

Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management

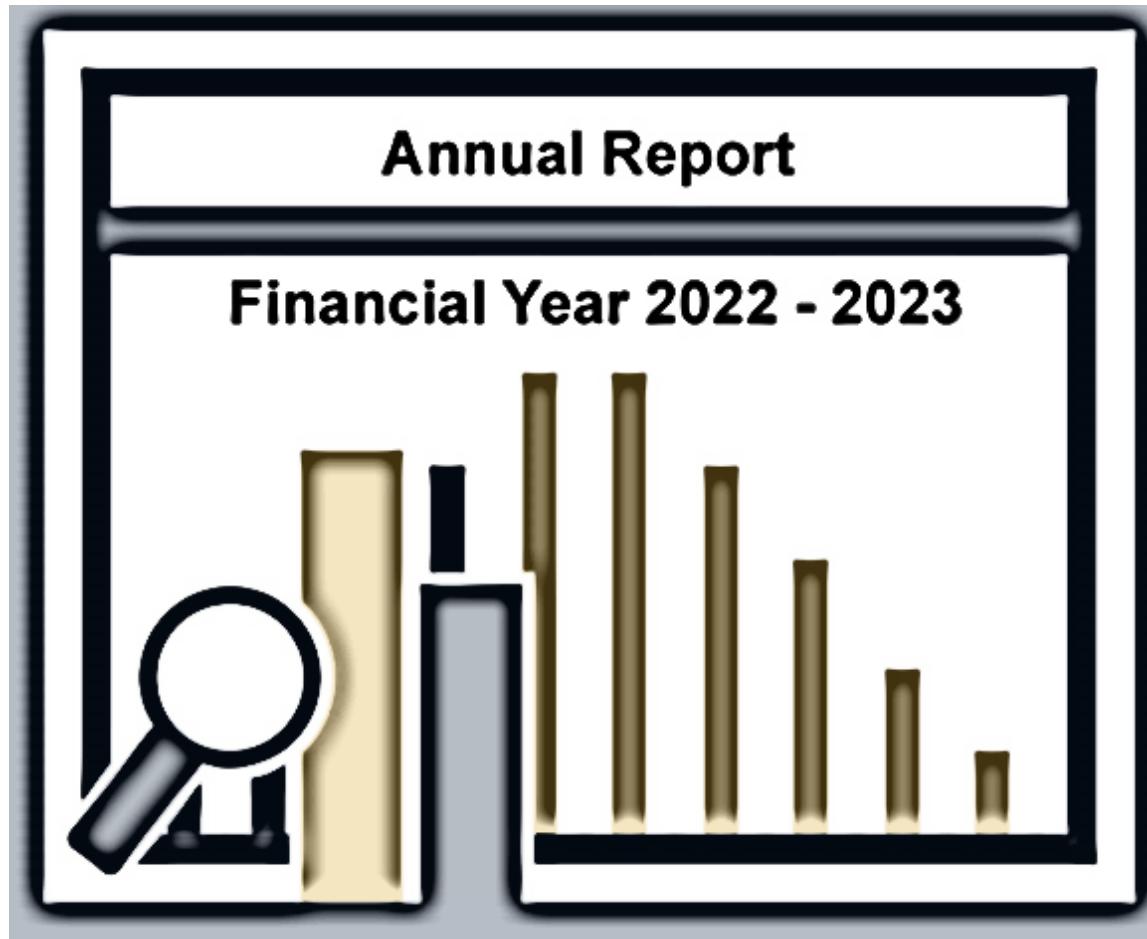


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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBC : Cell Broadcast Centre

CDRP: Community Disaster Response Programme

CDRT: Community Disaster Response Team

CPM: Council Project Management

IPSAS: International Public Sector Accounting Standard

LEOC: Local Emergency Operation Command

MARS: Mauritius Amateur Radio Society

MFRS :Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service

MRCS: Mauritius Red Cross Society

NCC :National Crisis Committee

NCG : National Coast Guard

NDRRMC: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre

NEOC :National Emergency Operations Command

NMH-EAS: National Multi-Hazard Emergency Alert System

REOC :Rodrigues Emergency Operation Command

RFP : Request for Proposal

SMF: Special Mobile Force

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This Annual Report on Performance of the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management for the Financial Year 2022 – 2023 is a statutory requirement in accordance with Section 4B of the Finance and Audit Act.

The report provides information on the Ministry's performance, achievements and the target set out in relation to the resources approved by the National Assembly.

STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER



“Efficiency is doing better what is already being done.” — Peter Drucker

The above quote highlights the action that has been undertaken by my Ministry with the aim of enhancing the service that is already being provided to the population.

Even though COVID-19 pandemic and the Russo-Ukrainian war have had a global impact on the world's economy, the services provided by Local Authorities to the population were sustained. This can be attributed to the prompt measures taken by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius through the Prime Minister, Honourable Pravind Kumar Jugnauth.

Here, I must commend the efforts of all the organisations operating under the aegis of my Ministry, including, *inter alia*, the Local Authorities, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre, the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service, the Mauritius Meteorological Services and the Field Services Unit.

Furthermore, a special mention should be made for the dedicated staff of my Ministry, who have continuously endeavoured to meet targets in a timely manner while being guided by the highest standards of professional ethics.

Despite all the challenges that we have faced, we have kept on striving to ensure that we contribute effectively towards achieving national objectives in respect of: Local government matters; Disaster Risk Reduction and Management; Cleaning, landscaping and embellishment of public places; Timely intervention of the Field Services Unit, Fire prevention and fighting as well as rescue service and, the Meteorological services.

Therefore, it is with immense pleasure that I am presenting the Annual Report on the Performance of the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management for the financial year 2022/2023.

I am convinced that, with the enthusiasm demonstrated by the staff and bodies falling under the purview of my Ministry, we will achieve new heights in terms of service delivery for the citizens of our country.

***Dr The Honourable Mohammad Anwar Husnoo, MBChB, DCh, MRCP
Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management***

STATEMENT FROM THE SENIOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE



It is a matter of great honour for me to present the Annual Report on Performance of the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management for the financial year 2022/2023.

This Ministry has been acting with utmost responsibility in the execution of its functions, which include overseeing the local authorities, formulating appropriate policies and legislative framework to ensure that local authorities operate smoothly, monitoring disaster risk reduction and management activities, amongst others.

In addition, through the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service as well as the Mauritius Meteorological Services, which fall under the purview of this Ministry, we are able to pursue our goal of making Mauritius a safe island by reducing the risks of loss of life, property and environmental damage through enforcement of fire legislations, education and rescue services, while also ascertaining timely and accurate weather and climate services, including early warning for natural hazards. The contribution of the Field Services Unit in providing services such as cleaning, landscaping and embellishment of public places is also laudable.

Moreover, it is a known fact that, as a Small Island Developing State, our island is highly vulnerable to natural calamities. In this optic, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre acts as the main coordinating body of the Ministry for the planning, organising, coordinating and monitoring of disaster risk reduction and management activities at all levels. It is worth highlighting that as per the World Risk Report 2016, Mauritius had been classified as the 7th country, which was most exposed to natural hazards. However, the World Risk Report 2021 has now ranked Mauritius at the 51st place in the same category.

It is a well-known fact that “*a lack of realism in the vision today costs credibility tomorrow (John C. Maxwell)*.”

At the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management, we have learned to embrace reality with its various challenges and conflicts on a daily basis. We channel all our focus and energy in coming up with optimum solutions, thus guaranteeing an efficient and excellent service delivery.

I am especially thankful to the staff of the Ministry and commend their efforts in accomplishing all the work assigned to them with complete integrity and timeliness.

Dr. Dhanandjay KAWOL
Senior Chief Executive

1.0 ABOUT THE MINISTRY

The Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management is responsible for the formulation of national policies and strategies regarding local government and disaster risk mitigation. It ensures the establishment of necessary legal framework to make certain that entities under its purview operate smoothly and contribute effectively towards achieving national objectives in respect of:

- ❖ local government matters in Mauritius;
- ❖ disaster Risk Reduction and Management;
- ❖ enforcement of conveyance of municipal solid waste;
- ❖ cleaning, landscaping and embellishment of public places;
- ❖ fire prevention and fighting as well as rescue service; and
- ❖ meteorological services.

1.1 Vision



The Ministry's vision is to:

- ❖ foster a vibrant local democracy and promote effective, transparent and proactive delivery of services by Local Authorities and to bridge the development divide between rural and urban areas;
- ❖ maintain a high level of cleanliness, hygiene and embellishment of environment in public places;
- ❖ strengthen the resilience of Mauritius so as to substantially reduce and prevent disaster risks and losses in lives, livelihoods and assets of people, communities and businesses;
- ❖ make the Republic of Mauritius a safe place to live in, work and visit anytime and anywhere free from the threats of fire and other calamities/emergencies; and
- ❖ establish a weather resilient and climate-smart action.

1.2 Mission



The mission of the Ministry is to:

- ❖ ensure that Local Authorities adhere to the principles of good governance;
- ❖ empower and provide appropriate support to Local Authorities so as to enable them to manage the affairs of the local communities effectively and efficiently;
- ❖ engage all stakeholders in local community affairs;
- ❖ establish the necessary framework for holistic disaster management, including risk assessment, disaster risk reduction, early warning and emergency alerts, to preparedness, response, relief, recovery and rehabilitation;
- ❖ put in place modern and reliable early warning and emergency alerts to forewarn the population and first responders as well as emergency management agencies of imminent threats and to advise on appropriate precautionary and preparedness measures to be taken;
- ❖ reinforce preparedness at all levels of the society through increased understanding to deal with identified risks of natural and potential man-made disasters;
- ❖ develop emergency response plans and schemes, and ensure their execution by relevant first responders and emergency management agencies on the ground;
- ❖ protect and reduce losses of life and property, and prevent damage to the environment due to fire and other threats; and
- ❖ provide accurate and timely weather and climate services and early warnings for natural hazards for enhanced socio-economic development of the Republic of Mauritius.

1.3 Core Values



The core values of the Ministry encompass the following:

- ❖ **Integrity:** guided by the highest standards of professional ethics;
- ❖ **Innovation:** looking forward to innovate;
- ❖ **Quality:** result-oriented and are committed to provide quality services;
- ❖ **Teamwork:** foster teamwork, communication and information sharing; and
- ❖ **Timeliness:** strive to meet targets in a timely manner.

1.4 Strategy



The overall strategy of the Ministry is to, first and foremost, ensure overall development of the country. Furthermore, with a view to establish parity development in both rural and urban areas across the country through the Local Authorities, the Ministry plays a crucial role in coordinating the activities of these authorities in order to ensure their active participation and support in this endeavour.

