human and financial resources, mitigating losses and adding value from farm to fork; and
- Promoting Food Safety and Security: We intensified collaborations with research institutions, NGOs, and international bodies to uphold the highest standards of food safety for our citizens.

This report details the tangible achievements borne from these efforts. None of these would have been possible without the unwavering commitment of the Ministry's staff, whose team spirit and determination are the bedrock of our success. I also extend my sincere gratitude to our farmers, stakeholders, and partners for their invaluable collaboration.

As we look to the future, we remain steadfast in our resolve to build a more robust and sustainable agro-food system. We will continue to leverage technology, empower our agricultural community, and pursue policies that ensure long-term prosperity and food security for all.



Mrs. J. Jaunbocus

Senior Chief Executive

Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries

PART 1

ABOUT OUR

MINISTRY

List of Acronyms

Acronyms	Details
ACD	: Agricultural Chemistry Division
AGO	: Attorney General's Office
AMB	: Agricultural Marketing Board
APAU	: Agricultural Policy Analysis Unit
APD	: Animal Production Division
ASO	: Agricultural Support Officer
BEC	: Bid Evaluation Committee
CGE	: Clean Green Ethical
CISD	: Central Information Systems Division
CITES	: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora
CRNS	: Cosmic Ray Neutron Sensor
CSCM	: Civil Service College Mauritius
EOI	: Expression of Interest
EA	: Environment Act
ESA	: Environmental Site Assessment
ESD	: Energy Services Division
EU	: European Union
FAO	: Food and Agriculture Organisation
FAREI	: Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute
GAHP	: Global Alliance on Health and Pollution
GAR	: Government Asset Register
IA	: Irrigation Authority
LA	: Lease Agreement
LDC	: Least Developed Countries

LUD	: Land Use Division
LVD	: Livestock and Veterinary Division
MACB	: Mauritius Agricultural Certifying Body
MAIFSBEF	: Ministry of Agro Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries
MCIA	: Mauritius Cane Industry Authority
MEAS	: Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MMA	: Mauritius Meat Authority
MNI	: Ministry of National Infrastructure
MSAW	: Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare
NAO	: National Audit Office
NAPRO	: National Agricultural Products Regulatory Office
NFGB	: National Field Gene Bank
NLIS	: National Livestock Information System
NPCS	: National Parks and Conservation Service
NPVSO	: National Plant Varieties and Seeds Office
NWM	: National Wholesale Market
PAPE	: Purchase of Agricultural and Processing Equipment
PRO	: Pesticides Regulatory Office
PSO	: Principal Scientific Officer
RBSE	: Rose Belle Sugar Estate
SASO	: Senior Agricultural Scientific Officer
SFWF	: Small Farmers Welfare Fund
SME	: Small and Medium Enterprise
SO / SSO	: Scientific Officer / Senior Scientific Officer
SSRBG	: Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden
TCP	: Technical Cooperation Programme
UAT	: User Acceptance Testing

1. Vision, Mission and Overall Policy

Vision

To build a vibrant sugar and non-sugar agriculture and agri-business sector that: -

- Utilises natural resources sustainably;
- Contributes significantly to national food security and safety;
- Empowers producers to higher productivity gains; and
- Enhances the welfare of the farming community.

Mission

- To enable and facilitate the advancement of agriculture and the agri-business sector for improved food security and safety in line with requirements for sustainable agricultural development.

Overall Policy

Strengthening food security and sustainable agricultural development through: -

- Improvements in productivity;
- Provision of safe food;
- Increased contribution of agriculture in the economy;
- Creation of more awareness and interest for agriculture to enhance business and employment opportunities; and
- Sustainable use of natural and genetic resources.

2. Roles and Functions of The Ministry/ Department

The Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries in Mauritius is responsible for ensuring food security, promoting sustainable agricultural development, and protecting natural resources. Its core functions span crop production, livestock, forestry, fisheries, plant and animal health, and regulatory oversight.

Key Roles and Functions

- **Policy and Planning**
 - Formulates and implements agricultural and food security policies.
 - Develops strategic plans for crop diversification, livestock, and agro-processing.
- **Food Security**
 - Promotes local food crop production (potato, onion, tomato, legumes, fruits).
 - Supports livestock development (poultry, dairy, cattle, goats, pigs, apiculture).
 - Encourages sustainable practices to reduce import dependency.
- **Research and Development**
 - Conducts agricultural research through specialized divisions (Agronomy, Animal Production, Food Technology, Entomology, Horticulture).
 - Provides technical support and extension services to farmers.
- **Regulatory and Quality Control**
 - Oversees the National Agricultural Products Regulatory Office.
 - Ensures food safety standards and quality assurance in agricultural products.
 - Implements plant protection and veterinary services.
- **Natural Resource Management**
 - Manages forestry services, national parks, and conservation programs.
 - Promotes sustainable land use and biodiversity conservation.
- **Support Services**
 - Provides engineering, agricultural chemistry, and information services.
 - Operates laboratories for food technology and dairy chemistry.
- **International and Regional Cooperation**
 - Engages in regional and global agricultural initiatives.

- Aligns national strategies with international commitments on climate change, biodiversity, and trade

Departments and Parastatal Bodies

Ministry of Agro- Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries (Agro- Industry and Food Security Division)



Agricultural Services with 14 divisions:
(Agricultural Chemistry Div, Agricultural Information Division, Agronomy/ NPVSO ; Food Science and Technology Div, Entomology; Horticulture Division; Land Use Div; NAPRO; NPPO; Veterinary Services; APD; MUGS, PRO)



Forestry Service



National Parks and Conservation Service



13 Parastatal Bodies

Parastatal Bodies

Mauritius Cane Industry Authority

- Promotes the development of the cane sector and its clusters.
- Creates an enabling environment with innovative and efficient services, research and development in the sugar sector.
- Creates and promotes special sugar and biomass initiatives

Sugar Investment Trust

- Advises on investment strategy spanning key economic sectors: from sugar milling and cane cultivation to energy, leisure, and property development.

Sugar Insurance Fund Board

- Provides insurance coverage to sugarcane planters and millers to mitigate financial losses caused by natural disasters such as cyclones, droughts, excessive rainfall, or fire.
- Assesses the extent of damage to sugarcane plantations after adverse climatic events and determines compensation for affected planters.
- Encourages the adoption of measures to reduce the risks associated with climatic events, such as proper irrigation systems, protective farming practices, and crop diversification.

Rose Belle Sugar Estate

- Manages the assets of the Rose Belle Sugar Estate Board efficiently and effectively for wealth generation, welfare and modernization, thus benefiting the employees, stakeholders and society at large.

Irrigation Authority

- Ensures that planters in irrigation zones are adequately supplied with water.
- Implements and manages irrigation projects.
- Maintains irrigation networks in good conditions.
- Ensures food security through strategic and systematic irrigation.

Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute

- Conducts research in non-sugar crops, livestock and agro-forestry.
- Provides extension services to farmers.

Agricultural Marketing Board

- Expands the local production of strategic crops like onions, potatoes and garlic.
- Operates or provides for the operation of such storage, handling and transport of processing facilities.
- Imports potatoes, onions and garlic to ensure uninterrupted supply of these commodities on the local market.

Small Farmers Welfare Fund

- Promotes the economic and social welfare of small farmers and their families.
- Registers farmers and delivers farmers' cards.
- Implements schemes for the benefit of small farmers.

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam**Botanic Garden Trust**

- Proper maintenance of the Botanic Garden
- Dissemination of knowledge with respect to plant life
- Encourage visits to the garden

Mauritius Meat Authority

- Is responsible for slaughter, dressing and transportation of cattle, goats, pigs, sheep and deer meat to markets.

Veterinary Council

- Regulates and controls the profession of veterinary services surgeons.
- Promotes advancement in the field of veterinary medicine and surgery.

Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare

- Controls catches and nurtures stray dogs and cats.
- Provides humane education for the prevention of cruelty against animals.
- Promotes the welfare and good treatment of animals.
- Conducts sterilization campaigns to contain stray dogs

Legislations

Crop Sector

The Mauritius Cane Industry Authority Act 2011

The Irrigation Authority 1978

The Rose Belle Sugar Estate Board Act 1973

Sugar Insurance Fund Act 1974

The Sugar Industry Efficiency Act 2001

Dangerous Chemical Control Act of 2004

Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) Act

Small Farmers Welfare Fund Act

Mauritius Agricultural Marketing Act

Mauritius Agricultural Marketing (Controlled Products) Regulations 2013- Gazette of Mauritius No. 106 of 28 November 2013

The Seeds Act 2013 and Seeds (Registration of Seed Dealer and Seed Producer) Regulations 2022- Seeds (Regulation of Variety) Regulations 2022

Seeds (Seed Production and Certification) Regulation 2022

Seeds (Marketing Regulations 2022

Seeds (Sampling and Testing) Regulations 2022

Seeds (Import and Export) REGULATIONS 2022

Seeds (Appeal Board) Regulations 2022

The Agricultural Chemistry Act 1979

National Agricultural Products Regulatory Office Act 2013

National Agricultural Products Regulations 2013

National Agricultural Products (Amendment No. 2)

Regulations 2016

State Land Act

Plant Protection Act

Use of Pesticides Act

Chemical Fertilizers Control Act of 1980

Livestock Sector

Animal Disease Act 1925
Animal Feed Control Act 1977
Animal Welfare Act 2013
Meat Act 1974
The Artificial Insemination of Animals (Control) Act 1946
Veterinary Council Act 2020

Forestry and Biodiversity Sector

The Forests and Reserves Act 1983
Wood Exploitation License Regulations 1992
The Shooting and Fishing Leases (Eco Tourism Activities) (Fees) Regulations 2018
The Shooting and Fishing Leases Act 1998
The Forests and Reserves (Protection of Protected Plants) Regulations 2024
The Forests and Reserves (Protection of Protected Plants) (Amendment) Regulations 2025
The Native Terrestrial Biodiversity and National Parks Act
CITES and Wildlife (Prescribed Species) Regulations 2022
The Vallee D'Osterlog Endemic Garden Foundation Act
The Vallee D'Osterlog Endemic Garden Foundation (Repeal) Act 2025
The Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden Trust Act
The Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden Trust (Fees) Regulations 2007
The Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden Trust (Guides) Regulations 2018

3. About Our People

People are of vital importance in an organisation as they lead and manage it. Officers of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries, through their strategic thinking, vision, creativity, and innovation, endeavour to turn challenges into opportunities. They also develop strategies to enhance the sustainability, resilience, effectiveness, and responsiveness of the Ministry's service delivery in the face of key challenges such as climate change, labour scarcity, and rising input costs. The Ministry's success in achieving its objectives entirely depends on its people and its financial allocation.

