



**REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL INTEGRATION,  
SOCIAL SECURITY AND NATIONAL SOLIDARITY  
(Social Integration Division)**

# **ANNUAL REPORT ON PERFORMANCE**

**FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021**



*Alleviating Poverty and Promoting Social Inclusion through Empowerment*

# About this Report

This is the Annual Report on Performance of the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Integration Division) for the fiscal year 2020-2021 following amendments made to the Finance and Audit Act in March 2015. The Report has been prepared according to guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

The Report is a mechanism of accountability in relation to resources provided by the National Assembly and services delivered thereon. It also provides information for all stakeholders and the public at large.

The Ministry is committed to maintaining accountability and transparency in its work/tasks and continually improving its reporting.

## Guide to this Report

**This Report is divided into four parts as follows:**

### **Part I: About the Social Integration Division (SID)**

Part 1 sets out the Vision, Mission and provides an overview of the Social Integration Division (SID), its roles and functions, as well as its organizational structure. Departments and other divisions falling under its aegis and their key functions are also briefly presented.

### **Part II: Achievements & Challenges**

Part II describes mainly the major achievements of the Social Integration Division, (SID) the status of the implementation of budget measures and a concise review of how the Division has performed during the fiscal year 2020-2021. It also includes the additional internal Key Performance Indicators which the SID has set for each of its delivery units. This section also

provides the actions and systems put in place in relation to risk management, citizen-oriented initiatives and good governance practices.

### **Part III: Financial Performance**

Part III provides the financial highlights for the fiscal year 2020- 2021, and an overview of the significant changes in financial results. It also includes a statement of revenue and expenditure of the SID.

### **Part IV: Way Forward**

Part IV provides a situational analysis of the environment in which the Division operates, how it impacts on its service delivery, and what is the strategic direction adopted by the organisation to realize its vision, objectives and desired outcomes.

## Contents

<b>PART I: ABOUT THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION DIVISION</b> .....	6
<b>Vision and Mission</b> .....	6
Vision .....	6
Mission.....	6
Core Values .....	6
<b>Supervising Officer's Statement</b> .....	7
<b>Roles and Functions of the Social Integration Division</b> .....	8
<b>Gender Policy Statement</b> .....	9
Gender Disaggregated Data .....	10
<b>About Our People</b> .....	15
Officers Paid by Other Ministries.....	17
Employees on Contract.....	17
<b>Senior Management Team</b> .....	18
<b>Organisational Chart</b> .....	19
<b>Staff Welfare</b> .....	20
<b>PART II: DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER BODIES FALLING UNDER THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION DIVISION</b> .....	23
<b>National Empowerment Foundation (NEF)</b> .....	23
<b>The National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF)</b> .....	24
<b>Major Achievements</b> .....	26
Quarterly Report .....	29
Survey and Studies .....	29
The School Premium Survey .....	29
Documentation Centre .....	31

Recertification of Households under the Marshall Plan Social Contract (MPSC) ....	31
Psychological Support.....	32
Mental Health Sessions .....	33
Setting up of Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) .....	34
Implementation of an SMS Mobile System .....	35
Citizens Reporting Mechanism .....	35
Budget Measure on Free Internet .....	36
<b>Status on Implementation of Budget Measures .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Status on Implementation of Key Actions.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Risk Management, Citizen Oriented Initiatives &amp; Good Governance</b>	<b>39</b>
Risk Management Measures .....	39
Good Governance.....	40
Anti-Corruption Committee.....	40
Audit Committee .....	41
Occupational Safety and Health Committee .....	41
Training Committee.....	42
Public Sector Business Transformation Implementation Committee.....	42
COVID-19 Dedicated Response Team .....	43
Work From Home Scheme.....	43
<b>Implementation Plan Director of Audit Comments .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>PART III- FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Financial Highlights.....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Analysis of Major Changes .....</b>	<b>46</b>
Expenditure.....	46
<b>Statements of Revenue &amp; Expenditure .....</b>	<b>46</b>
Statement of Expenditure.....	46
<b>PART IV – WAY FORWARD .....</b>	<b>47</b>

## **Trends and Challenges .....47**

Challenges .....	48
------------------	----

## **Strategic Direction .....49**

### **List of Tables**

Table 1: Gender Disaggregated Data- Staffing Position .....	10
Table 2: Gender distribution of Senior and Mid-management positions .....	11
Table 3: Gender Disaggregated data on average number of beneficiaries of empowerment schemes .....	13
Table 4: Funded position as at 30 June 2021 .....	16
Table 5: Officers paid by other ministries.....	17
Table 6:Employees on contract .....	17
Table 7: Funds received by NSIF .....	25
Table 8: Recertification as at 30 June 2021 .....	31
Table 9: LEEP conducted across Mauritius .....	33
Table 10: Status of Implementation of IMIS at NEF.....	34
Table 11: Status of Implementation of Budget Measures .....	37
Table 12: Status of Implementation of Key Actions .....	38
Table 13: Status of Implementation of Recommendations of the Director of Audit.....	44
Table 14: Statement of Expenditure under Vote 10-1.....	46

### **List of Figures**

Figure 1: Our Core Values.....	6
Figure 2: Roles and Functions of the Social Integration Division.....	8
Figure 3: Senior Management Team .....	18
Figure 4: Organisational Chart.....	19
Figure 5:Findings of Survey on School Premium.....	30
Figure 6: expenditure incurred by the Social Integration Division under Vote 10-1 .....	45
Figure 7: SWOT Analysis .....	47

# **PART I: ABOUT THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION DIVISION**

## **Vision and Mission**

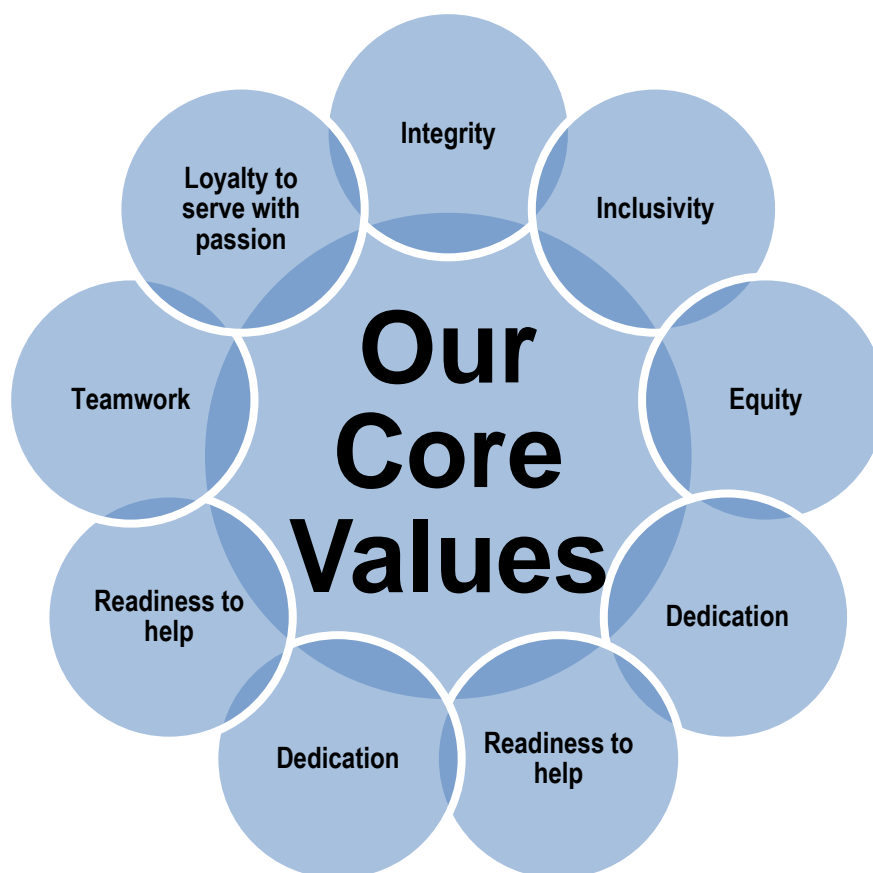
### **Vision**

Our vision is the eradication of extreme and chronic poverty and the creation of an inclusive and more equitable society.

