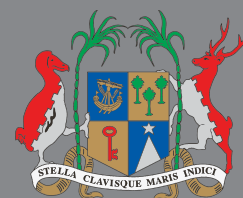


Industry Digest

ISSUE 7



Ministry of
Industrial Development,
SMEs and Cooperatives
(Industrial Development Division)

JUNE 2024

Unleashing Sustainable Industrialisation

What's inside?



ACCELERATING THE
TRANSITION TOWARDS
A NET-ZERO NATURE-
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SEMINAR ON THE
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PERFORMANCE OF THE EXPORT-ORIENTED ENTERPRISES (EOEs)

The EOE sector is an important pillar of the manufacturing industry, contributing significantly to economic growth, employment and foreign exchange earnings.

As at December 2023, the sector comprised 232 companies with a combined workforce of some 33,000 persons involved in production activities, such as Textile and Clothing, Fish Processing, Jewellery, Watches and Clocks and Medical Devices.

The EOE sector continues to be vulnerable in the face of daunting challenges, both internally and externally. This state of affairs is further straining the existing difficult situation within which industry operators are evolving to maintain export market share.

As a consequence, the EOE sector witnessed a setback in the year 2023 in terms of exports revenue. This is reflected in a drop of 5.1% in exports, from Rs 49.9 billion in the year 2022 compared to Rs 47.4 billion in the year 2023.

At sub-sectoral levels, export of Textile and Clothing declined by 16.6% in 2023 thus, representing a decrease from Rs 21.7 billion in year 2022 to Rs 18.1 billion in year 2023. Furthermore, exports of Jewellery/Pearls, Precious and Semi-Precious Stones also registered a negative growth of 15%, with export declining from Rs 5.5 billion in year 2022 to Rs 4.6 billion in year 2023.

This negative export growth has been mitigated by the favourable performance demonstrated by the Fish and Fish Preparations and Medical Devices sectors, which registered a growth of 3.1% and 12.6%, respectively in year 2023.



This sub-sectoral performance is depicted in Figure 1.

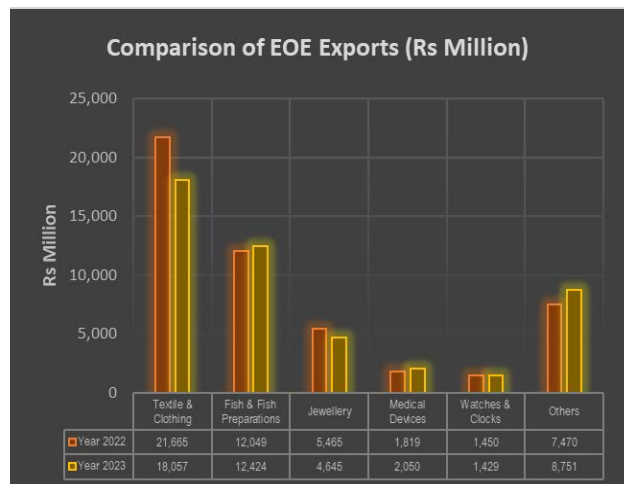


Figure 1: Sub-Sectoral Export Performance for the years 2022 and 2023

South Africa remains the leading market destination, followed by United Kingdom, USA and France, as illustrated in Figure 2.

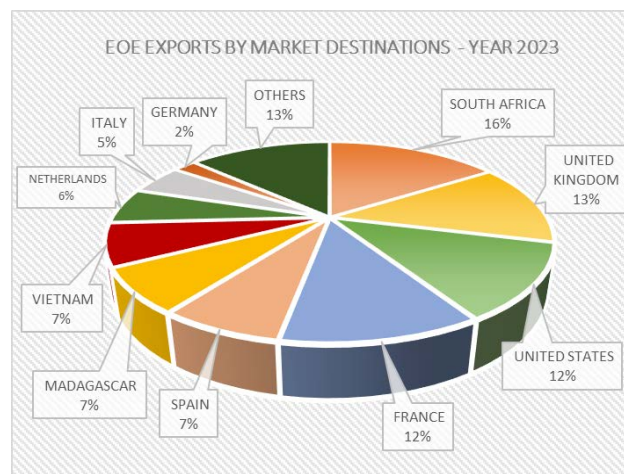


Figure 2: EOE Exports to Market Destinations

In this period of uncertainty and fierce global competition, the unflinching support of Government has proved to be crucial for the EOE sector to retain market shares and explore new business horizons. Efforts are also being pursued to refine the supply-side capabilities of EOE to improve their competitive edge through digitalization of production processes, adoption of sustainable practices as well as productivity and quality enhancement programmes. Above all, the export promotion strategy is being revisited to unlock market opportunities arising from new Trade Agreements.

ACTIVITY

“RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION OF DEALERS IN JEWELLERY AT THE ASSAY OFFICE”

01 December 2023 – 29 February 2024

According to the Jewellery Act 2007, any person dealing in jewellery or precious and semi-precious stones business has to be registered with the Assay Office.

Once registered, a Certificate of Registration as ‘Dealer in Jewellery’ is issued to the dealer which is valid for a period not exceeding three years. Upon expiry of the Certificate of Registration, the ‘dealers in jewellery’ may renew their registration and pay the prescribed fees depending on the nature of activity as mentioned below.

	Nature of Activity	Fees (Rs)
Type 1	Dealing in jewellery, precious metals, precious or semi-precious stones, except exports of melted precious metal, scrap precious metal and second-hand jewellery, excluding industrial waste generated manufacturers of jewellery.	3,000/.
Type 2	Dealing in jewellery, precious metals, precious or semi-precious stones, including exports of melted precious metal, scrap precious metal and second-hand jewellery, excluding industrial waste generated by manufacturers of jewellery.	150,000/.

Table 1: Type 1 and Type 2

564 jewellers were supposed to renew their Certificate of Registration from December 2023 to February 2024. In line with the Jewellery (Dealer’s Registration and Transactions) Regulations 2012, individual dealers, directors, shareholders, and beneficial owners of registered companies were required to produce a Certificate of Character issued by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP). The aim was to ensure that ‘dealers in jewellery’ were still ‘fit and proper’ to deal in jewellery, precious metals and precious stones.

Whilst, the responsibility to renew registration primarily rests with the jewellers, the Assay Office initiated meetings with the Federation of

Jewellers and different Associations of Jewellers to disseminate information on the procedures for the renewal of registration of dealers in jewellery. Besides, letters, SMS, WhatsApp messages were sent and notices were displayed on the website of the Assay Office to share information on the renewal process.



Customers at the counter of the Assay Office for renewal of Certificate of Registration

The Certificates of Registration of 518 jewellers were successfully renewed during the renewal exercise as shown in the table below:

	Type I	Type II	Total
No. of Jewellers	516	2	518

Out of 564 registered jewellers, 46 did not renew their registration as they have ceased business as ‘dealer in jewellery’. In order to ensure that no person deals in jewellery without being registered with the Assay Office, inspection visits are being carried out. The bulk renewal exercise was completed with the fruitful collaboration of the Commissioner of Police and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. The next bulk renewal exercise will be carried out in February 2027.

