MAURITIUS

A SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT
MAURITIUS: YOUR STRATEGIC PARTNER IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

- Connectivity with leading cities & capitals
- An international financial centre
- A vibrant & trusted business platform
- A well-regulated jurisdiction
- Export market: preferential market access to more than 26% of the world’s population

MAURITIUS
YOUR STRATEGIC PARTNER IN THE INDIAN OCEAN
Recognized among the first six countries which are recommended to people wishing to relocate.

One of the leading States in the African region for ease of doing business and good governance.

RANKINGS OF MAURITIUS ON INTERNATIONAL INDICES

- World Bank Doing Business Survey 2017
- 2017 Index of Economic Freedom (Heritage Foundation)
- Economic Freedom of the World 2016 (Fraser Institute)
- Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance 2016
- Social Progress Report 2016
- Global Information Technology Report 2016
- Global Innovation Index 2016

THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT ACROSS THE WORLD *

* BOI offices in France, India and South Africa are already operational. Other offices will be launched shortly.
MAURITIUS COMBINES WORK, LIVE & PLAY
AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

MAURITIUS IS ON ITS WAY TO ACHIEVING THE HIGH-INCOME COUNTRY STATUS

Since its independence in 1968, Mauritius has experienced a sustainable transformation, moving from a mono-crop agricultural base to a well-diversified economy. Today Mauritius is acknowledged as an innovation-driven economy.

Its development model rests on key fundamentals, including economic democratization, inclusive growth, the development of human capital and social mobility.
**MAURITIUS AT A GLANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>approx. 1.3 million people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Mass</td>
<td>2,040 km²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusive Economic Zone</td>
<td>2.3 million km²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Literacy Rate</td>
<td>89.8% (2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real GDP Growth Rate</td>
<td>3.6% (est. 2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Phone Penetration Ratio</td>
<td>140.1% (est. Jun 2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP Per Capita</td>
<td>USD 9,600 (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widely Spoken Languages</td>
<td>French, Creole and Asian languages</td>
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NEW ECONOMIC PILLARS

The Government’s strategy emphasizes the development of new economic pillars. New sectors with high growth potential comprise:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Development of Smart Cities</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Bunkering and transshipment</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Lifesciences</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>High-precision engineering</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Digital Economy</td>
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</tbody>
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These sectors will reinforce the country’s economic architecture by drawing significant FDI inflows, not to mention their potential for job creation.

**BUSINESS FACILITATION**
The objective is to create an economy where Mauritius will be a regional reference in entrepreneurship, aviation and tourism, shipping and logistics, technology and innovation, to name but a few.

**A SEAMLESS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS**
The updating and streamlining of administrative processes to facilitate the implementation of projects.
WHY MAURITIUS?

1. INFRASTRUCTURE & CONNECTIVITY
   - A reliable and expanding logistics platform with modern infrastructure
   - A well-maintained road network
   - An efficient port with deep-water quays
   - An international airport with a modern terminal, and an airport city catering for high-value cargo
   - Connectivity: Mauritius is connected with the global business by submarine fibre optic cables: SAFE and LION.

2. FISCAL INCENTIVES
   - Income tax, corporate tax and VAT at a harmonized rate of 15%
   - Tax-free dividends
   - No capital gains tax
   - Foreign tax credit of 80%
   - Duty-free & VAT-free facilities for goods and equipment imported in Freeport zones
   - Tax holiday over 8 years under the SMART CITIES SCHEME
   - Tax holiday over 8 years for Bio farming projects
   - A ten-year exemption from income tax on all income, inclusive of income from external sources, under the MAURITIAN DIASPORA SCHEME.

3. BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT
   - Rule of law and political stability
   - Security of assets
   - No minimum capital requirement for the incorporation of a company
   - 100% foreign ownership
   - No exchange control
   - Incorporation of a company in 2 hours
   - Seamless and transparent process for the issuance of permits and authorizations

4. OTHER ADVANTAGES
   - Time zone allowing round-the-clock global transactions
   - Bilingual (English & French) pool of professionals in all fields of business
   - Qualified & multi-skilled workforce
   - Trusted International Financial Centre
   - Well-regulated and transparent jurisdiction
   - Banking services: full range of services from international service-providers
   - OECD white-listed international business platform

A COUNTRY WHERE THE RIGHT CONDITIONS ARE IN PLACE FOR THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS, FOR INVESTING, WORKING AND A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE
A TRUSTED PARTNERSHIP WITH AFRICA

THE NEW AFRICA STRATEGY TO PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT ON THE CONTINENT

Mauritius has fostered close ties with several countries across the continent in the area of trade and investment. Mauritius also remains an important regional player through its membership in regional trading blocs and associations including the SADC, COMESA, the Indian Ocean Commission and Indian Ocean Rim Association.

