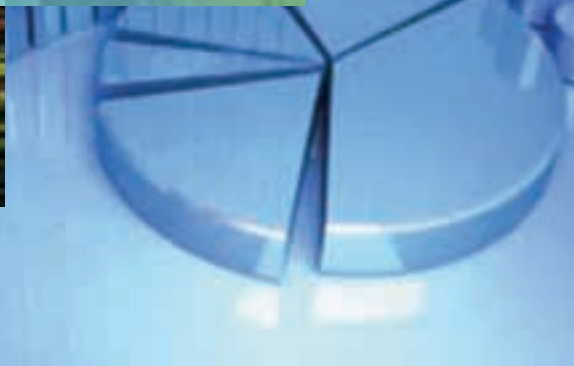
MRC

MAURITIUS RESEARCH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
2008-2009



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CONTENTS

Vision, Mission and Objectives

Our Vision:

"Shaping up the Mauritius of tomorrow through research, technology and innovation".

Our Mission:

"Promoting and pioneering research for sustainable development to enhance the quality of life of the people of Mauritius"

The Mauritius Research Council (MRC) was set up in May 1992 (Act no. 10 of 1992) as an apex body to promote and co-ordinate national investment in research. The objectives of MRC as enunciated in the Act are to:

(a) Foster, promote and co-ordinate research and development in all spheres of scientific, technological, social and economic activities;

(b) Advise the government on all matters concerning scientific and technological policies;

(c) Lay guidelines for, and initiate the formulation of research and development policies on a national basis; and

(d) Encourage commercial utilisation of research and development results in the national interest.

Letter from Chairperson

Dr The Honourable Navinchandra Ramgoolam
Prime Minister,
Minister of Defence and Home Affairs
Minister of External Communications
Prime Minister's Office
Treasury Building
Intendance Street
Port Louis

Honourable Sir,

As required by Act No. 10 of 1992, I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Mauritius Research Council for period July 2008 to June 2009.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. S. Jugessur, C.S.K., G.O.S.K.
Chairperson

Looking Ahead

As we reach the midway period of our strategic plan 2007-2011, the Council can draw an impressive list of achievements and activities, all with a view to promoting research and developing new sectors of the economy. Within the purview of its areas of national research priorities, the MRC has consolidated previous research ideas, while also developing new ones. We continue to advance the frontiers of the roles of a traditional Research Council, to one that also spearheads national projects which can lead to emerging sectors of the economy and even new pillars. The focus remains research for development and research which seeks solution to current issues. Most, if not all of our projects, seeks to provide alternatives to traditional thinking. From simple uses of coconut to drive our vehicles and to produce electricity, to potentially new industries based on seaweed, the Council spearheads the way to innovation. A major thrust is to focus on science & technology can affect and improve the daily lives of the Mauritian people. While others are focusing on traditional renewable sources of energy, such as, solar and wind, the MRC wishes to venture into Geothermal Sources, already used by a plethora of other island nations. This mode of thinking outside the box will continue to be adopted by the Board and staff of the Council as we embrace the coming year with even more exciting research projects. Social research will not be left behind as we shall consolidate the social research unit of the Council and undertake even more studies on research-based policies for various Ministries on issues of national importance.

Dr Arjoon Suddhoo
Executive Director

1. The Board

The overall governance of the Council is entrusted to a Board, which is composed of representatives of government, academia and private sector. The Board met five times during the financial year.

MRC BOARD MEETINGS

Members	Attendance
Prof. S. Jugessur, Chairperson	5/5
Dr A. Suddhoo, Executive Director	5/5
Representatives of Government	
Mrs K. O. Fong Weng-Poorun, Prime Minister's Office	2/5
Mr V. Bassant, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development	2/5
Mr R. G. D. Auckbur, Ministry of Education and Human Resources	5/5
Mrs N. Boodhoo, Ministry of Agro Industry and Fisheries	0/4
Mrs S. Rathacharen, Ministry of Agro Industry and Fisheries	1/1
Mrs Z. Guness-Goolbar, Ministry of Industry, Small and Medium Enterprises, Commerce & Cooperatives	2/2
Mr R. Moolye, Ministry of Industry, Science and Research (as from 30 January 2009)	3/3
Representatives of Academia and Private Sector	
Prof. I. Fagoonee, University of Mauritius	2/4
Prof. S. Rughooputh, University of Mauritius (as from 20 May 2009)	1/1
Dr S. Reddi, Adviser, Ministry of Education and Human Resources	1/5
Dr R. Ng Kee Kwong, Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute	2/5
Mr Charles Li Foo Wing	2/5
Mr S. Desai	3/5
Prof. R. Lamusse	4/5

SUB COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

Project Management Committee

The Project Management Committee (PMC) was set up to consider and evaluate studies/research proposals. The PMC devises criteria for selection of proposals, examines the technical and financial feasibility of proposals and make such recommendations to the Board. The Committee may call upon such persons as in its opinion may assist it in the performance of its duties.

Meetings of the Project Management Committee

Members	Attendance
Prof. S. Jugessur, Chairperson	2/2
Dr A. Suddhoo, Executive Director	2/2
Prof. I. Fagoonee, University of Mauritius	2/2
Dr R. Ng Kee Kwong, Mauritius Sugar Industry Institute	2/2
Mr S. Desai, Consultant	1/2
Prof. R. Lamusse, Consultant	1/2

Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee generally makes recommendations to the Board on appointments to the Council. It also reviews the organizational structure of the Council, recommend appointment and promotion, and deals with disciplinary matters whenever necessary.

Meetings of the Human Resources Committee

Members	Attendance
Prof. S. Jugessur, Chairperson	2/2
Dr A. Suddhoo, Executive Director	2/2
Mr S Desai, Consultant	1/2
Mr Charles Li Foo Wing, Private Sector	2/2

2. Staff of the Council

The staff of the Council, as at 30 June 2009, consisted of thirty two members:

Executive Director	-	Dr A Suddhoo
Corporate & Business Services Director	-	Mr P Tse Rai Wai
Research Coordinator	-	Dr N K Gopaul
	-	Mr D Gangapersad
	-	Mrs P Veer-Ramjeawon
Research Officer	-	Dr H Neeliah
	-	Dr M Madhou
	-	Dr B Rajkumarsingh (Resigned on 04 February 2009)
Officer-in-charge (CASR)	-	Mr N Richards (Resigned on 27 February 2009)
Project Officer (CASR)	-	Mr A S Peedoly (joined on 01 July 2008)
	-	Ms K Bheenick (01 June 2009)
System Administrator	-	Mrs H Mungun-Jhurry
Accountant	-	Mr D Chuckowree (Resigned 16 March 2009)
Administrative Officer	-	Mrs P Doman
Senior Accounts Officer	-	Ms R Tooree
Accounts/Purchasing Officer	-	Mrs D Chuckowree (Permanent transfer as from 07 April 2009)
Ag. Accounts/Purchasing Officer	-	Mrs G Ramsurn
Confidential Secretary	-	Mrs K Prayagsing
	-	Mrs B Padaruth
	-	Mrs M Jean Julie
Research Assistant	-	Mr K Tatoree
	-	Mrs N Gopal (joined 21 August 2008)
	-	Ms T Diolle (joined 01 July 2008)
	-	Ms S Ah-Choon (joined 04 May 2009)
	-	Ms S Aumeer (joined 01 June 2009)
Executive Officer	-	Mrs C. Rughoobur
Research Support Officer	-	Mrs S A Patten-Ramen (promoted on 01 July 2008)
Acting Clerical Officer	-	Ms B Hurdoyal
Clerk/Word Processing Operator	-	Ms P Gobin
Receptionist/Word Processing Operator	-	Ms C Salomon
Driver	-	Mr D Rajiah
	-	Mr P Hungsraz
Office Attendant/ Driver	-	Mr R Jhoollun
	-	Mr A Soogund
	-	Mr L Bhaya (promoted on 01 July 2008)
Office Attendant	-	Mr R Gunga

3. Key Performance Indicators

The Management of the Council has developed an internal set of Key Performance Indicators to assess its performance and impact, as per list below:

1. Promotion of research and development

	Related Performance Indicators	Actual as at 30 June 2009	Actual as at 30 June 2008
1.1	No. of new Research Projects in priority areas	30	26
1.2	No. of researchers (Principal Investigators, Co-Investigators and Research Assistants) directly involved in research projects	81	76

2. Dissemination of research and development

2.1	No. of seminars/workshops held during the year	13	25
2.2	No. of participants in seminars/workshops	526	2,452
2.3	No. of Scientific Articles/Publications/Reports produced	13	11
2.4	No. of hits on MRC website	5,165	3,675

3. Commercial utilisation of research and development

3.1	No. of research projects with potential commercial utilization	17	16

4. MRC Research Grant Schemes

The Council has currently six different funding mechanisms, namely:

4.1 Solicited Research Grant Scheme (SRGS)

Under the Solicited Research Grant Scheme (SRGS) **(the top-down approach)**, the Council defines and selects the areas of research that are of national priority. Researchers are then invited to bid, on a competitive basis, to undertake the research.

4.2 Unsolicited Research Grant Scheme (URGS)

The Unsolicited Research Grant Scheme (URGS) is essentially a **bottom-up approach** to the promotion of research and development, whereby researchers and research institutions can submit proposals in their own areas of interest. Funds are then made available to those proposals that satisfy the criteria set up by the Council.