WORKSHOP

SHUHARI WORKSHOP

12 December 2023

A demonstration workshop, branded as 'Shuhari Workshop', was organised by JUKI, the leading Japanese Manufacturer of sewing machine, at the Center of the Academy of Design and Innovation in Vallée des Prêtres.

'Shuhari' is the Japanese term which refers to improving skills and knowledge of start-ups in stages. The aim of the workshop was to train and acquaint women entrepreneurs with latest sewing technology, cutting-edge software and the seamless maintenance planning for sewing machine fleets.



Participants attending the workshop



Mr. B. Lim, Juki Country Manager (Mauritius, Madagascar, South Africa) and Dr. (Mrs.) S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of ADI at the workshop

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION(ADI) AND CIEL TEXTILE

08 January 2024

The Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ciel Textile to foster collaboration and train graduates and employees with appropriate skills to service the textile industry in Mauritius on 08 January 2024.

The collaborative framework between the two partners included exchange of knowledge and expertise, development of innovative technologies, solutions, methodologies, and provision of a mechanism for internships, co-opt programs and industrial placements.

The ratification of the MoU was marked by the presence of the Honourable Soomilduth Bholah, former Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives.



Mr. E. Dorchies, CEO of CIEL Textile, Honourable Mr. Soomilduth Bholah, former Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Dr. S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of ADI and Mr. S. S. Purgus, Chairperson of the ADI Board.



Mr. N. Torul, Learning and Development Executive, Aquarelle Regional and three staffs who are from the team of CIEL Textile, Dr. S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of the Academy of Design and Innovation and Mrs. B.N. Soreefan-Joomun, Assistant Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (Industrial Development Division)



Mr. N. Torul, Learning and Development Executive, Aquarelle Regional and Dr. J. Abel, Lecturer in Fashion and Textiles at the ADI



Mr. S. S. Purgus, Chairperson of the ADI Board, Honourable Mr. Soomilduth Bholah, former Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Dr. S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of ADI, Mr. E. Dorchies, CEO of CIEL Textile surrounded by the team of CIEL Textile and ADI

MAURITIUS ACCREDITATION SERVICE (MAURITAS)

TRAINING COURSE ON ISO 15189:2022

05 - 08 February 2024

In a modern dynamic healthcare landscape, quality is of paramount importance and there is a growing need to adhere to internationally recognised standards to ensure accuracy and reliability in medical testing processes.

In this perspective, the Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS) accredits medical laboratories which are developing their quality and management systems as well as assessing their own competence, through the adoption of ISO 15189:2012, the international standard which specifies requirements for quality and competence in medical laboratories.

A total of 21 participants attended the training course which was conducted by Dr. S. Chakraborty, Director-Institute of Applied Quality Management Consultants Pvt Ltd, India. The four-day training course encompassed a multifaceted approach of acquiring technical knowledge and skills upgrading. Through interactive sessions, engaging discussions and analysis of case studies, participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the key principles of the updated standard and its practical implications.

The training course has equipped the professionals with latest techniques to navigate the revised standard and ensure accreditation of medical laboratories to the updated standard, thereby, paving the way for enhanced quality and excellence in the health sector.



Participants with Dr. S. Chakraborty, Director-Institute of Applied Quality Management Consultants Pvt Ltd



Participants during the training course

As at date, the MAURITAS has accredited 7 medical laboratories against the requirements of ISO 15189:2012 'Medical Laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence' in Mauritius. The 7 medical laboratories are accredited for a total of 148 parameters in the biochemistry, immunology, haematology and microbiology medical sub-fields. Following the publication of the latest version of the ISO 15189 in December 2022, MAURITAS organised a training course from 05 to 08 February 2024, for its staff, assessors and other stakeholders on the requirements of the updated standard, to ensure the integrity of its accreditation process for medical laboratories.



Left to right: Mr. C. Bheekhun, Accreditation Manager of MAURITAS presenting a souvenir gift to Dr. S. Chakraborty, Director-Institute of Applied Quality Management Consultants Pvt Ltd

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION (ADI) AND THE SEYCHELLES INSTITUTE OF ART AND DESIGN (SIAD)

09 February 2024

A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed between the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) and the Seychelles Institute of Art and Design (SIAD) to develop cooperation and promote mutual understanding and excellence in practice-based education, research and knowledge exchange. The event was conducted virtually on 9 February 2024.



Dr. S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) with Mrs. K. Gooroochurn, ADI Administrative Officer



Mrs C. Chetty Payet, Director of Seychelles Institute of Art and Design (SIAD)



Dr. S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of the Academy of Design and Innovation with the team of ADI



Mrs C. Chetty Payet, Director of Seychelles Institute of Art and Design and the team of SIAD

EVENT

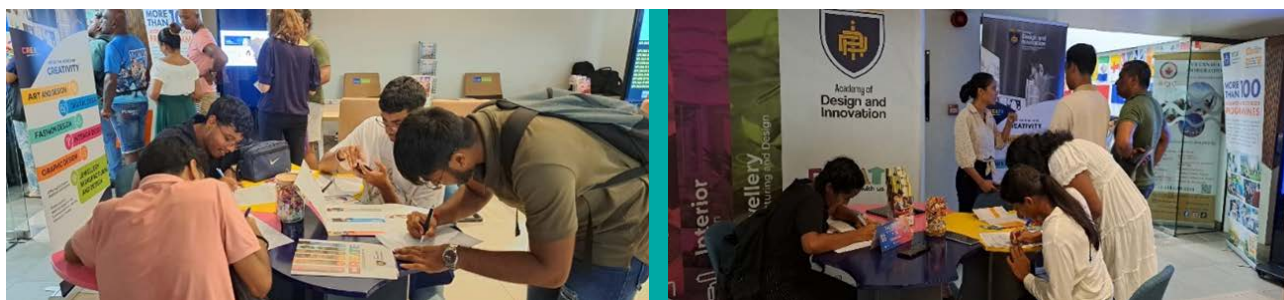
THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION PARTICIPATED IN THE MAURITIUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAREER EXPO

09-11 February 2024

The Mauritius International University Career Expo is an annual event organised by the Rotary Club of Grand Bay. This year, the event was held at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre, Pailles, where representatives of local and international Universities were present.

In this context, the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) participated at the event and targeted mostly Higher School Certificate (HSC) leavers who have recently received their results. The ADI provided information on the different courses available and guided them in their future career orientation.

The three-days' Career Expo was highly publicised via the radio, press, banners, billboards, website, social media and attracted around 15,500 visitors, including more than 10,000 HSC students from some 100 colleges.



Students enrolling at the ADI booth

CAREER AND LEARNING LOUNGE BY DÉFI MEDIA

26-27 February 2024

On 26 and 27 February 2024, the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) showcased its design courses at the Career and Learning Lounge organised by the Défi Media. The ADI team had the opportunity to connect with students and school leavers wishing to pursue higher studies in the Design field.