As such, the Ministry administers the Local Government Act 2011 and makes such regulations for the smooth implementation of activities undertaken by the local authorities as well as provides general policy guidance to the latter. By developing relevant legal and administrative frameworks, the Ministry ensures that the local authorities are given the appropriate assistance to bring about sustainable development and build a strong local government sector with a view of delivering a quality and cost-effective service to the community.

1.5 Key Functions



As for its key functions, the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management:

- ❖ ensures that Local Authorities comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act;
- ❖ approves Estimates of Local Authorities;
- ❖ ensures that the Local Authorities are performing their statutory duties efficiently;
- ❖ conducts elections for appointment of District Councillors, as and when vacancy arises;
- ❖ defines policies to assist Local Authorities to better perform their duties; and
- ❖ makes regulations with a view to providing the appropriate legal framework for the Local Authorities to comply with the Local Government Act for their service delivery.

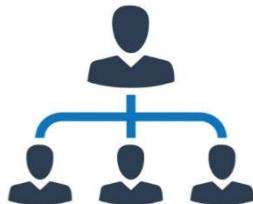
1.6 Main Legislations



- ❖ Local Government Act 2011;
- ❖ National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act 2016;
- ❖ Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service Act 2013; and
- ❖ Mauritius Meteorological Act 2018.

1.7 Units and Organisations operating under the Ministry

The following bodies/institutions operate under the aegis of the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management:



1. the Local Authorities;
2. the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre;
3. the Field Services Unit;
4. the Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service; and
5. the Mauritius Meteorological Services;
6. the Local Authorities Governance Unit;
7. the Unified Local Government Service Board; and
8. the Land Use Planning Unit.

1.7.1 Local Authorities

The Local Authorities consist of rural and urban authorities, comprising five Municipal Councils and seven District Councils.

The five Municipal Councils are the Municipal Councils of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill, Curepipe, Quatre Bornes and Vacoas-Phoenix as well as the City Council of Port Louis whereas the seven District Councils consist of the District Councils of Black River, Flacq, Grand Port, Moka, Pamplemousses, Rivière du Rempart and Savanne.

Established under the Law, the Local Authorities in Mauritius are governed by the Local Government Act 2011, which succinctly prescribes local government competencies in education, social welfare, maintenance of roads, maintenance and cleansing of pavements, drains, rivulets, and streams, public health and sanitation, cultural activities and economic promotion, amongst others.

Objectives of Local Authorities:

The main objective of Local Authorities is to enhance local democracy and promote economic well-being, amongst others. Besides the coordination duties, the MLGDRM is also engaged in the harmonisation of the services provided at Municipal and District Council levels. At the strategic level, the Ministry is responsible to bring amendments to statutory provisions to empower the Local Authorities to operate more effectively and efficiently.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF BEAU-BASSIN – ROSE HILL

The Municipal Council of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill has strived to be at the forefront of development and some of the major progress undertaken during the financial year 2022/2023 are as follows:

- upgrading of Quorum Gymnasium;
- Monique Rayeroux Mini Soccer Pitch;
- the development of new infrastructures (setting up of Jogging Track, Children Playground and lighting fixtures);
- construction of drains (NFMP);
- resurfacing of roads (EPR2); and
- upgrading of markets (Beau Bassin, Rose Hill/Arab Town).

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF CUREPIPE

Curepipe is also known as *La Ville Lumière* (The City of Light), the second biggest town in Mauritius after Port-Louis. Located in the district of Plaines Wilhems District, it covers an area of approximately 24.10 km² and consists of 5 wards. . Some major activities for the Financial Year 2022-2023 are:

- (i) cleaning of bare lands;
- (ii) cleaning of green spaces;
- (iii) painting works in the Township;
- (iv) cleaning and washing of guard stones;
- (v) upgrading works; and
- (vi) Bulky Waste Campaign.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF QUATRE BORNES

The town of Quatre Bornes is also known as *La Ville des Fleurs* (The City of Flowers). The town is in a period of rapid development consisting of residential development and commercial development. Below are the major achievements for Financial Year 2022/2023:

- Resurfacing of Roads Within the Township of Quatre Bornes;
- Construction of RCC Pavements at St Jean, Avenue Naz, Guy Forget and Avenue La Paix
- Construction of Concrete Pyres at Palma and Berthaud;
- Renovation of Main Entrance of Townhall Building;
- Purchase of Excavator Loader;
- Design and Build of a Recreational Park at Farquar Avenue, Quatre Bornes;
- Construction of drain within the Township of Quatre Bornes.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF VACOAS/PHOENIX

Vacoas / Phoenix is considered as a Garden Town given that it is the traditional supplier of vegetables and flowers. Nevertheless, Vacoas / Phoenix has witnessed major industrial and commercial developments during the past years. Through the use of technology, the Council has improved the delivery of services and increased the efficiency of its work processes. The following achievements deserve to be highlighted:

- the National E-Licensing System for Online Building and Land Use Permit has been introduced. Through this platform, members of the public can submit applications anywhere, anytime and using any smart device;
- in its endeavor to constantly improve the condition of roads within the township, an approximate total surface area of 7,456 m² of roads were constructed within the township during the financial year 2022-2023. Moreover, about 46,916 sq. m of roads have been resurfaced within the Township of Vacoas / Phoenix;
- construction and maintenance of drains along Non-Classified Roads;
- fixing and maintenance of Street Lighting; (About 600 fix, 800 maintained);
- fixing and maintenance of Road Traffic Signs and Road Markings;
- cleaning and upkeep of Green Spaces (60), Gardens and Playgrounds (33);
- maintenance and upgrading of Municipal Buildings, Markets, Cemeteries and Traffic Centres;
- acquisition and maintenance of Municipal Vehicles, Plants and Equipment;
- design, Supervision and Management of Building and Civil Engineering Projects undertaken by in-house labour or Contractors;
- construction of a Mini Soccer Pitch and Associated Works at Clairfonds and Grannum;
- design and Construction of Lift at Reception Hall Building; and
- the National Vintage Photography Competition was held on the 31 January 2023 at the Stone Masonry Building located on St Paul Road Vacoas. In addition, the Stone Masonry building was inaugurated on the 31st January 2023, along with opening of the Exhibition.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS

A unique feature of Port Louis is that it is the capital of Mauritius. As such, Port Louis, is closely linked in the history of the island as it has witnessed most events in the social, political and economic development of the country. Over the years, Port Louis has developed as the main commercial, business and administrative centre of the island. Some of the major achievements worth mentioning are:

- the Council has invested in the improvement of infrastructure and maintaining a clean environment in the city;
- the Council has invested in the improvement of infrastructure and maintaining a clean environment in the city;
- cleaning and desilting of rivers and the cleaning of drains;
- supply and fixing of LED lanterns for street lighting;
- road marking and resurfacing of roads;
- the Khadafi Square at Plaine Verte has been upgraded;
- Sports amenities such as volleyball pitches, petanque pitches and football grounds have been renovated. Six mini soccer pitches have been upgraded and three new mini soccer pitches have been constructed;
- the Council has also proceeded with the cleaning of barelands, drains and major water courses;
- the has organised bulky waste campaigns in the eight wards of the city and removed illegal posters and banners;
- re Opening of Idrice Goumany Municipal Hall after Renovation for wedding purposes at the tune of Rs 52M;
- listing of City Council of Port Louis in the list of UNESCO Creative Cities Network in the field of Music; and
- managing a budget portfolio of around Rs 1.6 billion for the Financial Year 2022/2023.

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLACK RIVER

The district of Black River is well known for its popular deep sea fishing competitions, salt pans, the Gorges Nature Park. The district is also closely linked with the folklore of Mauritius through the 'sega'. The territory of Black River District extends from village of Richelieu up to the village of Le Morne. The **villages** are mainly; Albion, Bambous, Cascavelle, Case Noyale, Chamarel, Flic en Flac, Grande Rivière Noire, Gros Cailloux, La Gaulette, Le Morne, Petite Rivière, Riche Lieu and Tamarin.

The major achievements by the Welfare Department for the Financial Year 2022-2023 are as follows :

- Launching of Book: Des vies et des jours, Le Port Louis d'autre fois - Bambous Terre des Sculpteurs, par Jean Clement Cangy ;
- International Day for persons with disabilities – Lunch;
- Handing over ceremony of computer equipment and furniture for the setting-up of computer class rooms for children of Le Morne and Petite Riviere Noire Village Halls by H.E Ambassador Mr. Zhu Liying;
- Regional Vintage Photography Exhibition ;
- (55th Anniversary of the Independence and 31st Anniversary of the Republic of Mauritius); and
- Regatta Competition.

Other major achievements undertaken by the Public Infrastructure Department for the Financial Year 2022 – 2023 are mainly:

- Extension of street lighting along main road from G.R.Noire up to La Prairie;
- Lighting of football ground at Cotteau Raffin;
- Upgrading of children playground, mini soccer pitch and village hall yard at Le Morne; and
- Construction of new toilet block at Grande Riviere Noire.

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FLACQ

Central Flacq is the main village of the Flacq district, whereby there are clusters of commercial and economic activities. As Flacq is a rural village, there is a predominance of agricultural activities.

There are **twenty-three Village Councils** under the jurisdiction of The District Council of Flacq namely Bel Air, Bon Accueil, Brisée Verdiere, Bramsthan, Camp de Masque, Camp de Masque Pavé, Camp Ithier, Central Flacq, Clemencia, Ecroignard, Grand River South East, Grande Retraite, Lallmatie, Laventure, Mare La Chaux, Medine, Olivia, Poste de Flacq, Quatre Cocos, Queen Victoria, Saint Julien Village, Sebastopol and Trou D'Eau Douce.

Some of the achievements for the Financial Year 2022-2023 are:

- inauguration of Mini Soccer Pitches and Children Garden at Sebastopol, Bel Air and Olivia;
- a Multi-Purpose Pitch at Trou d'Eau Douce;
- construction of Sub Hall at Petite Cabane, Camp de Masque Pavé;
- construction of Sub Hall at Bonne Mère and Village Hall at Grande Retraite – works in progress;
- a modern Incinerator at Quatre Cocos, a Village Hall at Camp Ithier and creation of a Football Ground at Camp Marcellin are in the pipeline;
- collection of Bulky waste within the Jurisdiction of Flacq;
- carting away of bulky wastes to maintain cleanliness in the villages; and
- Bulky Waste Campaign have been undertaken mainly at: Camp De Masque, Medine, Queen Victoria, Saint Julien Village, Bon Acceuil, Grande Retraite, Brisee Verdiere, Camp de Masque Pave, Ecroignard, Clemencia, Bramsthan, Laventure, Quatre Cocos, Camp Ithier, Bel Air Riviere Seche, Lallmatie, Mare La Chaux, Grand River South East, Poste de Flacq, Sebastopol, Olivia, Central Flacq.