4.3 Private Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme (PSCRGS)

Research & development works best in those settings where research institutions have tangible connections to industry. In this context, the Private Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme (PSCRGS) has been designed to expand research activities beyond the academic campus into the private sector. The scheme aims at encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with a local academic institution, to undertake research designed to develop new processes, techniques or products with a view to increasing productivity, competitiveness and efficiency. Special emphasis is placed on those research opportunities that have commercial potential.

4.4 Small Scale Research Grant Scheme (SSRGS)

The Small Scale Research Grant Scheme (SSRGS) is designed to give opportunities to individuals and groups to conduct research work in all areas relating to the understanding of social and economic change with specific emphasis on issues they are confronted with in their work or living environment. The SSRG Scheme is available to all those not covered by the existing Research Grant Schemes of the MRC namely the URGS and PSCRGS. Undergraduates, graduates, teachers, members of the police force, medical and paramedical staff, trade unions, non-governmental organisations and the public and private sectors, among others, can apply for grants under the SSRGS. Individual applicants are encouraged to submit proposals in partnership with recognized institutions, public or private, that can give impetus and direction to the proposed research.

4.5 Public Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme (PuSCRGS)

The PuSCRGS is essentially a top-down approach for the promotion of research, whereby the promoters invite researchers and research institutions in the public sector to submit proposals in pre-identified areas of interest. Proposals that are multi-disciplinary and involve inter-institutional or inter-departmental collaboration are encouraged. Proposals are selected for funding based on their potential research value, their strategic importance and the contribution they would make to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Sector.

The main areas of research identified, among others, are Flexitime, Performance Management, Leadership, Motivation, Quality Management and Human Resource Management and Development. The Promoters will also consider research proposals identified by Provider Institutions.

4.6 MRC Post Graduate Research Award

The MRC Postgraduate Award targets both unemployed and employed graduates to undertake research studies at a local tertiary education institution, leading to an MPhil or PhD. The MRC anticipates to award, on a competitive basis, up to twenty such awards. The areas for the research studies must be from the following sectors, which are current priorities of the Council:

1. Development of Ocean Technology and Marine Resources
2. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
3. Waste Management and Waste Recycling
4. Biomedical and Biopharmaceutical Research based on Indigenous resources

5. Research Priorities

MRC will pursue initiatives launched in the priority areas of -

- Ocean Technology and Marine Resources
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Waste management and waste recycling
- Biomedical and pharmaceutical research based on indigenous resources
- Science and Technology Education and
- Social/Economic

I. Ocean Technology and Marine Resources

Activities towards the LBOI Project will include capture of vital scientific and technical data that will provide information for the identification of potential market products and services. In line with its policy to capture information for potential applications, the Council will invest in the investigation of the values of the seaweed resources of our lagoon waters.

II. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

The fluctuations, and high prices of oil, have led to more awareness of our dependency on fossil fuel. This has created a need to relook at the energy policy. The Council will assist in the development of a national policy and action plan on renewable energy. An assessment of sectoral energy intensities will provide inputs for energy efficiency programmes. Research on renewable energy will contribute towards developing solutions for various sectors.

III. Waste Management and Waste Recycling

Waste, domestic and industrial, is increasingly becoming a major national problem. Several projects will be undertaken with a view to capture vital information on waste cycles and types of waste, including e-wastes. Projects will also be designed to initiate pilot projects on recycling and reuse.

IV. Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Research Based on Indigenous Resources

The Council will continue to support research programmes that address the sociological and scientific issues of diseases of national concern. Contribution will be made towards the development of a proper legal framework for biomedical research as well as promoting research in the area of traditional medicine.

V. Science and Technology Education

The value of science and technology education for economic and social development is recognized worldwide. The Council will continue to promote public understanding of S&T. The Council will assist in building a data bank of S&T indicators, including the quality of S&T education.

VI. Social/Economic

The Council will pursue its efforts in supporting research projects on social and economic issues which are of national concern. Several projects with a socio-economic bearing and using high standards of academic rigour will be undertaken on topical social problems. Over and above the academic value of the data generated, such information can be used to inform the policy-making process for the overall improvement of social conditions locally.

6. The Year in Retrospect

6.1 Research Portfolio

During the financial year 2008/2009, MRC processed thirty six research applications, and approved thirty of them. These thirty new projects can be classified under the following research themes:

RESEARCH THEMES	NO OF PROJECTS	PROJECT VALUES (Rs)
Ocean Technology & Marine Resources	7	1,410,525
Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	4	1,415,393
Waste Management & Waste Recycling	1	75,100
Biomedical & Biopharmaceutical	3	674,305
Science & Technology Education	3	233,000
Social / Economic	7	9,314,815
Information & Communication Technology	1	120,000
Land & Land Use	1	120,000
Manufacturing Technology	1	1,033,512
Water Resources	1	-
Others	1	2,310,000

By the end of the financial year 2008/2009, MRC had accumulated 349 research projects with project values of Rs 133 million under the different MRC Research Grant Schemes.

6.2 Development of Ocean Technology and Marine Resources

Development of a Seaweed Industry in Mauritius

Seaweed and the plethora of commercial products derived from seaweed form the pillars of the economy of many countries, such as Japan, China, Indonesia, Philippines, among others. Seaweed derived products are essential in the food & beverage, pharmaceutical, cosmetics and industrial sectors. The world market for the seaweed industry has an estimated total annual value of US$ 5.5-6 billion (McHugh, FAO 2003), growing at a rate of about 15% annually. The main importers are the developed countries, US and Europe.

The project was initiated in 2006 and its aim is to investigate the potential of developing an economically, technically and environmentally viable seaweed industry in Mauritius and Rodrigues.

Phase 1 of the project which constituted of the preliminary screening of the most popular local seaweeds was completed in 2008/9. In 2009 the road map for the second phase of the project was prepared after consultations with the taskforce members. Some of the main activities in the period July 2008 to June 2009 are highlighted.

A number of multidisciplinary studies were conducted in collaboration with different institutions for the screening exercise.

Multi-disciplinary Seaweed Research Projects

Collection and Delivery of Seaweed Samples for Laboratory Analysis and Taxonomy Study
This project consisted of the collection of popular seaweed species from different regions of the island. The implementing institution was the Albion Fisheries Research Centre (AFRC).

Seaweed samples were collected from the regions of Grand Gaube, Palmar, Baie Du Tombeau, Belle Mare and Poste La Fayettte during the period October to November 2008.

Project has been completed and final report has been submitted in April 2009. The final report covers details on the collection exercise along with the georeferenced maps and photographs.

Taxonomic study of local seaweed samples
Popular seaweed samples were collected by AFRC during the period October to November 2008. Proper identification of the samples had to be conducted. Hence local seaweed samples were identified based on a taxonomic study. The study was conducted by the University of Mauritius. A final report was submitted in April 2009. The report consists of the detailed morphological description of popular seaweed species with photographs. Seaweed samples were identified as *Enteromorpha kylini, Ulva lactuca, Sargassum binderi, Gracilaria salicornia, Padina gymnospora*.

An Evaluation of the Physico-Chemical, Biochemical & Microbiological Parameters, Nutrient Content and Net Calorific Value of some local seaweed species of Mauritius, with focus on biomass for liquid fertilizer, energy and nutritional supplement
In view of determining the potential uses of local seaweed resources it is important to screen their composition. Hence the five species E*nteromorpha kylini, Ulva lactuca, Sargassum binderi, Gracilaria salicornia, Padina gymnospora* were sent to the Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute for a screening of their biochemical, nutrient, microbiological and calorific value. The study was completed in February 2009 and a comprehensive report on the characteristics of the 5 studied macroalgae has been submitted in February 2009.

The study revealed that evaluated species are good sources of protein, vitamins, essential amino acids & minerals. Possible industrial applications of the seaweeds based on their composition include food product development for human consumption and poultry/fish/livestock feed supplements.

Analysis of seaweed samples in the context of the proposed Seaweed Industry
Under a contractual agreement with the Mauritius Research Council (MRC), a team at the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, University of Mauritius, participated in a study relative to the characterization of five species of seaweed, namely *Enteromorpha kylini, Ulva lactuca, Sargassum binderi, Gracilaria salicornia, Padina gymnospora*. The objectives of the study were to determine the physico-chemical characteristics, chloride content and gross calorific values (GCV) of different species of seaweed.

The study was conducted in two phases; phase 1 was conducted on fresh seaweeds while in phase 2 both fresh seaweeds and sap-free seaweed material was analysed. Two reports with the detailed characterisation of the seaweeds were submitted to the Council in December 2008 and April 2009 respectively.The reports include the moisture and ash contents, bulk density, pH, electrical conductivity, chloride content and gross calorific values of the seaweed samples.

Composting could be a suitable treatment method for both fresh and Sap-free seaweeds. The high moisture content and the pH (6.3–7.5) of the seaweeds were favourable to composting. Ulva had the lowest chloride and ash contents and thus was more promising for use as an organic fertilizer.

FUTURE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Taskforce Meeting in June 2009
A taskforce meeting was held at the Council on 17th June 2009 to discuss output of multidisciplinary projects. Presentations were made from the different institutions to highlight major findings.

The MRC representative summed-up the above research findings through a comparative analysis of the biochemical composition of the most common Mauritian seaweeds to the seaweeds from other geographical regions.