Students enrolling at the ADI booth

VISIT

VISIT OF QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE EXPERT AT MAURITIUS STANDARDS BUREAU (MSB)

20 February 2024

The Quality Infrastructure of a country plays an important role in supporting the economic development, promoting public welfare and ensuring sustainable growth. It forms the backbone of a strong society, provides the necessary framework for various activities and improves the overall quality of life for citizens. The Mauritius Standards Bureau plays an important role in the National Quality Infrastructure to ensure quality and safety of products and services in the country.

In February 2024, the Bureau welcomed Mr. C. Kudahl, a Quality Expert in Standardisation who had a mission to formulate a National Standardisation Strategy (NSS) for MSB under the Regulatory Review Project (RRP). The RRP is funded by the European Union and aims to implement major regulatory reforms in Mauritius for business facilitation.

Mr. C. Kudahl is a Danish National with more than 25 years of professional experience in the field of Quality Infrastructure and Standardisation. He has worked in numerous developing countries and has supported the development of National Quality Infrastructure systems and legislative frameworks of consumer safety as well as strengthened National Standardisation Bodies.

Mr. C. Kudahl's current assignment entails working in tandem with the MSB and its partners to develop a Strategic Roadmap and formulate critical focus areas that will underpin and drive sustainable development initiatives in the field of Standardisation.

The importance of the National Standardisation Strategy (NSS) for MSB is multifaceted and encompasses various aspects which are crucial for the growth and competitiveness of our industries.



Mr. C. Kudahl, Quality Expert in Standardisation

The NSS will consider the Government's roadmap in terms of the development of the specific economic sectors, and will identify priority areas which should be supported by the National and International Standards. It will also specify the means to achieve the set objectives.

The NSS can become the basis to ensure the well-being of the population. For instance, the preparedness of our infrastructure to withstand the impacts of drastic climate change in 20 years will necessitate the right standardisation strategy. The NSS will directly address both the mid and long-term vision of the MSB and will be used as a tool to strengthen the National Quality Infrastructure.

NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL

LAUNCHING OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ENGINE 2024 “NLE 2024 LAUNCHED WITH NEW FEATURES”

27 February 2024



Award of Certificate of Participation to trainers who have followed Dr. S. Hill's Master-Class in November 2023

The 2024 edition of the National Leadership Engine (NLE) was officially launched at the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) on 27 February 2024.

The NLE project is being implemented by the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Recreation. It aims at developing leadership amongst its young citizens with a view to achieve higher productivity and better living standards in the country.

This year's edition came with new features, which aimed to enhance the learning experience of participants.

The NLE 2024 was comprised of the following three levels of actions:-

- Level 1 was a free online course to empower youths with key concepts of Leadership.
- Level 2 consisted of a dynamic 3-day bootcamp, which was held on 26, 27 and 28 April 2024. This intensive programme was designed for action-based learning and ensured an enriching experience for the participants.
- Level 3 requires participants to implement a team-based community project to be presented to assessors at Regional and National Assessments. The NLE Convention will be held between September to October 2024.

Continued on next page

NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

LAUNCHING OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ENGINE 2024 “NLE 2024 LAUNCHED WITH NEW FEATURES”

27 February 2024

At the individual online training level, participants were engaged in a comprehensive curriculum covering essential leadership competencies based on the Mauritius Leadership Brand, productivity concepts, personal competence, social competence, critical thinking, creativity and project management. These fundamental skills are crucial for equipping our youths with the required tools to navigate the complexities of the modern world and drive meaningful change in their communities.

The centerpiece of the NLE 2024 is the bootcamp training, where participants had the opportunity to immerse themselves in a dynamic learning environment led by experienced trainers, co-trainers and network facilitators. This intensive programme focused on developing social competence, expanding the sphere of influence, harnessing the power of feedback, fostering creative problem-solving skills, nurturing trusted collaboration, and embracing the design thinking process. By equipping participants with these advanced skills, the NPCC aimed to empower them with effective leadership skills so that they can inspire and lead others towards shared goals.

In the words of Mrs. D. Boygah, the Executive Director of the NPCC: *“NLE 2024 represents a significant evolution in our approach to leadership development, introducing a new concept designed to empower youth across Mauritius. With the overarching goal of fostering a leadership pipeline, the NLE 2024 has been implemented at distinct levels, including individual online training, bootcamp sessions and project implementation”.*

The NLE project lays strong emphasis on the concept of the Teachable Point of View. This holds significant importance in education and personal development as it emphasises the openness and receptivity to learning. By adopting a teachable mindset, individuals acknowledge that they do not have all the answers and remain open to new ideas, perspectives and feedbacks. This attitude fosters continuous growth, encourages critical thinking and promotes intellectual curiosity.

On another note, NLE trainers who participated in the Master-Class on Leadership by Dr. S. Hill in November 2023 were given their certificates of participation at the event. The Master-Class served as a unique opportunity for them to continue refining their skills and gaining fresh insights under the guidance of the expert.



National Leadership Engine

EVENT

ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A NET-ZERO NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY IN MAURITIUS (NZNPA)

27 February 2024

The Ministry organised a one-day validation workshop on 27 February 2024 at The Ravenala Attitude Hotel, BalACLava, on the project 'Accelerating the Transition towards a Net-Zero Nature-Positive economy in Mauritius' (NZNPA).



From left to right: Her Excellency (Ms.) Lisa Simrique Singh, the UN Resident Coordinator of Mauritius and Seychelles, Honourable (Ms.) N. Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Mrs. A. D. Poreema, the then Acting Permanent Secretary and Mr. R. Bharosay, Acting Director of Industry

The Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives officially launched the opening ceremony of the validation workshop in the presence of Her Excellency (Ms.) Lisa Simrique Singh, the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Mauritius and Seychelles.

Some 70 participants, including representatives of institutions, academia, business associations and manufacturing enterprises, attended the workshop. The aim of the workshop was to validate inputs gathered to draft the NZNPA Project Document which would elaborate the modalities, institutional arrangements and activities over the next four years of implementation.

During her keynote address, the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives expressed her gratitude to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Environment Programme for their support in the implementation of the first phase of the project, namely, the preparation of the NZNPA Project Document which has been submitted to the GEF Council for approval in June 2024.



Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad during her keynote address

The Honourable Minister emphasised the pertinent role of the project which would set the stage for sustained economic transformation with no adverse effect on nature and the environment. More specifically, the project would establish the national enabling environment to integrate nature-based solutions and to speed up the decarbonisation of the manufacturing sector.

Continued on next page

EVENT (CONTINUED)

ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A NET-ZERO NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY IN MAURITIUS (NZNPA)

27 February 2024

She seized the opportunity to highlight that the manufacturing sector, a major pillar of the Mauritian economy, has been instrumental in shaping the socio-economic landscape of the country and contributes significantly to foreign exchange earnings, employment creation and improvement of living standards. She added that although the sector has been able to build back its resilience from Covid-19 pandemic, it is confronting other challenges from both internal and external fronts. Nevertheless, she commended the efforts of the industry captains for their perseverance and commitments in shaping a sustainable and prosperous future for the country. She concluded by pointing out the multiple benefits of the NZNPA project such as enhanced productivity and competitiveness of the manufacturing sector, mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, increased adoption of sustainable practices, reduction of dependency on imported materials and fossil fuels while ensuring sustainable management of our natural resources and protection of our ecosystems and biodiversity.