All this is based on strong industrial relations, which have been maintained through regular meetings with trade unions. At the same time, the health and safety of officers are consistently ensured by implementing the recommendations of the Health and Safety Committee on various issues to promote safe and healthy working environments for all employees of the Ministry. The total workforce was 1,884, with two Advisers attached to the Ministry. One intern was also posted at the Ministry.

Organizational Structure

The Ministry's decisions and objectives must be relayed from top management to functional levels without dilution or delay.

The overall administration of the Ministry falls under the responsibility of the Senior Chief Executive, who is assisted by a Permanent Secretary, four Deputy Permanent Secretaries and eight Assistant Permanent Secretaries on the administrative side. On the technical side, support is provided by the following:

- Director, Agricultural Services;
- Assistant Director, Livestock and Veterinary;
- Assistant Director, Agricultural Services;
- Conservator of Forests;
- Director, National Parks and Conservation Service; and
- Chief Agricultural Policy and Programme Development Officer.

Support services are provided by officers of the Human Resource Cadre, Finance Cadre, Procurement and Supply Cadre, General Services Grades and Workmen's Group.

Senior Management Team

Section	Title	Contact Details
Administration	Senior Chief Executive	Dr. D. KAWOL Email: dkawol@govmu.org Phone: 210 2713 Fax: 212 4427
	Permanent Secretary	Mrs. C. JHOWRY Email: cjhowry@mail.gov.mu Phone: 213 2576 Fax: 211 6448
	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Mrs Geetawantee RAMNAUTH Email: gramnauth@govmu.org Phone: 290 3829 Fax No: 214 9737
	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Mrs. Hansa Devi BEDACEE-DINDOYAL Email: hbedacee-dindoyal@govmu.org Phone: 2147468 Phone: 290 0076
	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Mrs Sarla Devi RAMJUTTON Email : sramjutton@govmu.org Phone : 260 1463
	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Mr Darmalingum DAVASGAIUM Email: ddavasgauim@govmu.org Phone: 210 4123 Fax No: 211 6916

	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Ms Bibi Nabeela FOKEERBUX Email: bfokeerbux@govmu.org Phone: 212 7934
	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Mr Rakshiteswar RAMSAHA Email: rramsaha@govmu.org Phone: 213 3947
	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Mrs Parvashi Devi MAHARAHAJE Email : pmaharahaje@govmu.org Phone : 208 0213
	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Ms Deepti BEEHARRY PANRAY Email: debpanray@govmu.org Phone: 214 4538
	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Mr Deepak Koomar DHANOOPA Email: dedhanoopa@govmu.org Phone: 2089727
	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Mrs Bibi Khadijah PENGWAH - JOOMUN Email: joomunkhadijah@gmail.com Phone: 2143361

	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Mr Nomesh RAMKURRUN Email: nramkurren@govmu.org Phone: 211 7621
	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Mrs Meenakah Devi SEEGOOLAM-SUMBHOO Email: msumbhoo@govmu.org Phone: 2113484
Agricultural Planning and Policy Analysis Unit (APAU)	Chief Agricultural Policy and Programme Development Officer	Dr Krishna CHIKHURI Email: nitin.chikhuri@yahoo.com Phone: 213 6380
	Senior Agricultural Policy and Programme Development Officer	Mrs. Varuna Dreepaul-Dabee Email: varuna1208@gmail.com Tel: 2104809
Agricultural Services	Director, Agricultural Services	Dr Piyush CHANDNA Email: moadirectoras@gmail.com Phone :401 2800
	Assistant Director, Livestock and Veterinary	Dr Pitambarsingh BEEHARRY Email: rpbeeharry@gmail.com Phone: 401 2800 / 454 1016
	Assistant Director, Agricultural Services	Dr Preaduth SOOKAR Email: psookar@govmu.org Phone: 401 2800 / 464 5304
		Mr Roomeshsing BEEHARRY Email: robeeharry@govmu.org Phone:401 2800 (ext 2953)

Forestry Services	Conservator of Forests	Mr Poojanraj KHURUN Email: forestrysecretariat@govmu.org ; pkhurun@gmail.com Phone: 670 7254 / 55 Fax: 674 3449
	Deputy Conservator of Forests	Mrs Cecily CYPARSADE Email: ccyparsade@govmu.org Phone: 670 7254 / 55 Fax: 674 3449
National Parks and Conservation Service	Director	Mr Kevin RUHOMAUN Email: kruhomaun@govmu.org ; npes@govmu.org Phone: 464 2993 / 464 4053 Fax: 466 0453
	Deputy Director	Mr Vinehswar Sharma GOPAL Email: svsgopal@gmail.com Phone: 464 4053 Fax: 466 0453

Training and Development

Training and Development is a crucial part of Human Resource Development and a key element of the overall strategy to build a pool of readily available employees and suitable replacements for personnel who may leave or advance within the Ministry.

During the Financial Year 2024/2025, 84 officers proceeded abroad for training, and 21 officers attended online training. These courses were sponsored by donor countries.

An amount of Rs 2,242,942 was disbursed in job-related courses that would equip officers with the necessary skills, knowledge and mindset for providing quality services to the public. Courses were organized by the Civil Service College Mauritius (CSCM) for the benefit of some 471 officers in the following training areas:

- Prosecution Duties;
- Government Asset Register (Practical training);
- Accountability & Ethics;
- Capacity Building Programmes (Levels 1-4);
- Health & Safety Courses;
- Risk Management;
- Court Proceedings; and
- Transport Management, among others.

4. Gender Statement

The Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries is dedicated to gender equality and empowerment as part of its mission to boost food security and sustainable agricultural development, protect forests, and conserve biodiversity in the nation. It actively implements gender-responsive agricultural and related policies, strategies, and programmes that ensure fairness in representation, participation, and benefits for both women and men. These initiatives address the specific needs of each gender, leading to governance and policy outcomes that are responsive to gender concerns, promote inclusivity, and positively contribute to socio-economic development. The Ministry also commits to providing equal opportunities for all to participate in decision-making processes, ensuring fair access to employment, and creating economic opportunities that support decent livelihoods and advancement within the agricultural value chain. The Gender Statement reflects the Ministry's dedication to mainstream gender in the agricultural, forestry, and biodiversity sectors through improvements in productivity and the supply of safe food. Its aim is to foster a more inclusive and productive agricultural sector that contributes to food security, conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, poverty reduction, and thereby enhances the sector's contribution to the economy.

PART II:

ACHIEVEMENTS

AND

CHALLENGES

5. Major Achievements

SUGAR SECTOR

- A total production of 2.17M tons of cane and a yield of 68.3 tons cane per hectare were recorded for crop 2024. The comparative figure for crop 2023 was 2.45M tons of cane and a yield of 68.39 tons of cane per hectare. The decline in production was attributed mainly to a water shortage caused by drought and regulations restricting irrigation during the dry season. A total of 223,552 tonnes of sugar (tel quel) was produced in crop 2024 compared to 238,854 tonnes of sugar in crop 2023.
- As at end June 2025, 545 planters had benefited from the Cane Replantation Schemes (ALMS Grant Scheme and Cane Revolving Fund Loan Scheme), and 363.2 ha of fields had been replanted under the ALMS Scheme. No replantation was undertaken under the Cane Revolving Fund Scheme due to water shortages and dry season regulations that imposed restrictions on sugarcane irrigation. Rehabilitation of abandoned lands was also pursued under these schemes.
- The Biomass Framework is being implemented with coordination meetings held at several levels with all stakeholders. A total supply of 5,600.19 tonnes of woodchips was provided to IPPs, namely Terragen, Omnicane, and Saint Aubin, for the export of 3,681,647 kWh of electricity to the grid. A total of 6,370 tonnes of cane trash was supplied for the export of 6.7 GWh of electricity to the Central Electricity Board, while bagasse electricity export was 193,558,701 kWh. The final price paid for bagasse for crop 2024 was Rs 2,984.75 per ton sugar. This payment benefitted 7,504 planters and 3 millers.
- Planters producing up to 60 tons of sugar were entitled to a 50% subsidy on the advance made for the purchase of fertilisers for crop 2024. The scheme was launched in August 2024. Issue of vouchers for crop 2024 started in August 2024 and ended in January 2025. For crop 2025, vouchers for some 4,183.7 tonnes of fertilisers were issued, benefitting some 5,531 planters. A disbursement of Rs 125.496M was made from the National Resilience Fund to implement this scheme.
- Machinery services were provided to 1,673 planters, allowing land preparation works to be completed on 1,884 arpents for sugarcane planters. This service was also extended to food crop planters, where land preparation works were completed on 1,257 arpents, benefitting 674 planters.
- Irrigation facilities are being provided to some 800 ha of land under vegetables and food crops, producing some 20,000 tons/yr of vegetables and food crops. In the sugar sector, a total area of

around 2,800 ha of land under sugarcane is irrigated using water from the IA's network. This has a production potential of 280,000 tons of sugarcane, which represents a total annual turnover of around Rs 568M.

CROP SECTOR

- Main support to farmers/entrepreneurs was provided through the implementation of 20 schemes aiming at modernising agricultural activities and improving productivity and quality of products. At the level of FAREI, some 377 applications were processed and a total of Rs 62,247,333 was disbursed, which included payment for the replacement of plastic sheet and net cover post-cyclone/calamity.
- A 50% subsidy was provided under the Fruit Protection Scheme for the purchase of anti-bird nets. An amount of Rs 5,143,159.19 was disbursed to 681 beneficiaries. Moreover, planters engaged in banana production used blue bags to protect fruits against freckle disease. For the period under review, 17 banana planters benefitted from a total grant amount of Rs 93,900.62 for the purchase of protective bags.
- To encourage farmers to shift from traditional open field cultivation to sheltered farming system, 104 beneficiaries were paid an amount of Rs 43,233,468 (applications made in previous financial year for which greenhouses are operational). At the same time, under the Plastic/Net Replacement Scheme, 98 beneficiaries were paid a grant amount of Rs 3,280,855.
- For the period July 2024 to 30 June 2025, FAREI received 377 applications for various schemes and a total amount of MUR 62, 247, 333 was paid during the same period.
- Some 215 agri-business enterprises benefitted from free advisory services and product development.
- Seventy applications were processed under the Biotechnology Loan Scheme to enable entrepreneurs, including women entrepreneurs, to benefit from DBM loans.
- A total of 144 training courses on different modules in crop and livestock production were carried out and attended by 2,664 farmers/entrepreneurs. The training also included specialised topics such as production of planting materials, water and energy-saving irrigation technologies, organic seed production, soil fertility and sustainable land management, and seaweed composting.