Five local seaweeds commonly found in Mauritius - *Enteromorpha kylini, Ulva lactuca, Sargassum binderi, Gracilaria salicornia, Padina gymnospora* - were collected, identified and analyzed:

- Evaluated species have potential as good source of protein, vitamins, essential amino acids & minerals
- Need for research into product development for seaweed-based food items for acceptability by consumers
- Good potential as livestock feed supplements (High protein content)
- Preliminary field trials have indicated that off the shelf seaweed extracts did not increase crop yield significantly, however results need to be validated due to prevailing bad weather conditions during the preliminary trial
- Residues remaining after sap extraction may be used as natural organic fertilizer or as a component in composting mixture
- Low potential for use in energy generation – low GCV and high ash content
- Need for research to identify species suitable for bio-energy production

6.3 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Geothermal Power Potential in Mauritius

Geothermal energy is the energy produced by the internal heat of the earth which includes: hydrothermal convective systems; pressurized water reservoirs; hot dry rocks; manual gradients; and magma. Geothermal energy can be considered as an almost infinite source and can be used directly for heating or to produce electric power (Barbier, 2002). It is widely accepted that most geothermal fields are localized in areas of recent tectonism and volcanism (earlier than Cenozoic, 65 million years before present) and primarily along active plate boundaries. Geothermal reservoirs are often associated with volcanoes and volcanic regions (Barbier, 2002). Mauritius is a recent island in geological terms since volcanic activity is predicted to have stopped between 0.17 – 8 million years ago (Sheth & Mahoney, 2003). Furthermore, Mauritius is found on the Mascarene plate, close to the Réunion Island Hotspot - one of the most active hotspots known in the Indian Ocean. Hence, there is much probability that there exists a fairly good geothermal reservoir in Mauritius.

In early 2009, the Council commissioned a very ambitious and innovative project of exploring the Geothermal Potential of Mauritius (Mauritius Research Council 2009). In a pre-feasibility study, a local Geomorphologist studied the surface geology and carried out gross geomorphological characterization of different types of volcanic rocks of the 23 volcanic fields of Mauritius. It was found that there is a potential for geothermal energy exploitation in Mauritius and it was recommended that thorough geological, geophysical and geochemical analyses and surveys should be carried out. In this context, the Ministry of Public Utilities, together with the MRC and the CEB have set up a steering committee to seek funds and international expertise for the project. The Terms of Reference (TOR) has been drafted for submission for funding under the Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD) scheme.

Renewable Energy Resources Assessment

Energy efficiency and renewable energy exploitation is one of prioritized areas of research of the Council. Solar and wind are two of the most established renewable energy sources that can benefit of economic scale and are suited for local climatic conditions. However, the potential for solar (solar thermal and PV) and wind (wind farms and Distributed Energy Systems) energies in Mauritius have not been estimated to date. In this context, the Council in close collaboration with the Mauritius Meteorological Services (MMS), the CEB, the MPU and the Department of Civil Aviation, has taken the lead to develop wind and solar atlases for Mauritius. Anemometers (for wind measurements) have been installed at Bigara, Beau Songes and Jurancon, while a pyranometer has been installed at Beaux Songes. Measurements has been taken on a monthly basis since November 2007 and will continue for 3 more years in order to establish the wind and solar atlas for Mauritius.

Coconut Oil / Agalega

Agalega, with its two islets has a total surface area of 2,600 hectares and has presently 20,000 standing coconut trees, which are distributed over an area of 800 hectares or around 30% of the total area. Each year, about 15,000 litres of Coconut Oil is sent to Mauritius for sale.

In future, the Outer Island Development Corporation (OIDC) is planning to embark on a project, which aims at expanding the existing coconut plantation over an area of 1,500 hectares at the end of a five-year period. The aim is to produce more Coconut Oil and thus, increase revenue for the Island of Agalega, while making use of the oil as an alternative to diesel.

The use of Coconut Oil in engines is not new. It was used in the Philippines during the Second World War when diesel was in short supply.

Recently, in Vanuatu (a Pacific Island State), pure Coconut Oil has been used successfully as an alternative to petroleum in automotive diesel engines and the result is both environmentally friendly and good for the local economy. OIDC drew the attention of the MRC to that effect.

Being given that Agalega has a vast potential for coconut oil production, it was interesting to explore whether the experiences of the Pacific Islands in the field of coconut biofuels could be replicated in Agalega.

In this context, the **Mauritius Research Council (MRC)** carried out a research study under its solicited grant scheme to investigate the use of **coconut oil** and **waste vegetable oil** as a substitute for diesel for transportation in 2007-2008.

In September 2008, a seminar was organized by the MRC to disseminate the findings of the "feasibility study on use of Waste Vegetable Oil (WVO) and Coconut Oil (CNO) as substitutes for diesel"

The main objective of the feasibility study was to investigate the possibility of using WVO and CNO as a substitute to diesel in a modified 4 X 4 vehicle in order to reduce the dependence of Agalega on Mauritius for its liquid fossil fuel requirements. In particular the engine performance, wear and tear and gas emissions have been assessed relative to that of conventional diesel engine. The results of this study demonstrated that coconut oil and waste vegetable oil are excellent alternatives to diesel for the running of 4x4 vehicles in Mauritius.

The next step is to investigate the feasibility of using **coconut oil and waste vegetable oil in diesel generators to produce electricity** and implement, on a pilot basis, the modification and running of a vehicle and a generator on coconut oil in Agalega and waste vegetable oil in Mauritius, in 2009-2010.

6.4 Waste Management and Waste Recycling

E-waste Quantification and Characterisation in Mauritius.

In Mauritius basic data on the quantity and composition of e-waste is lacking. It is therefore difficult to assess the scale of the problem and to design e-waste management schemes. To address this gap the Council with the University of Technology, Mauritius and the Ministry of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands undertook a project to quantify and characterise e-waste in Mauritius. The methodology adopted to meet the research objectives comprised a three-pronged approach, namely [1] characterization and quantification of e-waste using an established protocol, [2] a survey to establish e-waste amounts at household level and [3] modeling of future e-waste generation using import data. This status-quo of e-waste generation and disposal will be helpful in better understanding e-waste management in Mauritius and to subsequently better formulate e-waste management strategies.

6.5 Biomedical and biopharmaceutical research based on indigenous resources

Bioinformatics

The Council has received a request from the Ministry of Industry, Science and Research to consider the setting up of a Bioinformatics Unit. The role of this Unit will be to identify and address issues on development and policy in relation to bioinformatics, and act as a Coordination Cell in relation to activities being undertaken by other institutions in the field of bioinformatics.

The MRC, building on experience gathered through the Indo-Mauritius Joint Commission (IMJC) where discussions were conducted regarding the type of Bioinformatics Network to be set up, the cost implications, as well as requirements in terms of human resources and technical assistance for operating a Coordination Cell, has highlighted potential areas of application in its contribution towards formulation a blueprint by the Board of Investment for the bioinformatics sector in Mauritius.

The Council is also supporting the development of collaborative links between the University of Mauritius (UoM) and the South African Network for Biosciences (SANBio), including a proposal for UoM to act as a regional node of SANBio for bioinformatics. The main objective of the proposal is "to create a network of scientists among the countries of Southern Africa for the development and implementation of a transnational programme of work in bioinformatics", with focus on teaching and training activities.

Awareness campaign on toxic plants – survey on poisonous plants

The MRC has been approached by the Ministry of Agro Industry and Fisheries (MoAIF) for assistance in developing an awareness campaign on toxic plants.

With regard to carrying out a survey on poisonous plants as one of the activities identified for the awareness campaign, a Committee set up by the MoAIF and composed of representatives of several institutions, including the MRC, has agreed that the Mauritius Herbarium would be best placed to undertake this work.

The MRC is funding the salary of a research assistant for a period of two months to support the Mauritius Herbarium in this undertaking. It is envisaged that this work will include:

- compiling information on species name, toxicity and the distribution of poisonous plants occurring in Mauritius,
- providing high-resolution digital photographs of a selection of about 20 such plants for use in a poster, and
- designing of the poster in a camera-ready format suitable for printing or for posting on a website.

6.6 Science & Technology Education

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP)

The MRC was mandated by the Ministry of Industry, Science and Research to formulate a policy framework for the application of science, technology and innovation with a view to enhancing socio-economic development and improving quality of life in Mauritius.

The process of drafting the STI policy extended over a number of months from December 2008 to May 2009. Consultations were held with a wide range of institutions including, the education sector, academia, research institutions, government bodies and the private sector. This strategy has been widely used by many countries and the approach adopted in this study was based on that of the Department of Science & Technology of South Africa. Main activities conducted under this study included:

Assessing the R&D System in Mauritius

Many institutions are involved in R&D and S&T either directly or indirectly. For example, ministries responsible for the environment, for education, for IT and for industries are directly concerned and therefore form part of the system. Others are indirectly involved although they may make use of S&T on an ad-hoc basis. To that effect, all those organizations which comprise the R&D and S&T system in Mauritius were mapped out with a view to determine the inputs and outputs of the system, both from the financial aspect, the human capacity aspect and the competency so that the output can be quantified and qualified. A gap analysis was conducted following this exercise. The analysis revealed a number of overlapping research themes including environmental research, Food Security, Freshwater Resource Management and Waste Management among institutions. In this line a need for team work and multidisciplinary research among institutions was identified. The other main finding was a number of research gaps which could be attributed to lack of expertise and the need for capacity building in some areas.

Surveys and Focused Group Discussions to assess current S & T scenario

A major aspect of the methodology was to undertake a gap analysis by first situating the current S&T status of Mauritius and second compare the results with the aspirations of the stakeholders. To that effect a number of surveys and focused group discussions were undertaken with a view to identifying the current constraints facing the S&T system in Mauritius as well as qualifying the future S&T needs of the stake holders. The MRC hosted a number of consultative meetings to disseminate the findings of the surveys as well as to validate some of the recommendations being proposed by the stakeholders.