Her Excellency (Ms.) Lisa Simrique Singh, the UN Resident Coordinator of Mauritius and Seychelles, during her address

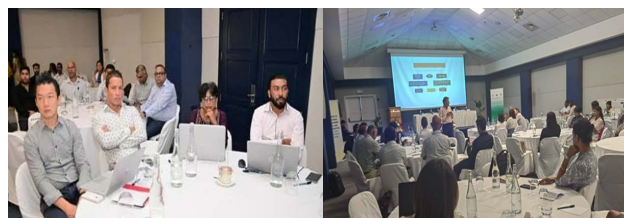
On the other hand, Her Excellency Ms Lisa Simrique Singh emphasised the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss and pollution, as well as the resulting adverse impacts on small island developing states like Mauritius.

She briefly explained the crucial role of the NZNPA project in activating an enabling framework at national policy planning level to ensure sustained economic growth in the country. She concluded by thanking the Government and the Ministry for the different initiatives being taken to tackle environmental challenges and hoped that the NZNPA project responds to the needs and requirements of the country and the manufacturing sector.

The workshop was an ideal occasion for participants to share their ideas on the NZNPA project design to ultimately achieve a carbon neutral and sustainable industry. Many valuable suggestions, made by the stakeholders, were taken on board to achieve the objective of the workshop.



Audience during opening ceremony



Participants at the workshop

INTERVIEW

MAURITIUS STANDARDS BUREAU: UNDERSTANDING CONCRETE GRADE

28 February 2024

With climatic change and extreme weather conditions, we are observing a pattern of roofs cracking and leaking in houses. Mr. K Pareemamun, Manager of the Civil Engineering Laboratory of Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB) was interviewed to understand the issues related to concrete roofs, cracks, and leaks. His responses to a few key queries are as follows:

i) Houses are being built every day and people would like to know more about the quality of cement used in construction, especially when cracks in roofs are a common problem.

Mr. K. Pareemamun stated that there are several factors which can cause cracks and leaks such as poor workmanship, low-grade materials and the drying process of concrete roofs. He laid emphasis on one aspect which is related to the quality of concrete (mixture of aggregates, water, and cement) being used and how this can directly impact the durability of concrete roofs.

The compressive strength of concrete used in a roof is influenced by factors which include the water-cement ratio, cement strength and the quality of concrete (ingredient ratio) materials used. When one purchases concrete, it is important to choose a supplier who adheres to strict quality standards and uses high-grade materials, as this will directly impact the final strength of concrete.

Fortunately, in Mauritius, the cement being imported is controlled by the Third Schedule of Consumer Protection Safety Requirements Regulations 2019, which ensures that imported cement complies with the standard MS EN 197 part 1 or equivalent ones.



Mr. K. Pareemamun, Manager of the Civil Engineering Laboratory at the MSB

ii) Grade 25 is often used as a jargon in the construction of domestic houses. Can you please provide more details?

As a rule of thumb, people in Mauritius usually use Grade 25 concrete when building a house. The term "grade 25 concrete" typically refers to a specific strength of concrete, which is determined by its compressive strength measured in megapascals (MPa). In this context, grade 25 concrete has a compressive strength of 25 megapascals.

Continued on next page

INTERVIEW (CONTINUED)

MAURITIUS STANDARDS BUREAU: UNDERSTANDING CONCRETE GRADE

28 February 2024



Concrete grades are classified based on their compressive strength and they are denoted by a number such as 20, 25, 30, 35, etc. The higher the number, the greater the compressive strength of the concrete.



Concrete cubes

It is important to note that the mix design, curing conditions and other factors, also play a role in determining the overall performance and characteristics of concrete in addition to its grade.

iii) How can we know the grade of concrete used in a construction?

Concrete cube - cylinder testing is a way to accurately assess the true strength of the concrete. The process includes pouring fresh concrete into moulds to form cubes, which are then cured and tested typically after 7 and 28 days. The test can tell you the grade of the concrete mix. The cubes are normally tested at two key ages: 7 days and 28 days after casting. The 7-day test helps in quickly identifying any potential problems with the concrete mix, while the 28-day test is generally considered the standard time for assessing the cured strength of the concrete.

Anyone who purchases concrete from a local supplier is invited to test his/her samples at the Civil Engineering Laboratory of the MSB.

iv) What happens if the compressive strength of a sample is lower than the expected grade?

The result provided for testing of concrete cubes at MSB, is accredited by the Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS). This means that the Bureau has the technical competence to produce accurate and reliable tests. Clients can use the test reports issued by MSB to claim their suppliers in case the latter deliver lower grade of concrete which do not match with the grade of concrete at the time of purchase.



Mr. K. Pareemamun, Manager of the Civil Engineering Laboratory at the MSB together with the technicians of the Civil Engineering Laboratory

ITEC INTERNATIONAL TRAINING EMERGING AREAS IN TECHNICAL TEXTILES

13 February to 23 March 2024



International participants from Mauritius, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Kenya, India, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan

Two staff of the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI), namely, Ms. D. Ramrecha from the Arts and Design department and Mr. L.K. Ruttun from the Fashion and Textile department attended a training programme on technical textiles at the South Indian Textile Research Association (SITRA), in Coimbatore, India from 13 February to 23 March 2024.

The training sessions provided the participants with a profound understanding of emerging industry trends and standards of technical textiles. It included intensive theoretical and practical learning sessions as well as industry visits. The trainees had much interactions with the experts at SITRA, who provided them with valuable insights on global perspectives and encouraged international collaborations in the field of technical textile.

ADI extends its sincere appreciation to SITRA, the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme and the Ministry of External Affairs of India for their support in equipping the trainees with valuable skills and knowledge to contribute to driving progress in the Mauritian textile industry.



Participation Trophy

EDUCATIONAL FAIR

PARTICIPATION OF ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION AT THE 'SALON DES ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES' IN MADAGASCAR

06 to 07 March 2024

The ADI participated at the 'Salon des Études Internationales' which was held at the Novotel Convention Center in Madagascar, from 06 to 07 March 2024.

During the two-day event, the ADI staff had the opportunity to engage with many students and their families as well as providing them with detailed information on the wide range of the courses at ADI.

The Academy looks forward to welcoming Malagasy students and future designers who are eager to embark on a creative and transformative educational journey.



Students at the ADI Booth.

Mrs. S. Sabandy-Nuckcheddy, Lecturer at the ADI, presenting the courses offered by the ADI



EDUCATIONAL FAIR

DESIGN EXHIBITION AND CAREER GUIDANCE EVENT, #CREA 2024, BY THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION

13 to 16 March 2024

The ADI hosted the Design Exhibition and Career Guidance event, #CREA 2024, at the Caudan Arts Centre, Port-Louis, from 13 to 16 March 2024. On 14 March 2024, the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives graced the event by her presence.

