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Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka analyzes the evolution of the Mauritian real estate market through a Darwinian lens. Between soaring prices (+80% since 2019), inflows of foreign capital, and the resilience of local niches, he paints the portrait of a sector that is both a driver of growth and subject to mounting affordability pressures. Attractive tax policies, the digitalization of notarial deeds, and new regulations are shaping an ecosystem where only those capable of adaptation will thrive.

“Beware of oversimplification: while prices may be rising in Anahita, this doesn’t mean that the same applies to Camp Ithier, situated in the same district.”

Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka,
Notary, Senior Partner at Office Notarial de l’Isle-de-France

“High prices in the real estate sector signal strength, not fragility, in our economy’s Darwinian framework”

STRONG HERITAGE, ETERNAL VALUES, BRIGHT FUTURE

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Tourisme à Maurice : Une croissance bien réelle, mais l'accueil est sous tension

Par DAREN MOODELY,
UN PASSIONNÉ DE TOURISME

2 millions de touristes par an avec un séjour moyen de 11 nuits, cela reviendrait à 60 000 touristes présents chaque jour sur l'île. Et là, la question devient urgente : où allons-nous les loger ?

Maurice a vécu une année touristique exceptionnelle en 2025. Entre janvier et novembre, l'île avait déjà accueilli environ 1 274 810 visiteurs internationaux, soit près de 4 % de plus que pour la même période en 2024. En novembre 2025, 128 903 touristes ont posé le pied sur notre île — un chiffre en hausse. Pas étonnant qu'on ait parlé durant l'année d'une projection à plus de 1,4 million de visiteurs pour toute l'année, ce qui constitue un record historique pour notre petite nation, confirmant la vitalité de ce secteur essentiel. Oui, ces chiffres sont impressionnants. Oui, ils montrent que Maurice attire toujours autant, voire plus, de voyageurs. Mais derrière ce succès apparent, une réalité plus complexe se dessine.

Maurice face à ses concurrents régionaux

Un point souvent négligé lorsqu'on compare des destinations, c'est le nombre de nuitées générées par les touristes, et donc la pression réelle sur les infrastructures.
Voici quelques chiffres de référence :

- **Maurice :** 1,4 M visiteurs × 11,4 nuits = 15,9 M de nuitées
- **Maldives :** 2,2 M × 7 nuits = 15,4 M de nuitées
- **Seychelles :** 370k × 9,4 nuits = 3,5 M de nuitées
- **Sri Lanka :** 2,3 M × 8 nuits = 18,4 M de nuitées

Grâce à la durée moyenne de séjour élevée, Maurice dépasse les Maldives et les Seychelles en nuitées totales — un indicateur de performance encourageant. Quant aux recettes touristiques en termes réels (par nuitée, par visiteur), on en parlera une prochaine fois pour ne pas gâcher l'ambiance.

Plus de visiteurs, oui, mais avons-nous de la place ?

Ce que l'on souligne moins souvent, c'est la capacité d'accueil réelle. Si la croissance continue à +5 % par an, le cap des 2 millions de touristes pourrait être franchi à l'horizon 2030. Mais 2 millions de touristes par an avec un séjour moyen de 11 nuits, cela reviendrait à 60 000 touristes présents chaque jour sur l'île. Et là, la question devient urgente : où allons-nous les loger ?

Capacité d'hébergement actuelle : le constat

Selon les chiffres de la Tourism Authority, le pays compte actuellement :
- 114 hôtels classés totalisant 13 772 chambres
- 1005 résidences touristiques agréées : environ 5 351 chambres
- 139 guest houses agréées : environ 815 chambres

Soit un total estimé à 19 938 chambres agréées toutes catégories confondues.

En supposant un taux d'occupation optimal à 2 personnes par chambre, cela permettrait d'héberger environ 39 876 touristes par jour. On est donc loin des 60 000 touristes/jour que supposerait une fréquentation annuelle de 2 millions de visiteurs.

L'ombre du secteur informel

De plus en plus de campements, villas et maisons

secondaires sont proposés à la location touristique sur Airbnb, Booking.com et autres plateformes.

Beaucoup ne sont pas enregistrés auprès de la Tourism Authority, ce qui pose plusieurs problèmes :
- Aucun contrôle sur la sécurité, l'hygiène, ou l'accessibilité
- Pas de taxe de séjour ni de contribution fiscale
- Aucune garantie de qualité uniforme
- Concurrence déloyale avec les hébergeurs respectant les règles

Il est temps d'avoir un cadre clair, équitable, et obligatoire pour que tout le monde joue selon les mêmes règles.

Repenser notre modèle d'accueil

Le littoral mauricien est presque saturé. Il est urgent de penser à d'autres formes d'hébergement :
- Des hôtels urbains proches des centres commerciaux et médicaux,
- Des logements dans les hauts ou l'intérieur de l'île,
- Des résidences intégrées, durables et bien encadrées, et
- Des formats écologiques et immersifs, valorisant notre patrimoine.

Cela permettrait de désengorger les plages et de diversifier l'offre.

L'hébergement n'est qu'une partie du puzzle…

Recevoir plus de touristes, c'est aussi :
- Un aéroport moderne, fluide et extensible,
- Des routes adaptées au trafic,
- Une gestion des déchets performante,
- Une capacité suffisante en eau, électricité, et produits alimentaires, et
- Un équilibre avec les besoins quotidiens des 1,2 million de Mauriciens.

Croître, oui, mais intelligemment

Le tourisme mauricien a de beaux jours devant lui. Mais si l'on ne prépare pas dès maintenant l'accueil futur, on risque de compromettre notre authenticité, notre hospitalité et la qualité de l'expérience.

Le succès ne se mesure pas uniquement en chiffres. Il se mesure à notre capacité à accueillir dignement, durablement, et intelligemment.

Mauritius at a Crossroads: Growth, Inclusion, and Vision for 2026

• Ambitions must be backed by clear mechanisms for implementation, robust indicators, and accountable public-sector ownership.

• Stimulating export-driven growth is non-negotiable.

By ALI MANSOOR
Former Financial Secretary of the Government of Mauritius, Former Lead Economist at the World Bank and Assistant Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

As Mauritius enters 2026, the nation's economic trajectory reflects both progress and urgent unfinished business. The post-COVID rebound has given way to a transition phase — one in which the choices we make today will shape our prosperity for years to come.

At the end of 2025, our economy maintained positive growth, with international institutions estimating real GDP expansion of around **3.2 %**, a deceleration compared with the stronger performance of 2023–2024. Inflation stabilized at a lower-than-expected level, signalling relative success in containing price pressures. Yet these figures mask deeper pressures on living standards and emerging structural challenges.

While stability is welcome, it must not be mistaken for momentum. The lessons of the past year are clear: consolidating post-pandemic gains must go hand-in-hand with restoring fiscal space and stimulating inclusive economic growth, not merely tightening belts. Alarmingly, the latest budget favoured austerity over growth, leading to unintended consequences. Wage adjustments discussed in tripartite consultations effectively offset inflation for only the lowest-paid 20 % of workers. For the remaining 80 % of the active workforce — especially the middle class — real incomes are set to decline in 2026 as prices rise faster than wages. This outcome is neither equitable nor sustainable.

A growth-first orientation across fiscal policy is urgently needed. The 2026 Budget must prioritise restoring purchasing power and reigniting economic activity, focusing public resources on high-impact, growth-oriented investments rather than across-the-board cuts accompanied by increased taxation.

Vision 2050 — More Than a Symbol

The launch of the **Vision 2050 National Consultations** in December 2025 was a bold and necessary initiative. Beyond ceremony, these consultations hold the potential to reshape decision-making — but only if they are genuinely integrated into policy processes. Structured, participatory engagement can strengthen public policy by drawing on the insights of the private sector, civil society, and younger generations. Yet ambitions must be backed by clear mechanisms for implementation, robust indicators, and accountable public-sector ownership.

The consultations should prioritise **practical actions that drive export-led growth**, revitalise the **social protection system within existing budgets**, and address the demographic shifts ahead. With an ageing population, social support must be more efficient and better targeted.

At the heart of these discussions must be a sober reckoning with artificial intelligence (AI). AI's rapid adoption globally threatens jobs in traditional services — sectors where Mauritius has historically been competitive. We cannot simply identify these risks; we must proactively invest in training, innovation, and new employment opportunities tied to AI and advanced technologies.

Foundations of a Forward-Looking Growth Strategy

For Mauritius to prosper sustainably, the following priorities should emerge from Vision 2050 and guide policymaking in 2026 and beyond:

1. Focused Growth Agenda

Stimulating export-driven growth is non-negotiable. We must broaden our economic base beyond tourism to include digital services, financial intermediation, logistics, the green and blue economy, and other competitive niches. Export diversification will enhance resilience to external shocks and reduce our dependence on any single market or industry.

2. Social Protection Reform

Mauritius deserves a social safety net that protects all citizens effectively — not just the most vulnerable. With the same resources, a reformed social protection system can deliver better outcomes if support mechanisms are modernised and calibrated to 21st-century realities. It is particularly urgent to address the unfairness that the middle class faces: under the current system the only way for the middle class to retire without financial pressure is by having an employer with a generous private pension or by sacrificing to save a lot during working years. This is unfair and unsustainable with an ageing population.

3. Preparing for an Ageing Population

With life expectancy rising, adapting our social services and labour policies for an ageing workforce is imperative. Encouraging lifelong learning and employment opportunities for older workers will turn longevity into an asset rather than a liability.

4. AI and the Future of Work

AI will reshape global labour markets. Our strategy cannot be defensive alone; Mauritius must embrace AI as a driver of productivity, incentivise its adoption across sectors, and build capacity so that AI creates new opportunities instead of eliminating existing ones.

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Mauritius' public debt ratio — approaching 90 % of GDP in 2025 — rightly calls for fiscal prudence. But restraint must not become a pretext for underinvestment.

5. Currency and Foreign Exchange Innovation

In a context of limited foreign exchange, innovative policies — such as enabling companies to pay dividends in foreign currency — can help retain and invest hard-earned earnings within the economy and alleviate pressures on the exchange market. However, the cause of the shortage must also be urgently tackled: exports need to grow faster than imports.

6. Transparent and Inclusive Implementation

Policies are only as effective as their execution. Clear indicators, transparent reporting, and accountability mechanisms are essential to ensure reforms translate into real-world outcomes.

Public Finances and the Growth Imperative

Mauritius' public debt ratio — approaching 90 % of GDP in 2025 — rightly calls for fiscal prudence. But restraint must not become a pretext for underinvestment. There is room to manoeuvre if fiscal policy shifts away from austerity towards spending efficiency and growth stimulus.
The next Budget should:

1. Target projects with high economic returns;
2. Implement structural reforms that broaden revenue without increasing tax rates; and
3. Enhance spending effectiveness and efficiency.

Comparative experience offers perspective. Countries such as Spain, Ireland, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan have sustained growth rates above 6 % long after reaching high-income status. With the right mix of policies, there is no reason Mauritius cannot aim for a similar trajectory.