An important requirement of the R&D system is that it has to permeate into the private sector, particularly the Small & Medium Enterprises. Thus a major determinant is the perception of the private sector with regard to the system. A detailed survey was therefore undertaken and over 800 enterprises were contacted.

Discussions with the stakeholders revealed that other problems that the local research system need to face include *lack of funding, lack of infrastructure/equipment for research, poor networking with regional and international counterparts, academic institutions too focused on academic research papers and not enough focus on market needs.*

Based on the surveys conducted among the public sector institutions and on information from national development plans priority areas of research identified were *Food Security, Energy Security, Marine Resources, Environmental Security, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) and Research for Health.*

Identification of Constraints and Objective Trees to develop policies

The results of the surveys and the focused Group Discussions allowed a number of constraints to be identified and these were transformed into objective trees with the assistance of a Consultant. Hence a number of policies were developed to address the needs of the local STI and R & D sector. Policies were grouped under the following main themes:

1. Funding for Research and Development
2. Human Capital
3. Enhancing the public research system
4. Science and society
5. Technology transfer and Innovation

A draft policy document was sent to the Ministry of Industry, Science and Research in May 2009.

6.7 Social/Economic

ICAC study Phase One: Qualitative Assessment of the contribution of the education system in promoting knowledge and awareness of anti-corruption values in Mauritius.

This study commissioned by the ICAC which aimed at reviewing the current school syllabus/ textbooks as regards the teaching of anti-corruption attitudes as part of civic duty education was completed in July 2008. In terms of the methodology adopted, it involved documentary analysis, interviews with programme developer and FGDs with teachers and authors. Among its main conclusions, the study found that there is a lack of explicit anti-corruption value education in the formal curriculum and at best the prevailing approach is very much eclectic and dependent on individual teachers. The study recommends that anti-corruption education must be construed *in the wider scheme of developing good citizenship* in general and not as a stand alone component of the curriculum. Corruption education is thus to be incorporated under the umbrella of either *life skills or values education programme*. There is also a need for explicit value-based programmes within the formal and while at the same time *strengthening the values based aspects of the informal curriculum*. The methodology used must be *activity based, student-centered and give opportunities for discussion and interaction*.

ICAC Study Phase Two: Quantitative Assessment of the contribution of the education system in promoting knowledge and awareness of anti-corruption values in Mauritius.

Further to the completion of Phase One, a second phase of the study was initiated. This aspect aimed at administering a Knowledge Attitudes Beliefs and Practices (KABP) Survey among a representative sample of secondary school students in Mauritius and Rodrigues in order to gauge how far students are knowledgeable about such values and how much of those they study as part of both the formal and informal curricula in the context of schooling.

Study on the Nature, Extent and Costs of Domestic Violence to the Mauritian Economy

The above-mentioned study commissioned by the UNDP has as main objectives to estimate the prevalence of domestic violence in the country as well as attempt to put a cost on this phenomenon. The desk research and literature review as well as FGDs with service providers, victims and perpetrators have been completed and the survey is expected to start in June 2009.

A Study of Attitudes and Lifestyles Implications of the Pilot Implementation of Summertime in the Republic of Mauritius.

The Time Act of 2008 was enacted to introduce Summertime in Mauritius between 26 October 2008 and 29 March 2009. The main objective of this pilot project was to reduce energy consumption and associated carbon emissions. However, the extended period of daylight also has a social impact in that it affects the daily routines of people during the period in which it is in force. The Ministry of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities solicited the Council to assess the attitudes and lifestyles implications of the implementation of this pilot project. The main objective of this study was to gather data from a fully representative sample of the adult population of Mauritius and Rodrigues so as to enable an assessment of the impact of Summertime on the social behaviour of individual. The project started in February and ended in May 2009.

Survey of Centenarians in the Republic of Mauritius

From 1998 to 2008 there has been a 52.3% increase in the number of centenarians in the Republic of Mauritius. There are numerous explanatory factors for this longevity. This is reached when ageing is uniform and when all organs of the body are damaged at the same level and affected by the same level of functional impairment, avoiding the collapse of a single function. Factors that have been reported to explain their longevity include biological, psychological and sociological ones. The Mauritius Research Council has been solicited by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizen Welfare and Reform Institutions to investigate the different factors that are likely to impact on longevity of centenarians in the Republic of Mauritius. The project was initiated in June 2008 and ended in June 2009.

Crime and Violence

A research proposal to study the extent of crime and violence in the Republic of Mauritius using has been submitted to the PMO upon its request. It seeks to adopt a mix of methods, namely a nationwide victimization survey; FGDs of stakeholders as well as case studies of habitual criminals. Its main objectives are to assess the level of crime and violence in Mauritius as well as examine the attitudes which the population has concerning various related issues, e.g their level of security, reporting of crime, police and policing, etc and also to uncover the main reasons which drive people to commit crimes. The study is due to be completed in June 2009

6.8 Other research areas

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

1. Preparation of guidelines on IPR

The Council has prepared draft guidelines addressing the management of IPR in universities, research organisations and SMEs. To ensure that the guidance includes consideration of the requirements of various stakeholders, a half-day consultative meeting was organised by the MRC in November 2008, aimed at discussing the guidelines. The guidelines will be finalised following final consultation with the Industrial Property Office.

2. IPR Newsletter

The first IPR newsletter was issued in February 2009. This initiative of the Council addresses a lack of reliable, easily accessible, basic information on current IPR issues that impact various sectors in the country. The e-newsletter is aimed at public institutions, research/academia and the business community. Subsequent newsletters will feature

IP statistics, brief information relating to cases, international developments likely to influence the local IP landscape, and a help area. To ensure that the contents are accurate and up-to-date, an editorial team comprising representatives from the IP Office, IP Tribunal, Attorney-General's Office, Mauritius Society of Authors (MASA), Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and Small Enterprises and Handicraft Development Authority (SEHDA) has been set up.

3. Request for IP PANORAMA Multimedia Toolkit

Council has made a request for assistance from the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) in making available for end users in Mauritius, the IP PANORAMA Multimedia Toolkit on CD-ROM.

This toolkit has been developed jointly by WIPO, the Korean Intellectual Property Office and the Korean Invention Promotion Association, and is designed to enhance the capability of SMEs to use and manage their IP. Council has indicated that it wishes to distribute the toolkit for non-commercial purposes to SMEs, as well as teaching, training and research institutions.

4. Contribution to IP Development Plan (IPDP)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade (MoFARIIT, International Trade Division) recently requested technical assistance from WIPO aimed at the formulation of a country specific IPDP.

In this context, the contribution of the Council has been sought towards the preparation of a draft document for subsequent input to WIPO, by providing information on (i) activities carried out by the MRC in the area of IPR, and (ii) potential IPR training needs envisaged for the MRC.

5. Participation of the MRC in IP-related events

- National Workshop on IPR, 12 – 14 January 2009, organised jointly by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the MoFARIIT: Issues addressed during the workshop included implementation and enforcement of IP in Mauritius, compulsory licensing, parallel importation and strengthening of the IP regime.
- Half-day seminar on Trade Related Issues (TRI), 23 January 2009, organised by the MoFARIIT: This seminar involved presentation of the findings and recommendations following the recent study on TRI conducted with assistance from the EU TradeCom Facility, and which addresses IPR and competition policy, amongst others.

6.9 International/Regional Collaboration

SADC Science, Engineering and Technology Week
Under the chairmanship of Mauritius, and co-chaired by South Africa, the first SADC SET Week took place at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre, Pailles, from 22 to 25 October 2009, under the theme "Harnessing Science, Engineering and Technology for Socio-Economic Development". The SET Week was organized at the initiative of the Ministry of Industry, Science and Research. The event focused on raising awareness of society on the importance of Science, Engineering and Technology in our everyday life and as engines of improvement of quality of life in line with the recommendations of SADC and its Protocol on Science, Technology and Innovation.

The main objectives of the SADC SET Week were to:

- increase people's understanding and appreciation of the importance of science, engineering and technology in their daily lives;
- stimulate young people's interest in studying science and mathematics at secondary school level;
- encourage young people to consider furthering their studies in sciences and engineering at higher education level; and
- expose people to scientific and technological advances in the SADC region.

Three major activities were concurrently run at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre in the wake of the SADC SET week, viz. a regional exhibition on science and technology to display scientific and technological development in the region, a science education fair to create awareness on science courses and career opportunities and a forum on science, technology and innovation.

The Square Kilometre Array Radio Telescope (SKA) Project

Another concrete example of regional cooperation and regional integration in the cross-cutting field of Science and Technology is underway in the context of the SKA Project. This major international project valued at 1.5 billion Euros is beyond any doubt a project that raises a lot of scientific and technological enthusiasm among the African partner countries. The SKA will consist of thousands of dishes and other collecting devices, spread over a vast area, but working together as one instrument with a joint receiving surface of one square kilometre. Cutting edge technologies and computing power like never before will make this a true "time machine", able to detect very faint celestial signals in order to look back to the early universe. "Once the SKA comes online, its computing power will be equal to all the people on the planet doing a billion calculations per second all at the same time," explained Dr Bruce Elmegreen of IBM in the USA, at the International SKA Forum held in Cape Town on 25th February 2009.