Bulky waste collection within the jurisdiction of Flacq

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRAND PORT

The District of Grand Port is of great historical importance since it is in this locality that the first European settlers, the Dutch, landed in Mauritius and unsuccessfully tried to establish a colony. The Grand Port ruins have been restored and are an important tourist attraction.

The **Villages** under the District Council of Grand Port are mainly: Bambous Virieux, Bananes, Beau Vallon, Bois des Amourettes, Camp Carol, Cluny, Grand Bel Air, Grand Sable, Mahebourg, Mare d'Albert, Mare Tabac, Midlands, New Grove, Nouvelle France, Old Grand Port, Petit Bel Air, Plaine Magnien, Quatre Soeurs, Rivière des Créoles, Rose Belle, Saint Hubert, Seizième Mille, Trois Boutiques (Union Vale), Union Park. The major achievements are mainly:

- adapting to the **PMS** has helped this Council to maintain productivity, enhanced efficiency and improved output.;
- the **introduction of the I-Council**, the IT Section is being called upon to play a crucial role for the implementation on new geographic information system, Council Project Management and gradual upgrade of fleet of IT hardware.

- **Flooding Simulation Exercise at Trois Boutiques**



- **The Public Health Department**

The Public Health Department has an important role to play in the promotion of public health, improving the environment and provide a number of essential services to the inhabitants and to the population at large. This is achieved inter alia through an effective and efficient refuse collection service, cleansing of public places, open drains, bare lands, canals and rivers, roadside weeding, maintenance of public conveniences and rodent control. The management of cemeteries and markets also forms part of the responsibilities of the Department.

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MOKA

The district of Moka comprises **16 villages** covering an area of 230.5 km² and its population is estimated to be about 82,000 inhabitants. There are 16 villages under the administrative jurisdiction of the Council. As such, the regions of Moka have witnessed major developments in the context of **landmark progress** in Moka which has been the extension of the Metro Express network to Reduit and the network to be further extended in the regions of Moka creating an **unprecedented transport infrastructure**. There are other major developments including the **construction of smart cities, residential buildings**, while several Public Bodies are setting up their headquarters at the Reduit Triangle. The following projects of the Council are highlighted:

- renovation and extension of the present markets;
- embarking on I-Council, wherein all bureaucratic processes have been looked into and have been digitalised by using the latest information technology tools adopted by the Council.
- the IT tools and methods including **Geographical Information Systems (GIS)**, **Global Positioning System (GPS)**, **ERP Council Project Management System (CPM)** and **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** have led to innovative policies and mechanisms to address gaps and challenges in social, economic and environmental sectors.
- The Council Project Management, (CPM) has reinforced the governance structure at the Council and also the governance of all authorities at National level which are embracing the digitalisation process for more transparency, accountability and integrity.
- the IT Section has formed the **Learning and Development Team (L & D Team)**, which operates on a full-time basis and studies the day-to-day departmental processes with a view to digitalise and integrate them with other information systems. The L & D team also provides training when information systems are introduced to other Councils and is referred to as the change agent. Ultimately, the L & D team manages the e-learning platform of the Council.

The Public Infrastructure Department is one of the important departments in the Organisational Structure of the Council and is the executing arm of the Council for the implementation and management of projects as mentioned below:

- construction of 1680 LM (Lane Mile) drains;
- construction of 4 mini soccer pitch;
- creation of 4 children garden;
- construction of 3 Sub Hall;
- creation of 5 green space and outdoor gym;
- upgrading of 2 football grounds;
- creation of 2 health tracks;
- construction of 1 Multipurpose building;
- upgrading of 1 incinerator;
- fixing of 800 new lanterns; and
- upgrading and creation of 2 Petanque Courts.

Furthermore, the **Welfare Department** has catered for the following:

- construction of the Residence Vignol Sub Hall at Saint Pierre;
- construction of La Laura Sports Complex at La Laura-Malenga;
- construction of the Dagotiere Village Multipurpose Hall and Sports Complex;
- construction of Dubreuil Sports Complex;
- construction of the Melrose Mini Sports Complex and new Melrose Village Hall; and
- upgrading of the residence St Joseph Sub Hall at Montagne Blanche.

Additionally, major events of the Council for the financial year 2022/2023 are as follows:

- organisation of Family Fun Day 2022 at the Côte D'or National Sports Complex in connection with Jeux Inter-Villes et Villages 2022 where all 12 Local Authorities participated; and
- distribution of bins in all 16 villages falling under the purview of the Council.

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL PAMPLEMOUSSES

The district of Pamplemousses, with its unique rustic setting, oozes a vast spectrum of natural beauty, set in one of the most agriculture-driven region of Mauritius. It is a symbol of the sugarcane industry as well as being a capsule capturing the French Renaissance era of “Chateaux et Jardins”. The Council also aims at keeping pace with innovations and extended development taking place in the area. The **villages** under the jurisdiction of District Council Pamplemousses are; Arsenal, Baie du Tombeau, Calebasses, Congomah, Crève Coeur, D'Epinay, Fond du Sac, Le Hochet, Long Mountain, Notre Dame, Morcellement St. André, Pamplemousses, Terre Rouge, Plaine des Papayes, Ville Bague and Triolet.

The list of completed projects for the financial year 2022-2023 are mainly:

- construction of mini-soccer pitch at Calebasses football ground;
- conversion of existing volleyball pitch to mini soccer pitch, construction of Boundary wall and removal of petanque pitch at Pamplemousses behind Community Centre;
- Design and Build of a mini-market fair of combined concrete superstructure and profilage proofing at SSRN Bus Terminal Pamplemousses;
- Multi Complex near Football Ground inc Indoor Gym, Crève Coeur;
- upgrading of Multi-purpose Complex Terre Rouge;
- upgrading of Ex Headquarters;
- Futsal NHDC Terre Rouge;
- construction of Mini Soccer Pitch at Pointe aux Piments;
- Office Block Pamplemousses Cemetery Amenities;
- Funeral Parlour Baie du Tombeau Amenities;
- construction of a footbridge from Jaffar Lane, Le Hochet to Red Star Lane, Morc. Tara, Terre Rouge;
- Multipurpose Hall at Plaine des Papayes;
- First Floor VC Notre Dame;
- purchase of Equipment – 1 Tipper Lorry and 1 Street Lighting lorry;
- Roll On Roll Off;
- renovation/upgrading of cemeteries – creation of Alleys at Bois Marchand Cemetery;
- construction of a toilet block at Crève Coeur Bus Terminal;
- Multipurpose Hall at Le Hochet VC;
- construction of Pre-Primary School, Calebasses;
- First Floor VC Trou aux Biches, inc. refurbishment;
- Drain Projects; and
- resurfacing of Roads.

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL RIVIERE DU REMPART

The District Council of Riviere Du Rempart has large agricultural and fertile land, boasts some of the most attractive tourist facilities and commercial areas and is an area of fast-developing growth. **The villages** under the District Council of Riviere Du Rempart are mainly; Amaury, Belle Vue Maurel, Poudre D'Or Village, Amitié, Cap Malheureux, Esperance Trébuchet, Cottage, Goodlands, Grand Gaube, Mapou, Grand Baie, Plaine des Roches, Piton, Petit Raffray, Poudre D'Or Hamlet, The Vale, Roche Noires, Rivière du Rempart, Roche Terre

Some positive performances at the District Council of Rivière du Rempart are as follows:

- upgrading of Belin Football Ground at Goodlands;
- Green Space with Stele of Sir Anerood Jugnauth at Rivière du Rempart;
- construction of Cremation Ground at Mapou;
- construction of drains in the Constituencies No. 6 & 7; and
- construction of New Roads.

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SAVANNE

The District Council of Savanne is located at Souillac, in the South of the island and has 17 villages under its jurisdiction namely Baie du Cap, Bel Ombre, Bénarès, Bois Cheri, Britannia, Camp Diable, Chamouny, Chemin Grenier, Grand Bois, La Flora, L'Escalier, Rivière des Anguilles, Rivière du Poste, Souillac, St. Aubin, Surinam and Tyack.

The major achievements for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 are described as follows:

- construction and resurfacing of roads in the 17 villages within the Council's jurisdiction;
- construction of drains;
- fixing of additional lighting points and extension of lighting network;
- construction of mini soccer pitch in different villages;
- upgrading of Camp Diable, Rivière Des Anguilles, Grand Bois and Bois Cheri Village Halls;
- fixing of outdoor gym equipment at La Flora;
- upgrading of J. Purmanand football ground Surinam;
- construction of Children Garden at Camp Diable; and
- construction of Cloakroom and provision of Sport facilities at Morc Prud'homme Riviere Des Anguilles;
- provision of scavenging services to all households and commercial units on a weekly basis;
- purchase of new Herbicide Spraying Truck for Health Department;
- procurement of bins and the distribution of same in all Villages of the Council;
- cleaning of drains and dredging of riverbanks in flood prone areas;
- acquisition of electronic equipment for implementation of I-Council and provision of Photocopying Machines in different Departments;



1.7.2 National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre (NDRRMC) acts as the main coordinating body of the Ministry for planning, organizing, coordinating and monitoring of disaster risk reduction and management activities at all levels.

The NDRRMC operates under the supervision of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, which is chaired by the Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management and is the primary coordinating agency for national disaster management activities in the Republic of Mauritius, and takes a pro-active all-hazard, multi-agency approach to risk management that emphasizes building capacity at all levels from the individual to the institutional. The NDRRMC coordinates with all stakeholders to ensure that risk reduction and preparedness planning is included at the required levels namely national, municipal and district councils, private sector and communities' levels.

In crisis situation, the National Crisis Committee (NCC) is convened under the chair of the Minister of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management. The National Crisis Committee shall have all functions and powers of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council and shall take decisive and timely actions through the National Emergency Operations Command (NEOC) to safeguard the life of persons in danger.

Major activities organized by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre during Financial Year 2022 - 2023

❖ A Community Disaster Response Programme and Refresher Course

The impacts of extreme weather events including cyclones, flash floods and storms surges have become a matter of concern. There is an ever increasing need to ensure that the Republic of Mauritius becomes disaster resilient and works towards the 4 priorities for action and 7 targets as per the Sendai Framework. Mauritius, amongst many countries, has adopted the Community Disaster Response Programme (CDRP)

The Community Disaster Response Programme is organised by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre (NDRRMC), under the aegis of the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management. The training is delivered by resource persons from the Police, Special Mobile Force (SMF), National Coast Guard, Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS), the Mauritius Meteorological Services, Police De L'Environnement, Ministry of Health and Wellness, Municipalities/District Councils and Mauritius Red Cross Society (MRCS) amongst others.