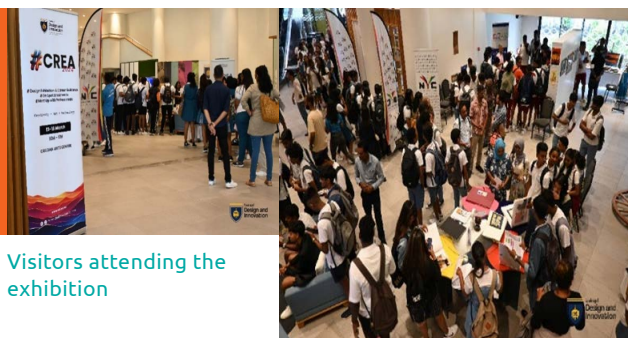
An ADI Career Guidance Corner at the event was dedicated to inform students who had completed their National Certificate Education, School Certificate or Higher School Certificate on potential educational and career paths. The ADI staff guided interested students about enrolment for the next intake.

The event was also an occasion to showcase the nodal relationship of creativity, art, and technology to produce artefacts. An exhibition was held to offer aspiring designers the opportunity to display their creations.

The key partners who collaborated to organise the event included the Human Resource Development Council, National Youth Council, the Design Council, Gecko Kids, the University of Third Age, Ravior, Geetesh Jowata Jeweller, House of Digital Arts, and Gaoshan Pictures.



From left to right: Mrs. A. D. Poreema, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Dr.(Mrs.) S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of ADI, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives and Ms. D. Ramsamy, ADI Alumni



Visitors attending the exhibition

Glimpse of the artworks on display

TRAINING OF TRAINERS PROGRAMME

WOOD CRAFT USING 'GOYAVE DE CHINE'

16 March -18 May 2024

The Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, successfully designed and delivered a 60-hour course under the Training of Trainers Programme at the Mauritius Prison Service. The course entitled Wood Craft using 'Goyave de Chine' was conducted from 16 March to 18 May 2024. Eleven dedicated Prison Officers were trained to transfer knowledge and skills required to create a variety of wooden decorative and functional items.

The training culminated in an award ceremony which was held at the Mauritius Prison Service on 23 May 2024. The Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, the Honourable (Mr.) Kavydass Ramano, Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, Mr. J. Rungadoo, the Acting Commissioner of Prison and other distinguished personalities were present on the occasion.

ADI looks forward to continuing its efforts to conduct such types of training programmes which promote skill development to empower individuals towards the adoption of sustainable and circularity practices as well as to enhance the creative potential of communities across Mauritius.



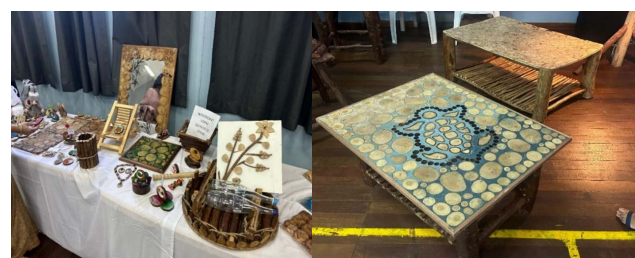
Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives



Mr. J. Rungadoo, Acting Commissioner of Prison, Mr. S. Maudarboocus, Director, MITD, Dr. (Mrs.) S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of ADI



The Participants and Resource persons at ADI



Glimpse of the wood craft created during the workshop

MEETING

THE PARTICIPATION OF HONOURABLE (MS.) NAVEENA RAMYAD, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, SMEs AND COOPERATIVES AT THE 175TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MCCI

28 March 2024

The Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, participated as a Key Speaker at the 175th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI), which was held on 28 March 2024 at the Caudan Arts Centre, Port Louis.



From left to right: Dr. D. Ramdenee, Secretary General of MCCI, Mrs. N. Jagarnath-Hardowar, former President of MCCI, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives and Mr. C. Harel, President of MCCI

During her speech, the Honourable Minister underscored the importance of strong partnership between the Government and the private sector to drive economic growth for the country. She commended the MCCI on its milestone anniversary of 175 years and its active engagement in championing the interests of the Mauritian Business Community. She acknowledged the significant role of MCCI in advocating business growth and in supporting Government's vision for a resilient and smart manufacturing sector. She further emphasised the importance of the manufacturing sector as a strategic economic pillar through its meaningful contribution to gross national output, gainful employment, foreign exchange earnings and foreign direct investment.

The Honourable Minister reckoned that the manufacturing sector is currently faced with more pronounced challenges emanating from internal and external fronts. However, she reassured industry operators that Government remains fully committed to supporting them in this testing phase through the provision of a host of measures and programmes. She briefly mentioned the initiatives to offset against wage hikes and the adoption of energy efficiency measures to curtail increase in industrial electricity tariff rates. She also highlighted the transformative power of 'Industry 4.0' technologies to encourage manufacturers embrace digital solutions for greater competitiveness.



Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives delivering her speech

The Honourable Minister concluded by expressing her firm commitment to working closely with MCCI and pushing forward meaningful proposals emanating from the Chamber to strengthen the industrial architecture of the country.

On another note, the AGM elected Mr. C. Harel as President and Mr. P. Marie as Vice-President of the MCCI.

EVENT

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM CERTIFICATION – BLUE OASIS WORKSHOP

04 April 2024

The Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB) organised a half-day workshop on 'Sustainable Tourism Certification – Blue Oasis' at Le Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, Port Louis on 04 April 2024. The objectives of the workshop were:

- To sensitise key players in the hotel industry about the Blue Oasis certification; and
- To discuss the evolution of sustainable practices in the tourism sector with relevant stakeholders.



From left to right: Mrs. L. Chummun-Bhujohory, Director of MSB, Mrs. A. D. Poreema, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, and Mr. S. Mulloo, Chairperson of the Standards Council of MSB

The Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives graced the event, which was also attended by stakeholders in the tourism industry, including representatives of hotels and tour operators.

During the opening ceremony, Mrs. L. Chummun-Bhujohory, the Director of the MSB welcomed the invitees. She stressed the importance of promoting sustainable practices in the tourism sector whilst advocating for principles that preserve environmental integrity, socio-economic viability, and cultural authenticity while maximizing the engagement of tourists.

Mr. S. Mulloo, Chairperson of the Standards Council of the MSB pointed out the critical role that the Blue Oasis would play in the tourism sector; he rallied a call to all invitees to adopt the Quality Management System because this certification transcended beyond a marketing fad and addressed the fundamentals to leave a legacy to our future generations.

In her keynote address, the Honourable Ms. Naveena Ramyad congratulated the MSB for its commendable effort in developing the Sustainable Tourism Management System – Blue Oasis. She highlighted that, although Mauritius may not be blessed with vast natural resources, it possesses an invaluable asset that surpasses all others – 'it's people'. She further elaborated that in a world where wealth often hinges on the abundance of minerals or oil, we, as Mauritians, defy the odds through the sheer determination of our manpower. She explained that adopting the Sustainable Tourism Management Certification Scheme based on MS 165, is an innovative step to sustainable practices in the tourism sector and invited all participants to fully embrace this certification.