At a 3.4 % growth rate, stabilising debt at 89 % of GDP would demand a decade of austerity — reducing annual borrowing by Rs 2-3 billion each year. At a 3 % growth pace, stabilisation would require even deeper cuts of Rs 4 billion annually. In contrast, a 6 % growth path would lower the debt ratio to around 77 % of GDP over time while enabling annual borrowing of Rs 52 billion to fund pensions, social programmes, and strategic investments without raising taxes.

Balancing Market Confidence and Strategic Investment

Agencies like Moody's highlight the need for credible fiscal management — and rightly so. But relying exclusively on rating agency assessments as justification for political inaction limits our strategic options. We must strike a balance that preserves market confidence without sacrificing the structural reforms that underpin robust, inclusive growth. Achieving sustained 6 % growth should be the North Star of our economic strategy.

Sectoral Drivers of Growth in 2026

The Bank of Mauritius' projection of near-3 % growth in 2026 underscores both potential and caution. Several sectors could drive stronger expansion:

- **AI and digital transformation** as sources of productivity and innovative services;
- **High-value manufacturing,** including precision components, medical devices, and aerospace supplies;
- **Talent and investment attraction,** positioning Mauritius as a regional hub for Africa;
- **Educational excellence,** anchored by world-class institutions that build skills for the future;
- **Medical tourism and advanced healthcare services;**
- **Reimagined tourism,** with higher value and niche segments;
- **Fintech and digital services,** powered by local innovation;
- **Green and climate-resilient investments,** such as energy efficiency and the blue economy.

However, risks remain: a lack of vision and will to implement deep reforms; bureaucratic inertia; political partisanship that trumps merit; weak transparency and governance; global market volatility; subdued private investment sentiment; credit constraints; and currency pressures.

Inflation and Cost of Living Dynamics

Inflation in 2025 averaged a moderate 3.7 %, helped by declining global energy and food prices and prudent monetary policy. For sustainable stability in 2026, monetary discipline remains crucial, as does strengthening domestic production to reduce import sensitivity.

But inflationary risks persist: exchange rate swings if exports continue to lag imports; renewed international commodity price pressures; wage growth outpacing productivity; and global supply chain disruptions.

Exchange Rate and Foreign Exchange Challenges

Despite high foreign exchange market turnover in 2025, businesses continue to report currency shortages. This paradox stems from a mismatch between supply and demand, with informal constraints limiting bank access to foreign exchange. The result: higher import costs, supply delays, and reduced investment appetite in activities requiring hard currency.

A lasting solution calls for letting the rupee find its true market value while anchoring economic policy in export-led growth.

Institutions, Governance, and Leadership

Political and institutional instability in 2025 — including leadership resignations at key institutions and tensions at the highest levels — can undermine reform continuity and investor confidence. Strong, stable governance is essential to implement economic strategy effectively.

This demands transparent hiring and promotion based on competence, not patronage; independent boards free of political interference; clear performance expectations; and accountability systems that reward results.

Social Policy and Retirement Reform

The decision to raise the retirement age to 65 aligns with demographic realities and improves pension system sustainability. Yet, this change must be paired with active labour market policies to promote lifelong learning and employability for older workers.

It also highlights deeper issues: middle-income Mauritians cannot retire with dignity without generous private pensions or significant personal savings. The shift in retirement age should be part of broader pension reform that ensures retirees can maintain at least half of their pre-retirement income.

Looking Ahead: Investment, Standards of Living, and Global Positioning

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Looking forward, Mauritius must judge itself not by the protection of the most vulnerable alone but by how it supports the middle class and small businesses — the backbone of any modern, progressive society. Austerity, higher taxes, and increased costs on SMEs do the opposite.

Growth-centred economic policy, coupled with pension reform and an inclusive safety net, will foster both investment and stronger living standards.

Internationally, Mauritius benefits from a growing share of services exports — offering insulation against U.S. tariff pressures and deglobalisation trends. Our strong ties with China, Europe, and India, and membership in key African organisations, position us to become a pivotal hub in the evolving global economy.

Even if U.S. engagement wanes, Mauritius stands to gain within a multipolar world anchored on Africa, Europe, China, and India. *"Friends to all, enemies to none"* should be more than a slogan — it must be the cornerstone of our economic diplomacy.

A Call for Bold Leadership: The Ramgoolam Initiative

It is time for visionary leadership. A Ramgoolam Initiative — led by the Prime Minister at the international level — can attract investment and support to position Mauritius as a premier African business hub.

This strategy would:

- Establish Mauritius as a major economic gateway for Africa, with income levels approaching those of Singapore and Dubai;
- Present a credible, pragmatic African development model rooted in good governance, open markets, and integration into global value chains;
- Leverage shifting geopolitics to make Mauritius a strategic bridge between Africa, Europe, India, and China;
- Create "Lighthouses of Good Governance" — autonomous, pro-business special economic zones that generate jobs, investment, and stability.
- Implement this vision in phases with willing African partners, anchoring Mauritius as a leader in a new model of development.

Conclusion

Mauritius stands at a crossroads. The path ahead demands confidence, courage, and clarity of purpose. Economic policy must shift from cautious consolidation to decisive growth and inclusion. Our vision must be anchored in collaborative reform, export-led expansion, social protection for all, and intelligent adaptation to global technological change.

The choices we make in 2026 — in budgeting, consultation, strategy, and leadership — will determine whether Mauritius thrives as a resilient, prosperous nation in the decades to come.

Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka,
Notary, Senior Partner at Office Notarial de l'Isle-de-France

"High prices in the real estate sector signal strength, not fragility, in our economy's Darwinian framework"

- **"It's a test of evolutionary resilience; those who adapt through financing innovations or policy support survive, while others risk being priced out."**
- **"Beware of oversimplification: while prices may be rising in Anahita, this doesn't mean that the same applies to Camp Ithier, situated in the same district."**
- **"Without foreign capital, our Central Bank would end up printing money, like Zimbabwe."**

In this interview with Bizweek, Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka analyzes the evolution of the Mauritian real estate market through a Darwinian lens. Between soaring prices (+80% since 2019), inflows of foreign capital, and the resilience of local niches, he paints the portrait of a sector that is both a driver of growth and subject to mounting affordability pressures. Attractive tax policies, the digitalization of notarial deeds, and new regulations are shaping an ecosystem where only those capable of adaptation will thrive.

Shareenah Kalla

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With all indicators pointing to a boom, how can we trace the evolution of Mauritius's real estate market from stability to its post-pandemic surge?

In late April 1836, a famous sailing ship called the HMS Beagle dropped anchor in Port-Louis for repairs and supplies over a 10-day period. One of its passengers took the opportunity to explore Mauritius and witness its visible prosperity. Some say he was the first person to climb Le Pouce mountain. From this vantage point, he noted in his diary: *"One great cause of this prosperity is due to the excellent roads and means of communication throughout the island. At the present day in the neighbouring island of Bourbon under the French government, the roads are in the same miserable order as they were only a few years past."*

Investments made legitimately, lawfully, and transparently in Mauritian real estate cannot be challenged by a foreign tax authority.

That man had shrewdly observed that our tiny and remote island had fared better than our neighbours, despite nearly identical locations.

That man was the great naturalist Charles Darwin, who went on to transform humanity's understanding of life with his theory of evolution by natural selection.

Darwin's theory of evolution – where species adapt to their environments through a relentless process of variation, competition, and survival – is not limited to biology. It illuminates the dynamics of economic systems, where markets, like ecosystems, self-regulate through pressures of supply, demand, and external shocks. This is especially vivid in real estate, where properties, investors, and developers jostle in a finite arena, evolving or perishing amid changing conditions.

And Mauritius is a striking illustration of such an evolutionary drama. Pre-COVID, our property market was a balanced habitat: stable prices, buoyed by tourism and foreign investment schemes that drew affluent expatriates seeking tropical havens. But the pandemic struck like a cataclysmic asteroid on hapless dinosaurs, upending the ecosystem. What followed was not extinction but a remarkable adaptation – a boom driven by resilience, innovation, and global shifts.

As we survey the landscape in early 2026, Mauritius's real estate sector emerges not just recovered, but transformed: prices soaring, buyer demographics diversifying, and developments mutating to meet new demands. This is natural selection in economic form, where the market's *"fittest"* have not only survived but dominated.

How would you describe the performance of the Mauritian real estate sector in 2025, both in the residential and commercial segments?

According to the latest report from the Accountant General available on the Ministry of Finance's website, in 2025, the sector continued

Only a tiny percentage of the Island is foreign-owned: around 0.14%.

to be a massive revenue generator, contributing approximately 8 billion rupees to the Registrar-General's Department. This roughly translates to 80 billion rupees' worth of property transactions. However, this figure captures only a slice of the broader ecosystem, focusing on registration duties.

A more comprehensive view, drawing from the Bank of Mauritius and Economic Development Board (EDB) data, reveals a sector that continued its robust evolution through 2025, building on the momentum of 2024.

In the residential segment, 2025 marked a year of sustained growth, albeit moderating from the explosive post-pandemic highs. The Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) maintained upward traction, with projections indicating a nominal year-on-year increase of around 15-20%, adjusting for inflation to 10-15% real growth. The milestone of the 6,000th property sale under foreign investment schemes, achieved in late 2024, paved the way for over 700 units sold in 2025 alone, valued at approximately Rs 20 billion in approvals. Regions like the North and West dominated, accounting for 78% of transactions, with average prices for villas and apartments stabilizing at Rs 28-30 million, reflecting a shift

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While the 'cost of entry' has risen, the desire for land remains a fundamental trait of the Mauritian identity. We also see more local families using 'sociétés civiles' or 'copropriétés' to pool resources and secure properties for the next generation.

toward completed properties over off-plan sales. Foreign buyers, comprising 76 nationalities but led by French and South Africans, drove 70% of high-end demand, attracted by residency thresholds at USD 375,000 and eco-friendly developments emphasizing sustainability.

The commercial segment, while less dominant in volume, exhibited Darwinian resilience amid global economic headwinds. FDI inflows into real estate activities reached Rs 25 billion in the first three quarters of 2025 (extrapolating from Rs 17.3 billion in Q1-Q3 2024), with commercial components like smart cities and office spaces benefiting from infrastructure booms. Construction sector growth, at 13.3% in 2024, likely tapered to 10-12% in 2025, supported by government social housing and drainage projects.

In a way, the commercial segment has behaved like a more stable, slow-evolving species. It remains a model of resilience with low risk, driven by the expansion of *"Ebene-Réduit-style"* urban nodes and the Medine Group's Cascavelle extensions, reflecting a shift toward integrated *"Live-Work-Play"* ecosystems rather than speculative developments in the middle of nowhere.

However, hospitality-linked commercial properties saw FDI dip to Rs 1.2 billion, offset by rising interest in mixed-use developments. Overall, the sector's performance in 2025 underscores adaptation: residential thriving on lifestyle migration, commercial evolving through diversification, all against a GDP growth backdrop of 4-5%.

However, this *"boom"* is a complex creature. While transaction volumes remained high, the construction sector behind these developments began to show signs of *"environmental stress."* We are witnessing a singularity: rising property prices coexisting with construction firms facing severe evolutionary stressors such as rising material costs and labour shortages.

For several years, real estate prices have been rising sharply. In your opinion, what are the main factors behind this surge?