### **Mission**

To support and empower the vulnerable groups who are registered and found eligible under the Social Register of Mauritius with a view to mainstreaming them in society and improving their quality of life in a sustainable manner through the provision of an effective and efficient service delivery, imbued in equity, fairness and impartiality.

### **Core Values**



*Figure 1: Our Core Values*

## **Supervising Officer's Statement**

The past financial year was not one that we, or anyone could have ever imagined or forecasted. The Covid-19 pandemic and its impacted woes have caused unprecedented disruptions and setbacks which are still being felt and visible on all fronts and sectors of the economy. It has been a time of great hardship for the community, Government, the public and private sectors. The pandemic is sadly gripping from its lowest ebb, but has served as a wake-up call to adapt to the new normal. Still, we must be prudent and vigilant.

Although Government has been putting a lot of efforts to protect our families, children, the elderly by ensuring the vaccination of all our fellow citizens, to contain the pandemic, we are still grappling with the mental, emotional and financial toll that the pandemic has exacerbated, particularly on the absolute poor, and the most vulnerable groups of our society.

The National Empowerment Foundation, the National Social Inclusion Foundation, through Non-Governmental Organisations, have, *inter-alia*, made provisions for food packs, sanitary materials and ensured during the lockdown the continuous payment of subsistence allowance and other empowerment support to the most vulnerable families, and focussed largely on grassroot operations and visits.

Looking ahead to the next financial year, we are poised for resilience, and to being more than ever committed towards ensuring that vulnerable families do not fall further into the abyss and shackles of poverty. The implementation of the new budgetary measures, particularly the increased poverty threshold, the operationalisation of the National Database for vulnerable groups and the additional support to families on the Social Register of Mauritius in terms of refund of examinations fees, provision of sanitary towels and optical glasses to children are relieving imperatives, already well underway.

To this end, I wish to place on record the hard work and dedication of the staff of my Ministry for their collective “esprit de corps” towards achieving our set objectives. ‘God bless’.

***Youdhisteer MUNBODH***

***Permanent Secretary***



## **Roles and Functions of the Social Integration Division**

The roles and functions of the Social Integration Division are as follows:

- To formulate policies and strategies to combat poverty and social exclusion.
- To drive and coordinate initiatives for the social integration and sustainable development of vulnerable families.
- To encourage and assist vulnerable families to undertake income earning activities to become economically independent.
- To widen the circle of opportunities for the empowerment of the vulnerable families.
- To eradicate absolute poverty and improve the living conditions of the poor.
- To lay the foundation for sustainable human development and improve the life chances of children of poor families by providing a package of support programmes and opportunities for learning and development from a very early stage.



*Figure 2: Roles and Functions of the Social Integration Division*

## **Gender Policy Statement**

In light of the National Gender Policy Framework 2008 and International Conventions to which Mauritius is a signatory party, this Gender Policy Statement highlights key measures taken at the national level to promote social integration and empowerment of persons living in absolute poverty with regard to integrating gender perspective in national sustainable development policies and strategies.

Its main aim is to identify some entry points that provide a framework for mainstreaming gender in policies, programmes and activities of the Division, and make appropriate recommendations for promoting full and equal participation of women and men in the development process.

Achieving gender justice is a matter of basic human rights and is a fundamental principle of the Republic of Mauritius, as enshrined in its Constitution. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but empowers the State to adopt measures in favour of women. Consequently, women and men must participate equitably in the national development process.

While Mauritius has a good record of accomplishment regarding women's empowerment in terms of policies, legislation, institutional and infrastructural support, and prevailing gender gaps still persist. The core role of Government and development actors is to endow its citizens with an enabling environment where women and men are granted the best conditions under which they can develop their full potential.

Government adopted the National Gender Policy Framework (NGPF) in 2008, which embodies a vision of empowering women and recognizes that gender is a cross-cutting issue. It also argues that adopting and incorporating a gender approach in all developmental issues remain a prerequisite to attain full human development.

The vision is to have “A society in which all girls and boys, women and men live together in dignity, safety, mutual respect, harmony and social justice; thrive in an enabling environment in which they are able to achieve their full potential, in full enjoyment of their human rights; are equal partners in taking decisions to shape economic, social and cultural development, in determining the values that guide and sustain such development and equally enjoy its benefits”.

Therefore, for the effective implementation of the NGPF, the Ministry undertakes to:

- (i) develop its own sector specific gender policy;
- (ii) draw on the policy framework for revising /developing sectoral strategies and ensure coherence among policies; and
- (iii) mainstream gender in programme design, performance indicators and budgetary allocations.

The Ministry’s Gender Policy Statement reflects the commitment it has to mainstream gender in its sector specific interventions having as overall objective to promote gender equity, equality and social justice for a sustainable society.

## Gender Disaggregated Data

With regard to gender distribution at the Division, out of 60 Officers in post at the end of the Financial Year 2020-2021, there were 13 male Officers, representing 23% and 47 female officers, representing 79% of the personnel as depicted in Table below.

Staffing Position	Male	Female
Number	13	47
Percentage	21%	79%

*Table 1: Gender Disaggregated Data- Staffing Position*

As regards gender distribution among senior officers in a position of decision making at the level of the Division, there was 70 % female against 30 % male as follows:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Permanent Secretary	1	-
Deputy Permanent Secretary	-	2
Assistant Permanent Secretary	-	3
Manager, Financial Operations	-	1
Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	1	-
Assistant Manager Human Resource	-	1
Coordinator	1	
<b>Total Number</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>70%</b>

*Table 2: Gender distribution of Senior and Mid-management positions*

Having as mandate to eradicate extreme and chronic poverty and create an inclusive and more equitable society, this Division has always been empowering women to form part of the mainstream of the society. Several programmes and projects are being implemented at the level of the Ministry to achieve Sustainable Development and Gender Equality. Women have equal access to all the schemes, facilities and support services offered by the Division.

The core mission of this Division is to support and empower the vulnerable groups, who are registered and found eligible under the Social Register of Mauritius, strenuous efforts are made for the successful implementation of the Marshall Plan against Poverty with a view to mainstreaming people living in absolute poverty in society and improving their quality of life in a sustainable manner.

Promoting gender equality and greater opportunities for young people are integrated themes that run throughout the Plan and cut across all areas related to social protection, employment, social housing, education, health, environment and equity in service delivery, including Rodrigues.

As part of this new reform, a range of **empowerment support services** in terms of Education and vocational training, Employment and livelihoods, Healthcare and Family Empowerment Programmes are provided by key service providers so that the participating families become successfully integrated into society.

The principles of **equity and social justice** require us to work to ensure that everyone has equal opportunity. The Division is therefore fully committed to channelling resources into processes that create a society that values women, men, girls and boys equally.

A range of empowerment support services in terms of Vocational Training, Employment and Livelihoods, Healthcare and Family Empowerment Programmes are also being provided by key line Ministries so that the participating families can have access to a wide array of services including decent work through active labour market policies.

Beneficiaries of training programmes are being given a monthly stipend of Rs 5,000 and a travelling allowance of Rs 1,000 to successfully attend the training and any placement opportunities. A toolkit is also being provided so that they can start their own practice or business.

The Gender Policy Statement of the Social Integration Division therefore gives an overview of roles and functions of the Division and the different types of empowerment programmes and schemes which are currently being implemented. The Division's database makes provision for gender disaggregated statistics and gender-disaggregated indicators which will be developed for monitoring and evaluation with respect to the various Empowerment Schemes.

Based on analysis of data collected in the Social Register of Mauritius, the Gender Policy Document highlights the major achievements of the Division and makes recommendation for mainstreaming gender in policies and programmes as per the gender gaps identified.

This Gender Policy Document provides a framework for giving substance to gender considerations, translating policy into action and promoting the full and equal participation of men and women in the development process.

