

**MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT, SMES AND
COOPERATIVES
(SMEs DIVISION)**



**NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2021**

EXTENSION OF THE SME EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

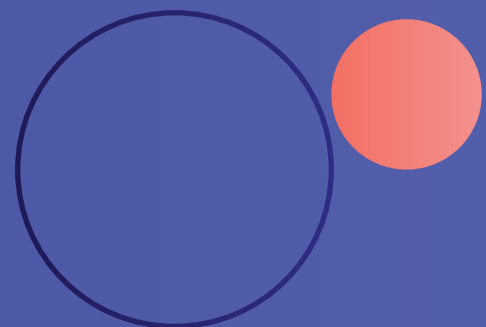
The SME Employment Scheme has been a resounding success in both conception and delivery. The Scheme has been extended to June 2022 to cater for an additional 700 graduates and 300 diploma holders.

The Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Hon. Soomilduth Bholah has announced that to bridge the skills gap and further reduce unemployment among Youth, the SME Employment Scheme is also being extended to enlist MQA approved holders of TVET Level 3 qualifications in: plumbing, electrical, culinary skills, automotive mechanics and electronics amongst others to be placed in SMEs.

Minister Bholah is of view that SMEs stand to gain from the right skills and competencies of trainees enlisted for the scheme. At the same time, Hon. Bholah underlines that trainees placed in SMEs will benefit from real work experience, thereby consolidating their career path.

Details and application forms on the SME Employment Scheme are available on

<https://smemu.org/capacity-building-sme-employment-scheme/>



LEATHER STUDIO AT COROMANDEL

The Mauritian leather sector is being revived and revitalised. In this context, SME Mauritius inaugurated the leather studio at Coromandel in August 2021. This newly set-up leather studio consists of 15 machines with the latest technologies which will help MSMEs in the leather sector to develop high-end products prototypes. The studio will enable entrepreneurs to get used to modern and clean technologies. More than 100 SMEs have benefitted from a training in the design and the production of leather products.

WORKSHOP FOR SMEs IN THE TOURISM SECTOR

In the context of the reopening of the Mauritian borders and to prepare SMEs in the tourism sector, SME Mauritius in collaboration with Inbound Tourism Promoters Association (ITPA) and Tourism Business Intelligent (TBI) organised 3 days training for the frontliners in this sector. These trainings were carried out in the 3 outstations of SME Mauritius namely Rose-Belle, Bel-Air and Goodlands. The topics covered were sanitary protocols, road safety and hospitality.



UPGRADING OF SME MAURITIUS BEL AIR

A newly renovated SME Mauritius Business Support Centre, offering a wide-array of facilities to Mauritian entrepreneurs, was inaugurated in June 2021 at Bel Air.

The training room has been upgraded. Working spaces and a meeting room are also at the disposal of entrepreneurs.

On the occasion of the inauguration ceremony of the sub-office at Bel Air, the LinkedIn Page of SME Mauritius was launched.



E-COMMERCE FOR SMES

The Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on E-Commerce with the Mauritius Post Ltd on 29 July 2021.

The purpose of the MoU is to provide registered SMEs/Cooperatives preferential tariffs to market their products on the E-Commerce platform developed by the Mauritius Post Ltd. With the recent migration of the Mauritius Post Ltd to the Global Post System, it is able to cater for the operations of different models of E-commerce platforms in Mauritius. Its E-Commerce solution coupled with its network of 114 Post Offices and accompanying delivery logistics and shipment facilities to 660,000 postal access points across the world will facilitate the exchange of physical goods between buyers and sellers and ensure secure payment options.





SADC TRADE RELATED FACILITY

A Financing Agreement under the SADC Trade Related Facility (TRF) for €1.4 million was signed between Mauritius and the SADC Secretariat in March 2017 to improve the country's participation in regional and international trade. Under the SADC TRF, a project on Productivity and Improvement Programme (PIP) was identified for Mauritius with the objective to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of manufacturing companies (SMEs and large companies).

In this context, the Japan Productivity Centre (JPC), a Japanese Consultancy firm, has conducted productivity improvement programmes for 27 manufacturing companies (16 SMEs and 11 large companies), with the objective to enhance their productivity and competitiveness from December 2020 to June 2021.

The intervention comprised a Diagnostic phase followed by an implementation and monitoring phase. The Diagnosis phase included consultations, workplace studies, productivity improvement concepts and tips, and financial analysis.

The participants of the programme have expressed satisfaction following its implementation.

SME REGISTRATION UNIT

The main services of the SME Registration Unit comprise of inter-alia, the following:

- Issue/renew of Registration Certificate as SMEs;
- provide support and information to facilitate obtention of any registration, permit, licence, authorisation or other clearance which an enterprise may require; and
- compile and report on statistics about registered SMEs.

	(January- October 2021)
Number of visitors attended the Unit for Business information & counselling	5338
Number of SMEs registered	6202*

* 1716 SMEs made application directly on the Registration Portal which represents 28% of total applications.

SME Registration Unit
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Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SI)

SME Registration Unit

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE AS (Section 4 of SME Act 2017)

Applicant Details

Surname/ Company Name:

Other names: Title (Mr/Ms/Ms)

Tel: Mobile: E-Mail:/Website:

Address for Correspondence (Home Address/ Registered Office):

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Business Address:

Identity Card:

Registration No:

Business (as per Business Registration Card)
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