A number of regional institutions that promote regional integration such as the Regional Multi-disciplinary Centre of Excellence (RMCE), AFRITAC, the IMF Africa Training Institute and the COMESA Fund are based in Mauritius.

The New Africa strategy consists of:

- A dedicated centre - the Africa Centre of Excellence - that showcases and facilitates investment in Africa through business intelligence and networking
- The Mauritius Africa Fund with Government seed capital of MUR 500 million as equity financing for viable projects in any African country
- A Freight Rebate Scheme
- A subsidized Export Credit Guarantee Insurance Scheme
- Enhanced Government to Government collaborations in the setting-up of Special Economic Zones in several African countries.

With its well-regulated and trusted International Financial Services Centre, and its broad network of agreements with a number of States across mainland Africa, Mauritius equally offers a good investment and services delivery platform.

TRADE WITH AFRICA

- Companies involved in manufacturing can launch their activities in the Freeport and benefit from the applicable tax regime (Tax exemption from both corporate tax and VAT) for their export to African countries.
- A 25% refund of the cost of freight per container exported to specific countries in Africa up to USD 300 per 20-Foot container.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- The administrative headquarters for multinationals
- As a financial center and an investment platform, the country offers many advantages for multinational and transnational companies wishing to set up their headquarters for the conduct of their operations in Africa. A multinational will be eligible if three of the following criteria are met:
  - Administration and general management
  - Planning, development and coordination of business
  - Economic research and investment and related analysis
  - Services relating to international headquarters
  - Other administrative business of the HQS in accordance with the Financial Services Commission Regulations (FSC).

- Cross-border investment

  Through its network of bilateral agreements with many countries, Mauritius remains an ideal choice for its competitiveness and risk mitigation relating to investment both in Africa and outside Africa.

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

- 48 agreements (21 with African countries) pertaining to double taxation avoidance (DTAAs)
- 44 agreements (23 with African countries) relating to the promotion and protection of investment (IPPAs)
- 40 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), 30 MoUs with Africa.

RAISING CAPITAL AND STOCK EXCHANGE LISTING FOR PROJECTS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN AFRICA

Mauritius is one of the largest and most innovative centers for the stock exchange listing and fundraising in Africa.

There are currently two stock exchanges authorized by the Financial Services Commission (FSC), namely the Stock Exchange of Mauritius Ltd (SEM) and the Bourse Africa Ltd (BAL).

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES IN THE AFRICAN REGION

In the 2015-2016 National Budget, the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) was announced as a component of new economic partnerships to open up greater investment opportunities.

The National Budget 2016/17 gave a further thrust to this initiative with the Government of the Republic of Mauritius engaging at a G2G level with the Government of Senegal.

THE DAKAR INTEGRATED SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

The Dakar Integrated Special Economic Zone (DISEZ) is one of the major projects in the ‘Plan Sénégal Emergent’ (PSE). The DISEZ is considered one of the key levers of the Accelerated Growth Strategy. DISEZ represents an opportunity for growth in manufacturing and services.

ICT, financial services, logistics, training and health.

Further developments in Ghana and Madagascar are anticipated in the near future.

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THE LEGAL SYSTEM: COMBATING MONEY LAUNDERING AND FINANCING OF TERRORISM

Mauritius is internationally trusted for its versatile mix of common and civil law.

The highest appellate court is the British Privy Council.

The proactivity of Mauritius to prevent any kind of illicit transaction was demonstrated in 2002 by the enactment of one of the world’s most stringent Anti-Money Laundering laws, as viewed by leading international bankers. Mauritius also complies with new international requirements with a view to combating the financing of terrorism.

MAURITIUS INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE (MIAC)

To serve the interests of the regional business community, Mauritius enacted the International Arbitration Act 2008 based on the UNCITRAL Model Law. It has also ratified the New York Convention.