- 7 trainings were carried out in agro-processing for fruits and vegetables with 137 participants and 14 conducted tours to the Processing Unit for 207 participants and 2 training sessions attended by 28 participants were carried out in the processing of dairy products.
- Some 23,062 field visits and advisory services were conducted to assist farmers and agro-entrepreneurs.
- Within the initiative to encourage bio-farming and production of safe food, two organic community gardens were established. Hands-on training sessions were conducted with 72 participants. Ten training sessions on organic production were carried out and attended by 171 participants.
- Seaweed composting technology was successfully developed. A Seaweed Composting Unit has been set up at Belle Mare Research Station.
- Within the project on sustainable land management, two composting units and three fodder production plots were rehabilitated/established for research and demonstration on sustainable land and livestock management.
- Three hybrid onion varieties (Amit F1, SON 1806, and Agrippa) were recommended to planters. Two kailaan and five Swiss chard varieties were also recommended.
- Post-harvest practices for cocoa were developed. Various processed cocoa products were introduced, including cocoa nibs, chocolates, cocoa liquor, scrub, and odour absorbers.
- The tomato variety 'Jupiter' has been identified as both heat-tolerant and tolerant to bacterial wilt disease. Seeds have been sent to Agricultural Services for multiplication and sale to planters.
- Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) technology was successfully incorporated for sensitive detection of seed-borne viruses and the bacterium *Ralstonia solanacearum*.
- Black Soldier Fly larvae have been successfully produced for testing as poultry feed.
- Seeds of thirty-one varieties of vegetable crops were produced by Agricultural Services. The total quantity of seeds produced amounted to 1,175 kg, which included 164 kg of squash seeds and 122 kg of cucumber seeds produced under the Quality Declared Seeds Programme. Growing of seed crops was contracted to 17 planters (9 squash and 8 cucumber) under the programme.
- A total of 31,277 plantlets of fruit/ornamental/medicinal crops were produced by both conventional and tissue culture methods. In addition, 10,342 in vitro plantlets of banana (variety Williams) were imported from South Africa to meet increasing demand.
- The Seeds Act came into force during the financial year 2024–25 to ensure that high-quality seeds are sold to the planting community and the general public. The National Plant Varieties and Seeds Office,

which is responsible for the implementation of the Seed Act, has started the registration of seed dealers, seed producers, and seed varieties.

- An electronic system for the issuance of phytosanitary certificates for export by officers in Rodrigues has been implemented. This led to significant reductions in the timeframe for inspection and certification of commodities, increased transparency, real-time data transmission and reporting, minimal data input, online payment for exporters, and facilitated authentication of phytosanitary certificates issued by the NPPO of Mauritius.
- A Plant Quarantine Manual detailing activities and operations of Plant Protection activities was formulated.
- Successful market access to the European Union was achieved for export of selected saponaceous vegetables, and to the United Kingdom for capsicum.
- Successful implementation of biosecurity protocols, namely White Grub protocol and GAS protocol, was undertaken to prevent the introduction of White Grub (*Hoplochelus marginalis*), a pest of sugarcane in Réunion Island.
- The Plant Quarantine Division undertook a broad range of regulatory and protective measures to safeguard Mauritius's agricultural integrity while facilitating trade. A total of 13,993 Plant Import Permits were issued to enable the importation of various plants, plant parts, and products, alongside 4,404 Phytosanitary Certificates for the export of agricultural commodities. The division conducted 10,714 inspections and clearances of incoming consignments, while 172 export consignments underwent chemical treatment, and 438 m³ were treated through heat or fumigation to meet international standards. In parallel, 1,173 seed samples from 214 imported consignments were subjected to seed health testing, and Import Risk Analyses were carried out for 158 new planting material items. The division also facilitated the introduction of planting materials for the flower and fruit industries, including young grafted roses, gerberas, succulents, chrysanthemums, and grapes. Additionally, 30,951 kg of quarantine waste from aircraft, ships, and intercepted consignments were safely incinerated. Significant logistical oversight included the inspection and certification of 19,343 containers bound for Australia, and inspections of 808 ships and 10,605 planes, underscoring the Division's critical role in biosecurity and agricultural trade facilitation.
- Setting up of a tick surveillance programme at the AHSEU.

- Value-added products were developed, including herbal teas from organic rose petals, dehydrated papaya, papaya in syrup and nectar, coconut squash and cordial, as well as jelly, cordial, and lollies made from Butterfly Blue Pea flower.
- To safeguard consumer health, the Agricultural Chemistry Division regularly analyses residue levels of commonly used pesticides in fruits and vegetables submitted by PRO and MSB for MAURIGAP certification. For the year 2024–2025, some 1,265 samples were analysed for around 150 molecules of pesticides.
- To provide analytical support to the honey sector, some 20 samples of honey were analysed for 134 tests to determine freshness, purity, and quality.
- For Campaign 2024, a total subsidy of MUR 68.6M was offered to all growers purchasing seeds (seed potatoes, onion seeds, garlic seeds, and bean seeds) through the AMB. For Campaign 2023, the total subsidy offered to growers was MUR 52M.
- The AMB continued to implement and manage the Freight Rebate Scheme aimed at promoting export and local production of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Applications are processed by AMB and refunds are funded by EDB Mauritius. Exporters and growers benefit from the rebate.

LIVESTOCK SECTOR

- Five in-situ creole cattle units have been set up within the project on the conservation of animal genetic resources.
- An aviary has been established at Belle Mare for research and demonstration on free-range chicken.
- The Salazie Sheep Reproduction Farm has grown to 191 heads as at end of June 2025 with the sale of excess males over the years.
- The Melrose Cattle Reproduction Farm was operationalised in December 2019 with 43 heifers, and the herd has now increased to 61 heads as at end of June 2025, with sales of excess males.
- FSTD has built on its routine, research, and risk assessment activities to sustain Government's efforts for safer food from farm to fork. During the financial year 2024/2025, some 3,559 microbiological tests on food and feed samples and 723 chemical tests on milk samples were conducted.
- To further consolidate the capacity of the Food Technology Laboratory, a Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) FAO TCP/MAR/3901 is currently being implemented. Activities for strengthening

capacity at the Pilot Plant Unit to offer sensory testing services are under way. A gap analysis was conducted during the year by an international consultant, Dr H. Fatoumata, in October 2024, and an online training programme on setting up a sensory testing facility was conducted in March 2025 by an international consultant. Development of questionnaires and training of sensory panels has been initiated by FSTD staff following the online capacity-building programme.

- Number of dogs sterilised for the period January 2024 to June 2025: More than 10,000 dogs sterilised.

FORESTRY

- The Forestry Service has rehabilitated approximately 106.84ha of State Forest land and the total number of plant seedlings grown in forest nurseries amounts to 190, 423 (both native and exotic species)
- A modern nursery has been constructed at Curepipe. The project was completed in May 2025 and aims to boost the propagation of plants using new technology and modern practices.
- Funding under the CBIT has been obtained for consultancy services for the development of Tier 2 Enteric Fermentation Emission Factors and a Model for Livestock in both Mauritius and Rodrigues. The project aims to strengthen the national greenhouse gas inventory of the Republic of Mauritius and improve climate reporting and transparency.

6. Status On Implementation Of Budget Measures

Paragraph	Measure	Status
89a	A grant of 50 percent, up to a maximum of Rs 500,000, will be provided for the construction of up to two sheltered farms, including replacement of plastic nets	For the period of 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2025, 125 applications have been received. During the same period, 104 beneficiaries were paid an amount of Rs 43,233,468.82 (including applications made in previous financial year for which greenhouses are operational). Under the Plastic / Net Replacement Scheme, 98 beneficiaries were paid a grant amount of Rs 3,280,855.06
89b	To further boost the local production of food crops and reduce our dependency on imports, a 50 percent subsidy will be provided for purchase of fertilisers	Fertilizer Subsidy Scheme: Applications received from 3879 planters representing an amount of Rs 1178,840,030. As at date, the SFWF has already issued vouchers to 2877 planters for a total amount of Rs 80,000,000.00.
89d	Grant of Rs 250,000 for the purchase of equipment by small planters	For the period of 1st July 2024 to 31st May 2025, 141 applications have been received. During the same period, 108 beneficiaries were paid a grant amount of Rs 7,732,77.71 (for applications made in the previous financial year)
91	To uphold the re-emergence of the tea sector, Government has provided Rs 6 million to continue the Road Mending Scheme for tea cooperatives.	The first phase of the works, that is, patching and clearing of roadsides has been completed.
93	The winter allowance will be increased for tea growers by 80 percent from Rs 2.50 per kg to Rs 4.50 per kg.	Completed.
94a	A cash compensation of Rs 6,000 per arpent will be maintained for the first crop cycle annually	Scheme operational as from 01st January 2025. The compensation is payable in case of crop losses due to natural calamities such as cyclones and floods.
94 b	Introducing a cash compensation of Rs 3,000 per arpent for a second crop cycle annually.	The measure has not yet been implemented since necessary amendments were being brought to the SFWF's Act through the Finance and Miscellaneous Act 2025/26, and regulations have to be worked out for the implementation of this measure. The measure has not yet been implemented.