I always describe the Mauritian real estate sector as an aggregation of micro-markets. Each region – North, East, West, South, and Centre – operates like a distinct ecological niche, where local supply, demand, and external pressures dictate price dynamics. Each of these niches are in turn divided into sub-niches: the price per square metre of a villa in Tamarina bears no comparison to that of a house in a 'cul-de-sac' in Bambous, even though both can, on paper, be described as residential properties in the West.

Overall, however, the price surge you refer to is akin to a population boom in a fertile habitat. It stems from a confluence of adaptive factors that have propelled prices upward by 80% since 2019.

One deceptively simple explanation would be the influx of foreign direct investment (FDI), which has acted as a nutrient-rich influx into our insular ecosystem. Schemes like the Property Development Scheme (PDS), Smart City Scheme (SCS), and others have channelled Rs 152 billion in FDI stock from 2006-2023, with real estate capturing 47% of total inflows. In 2024 alone, FDI in real estate hit Rs 23.95 billion, up from Rs 21.1 billion in 2023, predominantly through luxury schemes at Rs 18.6 billion. This capital influx, from Europe (60%, led by France and Switzerland) and South Africa (16%), has intensified competition for prime properties, pushing average listing prices for foreign-targeted homes to MUR 30.6 million in 2024, a 15.4% year-on-year rise.

But beware of oversimplification: while prices may be rising in Anahita, this doesn't mean that the same applies to Camp Ithier, situated in the same district.

Also, if you aggregate the area of properties sold to foreigners over the past 20 years as per the EDB's public statistics, i.e. around 6,000 sales, assuming an average area of 500 m² per unit sold (which is on the very high side) and divide it by the total area of Mauritius, you will find that only a tiny percentage of the Island is foreign-owned: around 0.14% (i.e. one-seventh of one percent). This represents half the area of Souillac village only, sold to non-citizens for a total amount of 152 billion rupees over 20 years. The rest of Mauritius remaining fully owned by Mauritians.

Another factor that has driven demand for Mauritian property is the post-pandemic lifestyle change in the world: remote work and digital nomadism transformed buyer profiles, diversifying from retirees to families and entrepreneurs seeking safe havens amid global volatility. Tourism's rebound, with 1.3 million arrivals annually, amplified demand for vacation rentals and second homes. Limited supply – exacerbated by rising construction costs from global inflation, material shortages, and labour constraints – has created scarcity, further inflating values.

Macroeconomic tailwinds, including low interest rates, fiscal stimuli, and Mauritius' status as a tax-efficient investment hub (0% capital gains and inheritance tax), have nurtured this growth.

As in the time of Darwin, infrastructure enhancements such as new connecting roads improve accessibility, making micro-markets like the Centre or the Centre-West (like Cascavelle or Pierrefonds) or the Centre-South-East (such as Rose-Belle) more viable for locals. The same logic will apply when the M4 trunk road sees the light of day.

Thus, this surge is not uniform; it's a Darwinian selection where high-quality, sustainable properties with green spaces and wellness features outcompete outdated ones, ensuring the fittest traits dominate.

Becoming a homeowner in Mauritius is increasingly perceived as costly, even inaccessible for parts of the population. Do you share this view, and how would you explain it?

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has pointed out in a report published in May 2025 about our country that *"residential real estate prices have increased by 80 percent since 2019. By significantly outpacing the 20 percent increase in nominal wages, this has worsened housing affordability."*
But this analysis needs to be nuanced. The IMF relies on the RPPI to declare that residential real estate prices have shot upwards. The RPPI is an index published by Statistics Mauritius, which is a government department previously known as the Central Statistics Office. If you examine the methodology used to generate the RPPI, a massive flaw immediately appears. It predominantly captures high-end transactions under foreign schemes, skewing the index

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toward luxury micro-markets and overlooking affordable segments.

While home ownership may feel increasingly costly for segments of the local population, particularly lower- and middle-income earners, it's not universally inaccessible. This perception arises from the evolutionary divergence in our market: while luxury prices have ballooned – apartments at MUR 21.7 million (up 23.3% in 2024) and houses at MUR 28.5 million (up 16.8%) – affordable niches persist, especially in the Centre and near West, where local-targeted properties start at 3 million rupees for reasonably-sized residential plots, apartments and duplexes can be found in the range of 7 to 10 million rupees, and where other properties average MUR 15 million, rising about 15% year-on-year.

One of the major explanations lies in supply-demand imbalances amplified by external pressures.

Rising construction costs – driven by global inflation (materials up 20-30%), skilled labour shortages, and regulatory hurdles – have pushed entry barriers higher. Nominal wage growth lagging at 20% since 2019 exacerbates this, as does the dominance of foreign buyers who bid up prices in desirable areas. Government interventions, like social housing schemes, have mitigated this for some, with construction growth at 13.3% in 2024, including affordable units.

Yet, for many Mauritians, the dream requires adaptation: opting for smaller properties, off-plan purchases, or regional shifts. It's a test of evolutionary resilience; those who adapt through financing innovations or policy support survive, while others risk being priced out.

"If you examine the methodology used to generate the RPPI, a massive flaw immediately appears."

In Darwinian terms, we are seeing *"speciation."* The market is forking into two distinct species: the International/Luxury market, which is thriving on foreign capital, and the Local/Social market, which operates on different price levels. While the Central region has emerged as a more *"affordable niche"* for local buyers, the coastal regions have become a *"gold-standard habitat"* for high-income earners and expatriates. The government's social housing efforts, while present, have yet to reach the scale needed to balance this ecosystem.

At the risk of repeating myself, beware again of oversimplification. Foreign capital should not be viewed through the blinkers of property price surges. Our tiny island does not possess the massive mineral resources or geopolitical advantages that other countries do. Any foreign investment in Mauritian property yields at least 20 to 30% of that amount to the State treasury, in the form of registration taxes, VAT and developers' income taxes. Then you have the multiplier effect on the economy in terms of job creation, and local spending by expatriates.

Without foreign capital, well… our Central Bank would end up printing money, like Zimbabwe.

Can high real estate prices be interpreted as an indicator of imbalance or fragility in the Mauritian economy?

High prices signal strength, not fragility, in our economy's Darwinian framework.

They indicate robust demand outstripping supply, underpinned by economic recovery: GDP growth at 3.9% for 2024/25, projected at 4% for 2025, with construction surging 13.3% in 2024. FDI at Rs 33 billion in 2024, mostly in real estate, underscores confidence from international investors.

However, our ecosystem exhibits built-in self-regulation.

Banks won't lend if they're unsure of recovering the value of a property on a forced sale. Contrast this with the folly of the US banks that kept financing subprime mortgage loans. In Mauritius, our banking sector's prudence ensures that high prices reflect genuine value rather than speculative bubbles. The recent macroprudential tightening – the Bank of Mauritius increasing interest rates to 4.50% in early 2025 and increasing provisioning requirements for housing loans – acts as a necessary brake to prevent a collapse.

Imbalances could emerge if unchecked: affordability strains might dampen local demand, leading to oversupply in luxury segments. The Bank of Mauritius assesses low risk of corrections, thanks to favourable conditions like stable inflation and tourism rebounds.

Fragility would arise only from external shocks, like global recessions, but our self-regulating market – through developer pivots to sustainable projects and government fiscal consolidation (deficit down to 4.9% GDP in 2025/26) – promotes equilibrium. It's evolution, not extinction; high prices cull speculative excesses, favouring sustainable growth.

As a notary, do you observe an increase in demand from Mauritians for property acquisition, or rather stagnation or decline?

In my practice at Office Notarial de l'Isle-de-France law firm, I have witnessed a steady increase in demand from Mauritians for property acquisition over the past two years, defying perceptions of stagnation.

This uptick, though modest compared to foreign-driven booms, reflects adaptive behaviours amid rising prices.

Local buyers, comprising about 30-40% of transactions in affordable segments, have shown resilience, focusing on the Centre and near-West and Centre-South where prices remain accessible (Rs 10-12 million averages for built properties). Factors include wage adjustments in key sectors like finance and tourism, fiscal rebates for first-time buyers, and a cultural emphasis on patrimony.

"The macroprudential tightening – the BoM increasing interest rates to 4.50% in early 2025 and increasing provisioning requirements for housing loans – acts as a necessary brake to prevent a collapse."

I also observe an evolution in how Mauritians acquire property. While the "cost of entry" has risen, the desire for land remains a fundamental trait of the Mauritian identity. We also see more local families using 'sociétés civiles' or 'copropriétés' to pool resources and secure properties for the next generation.

There is also a migration of mid-range local demand toward the Central region and the West, where new Smart City developments offer a more accessible entry point than the ultra-luxury coastal villas.

As a notary, I notarize more deeds for Mauritian families seeking long-term security, illustrating Darwinian selection: those adapting to micro-markets thrive, while others delay but do not abandon the pursuit.

Over the past decade, several measures have been announced to boost the real estate sector. Have they been implemented, and what concrete effects have they had on the market?

As regards foreign buyers, the various schemes — IRS (2001), RES (2007), IHS, and PDS and Smart Cities (2015) — have been the DNA of our sector's success. They successfully shifted the market from a *"mature forest"* of incremental growth to a dynamic, FDI-led powerhouse.

The PDS, replacing earlier schemes, streamlined foreign acquisitions with residency perks, leading to Rs 22.4 billion in approvals in 2023—up 250% in count and 790% in value since 2011. Implementation has been robust, with 5,396 units sold cumulatively (value Rs 156.6 billion), shattering records post-2020.

Concrete effects include FDI surges (Rs 152 billion stock, 47% in real estate), price

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Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka with Yoda, a regular presence at his office

appreciation (80% since 2019), and demographic diversification (39% buyers under 50). Social housing measures, embedded in budgets, drove construction growth to 13.3% in 2024, enhancing affordability for locals.

However, challenges like rising duties for non-citizens (to 10% from July 2026) spur pre-emptive buys. Overall, these measures have catalysed adaptation, boosting volumes (Rs 23 billion sales in 2023) and positioning Mauritius as a premium destination.

The recent Home Ownership Scheme, which provided a 5% refund on purchases, acted as a massive accelerator during the post-pandemic recovery. However, due to fears of *"overheating,"* the government is rightly phasing out some of these incentives to prevent a bubble.

The luxury segment occupies an important place in Mauritian real estate. How has this market performed recently, and what are its prospects?

In Darwinian terms, the luxury segment is our "apex predator"—it is the strongest and most resilient part of the market. It is increasingly viewed as a safe haven for European and South African investors seeking to escape "confiscatory" taxation and political instability.

The prospects remain strong because Mauritius offers something few others can: fiscal sovereignty. In a world of global tax interconnection (OECD transparency), the strategy of *"concealment"* is dead. Mauritius thrives because it offers a legitimate, transparent framework where real estate wealth can be held and transmitted at a zero rate for capital gains and inheritance.

The luxury segment has performed exceptionally, embodying the pinnacle of market evolution. In 2024-2025, it captured Rs 18.6 billion in FDI through schemes like PDS and SCS (up from Rs 13.9 billion in 2023), with average prices at Rs 30.6 million for foreign properties.

Performance highlights include 30% of units over Rs 30 million sold, with villas (44%) and apartments (36%) dominating. Regional hotspots like the East (Rs 52 million averages) saw 71.7% house price growth. Prospects for 2026 are bright: sustained FDI (projected Rs 25-30 billion), emphasis on eco-luxury with smart tech, and residency incentives attract UHNWIs amid global uncertainties.