MAIN STAY OF MAURITIUS

POLITICAL STABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND THE RULE OF LAW CONSTITUTE THE MAIN STAY OF THE COUNTRY.
PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY INSPIRED BY THE WESTMINSTERIAN MODEL WITH FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS HELD EVERY 5 YEARS IS AMONG ITS CARDINAL STRENGTHS.
EIGHT MEGA PROJECTS AND FIVE TECHNOPARKS WILL BE BUILT ACROSS THE ISLAND TO BOOST ECONOMIC GROWTH. TOTAL INVESTMENT IS ESTIMATED AT 4 BILLION DOLLARS. FINANCING WILL INCLUDE PRIVATE AND FOREIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AS WELL AS PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.

THE SMART CITY SCHEME (SCS) AIMS AT TRANSFORMING MAURITIUS INTO A ‘SMART ISLAND’ WHICH WILL COMPRISE EIGHT SMART CITIES WHICH WILL BE GREEN, SELF-SUSTAINED, MODERN, URBAN AGGLOMERATIONS BUILT AROUND THE THREE-FOLD WORK-LIVE-PLAY CONCEPT.

1. DEVELOPMENT OF SMART CITIES
Opportunities for the development of smart cities are numerous. A project under the Smart City Scheme (SCS) may be developed by both free-hold and lease-hold land-owners.

Fiscal incentives comprise the exemption from taxes and registration duties granted to:

- land-owners
- promoters
- developers

Given the sustainable nature of the scheme, other incentives are proposed, for example an accelerated depreciation on capital expenditure incurred on green infrastructure development projects, namely

- Renewable energy projects
- Recycling plants
- Desalination plants
- Energy-efficient plants
- Water-efficient systems, including rain-harvesting systems.

2. INNOVATION AND RESEARCH
Smart cities provide for a conducive high-tech business environment for companies engaged in innovation, research and development activities.

Research institutions and companies involved in pharmaceuticals and ICT sector, amongst others, will be able to domicile in Mauritius.

Incentives
- Deduction of capital expenditure incurred on scientific research.
- Eight-year tax holiday granted to universities, research and development institutions.

3. LIGHT MANUFACTURING
Smart cities also cater for light-manufacturing and high-precision manufacturing industries. Opportunities exist in the fields of manufacture of aircraft critical and non-critical components, intelligent sensors, medical devices, imaging instruments and technical textiles.

Incentives
- Deduction of capital expenditure incurred over two years are provided on the following:
  - Electronic and high-precision machinery, including computer hardware and software and
  - Plant and machinery acquired by a manufacturing company.
The agro-industrial landscape in Mauritius has evolved from sugar cane cultivation to a more diversified array of activities. There is a strong focus on the development of new niches and activities within the industry, including the setting up of horizontally integrated farms.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

a. Agricultural biotechnology

Mauritius is positioning itself as an exporter of agricultural inputs (both in animal and crop-based segments) in the region. The objective is to attract many companies in agricultural biotechnology.

b. Agro-processing

With the rising growth in the global food industry, several opportunities exist in the food processing sector. The transformation of agricultural produce and of livestock into products for intermediate use or for final consumption constitutes one of the options which can be considered by entrepreneurs.

c. Technology-based agriculture

To contribute towards food security and to further increase yield and productivity, the Government has embarked on a technology-based agriculture strategy and is inviting companies to further invest in this activity.

d. Bio-farming

To meet Government’s vision of a green economy and ensure food safety sustainably, farmers are encouraged to eliminate the use of synthetic agro chemicals and shift to environmentally friendly production methods. A Bio-farming Promotion Scheme has been introduced to encourage the development of bio-farming activities on a commercial scale.

THE AGRO INDUSTRY AT A GLANCE

GDP contribution: 3.5% (2016)
Total employment: 43,500 (2016)

The main segments of activities comprise the sugar sector, and non-sugar sector, namely production of crops, cattle, dairy farming, food processing, tea production, livestock production and processing.
Mauritius has a maritime zone of 2.3 million square kilometers, comprising its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 1.96 million square kilometers, plus 396,000 square kilometers on the continental shelf which are co-managed with the Republic of Seychelles. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is in receipt of submissions for an Extension of the Continental Shelf zone by 303,000 square kilometers in respect to Rodrigues and the Chagos Archipelago.

Within such a huge EEZ, the ocean sector is being developed so as to become another important pillar of the national economy. Areas high on the government agenda for the accelerated growth of the ocean economy include Fishing, Seafood Processing and Aquaculture, Seaport-related activities, Deep Ocean Water Applications (DOWA), Seabed Exploration for Hydrocarbons and Minerals, Marine services, Marine Renewable Energies and Ocean Knowledge.

A KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

Endowed with all facilities and amenities required for the development of a knowledge hub, Mauritius is today a significant provider of quality education.

- Primary and Secondary levels: educational institutions have an enrolment capacity of over 228,000 learners at primary and secondary levels, including the Cambridge University ‘D’ and ‘A’ levels and the International Baccalaureate programme.
- The tertiary and « Executive » levels boast prestigious institutions which offer a whole range of courses at competitive rates.

Knowledge sector at a glance

- GDP contribution: 4.8% (2016)
- No. of players: 2,000
- Total employment: Approx. 26,500 (2015)
MANUFACTURING

After a humble beginning centered on textiles, Mauritius has, over the years, strengthened and diversified its manufacturing capabilities.

Apart from benefiting from favorable export regimes granted within the COMESA and SADC blocs, products manufactured in Mauritius also benefit from a Freight Rebate Scheme for exports to qualified ports in Africa.

ATTRACTIVENESS OF MAURITIUS AS A MANUFACTURING BASE: INCENTIVES OFFERED
Mauritius offers a number of benefits to international manufacturing companies to set up production units. These include:

- Exemption of import duty on equipment and raw material
- Exemption of duty on exports
- VAT on raw materials is payable at the time of customs clearance but reimbursable at the time of export
- Eligibility to the Freight Rebate Scheme with an allowance of USD 300 per 20-foot container exported to major African ports in the region
- Investment Tax Credit Scheme for investment in high-tech equipment in targeted sectors
- Accelerated depreciation on machinery, equipment and construction of industrial premises dedicated to manufacturing activities
- Manufacturing in the Freeport Scheme: The Freeport legislation provides a package of fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to Freeport companies undertaking manufacturing activities to supply mainly the African market. The fiscal incentives include:
  - Exemption of customs duty and VAT on goods and equipment imported into Freeport zones
  - Exemption from corporate tax

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
a. Medical Devices
Mauritius is the seat of the manufacturing units of the main European companies in the area of medical devices. There is room for other companies which want to engage in the manufacturing of medical supplies, including surgical and non-surgical equipment.

b. High-End Jewellery, Watch-making and Diamond Sector
These niche segments represent an average annual export value of around USD 150 million. Activities and opportunities in the segments include the processing of pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, watch-making activities and diamond processing.

c. Precision Engineering
Companies present in Mauritius are already operating in the area of producing and assembling small components for electronics, measuring equipments and instrumentation. Investment opportunities include the integration of existing value chains or manufacturing of high-accuracy components and systems, ultra-precision machining as well as tooling.

d. Technical Textiles
Opportunities in the technical textile sector remain unexplored in Mauritius. Investors may avail themselves of opportunities in the production of technical textiles for the aerospacial, medical, construction, military, agricultural or automotive industries.

e. Food Processing
The food processing industry is represented across several segments, including the processing of products like fish, meat, milk, crops, rum and bottled water. Opportunities to further develop this segment include the graduation towards niche foods such as confectionery and high-end refined spirits.

MANUFACTURING SECTOR AT A GLANCE
- GDP contribution: 13.9% (2016)
- Number of players (large companies): 280 EDEs (Sept. 2016) & 300 DOEs (2016)
- Total number of jobs: 111,700
OUTSOURCING OF COMPUTER SERVICES
- Computer Engineering Services
- Infrastructure management services
- Integration and software development
- Outsourcing process
- Accounting
- Human Resource Management
- Administrative Activities
- Specific activities: Banking, Insurance, Logistics, Telecommunications

CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT
- Technical assistance
- Customer loyalty
- Multilingual CRM

ICT-BPO SECTOR AT A GLANCE
- GDP contribution: 5.5% (2016)
- Number of companies: 750
- Employment: 23,000 (2016)

A HI-TECH MEDICAL HUB

The Mauritius Healthcare Sector has been transformed into an integrated model underpinned by modern medical facilities, high-value activities and highly qualified personnel. The sector is now shifting gears towards the export of its services and is positioning itself as a medical tourism platform for Africa.

In 2015, more than 16,000 foreign patients travelled to Mauritius for both inpatient and outpatient procedures. Currently, the Indian Ocean islands remain the main market followed by Europe, Eastern and Southern Africa and the Middle East.