The two countries shortlisted to host the SKA are South Africa and Australia. Both are building radio telescopes (called "pathfinders") to contribute to the SKA technology. Both pathfinder telescopes will be premier telescopes in their own right. South Africa has begun construction on the Karoo Array Telescope (called MeerKAT) and the Australians are working on the Australian SKA Pathfinder (ASKAP). At the Forum, South Africa's Minister for Science and Technology, Hon Mosibudi Mangena, announced a new collaborative venture between South Africa and Australia on science programmes that will be possible because of the complementary nature of the two telescopes. This was truly a lesson in cooperative S&T agreements and a vivid demonstration that scientific knowledge for humanity's advancement transcends all other issues.

If the SKA is built in South Africa, it will have outstations in at least eight other African countries. These African partners were also at the Forum to re-affirm their commitment to this project and to plan with the South African project team for future SKA preparations in their countries.

Before the final site for the SKA can be announced between 2011 and 2012, many more studies will be done. These studies will compare radio frequency interference, configuration, availability and cost of infrastructure, cost of construction and life-cycle costs for the South African and Australian sites. It is clear that both the Australian and South African sites are excellent and both countries enjoy support from their governments to host the SKA.

While astronomers are excited about the SKA's potential to answer questions about the universe, governments and funders view this project as a way to attract young people into science and engineering and to equip them with very high-level skills.

6.10 Mission Abroad

19 - 25 Oct 08: ICSU General Assembly, Mozambique

At the invitation of the International Council of Science (ICSU), the MRC nominated Dr M Madhou, Research Officer, to attend the 29th General Assembly of ICSU held in Mozambique from 21st to 24th October 2008. One main objective of this assembly was to bring the attention of the international scientific community to science, engineering and technology in Africa as a whole, and to bring Africa in closer contacts with the global ICSU family. The main issues discussed during the Assembly were Universality for Science and activities conducted under the different ICSU Regional Offices. Election of the members of the Executive Board including the President was also conducted during the Assembly.

The main research issues which were discussed during the Assembly and which are of relevance to Mauritius include:

A Universal Public Domain for Data and Information

As well as being important to science itself, publicly available scientific data and information are increasingly important for decision-making by governments and many sectors of society, from clinical practitioners to farmers. The nature and use of scientific data and information, the conditions under which they are produced, distributed and managed have been changing rapidly in recent years. Hence it is important to build the capacity of scientists to manage professional data and information. There is a need for a coordinated global research to provide universal and equitable access to quality information and data. ICSU will play an active role in developing an international framework for the production, management and access to scientific data and information. Mauritius can be part of that framework to build up the local capacity to create an accessible local database of scientific information and data. This will facilitate equitable access to information for research, education and informed decision making.

Enhancing the involvement of social sciences in science

In its strategic plan for 2006-2011 ICSU engages to strengthen international science for the benefit of science. Hence it will increase the involvement of individual social scientists in its committees and interdisplinary bodies. Social scientists help in communication of scientific results to policy makers and to bring human behaviour into models of environmental change or new technology. It is clear in the strategic plan that social scientists should be actively involved in the planning of new research initiatives. The same approach was recommended in the planning of national research activities of different countries and this approach would be highly useful in the local context as well for scientific research to have an impact on the society and in policy making.

Priority Research Themes for ICSU regional office in Africa

The prioritised research areas for the ICSU regional office of Africa are Sustainable Energy, Health and Human Being, Natural and Human-Induced Hazards and Global Environmental Change. All National Members including Mauritius were invited to express interest by sending project proposals in line with these themes to the Regional Office of Africa.

26 - 28 Nov 08: Regional Workshop "Les Satellites d'observation de la terre au service du dévéloppemnet durable dans la zone Ocean Indien: Outils et perspectives", Reunion

The Council was invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade to participate at the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) Regional Workshop "Les satellites d'observation de la terre au service du développement durable dans la zone Océan Indien : Outils et perspectives, St Denis, Reunion, 26-28 November 2008. The workshop was organized in the context of possible partnership/collaboration at the Indian Ocean Commission level for use of remote sensing facilities related to sustainable development projects.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade undertook to obtain necessary approval (PMO) for participation. Mr D Gangapersad was nominated to represent the Council at the Workshop.

The objective of the meeting was to allow consultation among various stakeholders of the Member States of the Indian Ocean Commission with regard to utilization of data and information from satellite imagery. Mauritius was represented by a Delegation composed of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade (Head of Delegation), Ministry of Environment and National Development Unit, Mauritius Meteorological Service and MRC.

The Regional Workshop organised by the "Conseil Régional de la Réunion" under the aegis of the Indian Ocean Commission was a follow-up to the previous seminar on "Co-Développement durable des îles de la COI", St Denis, Réunion 11 – 14 June 2008.

The specific objectives of the workshop were two-fold:

- to provide exposure to the proposed SEAS – OI Project (Surveillance de l'Environnement Assistée par les Satellites-Océan Indien) at St Pierre, Réunion ;
- to get a feel of the expectations of the IOC Member States on the project,and
- to identify areas of cooperation and thereafter mobilise the necessary funding.

02 - 03 Dec 08: Survey with centenarians, Rodrigues

The Mauritius Research Council was solicited by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity & Senior Citizen Welfare and Reform Institutions to undertake a study entitled "Survey of centenarians in the Republic of Mauritius". An important objective with regards to the project was to determine factors that could have contributed towards the longevity of centenarians. In addition, other objectives were to assess the perception of centenarians of their quality of life; to ask centenarians about existing support schemes; and to make recommendations that could improve the quality of life of centenarians in the Republic of Mauritius.

In this respect, a survey was conducted with elderly individuals who had attained the age of 99 years and above to acquire essential information in a bid to meet the objectives of the study. What is more, Mr Kiran Tatoree, Research Assistant of MRC, went to Rodrigues and conducted qualitative interviews with centenarians residing in Rodrigues. The information obtained from the interviews proved to be of great aid for the successful completion of the project.

17 - 20 Feb 09: ICAC Study Phase Two: Quantitative Assessment of the contribution of the education system in promoting knowledge and awareness of anti-corruption values in Mauritius, Rodrigues

Mr Aveeraj Peedoly, Ms Tania Diolle and Mrs Neisha Gopal went to Rodrigues for 4 days to administer the above-mentioned survey questionnaire to pupils from Form III and above selected from all the secondary schools in Rodrigues. They also interviewed the rectors of those schools. The findings for that study are to be incorporated in the nationwide study on the quantitative assessment of the educational system in promoting knowledge and awareness of anti-corruption values in the Republic of Maurtius.

23 - 24 Feb 09: Collaboration with the University of Western Australia, Australia

A major project collaboration between the Mauritius Research Council and the University of Western Australia is being prepared with a view to consolidating a multi-disciplinary team positioned for international research grant applications. To that effect a first visit of representatives of the above University lead by Prof. Srilata Ravi, Chair of European Languages and Studies, took place in 2008.

Further to that visit, the Executive Director was invited to the University with a view to meeting the research team in Australia as well as fine-tuning the details of the collaboration. The visit was scheduled for 23 and 24 February 2009 and the University of Western Australia agreed to cover the airfare and accommodation.

During the two day visit a number of meetings took place with the Dean of the Faculty, senior representatives of the Faculty of Social Studies and the Australian Research Council.

23 - 26 Feb 09: SKA Working Group Meeting, South Africa

A visit of the Technical Team from the SKA Project Office of South Africa took place in January 2009 and an invitation was extended to participate at the Working Group of African Partner Countries Meeting and the SKA International Forum, Cape Town, South Africa, 24th and 25th February 2009, respectively. Dr Bernie FANAROFF, Project Director, and Dr Adrian TIPLADY, Radio Frequency and Site Characterization Manager, SKA Office, South Africa, were on an official mission in Mauritius from 27th to 29th January 2009. The objectives of the mission were to: present the SKA Project during a courtesy call to the Hon Minister of Industry, Science and Research, hold a meeting with the Officials of the Ministry, meet with the Chairman and Executive Director of the MRC, discuss with the institutional stakeholders, meet with the representatives of the University of Mauritius, present the project to University scientific cadre and students and visit the Bras d'Eau Mauritius Radio Telescope Project.

Following the meeting at the Ministry, Government was informed of the SKA Project. Dr Fanaroff and Dr Tiplady informed that the South Africa SKA Project Office would be contacting Mauritius very shortly with regard to carrying out surveys and tests related to site characterization and Radio Frequency Interference Mapping.

The Council, after consultation with the Ministry of Industry, Science and Research, nominated Mr D Gangapersad, Research Coordinator, to participate at the Working Group Meeting and the SKA Forum. The University of Mauritius was represented by Dr R Somanah. The main issues discussed at the Working Group Meeting included:

- Optic fibre connectivity
- Letter of interest / expression of intent to collaborate
- MOUs between the SKA Office/DST and each partner country
- Collaborative Research Agreements
- Setting up of SKA National Steering Committees/Working Groups, and
- Capacity building

19 - 20 Mar 09: African Regional Workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation, South Africa

Invitation to participate in the African Regional Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Workshop was received by the Council, from the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of South Africa. The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- Identify the regional strengths and capacity gaps for STI,
- discuss country level and regional solutions to the key issues for STI for development,
- identify opportunities for collaboration for existing and new cooperation areas with donors,
- develop action plans and project outlines to foster greater regional collaboration and capacity strengthening in STI.

Nineteen countries participated in the workshop, including Angola, Botswana, D R Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Mauritius was represented by Dr A K Maulloo (Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre) and Dr N K Gopaul (MRC).

The South African Department of Science and Technology, in collaboration with the World Bank Institute and the Embassy of Finland in South Africa, took charge of the economy airfare, accommodation, meals, and local transport for all participants.

A report has been prepared following participation of Dr Gopaul at the workshop.