The Community Disaster Response Programme educates volunteers about basic disaster preparedness and response skills such as Fire Safety, Rope Handling, First Aid, Water Rescue Activities, Basic Camp Management, Team Building and Sand Bagging amongst others. With such appropriate training provided to them, they would respond promptly to assist persons in distress until the arrival of First Responders.

Upon completion of the course, all participants receive a certificate which formally recognises them as a Community Disaster Response Team. Each member is provided with a disaster kit comprising protective gloves, raincoat with reflecting tape, whistle, search light and batteries, reflecting safety vest and rubber boots which are to be used in emergency situations. The team is also provided with two First Aid kits, Dynamic Ropes (2 rolls of 25 mts) and Static Ropes (2 rolls of 25 mts) as well as Directional Signages. Twelve (12) CDRP and Refresher Course have been carried out during FY 2022/23.



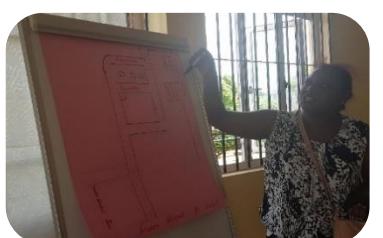
Rope Handling



First Aid



Rescue



Vulnerability and Rescue at sea Award of Certificates
Capacity Assessment



❖ **Simulation Exercises**

A Simulation Exercise is a disaster scenario-based event created with the purpose of testing the plans and procedures that would come into effect during a real emergency, helping to identify strengths and weaknesses. Emergency responders are given the chance to develop their skills and knowledge and it also provides a valuable opportunity for the various stakeholders to meet and work together to improve coordination. Simulation exercises thus promote a culture of disaster risk reduction including enhanced preparedness for effective response, as called for by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, Priority 4: 'Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response'. Eighteen (18) simulation exercises involving the participation of NDERRMC were carried out for FY 2020/2023.



Simulation Exercise Rescue Operations Rescue Operations



Rescue Operations Rescue Operations Rescue Operations

❖ **Sensitisation/Awareness Campaigns**

To better prepare and educate the Republic of Mauritius regarding disasters, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre regularly organises sensitization/awareness programmes in critical areas as well as other areas prone to be affected by hazards such as cyclones, flooding and storm surge amongst others.

Since its setting up, the NDERRMC was closely involved in several sensitisation programmes: training programmes, lectures and workshops aiming at educating

vulnerable groups on disaster risks and disaster risk measures, including school children and the elderly. The sensitisation programmes also serve to inform the public on the roles and responsibilities of the NDRRMC and the NEOC and steps taken to mitigate disaster. Forty-three (43) sensitisations/awareness campaigns were carried out in FY 2022/2023 comprising about 2750 participants.

❖ **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022**

In the context of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, a series of events were organised by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre and other stakeholders such as Local Authorities on 13 October 2022, as follows:

| SN | Details | Date |
|----|--|-------------------------|
| 1 | CDRP (NEW) Chemin Grenier (DC Savanne) at Chemin Grenier Social Welfare Centre | 3,4,5 August 2022 |
| 2 | One Day CDRP Refresher Course (DC Black River) at Flic en Flac Village Hall | 28 September 2022 |
| 3 | Flood Simulation Exercise at Le Hochet | 06 October 2022 |
| 4 | CDRP (NEW) Vallée des Prêtres at Municipal Centre of Vallée des Prêtres | 06,07 & 08 October 2022 |

Official Ceremony

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Delivery of United Nations Secretary General Message for the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 and Speech by Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management | 13 October 2022 |
| 2 | Distribution of Community Disaster Response Programme equipment and Certificates to the Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) at Vallée des Prêtres and Chemin Grenier | |
| 3 | Presentation of Shield of Appreciation to the Pioneer Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) at Grand Sable | 13 October 2022 |
| 4 | Launching of CataBuzz (Quiz Game) | |
| 5 | Demonstration by SMF (Disaster Response Unit) and Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS) | |
| 6 | Exhibition of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management related Equipment | |



Display of CDRP



Equipment Exhibition



CDRP Certificate



Award of Shield



Demo DRU



Demo DRU



Exhibition



Distribution of DCRP Equipment

❖ NEOC Activation

In crisis situation, depending upon the extent, magnitude and severity of the threat, the multi-agencies National Emergency Operations Command (NEOC) is activated to coordinate and monitor preparedness, response, relief and recovery activities associated to the event.

NEOC was activated on 31 occasions during FY 2022/23 and details are as follows:

| No of time NEOC Activated for financial year 2022/2023 | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Year | Total No. of Times NEOC Activated Level 1 | Total No. of Times NEOC Activated Level 2 | Total No. of Times NEOC Activated Level 3 |
| 2022/2023 | 31 | 8 | 2 |

❖ **The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Policy, the Strategic Framework, and Action Plan (NDRRMPSFAP) 2020-2030 for the Republic of Mauritius.**

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Policy, Strategic Framework and Action Plan (NDRRMPSFAP) 2020 - 2030 for the Republic of Mauritius was completed in January 2021. As at date, more than 50% of the 189 actions are ongoing.

❖ **Setting up of Statistics Unit at the NDRRMC**

In order for the NDRRMC to address the need for the compilation of disaster related information, and for reporting to the Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM), there was a need to set up a Statistics Unit within the NDRRMC. The NDRRMC is working with Statistics Mauritius to standardise the preparation, collection, processing, validation and reporting of disaster statistics for the Mauritius Disaster Information Management System, Sendai Framework Monitor, Sustainable Development Goals, African Union and Desinventar Sendai.

The NDRRMC is benefiting from the services of a Statistician and of a Statistical Officer from Statistics Mauritius on a part-time basis, since January 2022, to assist in putting in place the required inter-institutional mechanisms. The Centre has compiled disaster related statistics for the period 2015-2022 as per the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

❖ **Midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework (MTRSF)**

In its resolution 75/216 of 21 December 2020, the UN General Assembly decided to "hold a midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework in 2023 to assess progress on integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes and investments at all levels, identify good practice, gaps and challenges and accelerate the path to achieving the goal of the Sendai Framework and its seven global targets by 2030". Mauritius forms part of the countries who have submitted their Mid Term Review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

In its submission of the Mid Term Review report in October 2022, Mauritius has highlighted that setting up institutional DRRM systems and processes based on good practices, limited/scarce institutional capacity and resources are some among the main challenges encountered for the implementation of the SFDRR. Having a deep understanding of the concepts and guiding principles advocated by the SFDRR and its linkages with other policies, frameworks and conventions has been another milestone to cross. The approach to seek financial support for specific DRRM projects has remained embryonic as compared to other emerging fields like climate change, gender, disabled etc. Sharing of cross-sectoral information has been another major obstacle for appreciating the progress made in DRRM.

Note: Mauritius acknowledges significant progress made since the adoption of the Sendai Framework to guide our efforts to reduce disaster risks, enhance resilience, and protect our communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems. Following the submission of our Mid Term Review, the UN System has recognised our community preparedness programme as a global good practice in its report 'Good Practices in Disaster Risk Reduction' dated 31 March 2023.

❖ **National Multi Hazard Emergency Alert System Project (NMH EAS)**

The National Multi-Hazard Emergency Alert System (NMH-EAS) is a major project undertaken by the NDRRMC in line with Sendai Framework and by virtue of Section 9(2)(f) of the NDRRM Act 2016. The project consists of a reliable high-performance system using a Common Alert Protocol (CAP) standard. The system will disseminate warnings and alerts to a maximum number of people and stakeholders within an acceptable time frame through a number of communication channels such as TV, Radio, the Internet (including email, web site, social media, Mobile Apps) and so forth.

The implementation of the NMH EAS project comprises two phases and the Phase 1 which consists of the CAP Aggregator (pilot basis) and divided of 3 stages, namely:

Stage 1 – Consultancy Study;

Stage 2 - Implementation of project by One2Many; and

Stage 3 - Post Go Live has been completed.

Since Friday 24th June 2022, the NMH EAS is live, up and running with the following channels assigned to target groups: Email, SMS, Voice Dial Out, Facebook, Twitter, Website Alert Hub, Mauritius Amateur Radio Society (MARS) (Cap over Email/SMS, Digital Display (Cap over Email/SMS), Siren (Cap over Email/SMS).

The target groups that are already integrated in NMH EAS are namely NDRRMC, High Officials, LEOC, Police, SMF, NCG, MFRS, Fisheries, Media, Education, Health, Digital Display, Geotechnical Unit, MARS, REOC, Tourism, NEOC, NCC. Moreover, contact details of vulnerable buildings in Port Louis have already been integrated in the system.

The Phase 2 of the NMHEAS consists of the Cell Broadcast Centre (CBC).

The CBC is a system which will comprise hardware and software to disseminate alerts to mobile devices (2G, 3G, 4G and 5G) in a geographical area to the public or other specified groups to include responders, businesses, schools, public officials, etc. It will connect to the CAP Aggregator (Phase 1) which will operate using a one-to-many technology where all messages go at a single time using the same carrier infrastructure. The CBC is a fast, highly reliable system, which will enable the Emergency Alert System to reach all mobile phones in the shortest possible time. Additionally, the alerts can reach specific areas and predefined groups. Funds are required for the implementation of Phase 2 of the project.

1.7.3 Field Services Unit

During the financial year 2022/2023, the Field Services Unit (FSU) has been involved in various projects namely:

- ❖ construction of boundary walls;
- ❖ laying of kerbs;
- ❖ tiles laying works (floor & wall)
- ❖ renovation of toilets;
- ❖ plumbing works for kitchen, yard and others;
- ❖ construction of concrete structures such as staircase, ramp, wash basin, kitchen, tables)
- ❖ welding works and construction of metal structures (racks, sheds, securing works, burglar proof, door, gates and others)
- ❖ demolition of concrete structures and carting away of debris;
- ❖ carpentry works (Formworks, shuttering, pad footing, columns, beams and others)
- ❖ electrical works in building;
- ❖ electrical trench/underground works;
- ❖ cabinet making works (decorative structures, tables, chairs, doors, flower box and furniture among others);
- ❖ minor repairs of furniture and metal filing cabinets;
- ❖ assisting Rodrigues Government Quarters at Vacoas Suffolk Avenue No. 15 and No. 17 for the cleaning and clearing of Quarters (Trimming of hedges)
- ❖ assisting in the cleaning campaigns during weekends by providing labour and vehicles;
- ❖ brush cutting works;
- ❖ assisting Fire Services;
- ❖ cutting of trees and lopping of branches;
- ❖ carting away of wastes for our Ministries and other Ministries; and
- ❖ design and implementation of civil, electrical and plumbing works.