The number of beneficiaries, who have been provided with the empowerment schemes for the financial year 2020/2021, on a gender-wise basis, is shown below:

Empowerment Schemes	Number of Beneficiaries for the Financial Year 2020/2021		
	Male	Female	Total
Crèche Scheme	1	1	2
Free Examination Fees Scheme	80	117	197
School Premium Scheme	4	14	18
Fully Concrete Housing Scheme	83	108	191

*Table 3: Gender Disaggregated data on average number of beneficiaries of empowerment schemes*

The National Social Inclusion Foundation is also working towards the creation of a database with the objective of providing disaggregated data on the number of families registered under the Social Register of Mauritius and other vulnerable people who received support (by age, sex, disability and geographical location).

## About Our People

The Permanent Secretary is the Administrative Head of the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Integration Division). He is assisted in his functions and duties by two Deputy Permanent Secretaries, three Assistant Permanent Secretaries and officers from the Technical Cadre, Financial Operations Cadre, Human Resource Cadre, Procurement and Supply Cadre, Officers of the CISD, Statistics Mauritius, as well as officers belonging to the General Services.

The Technical Unit comprises three sections, namely the Empowerment Scheme Section (ESS), which is headed by two Research Executives, the Statistical and Research Section (SRS), which is headed by a Research Analyst and a Monitoring and Evaluation Section.

The Technical Unit is responsible for the implementation of Empowerment Schemes, production of quarterly statistical reports, conduct minor surveys/research studies and monitoring and evaluation.

For the Financial year 2020/2021, the Division had a total of 58 funded positions. The table below shows funded positions for the financial year 2020/2021 and the number of officers in post as at 30 June 2021.



<b>Grade</b>	<b>Funded 2020/2020</b>	<b>In Post as at 30/06/2021</b>
Minister	1	1
Permanent Secretary	1	1
Deputy Permanent Secretary	2	2
Assistant Permanent Secretary	3	3
Coordinator	1	1
Psychologist	1	1
Assistant Secretary General (Ex-NESC)	1	1
Research Executive(Ex-NESC)	2	2
Research Analyst	1	1
Manager, Financial Operations	1	1
Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	1	1
Financial Operations Officer/Senior Financial Operations Officer	2	2
Assistant Financial Operations Officer	1	1
Procurement and Supply Officer/ Senior Procurement and Supply Officer	1	1
Principal Internal Control Officer	1	1
Office Management Executive	1	1
Office Management Assistant	4	4
Office Supervisor	1	1
Management Support Officer	15	14
Confidential Secretary(Ex-NESC)	1	1
Confidential Secretary	3	3
Word Processing Operator	3	2
Office Auxiliary/ Senior Office Auxiliary	5	5
Driver/Office Attendant (Ex-NESC)	1	1
Driver	2	2
General Worker	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>

*Table 4: Funded position as at 30 June 2021*

## Officers Paid by Other Ministries

Grade	No. in post	Paid by
Assistant Manager, Human Resource	1	Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms
Senior Statistical Officer	1	Statistics Mauritius
Systems Analyst	1	Central Information Systems Division
Computer Support Officer/Senior Computer Support Officer	1	Central Information Systems Division
Head Office Auxiliary	1	Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms

*Table 5: Officers paid by other ministries*

## Employees on Contract

<i>Employees</i>	<b>No. In post</b>
Adviser in Public Relation Matters	<i>1</i>

*Table 6: Employees on contract*

## Senior Management Team

DESIGNATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Permanent Secretary	<b>Mr Youdhisteer MUNBODH</b> Phone: 210 0783      Ext: 232      Fax: 2121673 Email: ymunbodh@govmu.org
Deputy Permanent Secretary	<b>Mrs Jeanne LAN HING PO</b> Phone: 208 3464      Ext: 243      Fax: 2100572 Email: jlanhp@govmu.org
Deputy Permanent Secretary	<b>Mrs Nooreena Oummay Salma HOSANY</b> Phone: 201 2532      Ext: 222      Fax: 2100572 Email: shosany@govmu.org
Assistant Permanent Secretary	<b>Mrs. Deepti DABEE</b> Phone: 260 0564      Ext: 246      Fax: 2081409 Email: dedabee@govmu.org
Assistant Permanent Secretary	<b>Mrs Saroja MAUMOONDEE-GALORE</b> Phone: 213 5385      Fax: 208 1409 Email: smaumoondede-galore@govmu.org
Assistant Permanent Secretary	<b>Mrs Reshma Devi PURGUSS-RAMJADA</b> Phone: 2600563      Fax: 208 1409 Email: rpurguss-ramjada@govmu.org
Manager, Financial Operations	<b>Mrs Lalita SEETAMONEE</b> Phone: 213 3784      Fax: 213 0765 Email: lseetamonee@govmu.org
Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	<b>Mr Ambedkar TEELUCKDARRY</b> Phone: 213 0771      Fax: 213 0765 Email: amteeluckdarry@govmu.org
Assistant Manager, Human Resources	<b>Mrs Shehnaz SAHEBALLY</b> Phone: 213 0768      Fax: 213 0765 Email: ssahebally@govmu.org
Coordinator	<b>Mr. Ramakrishna APPADOO</b> Phone: 213 5387      Fax: 208 1409 Email: rkappadoo@govmu.org
Procurement and Supply Officer/Senior Procurement and Supply Officer	<b>Mrs Nazianah Bibi THANDADARAYAN</b> Phone: 213 0772      Fax: 213 0766 Email: bnthandarayan@govmu.org