Competition notwithstanding, zero capital gains tax, zero wealth tax and zero inheritance tax ensures dominance, with self-correction preventing bubbles.

Mauritius faces growing competition from destinations such as Portugal, which is attracting more and more European retirees. How does this competition affect the local real estate market?

Competition is the primary driver of evolution. Destinations like Portugal and Greece are indeed competitors, but they are also subject to their own environmental shifts. For instance, Portugal has recently scaled back many of its tax incentives for foreigners due to local political pressure.

Mauritius can only respond by doubling down on substance and legal certainty and predictability. Our absolute competitive advantage is the 1973 France-Mauritius tax treaty and our 0% tax on capital gains, which remains more attractive than many European *"Golden Visa"* jurisdictions that still impose various forms of capital taxation. The absence of inheritance tax in Mauritius also exerts a strong gravitational pull.

We have witnessed increasing inflows from Switzerland (up 20% in 2024). Reading between the lines, this confirms the position of Mauritius as a safe haven and a compliant jurisdiction.

It is crucial to understand the future stakes. With the upcoming interconnection of global real estate registers driven by the OECD, the tax administration of a foreign investor's home country will have total visibility over all their assets worldwide (except for rogue states). I repeat: the strategy of concealment is dead.

Mauritius makes the difference through fiscal sovereignty. Investments made legitimately, lawfully, and transparently in Mauritian real estate cannot be challenged by a foreign tax authority. This asset is invaluable for European investors who accept transparency but reject confiscatory capital taxation, such as the Zucman tax which some French legislators aim to implement. For a French investor specifically, the 1973 tax treaty, combined with proper notarial structuring based on legal and non-abusive civil law mechanisms,

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offers a breath of fresh air. Subject to meeting international criteria for substance and fiscal residency, Mauritius offers a legal framework to hold and transmit real estate wealth at a zero rate, in full transparency.

With the arrival of the new government, do you anticipate reforms or orientations likely to transform the Mauritian real estate sector?

As the old saying goes, if it isn't broke, don't fix it.

Our real estate sector remains a major contributor to the economy and its growth. Any tax increases would adversely affect the property market and act as a negative stressor on our economy. In particular, any form of capital gains or inheritance taxation would send a catastrophic signal to Mauritian and foreign buyers alike and send the market in a tailspin.

Governments have come and gone, tried all sorts of innovative ideas such as the blue economy, the green economy, IT, artificial intelligence, healthcare, which are all fine things… but which all rely on one essential premise: the existence of an attractive physical environment for investors, executives, workers and researchers to settle in. Those other sectors should therefore not be viewed as being alternative, but rather complementary, to the property sector.

That said, one vital reform is needed: cutting down on red tape. This is the single biggest turn-off for foreign investors… and Mauritian entrepreneurs too. It's unacceptable that an island nation that prides itself on emulating international financial centres like Singapore or the Netherlands should be overburdened by bureaucracy. In the digital era, it is absurd that administrative processes cannot be centralised and overseen efficiently. I'm definitely not advocating a free-for-all, Wild West approach like Dubai, which is abhorrent to me. But perhaps we need to set up an Elon Musk-style Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) to get closer to Singapore in Ease of Doing Business rankings.

In the digital era, it is absurd that administrative processes cannot be centralised and overseen efficiently.

We perhaps need to set up an Elon Musk-style Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) to get closer to Singapore in Ease of Doing Business rankings.

If we fail to do so, then on the global evolutionary chequerboard, we'll be the equivalent of the Dodo sitting placidly waiting for tambalacoque seeds to fall from above while the Dutch – yet again – have a field day and drive us to extinction.

On another note, we are entering a phase of digital evolution. The imminent deployment of the Electronic Authentic Deed in the notarial field will be a game-changer. It allows for digital signatures and secure, near-instantaneous deed transmission, providing Mauritian and international buyers alike with digital speed without sacrificing the security of paper.

The Chamber of Notaries, supported by the EDB and the Registrar-General, is actively promoting the efficiency of property contracts (such as VEFA/off-plan sales and co-ownership regulations) to align them with the best international standards.

Maître Patrice Avrillon, the new President of the Chamber of Notaries of Mauritius, recently announced that *"innovation will be at the heart of our priorities. The deployment of the Electronic Authentic Deed will allow for the secure transmission of deeds to the Registration Office. This evolution aims to improve the traceability, speed, and legal security of our services."*

We are witnessing a multiplication of real estate agencies in the market. Is there a specific regulatory framework that governs their practices to protect consumers from excessive fees?

Like I've said earlier, the overall real estate market is, to a large extent, self-regulating. However, agencies have proliferated as the market boomed – over 200 operators, up 20% in five years – driven by high commissions (2-5% of sales) and just like on the African plains where the wildebeest become too numerous, a culling mechanism had to be introduced. Thus came about the Real Estate Agent Authority Act (2020), which was a significant step toward professionalizing the sector, requiring agents to be registered and adhere to a code of conduct.

While the Act provides a structure, natural selection still plays a role. In a market where digital transparency is increasing, agencies that charge predatory fees without providing high-value advisory services — such as deep legal and tax insights — will eventually face obsolescence as clients gravitate toward established, reputable firms.

Notaries provide an added layer of control, by advising vendors and buyers on fair practices, and by ensuring that agency fees are paid through the notarial client accounts in a transparent and verifiable manner. This blend of regulation and market forces safeguards consumers, promoting a healthy ecosystem.

Investing in Mauritius in 2026 means choosing substance and compliance. Our real estate story proves that disruption begets adaptation. Those who embrace change will thrive; those who remain static risk obsolescence in the relentless march of market evolution.

I always describe the Mauritian real estate sector as an aggregation of micro-markets. Each region – North, East, West, South, and Centre – operates like a distinct ecological niche, where local supply, demand, and external pressures dictate price dynamics.

About Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka

Me Ashvin Krishna Dwarka is a Notary and Senior Partner at Office Notarial de l'Isle-de-France (Law Firm). He holds an LLM in Taxation from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a DESS from Sorbonne. He is a former associate at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Paris

HENRY JARDINE, U.S. AMBASSADOR

"When I finish my time in a country, I want to feel like I left the relationship a little bit better"

United States Ambassador Henry Jardine met the local press for a final exchange marked by reflection and assessment as his mandate comes to an end by mid-January. He reviewed the principal strands of his tenure which are security cooperation, law enforcement, trade and investment, civil society engagement and people-to-people ties, while also offering an external perspective on Mauritius' development path and future priorities.

The farewell engagement of U.S. Ambassador Henry Jardine with the Mauritian media was organised at short notice. His departure, he said, was *"rather sudden,"* leaving little time for a more formal conclusion to his posting. Still, he considered it important to meet journalists with whom he had worked closely since arriving in February 2023.

Over that period, he described his relationship with the press as constructive and professional. Journalists, he noted, had *"asked hard questions"* and pressed for accountability, but had done so *"in a very professional, very courteous way."* In his view, the Mauritian media had demonstrated a clear understanding of its democratic role. *"The press plays a key role in any democracy,"* he said, referring to journalists as *"the fourth estate."*

That role, he added, was particularly evident during the run-up to the 2024 general elections. Ambassador Jardine said he was struck by how *"vibrant" and "active"* the Mauritian press remained during that period, reinforcing his assessment of the country's democratic resilience.

The ambassador characterised his posting in Mauritius as *"the highlight of my professional and personal life."* Accompanied at different times by his wife Kathleen and their son Thomas, he spoke of the warmth of the reception extended to his family. He also acknowledged the difficulty of balancing official duties with broader engagement, noting how diplomatic life can easily become confined to meeting rooms and conferences. Even so, he said he had made a sustained effort to

engage with communities across Mauritius and Rodrigues, where he visited on several occasions.

Throughout his remarks, Henry Jardine returned to what he described as a strong and consistent interest among Mauritians in deeper engagement with the United States. This, he said, extended across education, business, security cooperation and culture. The demand for stronger links was such that, at times, he felt he was advocating for Mauritius in Washington more than the reverse. *"I sometimes feel like I'm more the ambassador of Mauritius to the United States,"* he remarked.

Strategically, the Ambassador placed his tenure within a broader phase of consolidation in U.S.–Mauritius relations. The construction of the new U.S. Embassy compound in Mauritius, he said, was emblematic of that long-term commitment. Having overseen both the groundbreaking and the recent topping-out ceremony, he described the project as a lasting institutional investment, designed to serve *"into the next century"*. A similar logic underpinned the reopening of the U.S. Embassy in Seychelles after nearly 30 years, an initiative launched early in his posting.

Security cooperation, particularly in the maritime domain, featured prominently in his assessment. Henry Jardine identified the agreement between the United Kingdom and Mauritius on the Chagos Archipelago as a key development, providing a framework for enhanced cooperation. He pointed to upcoming high-level U.S. engagement, including a February visit by the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, aimed at deepening collaboration on maritime security and capacity building. Regional exercises such as Cutlass Express, he said, had expanded in scope and importance, strengthening coordination with regional institutions, including the Indian Ocean Commission and the Regional Coordination Operations Centre.

Law enforcement cooperation, the Ambassador argued, delivered some of the most concrete outcomes of his tenure. He highlighted the long-term deployment of an FBI officer in Mauritius, working alongside local authorities on investigations involving financial crime, sanctions breaches and extradition cases. These efforts, he said, demonstrated the practical value of bilateral

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Mauritius will host the U.S.–Africa Business Summit in July 2026, with participation projected to exceed 3,000 delegates

cooperation. Additional support channelled through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime focused on training, prosecutorial capacity and case-management systems, reinforcing institutional capability rather than ad-hoc intervention.

Trade and investment were more complex, but no less central. He acknowledged structural constraints, including distance and perceptions of market size, but consistently framed Mauritius as a platform rather than a limitation. *"Mauritius has an educated workforce, good infrastructure, good connectivity and good rule of law,"* he said, arguing that these attributes position the country as a credible gateway to larger regional markets, notably India and Africa.

He cited the U.S.–Mauritius Business Summit held in 2024 as a deliberate effort to shift perceptions, bringing together U.S. agencies, regional chambers of commerce and private-sector representatives. That momentum, he said, is expected to culminate in Mauritius hosting the U.S.–Africa Business Summit in July 2026. With participation projected to exceed 3,000 delegates, including African leaders and senior U.S. officials, Henry Jardine described the event as a strategic opportunity and a natural conclusion to three years of economic diplomacy.

Beyond government-to-government relations, he placed sustained emphasis on civil society and people-to-people engagement. Initiatives ranged from media training and STEM programmes to EducationUSA support for Mauritian students studying in the United States. Cultural and environmental grants supported museums, heritage institutions and academic research. In his view, these programmes reflected an understanding that diplomacy operates as much through institutions and individuals as through formal agreements.

Looking at Mauritius more broadly, the Ambassador offered an external assessment shaped by previous postings in the Caribbean and South Asia. He described the country's multicultural cohesion as *"impressive,"* but cautioned against complacency. Mauritius' economic progress since independence, he said, stood in contrast to early expectations, but future growth would require a different set of enablers. *"What got you here won't get you there,"* he observed, pointing to emerging opportunities in biopharma, biomedical research and the blue economy, alongside the need for regulatory institutions, skills development and long-term planning aligned with the Vision 2050 agenda.