97 (a)	We are increasing the grant under the Cane Replantation Scheme from Rs 50,000 to Rs 60,000 per arpent	2021/2022: Contracts signed for 457ha. Land preparation completed on 446ha. 95% of replantation completed (435ha). 2022/2023: Contracts signed for 530ha involving 760 planters. Land preparation completed on 527.4 ha. 98.5% of replantation completed (522.2 ha for 746 planters). 2023/2024: Contracts signed for 684.1ha involving 959 planters. Land preparation completed on 669.4 ha. 93.6% of replantation completed (640.5ha for 898 planters). 2024/2025: Contracts signed for 568.3ha involving 764 planters. Land preparation completed on 406.6 ha representing 606 planters. 58.8% of replantation completed: 334.2 ha for 502 planters).
98	The subsidy of 50 percent on green certification of sugar production will be maintained.	In FY 24/25, a total sum of MUR 303,618.84 has been disbursed to Alteo and Mauritius Sugar Syndicate (MSS) for Bonsucro. A further sum of Rs 1,129,156.77 has been disbursed to planters Cooperative Societies for Fairtrade. A total sum of MUR 1,432,775.61 has been disbursed for this scheme as at end June 2025.
99 (a)	For planters producing up to 60 tons of sugar, Government will continue to pay the premium to the Sugar Insurance Fund Board.	A sum of Rs 125.496 M was disbursed as grant to the MCIA. 4,214 tonnes of fertilisers were issued as at end of June 2025 to the benefit of 5,580 planters.
99 (b)	For planters producing up to 60 tons of sugar, Government will provide a 50 percent subsidy on purchase of fertilisers	A Committee comprising representatives of the IA and the MCIA was set up to process the applications. Meetings were held between IA and MCIA to process the claims. 16 planters have benefitted from purchase of the irrigation system under this scheme and an amount of Rs 1,042,000 was disbursed as at end June 2025.
99 (c)	For planters producing up to 60 tons of sugar, Government will continue to provide a financial assistance of Rs 150,000 for purchase of drip irrigation systems	All 7 cheques have been delivered to the concerned planters. There are actually 5 pending applications which will be reviewed by the IA/MCIA Committee.
99 (d)	For planters producing up to 60 tons of sugar, Government will waive CESS in respect of crop 2024	The CESS was previously paid by planters to meet the operational cost of MCIA. In fact, the CESS (Rs 1,099.10/ t sugar) is being waived for all producers and this amounts to Rs 249.46m. This shortfall is being met from the Government Budget to meet the operational costs of MCIA.

100	<p>We are increasing the minimum guaranteed revenue of sugar to Rs 30,000 per ton for crop 2024, a 20 percent increase over two years.</p>	<p>An additional advance payment for sugar was effected on the following Government rates:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th><th>Revenue(Rs)</th><th>Rate Rs/ T Sugar</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Planters <100haSugar</td><td>21,300</td><td>27,477.72</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other plantersBagasse</td><td>21,300</td><td>2,984.75</td></tr> <tr> <td>Molasses</td><td></td><td>2,101.42</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Provisional Final payments for bagasse stand at the rate of Rs 1,8002,984.75 per tonne sugar. This has benefitted all the planters and Millers</p> <p>For molasses, a final payment was made on 29 May 2025, bringing the final price to Rs 4,671.68 per tonne of molasses at 860 brix. This has benefitted all the planters. The equivalent rate is Rs 2,101.42 per tonne sugar paid to all planters inclusive of the distiller bottler contribution.</p>	Category	Revenue(Rs)	Rate Rs/ T Sugar	Planters <100haSugar	21,300	27,477.72	Other plantersBagasse	21,300	2,984.75	Molasses		2,101.42
Category	Revenue(Rs)	Rate Rs/ T Sugar												
Planters <100haSugar	21,300	27,477.72												
Other plantersBagasse	21,300	2,984.75												
Molasses		2,101.42												
102 c	<p>Provision for grants of Rs 15,000 to calf breeders.</p>	<p>Applications received for 459 calves for a total of Rs 6,885,000.00. Amount disbursed- Rs 5,730,000.00 for 382 calves.</p>												
103a	<p>The subsidies will be increased by 50 percent for cost of veterinary services from Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,500</p>	<p>The Scheme was submitted for approval and same was approved on 04 February 2025 and launched on 02 June 2025..</p>												
105	<p>Government will acquire a mobile veterinary clinic to deliver quicker service to farmers for their livestock. (LVD)</p>	<p>Contract has already been awarded to Crans Company Ltd for two ambulances. Delivery within 25 weeks.</p>												
106	<p>The subsidy on animal feed is being increased by 33 percent from Rs 15 to Rs 20 per kilogram.</p>	<p>Letter was sent to MAIFS to seek approval on operationalisation of the reviewed scheme on 18 September 2024. Request was also sent for disbursement of fund on 11th December 2024. Approval was granted on 4th February 2025 on the operational modalities of the scheme. Funding awaited. The scheme is scheduled to be transferred from Agricultural Services to SFWF by next FY 2025/26.</p>												
107 a	<p>For our farmers and breeders, we are providing a grant of up to</p>	<p>FAREI is proposing that the scheme makes provision for a one-off grant of 50% of the cost for purchase and installation of fencing up to</p>												

	Rs 300,000 for purchase of fencing and security equipment	a maximum of MUR 300,000. (The scheme will be restricted to farmers and breeders). Approval for supplementing the scheme has been conveyed to the FAREI. Scheme will be launched in the next financial year
107 b	For our farmers and breeders, we are increasing the threshold from Rs 250,000 to Rs 300,000 for purchase of land mechanisation equipment.	Detailed proposal sent to the Ministry on 26 November 2024. This scheme will allow better land preparation and better productivity as well as alleviating the shortage of labour. Livestock activities would also be included in this scheme. Following a meeting held on 17 March 2025, it was agreed not to proceed with the scheme as Rs 6.1 Million out of Rs 7.5 Million had already been spent. Furthermore, farmers and breeders already obtain a grant of 50% up to Rs 250,000 on the purchase of equipment which include land mechanisation equipment.
108 a	Government will increase the one-off grant under the Bee Keeping Scheme from Rs 150,000 to Rs 200,000 for fencing purposes.	3 beekeepers benefitted from the grant. Rs 400,000 were disbursed for period 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
108 b	Government will increase the 50 percent subsidy on acquisition of solar powered CCTV cameras from a maximum of Rs 25,000 to Rs 30,000.	For the period of 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, 51 applications have been received. During the same period, 62 beneficiaries were paid an amount of Rs 1,619, 568.37 (for applications made in the previous financial year))
109	Subsidy of Rs 500 per Bee Queen to beekeepers up to a maximum of 10 queens	100 queen bees were imported and 70 queens were sold to 7 beekeepers
235 (a)	Our aim is to increase the tree coverage by 100 hectares annually over the next decade. To do so, we will make it mandatory for morcellements of more than 5 arpents, including Smart Cities, to allocate at least 4 percent of the total area for development of a mini forest, featuring endemic trees;	The Forestry Service had a meeting with the Ministry of Housing and Lands on 09 August 2024 and recommended that for any new Morcellement Application of more than 5Ap, the proponent will have to make a formal request to the Conservator of Forests regarding the implementation of endemic forests. The Forestry Service will provide technical advice on plant species to be introduced and on tree planting. It was agreed that guidelines will be prepared for the creation of new endemic corners at the aforesaid morcellements. The Forestry Service

		<p>is currently awaiting further correspondences from the Ministry of Housing and Lands pertaining to same.</p> <p>This Service has undertaken necessary measures to increase tree cover through the construction of a modern nursery at Curepipe, which has been completed in May 2025. The site has been handed over to the Forestry Service.</p>
235 (b)	Invest and restore eco-sensitive zones having incomparable values due to its landscape, wildlife, biodiversity and natural values;	<p>The Forestry Service has rehabilitated approximately 160.84 ha of State Forest Land as at 30 June 2025</p> <p>The total number of plant seedlings grown in forest nurseries for FY 24/25 amounts to 190,423 plants (Natives: 79,092 and exotics 111, 331)</p>
235 (c)	Plant trees on river banks, mountains and in sites identified by village and municipal councils	<p>200 plants (both exotic and native) have been issued for the rehabilitation and embellishment of Nouvelle Decouverte Health Track on an extent of 600m2.</p> <p>800 plants (both native and exotic) have been earmarked for the rehabilitation of the Quartier Militaire Recreational Centre on an extent of 3.9 ha.</p>
235 (c)	Distribute trees for plantation to students in primary schools	<p>The Forestry Service has issued 2,837 plants to several Primary Schools during FY 24/25.</p> <p>Awareness-raising activities on the importance of forests, the need to conserve our natural forest heritage and opportunities in the Forestry Sector in Mauritius have been undertaken in primary and secondary schools including at Le Bocage International School and during public events such as the National Science Week 2025 and Earth Day 2025.</p>
428	Provision of an incentive of Rs 200 to individuals for the sterilization and tagging of these animals at the MSAW or at registered NGOs in order to reduce the number of stray dogs	<p>The incentive of Rs 200/- has been reallocated in the Mass Sterilisation, Microchipping and registration of dogs.</p>

429	All dogs sold should be mandatorily registered with MSAW.	Awaiting proclamation of section 31 of the Animal Welfare Act 2013
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7. Status on Implementation of Key Actions

DELIVERY UNIT	MAIN SERVICE	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	TARGET 2024/2025	ACHIEVEMENT AS AT 30 June 2025	REMARKS
Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI)	Promote climate/resilient/protected culture	Production under protected culture(tonnes)	12,500	11,930	Surface area covered under Sheltered Farms is around 105.82ha. Due to Cyclone Belal, several Sheltered farms were damaged thus affecting the production
Agricultural Marketing Board	Encourage local production of strategic crop	Production of potatoes(tonnes)	18,000	13,766	A shortfall is noted due to adverse climatic conditions, the presence of bacterial wilt in land, lack of irrigation facilities, difficulty to manage cultivation due to lack of labour are among the main reason.
Small Farmers Welfare Fund	Provide support to small farmers	Area under agricultural land mechanisation support (Arpents)	2,715	2,499	As per funding provided for the FY 2024/25
Mauritius Cane Industry Authority	1. Increase production of sugar	1. Sugar production(tonnes)	255,000	225,547	225,547 out of which 119,615 tons special sugar and 105,932 tons refined white sugar). Lesser yield was due to restriction on water distribution. 363.2 ha for ALMS.