Figure 3: Senior Management Team

## Organisational Chart

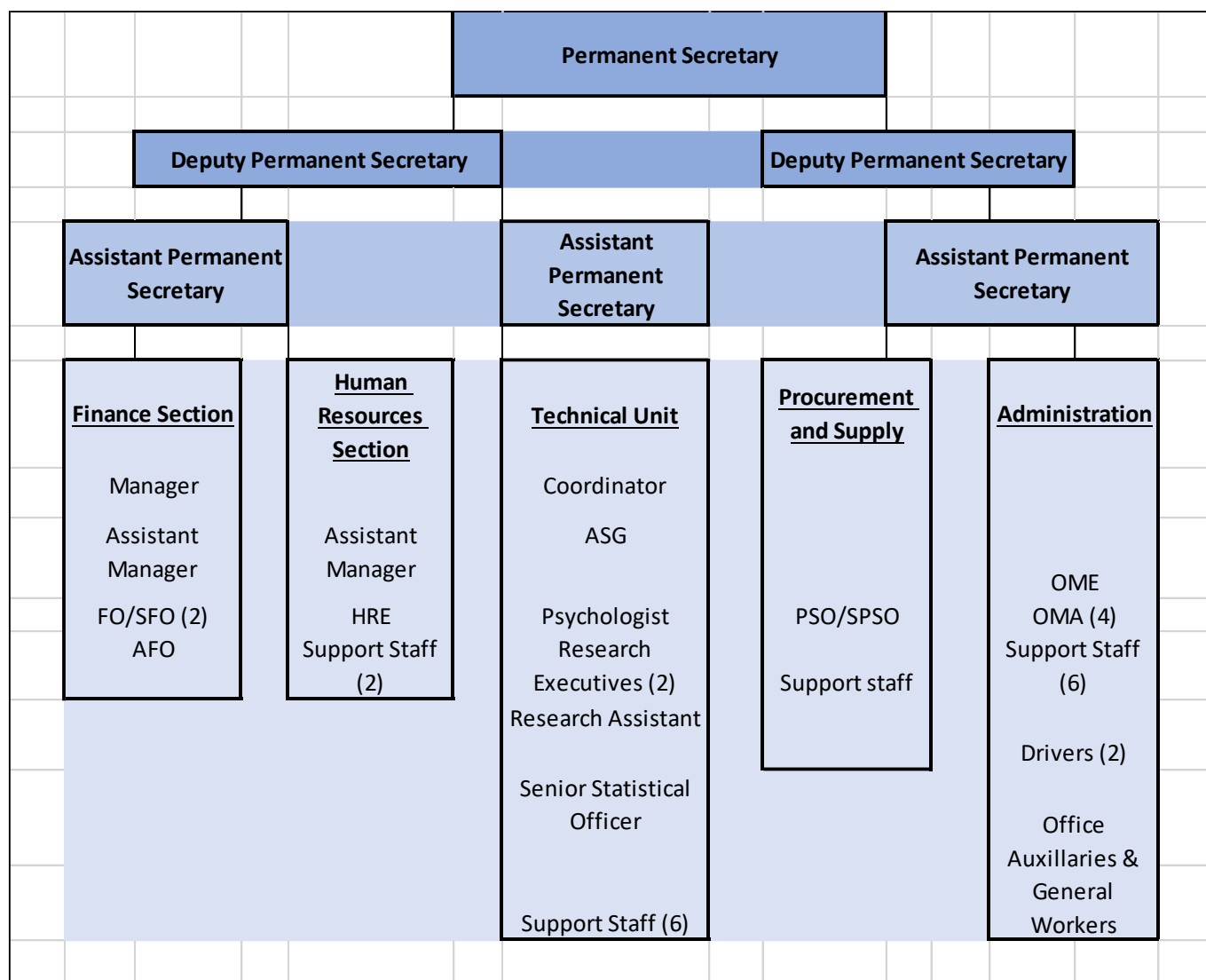


Figure 4: Organisational Chart

## Staff Welfare

The Staff Welfare Association of the Ministry was re-organised in October 2019 and now comprises 31 members.

Several activities have been organised during the financial year 2020-2021, including the following:

- (i) Two teams, one men and one ladies, participated in the Civil Service Badminton Tournament organized by the POWC in 2020, whereby the ladies' team won the first runner-up place in the competition.





(ii) Members of the association participated in the Karaoke Initiation Programme organised by the POWC with the collaboration of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage from November 2020 to January 2021.



(iii) Participation in the 27<sup>th</sup> Civil Service Kermesse 2020.



(iv) Team building activity at The Ravenala Attitude Hotel in December 2020.



## **PART II: DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER BODIES FALLING UNDER THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION DIVISION**

### **National Empowerment Foundation (NEF)**

The National Empowerment Foundation (NEF) is the executive arm of the Social Integration Division and operates under its aegis.

NEF is a not-for-profit Government Owned Company which is managed by a Board of Directors. The day-to-day running and administration of the affairs of the Foundation falls under the responsibility of a Chief Executive Officer, who is answerable to the Board.

The main objective of the NEF is to ensure the case management of the families eligible under the SRM as per the Marshall Plan Social Contract and to deliver a range of empowerment support services namely:

- Identifying households living in absolute poverty and assessing their needs;
- Implementing and harmonising any integration and empowerment programme or scheme;
- Providing social support and counselling to beneficiaries living in absolute poverty (Case Management Approach);
- Monitoring of Marshall Plan Social Contract signed by households; and track their progress to ensure their graduation out of poverty;
- Monitoring and evaluating any empowerment programme or scheme; and
- Keeping under review any change in the social or economic status of any person who is receiving support.



## **The National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF)**

The National Social Inclusion Foundation (ex-National CSR Foundation) was established by Government on 30 December 2016 and incorporated under the Foundation Act 2012. The aim was to ensure greater accountability and transparency in the use of CSR funds and to generate better social outcomes.

The main mandate of the National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF) is to undertake programmes and projects for the benefit of individuals and families registered under the Social Register of Mauritius (SRM), as well as, vulnerable groups as defined in its Charter.

The 10 priority areas of intervention of the NSIF are:

- Socio-economic development as a means for poverty alleviation;
- Educational support and training;
- Social housing;
- Supporting people with disabilities;
- Dealing with health problems;
- Family protection including gender-based violence;
- Leisure and sports;
- Environment and sustainable development;
- Peace and nation-building; and
- Road safety and security.

Following the announcement in the Budget Speech 2018-2019 for a coordinated approach with regard to funding of NGOs, the Foundation is the central body to receive and allocate public funds to NGOs as from 1 January 2019.

Its governance structure consists of a multi-stakeholder composition of representatives from public sector, private sector, civil society and academia.

The objects of the Foundation are to:

- Establish and update a register of NGOs/NPOs in specific priority areas to allocate funds;
- Request and examine call for proposals for the implementation of programmes and projects by NGOs/NPOs;
- Monitor and evaluate programmes and projects funded by the Foundation;
- Serve as a platform for coordination and communication among stakeholders;
- Liaise with Ministries when required to support project implementation by NGOs/NPOs and
- Promote the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2015- 2030.

<b>(i)</b>	<b>Transfer from Accountant General</b>	
	CSR Funds from MRA	Rs. 896,313,629
	Support to NGOs from MOFED	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Rs. 896,313,629</b>
<b>(ii)</b>	<b>Other Income</b>	
	Interest received on Fixed Deposits	Rs. 17,063,542
	Other Miscellaneous income	Rs. 697,160
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Rs. 914,074,331</b>

Table 7: Funds received by NSIF

## Major Achievements

The major achievements of the Division for the financial year 2020-2021 are as follows:

### Subsistence Allowance

- The subsistence allowance is an income support that is being paid on a monthly basis to the beneficiaries living below the absolute poverty threshold to ensure that the basic needs of the families are met.
- As at June 2021, there are **4,992** households (**3,262** households in Mauritius and **1,730** households in Rodrigues) representing **20,272** beneficiaries, who are eligible under the SRM and have signed the Marshall Plan Social Contract.
- Amount disbursed for the financial year 2020/2021 is **Rs 231,659,825**

### School Materials

- The purpose of the Scheme is to provide school materials such as bags, uniforms, shoes, copybooks and stationery to children of households as an incentive to motivate them to attend school. The child should be aged not less than 3 years nor more than 23 years and attends a registered school or institution.
- The number of school materials distributed is **8,827**.
- Amount disbursed for the financial year 2020/2021 is **Rs 38,386,452**

### School Premium Scheme

- The purpose of the Scheme is to provide a school premium in relation to a child having passed the National Certificate of Education Examinations, or the School Certificate (SC) examinations or its equivalent General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary, or the Higher School Certificate (HSC) examinations or its equivalent Advanced Level (A Level) as an incentive for them to pursue their studies and achieve higher levels of education.
- Due to change in academic year and postponement of school examinations, no school premium was paid to beneficiaries who had passed the NCE, SC and HSC
- **18** beneficiaries at the tertiary level benefited from the scheme for a total amount of **Rs 720,000**.

### Crèche Scheme

- The purpose of the Scheme is to provide a crèche allowance up to a maximum of Rs 2,000 monthly to registered Day Care Centres, in respect of children of SRM eligible households, as an incentive for their admission into registered institutions and to encourage unemployed mothers to take up employment or to undergo training.
- An amount of **Rs 32,000** was disbursed during Financial Year 2020- 2021 to an average of **2 children**.

### Free Examination Fees Scheme

- The purpose of the Scheme is to provide an opportunity to children of households to have a second attempt, free of charge, at the examinations for the School Certificate (SC) or its equivalent General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary, or Higher School Certificate (HSC) or its equivalent Advanced Level (A Level).
- **197** beneficiaries under the scheme (181 for the examination at the School Certificate (SC) or its equivalent General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary, and 16 beneficiaries at the examination at the Higher School Certificate (HSC) or its equivalent Advanced Level (A Level)) for an amount of **Rs 2, 614,584**

### Child Allowance Scheme

- The purpose of the Scheme is to provide a child allowance in respect of children of households as an incentive to encourage them to attend school regularly.
- **18** beneficiaries at the tertiary level benefited from the scheme for an amount of **Rs 720,000**.
- An average number of **7,116** beneficiaries for the financial year 2020/2021 for an amount of **Rs 54,478,182** disbursed.

### Special Scheme / Start-up Kit for the Unemployed

- The objective of the scheme is to provide short term tailor-made training courses to unemployed SRM beneficiaries in some specific sectors in order to enable them to acquire the required skills to get empowered and to either start a small business or become employable.
- Some **1,122** beneficiaries followed training courses under the scheme.