Participants from different sectors of the tourism industry

There were several resource persons who contributed to the workshop, amongst which Mr. S. Ramsamy, Managing Director of Tourism Business Intelligence who made a presentation on '*Blue Oasis - Shaping a New landscape for Sustainable Tourism in Mauritius*'. Mr. Koji Miwa, Policy Researcher from Institute for Global Environmental Strategies shared insights on the need for sustainable tourism in the face of environmental crisis. Mr. S. Kanaksabee, Head of Quality Assurance Unit and Mr. N. Luttoo, Manager of Quality Assurance at the MSB, showcased the benefits of the MS 165 certification and elaborated on the roadmap leading to this certification. Overall, the workshop served as a springboard to propel the Island's Green Agenda, fostering a culture of sustainability and environmental stewardship in the tourism sector.

LAUNCHING CEREMONY

LAUNCHING OF THE GRADUATE AND UPSKILLING PROGRAMME AT CIEL TEXTILE IN MADAGASCAR

16-19 April 2024

CIEL Textile, a reputed manufacturer of branded textile products and garments, has production units across different countries, including Mauritius and Madagascar. In consonance with its culture to foster excellence and best practices, CIEL Textile has embarked on an educational journey of young graduates and its employees in Madagascar.

It was in this perspective that the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) in collaboration with CIEL Textile launched the Graduate and Upskilling Programme on 16 April 2024 at Antananarivo and on 18 April 2024 at Antsirabe, in Madagascar.

The ADI team conducted face-to-face trainings as well as provided the required platform for direct interactions and personalised guidance to the learners who showed keen interests in the coaching and upskilling programme. It looks forward to further strengthening its collaboration with CIEL Textile and continue the educational initiatives in Madagascar.



From left to right: Mrs. S. Moorghen, Training Officer in Fashion and Textiles at ADI, Dr. (Ms.) J. Abel, Lecturer in Fashion and Textiles of ADI, Dr. (Mrs.) S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of the ADI, Mr A. Tajoo, Chief Operating Officer at Aquarelle Region and Floréal Madagascar, Mr. R. Munien, Group Head of Leadership, Learning and Talent at CIEL Textile Ltd, Mr. N. Torul, Learning and Development Executive Regional at Aquarelle Mauritius

MAURITIUS ACCREDITATION SERVICE (MAURITAS)

IMPROVING HEALTHCARE QUALITY: INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF MEDICAL LABORATORIES

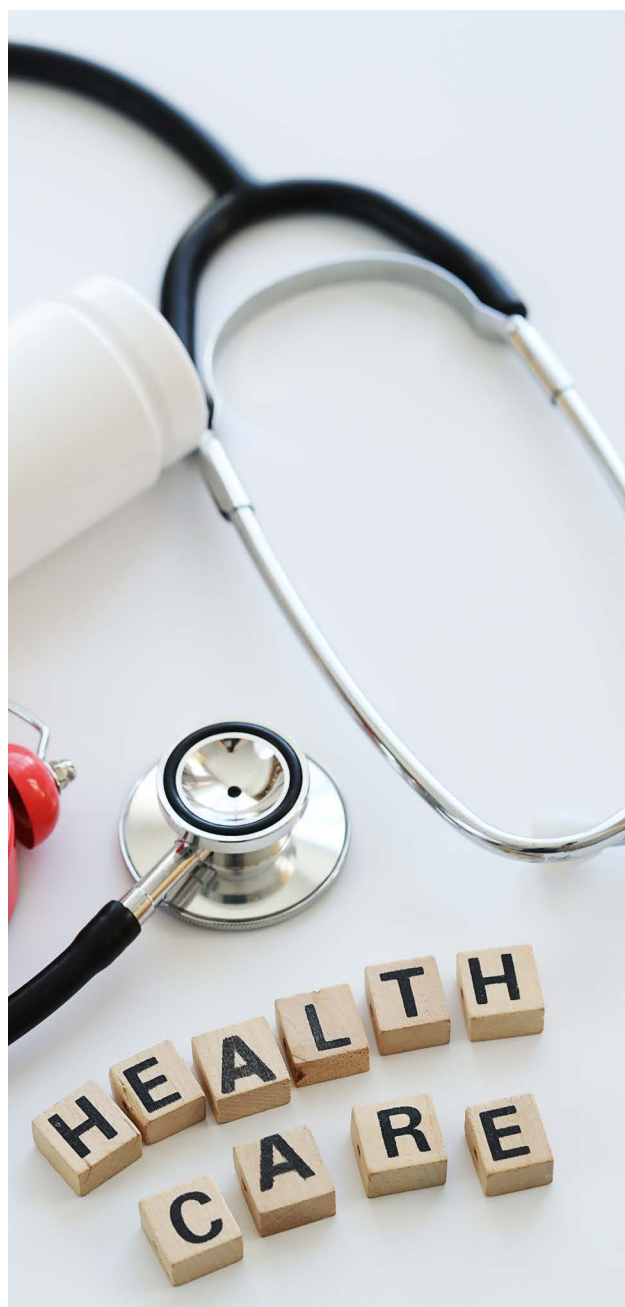
23 – 26 April 2024

Quality in a laboratory is a broad concept which extends beyond producing results that are reliable and accurate. It encompasses a comprehensive approach that includes adherence to set norms and standards. In an ongoing effort to maintain standards of excellence, MAURITAS performed the Initial Assessments of two medical laboratories—one in accordance with ISO 15189:2012, and the other as per the 2022 version of the standard. These assessments, which were conducted from 23 to 26 April 2024, served as a critical step in the accreditation process, allowing MAURITAS to evaluate the laboratories and their respective collection points for compliance with internationally recognised standards.

Following the Initial Assessments, the laboratories were required to address identified non-conformities by implementing corrective actions to demonstrate an improved performance of their quality management systems. Once the necessary corrective actions have been undertaken and evidence thereof submitted to MAURITAS, the Accreditation Committee will decide upon the grant of accreditation to the laboratories.

Accreditation positions medical laboratories as trusted entities, upholds their credibility, fosters international recognition and serves as a hallmark of quality and competence.

Accredited medical laboratories thus demonstrate dedication to deliver high-quality healthcare services and contribute to enhancing patient safety and satisfaction.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PARTICIPATION OF HONOURABLE (MS.) NAVEENA RAMYAD, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, SMES AND COOPERATIVES AT THE 18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MAURITIUS EXPORT ASSOCIATION (MEXA), AT THE LABOURDONNAIS WATERFRONT HOTEL, PORT LOUIS

24 April 2024

The 18th Annual General Meeting of the MEXA was held on 24th April 2024 at the Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel in Port Louis.

The Honourable (Dr.) Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development and the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives were the Chief Guests at the event.