	2. Implement land mechanisation and cane replantation programme	2. Extent of land under sugar cane replanted annually (Ha)	2,900	363.2	0 ha for Cane Replantation Cane Replantation Revolving Fund scheme. Replantation being affected by drought and dry season regulation imposing restrictions on cane irrigation.
Agricultural Services Division (NAPRO)	Provide accompanying measures to boost tea production	Tea Production(tonnes)	1,250	1,207	Significant decrease noted despite support measures provided to growers
Agricultural Services (Entomology Division)	Promotion of apiculture through training of beekeepers	Volume of honey produces(tonnes)	38	40	Target met as a result of favourable climatic conditions and abundance of flowers
Animal Production Division	Supply of breeding stock	Number of calves and lambs produced	75	108	
National Parks and Conservation Service	Conservation of native biodiversity	Land under conservation management & restoration (Cumulative Ha)	860	900	Target achieved

Forestry Service	Maintenance of forest ecosystem services	Area of forests rehabilitated (Ha)	175	160	Maintenance works undertaken in Nature Reserves and State Land firebreak maintenance and tree planting activities were also conducted.
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8. Status On Implementation of Government Programme 2020/2024

Para No.	Measure	Status
1.	Creation of a network of hiking trails to an extent of 150 km.	Hiking Trails to be set up
2.	Increase in Conservation area from 800 ha to 1400 ha.	A total of 790 hectares of land is under conservation management and restored at Bras D'Eau, Ile d'Ambre, and Black River Gorges National Park, as well as around 210 hectares of that land where maintenance weeding is undertaken. Maintenance weeding needs to be undertaken given that existing restored sites have been reinfested with invasive plant species
58.	Government will further invest in and promote cutting edge technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, robotics, blockchain and Internet of Things, as our country embraces the dictates of the fourth industrial revolution.	The use of drone technology in the cane sector has been successfully advanced, with the acquisition of drones, the development of the required software, and the completion of field trials for applications such as herbicide spraying, artificial ripener application, and the determination of field gappiness. Similarly, under the GCCA+ initiative project, significant progress has been achieved in the development of aquaponics. A dedicated aquaponics unit has been established at FAREI, accompanied by training sessions for staff, government institutions, and

		entrepreneurs, while a support scheme has also been implemented to encourage new entrants into the sector.
73	A new reform package will be implemented for the cane industry while encouraging the shift to modern organic and niche production in agriculture. A plan for optimising agricultural land will be developed	<p>World Bank Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study on the sugar sector conducted – Completed• Report submitted – Completed• Implementation of recommendations – Completed:• Remuneration of bagasse• Reduction of sugar handling and storage logistics costs• Mechanization of operations of small planters• Increase in the share of special sugars <p>Budget-Supported Measures (Ongoing)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remuneration of bagasse at Rs 3,300 per ton of sugar produced (since 2021)• Reduction of sugar export logistics costs through a proposed modern 150,000-ton sugar storage facility at Riche Terre <p>Mechanization support by MCIA through subsidized provision of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewal of tractor fleets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Procurement of cane harvesters operated by MCAF <p>Increase in special sugar production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current contracted tonnage (2023/24): 127,177 tonnes• Target : 200,000 tonnes <p>Shift to Organic Sugar Production: Trials with Terra on 55 ha using organic herbicides and fertilizers</p> <p>Optimization of Agricultural Land: Schemes encouraging planters to remain in cultivation and reduce land abandonment: Cane Replantation Scheme; Fertiliser Scheme; Cane Replantation Revolving Fund</p> <p>Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM) Strategies: 9 biological control agents of key pests identified; Revamped IPM package for DBM on crucifers to improve parasitoid production at field level;</p>
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111.	<p>Government will develop a biomass policy and encourage the production of energy with bagasse through incentives to small planters. It will promote research on new renewable energy technologies.</p>	<p>Development of the Biomass Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MCIA developed a biomass framework based on sector potential – <i>Completed</i>• Framework adopted by Government for implementation – <i>Completed</i>• Three committees set up with finalized Terms of Reference• Activity calendar prepared to synchronize actions between CEB and MCIA; Government approval to be sought by MEPU• MCIA initiating a biomass laboratory, with equipment procurement in progress• Irrigation Authority monitoring irrigation systems to support biomass projects• A midterm review is scheduled around 2026 with MEPU to assess progress and guide future implementation
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142.	Government is committed to adopting a responsible and environmentally sustainable development policy	<p>Sustainable Crop Disease Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation of bioproducts and fungicides against major fruit and vegetable diseases – Ongoing• Application of bacteriophage for controlling <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i> in solanaceous crops – Ongoing• Improvement of crucifer and carrot landraces using nuclear techniques for mutation breeding – Ongoing• Evaluation of vegetable and fruit crop germplasm for disease tolerance – Ongoing <p>Promotion of Macadamia Cultivation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Production and dissemination of macadamia planting materials – Completed
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144.	<p>Ensure sustainability and responsible investment, Mauritius aims at championing this new development policy based on four pillars:</p> <p>Mitigating risks from climate change</p>	<p>Development of Climate-Smart Water Saving Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installation of water-saving technologies on farms completed.• Promotes efficient water use and resilience to climate variability. <p>Breeding and Selection of High-Yielding Stress-Tolerant Crops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on varieties tolerant to both biotic (pests, diseases) and abiotic (drought, heat) stresses.• Ensures sustainable productivity under changing climatic conditions.• Two improved cauliflower varieties are under development.• Release of these varieties is programmed for 2025 and work is ongoing.• Supports diversification, food security, and adaptation to climate change in agriculture.
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160.	<p>Three new endemic forests will be created and existing ones restored.</p> <p>These forests will be accessible for hiking and nature walk.</p>	<p>Creation of New Endemic Gardens and Forests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Land Beemanique (9.2 ha) established in 2021 – <i>Completed</i>.Belle Vue Forest Trail (9.2 ha) inaugurated – <i>Completed</i>.Mini-forests created:<ol style="list-style-type: none">La Prairie (1.2 ha, Oct 2022) – <i>Completed</i>.Malenga (0.1 ha, Nov 2022) – <i>Completed</i>.Healing Forest and Endemic Garden at Grand Bassin (2023) – <i>Ongoing</i>; only placement of benches left before inauguration. <p>Restoration and Maintenance of Mini-Forests and Nature Walks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Petit Sable (2016), Bel Air (2018), Peri-Urban (2019), Mon Vert, Plaine Sophie, and Pamplemousses Nature Walks.Initial weeding completed. <i>Maintenance, restoration, and accessibility to public are ongoing</i>.Extension of endemic forests at Petit Sable – <i>Initial weeding completed</i>.Restoration works at Gabriel Island – <i>Ongoing</i>.Restoration and proclamation of new Nature Reserves at Les Mariannes – <i>Ongoing</i>.
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	<p>Pipeline Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Endemic Garden at State Land Boulle Laganne.• Proposed restoration/nature walks at Chamarel, La Nicolière, Le Pouce, Mont Brisée (Anse Jonchée). <p>Supportive Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purchase of motorized equipment for forest restoration (MUR 428,000) – <i>Completed under 2022–23 budget.</i>• Amendment to the Shooting and Fishing Leases Act to include Ecotourism, Agroforestry, Sustainable Forest Management, and Biodiversity Conservation – <i>Completed in Finance Act 2023–24.</i>
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9. Risk Management, Citizen-Oriented Initiatives & Good Governance

Operating within a highly dynamic and challenging socio-economic environment, the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries recognises risk management as a foundational component of its strategic planning. As a responsive and accountable institution, the Ministry has maintained steady progress in implementing programmes designed to support and empower breeders and farmers.

The Ministry consistently adheres to all applicable legal requirements in the execution of its duties and ensures the enforcement of legislation within its mandate.

Key initiatives undertaken include:

- Monitoring and evaluating service delivery to foster continuous improvement;
- Providing timely, efficient, and high-quality public services;
- Protecting organizational assets and data in compliance with the Data Protection Act;
- Modernizing processes through digital transformation to enhance service delivery;
- Strengthening ethics and integrity infrastructure;
- Ensuring adherence to risk management key performance indicators;
- Addressing weaknesses identified through corruption risk assessments; and
- Delivering generic and technical training to embed the organizational culture among staff.

The Ministry's Audit Committee (AC) has fully adhered to its charter and diligently supported the Accounting Officer in overseeing control mechanisms and governance processes. The AC monitored the implementation of recommendations from the National Audit Office, Internal Control, and the Public Accounts Committee.

The customers of the Ministry are:

- All Ministries and Parastatal Organisations;
- Planters (sugar cane, tea, crop, and flowers);
- Farmers/Breeders;
- Sugar Companies;
- Tea Companies and Cooperatives;
- Cooperative Federations and societies;
- Trade Unions and Federations of planters and farmers;
- Planters' Associations Farmers;
- Importers and Exporters;
- Monkey and CITES Registered Breeders Company;
- Public, tourist and students; and
- Private companies (hotels and other entities in the Biosphere Reserve), NGO, and Local Authorities.

The commitment of the Ministry to its customers

- Proper service delivery to all stakeholders and capacity building of the farming community.
- Adheres to all the principles and commitment of the Strategic Plan and Customer Charter of the Ministry.