### Life Enhancement Education Programme (LEEP)

- LEEP, also known as the Life Skills Programme is a curriculum for building skills for work, health and life adapted for the beneficiaries that helps hard-to-reach adults prepare for success in work, health and life. There are 13 modules addressed during the sessions on the following topics: ***Self Esteem, Intra/Interpersonal Skills, Knowing the Family, Sexuality, Communicable and Non Communicable Diseases, Importance of Education and Family Budgeting, Being a Moral and Responsible Citizen, Gender Equality, Home Maintenance, Work and Entrepreneurship Skills, Food Hygiene & Food Wastage, Addiction, Mental Health and Parenting.***
- For the financial year 2020/2021 there are **1,485** beneficiaries who attended the LEEP sessions.

### 10% NHDC Housing Scheme

- The 10% NHDC Housing Scheme is a provision of 10% of all NHDC housing units of up to 60 m<sup>2</sup>, constructed across the island to beneficiaries of the NEF, who are landless and eligible in the SRM, so that they may be provided with a decent housing unit during their empowerment.
- As at 30 June 2021, there are **98 housing units over 12 sites** across Mauritius, ready to be allocated to the landless SRM eligible beneficiaries. **47** units out of the **98** have already been delivered to the beneficiaries and the remaining **51** housing units are ready to be handed over.

### Fully Concrete Housing Scheme

- The Fully Concrete Housing (FCH) Scheme is provided to households who own a plot of land but do not have enough fund to construct a housing unit. The FCH unit is of size up to 50 m<sup>2</sup>, depending on the size of land and in line with specifications laid down in the conditions set out in the Building and Land Use Permit.
- As at June 2021, **191** FCH units have been completed.

Social Contracts received from NEF are sorted and classified according to batches and subsequently in ascending order of their last four (4) digits. A Movement of Social Contracts Book is being used since June 2019 to record all movements of Social contracts from the classified Registry, and the same is also monitored by the Empowerment Scheme Section.

## **Quarterly Report**

A report on the “Empowerment Support for SRM Eligible Households under the Social Contract” is being issued on a quarterly basis since the first quarter of 2019. For the financial year 2020/2021, three reports have been issued. The purpose of the quarterly report is to give an insight on the different empowerment schemes and the trend of the number of beneficiaries that are targeted through the pro-poor policies. It also allows the Ministry to make policy decision.

## **Survey and Studies**

### **The School Premium Survey**

In September 2020, the Technical Unit initiated a simple survey/study on the assessment of the benefits of the School Premium (SP) Scheme on beneficiaries under the MPSC with a view to assessing whether the scheme was meeting its objectives.

A sample of 220 out of the 940 School Premium beneficiaries was selected, and a questionnaire was designed to collect information with households in the field.

The results of the survey showed that 99% of respondents believe that education is a cure for poverty. Concerning the importance of the School Premium Scheme, the respondents mainly agree that the Scheme is helpful in pursuing further education, or increases the probability of getting enrolled in a university/technical institution for tertiary/technical studies, or increase the chance of becoming employable. For nearly all of the respondents, the School Premium Scheme is a pride for them and their family. Most of the respondents find it important to do well in the examinations to obtain the School Premium Scheme, which eventually reduces the pressure of leaving school to go for a work and increases the value of education in the family.

The survey analysed the data by three main groups, that is the level of examinations at which the respondent has received the School Premium Scheme, which are SC, HSC and both.

On a gender-wise basis, there are more male-headed households with 121 compared to 99 female-headed households. Results have revealed the following:

## Findings

**99%** of the respondents believe that education is a cure for poverty;

Among the respondents, **70.4%** confirms that the School Premium at SC is a determining factor in choosing to pursue HSC;

Among the recipients for both SC and HSC, most of them were aware of the scheme after examinations, **with 58.3%** among both SC and HSC, **71.2%** among HSC and **55.8%** among the SC recipients;

**82%** of the respondents were aware of the School Premium Scheme for the first time through the NEF;

Among the respondents who received the School Premium at both SC and HSC, **25%** changed their attitude towards studying;

With the awareness of the School Premium, **19.5%** changed attitude to attend school more regularly;

For the statement that School Premium has been helpful at increasing my interest in education, **52.3%** of the respondents agree and **26.4%** strongly agree;

For the statement that School Premium has been helpful at increasing my parents' involvement in my educational achievement, **47.3%** of the respondents agree and **29.5%** strongly agree;

For the statement that School Premium will be/has been helpful in pursuing higher education, **52.7%** of the respondents strongly agree;

For the statement that the School Premium will be/has been helpful to increase the chances for future employability, **28.6%** of the respondents strongly agree and **55.9%** agree;

Respondents were asked how much post-secondary education they feel they will be able to complete, to which **35.5%** opt for Bachelor's or equivalent and **26.8%** say Master's or equivalent;

Among the respondents being recipients at both SC and HSC, **66.7%** want to attend a university;

For the statement that the family is proud of you for receiving the School Premium, **68.6%** strongly agree and **30.5%** agree.

*Figure 5: Findings of Survey on School Premium*

## Documentation Centre

The Social Integration Division has set up a Documentation Centre under the Technical Unit, which became operational as from November 2020. The documents and magazines available are Business Magazine, The Economist, Jeune Afrique, National Economic and Social Council reports and reports from other departments. Staff of the Division have access to a variety of reports that enables them to continuously upgrade their knowledge.

## Recertification of Households under the Marshall Plan Social Contract (MPSC)

Since the implementation of the Marshall Plan Social Contract in 2016, the first recertification exercise started in July 2020 with the issue of notices to eligible households under the SRM to undergo a new assessment and sign a new social contract by getting registered at the nearest Social Security Office.

Following the registration of all the concerned households, they were assessed and only the households found eligible were called to sign a new social contract. Government agreed for the continued support of Subsistence Allowance to some 4,500 households found no longer eligible under the SRM. The table below provides the data on this exercise.

	Mauritius	Rodrigues	Total
No. of notices issued for recertification from July to December 2020	7,808	2,303	10,111
<b>No. of households recertified eligible</b>	<b>2,867</b>	<b>1,619</b>	<b>4,486</b>
No. of households recertified not eligible	4,941	684	5,625

Table 8: Recertification as at 30 June 2021



## **Psychological Support**

Over and above socio-economic challenges, poverty can also be linked to high level of stress and poor mental health. This is due to the multiple stressors that are related to poverty as well as inter relationship strains which may arise. The beneficiaries under the SRM are unfortunately not exempted of such challenges. In view of addressing such challenges, the Social Integration Division made provision of a psychological support to the SRM beneficiaries. To that effect, field workers from National Empowerment Foundation (NEF) identify and refer the cases of beneficiaries requiring psychological support to the Ministry.

The psychologist of the Ministry attends the referred cases on a timely basis, where home visits are conducted to the referred families. Psychological intervention and counselling are conducted to help the beneficiaries having different mental challenges. Subsequent reports are then submitted to the NEF for appropriate follow-ups and actions.

The outcomes of the counselling often lead towards, inter alia, stress and anxiety management, bridging communication gap, bettering self-esteem, career counselling and addressing depressive thoughts.

For the financial year 2020/2021, some 129 beneficiaries have benefitted from psychological support.

## Mental Health Sessions

Mental Health is one of the module under the Life Enhancement Education Programme (LEEP). For the financial year 2020/2021, the LEEP sessions were conducted for **1,485 beneficiaries** in the following regions:

District	Region
Black River	La Gaulette, Case Noyale
Flacq	Trou D'Eau Douce, Bel Air
Grand Port	St Hubert, Bambous Virieux Beau Vallon
Moka	Petit Verger, Ripailles
Pamplemousses	Bois Marchand, Notre Dame
Plaines Wilhems	Plaisance, Trèfles, Henrietta
Port Louis	Vallée des Prêtres
Rivière du Rempart	Grand Gaube, Rivière du Rempart
Savanne	Surinam, Bois Chéri, Chemin Grenier

Table 9: LEEP conducted across Mauritius

## Setting up of Integrated Management Information System (IMIS)

In line with the recommendations stipulated in the Marshall Plan against Poverty and to strategically deal with the root cause of poverty, the National Empowerment Foundation (NEF) is in the process of setting up an Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) with the latest state of the art technology to better implement, monitor & evaluate NEF/ other stakeholder's activities and interventions.