Ambassador Jardine's final words to the press were measured but direct: an expression of thanks for professionalism, engagement and partnership over a tenure he views as both consequential and formative.

"When I finish my time in a country, I want to feel like I made a difference," he concluded. *"I want to feel like I left the relationship a little bit better."*

Including the 'Invisible' in Mauritius: Climate Finance Decisions Should Embed Gender

• "Only 4 percent of respondents believe that Mauritius has well-established strategies and sufficient practices that take gender mainstreaming seriously in climate finance"

By NEEKHIL BHOWONIAH
World Bank Financial Sector Expert for Mauritius & Seychelles

Recent initiatives have targeted reform of the global finance and development system but have fallen short on considering gender inequalities. This year, questions relating to gender considerations in climate financing have grown louder as global projections suggest that the situation is getting far worse.

As per the UN Women 'Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals' report, it is expected that climate change will push over 158 million more women and girls into extreme poverty by 2050. Out of 64 countries, only 25 (equivalent to 39 percent) have established national coordination mechanisms in terms of task forces and working groups to integrate gender equality into climate policymaking across sectors. Even more, between 2022 and 2023, less than 1 percent of bilateral allocable overseas development assistance provided by Development Assistance Committee members for climate and gender objectives was committed to women's rights organizations. These figures reveal only part of the ongoing crisis.

In Mauritius, what is the general perception amongst climate experts?

The national Climate Finance Governance report (November 2025) conducted by Transparency Mauritius – under Transparency International's Climate Governance and Integrity Programme, revealed that the majority of respondents surveyed (60 percent) feel that climate finance policies in Mauritius fail to adequately respond to the distinct needs of different genders - women and marginalized groups such as the youth, disabled persons and low-income communities. Although the idea of gender-responsive climate financing is gaining traction in Mauritius, climate experts caution that there are no adapted and suitable processes/mechanisms at the level of the entity to address the challenges faced and prioritize the meaningful participation of women, girls and marginalized communities.

Only 4 percent of respondents believe that Mauritius has well-established strategies and sufficient practices that take gender mainstreaming seriously in climate finance. In their view, the outside perception of this multi-faceted concept is indeed changing at a much slower rate than the reality itself. Arguably, internal changes are likely to remain "invisible" to the public, which eventually triggers (and continues to widen) the perception gap. So, in their view, the focus should not be substantive integration or increased ambition of gender perspectives, but rather on how to correct the ongoing mismatch by striking a balance between the rapid evolution and the lagging public perception. Gender data gaps, inevitably, are the fulcrum. Missing data further weaken accountability mechanisms (the other missing rail), making it harder to track progress. And without comparable metrics, progress in this area will remain patchy – with diverging conclusions.

The year 2026 is expected to see a surge in international action aimed at achieving the Global Goals, so how is the role of gender in climate finance evolving?

It's not all bad news. The 30th session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 30) marks a pivotal moment for advancing gender equality in climate finance and action. Parties adopted the Belém Gender Action Plan for 2025-2034 (FCCC/CP/2025/L.16). The 3 critical takeaways from COP30 are: (i) The Belém Action Mechanism (BAM), (ii) The Gender-Responsive Indicators for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), and (iii) The Belém Health Action Plan (BHAP).

- **BAM** – ensuring a just transition to a low-carbon economy, addressing intersectional factors such as age, disability and income level to make climate actions more equitable and inclusive, and improving data and knowledge via gender-disaggregated data and education.

- **GGA** – the adoption of 59 indicators to provide a structured basis for assessing climate adaptation progress including gender-responsive adaptation plans, policy instruments, undertaking gender assessment (cause and effect analysis).

i. **BHAP** – elevating health within climate governance through improved health surveillance and monitoring systems to effectively respond to climate-related threats, implementing proven solutions, evidence-based policies, and capacity building. The plan received 80 endorsements (30 countries and 50 partners among civil society and intergovernmental organizations), and an initial USD 300 million funding commitment from a coalition of major global philanthropies.

Calls from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) emphasize building institutional gender policies in climate finance. The GCF is the first multilateral climate fund to integrate a strong gender mainstreaming mandate from the outset. Key objectives of Mauritius should be to:

i. Support climate change interventions and innovations through a comprehensive gender approach, applied both within the institution and by its network of partners, including accredited entities (AEs), national designated authorities (NDAs) and focal points, and delivery partners for activities under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (for example);

ii. Promote climate investments that advance gender equality through climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, and

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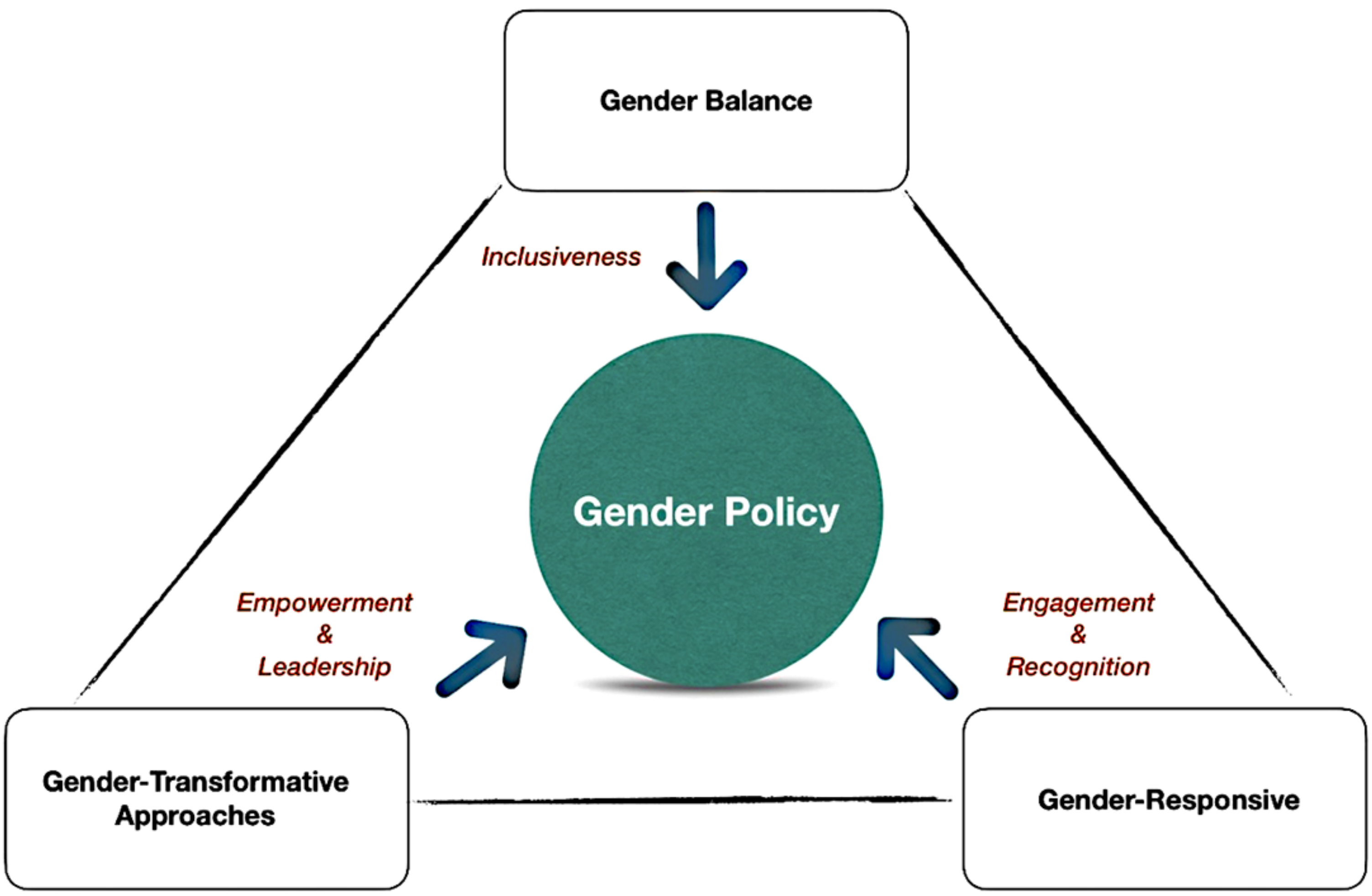
Key Gender Principles in Climate Finance



> **Missing data further weaken accountability mechanisms, making it harder to track progress.**

minimize social, gender-related and climate-related risks in all climate change actions; and

iii. Contribute to reducing the gender gap of climate change-exacerbated social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities and exclusions through GCF climate investments that mainstream gender equality issues.

From Policy to Practice

The Gender Policy in climate finance should make explicit commitments to (i) gender balance, (ii) gender-responsive, and (iii) gender-transformative approaches, in a bid to address current gaps at both organizational and project levels.

i. **Organizational Level:** to cover the overall organizational policy environment, the entity's programmatic landscape, and reinforce technical capacity at multiple levels to ensure that gender is mainstreamed across different key actors,

ii. **Project-Level Requirements:** integrate gender considerations across the various stages of the project cycle – from country engagement, project identification, development in terms of design and implementation, board approval, monitoring and compliance, reporting, adaptive management, through to evaluation and closure.

Gender balanced representation remains key to achieving parity in financing and decision-making bodies of climate mechanisms and funds. Guaranteeing women's equal representation in these bodies may lead to more gender-responsive selection and financing of projects. A way to achieve gender-sensitive policies is to foster gender balance in decision-making.

Gender-responsiveness involves assessing how well climate projects or policies address gender-specific interests, needs and responsibilities (of women and men). This ensures that the quality of climate finance delivers on equity by unlocking the untapped potential of women-led solutions in initiatives, all while ensuring the equitable participation and representation in decision-making at all levels.

Gender-transformative approaches focus on the intersection of women's empowerment and climate adaptation to provide support at project-level interventions, government and institutional capacity-building, and for national evidence-building and knowledge-sharing. As a matter of fact, only 0.01 percent of global finance supports projects addressing both climate change and women's empowerment (UNFCCC, 2024).

These guiding principles remain crucial to acknowledge that climate change initiatives are more sustainable, equitable and more likely to achieve their objectives when gender equality and women's empowerment considerations are integrated into the design and implementation of projects.

LEADERSHIP

Two Mauritians receive Australia Awards Africa scholarships

Selected from among more than 12,500 applicants across Africa, Vishal Luchoomun and Hafsah Ramjane are preparing to begin postgraduate studies in Australia under the Australia Awards Africa programme, marking a new chapter in their professional journeys and in the long-standing education partnership between Australia and Mauritius.

Australia has reaffirmed its long-standing education and development partnership with Mauritius with the recognition of two Mauritian professionals, Vishal Luchoomun and Hafsah Ramjane, who have been awarded the Australia Awards Africa Master's scholarships for the 2026 academic intake.

The achievements of the two scholars were celebrated at an Australia Awards Afternoon Tea hosted by the Australian High Commission, bringing together government representatives, alumni, partners, families and stakeholders involved in the programme.