10. Implementation Plan - Director of Audit Comments

Please refer to Annex - Action Plan of Audit Committee for Year 2024/25

PART III-

FINANCIAL

PERFORMANCE

11. Financial Performance

For the 2024/25 Budget Estimates, the Vote of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries is made up of six Sub-Heads as follows:

- **13-401 General;**
- **13-402 Competitiveness of the Sugar Cane Sector;**
- **13-403 Development of Non-Sugar (Crop) Sector;**
- **13-404 Livestock Production and Development;**
- **13-405 Forests; and**
- **13-406 National Parks and Conservation Service**

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Statement of Revenue

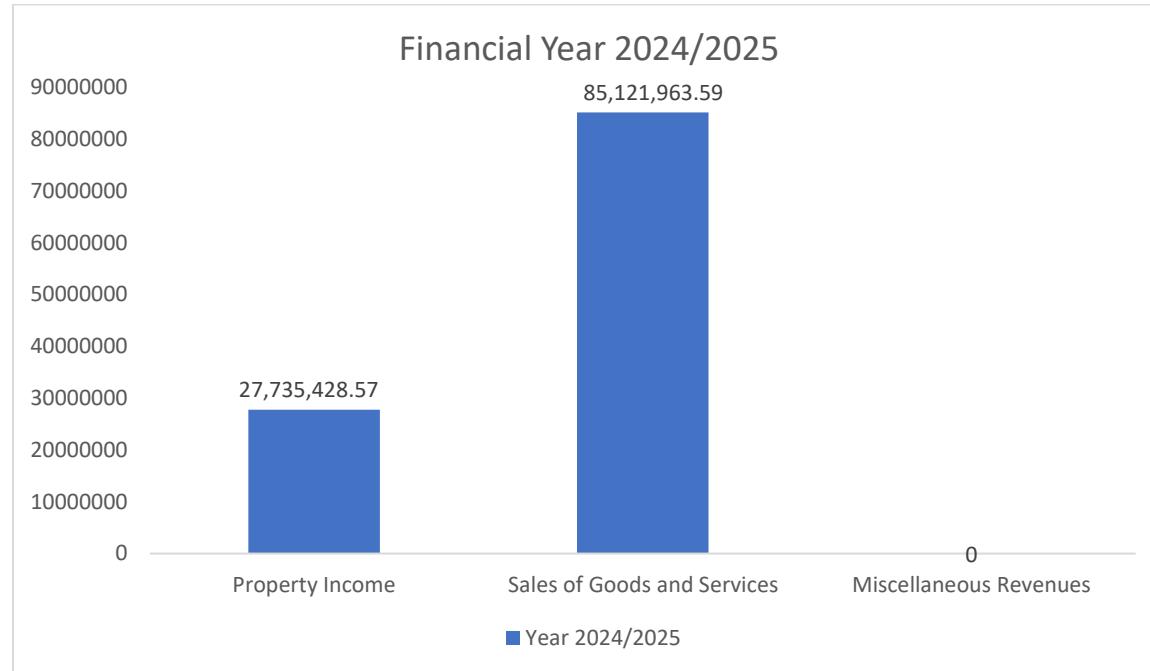
During the year under review, total revenue for the Ministry amounted to Rs. 112,857,392.16 and falls under three broad categories:

- Property Income (other land lease, shooting and fishing rights);
- Sales of Goods and Services (Clearance fees for tea and tobacco, Sales of Plants, seeds, fruits and agricultural produce, etc.); and
- Miscellaneous revenues (Other Miscellaneous, incl. Unidentified Revenues)

Revenue (Rs million)	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Estimates	2024-2025 Actual
Property Income	23,400,750.72	21,725,000.00	27,735,428.57
Sales of Goods and Services	65,210,887.95	74,950,000.00	85,121,963.59
Fines, Penalties and Forfeits			
Miscellaneous Revenues	838.29		
Total Revenue from Property Income, User Fees and other Sources	88,612,476.96	96,675,000.00	112,857,392.16

Figure 1 below provides an illustration of the Revenue collected by the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries (Agro-Industry and Food Security Division)

Figure 1: Revenue collected by the Agro-Industry & Food Security Division of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries

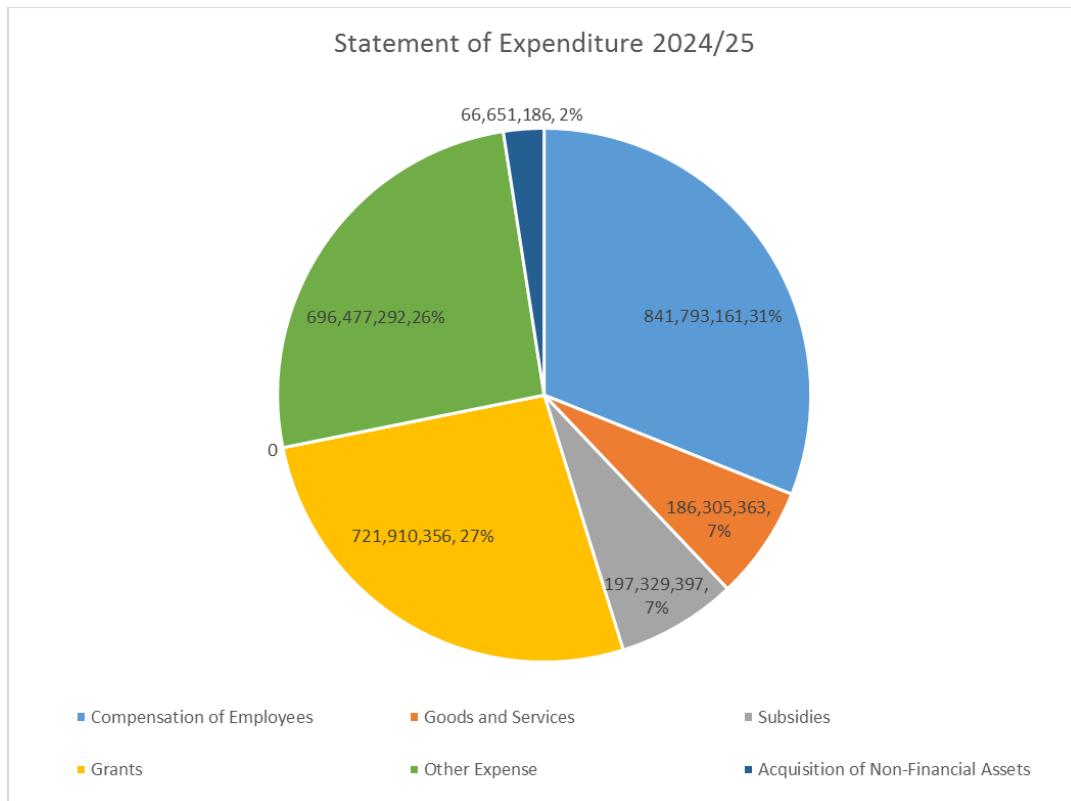


Statement of Expenditure

Head/Sub-Head of Expenditure	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Actual	% Spent on total Est. 24/25 Actual
Compensation of Employees	758,116,479	757,296,283	841,793,161	31%
Goods and Services	145,933,201	188,729,521	186,305,363	7%
Subsidies	60,577,989	137,295,666	197,329,397	7%
Grants	665,313,639	675,084,850	721,910,356	27%
Social Benefits	-	-	-	
Other Expense	529,838,648	597,082,529	696,477,292	26%
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	19,337,479	73,460,932	66,651,186	2%
Acquisition of Financial Assets	-	-		
Total	2,179,117,435	2,428,949,781	2,710,466,755	100%

Figure 2 below provides an illustration of expenditure incurred by the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries (Agro-Industry and Food Security Division) under vote 13-4 in Financial Year 2024/2025.

Figure 2: Expenditure by Ministry



Special Fund

The National Parks and Conservation Fund is the only Special Fund falling under the purview of the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries. This Fund is established under section 46 of the Native Terrestrial Biodiversity and National Parks Act 2015. Expenditure incurred during the financial year 2024/2025 has been to the tune of Rs.22,545,293.74

PART IV-

WAY FORWARD

12. Trends and Challenges

Sugar Sector

Strengths

- **Economic Multiplier Effect:**
 - Despite sugar contributing just 1% to GDP and employing less than 2% of the workforce, the sector has a strong multiplier effect across the economy.
- **Multifunctional Role:**
 - Remains an important net foreign exchange earner, particularly in times of crisis (e.g., COVID-19).
 - Supports the socio-economic fabric through environmental stewardship, rural employment, and cultural heritage.
- **Research, Development, and Expertise:**
 - Strong technical know-how in cane cultivation, R&D, technology transfer, and production of value-added sugars.
 - Proven capability in developing co-products, including ethanol and bioenergy.
- **Diversification of Products:**
 - Production of refined and specialty sugars, ethanol from molasses, and electricity from bagasse.
 - Government targets coal phase-out by 2030, reinforcing biomass-based renewable energy as a growth avenue.
- **Export Reputation & Branding:**
 - Mauritius is a global leader in specialty sugars with exports of nearly 120,000 tons in FY 2024/25 to 40 destinations worldwide.
 - “Made in Mauritius” sugar is a recognized quality brand in premium markets.
- **Environmental Contribution:**
 - Sugarcane cultivation prevents soil erosion, safeguards beaches and lagoons, and contributes to carbon sequestration, supporting climate resilience.

Weaknesses

- **Decline in Cane Cultivation:**
 - Reduction in cane area due to:
 - reduction in area under cultivation caused by urbanization, declining revenues (unfavourable international sugar prices), lack of labour and water scarcity.
 - Reduction in productivity, mainly caused by loss in soil health
- **Export Dependency:**
 - Domestic consumption is minimal; reliance on export exposes the industry to price volatility and currency risks.
- **High Production Costs:**
 - One of the highest global production costs driven by short milling season (127 days), low milling capacity, and high labour intensity.
 - Field labour accounts for up to 80% of total labour costs where mechanization of practices have not been adopted.
- **Vulnerability of Small Planters:**
 - Rising costs and low revenues force smallholders to abandon cane or shift to alternative crops.
- **Labour Market Constraints:**
 - Sector faces rigidities, ageing workforce, and lengthy procedures for foreign labour recruitment.
- **Resource Limitations:**
 - Restricted land and water availability constrain production expansion.

Opportunities

- **Value Addition & Innovation:**
 - Expansion of co-products through R&D, including high-fibre cane, bio-based materials, and specialty sugars.
 - Growth of SMEs producing sugar-based niche products (e.g., sugar cubes, flavored sugars).
 - Introduction of innovative technologies, e.g. application of ripeners with drones. Soil health is restored through R&D
- **Renewable Energy Development:**
 - The National Biomass Initiative promotes biomass energy (bagasse, cane trash, fuel canes, and related crops).
- **Market Diversification:**
 - Potential to redirect exports from the EU to remunerative regional and emerging markets.
- **Certification & Branding:**
 - Expansion of Fairtrade, Bonsucro, and organic certifications to capture premium pricing and consumer demand.
- **Regional Integration:**
 - Access to African markets under AfCFTA presents new trade opportunities for value-added sugar products.

Threats

- **Global Price Volatility:**
 - Long-term decline in international sugar prices post-EU sugar protocol reforms threatens sector viability.
- **Escalating Costs:**
 - Rising labour, fuel, fertilizer, and transport costs undermine competitiveness.