From left to right: Ms. L. Rajmun-Jooseery, Director of MEXA, Honourable (Dr.) Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Mr. D. De Froberville, President of MEXA and Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives

During her keynote address, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad highlighted that the Export-Oriented Enterprises Sector (EOEs) constitutes a vital segment of the manufacturing industry with some 230 operators, employing more than 30,000 workers and generating export proceeds to the tune of Rs 47 billion.

She emphasised that the EOEs sector has travelled a long journey marked by multiple challenges which were successfully overcome thanks to the perseverance, determination and hard work of the industry operators, supported by a dedicated workforce.



Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad during her keynote address

She added that Government fully recognises the essential role played by the EOEs sector in enhancing the visibility of Mauritius as a reliable sourcing destination for high quality and price competitive products and at the same time propelling economic growth.

Furthermore, the Honourable Minister stressed that the export manufacturing industry has immense capabilities to make a more striking impact on the international scene by diversifying into new lucrative markets. In this regard, she mentioned the vast potential for exports under the various trade agreements signed with India, China, the African continent and the United Arab Emirates.

Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad underscored the need to re-dynamise the current export promotion model to fully avail of opportunities arising from our collaborative partnerships with friendly countries and trading blocs through preferential market agreements. In this regard, she called for a reassessment of the investment and export promotion strategy adopted by the Economic Development Board to derive maximum trade gains.

On a concluding note, the Honourable Minister reaffirmed the commitment of Government to advance the industrial development agenda, with the collaborative partnership of MEXA in an endeavour to generate more economic wealth for prosperity of the nation.

ACTIVITY

AWARENESS SESSION ON 'IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AT WORKPLACE', ORGANISED BY THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

26 April 2024

The World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2024 is celebrated on the 28th of April each year.

To commemorate this event, the Ministry of Public Service and Institutional Reforms had organised a Safety and Health Week from 22 to 26 April 2024, inviting Ministries and Departments to organise dedicated activities related to the theme.

The theme chosen by the International Labour Organisation for this year's celebration is "Ensuring safe and healthy work now in a changing climate". The aim of the World Day this year was to create an opportunity to stimulate dialogue amongst employers, workers, public health actors and other relevant stakeholders to address the impacts of climate change on occupational safety and health at workplace. It was also an occasion to highlight the necessity to protect workers from the climate change crisis.

In this context, on 26 April 2024, the Industrial Development Division had organised an Awareness Session on safety and health at workplace and the impacts of climate change. Two resource persons, namely, Dr J. J. Jalim from the Ministry of Health and Wellness and Mrs. P. Kanye, from the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, delivered talks on the occasion.

The Awareness Session was very interactive and was well perceived by the participants.



Dr J.J. Jalim from the Ministry of Health and Wellness delivering a talk on safety and health at the workplace to the officers of the Industrial Development Division, MAURITAS and the Assay Office



Mrs. P. Kanye, Environment Officer from the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change (Environment and Climate Change Division) addressing participants on climate change

INDUCTION SESSION

THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION WELCOMES NEW STUDENTS FOR THE “ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025”

29 April 2024

On Monday 29 April 2024, the ADI organised an induction session for new students enrolled for the academic year 2024-2025. The event which marked the students' first day at the institution, aimed to provide an overview of the institution and the details of the courses to the new recruits as well as introduce them to the ADI staff, including their lecturers.

The new students were enrolled in the following programmes:

- National Certificate Level 3 in Jewellery Manufacturing and Design
- National Certificate Level 3 in Art and Design Studies
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Art, Design and Media Practice
- Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Art and Design (Graphic Design)
- Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Art and Design (Fashion)
- Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Art and Design (Art Practice)
- BA (Hons) Interior Design



The new students and the staff of ADI



The students sharing their experiences and expectations

COURTESY CALL

COURTESY CALL OF CONSULTANTS FROM UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA ON HONOURABLE MINISTER (MS.) NAVEENA RAMYAD

13 May 2024

On 13 May 2024, two consultants from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Mr. S. Abdallah, Economic Affairs Officer from the African Trade Policy Centre and Mr. W. Gameledin, the Lead Consultant, paid a courtesy call on the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives.

The consultants apprised the Honourable Minister about the preparation of a project report on the establishment of a database of raw materials available in Africa for the Textile and Cotton Industry to facilitate trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Nine African countries, namely, Mauritius, Lesotho, Kenya, South Africa, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Mali, Morocco and Egypt have been selected to form part of the project.

The UNECA consultants informed that their visit to Mauritius was held in the context of a field mission to collect data on the local textile and clothing sector. In this perspective, they met several public and private sector stakeholders such as Statistics Mauritius, Economic Development Board, Mauritius Export Association and Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry. They also conducted site visits to manufacturing enterprises such as RT Knits Ltd, Firemount Textiles Ltd and Tianli Spinning (Mauritius) Mills Company Ltd in an endeavour to have insights on their needs for material inputs (e.g., cotton, cotton yarns and fabrics).

The report of the consultants would be ready by July 2024 and would serve as a guide for Member States to source cotton-based raw materials from the African region for sustainable production. It would also be useful to Member States to formulate their respective value propositions during negotiations on Rules of Origin under the AfCFTA regime.



From left to right: Mrs. A. D. Poreema, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (Industrial Development Division), Mr. S. Abdallah, Economic Affairs Officer, African Trade Policy Centre, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Mr. W. Gameledin, UNECA Lead Consultant, Ms. S. Beeharry, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade (International Trade Division) and Mr. B. Ramdoyal, Principal Industrial Analyst, (Industrial Development Division)

AWARD CEREMONY

THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL (NPCC) ANNOUNCED THE GRAND WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY EXCELLENCE AWARD (NPQEA) 2024

17 May 2024



Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Mr. S. Busgeeth, Chairman of NPCC and Mrs. D. Boygah, Executive Director of NPCC with the representatives of Bamboo Olive Ltd, Mauritius Prison Service and Mauritius Telecom Ltd, the three Grand Winners of NPQEA 2024

The National Productivity and Quality Excellence Award (NPQEA) 2024 culminated with a prize-giving ceremony on 17 May 2024 to reward participating organisations, which have implemented productivity and quality improvement projects, and made continuous efforts to improve management and operational practices in their journey towards excellence.

The event was graced by the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives. Representatives of participating organisations as well as public and private entities were present on the occasion.

The NPQEA is an initiative of the NPCC, which serves as a platform for knowledge sharing and networking among industry leaders, policymakers, and professionals who are passionate about

productivity and quality enhancement. It encourages organisations to share their best operational practices, processes, systems, and initiatives, and learn from the experiences of others. It also motivates organisations to ignite innovative ideas for the fifth industrial revolution, i.e. Industry 5.0, to meet the challenges of what we call the VUCA World. (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity).

The NPQEA provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of teams who have created productivity and quality improvements at their workplace. By fostering a culture of excellence, the NPQEA thus aims to inspire and encourage other organisations to embark on similar transformative journeys, contributing to the growth and competitiveness of the nation's economy.

Continued on next page

AWARD CEREMONY (CONTINUED)

THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL (NPCC) ANNOUNCED THE GRAND WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY EXCELLENCE AWARD (NPQEA) 2024

17 May 2024

For the 2024 edition of the NPQEA, the NPCC received 92 entries, among which 52 of them have persevered up to the online assessments conducted by different panels of jurors.