A consultancy firm has been appointed for providing Project Management and Quality review support to NEF over the implementation period of the project. As part of the overall project management support, the Consultant firm shall be involved both in Plan & Design Phase and the Build, Test & Deployment Phase.

As at June 2021, the progress is as follows:

IMIS Modules	Status
<b>Registry</b>	Development and training completed.
<b>Case Management</b>	75% development completed and training not yet started.
<b>Project Management</b>	90% development completed and training not yet started.
<b>Finance, Procurement and Inventory</b>	Accounting package has been installed on test instance. System Configuration has been carried out. Training has started
<b>HR Payroll</b>	Software has been installed on test instance. System configuration has been carried out.

Table 10: Status of Implementation of IMIS at NEF

## **Implementation of an SMS Mobile System**

In line with the recommendations stipulated in the Marshall Plan against Poverty, the Social Integration Division, in collaboration with the NEF, has already set up an SMS Mobile System and a Citizens Reporting Mechanism and data analysis tool to make effective use of the existing mobile technology to reach the most excluded households. The development of the system has also allowed the Social Integration Division/NEF to assess impact of public service delivery to the poor.

The SMS Mobile system is already live and operational.

## **Citizens Reporting Mechanism**

The Citizen Support Portal (CSP), an online platform under the aegis of the Citizen Support Unit (CSU), has made its mark in the transformation of the public sector by reviewing the role of Ministries/Departments, in relieving the difficulties encountered by citizens in their daily lives in a faster and more efficient way to enhance the performance and service delivery of the public sector.

To further boost the participatory process in public service delivery, the CSU introduced the CSU Mobile App, in collaboration with Mauritius Telecom, which was launched on 17 August 2021 by the Hon. Prime Minister. The aim behind this new mobile app is to reach out different segments of the population more easily and faster as it is more convenient with simple features, which enhances connectivity for citizen engagement. Another forthcoming innovation includes the 'Chatbot Project', which is an Intelligent Virtual Assistant, which would be a state-of-the-art solution to respond to citizens' queries, and is expected to play a pivotal role in providing information on what public entities are doing and how to reach out to those information and facilities.

The most recent 'Monitoring and Evaluation Report' (M &E) on the CSP, showed that the Ministry of Social Security, Social Integration and National Solidarity has a percentage of 99.57% resolved issues/tickets.

## Budget Measure on Free Internet

Paragraph 52 of the Budget Speech 2019-2020 made provision for free access to Broadband Internet to families on the Social Register of Mauritius (SRM).

In this respect, the Ministry had issued notices for families in Mauritius so as they may call at the nearest Mauritius Telecom office to apply for the broadband internet. The notices of the broadband internet were handed personally to the SRM families by the National Empowerment Foundation.

The exercise for the distribution of notices to beneficiaries started on 22 August 2019 and ended on 23 September 2019.

As at 30 June 2021, **1393** SRM families have been connected to broadband internet.

## Status on Implementation of Budget Measures

Sn	Budget paragraph	Budget measures	Status
1.	<b>307</b>	Setting up of a National Database for Vulnerable Groups to cover both absolute and relative poverty cases	<p>Approval of Government was sought and obtained on 09 April 2021 for households earning a total income ranging from Rs10,501 – Rs 14,000.</p> <p>Request has been made for consideration to be given for this budgetary proposal to be effective as from 01 July 2021</p>
2.	<b>308</b>	Provision of some 2,570 tablets to students of Grades IO to 13 for families in the existing SRM	As at 30 June 2021, some 533 tablets have been distributed.
3.	<b>309</b>	Extension of free broadband internet facilities to additional 5,000 families under the existing SRM including 2,000 families in Rodrigues	<p>Some 5460 families were already connected in Mauritius as at December 2020 and the exercise is ongoing for additional families.</p> <p>Note: As at June 2021, some 831 families have been connected in Mauritius</p>
4.	<b>310</b>	<p>The National Social Inclusion Foundation will assist some 350 NGOs and service providers on:</p> <p>(a) Empowering students and families in deprived areas through the Fortified Learning Environment Unit.</p> <p>(b) Enhancing crèche activities.</p> <p>(c) Promoting social innovation and entrepreneurship.</p> <p>(d) Building sustainable communities.</p> <p>(e) Facilitating small scale initiatives by NGOs.</p>	<p>The implementation of a Fortified Learning Environment in Secondary Schools is operational since 01 September 2020.</p> <p>} Ongoing process</p>

Table 11: Status of Implementation of Budget Measures

## Status on Implementation of Key Actions

Key Action	Key Performance Indicator	Target 2020/2021	Achievement as at 30 June 2021	Remarks
<b>Empowerment of Beneficiaries</b>	Number of eligible families successfully moved out of SRM	500	401	Recertification to reassess the eligibility of existing SRM households was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
<b>Improve performance of students under SRM</b>	Percentage of SRM students successfully completing formal secondary education	350	267	-
<b>Support to NGOs by the National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF)</b>	Number of NGOs supported	350	268	-

Table 12: Status of Implementation of Key Actions

## **Risk Management, Citizen Oriented Initiatives & Good Governance**

### **Risk Management Measures**

Many Risk Management measures are already inbuilt within the existing operational systems of the Division to mitigate risks.

A few examples are:

- The Social Integration Management Information System (SIMIS) - The operations for the Social Register of Mauritius (SRM) are performed through a sophisticated platform in which many control systems are embedded. The processing of SRM forms and Social Contracts at the Division is protected by automatic safeguards against risks and errors;
- Implementation of child allowance module;
- The Treasury Accounting System (TAS) is a Management Information System implemented by the Treasury Department, which already possesses state of the art control mechanisms for the Finance Department; and
- Segregation of duties - This measure decreases the risks of fraud, data manipulation, and the possibility of human errors. For example, during the processing of paysheets for the payment of the various Empowerment Schemes at the level of the Division, there is one unit in charge of processing the paysheets, one for verification, and one for dealing with the certification of paysheets;

The Ministry has also put in place different mechanisms to manage risks and ensure proper and timely implementation of projects for the benefit of the vulnerable groups which are as follows:

- A Monitoring Committee has been set up at the level of the Ministry with a view to controlling and monitoring payments effected by the Empowerment Scheme



Section in order to avoid shortcoming/discrepancies in the payment of allowances to eligible households under the SRM;

- A Project Implementation and Monitoring Committee has also been set up under the chair of the Permanent Secretary at the level of the Ministry and meets on a monthly basis to ensure a more effective and optimized monitoring of Social Housing Projects. The Committee has met on four (4) occasions.

In addition, a Principal Internal Control Officer is posted to the Ministry who comes up with an Annual Audit Plan in order to assist the Ministry in mitigating risk areas and proposing corrective measures.

## **Good Governance**

The Social Integration Division complies with the principles of Good Governance and ensures transparency and accountability in its decision-making process. Some examples of measures pertaining to good governance at the level of the Division included the setting up of various committees at the level of the Division to ensure compliance with good governance frameworks. Some examples include the setting of: the Anti-Corruption Committee, the Occupational Safety and Health Committee, the Online Citizen Portal Committee, the Audit Committee, the Public Sector Business Transformation Implementation Committee, and the Training Committee, amongst various others, which are conducted on a regular basis.

## **Anti-Corruption Committee**

The Anti-Corruption Committee of the Ministry has met on 4 occasions during financial year 2020-2021.

Following Circular Letter No 42 of 2020, dated 09 July 2020, emanating from the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms, two (2) Corruption Risk Assessments namely “Payment of Subsistence Allowance” and “Payment of Child Allowance” have been identified for Financial Year 2020-2021. Implementation of the

recommendations are being closely monitored with the collaboration of the representative of the Independent Commission against Corruption. Furthermore, members of the Anti-Corruption Committee have benefitted from a training programme that was organised by the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional reforms on 20 October 2020.