- **Declining Cane Supply:**
 - Lower cane volumes endanger the viability of high fixed-cost milling infrastructure and agro-energy systems.
- **Water Scarcity:**
 - Limited irrigation water threatens yields despite significant investments in irrigation infrastructure.
- **Intensified Competition:**
 - Increased competition from LDCs and Central/South American producers in the EU and niche markets.
- **Labour Force Challenges:**
 - Ageing workforce, rising wages above inflation, and complex foreign labour recruitment procedures exacerbate costs.
- **Land Use Pressure:**
 - Continued conversion of cane land to non-agricultural uses further reduces production capacity. High and Moderate Potential lands as per new Land Suitability Map should be maintained for sugarcane and foodcrops

Non-Sugar Sector: Trends and Challenges

Strengths

- **Government Support:** The existing state-proposed schemes provide financial and technical assistance to both traditional farmers and new agri-business entrepreneurs.
- **Production Success:** Supported by an experienced farming community, comprising both small-holder farmers and the corporate sector, Mauritius has achieved self-sufficiency in the production of fresh vegetables.
- **Institutional Framework:** Well-established institutions operating to support and guide the agricultural community.

Weaknesses

- **Market & Cost Pressures:** The sector faces significant food security challenges exacerbated by volatile global food prices, high freight costs, and intense competition from cheaper imported goods.
- **Production systems:** Producers operate on small, fragmented land holdings and are generally reluctant to cluster, preventing them from benefiting from economies of scale.
- **Resource Constraints:** The sector suffers from an ageing workforce, a severe labour shortage, and a pronounced lack of interest from the younger generation to pursue farming.
- **Input & Infrastructure cost:** High expenses for labour, seeds, feeds, fertilizers, chemicals and equipment are compounded by limited and outdated agricultural infrastructure for both production and processing.
- **Compliance & Quality:** There is a widespread lack of capacity to comply with stringent international sanitary and environmental regulations, alongside challenges in ensuring consistent quality and safe food production.
- **Environmental & Technical Gaps:** The indiscriminate use of agro-chemicals is a concern, and the sector lags in adopting new technologies (e.g., AI, drones) and lacks access to quality breeding stock.
- **Security & Information:** An increase in theft at farm levels and a critical lack of market intelligence and information systems further hinder operational efficiency and planning.

Opportunities

- **Investment & Innovation:** There is growing interest from foreign and local investors to fund innovative agricultural projects, alongside a rising trend in new entrepreneurs exploring advanced production techniques and sustainable production.
- **Land Reallocation:** Significant potential exists to repurpose abandoned sugarcane estates for diversified food crop and livestock farming projects, increasing available land.

- **Market Development:** Emerging niche markets offer opportunities, including the growing consumer demand for nutritious, organic, and pesticide-free products, as well as convenience and nutritious food supply to the population and the tourism industry.

Threats

- **Environmental Volatility:** The sector is highly vulnerable to adverse agro-climatic conditions, including torrential rains, droughts, cyclones, heatwaves, and the broader, escalating risks associated with climate change.
- **Biological Risks:** Constant threats include the emergence of new pests and diseases and the resurgence of existing ones, which can devastate production.
- **Structural & Social Challenges:** Ongoing fragmentation of land through inheritance laws continues to reduce farm sizes, while a persistent lack of interest among the youth threatens the sector's future viability.
- **Economic & Development Pressure:** Competition from cheaper imports remains a severe market threat, and the conversion of agricultural land for urban development continues to shrink the land base available for farming.

Forestry and Biodiversity: Trends and Challenges

Strengths

- Contributes to the preservation of native/endemic species and the expansion of high-quality forest cover.
- Governed by robust strategic frameworks, including a National Biodiversity Strategy and modern legislation (2015 Act).
- Compliance with key international environmental agreements (CBD, Ramsar, CITES).
- Strong collaborations with international partners (e.g., UNDP, Durrell Trust) enhance sustainable management efforts.
- Existence of specialised departments and facilities (e.g., Native Plant Propagation Centre) with expert knowledge.
- Management of internationally designated sites (Ramsar sites, Biosphere Reserves).

- Presence of a dedicated National Parks and Conservation Fund.

Weaknesses

- Jurisdictional fragmentation: Critical biodiverse areas are managed by other public institutions.
- Lack of national and international knowledge-sharing platforms and technology transfer mechanisms.
- Significant knowledge gaps in specific areas like freshwater biodiversity and disaster wildlife rescue.
- Shortage of qualified staff for specialized tasks (e.g., handling invasive species, seized specimens).
- Inadequate information sharing leads to duplication of work and inefficient use of resources.
- Insufficient infrastructure and weak legal provisions for protecting ecosystems like wetlands.
- Low public awareness of conservation work and minimal inclusion of biodiversity in school curricula.
- Slow institutional learning capacity and staffing concerns hinder timely responses.
- Limited enforcement capacity.

Opportunities

- Modernize the legal and institutional framework through Forest Code revision and reform.
- Address capacity gaps through targeted recruitment and training programs.
- Leverage collaborations with specialised institutions for funding, capacity-building, and technology transfer.
- Engage volunteers and youth to bolster conservation efforts and public support.
- Government Programme provides for Rights of Nature to be incorporated in the Constitution

Threats

- Habitat loss and degradation from deforestation, urbanisation, and destruction of wetlands.
- Direct pressure on native species from invasive alien species, pests, and diseases.

- Increased vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events.
- Risk to investments from a lack of evidence-based planning and an inability to adapt management models.
- Potential shift in donor priorities away from biodiversity funding in the post-COVID era.
- Illegal wildlife trade and related biosecurity issues.

13. Strategic Direction

Strategic Direction	Enabler
Boosting Production for Resilient Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve food crop and livestock production through Research & Development ▪ Increase production of seeds, planting materials, fodder and breeding stock ▪ Promote climate resilient agriculture, with a focus on sheltered farming systems and vertical farming ▪ Promote innovative agricultural practices such as Artificial Intelligence and Precision Agriculture ▪ Create additional bee zones and promote afforestation ▪ Bring more abandoned land back into agriculture, breeding and agro-forestry
Encouraging Entrepreneurship and Agro-Processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote value addition of local agricultural produce ▪ Develop appropriate market structures ▪ Capacity building and professionalization of young Agro-Entrepreneurs
Increase the resilience of the cane industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopt high yielding varieties to increase sugar production ▪ Increase the production of special sugar under Fairtrade, organic and other related labels with a view to obtaining higher premium prices and increase producers' revenue ▪ Increase production of electricity derived from biomass

Strengthen Pests & Diseases Surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Strengthen quarantine surveillance activities and phytosanitary border controls related to import and export inspections including laboratory diagnostic capacities▪ Reinforce veterinary services and improve animal care▪ Enhance on-field surveillance for animal diseases, crop pests and vectors
Promote forest health and preserve biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Enhance quality of forests and national parks through restoration and reforestation programmes and protect the unique flora and fauna▪ Undertake forest rehabilitation to optimise forest ecosystem services for soil and water conservation▪ Protect the rich biodiversity from invasive alien species

ANNEX

Annex 1: Implementation Of Director Of Audit Comments

Sn	Comments	Actions
1	Follow up on NAO Report 2022-2023	
1.1	Lapses in the Operational Activities of the Cattle Reproduction Farm:	
	<p>Depletion of the Parental Stock.</p> <p>Recommendations: To ensure that the Director, Agricultural Services take appropriate measures to import new breeding stock at regular time intervals and Procure additional bulls to increase animal production.</p>	<p>Procurement of breeding stock was awarded to Messrs Noordali on 21 June 2023. However, the contract was terminated due to non-performance of the supplier.</p> <p>Owing to unavailability of funds in the budget 2024/25, approval has been solicited to use the advance account of the MMA for procurement of animals. Awaiting reconstitution of the MMA board for further action to be taken.</p> <p>Specifications have been worked out by APD, LVD and FAREI.</p> <p>Presently, DVS officers are performing artificial insemination using imported sexed semen to prevent depletion of parent stock.</p>
1.2	Non-compliance with Governance Issues:	
	<p>Risk Management Framework not established</p> <p>Recommendations: To set up framework in line with MOFEPD circular no 8 of 2021.</p>	<p>A Committee would be set up to work on the risk management framework.</p>
1.3	<p>Governance Issues- Non-Compliance with Legislation.</p> <p>(i) Non-Submission of Financial Statements for Audit</p>	

	(a) The Small Farmers Welfare Fund: FS 2022-2023	The Financial Statement for 2022-2023 are being prepared under IPSAS and will be submitted soon to the NAO.
	(b) Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare: FS 2017-2018 to 2022-2023	Financial Statement for 2016-2017 is under process. Others will follow.
	(c) Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic (SSRBG) - FS 2022-2023	The Financial Statements for the years ending 30 June 2021, 30 June 2022 and 30 June 2023 have already been submitted to the National Audit Office for auditing purposes on 18 June 2025.
	(d) Vallee D'Osterlog Endemic Garden Foundation - FS 2022-2023	The management of the Vallée d'Osterlog Endemic Garden Foundation has been transferred to the NPCS since April 2025. Financial Statements for years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 are currently under preparation.
	(ii) Special Funds - Financial Statements not submitted for Audit: The National Park and Conservation Fund has not yet submitted the annual statement of receipts and payments and a balance sheet for the FY 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.	Financial Statement for 2021-2022 has been submitted to the NAO on 07 June 2024. Financial Statement for 2022-2023 is under preparation at the level of the Accountant General to be submitted in IPSAS form.
2	Follow up on NAO Report 2021-2022	
2.1	National Livestock Information System (NLIS) Delay in the Deliverables of Technical Co-operation Programme (TCP)	The NLIS is operational and software is already live on a pilot basis with different users. Most of the deliverable of TCP have been completed. The authorization of GOC is awaited to enable breeders to self-register on the software. The data migration is still in process.
2.2	Administration of State Land for Agricultural Purposes – Ineffective	

	Monitoring of Compliance with Lease Agreements.	
	(i) Agricultural State Lands not yet leased	Out of 447 requests for State Land, 138 have been acceded to and some 280 Arp of State Land have already been allocated. Allocation of State Land is an ongoing activity.
	(ii) Considerable Delay in Completion of Land Surveying Contract	The Contract termination date was 30 April 2019 as such there is no contract management for state land.
	(iii) Non-compliance with Conditions of Lease Agreement	
	(a) Case of Aadicon Biotechnologies Ltd;	(a) The lease agreement in respect of Aadicon Biotechnologies Ltd over the 60 Arp of State Land at Piton Du Milieu is valid up to 2027. Advice of the SLO has been sought since 16 December 2022 to retrieve the unoccupied State Land and same is still under process. A claim for the settlement of outstanding rent was made to the official receiver on 21 July 2022. Certificate of indebtedness already issued by Finance Section and submitted to Attorney General's Office.
	(b) Case of Cooperative Society at Petit Merlo:	A final survey has been carried by FAREI, the Engineering Division and LUD based on which a decision will be taken with regards to the retrieval of land. Ministry approval has been sought to cancel the lease agreement of Cooperative Society at Petit Merlo.
	(c) Case of Cooperative at Mon Bois:	Lease Agreement of cooperative Society has already been cancelled, retrieved and vested in Ministry of Housing and Lands.