The Grand Winners of NPQEA 2024 were selected among eight Gold winners in three distinct categories by a panel of jurors, and were as follows:

- **Small and Medium Private Enterprises including Micro Enterprises:** Bamboo Olive Ltd
- **Mid-Market and Large Private Enterprises:** Mauritius Telecom
- **Government Departments, Parastatals and Registered Associations:** Mauritius Prison Service

The Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, the Chief Guest at the event, highlighted in her address that: *"There is need for continuous effort to constantly apply new technology and new methods for producing better and more valuable outputs, be it a product or a service. By fostering a culture of productivity and quality excellence in an organisation, we cultivate a breeding ground for innovation. This leads to value addition to meet changing market requirements and exigencies and use of resources are optimised. Subsequently, operational costs are reduced and employees are empowered to become more efficient and productive, thereby, making organisations more competitive and profitable."*

Overall, the productivity movement in the country leads to achieving our national development priorities, including higher economic growth and better standard of living for the Mauritian citizens."

Furthermore, Mrs. D. Boygah, the Executive Director of the NPCC, stated during her speech that: *"In today's fast-paced and ever-evolving world, where competition is fierce and expectations are high, prioritising productivity and quality is not just advantageous—it's essential for survival and growth"*.

The Grand winners would represent Mauritius in regional and international forums, including this year's editions of the International Convention on Quality Control Circle (in Sri Lanka) and for the African Kaizen Award (in Tunisia).



AWARD CEREMONY

RECOGNITION OF THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION AT THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY EXCELLENCE AWARD

17 May 2024

On Friday, 17 May 2024, the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI), proudly received the Bronze Award at the National Productivity and Quality Excellence Award (NPQEA) 2024, under the category of Government Departments, Parastatals, and Registered Associations. The NPQEA is an annual competition which gives opportunity to organisations to demonstrate their exceptional management and enhancement productivity and quality initiatives.

This year, ADI has demarcated itself with a unique and environmentally conscious project entitled *"Promoting Mauritian Endemic Flora and Fauna using Invasive Alien Species"*. The project showcased the innovative recycling of *'Bois de Goyave'*, which is known for its invasive nature thereby posing a threat to the local ecosystem. By repurposing *'Bois de Goyave'* into a stunning work of art, ADI has not only addressed an environmental challenge but also promoted the Mauritian endemic flora and fauna.



The Bronze Award Certificate remitted to ADI Team



From left to right: Mr. V. Pooneeth, Research Analyst at ADI, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyard, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Ms. K. Bheenick, Research Analyst and Mr N. Bundhun, IT Executive

EVENT

SEMINAR ON THE WORLD METROLOGY DAY 2024 AT THE MAURITIUS STANDARDS BUREAU

20 May 2024



The World Metrology Day is celebrated on May 20th each year. It commemorates the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in year 1875, which established the International System of Units (SI) and laid the groundwork for global cooperation in metrology, the science of measurement.

On this occasion, the Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB) organised a seminar on Monday, 20 May 2024 to celebrate the World Metrology Day, under the theme: *"We measure today for a sustainable tomorrow"*. The aim of the seminar was to raise awareness about the importance of measurement in all aspects of human endeavor and highlight the critical role that accurate and reliable measurements play in trade, innovation, consumer protection, environmental sustainability and international cooperation.



Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyard during her keynote address.

The Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyard, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives graced the event with her presence and in her keynote address, she highlighted the importance of accurate measurements in policy-making and the role of MSB in maintaining standards for critical parameters through calibration services.

She stressed on the significance of National Metrology Institutes in fostering innovation and their impacts on sectors like healthcare.

She also emphasised on the role of metrology to address sustainability challenges, supporting governments in monitoring progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals and implementing resilience-promoting policies.

Mr. S. Mulloo, the Chairperson of the Standards Council of MSB, in his speech, laid emphasis on the way the science of measurement avers to be a universal phenomenon, essential for maintaining quality across diverse manufacturing technologies. Mrs. L. Chummun-Bhujohory, the Director of MSB, on her part, indicated that measurement was the foundation of science and technology, crucial for supporting modern civilisation. She emphasised the importance of precision in an era of artificial intelligence and automation, cautioning that without accurate measurements the integrity of systems, product safety, and fundamental trust necessary for progress, could be compromised.

The seminar was further enriched by contributions from three key resource persons namely: Mr. R. Ramlugon, Group Chief Sustainability Officer of Omnicane Management and Consultancy Ltd, Mr. V. Gowd, Manager of the Economic Development Board, and Mr. C. Ng Ha Kwong, Head of the Metrology Unit at MSB.

Individuals from the scientific and educational fields and stakeholders of MSB, who were present in the audience, acknowledged that the event was a rewarding experience for them, as they gained valuable insights in the field of measurements and its application in daily life.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

ACADEMY OF DESIGN AND INNOVATION AND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY (INDIA)

24 May 2024

On Friday, 24 May 2024, a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI) and the Indian National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) was signed in the presence of the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs, and Cooperatives.

The MoA marked the beginning of a strategic collaboration between Mauritius and India in the field of design and innovation.

In her address during the signing ceremony, the Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad underscored that *"this agreement is not merely a formal arrangement; it is the blueprint for future collaborations"*. She added that the partnership between the two institutions would strengthen the ties between the two countries and open new opportunities for young fashion designers.

The Director of ADI, Dr. (Mrs.) S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah emphasised that the MoA paved the way for a collaboration which would go far beyond a mere formal agreement and indicated that *"it is a gateway to an enriching and expansive future for ADI, through this partnership, the Academy will immensely benefit from a rich cultural exchange"*.



Mr. S. S. Purgus, Chairperson of the ADI, Mr. V. Aryan, Deputy High Commissioner of India to Mauritius, Honourable (Ms.) Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Dr. (Mrs.) S. D. Ramsamy-Iranah, Director of the ADI and Mr. M. S. F. Joomun, Senior Chief Executive of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives

Industry Digest



This Newsletter has been prepared by the editorial team of the Industrial Development Division in collaboration with:

Assay Office

Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS)

Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB)

Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI)

National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC)

Editorial Team

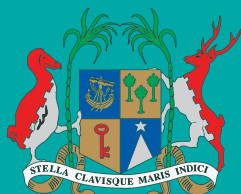
Mrs. Ameeta Devi Poreema, Deputy Permanent Secretary

Mrs. Bibi Noureena Soreefan-Joomun, Assistant Permanent Secretary

Mrs. Kalyanee Manna, Principal Industrial Analyst

Ms. Jinny Fokeerchand, Office Management Assistant

Ms. Anisha Bhoyroo, Management Support Officer



**Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives
(Industrial Development Division)**

Level 7 & 8, Air Mauritius Centre, Pr. John Kennedy Street, Port-Louis

Republic of Mauritius

T: (+230) 210 7100

F: (+230) 211 0855

E: mind@govmu.org