20 - 23 Mar 09: Summer Time, Rodrigues

A team from Centre for Applied Social Research comprised of Aveeraj Peedoly and Nigel Richards went to Rodrigues in April 2009 for 3 days along with Chief Fieldwork Supervisor Mr Yousouf Buxsoo. The purpose of the trip was to brief and train the interviewers and supervisors recruited to implement the above survey in Rodrigues, as the study was part of a nationwide survey inclusive of the 10th district. The fieldworkers were presented the background to the study, provided with the names and addresses of selected respondents and they also received a brief training on questionnaire interviewing. Their visit was for 3 days during which they also supervised the first few interviews.

7 - 8 May 09: Southern African Network for Biosciences (SANBio) Steering Committee Meeting, South Africa

The Executive Director attended the meeting as Member of the SANBio Steering Committee. SANBio is one of the four continent-wide regional networks supported by the NEPAD/African Biosciences Initiative (ABI) in the NEPAD Office of Science and Technology, covering 12 countries in Southern Africa. The ABI's goal is to advance life sciences research and development mainly in three flagship programme areas: biodiversity, biotechnology and indigenous knowledge systems. Participation on these networks is led by senior researchers from African institutions which collaborate in R & D and capacity building programmes.

Following the meeting, the SANBio Steering Committee, upon consideration of the node application from the Government of Mauritius, made through the University of Mauritius (UoM), has approved the designation of a Bioinformatics Node at UoM. The node will coordinate the development and implementation of a programme for R & D and capacity building in Bioinformatics for the Southern African Region. Funding for this purpose will be made available by SANBIO/NEPAD. To that effect SANBio has earmarked a sum of Euro 126,000.

The SANBio Secretariat will liaise with Dr. Yasmina Jaufeerally-Fakim who has been nominated through the University of Mauritius to coordinate the node, to initiate nodal activities of interest to the region.

6.11 List of Events (Seminars/Workshops)

Date	Title of project	Principal Investigator
28-Jul-08	Development of a Seaweed Industry in Mauritius and Rodrigues	
14-Aug-08	Development of a Seaweed Industry in Mauritius and Rodrigues	Dr D Duché (CEVA, France)
20-Aug-08	Evaluation of Executive Management Attitudes towards CSR as a source of Business success in Marketing Practices	Dr T D Juwaheer Mr H Kassean
22-Aug-08	Making the most of Agricultural Biodiversity - New Perspectives from Bioversity International and the CGIAR	Dr Eshan Dulloo (Italy)
02-Sep-08	Waste Vegetable Oil	Mr M Chan Mr Lassemillante Dr B Rajkumarsingh
08-Sep-08	Identifying potention areas of collaboration between local research organizations and the "Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas" (CSIC) - Spain	Dr Inaki Hormaza (Spain)
17-Oct-08	Exploratory Visit to Mauritius on Cooperation in Science and Technology by a High Level Delegation from the Department of Science and Technology, Republic of South Africa, 15 October to 17 October 2008	Head of delegation: Dr Phil Mjwara, Director General DST
13-Nov-08	The Impact of the Tax Reform on the Individual Income Tax System in Mauritius	Ms K Juddoo
04-Dec-08	Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) First Consultative Meeting	-
8-Jan-09	South African Square Kilometre Array Radio Telescope (SKA) Project - Technical Misison to Mauritius 27 to 29 January 2009	-
04-Feb-09	Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) - Second Consultative Meeting	-
19-Feb-09	Information System for optimized data management to increase the efficacy of Biodiversity Conservation efforts in Mauritius and Rodrigues	Mr V Tataya (Present: Hon D Gokhool)
04-Mar-09	The State, Society and the Condition of the Mauritian Child in Mauritius	Dr S Payneeandy
29-Apr-09	Video Conference with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) of South Africa, University of Mauritius	-
29-Apr-09	A Study of Attitudes and Lifestyles Implications of the Pilot Implementation of Summertime in the Republic of Mauritius 2008 - 2009 (Presentation)	-
14-Mar-09	A Study of Attitudes and Lifestyles Implications of the Pilot Implementation of Summertime in the Republic of Mauritius 2008 - 2009 (Presentation)	-
29-May-09	Assistance of MRC for research in the health Sector	-
06-Jun-09	Study on the Nature, Extent and Cost of Domestic Violence to the Mauritian Economy	-
8-9 Jun-09	Awareness Workshop on Legal Aspects of the Use of Human DNA	-
17-Jun-09	Development of a Seaweed Industry in Mauritius	-

6.12 PARTNERSHIP/SPONSORSHIP

MRC participated/sponsored the following events/activities:

Period	Partners Events/Activities	
September 2008	Dr P Pugo-Ghunsam, University of Mauritius	International Training Workshop for Marine Biotechnology, Qingdao, People's Rep of China
August 2008	Association of Physics Educators	The aim of the physics Olympia was to spot and bring together gifted students. It challenged students and led them to broaden their minds and at the same time it opened avenues for the students to opt for a career in science related fields.
August 2008	University of Mauritius	20th International Conference on Chemical Education. This conference allowed to gather participants on a single platform for the promotion of chemistry and science education in the ICT age.
September 2008	Association of Physics Educators	Organisation of the second phase of the physics Olympia. The aim of the physics Olympia was to spot and bring together gifted students as stated above.
September 2008	Premduth Aubeeluck	Publication of book entitled 'Sweet and Sour'. This book combines over two years of research work and creativity in a wide range of disciplines from development, medicine, political science, sex education to law and literature.
October 2008	Rajpalsingh Allgoo	Publication of handbook on Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare. Sustained efforts have been made by government to consolidate the legal framework with a view to promoting better measures for provision of safety, health and welfare at the workplace.
March 2009	Ministry of Industry, Science and Research	Mauritius Science Portal: MRC contributed to this portal of the Ministry of Industry, Science and Research under the research section
April – May 2009	Ministry of Education, Culture and Human Resources	Science Room Workshops: MRC assisted the Ministry of Education, Culture and Human Resources to organise workshops at Zone level to set-up science rooms in primary schools

7. Research Portfolio Analysis

During the financial year 2008/2009, MRC had processed thirty six research applications. Thirty new projects were approved bringing the research portfolio to 349 with project value of Rs 133 millions. Chart 6a shows the trend of the Council's research portfolio over the past 11 years.

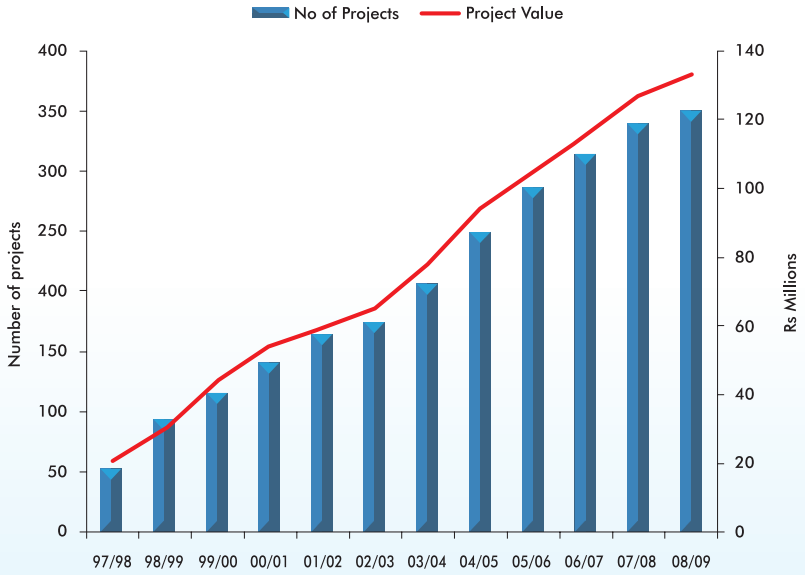

Chart 7a: Evolution of Research Portfolio

The above chart shows the relationship between the total project value and the number of projects over the last 11 years. The total number of projects has increased from 52 to 349 implying an average of 32 projects per year. The project value has risen from Rs 20.6 m to Rs 133 m entailing that the council spent nearly Rs 12 m on average each year. The distribution of the 349 projects is as follows:

Grant Scheme	Ongoing Projects	Completed Projects	Terminated Projects	Total No. of Projects
Unsolicited Research Grant Scheme	16	116	14	146
Solicited Research Grant Scheme	27	85	3	115
Private Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme	2	27	7	36
Post Graduate Award	25		1	26
Small Scale Research Grant Scheme	5	12	8	25
Public Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	**75**	**241**	**33**	**349**

7.2 Allocation of funds by Grant Scheme

Chart 7b represents the distribution of the total funds (Rs 133,662,055) by Scheme. The Unsolicited Research Grant Scheme (SRGS) leads the funding list with 47%, followed by the Solicited Research Grant Scheme (SRGS) with 46%, the Private Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme (PSCRGS) with 4% and the Post Graduate Award (PGA) with 2%. The Small Scale Research Grant Scheme (SSRGS) and the Public Sector Collaborative Research Grant Scheme (PuSCRGS) collectively contribute to nearly 1% of the total funding.