	(d) Case of illegal construction at Mare D'Albert	Lease agreement has already been signed by cooperative and built up structure is being used as watchman quarter/store.
2.3	Experiment Stations – Significant Decrease in Operational Activities	
	(i) Under-utilisation of cultivable land had led to a reduction in vegetable seeds, and propagating materials of flowers and fruits crops, and expiry of agrochemicals	Additional General workers still needed as well as manual staff in other grades. All new purchases of chemicals are done with due diligence such as requesting at least one year clear of expiry before reception of the chemicals. Survey is carried out to identify other expired chemicals that will be disposed of as per existing procedures.
	(ii) Hydroponic sheds and anti-bird shed were left in abandoned state	Rehabilitation of the first antibird shed was completed by the Engineering Division on 19.12.2024.
3	Follow up on NAO Report 2020-2021	
3.1	Melrose Livestock Zone Project- Lapses in Project Management.	
	(i) Delay in setting up of the Livestock Zone. ii) Livestock Zone Project set aside by the Ministry. (iii) Merging Process of the Infrastructure of the Livestock Zone not completed	The Livestock Zone project at Melrose has been converted into Cattle Reproduction Farm
3.2	The Albion Duck Farm-Reduction in Operational Activities.	
	(i) Reduction in the Number of Parent Stock of Ducks	Presently with functional setters and hatchers, the number of parent's stock has stabilized.
3.3	Construction of a National Wholesale Market –Delay in Construction Works and Operation of the Market	Construction of National Wholesale Market has been completed and is operational since July 2023.

	Extension of time not assessed Resulting in Non-application of Liquidated damages	No provision was made in the tender document (MOAIFS) - STP equipment for electrical cabling works so as to feed the equipment with power supply. The final Testing & Commissioning of the STP using effluent will only proceed once the following administrative matters are resolved.
3.4	Government Asset Register not properly maintained.	
	(i) Agronomy Head Office	A list is being prepared for write-off.
	(ii) Agronomy National Field Gene Bank (NFGB) Nouvelle Découverte	Records updated upon receipt of Goods Form 1 and Invoices.
	(iii) Agronomy NPVSO	The GAR software is being updated as soon as the Goods Form 1 are received.
	(iv) National Seed Gene Bank-Agronomy Division	Surveys of Assets-Dormant, Unserviceable and Unrecorded Assets completed but awaiting necessary actions by stores.
	(v) Horticulture Division	Dormant and Unserviceable Assets have been included in GAR Templates
3.5	Governance Issues- Non-Compliance with Legislation.	
	(i) Non-Submission of Financial Statements for Audit	
	(i) The Small Farmers Welfare Fund	The Financial Statements for year 2018-2019, 2019-2020 have already been audited by the NAO.
	(ii) Mauritius Meat Authority (MMA)	The Financial statement for year 2014 & 2015 has been transmitted to the NAO. 2021/2022 currently being audited.
	(iii) Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare (MSAW)	The Financial statement for the year 2016-2017 is under process.

	(iv) Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic (SSRBG)	The Financial Statements for the years ending 30 June 2021, 30 June 2022 and 30 June 2023 have already been submitted to the National Audit Office for auditing purposes on 18 June 2025.
4	Follow up on the status of implementation of prior and current recommendations of Internal Control Unit	
4.1	Pesticide Regulatory Office, (PRO) Regulate, control and monitor the use of pesticides in or on any agricultural product.	
	Paragraph 10.2 of the Use of pesticides Act 2018 should be adhered to: (the office should request for relevant certificates from suppliers)	Amendments already done in Finance Miscellaneous Act 2022 Discussions are under way for alignment with Food Regulations 2022 before promulgation
	The Use of Pesticides Act 2018 should be amended in order to include regulations regarding imported commodities.	Discussions are under way for alignment with Food Regulations 2022 before promulgation.
	Paragraph 10.3 of the Act should be adhered to where the agricultural produce should be destroyed at the costs of the importer if the residue level of pesticides exceeds the required MRL.	Can be implemented after promulgation of regulations.
	With the help of State Law Office (SLO), the Use of Pesticides Act 2018 should be amended whereby the procedures should be clearly stipulated.	Amendment to the Act and promulgation of new regulations.
	The possibility to directly fine the planter at fault should be considered instead of continuously issuing improvement notice.	Provision already available in Act for fines. Can be implemented after promulgation of regulations.
	The fines should be charged in a progressive manner based on the amount	Provision already available in Act for fining in a progressive manner in case of non-compliance. Training required.

	of excess pesticides that have been found in the commodities.	
4.2	National Parks and Conservation Service	
	No specific Policy/Regulations regarding wetlands and its protection.	The National Ramsar Committee had recommended the setting up of a Technical Committee to discuss and synthesize the views and comments received from all stakeholders regarding the draft wetlands Bill. Once finalised, drafting instruction will be conveyed to the Attorney General's office.
4.3	Internal Audit Report of Transport Section	
	Physical Surveys of boarded/condemned	List of 16 vehicles already certified as condemned by the Engineering Division. The Forestry has 4 vehicles which need to be condemned and the certification is awaited to conduct a Board of Survey. 24 vehicles have been sold by Auction sale on 6 March 2025 for a total sum of 2,786,000. Payment already effected by Mr Ephigene after deduction of charges and commission, to the Finance Section.
	Regular repairs at Workshop/ Agricultural Superintendent has not enquired about the root cause	5 4x4 double cabs vehicle have been procured in a view to renew the fleet of vehicles of the Ministry. There is urgent need to renew the fleet of vehicle with 3 new vehicles yearly. There are 23 vehicles over 10 years of age. With wear and tear, these vehicles are bound to encounter regular breakdowns. A request for fund of an amount of Rs10m has been made in the Budget proposal to purchase one lorry, one 15-seater and 3 4x4 double cab vans
	Accident of Government vehicles	The Officer exercise control over the tractor 28RM18 is the officer in Charge of Melrose Cattle/Heifers farm Project.

		The Montagne Blanche Police Station informed that the enquiry in the case has already been completed and will be shortly be sent to the Office of the DDP for advice. A reply still being awaited from the Montagne Blanche Police.
5	Governance Structures	
	The Animal Health, Veterinary Public Health and Livestock Production Bill	In depth consultation with the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Blue Economy and Fisheries Division of this Ministry with regards to consequential amendments to be brought to the legislations under their respective purview.
	Organic Bill	Vetted draft organic Bill from SLO is being awaited. No objection of relevant Ministries to the draft Bill to be sought. Cabinet approval to be sought, before introduction of the Bill in the National Assembly.
	Fertiliser Control Bill	Bill is currently at the legislative drafting stage.
	Forests and Reserves Bill	In view of the last general elections, the draft Bill is being revised according to the principles of the Government Programme. Approval of Government will thereafter be sought for the drafting instructions to be sent to the Attorney General's office.
6	OPSG Report on review of Allocation and Monitoring of Agricultural State Lands	
	Lack of Stability in the tenure of Office/ The Post of PSO and SSO need to be filled.	Action already initiated by Ministry – the most senior Scientific Officer has been assigned duties as Officer in Charge pending finalization of the scheme of service of PSO and SSO.
	Monitoring Section Filling of 4 vacant posts of ASO/SASO to be filled /	Two additional ASOs were posted to LUD on 03.09.2023 and 18.09.2023. The above officers hold degree in Agriculture Ministry will consider recommendation.

	ASO should be holders of Diploma in Agriculture/ AS to follow up with the visit of ASO/SASO/	Post of AS has been filled Alignment of the qualification of ASO posted at LUD
	Other Issues – Identification cards /Drones	Action already initiated for obtention of ID for all officers. Requested for 25 ID for officers of LUD and Survey Office. Procurement procedure is still in progress Ministry is working on the training of a pilot and software analyst which are required for use of Drones.
	Escalation of arrears of revenue and limited enforcement for collection of arrears	Presently only 1st and Final notice to pay rent due is served to lessee (Inclusive of interest). Ministry has already initiated necessary action with CISD for an inbuilt reminder mechanism in LLMS and for reminders to be sent by SMS/WhatsApp instead of letters to defaulters.
	Lessees whose LA have been terminated on LLMS and who have rent due do not appear in report for arrears	Action has already been initiated action for CISD to provide an inbuilt reminder mechanism to provide necessary notifications CISD was requested to update the Land Lease Management System which is already in use at LUD
	Survey Office - Filling of vacant funded post for TDO	One permanent funded vacancy has been filled by appointment of the Trainee TDO on 21.02.2025.
	Review the Scheme of Service for STDOs	1 STDO who has reverted back to this Ministry on 23.04.25 is posted at the Survey Office on a full-time basis.

		1 STDO is currently posted 2 days at the Survey Office and 3 days at the Forestry Services.
	Digitalisation of Plans - Purchase of new equipment.	Upon availability of funds, CIB will be requested to work out the specification.
	Site plan be included in the lease agreement.	Drawing of Individual site plan may take long and only after filling the vacant post of TDOs that this may be envisaged.
	Training to TDOs and STDOs.	A list of training has already been compiled in collaboration with MOHLUP and is being worked out
	A 4x4 be attached to the Survey Office.	Eligible officers may request for vehicle as and when required. One van 15 places available for Survey Office daily
	Recruitment of a MSO	Request for additional MSO has already been made to the MPSAIR