Addressing the gathering, Australia's High Commissioner to Mauritius, Kate Chamley, described the occasion as an opportunity to mark both individual excellence and the broader relationship between the two countries.

"*It is an absolute pleasure to start this year by celebrating Australia and Mauritius as long-standing partners in the Indian Ocean and by recognising the achievements of two exceptional Mauritian professionals,"* she said .

Highly competitive selection at continental level

The two awardees were selected following a competitive process. *"Vishal and Hafsah represent the top 0.3 per cent of more than 12,500 applicants from across Africa,"* the High Commissioner stated, noting that their success reflected *"both their exceptional capability and Mauritius' strong tradition of public service and academic excellence."*

In the coming days, the two Mauritian scholars will join 43 awardees from across the African continent as they begin their academic journey in Australia.

Fields of study aligned with national development

Vishal Luchoomun will pursue a Master of Diplomacy at the Australian National University (ANU), one of Australia's leading higher education institutions, while Hafsah

Ramjane will undertake a Master of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Melbourne .

In her speech, Ms Chamley emphasised that *"Australia Awards are awarded to emerging leaders. Leaders who we expect to return home with enhanced skills, knowledge, and networks, and contribute meaningfully to their national development," she said .*

She added that Australia places strong confidence in the scholars' ability to translate their academic experience into tangible national impact.

Recognition of public service and leadership

Ms Chamley paid particular tribute to Mr Luchoomun's professional record, highlighting his long-standing collaboration with the Australian High Commission, especially during periods of crisis.

"Our High Commission has worked very closely with Vishal over many years, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, when his professionalism and support was invaluable to both Australia and the Mauritians who were in Australia at that time," she said .

She also welcomed the presence of Ambassador Raj Sookun, himself an Australia Awards alumnus and ANU graduate, noting the importance of alumni engagement in strengthening institutional and people-to-people links.

Sandra Vegting Leadership Prize

Hafsah Ramjane was additionally named the 2026 recipient of the Sandra Vegting Leadership Prize, an annual distinction awarded to outstanding scholars from Mauritius and Madagascar.

The prize honours the legacy of Sandra Vegting, Australia's former High Commissioner to Mauritius from 2011 to 2014, and recognises exceptional leadership potential and commitment to development.

Institutional partnerships highlighted

Ms Chamley also acknowledged the Government of Mauritius, employers, and the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms, which acts as the Local Coordinating Authority for Australia Awards Africa in Mauritius. *"These partnerships are central to achieving the long-term objectives of the Australian Awards: sustainable development, shared prosperity and regional stability,"* she said.

A six-decade education engagement

Australia's scholarship programme builds on over 60 years of educational engagement, beginning with the Colombo Plan of the 1950s and evolving into today's comprehensive Australia Awards framework.

The Australian Government has awarded more than 200 Australia Awards to Mauritian professionals through the Africa programme, supporting master's degrees, short courses and fellowships aligned with partner countries' priorities.

"Through Australia Awards, we invest in emerging leaders who will return home with new skills, fresh perspectives and powerful international networks," the High Commissioner said, expressing confidence that the two scholars would make *"lasting contributions to Mauritius' development and prosperity."*

Australia Awards recipients also become members of the Australia Global Alumni network, which comprises more than 5,000 alumni across Africa. Mauritius, the High Commission noted, benefits from a particularly active alumni community that continues to contribute to development, reform and regional cooperation.

Encouraging the two scholars to engage fully during and after their studies, Ms Chamley said: *"I really encourage you both to draw on that network as you plan your reintegration and future contributions towards the end of your scholarship experience."*

Hainan: China's Financial Super-Island

• **"Hainan did not emerge from improvisation or political intuition. It was engineered."**

By DR HANS SEESAGHUR
International Affairs Specialist

Hainan, previously known as a tropical province, has been engineered into one of the most ambitious economic projects of the 21st century: a fully fledged Free Trade Port designed to become China's next global financial and commercial hub. What Shenzhen was to manufacturing in the 1980s and Shanghai to trade and finance in the 2000s, Hainan is intended to be for China's next phase of opening-up. Geographically, Hainan is an island province in the South China Sea roughly the size of Belgium, with a land area of about 35,000 square kilometres and a population of just over 10 million, comparable to Portugal. Economically, however, it already punches far above its weight. Hainan's GDP now exceeds USD 100 billion, placing it on par with mid-sized European economies such as Croatia or African economies such as Ghana. On 18 December 2025, Hainan began operating as an independent customs territory. The date is symbolic since it marked the anniversary of China's 1978 *"Reform and Opening-up,"* signalling that Hainan represents the next generational leap in China's economic reform agenda.

Designed by Policy, Anchored in Reform

Hainan did not emerge from improvisation or political intuition. It was engineered. The island's transformation into China's most ambitious Free Trade Port and future global financial centre is the product of years of market research by China's most influential economists, planners, and policy designers. Long before the world paid attention, Chinese strategic teams had already dissected the mechanics of Dubai's logistics empire, Singapore's hyper-efficient regulatory state, Luxembourg's sophisticated financial ecosystem, Mauritius' offshore and arbitration model, and the Cayman Islands' specialised financial architecture. They studied what worked, what collapsed, what scaled, and what could be adapted to China's own geopolitical and economic realities. Hainan is the result of this intellectual excavation: a hybrid system designed to surpass the very models it was built upon.

Hainan Was Never Just About Finance

To reduce Hainan to a financial experiment is to fundamentally misunderstand Beijing's ambition. Hainan is not being built merely as a tax-efficient marketplace, but as a reconfiguration of connectivity across the entire Indo-Pacific. China is deliberately designing the island as a maritime, logistics, and digital nerve centre, linking East Asia to Africa and the Indian Ocean world. It is in Hainan that smart port technologies, customs-free transshipment corridors, advanced cold-chain logistics, fisheries value-chain platforms, and specialised maritime arbitration mechanisms are being tested, refined, and scaled.

From Field Visits to Lost Opportunities

Mauritius should have recognised itself in this blueprint. An island state at the crossroads of Asia–Africa trade, with a vast EEZ and blue-economy ambitions, had every reason to anchor itself early in Hainan's ecosystem. Instead, we treated Hainan as a curiosity, something to visit, admire, and leave. For instance, former Prime

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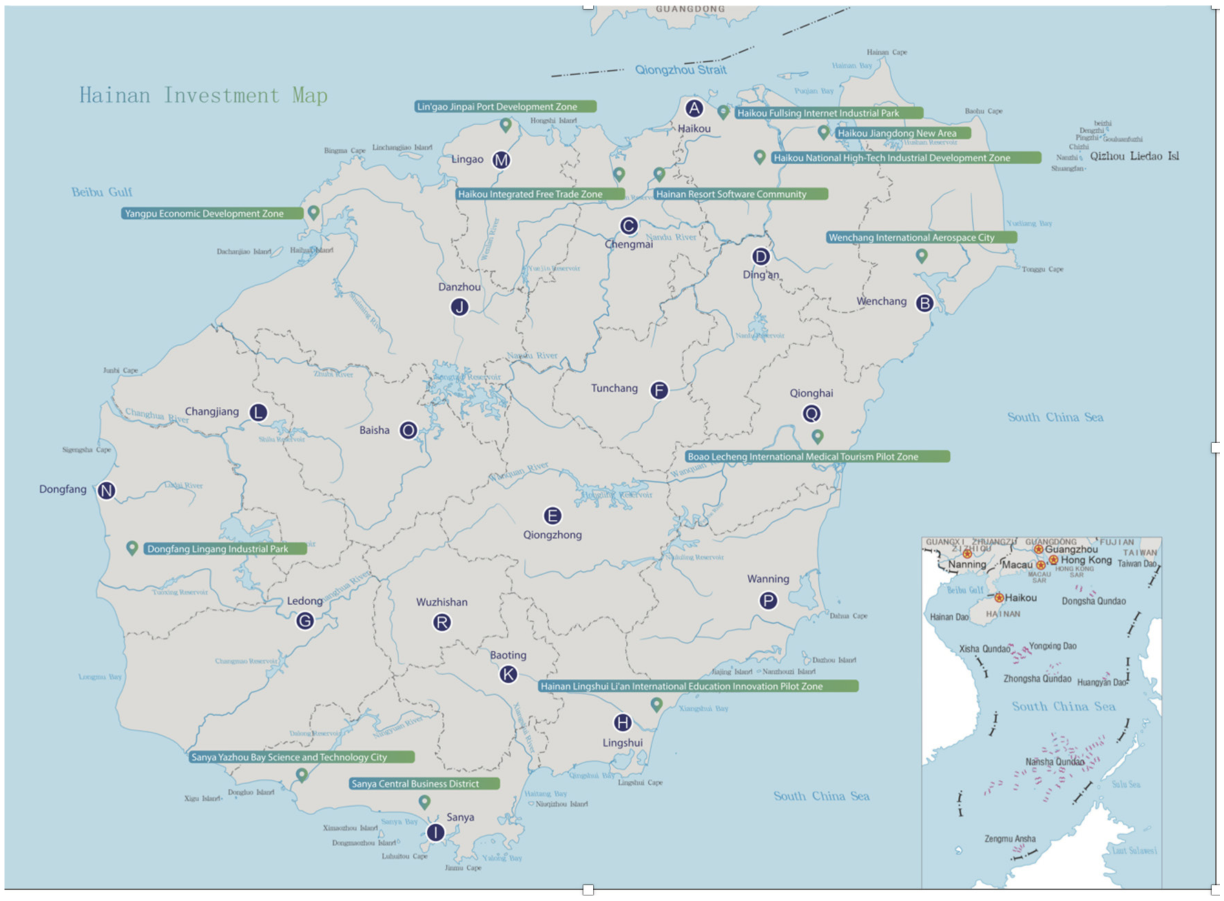
> **The Chinese dissected the mechanics of Dubai's logistics empire, Singapore's hyper-efficient regulatory state, Luxembourg's sophisticated financial ecosystem, Mauritius' offshore and arbitration model, and the Cayman Islands' specialised financial architecture.**



Minister Paul Raymond Bérenger visited Hainan on 27 January 2005, touring Nantian Farm and a mango demonstration base when the island was still testing early development models. On 10 July 2011, former President Sir Anerood Jugnauth travelled to Sanya, engaging Hainan's provincial leadership as China launched its International Tourism Island strategy. In December 2019, former Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security Maneesh Gobin led a Mauritian delegation to Sanya, at a time when Beijing was consolidating the legal and operational foundations of the Hainan Free Trade Port. Yet these high-level visits remained largely symbolic rather than strategic. They were not followed by sustained policy engagement with Hainan's rapidly evolving institutions.

Anchoring the World, While Mauritius Watched

Hainan did not wait for partnerships to materialise. It engineered them deliberately, city by city, year by year. Its record of Friendly Cities, Sister Cities, and Sister Provinces shows how Haikou, Sanya, Danzhou, Qionghai, Wenchang, and Wanning methodically locked in formal ties across Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, and Oceania. These were not ceremonial gestures or photo opportunities. They were instruments of connectivity: platforms for logistics cooperation, tourism circuits, investment facilitation, maritime exchange, and institutional learning, quietly embedding Hainan into global networks long before the Free Trade Port was officially launched.