DRIVING INNOVATION
While global companies are consolidating their presence in the offshore sector and diversifying their activities beyond their existing business seat, tremendous opportunities will open up, thereby making the island a high-end destination for ICT-BPO services.

Activities with promising potential in the field of information communication technology are:

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- Number of companies: 750
- Employment: 23,000 (2016)

CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT
- Technical assistance
- Customer loyalty
- Multilingual CRM

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Opportunities exist to set up:
- Super-speciality centres of excellence - especially for diabetes and oncology
- Medical laboratories and Hi-tech imaging & diagnostic centers
- Plastic, reconstructive and cosmetic surgery clinics
- Dental clinics and laboratories
- Convalescence centers
- Residential/Nursing care homes

HEALTHCARE SECTOR AT A GLANCE
- GDP contribution: 4.4% (2016)
- No. of players: 28 (public & private hospitals and clinics) (2014)
- Total employment: 7,614 (doctors, dentists, pharmacists, qualified nurses and midwives) (2014)
- Foreign Patients: more than 18,000

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LIFE SCIENCES & BIOTECHNOLOGY

Biotech companies are involved in a number of diversified activities including bioinformatics, contract research, clinical trials, pharmaceuticals and the manufacturing of medical devices, amongst others. The BioPark Mauritius, a new center of excellence, was launched as a private-sector driven initiative to house companies in the field of biotechnology and scientific development.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Opportunities exist to set up:

- Pharmaceuticals manufacturing plants
- Contract Research Organisations (CROs) - Clinical trials are being conducted for the HIV, Diabetes, Hepatitis, amongst others.
- Phyto-pharmaceutical industry - cultivation and processing of plants with known medicinal and cosmetic properties.

LIFE SCIENCES & BIOTECH SECTOR AT A GLANCE
- No. of players: 25
- Turnover: MUR 2.7 billion
- Total employment: 1,275

RENEWABLE ENERGY

TOWARDS A GREENER FUTURE

Mauritius welcomes all types of renewable energy projects. However, in line with international best practices in the sector, renewable energy projects requiring direct sales to the grid are subject to an official bidding process. Accordingly, the Central Electricity Board, which is the national organization responsible for generation and distribution of electricity, regularly issues expression of interest (EOI) for renewable energy projects.

In addition, private sector initiatives which do not require Government involvement can be immediately considered through the Third-Party Providers Protocol which covers the generation of electricity from renewable energy sources by private promoters for direct sales to third parties and other tenants.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES EXIST IN:

- Energy Efficiency Projects targeting Large Energy Consumers
- Energy Audit, Management and Advisory Services
- Deep Ocean Water Applications (DOWA) that exploit deep sea water currents for cooling purposes and other uses
- R&D in renewable energy which makes the best of the micro climate and collaboration opportunities with existing institutions
- Development of marine renewable energies in the waters of Mauritius.
IN ORDER TO ATTRACTION INVESTMENTS IN THE REAL ESTATE SECTOR, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED A SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS NON-CITIZENS TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

UPSCALE LUXURY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES
Non-citizens and expatriates are eligible to make an acquisition for accommodation under approved schemes managed by the Board of Investment. These residential properties include luxury condominiums, villas and apartments.

The Property Development Scheme (PDS) is a program to facilitate the development and purchase of residential luxury estate by non-citizens.

Promoters can be involved in the development of luxury villas and residential properties with international standards, high-end leisure and other related facilities.

The acquisition of a residential property in the schemes approved by the Board of Investment, namely PDS, entitles buyers and their dependents to a residence permit, provided that the property is acquired for a price exceeding USD 500,000. The owners also have the option to rent the property or to elect for tax residence in Mauritius.

The Non-Citizens (Property Restriction) Act has been amended on 20 December 2016 to allow foreigners to purchase apartments in condominium developments of at least two levels above ground (G+2) with the prior approval of the Board of Investment. The amount payable for the acquisition of an apartment must not be less than MUR 6 million or its equivalent in any other freely convertible foreign currency.
Your preferred regional platform for logistics and value-added activities

From its humble beginning in 1992, the Mauritius Freeport has successfully leveraged its strategic geographical position mid-way between Asia and Africa to evolve into one of the foremost platforms for logistics and value addition with a wide range of offering for global trade. The Freeport caters for an impressive and diversified spectrum of economic activities, from break bulk to manufacturing, thereby servicing leading global markets. The combination of incentives, improved maritime and air links, high bandwidth connectivity and state-of-the-art logistics infrastructure constitute the essence of the sector's competitiveness. These factors provide the flexibility required by companies of all sizes to promptly start their operations.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Warehousing and storage
- Break bulk
- Minor processing and light assembly
- Manufacturing for export to Africa
- Ship building, repairs and maintenance of ships and aircrafts
- Vault services
- Global Trading