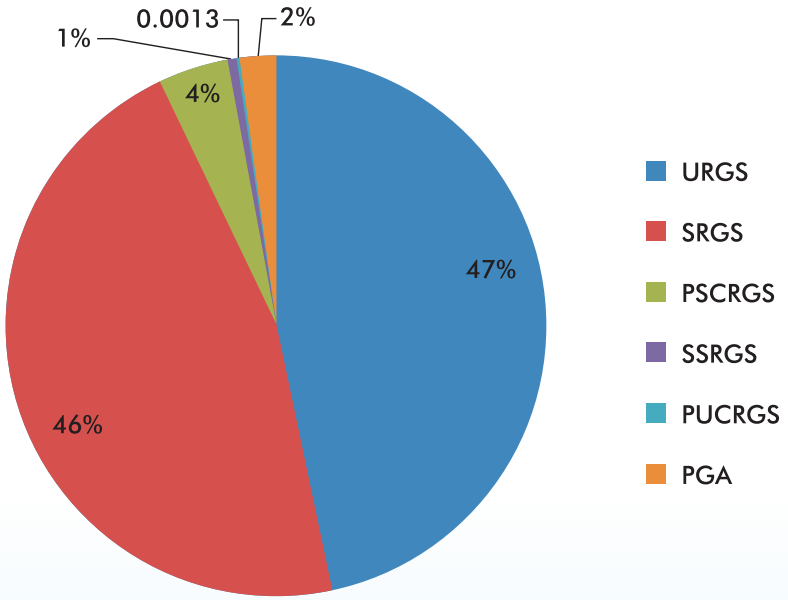

Chart 7b: Allocation of Funds by Scheme (31st June 2009)

7.3 Composition of research portfolio

The research portfolio is classified under eleven themes, as shown in Chart 6c. The Social/ Economic theme has the largest share of 28.9% of total funding, followed by Ocean Technology & Marine Resources with 16.63%, Biomedical & Biopharmaceutical with 14.05%, Manufacturing Technology with 9.65%, and Science & Technology Education with 7.45%. 6.97% and 5.51% of total fund is allocated to Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy and Land & Land Use, respectively. Waste Management & Waste Recycling, Information & Communication Technology and Water Resources share approximately 6% of the total fund. Others contribute to 4.60% of total funding.

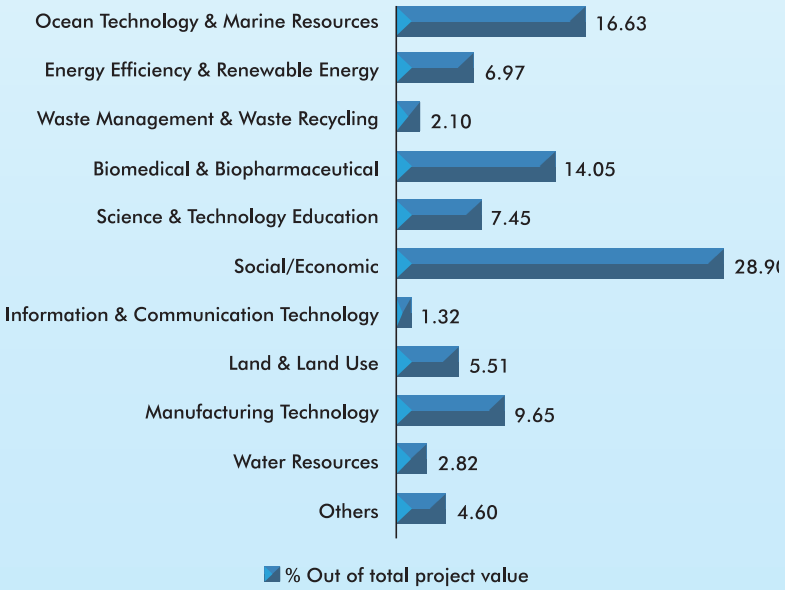

Chart 7c: Allocation of funds by theme (31st June 2009)

7.4 Research Partnership

Chart 7d shows our various research partners and their trend in collaborative research work with MRC over the past three years. Academia, which includes the University of Mauritius and the University of Technology, are the major collaborating partner with a contribution of 27% in research work as at 30 June 2009. MRC is undertaking more in-house research projects as shown in the chart, from 27% in the year 2006-2007 to reach 42% in fiscal year 2008/2009. The collaboration of the Public Sector remains very important with a contribution of 15% followed by the Private Sector contributing around 12% of the research and development though it has decreased over the past three years. The contribution of NGOs has remained constant at 4% over the last 3 years.

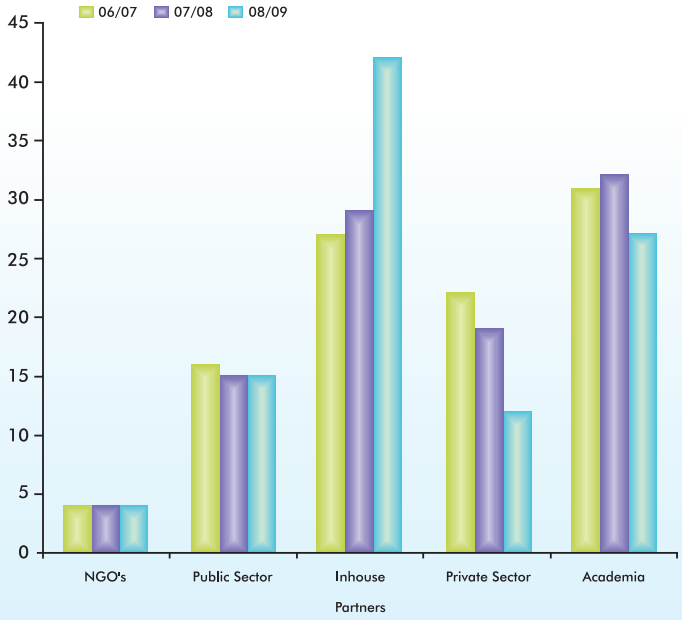

Chart 7d: Research Partnership

8. Financial Highlights

Revenue

During the financial year 2008-2009, the Council raised revenues amounting to Rs 31.9 million (2007/2008 – Rs 26.0 million), as shown below:

	2008-2009 Rs. (m)	2007-2008 Rs. (m)
Recurrent Budget	18.8	13.4
Capital Budget	10.0	10.0
Land Based Oceanic Industry	-	2.4
Other Revenues	3.1	0.2
Total	**31.9**	**26.0**

Grants received under the Recurrent Budget are used towards personnel and administrative costs of the Council. There was a significant increase in the Recurrent Budget mainly because of the PRB 2008 effect on staff cost.

Grants received under the Capital Budget are invested in Research and Development projects and plant and equipment of the Council. The Council is raising additional revenues of Rs 3.1 million (2008: Rs 0.2 million) from other sources to undertake further specific research.

Application of IAS 38 (Intangible Assets) to the Land Based Oceanic Industry Project

IAS 38 applies to the Land Based Oceanic Industry (LBOI) project as the project meets the criteria of an Intangible Asset, which states as follows:
An intangible asset arising from development expenditure on an individual project is recognised only when the Council can demonstrate the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale, its intention to complete and its ability to use or sell the asset, how the asset will generate future economic benefits, the availability of resources to complete the asset and the ability to measure reliably the expenditure during the development.

It is expected that the Council can generate royalties from the investors for the use of the LBOI project with support from Government. The relevant costs pertaining to the Land Based Oceanic Industry project are therefore treated as an asset in the financial accounts of the Council during the financial year.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT TO THE BOARD OF THE MAURITIUS RESEARCH COUNCIL

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Mauritius Research Council which comprise the statement of financial position as of 30 June 2009, and the related statement of comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Mauritius Research Council and for the presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and in compliance with the Financial Reporting Act 2004 and the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act 1972. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting principles used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Mauritius Research Council as of 30 June 2009, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act 1972

I have obtained all information and explanations I have required. Proper accounting records have been kept by the Mauritius Research Council as far as it appears from my examinations of those records.

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Mauritius Research Council as of 30 June 2009 comply with the Statutory Bodies (Accounts and Audit) Act 1972, in so far as they relate to the accounts.

Dr R. JUGURNATH
Director of Audit

National Audit Office
Level 14,
Air Mauritius Centre
PORT LOUIS

1 July 2010

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

	Notes	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
ASSETS			
Non Current Assets			
Plant & Equipment	3	5,075,799	4,582,614
Intangible Asset	3	6,702,926	6,567,683
Pension Asset	4	2,407,599	1,499,347
		14,186,324	12,649,644
Current Assets			
Other Receivables	5	2,955,342	2,443,502
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6	11,231,504	8,287,754
		14,186,846	10,731,256
TOTAL ASSETS		**28,373,170**	**23,380,900**
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Capital and Reserves			
Deferred Capital Grant		14,582,158	13,520,409
Retained Earnings		7,298,065	5,346,942
		21,880,223	18,867,351
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee Benefits	7	1,951,387	1,359,553
Current Liabilities			
Other Payables	8	4,541,560	3,153,996
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		**28,373,170**	**23,380,900**

Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 23 June 2010.