On an African perspective, at the provincial level, Hainan has formal sister-province partnerships with Egypt, Mozambique, and Ethiopia. At the city level, its urban centres are twinned with African cities in Tanzania (Zanzibar), Seychelles (Victoria), Cabo Verde (Sal), and Uganda (Mbarara). Through its Friendly Cities framework, Haikou alone has established additional formal links with Egypt and Algeria. In total, Hainan has institutionalised structured partnerships with at least eight African countries, spanning North, East and Southern Africa. Mauritius appears nowhere in this architecture. The contrast is brutal: Hainan built anchors while Mauritius left footprints in the sand.

What Mauritius Must Do in 2026

If 2025 exposed what Mauritius could not anchor, 2026, declared the *"China–Africa Year"* by Beijing, offers a narrow but decisive window to correct course. But this will require abandoning ad-hoc and cocktail diplomacy by replacing it with deliberate institutional embedding.

First, Hainan is where China is testing smart ports, customs-free transshipment, fisheries logistics, digital trade platforms, and maritime arbitration mechanisms. Mauritius does not need to reinvent these systems; it needs to plug into them early and position itself as the Indian Ocean extension of Hainan's Asia–Africa corridor.

Second, 2026 should deliver at least one formal Hainan–Mauritius institutional anchor that is a sister-port arrangement, a fisheries logistics MoU, or a joint cold-chain and seafood processing platform linking Hainan to Port Louis. Symbolic agreements must give way to operational partnerships with timelines, pilots, and co-financing. The China–Africa Year will flood the calendar with forums. Mauritius should arrive with pre-negotiated projects, not the usual speeches with motherhood statements.

Finally, city-to-city and port-to-port diplomacy must be activated immediately. Hainan's playbook is clear: anchoring happens locally before it scales nationally. A Haikou–Port Louis or Sanya–Port Louis partnership focused on logistics, fisheries, or cruise tourism would do more for Mauritius' positioning than another high-level visit.

China–Africa Year 2026 will reward countries that arrive anchored, prepared, and operational. Mauritius cannot afford another year of observation. This time, it must stay, sign, and scale, or accept strategic irrelevance in the "Large Ocean State" announced.

About the author

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LANCEMENT DE RIVAZUR À AZURI

Une nouvelle destination balnéaire inspirée de la Côte d'Azur

Rivazur a officiellement ouvert ses portes sur le front de mer d'Azuri, l'un des développements les plus prestigieux situés sur la côte nord-est de l'île Maurice. Rivazur introduit un tout nouvel art de vivre de luxe et une nouvelle destination gastronomique où l'élégance naturelle de la Côte d'Azur rencontre l'âme détendue et ensoleillée de l'île Maurice. À la fois chic et décontracté, Rivazur est plus qu'un restaurant, c'est un lieu où voisins, amis, familles et voyageurs se retrouvent naturellement. Des longs déjeuners ensoleillés aux soirées chics, Rivazur célèbre la convivialité, la vie côtière méditerranéenne et la joie simple de vivre en bord de mer.

Positionné comme le cœur vibrant de la côte nord-est, Rivazur apporte une énergie à la fois raffinée et inclusive, offrant une expérience gastronomique façonnée par la nourriture, le design, l'atmosphère et la communauté.
« Avec le lancement de Rivazur, nous sommes ravis d'insuffler une nouvelle vie à ce restaurant en bord de mer situé au sein du prestigieux développement Azuri, en le positionnant comme une destination de référence en matière d'art de vivre de luxe, où les Mauriciens et les visiteurs peuvent profiter d'une cuisine exceptionnelle, d'un design inspirant et d'expériences mémorables au bord de la mer », a indiqué Olivier Chavy, Chief Executive Officer de The Lux Collective.

Une destination lifestyle en bord de mer

Rivazur est conçu comme une destination lifestyle inspirée de la Riviera. Que ce soit pour un café en toute décontraction, un déjeuner tranquille, de beaux cocktails ou une soirée partagée autour d'une excellente cuisine et du vin, le restaurant invite les clients à ralentir et à savourer le rythme côtier.
Avec un fort accent sur la communauté, Rivazur ambitionne de devenir un point de rencontre naturel pour les résidents d'Azuri tout en attirant les voyageurs internationaux grâce à son atmosphère vibrante, ses événements et son attrait de bouche-à-oreille.

La Fondation Sir Jean Etienne Moilin Ah-Chuen offre un Noël plein de joie aux enfants

La Fondation Sir Jean Etienne Moilin Ah-Chuen, qui déploie les actions sociales du Groupe ABC, a invité environ 150 enfants à sa traditionnelle fête de Noël au Sir Jean Etienne Moilin Ah-Chuen Memorial Centre, le samedi 20 décembre. À noter que ces enfants bénéficient du soutien d'ONG partenaires telles que Caritas Roche Bois, Caritas Tranquebar, Ki Fer Pa Mwa, le Mouvement pour le Progrès de Roche Bois (MPRB), les forces vives de Camp Yoloff, ainsi que M Kids et Future Hope.
Cette journée festive a été rendue possible grâce à une collecte de jouets et de matériel scolaire auprès des directeurs et employés du Groupe, qui ont fait preuve de générosité et ont contribué à ce que cet évènement soit un succès.
Les activités ont donné vie au jardin du Memorial Centre aménagé pour l'occasion en véritable espace de fête. Ateliers créatifs, jeux interactifs et châteaux gonflables, entre autres, ont transformé la matinée en un moment festif, avant de laisser place, en début d'après-midi, à une animation musicale assurée par le chanteur Warren Permal. Les sourires, les éclats de rire et les moments d'échange entre les jeunes invités et les employés du Groupe ABC ont rendu cette fête mémorable.
« Cette journée n'aurait pas été possible sans l'engagement et la collaboration de nos ONG partenaires que nous remercions sincèrement pour leur dévouement constant auprès des enfants. Je tiens également à saluer la contribution remarquable des employés du Groupe ABC, dont la générosité, la solidarité et l'enthousiasme ont véritablement illuminé cette journée et offert aux enfants un Noël rempli de joie et d'espoir », a affirmé à cette occasion David Ramsay, CSR Manager.

Sugar Beach International Junior Croquet Cup : journée de détection le 17 janvier

Le Sugar Beach a annoncé la première édition de l'International Junior Croquet Cup, qui se tiendra le 15 mars 2026, à Maurice. Cet événement sportif et convivial destiné aux enfants, vise à faire découvrir ce sport de manière simple, conviviale et adaptée aux plus jeunes.
A cet effet est prévue une journée de détection le samedi 17 janvier, au Sugar Beach, pour découvrir le croquet. Une initiation ouverte et gratuite à tous les enfants.
Cette première édition sera parrainée par Jenny Clarke, vainqueure des deux dernières éditions de la Sugar Beach International Croquet Cup à Maurice.
Jenny Clarke a commencé à jouer au croquet tout en poursuivant son doctorat au Royaume-Uni à l'Université d'Oxford dans les années 1990. Elle est membre à vie de la Canterbury Croquet Association et du United Croquet Club. Elle joue à la fois au AC (Association Croquet) et au GC (Golf Croquet) et a remporté le championnat du monde féminin AC en 2012. Elle a été membre des équipes de test AC et GC de la Nouvelle-Zélande pendant de nombreuses années. Elle a remporté divers titres ouverts et féminins en Nouvelle-Zélande et au Royaume-Uni, mais ses titres les plus marquants à ce niveau sont ses trois titres de championne en simple à l'Australian Open en 2010, 2018 et 2019.
Elle fera ainsi découvrir ce sport aux enfants tout en les encourageant dans leur initiation à travers une approche élégante et accessible.

Constance Le Chaland, le nouvel Éden signé Constance Hotels & Resorts

Constance Hospitality et Iko (Mauritius) Hotel Ltd annoncent la signature d'un accord de partenariat pour la gestion de l'hôtel du Groupe Currimjee situé à Le Chaland, sur la côte sud-est de l'île Maurice. L'établissement opérera à partir du mois de février 2026 sous le nom de Constance Le Chaland et rejoindra la collection Constance Hotels & Resorts, aux côtés des autres adresses emblématiques de la marque, nichées dans les plus beaux paysages de l'océan Indien.

Cet accord marque une étape majeure pour les deux partenaires, réunissant l'héritage et l'ancrage mauricien de Currimjee Group et l'expertise de Constance Hospitality, opérateur indépendant reconnu pour son excellence opérationnelle, sa culture du service et sa capacité à créer une hospitalité de luxe à échelle humaine, à la fois authentique et profondément sincère.
Pensé comme un sanctuaire naturel, l'hôtel se déploie avec une présence douce dans le paysage : lignes intégrées, cheminements organiques, perspectives ouvertes sur un littoral préservé.
Constance Hotels & Resorts y insufflera une atmosphère fidèle à l'identité du site : une élégance sans ostentation et des expériences qui laissent une empreinte émotionnelle, portées par la signature « True by Nature », où le luxe se vit en harmonie avec l'environnement. Constance Le Chaland promet ainsi une expérience rare : confidentielle, lumineuse, profondément ré-énergisante, avec ce sentiment précieux d'être ailleurs.

« Nous sommes honorés de la confiance que nous accorde Currimjee Group, un acteur majeur du paysage économique mauricien qui partage des valeurs similaires à celle du groupe Constance », déclare Jean-Jacques Vallet, CEO de Constance Hospitality. *« Constance Le Chaland sera une addition singulière à nome collection : un lieu où l'on ressent la nature, où l'on ralentit, où l'on se retrouve, porté par notre exigence de service, notre culture d'excellence et notre engagement True by Nature. »*
« Ce partenariat avec Constance Hospitalité traduit la vision de développement à long terme du Groupe Currimjee et agit également comme un véritable tremplin pour son plan d'investissement et de création de projets dans le sud de l'île. Il s'impose aussi naturellement à travers la culture d'excellence et de service qui fait la renommée des hôtels Constance, leur engagement sincère en faveur de lo préservation des écosystèmes, incarné par leur signature True by Nature, ainsi que la résonance naturelle de cette philosophie avec l'identité de l'hôtel,

conçu dès l'origine sous le sceau ISO pour révéler pleinement sa dimension écologique. Cette convergence de visions fait également écho, de manière intrinsèque, aux valeurs portées par le Groupe Currimjee. Nous sommes donc très confiants quant à ce partenariat avec le Groupe Constance et apporterons tout notre soutien pour écrire ensemble ce nouveau chapitre », affirme Iqbal Oozeer, Managing Director du Groupe Currimjee.

L'Ambassadeur Jardine rend une visite d'adieu au ministre Ramful

L'Ambassadeur des États-Unis auprès de la République de Maurice et de la République des Seychelles, Henry V. Jardine, a rendu une visite d'adieu au ministre des Affaires étrangères, de l'Intégration régionale et du Commerce international, Dhananjay Ramful, le lundi 5 janvier 2026, à Port-Louis.
L'Ambassadeur Jardine a exprimé sa gratitude au Gouvernement mauricien pour la coopération et le soutien qui lui ont été accordés durant ses trois années de mandat. Il a déclaré que cela a été un honneur de représenter les États-Unis à Maurice et aux Seychelles et a mis en avant la solidité des relations bilatérales dans les domaines de la sécurité, de la gouvernance et des initiatives institutionnelles. Il demeure très optimiste quant au renforcement continu des relations entre les États-Unis et Maurice dans les années à venir.
Le ministre Ramful a quant à lui remercié l'ambassadeur pour le travail accompli au cours de son mandat, soulignant les excellentes relations qui existent entre les États-Unis d'Amérique et la République de Maurice. Il a indiqué que les relations bilatérales entre les deux pays se sont renforcées ces dernières années, notamment en ce qui concerne l'archipel des Chagos, ainsi que le volet de la sécurité maritime.
Les deux hommes ont également abordé le 18e Sommet des affaires États-Unis–Afrique, qui se tiendra à Maurice en juillet de cette année. Le Sommet devrait réunir quelque 3 000 délégués et chefs d'entreprise des États-Unis et d'Afrique.