41 main projects were successfully carried out by the Field Services Unit in the Financial Year 2022-2023.



Field Services Unit
2023

On a daily basis the FSU carries out the following works:

1. Cleaning of motorways from Airport to Grand Baie

- ❖ Collect and cart away of loose litters, debris and branches;
- ❖ Disposal of dead animals to transfer stations that are found along the motorway;
- ❖ Cleaning of drains; and
- ❖ Cleaning, sweeping and removal of wastes found on bus stop along motorway.

2. Maintain a nursery at La Butte

- ❖ Donation of decorative plants freely (blood donation purposes) and on loan;
- ❖ Regular maintenance of plants in EAB offices and VPM office; and
- ❖ Potting and maintenance of Decorative Plants for PMO and Ministry of Labour, Human Resource Development and Training.

3. Maintain/operate transport fleet

- ❖ For continuity of 'hotline' services (disposal of dead animal);
- ❖ For continuity of scavenging services throughout the island and motorway (airport to Grand Baie);
- ❖ For construction projects (Dumper, lorry, skid steer, backhoe loader and roller)
- ❖ For provision of transport to other Ministries and Organisation.

4. Housekeeping in workshop

Welding workshop, painting workshop and woodwork workshop are cleaned on a regular basis to ensure that they are always ready to be used at any time. By doing so, a positive work culture is created so everyone takes pride in their work and the workplace they operate in.

1.7.4 Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service



The Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS) aims at making Mauritius a safe place by minimizing the risks of loss of life, property and environmental damage through enforcement of fire legislations, education and rescue services. It is a "all hazards" department that reacts to a wide range of emergencies, including floods, technical rescues, hazardous materials response, fires, and auto accidents, among many other things.

The MFRS has the statutory obligation to issue Fire Certificates and carry out Enforcement Inspections. It is also involved in promoting emergency preparedness, fire prevention and Fire Safety Education. The MFRS is manned by around 1,053 officers (including 20 female officers) in the firefighting cadre working on four shifts and proving emergency cover for the whole island. It currently operates 11 fire stations all over the island and a fire post in Agalega.

The MFRS is responsible for ensuring that the people of the Republic of Mauritius are supported by and benefit from an effective disaster and emergency management system and essential emergency response services.





1.7.5 Mauritius Meteorological Services

The Mauritius Meteorological Services (MMS) is a public institution mandated for providing weather and climate services, including hydro-meteorological hazards and tsunamis, to the citizen and socio-economic sectors of the Republic of Mauritius. It works under the aegis of the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management. Under the MMS Act, which was promulgated in November 2019, the MMS is the sole authority mandated to provide daily and seasonal weather forecast and climate services, advisories and warnings for extreme weather events and tsunamis and advisories and warnings to ensure protection and safety of maritime and aeronautical navigation. Furthermore, it is the only institution mandated to make and record, collect and process and archive and exchange meteorological information for climatological and environmental research. In doing so, the MMS contributes to the general welfare of the citizens of the Republic of Mauritius. The MMS is an essential service and operates on a 24/7 basis. Its technical personnel work on a shift system at the following stations: Vacoas Headquarters, Plaisance Aeronautical Meteorological Station, St Brandon Meteorological Station, Agalega Meteorological Station and Trou- aux-Cerfs Doppler Weather Radar Station.

1.7.6 Local Authorities Governance Unit

The Local Authorities Governance Unit (LAGU) in the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management was set up in 2012 and is staffed by a Lead Analyst and an Analyst/Senior Analyst.

The objective of LAGU is to:

- ❖ monitor the performances of Local Authorities; and
- ❖ provide support to Chief Executives of LA's in
 - (a) planning, budgeting, delivery of services;
 - (b) financial Reporting; and
 - (c) monitoring of Local Authorities Resources.

Its achievements for the Financial Year 2022-2023 were as follows:

- ❖ ensuring approval of all Local Authorities Budget Estimates for Financial Year 2022-2023;
- ❖ undertaking a mid-term review exercise in January 2023 for the purpose of allocating additional grant to all Local Authorities for their recurrent expenditure;
- ❖ ensuring that Local Authorities achieve the milestones set on the Roadmap for the implementation of IPAS in Government.
- ❖ consolidating of the 12 Local Authorities Financial Statements for the FY 2021-2022 as per the timeline proposed by the IMF;
- ❖ after consultation, it proposed a new Audit Committee Charter for Audit Committees in Local Authorities and has also ensure that the Audit Committee in Local Authorities is functioning;
- ❖ guiding the setting up of an independent Examination Unit in the Finance Division; and
- ❖ overseeing the newly set up internal audit function on Local Authorities and worked towards developing new standard operating procedures for Internal Audit in Local Authorities.

1.7.7 Unified Local Government Service Board

The Unified Local Government Service Board (ULGSB) has been set up under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 2011 and is operational at the level of the Ministry with a view to optimise human resources in Local Authorities. The ULGSB is responsible to, *inter alia*:

- ❖ approve the establishment of any office of emolument in the service of a Local Authority;
- ❖ change the posting of an officer, except an officer from the workmen's group, from one Local Authority to another;
- ❖ redeploy officers;
- ❖ issue guidelines on general human resource matters;
- ❖ approve loans to eligible officers;
- ❖ determine applications for leave without pay made by officers; and
- ❖ approve scheme of service.

1.7.8 Land Use and Planning Unit

The Land Use and Planning Unit is responsible for:

- ❖ advising the Ministry on land development policies;
- ❖ the management of the Building and Land Use Permit component of the National Electronic System and the processing of applications thereon; and
- ❖ implementation of the provision of the Local Government Act with respect to Building and Land Use Permits and enforcement against unlawful development works.

For the financial year 2022-2023, the Land Use and Planning Unit has been involved in the preparation of request for proposals for the Vacoas and Quatre Bornes Urban Terminal projects.

Three training sessions have been held with officers of the Land Use and Planning Departments of local authorities on processing applications on NELS and on the enforcement provisions in the Local Government Act.

Processing of Building and Land Use Permits by Local Authorities

All applications for Building and Land Use Permits are made on the National Electronic Licensing System (NELS) which is operated by the Economic Development Board (EDB).

Applications processed by local authorities for the financial year 2022-2023 are as follows:

Period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

| Local Authorities | BLUP1 | BLUP2 | BLUP3 | Grand Total |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------------|
| District Council of Black River | 1170 | 218 | 276 | 1664 |
| District Council of Grand Port | 1546 | 471 | 306 | 2323 |
| Municipal Council of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill | 782 | 98 | 184 | 1064 |
| Municipal City Council of Port-Louis | 1274 | 189 | 336 | 1799 |
| Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes | 798 | 163 | 204 | 1165 |
| Municipal Council of Vacoas-Phoenix | 1594 | 421 | 310 | 2325 |
| District Council of Rivière Du Rempart | 2375 | 1069 | 466 | 3310 |
| District Council of Flacq | 1720 | 592 | 341 | 2653 |
| Municipal Council of Curepipe | 575 | 131 | 168 | 874 |

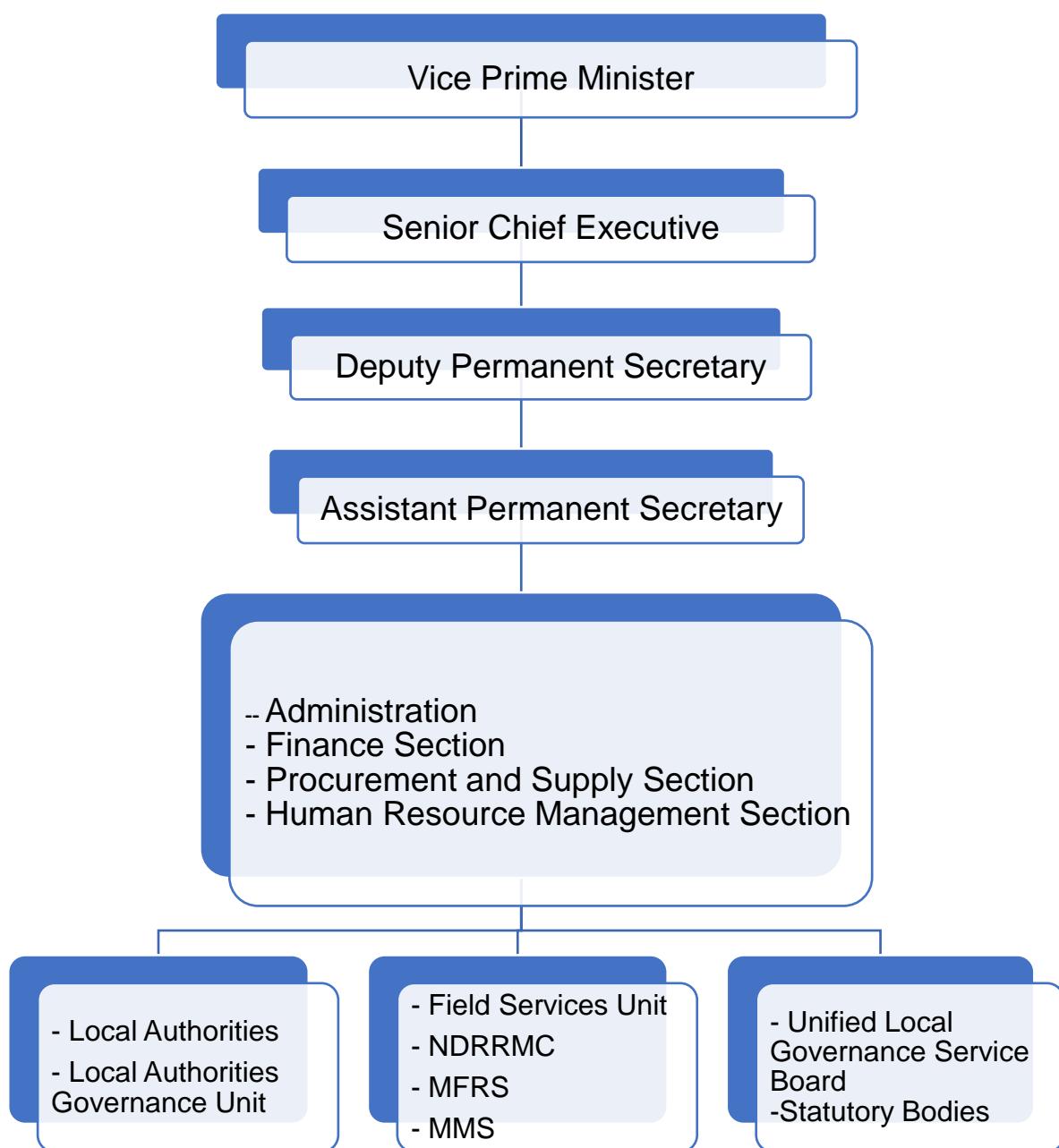
| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| District Council of Moka | 1021 | 485 | 265 | 1771 |
| District Council of Pamplemousses | 1945 | 763 | 387 | 3095 |
| District Council of Savanne | 1354 | 270 | 203 | 1827 |
| Grand Total | 16154 | 4870 | 3446 | 24470 |

NOTE:

- ❖ BLUP 1: Application for residential uses not exceeding ground + 3 floors.
- ❖ BLUP 2: Application for excision or subdivision of land.
- ❖ BLUP 3: All other application including commercial, industrial and services

1.8 Our People

The Senior Chief Executive is the administrative head of the Ministry. He is assisted in his functions and duties by two Deputy Permanent Secretaries, four Assistant Permanent Secretaries as well as officers from various cadres and classes. The technical arm of the Ministry consists of the Local Authorities Governance Unit, Land Use and Planning Unit, the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Centre, the Mauritius Meteorological Services, Field Services Unit and Unified Local Government Service Board.