## **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee at the Ministry is chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary and has as members, an Assistant Permanent Secretary and the Coordinator and the duties of Secretary is performed by an Office Management Assistant. During Financial Year 2020-2021, the Audit Committee of this Ministry had six (6) meetings.

The objectives of the Audit Committee are, inter alia, to:

- a) assist the Accounting Officer in maintaining sound control systems and in promoting good governance;
- b) oversee compliance with financial, administrative and procurement regulations;
- c) ensure that the criticisms and weaknesses levelled against the Ministry/ Department by the Director of Audit, the Public Accounts Committee and the Internal Control Unit are reduced progressively; and
- d) assess the risk management system in place in Ministries/Departments and identify procedures that would avoid or mitigate the impact of those risks.

## **Occupational Safety and Health Committee**

The Occupational Safety and Health Committee was set up as per Section 21 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 2005, under the Chair of the Deputy Permanent Secretary, and consists of representatives of the employee's side and employer's side.

The mandate of the Committee is to ensure an environment free of hazards as far as is reasonably practicable and to promote co-operation between the employer and the employees in achieving and maintaining safe and healthy working conditions and enhancing the work environment. A Safety and Health Policy was also drafted and endorsed by Management in accordance with section 6 of the Occupational Safety and

Health Act 2005. During Financial Year 2020-2021, three (3) meetings of the Occupational Safety and Health Committee were held and one (1) steering committee on the Occupational Safety and Health Management System was conducted. Furthermore, sanitary conditions prevailing in the country due to the Covid-19 pandemic are also discussed during the meeting and appropriate recommendations are made for the safety of officers operating at the Ministry.

## **Training Committee**

In line with Circular Letter 38 of 2015, emanating from the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms, this Ministry set up its Training Committee with a view to identifying performance gaps and training needs of the staff. Full optimization of funds allocated to the training budget could not be made due to the Covid-19 pandemic which impacted on sanitary restrictions on the number of people who could assemble at a single place at the same time. Nevertheless, it is worthwhile to mention that 74% of the budget allocated for the purpose of training was spent.

## **Public Sector Business Transformation Implementation Committee**

In light of Circular Letter No. 90 of 2017, emanating from the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms, this Ministry has accordingly set up its Transformation Implementation Committee with a view to overseeing, monitoring and evaluating Business Transformation Initiatives and Key Performance Indicators.

### **Key Performance Indicators**

During Financial Year 2020-2021, the following **Key Performance Indicators** were implemented:

**(i) E-procurement system:**

100% implementation

**(ii) Training budget:**

74% of training budget allocated was utilized

- (iii) **Identification of two Corruption Risk Assessments**, namely “Payment of Subsistence Allowance” and “Payment of Child Allowance” were identified and implementation of the recommendations in order to address weaknesses is being ensured by respective schedule officers.

### **Business Transformative Initiatives**

Furthermore, two (2) Business Transformative Initiatives identified during Financial Year 2020-2021 which are being closely followed up are as follows:

- (i) Development of an SRM 'Poverty Map' for eligible households; and
- (ii) Setting up of Integrated Management Information System for the National Empowerment Foundation.

### **COVID-19 Dedicated Response Team**

In line with guidelines provided by the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms, a COVID-19 Dedicated Response Team was set up under the Chair of the Deputy Permanent Secretary, with a view to better respond to any health risks that may arise in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Among

### **Work From Home Scheme**

In line with the directives from the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms, officers from the Division were invited to consider the ‘Work from Home Scheme’ in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure there is no disruption in the delivery of service and monitoring of key performance indicators of the Division. All officers who chose to opt for the ‘Work from Home’ (WFH) were provided with a copy of the WFH Protocol and were requested to strictly adhere to the guidelines provided to ensure the safety of other coworkers at the office upon their resumption.

## Implementation Plan Director of Audit Comments

Issues raised by the Director of Audit	Status of Action taken/Implementation Date
<b>Disbursement of Capital Grants</b>	The Ministry has initiated appropriate action and the National Empowerment Foundation has been informed that disbursement of funds for project will be made only upon submission of firm contractual commitments to the Ministry.
<b>Proper monitoring of Social Housing projects.</b>	A Project Implementation and Monitoring Committee has been set up at the level of the Ministry and meets on a monthly basis to ensure a more effective and optimized monitoring of Social Housing Projects.
<b>Award of Contracts for FCH and Purchase of NHDC Housing Units</b>	<p>28 housing units were purchased in April 2021 for the sum of Rs 18.9 M. Remedial works have been effected by the NHDC on the 28 housing units and site visits by the NEF were scheduled on 12 and 13 October 2021 to assess if remedial works carried out were satisfactory.</p> <p>The handing over of the units to the NEF is expected to be completed by end of October 2021. Subsequently NEF will draw up a list of eligible beneficiaries who meet the criteria for obtention of housing unit and thereafter carry out a drawing of lots for allocation of the Housing Units.</p>
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation Framework</b>	<p>The Consultant recruited by the Ministry had, during the period 29 July to 28 August 2020, provided training to officers of the Ministry and the National Empowerment Foundation on monitoring of compliance of conditions enumerated in the Marshall Plan Social Contract.</p> <p>The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework has been completed.</p>
<b>Weaknesses in Processing Monthly Subsistence Allowance and Discrepancies noted with respect to Child/Adult cut-off age</b>	Since October 2020, the Social Integration Management Information System at the level of the Social Integration Division has been enhanced so that at the time of pulling new applications from the SRM, there is an auto-verification exercise on the poverty threshold and quantum of Subsistence Allowance to be drawn.
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation – Re-certification of eligible beneficiaries on the SRM</b>	The recertification exercise has been completed in December 2020.

Table 13: Status of Implementation of Recommendations of the Director of Audit

## PART III- FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

### Financial Highlights

The total budget of the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity (Social Integration Division) for Fiscal year 2020-2021 stands at Rs 690,000,000 compared to the Budget 2019-2020, which was Rs 761,000,000. The Budget 2020-2021 is divided into two segments as follows:

#### Sub-Head 10-101: General

✚ Recurrent Expenditure: Rs 48,700,000



#### Sub-Head 10-102: Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment

✚ Recurrent Expenditure: Rs 586,300,000

✚ Capital Expenditure: Rs 55,000,000

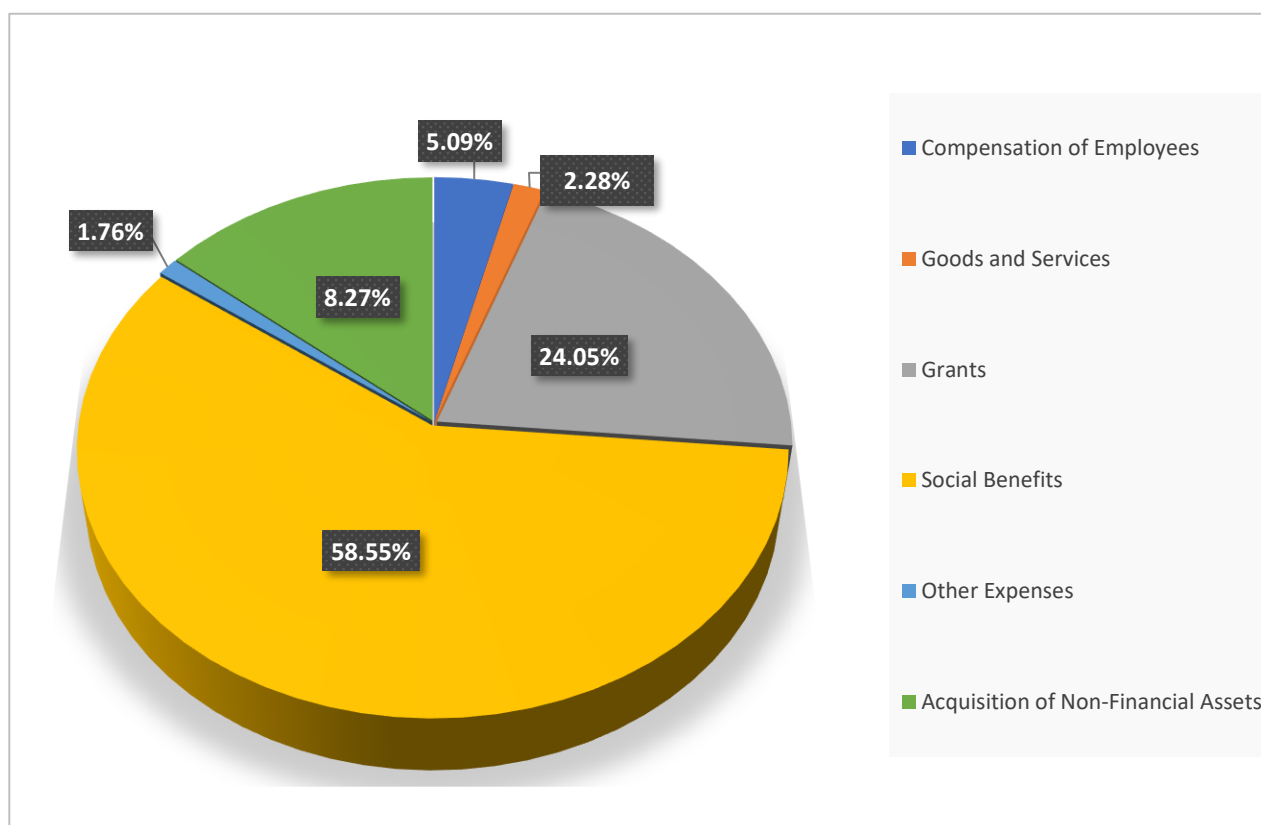


Figure 6: expenditure incurred by the Social Integration Division under Vote 10-1

## Analysis of Major Changes

### Expenditure

The budgeted amount for social benefits for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was Rs 428,500,000.

## Statements of Revenue & Expenditure

### Statement of Expenditure

Table below provides a summary of total expenditure incurred by MSISSNS under Vote 10-1, which includes Sub-heads 10-101: General and 10-102: Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment.

Head/Sub Head of Expenditure	2020-2021 Estimates (Rs)	2020-2021 Actual (Rs)
<b>10-1 MINISTRY OF SOCIAL INTEGRATION, SOCIAL SECURITY AND NATIONAL SOLIDARITY (SOCIAL INTEGRATION DIVISION)</b>		
<b>10-101: GENERAL</b>	<b>48,700,000</b>	<b>42,031,355</b>
Compensation of Employees	33,005,000	29,009,603
Goods and Services	15,695,000	13,021,752
<b>10-102: POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPOWERMENT</b>	<b>641,300,000</b>	<b>528,378,066</b>
Grants	144,700,000	137,186,150
Social Benefits	428,500,000	333,969,803
Other Expenses	13,100,000	10,022,113
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	55,000,000	47,200,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE for Vote 10-1</b>	<b>690,000,000</b>	<b>570,409,421</b>

Table 14: Statement of Expenditure under Vote 10-1

## PART IV – WAY FORWARD

### Trends and Challenges

The SWOT analysis of this division was based on external and internal factors such as:

- 1) Political;
- 2) Social;
- 3) Economic;
- 4) Environmental;
- 5) Institutional drivers; i.e. governance, structures, strategy, etc.; and
- 6) Institutional performance, that is, public service provision (efficiency and effectiveness).

According to the analysis conducted, a list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats are summarized in the chart below:

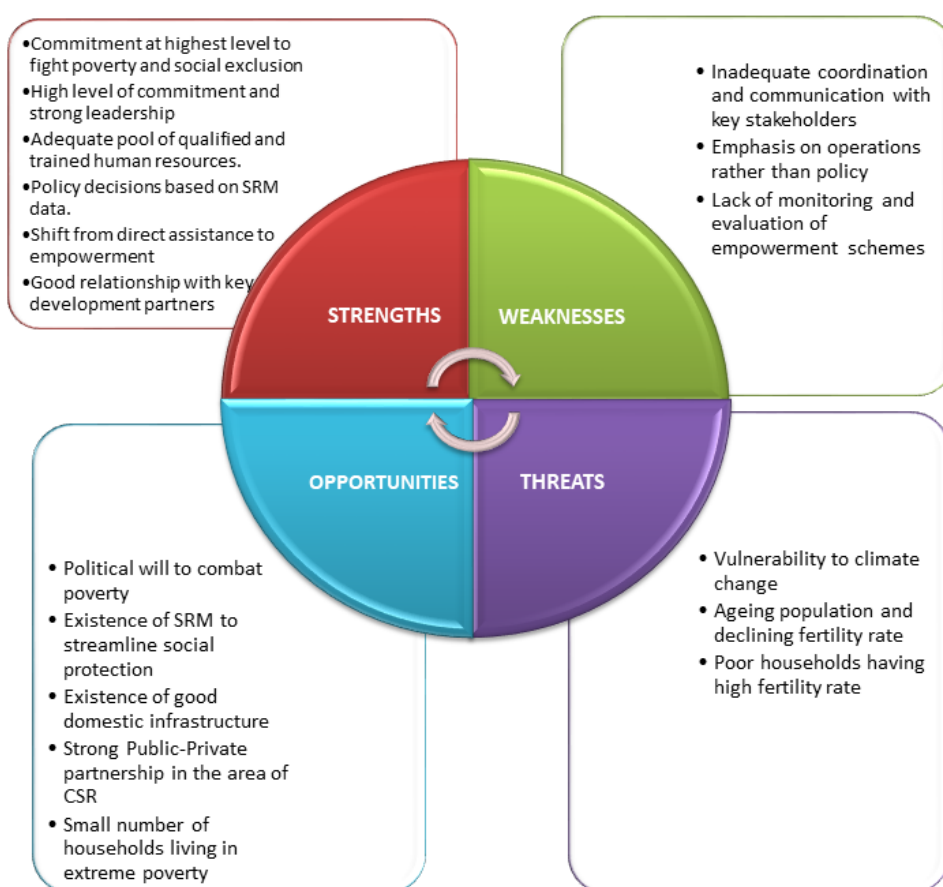


Figure 7: SWOT Analysis



## Challenges

The key challenges that the Social Integration Division faced during the period 2020-2021 were as follows:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has hardly impacted on economy causing economic and social disruptions. It presents an unprecedented challenge to public health, food systems. The Division and the two organisations under its purview had to, ensure business continuity during the lockdown, so as to avoid disruption of services and empowerment supports that are provided to those registered under the Social Register of Mauritius;
- The National Social Inclusion Foundation worked closely with the Ministry for the vaccination of homeless persons in Residential Shelters to ensure they are protected against the virus and as at June 2021, 28 homeless persons were fully vaccinated;
- Payment of Examination Fees in view of the change in the academic calendar represented a core challenge to the Division;
- Setting up appropriate coordination mechanisms with the stakeholders concerned for better monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Marshall Plan; and
- Ensuring that adequate monitoring and evaluation of our empowerment programmes are effected to meet the set objectives.

## Strategic Direction

- Empowerment of vulnerable families and promoting social inclusion through education, capacity building, employability, decent housing, enhancement of their living environment and improvement of their livelihood.
- Adopt and implement holistic, coherent, participatory and time-bound strategies in the fight against poverty through community-based approach and with the engagement of all key stakeholders.
- Promote sustainable human development and improve the life chances of children of poor families by providing support programmes and widening the circle of opportunities for learning and development.
- Harmonize and streamline the various assistance schemes for social protection.
- Promote a culture of monitoring and evaluation by setting up an integrated Management Information System for informed policy decisions and using mobile technology for better outreach to poor people and setting up of a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit in the Ministry.
- Enhance collaboration with NGOs and other stakeholders by establishing a coordinated approach through Community Working Groups.
- Bridging the gap (Digital device and technological innovation).
- Capacity Building to align our human resources with our strategic objectives.