La Fondation Art of Living a célébré la Journée mondiale de la méditation à Maurice et à travers le monde

La Journée mondiale de la méditation a été marquée par deux discours importants prononcés par Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, fondateur d'Art of Living Foundation, aux Nations Unies et à New York. Des initiatives ouvertes au grand public ont aussi eu lieu à l'île Maurice. Ensemble, ces événements ont mis en lumière le rôle universel de la méditation dans le renforcement de la paix mondiale et la gestion de la santé mentale.

Le premier événement, introduit par Christoph Glaser, PDG de TLEX Institute, s'est tenu au siège des Nations Unies. Ce dernier a souligné la pertinence croissante de la méditation dans le leadership et le bien-être au travail.

Lors du second événement, qui s'est tenu à New York, Jon Clifton, PDG de Gallup, a prononcé une brève mais percutante allocution. Il a annoncé la collaboration de Gallup avec Art of Living sur une étude mondiale couvrant plus de 140 pays, destinée à mesurer l'impact de la méditation sur la santé émotionnelle, la résilience et le bien-être.

En parallèle de l'événement de New York, la Fondation Art of Living Maurice a organisé une séance de méditation au Jardin Telfair à Souillac. Celle-ci a été précédée d'une marche communautaire à Souillac et Rivière des Anguilles, destinée à sensibiliser les jeunes et la population générale aux bienfaits de la méditation et du bien-être collectif.

La Fondation a également mis en avant son engagement continu sur l'île à travers des « Happiness Programs » dispensés toute l'année, proposant des cours adaptés aux jeunes adultes, adolescents et enfants.

Emtel a célébré Noël avec plus de 475 enfants

Fidèle à son engagement social, Emtel a organisé sa traditionnelle fête de Noël dans le cadre de son initiative solidaire « Enn Zanfan Enn Sourir ». Cette année, plus de 475 enfants issus de milieux défavorisés à Maurice, Rodrigues et Agaléga ont eu l'occasion de vivre de superbes moments de joie et de partage. Lancée en 2017, cette initiative est menée en collaboration avec la Currimjee Foundation et divers partenaires locaux.

Au cours de ces journées festives, les enfants ont bénéficié de la distribution de matériel scolaire, de cadeaux de Noël, de repas, ainsi que d'activités ludiques, avant une visite surprise très attendue du Père Noël. Âgés de 1 à 18 ans, les bénéficiaires proviennent de situations diverses : enfants vivant dans des centres d'accueil, issus de familles vulnérables ou encore enfants à besoins spécifiques.

À Maurice, l'événement s'est tenu le 30 novembre au JA Marie Marot Centre à Quatre-Bornes, en collaboration avec l'ONG Light of Hope. À Rodrigues, il a eu lieu le 14 décembre à Baladirou, grâce au partenariat avec le Rotary Club de Rodrigues. Enfin, les enfants d'Agaléga ont participé à l'événement organisé le 12 décembre 2025 au Tsunami Centre, sous la coordination de l'Outer Islands Development Corporation (OIDC), garantissant une mise en œuvre respectueuse des réalités locales.

BILAN 2025

Une année riche en actions sociales et en engagements concrets pour C-Care

Pour mieux sensibiliser le public à l'importance du dépistage et aller à la rencontre des populations sur le terrain, C-Care a renforcé et élargi ses initiatives communautaires en 2025. Campagnes nationales de sensibilisation, dépistages gratuits, conférences santé, collectes de sang, accompagnement d'événements sportifs... Le groupe a multiplié les initiatives pour rapprocher les Mauriciens des services essentiels, toucher un public plus large et répondre à des besoins concrets.

A travers son programme C-Care On the Road, C-Care est allé à la rencontre des habitants dans différentes régions de l'île. Cette initiative, lancée en 2023, a pour but d'offrir des dépistages gratuits et d'encourager les Mauriciens à adopter une démarche proactive en matière de santé. À Goodlands et Grand Baie, les équipes ont mobilisé la population autour de collectes de sang. Dans des régions comme Mapou, Tamarin, Phoenix, Ébène, Floréal ou Sainte-Croix, ce sont les Health & Awareness Talks qui ont permis d'ouvrir le dialogue sur la prévention et les bons réflexes santé. Partout où le besoin se faisait sentir, de Triolet à Alma, de Bagatelle à Valentina, de Curepipe à Rivière Noire, de Vacoas à Albion, C-Care a organisé des dépistages et consultations médicales accessibles à tous.

Autant d'actions de proximité guidées par la même volonté : informer, prévenir, accompagner et encourager le dépistage précoce des maladies les plus répandues à Maurice.

Ces consultations ont couvert un large éventail de spécialités : cardiologie, podologie, ophtalmologie, dépistage du glaucome, santé générale (pression artérielle, glycémie, IMCI) et neurologie, afin d'offrir un premier niveau d'évaluation et de conseils médicaux aux communautés.

Pour Kreshny Guriah, Sustainability Manager chez C-Care, cette dynamique de proximité s'inscrit pleinement au cœur de la mission du groupe.

« À travers nos initiatives, que ce soient les dépistages gratuits, les actions de sensibilisation, les partenariats communautaires ou encore le soutien médical lors de divers événements sportifs, nous allons à la rencontre des Mauriciens là où ils vivent, travaillent et évoluent. Notre mission est simple : rendre la santé accessible à chacun et donner les moyens d'agir pour son bien-être. Nous sommes fiers du chemin parcouru en 2025 et plus que jamais déterminés à poursuivre, consolider et amplifier cet engagement au service de la population en 2026 », explique-t-elle.

L'impact en chiffres

- Collectes de sang : 67 dons
- Health & Awareness Talks : 272 bénéficiaires
- Dépistages et consultations médicales : Plus de 2500 bénéficiaires

Bilan 2025

- Examens cardiaques pour les enfants.
- Dépistage bariatrique gratuit à l'occasion de la Journée mondiale de l'obésité.
- Dépistages à Super U Flacq pour la Journée mondiale du rein.
- Don de sang aux Super U de Goodlands et Grand Baie.
- Présence médicale lors du Bocage Health Day, du Ferney Trail, des Jeux de l'Ouest au Stade de Bambous, et du Rugby 7s à Mapou.
- Contrôle de la tension, de la glycémie, de l'IMC et consultations gratuites lors du Mont Choisy Mall Wellness Market.
- Action de sensibilisation durant la Semaine de l'allaitement.
- Dépistage gratuit du cancer du sein dans le cadre de Pink October.
- Dépistage pour la santé des hommes au Coeur de Ville Flacq avec le Rotaract Club dans le cadre de Movember.
- Dépistage au Albion Mall avec le Rotary Club d'Albion.
- Dépistages de santé gratuits à London Way, Rivière Noire.
- 'Health Talks' pour la Journée mondiale du diabète et pour la préparation du Ferney Trail – Trailblazers.
- 'Awareness Talk' durant le Gentleman's Drive.
- Consultations dentaires pour les enfants à besoins spécifiques en collaboration avec l'association Anou Grandi.

Quelques partenariats clés

- Dépistages de santé gratuits en partenariat avec PILS.
- Dépistages de santé gratuits en partenariat avec ABSA, dans le cadre de sa campagne Stories of Hope dédiée au dépistage du cancer.
- Dépistages en collaboration avec la Social Empowerment Valetta Association (SEVA).
- Dépistages de santé gratuits en partenariat avec Enn Rev Enn Sourir.
- Dépistages en collaboration avec l'Endocrinology & Diabetes Association.
- Dépistage oculaire avec le Rotary Club de Mont Choisy.
- Dépistages en collaboration avec The Avenue Parkside .
- Mega Health Day avec le Lions Club Floreal Vacoas et la municipalité de Vacoas Phoenix.

Stevenhills soutient le Port-Louis Black Horns

Stevenhills, acteur majeur dans le domaine du divertissement et des paris sportifs à Maurice, va au-delà de son rôle traditionnel en soutenant activement le football local. Depuis 2021, la marque accompagne le club de football Port-Louis Black Horns, dirigé par Patrice D'Avrincourt, à travers un programme de sponsoring visant à encourager le développement des jeunes talents sportifs mauriciens. Ce partenariat inclut un soutien financier, qui permet au club de couvrir les frais essentiels pour la logistique et le bon fonctionnement de l'équipe. Cela reflète la volonté de Stevenhills de promouvoir le sport comme un outil de discipline, d'inspiration et de développement personnel pour les jeunes du pays.

« Grâce au soutien de Stevenhills, nous pouvons offrir à nos jeunes joueurs une structure solide, des équipements de qualité et surtout un objectif clair dans leur parcours sportif. Le football devient ainsi un véritable tremplin, donnant aux enfants l'opportunité de croire en leurs rêves et de s'épanouir dans un environnement sain et encadré », souligne Patrice D'Avrincourt, coach et directeur de l'académie du club.

Port-Louis Black Horns, créé en 1970, compte aujourd'hui 88 jeunes au centre de formation et 50 joueurs seniors.

La Pirogue Marlin World Cup 2025 : Efkays inscrit son nom au palmarès

La côte ouest a vibré pendant trois jours au rythme du cliquetis des moulinets et des caprices de la mer à l'occasion de La Pirogue Marlin World Cup 2025, rendez-vous incontournable du 'big game fishing' dans l'océan Indien. En effet, 30 équipes de Maurice et d'ailleurs se sont affrontées dans une compétition où précision, endurance et stratégie ont fait toute la différence.

Les équipages ont bravé les marées et les vents dans l'espoir de décrocher les prises les plus prestigieuses tels que des marlins bleus, tout en respectant les règles strictes de la pêche sportive internationale. Chaque sortie en mer a été marquée par des choix tactiques millimétrés, des combats intenses et une tension palpable jusqu'aux derniers instants.

Au terme d'un suspense haletant, c'est l'équipe Efkays, à bord du bateau Ushta Te, qui s'est imposée en véritable maître du large. Efkays a signé une performance remarquable en cumulant 780 points sur les trois jours, soit le meilleur total du tournoi, avec deux journées pleines à 390 points après un démarrage prudent le premier jour. Le capitaine de l'équipe, Raian Irani, était accompagné de ses amis pêcheurs indiens pour cette édition 2025. Pêcheur depuis l'âge de sept ans en Inde, où il pratiquait la pêche en lac et en rivière, le champion s'est tourné vers la pêche hauturière il y a un quart de siècle. Ses expéditions l'ont mené des Andaman à l'Australie, en passant par la Thaïlande et les Açores.

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