

Mauritius Business Growth Scheme

The Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Unit was set up by the Government of Mauritius in collaboration with the World Bank and became fully operational in September 2010. Its objective is to facilitate the maximum possible growth in private sector economic activity by supporting enterprise productivity and competitiveness, specifically in areas of skills and training, technology upgrading, innovation, quality standards and business development.



The first step is always the hardest, especially for an entrepreneur. MBGS encourages aspiring entrepreneurs to realize their ambition with its Start-Up Entrepreneurship Scheme to help them start their businesses.

Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Start-Up Entrepreneurship Scheme

Objective of Scheme	To provide a basic monthly allowance to innovative and creative entrepreneurs who may not otherwise have the necessary income to jump into starting an innovative business to offer innovating, unique, exciting, new or technologically based products, services or business models.
Implementing Agency	The Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Unit.
Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A monthly allowance of Rs. 20,000 is payable to the entrepreneur for a maximum period of 12 months. • Loan repayment is based on a “royalty-on-incremental-sales” basis which implies that a beneficiary may have to refund a maximum of Rs. 1.2 times the amount of the loan obtained if the growth of the enterprise is significant. • Repayment starts as from the third year, (2 years moratorium). • Repayment period may last up to a maximum of 5 years.
Eligibility Criteria	<p>The enterprise should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be less than 12 months in operation; • have an innovative, fresh, unique or otherwise creative product, service or business model; • operate in an eligible sub-sector; • be incorporated as a legal entity in Mauritius; • be profit-oriented.
Mode of application	<p>The Application Form can either be:</p> <p>Collected at the reception desk of MBGS Office,</p> <p>or</p> <p>Downloaded from the MBGS website (http://mbgs.gov.mu).</p>



The 90-10 payback scheme enables entrepreneurs to avail of more specialised outside expert services, beyond the generalist hand-holding provided by the advisors within the MBGS Unit.

Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Technical Assistance 90:10 Payback Scheme

Objective of Scheme	To facilitate growth in private sector economic activity by supporting enterprise productivity, employment creation and competitiveness, specifically in areas of skills and training, technology upgrading, innovation, quality standards and marketing constraints facing enterprises. Thus MBGS provides expert services to SMEs.
Implementing Agency	The Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Unit.
Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of the consultancy fees is borne by the Government, whilst the applicant injects 10%. • The enterprise may benefit from a loan amounting up to a maximum of Rs. 3 million. • Loan repayment is based on a “royalty-on-incremental-sales” basis which implies that a beneficiary may have to refund a maximum amount of 1.8 times the amount obtained. • Repayment starts as from the fourth year, (3 years moratorium). • Repayment period may last up to a maximum of 5 years.
Eligibility Criteria	<p>Eligible Firm:</p> <p>The eligible firm could be an SME or any enterprise, operating in an eligible sub-sector, and incorporated in Mauritius (either as a company or a société or a cooperative society) and undertaking profit oriented activities.</p> <p>Audited accounts should be provided each year.</p> <p>Eligible Subsectors:</p> <p>SMEs and enterprises (of all sizes) operating in all sub-sectors of the economy are eligible for MBGS assistance, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those involved in “pure trading activities”; • Those operating in the Financial Services (such as banks) etc.

	<p>Eligible activities:</p> <p>All specific business development activities in the following areas of financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the business; • Boost sales; • Increase local, regional or global competitiveness; • Expand existing markets or enter new markets; • Develop new products or product lines; • Work on designs, research or development; • Improve management, logistical, financial or supply chain related performances; • Obtain quality certifications; • Seek local or international technical expertise and consultancy; and • Expand employment. <p>The scheme covers only “technical assistance” and does not cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expenditures on fixed assets; • Overheads; • working capital; or • routine business operations. <p>The scheme is for everything that is over and above normal business operations.</p>
<p>Mode of Application</p>	<p>The Application Form can either be:</p> <p>Collected at the reception desk of MBGS Office, or</p> <p>Downloaded from the MBGS website (http://mbgs.gov.mu).</p> <p>Additional supporting document:</p> <p>A “Plan for Business Growth,” indicating that the management understands the firm’s current situation, and that it has a clear view of the direction it intends to follow in order to achieve significant growth in sales [eg. new products, new markets, technical improvements, improvements in products or in marketing, new certifications, etc], should also be submitted.</p>



Every entrepreneur can learn from a mentor, no matter how confident or successful they have been to date, (Forbes). The MBGS team assists beneficiary firms, free of charge, with the planning and implementation of a plan for business growth and strategy.

Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Mentoring and Coaching

Objective of Scheme	MBGS supplies free “mentoring” or “coaching” or “hand-holding” services to potential and existing entrepreneurs to support beneficiary private sector companies with the planning and implementation of a plan for business growth and increased competitiveness.
Implementing Agency	The Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) Unit.
Scheme	<p>The professional business mentor from the MBGS Unit will be assigned to handle all assistance to, and contact with, that firm. He will assist the firm through various stages and processes by supporting, guiding and advising this particular firm in areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building; • Achieving improvement in sales growth; • Breaking into a new market; • Launching of a new product; • Branding; • Basic technical assistance, etc. <p>During or following the initial contact visit, direct assistance to each firm will begin with a ‘growth diagnostic’; this will evaluate all key elements of the business, which contribute towards achieving increased sales. The intention is to identify, in order of priority, the weaknesses or gaps that, when remedied, will lead to the highest possible impact in terms of increased sales growth.</p>
Eligibility Criteria	<p>Eligible Firm:</p> <p>The eligible firm could be an SME or any enterprise, operating in an eligible sub-sector, and incorporated in Mauritius (either as a company or a société or a cooperative society) and undertaking profit oriented activities.</p> <p>Eligible Subsectors:</p> <p>SMEs and enterprises (of all sizes) operating in all sub-sectors of the economy are eligible for MBGS assistance, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those involved in “pure trading activities”; • Those operating in the Financial Services industry (such as banks, etc).
Mode of Application	The enterprise should submit an Application Form to MBGS to benefit from handholding/mentoring/services.