Organisational Structure of the Ministry

1.8.1 Senior Management Team

Key staff as at June 2023

| Designation | Name | Tel | Fax | Email Address |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--|
| Administration | | | | |
| Senior Chief Executive | Dr. Dhanandjay KAWOL | 213 3236 Thro' CS | 211 7506 | dkawol@govmu.org |
| Deputy Permanent Secretary | Mr. Bhaye Mohamud Dilzad KURREEMUN | 201 3008 Thro' CS | 214 1152 | dkurreemun@govmu.org |
| Deputy Permanent Secretary | Mr. Ajay TEELUCKDHARRY | 201 1216 Thro' CS | 214 3415 | ateeluckdharry@govmu.org |
| Assistant Permanent Secretary | Mrs. Ridheema Namrata JHOWRY | 201 1109 | 208 9729 | rjhowry@govmu.org |
| Assistant Permanent Secretary | Mr. Ramsing GHOOPEE | 211 7812 | 201 3940 | rghoopee@govmu.org |
| Assistant Permanent Secretary | Mr Salil KISSOON | 201 2599 | 211 7506 | skissoon@govmu.org |
| Local Authorities Governance Unit (LAGU) | | | | |
| Lead Analyst | POST VACANT | | | |
| Analyst/Senior Analyst | Mrs. Kirtida SEWBUNDHUN | 241 3546 | - | ksewbundhun@govmu.org |
| Land Use and Planning | | | | |
| Land Use and Planning Executive | Mr. Rajeshwar PHUL | 201 3571 | 208 9729 | rphul@govmu.org |
| Human Resources | | | | |
| Manager, Human Resources | Mrs Fawzia BUSAWON | 201 2221 | - | fbusawon@govmu.org |
| Assistant Manager, Human Resources | Mrs. Toolseedevi SOBRUN | 201 3617 | - | tsobrun@govmu.org |
| Finance | | | | |
| Manager, Financial Operations | Mrs. Sarojani NARRAINEN | 201 2300 | 213 2244 | sanarrainen@govmu.org |
| Assistant Manager, Financial Operations | Miss. Marie Fabiola PONNOO | 201 1268 | | mfponnoo@govmu.org |

| Procurement and Supply | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------|----------|--|
| Manager, Procurement and Supply | Mr Devprasad BOOTNA | 201 1278 | | dbootna@govmu.org |
| Assistant Manager, Procurement and Supply | Mrs. Moortee JOOKOO | 201 1654 | | mjookoo@govmu.org |
| Internal Control | | | | |
| Manager, Internal Control | Mr. Shoobanand SEETOHUL | 201 3883 | | sseetohul@govmu.org |
| Complaints Unit | | | | |
| Ag Assistant Permanent Secretary | Mr Anil Kumar PARAYAG | 2013164 | 208 9729 | aparayag@govmu.org |
| Accommodation | | | | |
| Office Management Executive | Mrs. Saraswatee SEEBARUTH | 214 6426 | 214 3240 | sseebaruth@govmu.org |
| Confidential Registry | | | | |
| Office Supervisor | Mr Hossen Ally NOORDAULLY | 201 2567 | | |
| Open Registry | | | | |
| Office Supervisor | Mr Dabysingh RAMKELAWON | 201 2155 | | |
| Transport Section | | | | |
| Ag Assistant Permanent Secretary | Mr. Anil Kumar PARAYAG | 201 3164 | 208 9729 | aparayag@govmu.org |
| Field Services Unit | | | | |
| Chief Inspector | Mr. Balmick MOHUN | 212 2331 | 208 6539 | fsu@govmu.org |

1.8.2 Staffing Position

| Section/Unit | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Administrative Cadre | 7 | 6 |
| Administrative Support Staff | 60 | 64 |
| Human Resource | 6 | 6 |
| Procurement and Supply | 4 | 5 |
| Inspectorate | 8 | 7 |
| Field Services Unit | 126 | 113 |
| NDRRMC | 16 | 12 |
| Finance | 7 | 7 |

1.8.3 Employment on Contract

| Designation | No. of Staff | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
| Advisor on Policy Matters | 1 | 1 |
| Advisor on Information Matters | 1 | 1 |
| Advisor on Public Relation Matters | 1 | 1 |
| Land Use and Planning Executive | 1 | 1 |
| YEP | 0 | 7 |

1.8.4 Vacancies filled during Financial Year 2022-2023

| Grade | Number |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Cabinet Maker | 1 |
| Tradesman's Assistant | 2 |
| Handy Worker | 3 |
| Foreman | 1 |
| Mason | 1 |

1.8.5 Gender Staffing Proportion

The staffing position gender-wise:



1.8.6 Gender Mainstreaming Activities for Financial Year 2022-2023

For the financial year 2022-2023, the Ministry had a budgeted amount of Rs. 200,000 provided under item 'Gender Mainstreaming' which was used for two-half day workshops on 19 and 20 2023 at Palm Hotel, Quatre Bornes in the context of the International Day for Women in Diplomacy.

Around 120 mixed participants attended the workshop. The objective behind this activity was to raise awareness on gender equality and women empowerment.

1.8.7 Human Resources Initiatives

Training of Staff

The Ministry of Public service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms with the collaboration of Civil Service College Mauritius provides a variety of training in all relevant fields for officers of different cadres so as to be more productive.

| Types of Training | Number of officers trained |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Overseas Training | 32 |
| Local Training | 178 |
| Online Training | 20 |
| Courses at MITD for minor grades | 5 |

2.0 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT AND CHALLENGES

The Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management and the Local Authorities invest massively in local development projects such as sports, art recreation and amenity services, construction of markets etc. Several such projects were carried out during the period under review

2.1 Citizen Support Portal

Integration of the Complaints Management Systems within the Citizen Support Portal at the level of Local Authorities

The introduction of the Citizen's Support Portal (CSP) at the level of the Local Authorities has prompted the setting up of a proper Complaints Handling Mechanism thereat. This allows the Councils to use the Citizen Support Unit (CSU) as the main centralized and single database for complaints management. The main features of the current ticketing module implemented in CSU are as follows:

- (a) categorisation of tickets;
- (b) custom Reports; and
- (c) user Management.

A dedicated unit at the Ministry has the responsibility to attend to complaints and queries received through the CSP against local authorities.

Training sessions were organized by the CSU of the Prime Minister's Office for the officers of this Ministry and the Local Authorities. Local Authorities contributed in the setting up of FAQs and reply for the Cabinet being developed for the CSU.

Statistics on the number of complaints processed during the period under review is as follows:

| Complaints | 2022-2023 |
|--|------------------|
| Number of complaints received | 22, 245 |
| Number of complaints attended/resolved | 16, 595 |
| Number of complaints rejected | 4 |
| Number of complaints outstanding | 5, 646 |

2.2 Improving Good Governance and Strategic Planning and Risk Management

According to the World Bank, Good Governance is the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for the development with a view to strengthening internal audit and risk management to further strengthening accountability and transparency in the Ministry and in Local Authorities. Hence, the following measures were implemented:

- ❖ setting up of Audit Committees at the level of all Local Authorities;
- ❖ adoption and implementation of the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework, including managing of conflict of interest and introduction of gift policy;
- ❖ publication of customer charters;
- ❖ implementation of recommendations of ICAC following Corruption Risks Assessment in the processing of Building and Land Use Permits; and
- ❖ adoption and preparation of Financial Statements on accrual IPSAS ahead of Financial Year 2022-2023.

2.2.1 Amendment to Local Government Act 2011 in respect of Annual Report for Local Authorities

For increased transparency, the Local Government Act 2011 was amended to provide for Local Authorities to submit a comprehensive Annual Report 4 months after the end of the financial year comprising:

- ❖ the financial statements in respect of the financial year to which the report relates;
- ❖ a report on the performance of the Local Authority in respect of the previous financial year;
- ❖ a corporate Governance Report in accordance with the National Code of Corporate Governance; and
- ❖ the Strategic Direction of the Local Authority in respect of the next three financial years.

Moreover, a delay has been provided for the Director of Audit to submit the Audit Report within 10 months at the close of every financial year. Previously there was no time limit for the NAO to submit its Audit Report.

2.2.2 International Public Sector Accounting Standard (IPSAS)

IPSAS aims to improve the quality of general-purpose financial reporting by local authorities, leading to better informed assessment of limited resources allocation decisions with the final goal to increase transparency and accountability. The latest technical assistance report of the IMF mission in March 2020 noted that overall the Local Authorities made considerable progress over the last several years.

2.3 Audit Committee

The Audit Committee for financial year 2022-2023 held seven meetings during the period under review. A series of remedial actions/follow up actions have been taken on the issues highlighted in the Action Plan as hereunder:

- ❖ Follow up has been carried out on the following internal control reports:
 - (i) Procurement of items under National Environment and Climate Change Fund;
 - (ii) Human Resources Section at Head Office;
 - (iii) Asset Management at Head Office;
 - (iv) HOL, Asset and Transport at NDERRMC; and
 - (v) Compensation of Employees at the Ministry.

Furthermore, the following three Sub-Committees were set up by the Audit Committee:

- (i) Sub-Committee on Risk Management;
- (ii) Sub-Committee on Fraud; and
- (iii) Sub-Committee on misconduct Governance Structure.