**INCENTIVES**

- Exemption of customs duty and VAT on goods and equipment imported into Freeport zones
- 0% corporate tax
- 100% foreign ownership
- Reduced port handling charges
- Local sales of up to 50% of re-export value

**STATE-OF-THE-ART INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Modern warehousing, cold room and processing units
- Dry dock facilities for shipbuilding, repairs and engineering services

**MARKET ACCESS**

- Preferential market access to the COMESA, SADC and IOC blocs, as well as through EPA, AGOA, GSP, the FTA with Turkey and Pakistan, respectively

Endowed with beautiful scenery, a peaceful location, historical sites coupled with the introduction of the Film Rebate Scheme, Mauritius attracts a large number of operators in the global creative media and film production arena.

A competitive cash rebate of a maximum of 40% on Qualifying Production Expenditure (QPE) incurred in Mauritius makes the country as one of the most attractive shooting locations. The Board of Investment (BOD), under the aegis of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, is entrusted to facilitate film production under the Film Rebate Scheme.

Mauritius has one of the most competitive tax rate of 15% in the world and has negotiated Double Taxation Agreement treaties with more than 40 countries in the world for the benefit of foreign film producers.

38 films projects have been produced and completed under the Film Rebate Scheme and has generated some MUR 600 million of spending in Mauritius.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Film studios and production houses
- Film equipment rental companies
- Post-production facilities
- Visual effects laboratories
- 3D animation platforms
- Creative process outsourcing
WORK & LIVE IN MAURITIUS

Mauritius offers a quality lifestyle which combines comfort with luxury, modernity with cultural traditions, work with leisure. A wide range of modern facilities and amenities are available at reasonable costs, comprising quality accommodation, educational facilities, healthcare and medical facilities, shopping centre, recreational and sporting facilities.

Foreign nationals wishing to work, live or retire in Mauritius may explore various avenues either through the Occupation Permit, the Residence Permit or the Permanent Residence Permit.

A non-citizen can apply for an Occupation Permit / Residence Permit in any of the following four categories:

• **INVESTOR**: Initial transfer of USD 100,000 and the business activity should generate an annual turnover of at least MUR 2 million for the first year and cumulative turnover of at least MUR 10 million for the subsequent two years. Existing investor with a net asset value of at least USD 100,000 and a cumulative turnover of at least MUR 12 million with a turnover of at least MUR 2 million in any one year.

• **PROFESSIONAL**: the basic salary should exceed MUR 60,000 monthly. However, the basic salary for professionals in the ICT Sector should exceed MUR 30,000 monthly.

• **SELF-EMPLOYED**: Income from the business activity should exceed MUR 600,000 annually for the first two years of activity with an initial investment of USD 35,000. The annual income has been increased from MUR 600,000 to MUR 1,200,000 as from the third year of activity.

• **RETIRED**: the non-citizen must undertake to transfer at least USD 40,000 annually to his/her local bank account in Mauritius.

The occupation permit and the residence permit are granted for a maximum period of three years, renewable thereafter subject to established criteria.

Moreover, occupation and residence permit holders are eligible to acquire an apartment located in a building complex comprising ground + at least 2 floors, as from date of issuance of the occupation permit, under specified criteria.

Owing to their knowledge, skills, talents and experience in specialized areas, the Mauritian community dispersed throughout the world is an invaluable resource for the country’s progress. Also, in order to encourage Mauritians living abroad to return home to offset the scarcity of professionals and experts needed to boost domestic growth, the Mauritian Diaspora Scheme has been set up.

Eligible members of the Mauritian Diaspora willing to return and work in the country are entitled to the following benefits:

• A ten-year exemption from income tax, including income drawn from foreign sources

• Exemption from payment of excise duty up to a maximum of MUR 2 million on a car bought locally or abroad

• Exemption from payment of customs duties and VAT on the repatriation of personal belongings

• Exemption from registration fees on the first acquisition of a residential unit under the Property Development Scheme or the Smart City Scheme.

Applications under the Mauritian Diaspora Scheme must be submitted to the Board of Investment on www.diaspora.mu.