2.4 Urban Terminal Projects

The implementation of Metro Express Project has given rise to opportunities of the redevelopment of strategically located areas around our city and town into modern urban terminals. Besides the Victoria Urban Terminal, five modern terminals would be developed through private sector participation along the metro corridor from Port-Louis to Curepipe. This investment would require about Rs 20 Billion.

The Victoria Urban Terminal is already in operation. It comprises market/fairs, retail outlets, a modern bus station, taxi stands amongst others.

The other five Urban Terminal Projects have reached the following stages:

❖ **Immigration Square Terminal**

A promoter has already been selected. Given that the site earmarked for the project falls within the buffer zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property, a technical review of the project by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), which falls under UNESCO, is under consideration.

❖ **Vacoas Urban Terminal**

The requirements are being worked out.

❖ **Rose-Hill Urban Terminal**

The Ministry of Housing and Land Use Permit has acquired additional plots of land for a more viable project. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is under preparation.

❖ **Quatres-Bornes Urban Terminal**

The Request for Proposal has already been launched.

❖ **Curepipe Urban Terminal**

The requirements for the projects are being worked out.

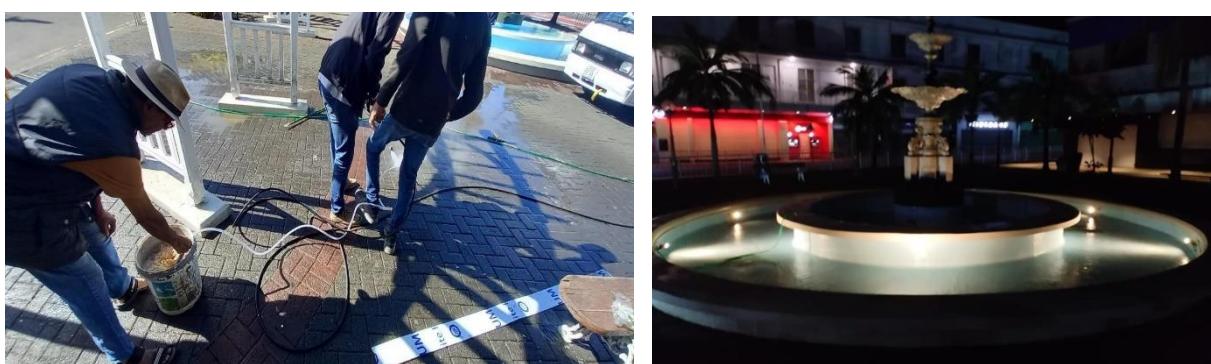
2.5 Projects funded under the National Environment and Climate Change Fund

For the financial year 2022-2023, the National Environment and Climate Change Fund has put at the disposal of each council, funds of Rs. 1.5 million for bulky waste collection activities and Rs. 1.5 million for cleaning and embellishment activities. The activities organised by each Local Authorities are:

- ❖ Clean-up and embellishment at the level of towns, villages, roundabouts and motorways;
- ❖ Collection of bulky waste to give citizens the opportunity to get rid of all their bulky waste as well as to remove eyesores due to illegal dumping along roadsides and prevent obstructions of rivers, canals and natural watercourses especially during rainy seasons; and
- ❖ Embellishment and planting of ornamental plants in at least one area within the jurisdiction of the local authority.



Collection of bulky waste within the township of Port-Louis



Upgrading of Place Raymond Chasle Square, Rose Hill



Cleaning of barelands near Forest Side SSS Boys



Clean up near mandir La Marie



Collection of bulky waste within the jurisdiction of District Council of Rivière Du Rempart



Cleaning and embellishment within the jurisdiction of District Council of Pamplemousses



Collection of bulky waste within the jurisdiction of District Council of Flacq



Cleaning and Embellishment at Bel Ombre Waterfront up To Police Station



Cleaning of overgrown bare lands within the jurisdiction of District Council of Black River

Other projects under the NECCF include:

- ❖ acquisition of household bins. Some councils have already distributed the bins and others are at tender stage;
- ❖ procurement of lorries for Local Authorities to address the problem of household waste, clean rivers, drains, canals and street. The contract has already been awarded to three suppliers and delivery is expected by December 2023 and February 2024;
- ❖ construction of drains and retaining wall at Morcellement Hermitage Coromandel to address the problem of landslide. The project is in tender phase; and
- ❖ landslide management at Ruisseau Creole, Baie Du Cap, new bids to be launched due to increase in project value.

2.6 I-Council Project

With a view to modernise the service of the Local Authorities, the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management has embarked in an array of digitalisation projects and technological innovations through the I-Council pilot Project at the District Council of Moka, which optimises the deployment of the resources and fund in a more efficient manner.

The I-Council Project uses the Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographical Information System (GIS) and a tailor-made Council Project Management Software (CPM) developed internally at the District Council of Moka to cater for Management Processes ranging from Finance, Project management and Inventory.

The project constitutes of the following:

- ❖ Council Project Management System (CPM);
- ❖ Fleet Management System (GIS Based);
- ❖ Scavenging Service Management System (GIS Based);
- ❖ Drain Management System (GIS Based);
- ❖ Maintenance of Asset Management System (GIS Based);
- ❖ Road Management System (GIS Based);
- ❖ Urban Planning Management System (GIS Based);
- ❖ Street Lighting Management System (GIS Based); and
- ❖ Bare land Management System (GIS Based).

The Council Project Management System has already been deployed at the following Local Authorities:

- ❖ The Municipal City Council of Port-Louis;
- ❖ The Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose-Hill;
- ❖ The Municipal Council of Curepipe;
- ❖ The Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes;
- ❖ The Municipal Council of Vacoas/Phoenix;
- ❖ The District Council of Flacq; and
- ❖ The District Council of Savanne.

Implementation will continue in the four remaining Local Authorities and the I-Council Project is expected to be completed in all Local Authorities by October 2023.

2.7 Local Authorities

With a view to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being and improve the overall quality of life of people in the local community, for the financial year 2022-2023, the Local Authorities have constructed and upgraded around:

- (i) 230 drains;
- (ii) 475 secondary roads;
- (iii) 190 community amenities; and
- (iv) 10, 000 LED street lanterns, across the island.

3.0 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE – STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

3.1 Budgetary Provision for the Ministry

The Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management for the financial year 2022-2023 was responsible for the following votes:

- ❖ Local Government;
- ❖ National Disaster Risk Reduction;
- ❖ Mauritius Fire and Rescue Services; and
- ❖ Mauritius Meteorological Services.

The amount budgeted for each vote for the financial year 2022-2023 was as follows:

| Vote | Name of Ministry/ Sub Department | Amount Budgeted (Rs 000) |
|--------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 5-1 | Local Government | 4,960,000 |
| 5-2 | National Disaster Risk Reduction | 26,400 |
| 5-3 | Mauritius Fire and Rescue Services | 810,000 |
| 5-4 | Mauritius Meteorological Services | 121,900 |
| Total | | 5,918,300 |

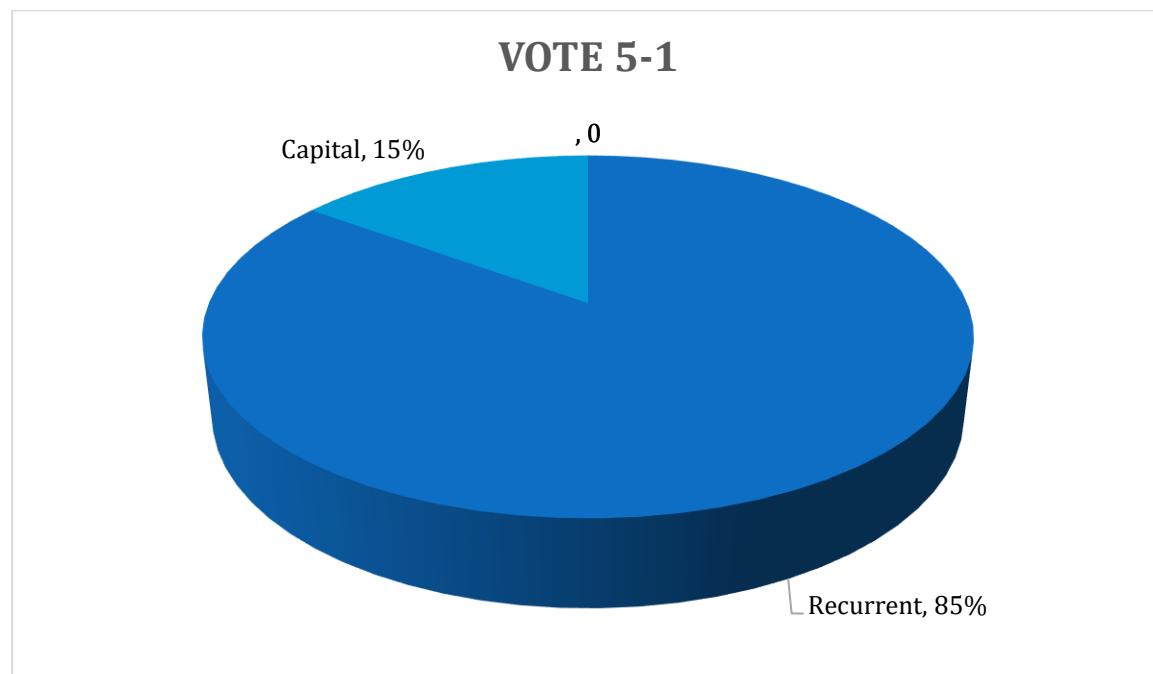
Vote appropriated for the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management

3.2 Recurrent and Capital Grants for 2022-2023 (Vote 5-1)

The table below shows the Recurrent and Capital Grant for financial year 2022-2023 for Vote 5-1

| Local Government (Vote 5 – 1) | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Expenditure | Amount (Rs 000) |
| Recurrent | 4,220,000 |
| Capital | 740,000 |
| Total | 4,960,000 |

Recurrent and Capital Grant for financial year 2022-2023 for Vote 5-1



Recurrent and Capital Grant for FY 2022-23 for Vote 5-1

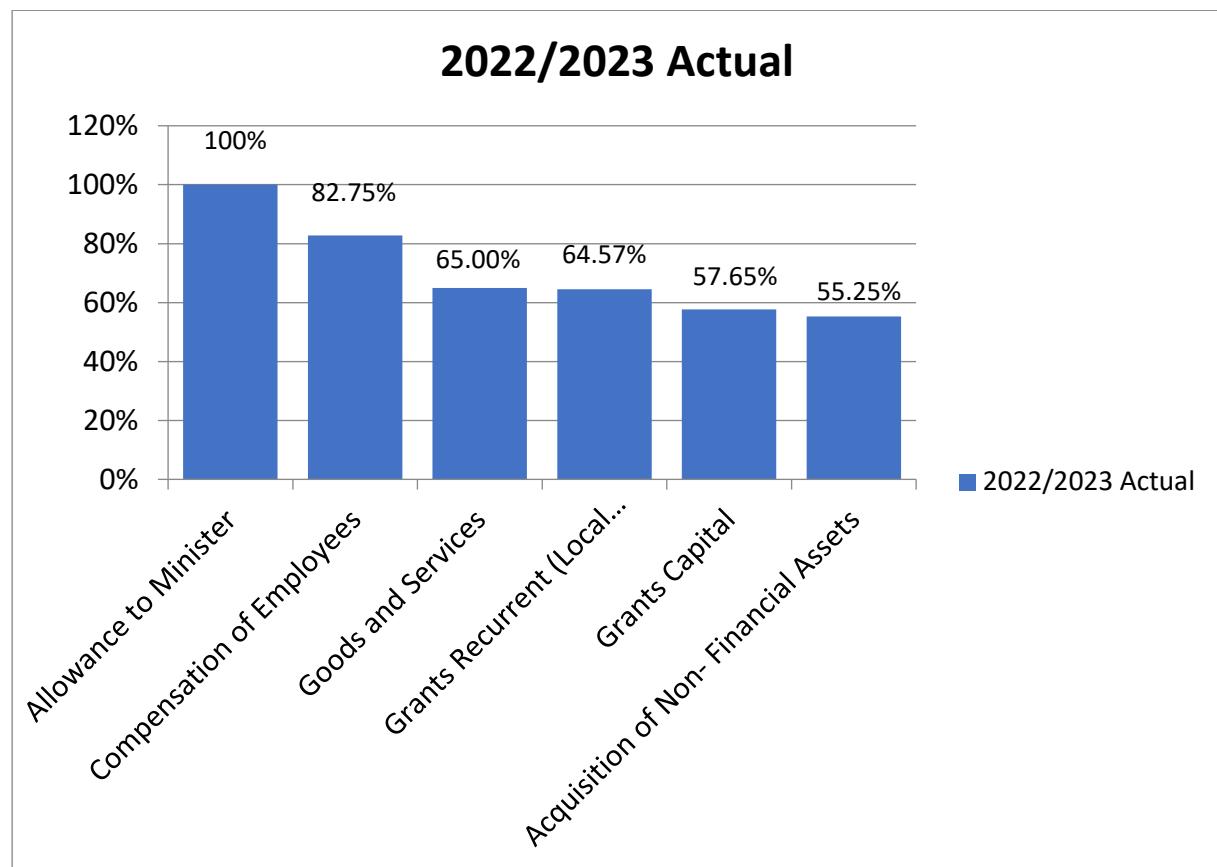
It can be observed that for the Vote 5-1, which comprises the Ministry's expenditure and the Grant-in-Aid allocated to Local Authorities, recurrent expenditure represents 85 percent of the Ministry's Budget Estimates and Capital Expenditure 15 percent.

3.3 Summary of Statement of Expenditure by Economic Categories (Vote 5-1)

| Ministry of Local Government Vote 5-1 and 5-2 | 2021-2022 Actual (Rs) M | 2022-2023 Estimates (Rs) M | Additional Fund provided in Year 2022-2023(Rs) M | 2022-2023 Actual (Rs) M |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Allowance to Minister | 2.44 | 2.44 | | 2.44 |
| Compensation to Employees | 96.06 | 102.26 | | 84.62 |
| Goods and Services | 14.27 | 15.10 | | 9.82 |
| Grants Recurrent (Local Authorities) | 3,450.19 | 4100 + (additional funds 271.14) | 503.7 | 4874.84 |
| Grants Capital | 515.29 | 721.70 | | 416.07 |
| Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets | 13.82 | 18.30 | | 10.11 |
| Total | 4,092.07 | 4,960.00 | 503.7 | 5,397.90 |

Expenditure incurred by the Ministry in financial year 2022-2023 under Vote 5-1 by economic classification

The table above provides an illustration of expenditure incurred by the Ministry of Local Government and Disaster Risk Management in FY 2022-23 under Vote 5-1 by economic classification.



Classification of Economic Categories (in terms of percentage)

3.4 Grant to Local Authorities (Recurrent Expenditures)

It can be observed from the above Table that a major part of the total Budget has been earmarked for 'Grants to Local Authorities', which was subject to an increase in its Budget for the Financial Year 2022-2023 by around Rs. 800M and additional funds of Rs 504M were granted to Local Authorities.

During the course of the year and following the midterm review Exercise, Councils were provided with additional Grant-In-Aid to the tune of **Rs. 250 M** to enable them to maintain their level of activities. Moreover, funds to the tune of **Rs 21.14 m** have been released to the Municipal Council of Port Louis for payment to Victoria Station Limited in respect of unpaid rental and **Rs 503.7 m** to the District Council of Rivière du Rempart to meet its financial obligations towards Alphamix Ltd in view of ruling of Privy Council.

Capital Grant

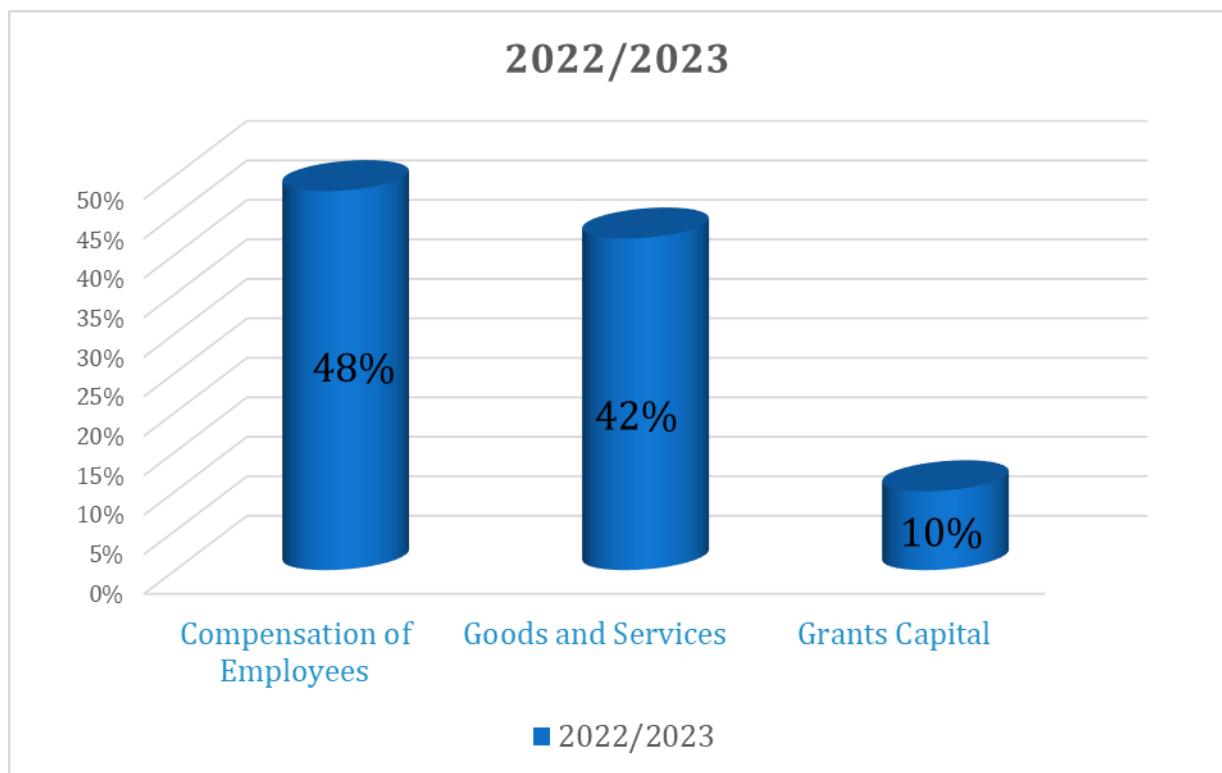
For the FY 2022-2023, an amount of Rs 722 million was earmarked for Capital Expenditure in respect of projects financed under the 'Local Development Projects' and which comprise mainly of the following: -

- ❖ Construction of Head Offices – Rs. 15.1 million
- ❖ Renovation of Plaza Theatre at Rose Hill – Rs. 29.3 million
- ❖ Renovation of Port Louis Theatre(Phase II) – Rs 25 million
- ❖ Multipurpose Complexes – Rs. 81.5 million
- ❖ Market Fairs – Rs. 230.20 million
- ❖ Construction of Incinerators – Rs. 52.7 million
- ❖ Construction and Upgrading of Amenities – Rs 25 million
- ❖ Small Development Projects -Rs 125 million
- ❖ Other Infrastructure and Amenities –Rs 60.4 million

3.5 Summary Statement of Expenditure by Economic Categories (Vote 5-2) – National Disaster Risk Reduction

| National Disaster Risk Reduction Vote 5-2 | 2022-2023 Estimates (Rs million) | 2022-2023 Actual (Rs million) |
|--|---|--|
| Compensation of Employees | 11 | 9.14 |
| Goods and Services | 12.7 | 10.61 |
| Grants Capital | 2.7 | 1.0 |
| Total | 26.4 | 20.75 |

The total budget of the Ministry allocated to National Disaster Risk Reduction (Vote 05-2) was Rs 26.4M and around 48 percent was allocated to Goods and Services, with 42 percent allocated to Compensation of employees and 10 percent for Capital Grants as illustrated below.



Estimates for Vote 5-2 for FY 2022-2023

4.0 TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

One of the Ministry's main responsibilities is to ensure that there is a seamless interaction between the Local Authorities and the local community service delivery as statutorily provided.

Key Challenges

- ❖ To improve financial autonomy of Local Authorities
- ❖ To address delays in implementing capital projects
- ❖ To effectively respond to extreme weather events and put in place appropriate logistics to enhance resilience against natural disasters; and
- ❖ To reduce response time in cases of natural disasters, fire and major accidents.

4.1 SWOT Analysis

| | |
|---|---|
| Strengths A legal framework geared towards more <u>decentralisation</u> at the level of the Local Authorities | Weaknesses Lack of adequate human and financial resources in Local Authorities which affects the efficient and effective implementation of projects, as well as enforcement of their statutory responsibilities |
| Opportunities Proximity with the community and good working relationships with relevant stakeholders to address problems at local level | Threats A dynamic socio-economic environment, as well as unpredictable climate change effects, resulting in higher expectations on service delivery by local authorities. |

4.2 Strategic Direction