Prof S. Jugessur, C.S.K,G.O.S.K
Chairperson

Dr A. Suddhoo
Executive Director

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Notes	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
REVENUE	9	32,257,366	27,562,921
EXPENDITURE			
Administrative Expenses:	11	18,957,359	13,674,295
Other Charges	12	66,941	70,081
Depreciation and amortisation	3	1,887,208	1,742,708
		20,911,508	15,487,084
Research and Development Expenses	10	9,394,735	10,570,532
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		30,306,243	26,057,616
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		**1,951,123**	**1,505,305**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

	Retained Earnings Rs	Deferred Capital Grant Rs	Total Rs
Balance at 1 July 2007 (Restated)	**3,841,637**	**13,233,649**	**17,075,286**
Surplus for the year	1,505,305	-	1,505,305
Capital Grant received	-	12,600,000	12,600,000
Research & Development Expenditure reclassified as deferred Income for the year	-	(10,570,532)	(10,570,532)
Amortisation of grant	-	(1,742,708)	(1,742,708)
Balance at 30 June 2008	**5,346,942**	**13,520,409**	**18,867,351**
Surplus for the year	1,951,123	-	1,951,123
Capital Grant received	-	12,343,692	12,343,692
Research & Development Expenditure reclassified as deferred Income for the year	-	(9,394,735)	(9,394,735)
Amortisation of grant	-	(1,887,208)	(1,887,208)
Balance at 30 June 2009	**7,298,065**	**14,582,158**	**21,880,223**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009		2008	
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Net surplus for the year	1,951,123		1,505,305	
Adjustment for:				
Depreciation	1,887,208		1,742,708	
Deferred income released	(11,281,943)		(12,313,240)	
Interest payable	66,941		70,081	
Interest receivable	(474,490)		(869,847)	
(Gain)/Loss on disposal of plant & equipment	-		(14,139)	
Operating deficit before working capital changes	(7,851,161)		(9,879,132)	
(Increase)/Decrease in other receivables	(511,841)		(1,721,000)	
Increase/(Decrease) in other payables	1,387,564		(1,155,229)	
Increase in pension asset	(908,252)		(342,196)	
Increase in Employee Benefits	591,834		215,858	
Cash generated from operations	(7,291,856)		(12,881,699)	
Interest paid	(66,941)		(70,081)	
Interest received	474,490		869,847	
Net cash from operating activities		(6,884,307)		(12,081,933)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Payments for purchase of intangible asset	(180,324)		(873,730)	
Payments for purchase of plant & equipment	(2,335,311)		(475,167)	
Proceeds on disposal of plant & equipment	-		14,139	
Net cash used in investing activities		(2,515,635)		(1,334,758)
Cash flow from financing activities				
Capital grant received		12,343,692		12,600,000
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		2,943,750		(816,691)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		8,287,754		9,104,445
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		**11,231,504**		**8,287,754**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 June 2009

1. LEGAL FORM AND ACTIVITIES

The Mauritius Research Council is an organization established under the Mauritius Research Council Act 1992 (Act No. 10 of 1992) and its principal place of business is Level 6 Ebene Heights, 34 Cybercity, Ebene. The Council is engaged in the following activities:

(a) To foster, promote and coordinate research and development in all spheres of scientific, technological, social and economic activities;

(b) To advise the Government on all matters concerning scientific and technological policies;

(c) To lay guidelines for, and initiate the formulation of research and development policies on a national basis; and

(d) To encourage commercial utilisation of research and development results in the national interest.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Mauritius Research Council and which have been applied consistently are set out below:

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and on historical cost basis. At the date of authorization of these financial statements, the following International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) had already been issued but not effective:

IFRIC 12: Service Concession Arrangements
IFRIC 13: Customer Loyalty Programmes
IFRIC 14: The limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, minimum funding requirements and their interaction.
IFRIC 15: Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate (effective as from 01 January 2009)
IFRIC 16: Hedges of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation (effective 1 October 2008)
IFRIC 17: Distributions of Non-Cash Assets Owner
IFRIC 18: Transfers of Assets from Customers

The Council anticipates that the adoption of these Standards and Interpretations in the future periods will not have any material effect on its financial statements.

(b) Revenue Recognition

Income is based on income-related government grant and is measured at fair value of the consideration received.

(c) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been regrouped or restated, where necessary, to conform to IFRS presentation.

(d) Government Grants

Asset-related grants are treated as deferred income, whereas income-related grants are recognized in the period they become receivable.

(e) Property, Plant & Equipment

Plant and Equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets on a straight-line basis over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned as follows:

	Years
Motor Vehicles	: 7
Furniture & Fittings	: 10
Office Equipment	: 7
ICT Equipment	: 4

Purchase of non-current assets below the threshold of Rs 5,000 is written off during the year.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognized in the income statement.

Fixed Asset include some fully depreciated assets which are still in use. These assets have been allocated a nominal value of Rs 10.

(f) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangible assets, excluding capitalised development costs, are not capitalised and expenditure is reflected in the income statement in the year in which the expenditure is incurred.

Research and development costs

Research costs are expensed as incurred. An intangible asset arising from development expenditure on an individual project is recognised only when the Council can demonstrate the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale, its intention to complete and its ability to use or sell the asset, how the asset will generate future economic benefits, the availability of resources to complete the asset and the ability to measure reliably the expenditure during the development.

During the period of development the asset is tested for impairment annually. Following the initial recognition of the development expenditure, the cost model is applied requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Amortisation of the asset begins when development is complete and the asset is available for use. It is amortised over the period of expected future sales. During the period of which the asset is not yet in use, it is tested for impairment annually.

(g) Retirement and other Benefits

Defined Benefit Pension Plan

The Council subscribes to a defined benefit plan, the assets of which are held in a separately administered fund. The pension costs are assessed using the projected unit credit method. The

cost of providing pensions is charged to the Income Statements so as to spread the regular cost over the service lives of employees in accordance with the advice of the actuaries. The pension obligation is measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows using a discounted rate by reference to the current interest rates and the yields on bonds and treasury bills. Actuarial gains and losses are recognized over the average remaining service lives of employees.

Employee Passage Benefit Entitlement

Employee entitlements to passage benefit allowance are recognised when they accrue to employees. A provision is made for the estimated liability up to the balance sheet date.

Employee leave entitlement

Employee entitlements to bank sick leave as defined in the PRB 2008 Report (the regulatory body for remuneration of MRC employees) are recognized as and when they accrue to employees. An accrual is made for the estimated liability for bank sick leave.

(h) Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the Council has a present obligation as a result of a past event and it is probable that the Council will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are measured at the Council's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the balance sheet date, and are discounted to present value where the effect is material.

(i) Impairment

At each balance sheet date, the Council reviews the carrying amount of its tangible assets to determine whether there is an indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss and the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount.

(j) Risk Management Policies

A description of the various risks to which the Council is exposed is shown below as well as the approach taken by management to control and mitigate those risks.

Liquidity risk

This refers to the possibility of default by the Council to meet its obligations because of the unavailability of funds to meet both operational and capital requirements. In order to ensure adequacy of its funding, cash flow forecasts are prepared regularly and actions taken accordingly.

Credit risk

Credit risk relates to the possibility of default by employees in settling their loan obligations towards the Council. The Council has established a "lien" policy on cars purchased by those employees who benefit from such car loans.

(k) Financial Instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are recognized on the balance sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

The Council's accounting policies in respect of the applicable financial instruments are as follows:

Other Receivables

Other receivables are stated at their nominal value as reduced by appropriate allowances for irrecoverable amounts.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash at bank and in hand, and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Other Payables

Other payables are stated at their nominal value.

(l) Accounting Judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of Financial Statements in accordance with IFRS requires the directors and management to exercise judgment in the process of applying the accounting policies. It also requires the use of accounting estimates and assumptions that may affect the reported amounts and disclosures in the Financial Statements. Judgments and estimates are continuously evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations and assumptions concerning future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The actual results could by definition therefore, often differ from the related accounting estimates.

Where applicable, the notes to the Financial Statements set out areas where management has applied a higher degree of judgment that have a significant effect on the amounts recognized in the Financial Statements, or estimations and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date include Retirement Benefit Obligations.

Retirement Benefit Obligations

The cost of defined benefit pension plans is determined using actuarial valuations. The actuarial valuation involved making assumptions about discount rates, expected rates of return on assets, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Due to the long-term nature of these plans, such estimates are subject to significant uncertainty.

3. PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	MOTOR VEHICLES Rs	FURNITURE & FITTINGS Rs	OFFICE EQUIPMENT Rs	ICT EQUIPMENT Rs	TOTAL Rs
COST					
As at 01 July 2008	7,297,529	1,522,634	1,693,822	3,070,749	13,584,734
Additions	1,725,000	48,606	-	561,705	2,335,311
As at 30 June 2009	9,022,529	1,571,240	1,693,822	3,632,454	15,920,045
DEPRECIATION					
As at 01 July 2008	3,705,662	1,293,468	1,591,601	2,411,389	9,002,120
Charge for the year	1,290,221	54,337	36,942	460,627	1,842,127
As at 30 June 2009	4,995,883	1,347,805	1,628,543	2,872,016	10,844,247
CARRYING AMOUNT					
As at 30 June 2009	4,026,646	223,436	65,279	760,438	5,075,799
As at 30 June 2008	3,591,867	229,166	102,221	659,360	4,582,614

INTANGIBLE ASSET

	COST 1.07.2008 Rs	ADDITION Rs	DISPOSAL Rs	COST 30.6.2009 Rs	CUMULATIVE AMORTISATION 1.07.2008 Rs	AMORTISATION FOR YEAR Rs	AMORTISATION ON DISPOSAL ADJUST Rs	AMORTISATION CUMULATIVE 30.6.2009 Rs	CARRYING AMOUNT 30.6.2009 Rs
LBOI Project	6,567,683	-	-	6,567,683	-	-	-	-	6,567,683
Computer Software	-	180,324	-	180,324	-	45,081	-	45,081	135,243
	6,567,683	180,324	-	6,748,007	-	45,081	-	45,081	6,702,926

4. PENSION ASSET

BALANCE SHEET

Amounts recognised in balance sheet at end of year	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Present value of funded obligation	7,788,859	6,199,516
Estimated Fair value of plan assets	(10,206,407)	(9,120,670)
	(2,417,548)	(2,921,154)
Present value of unfunded obligation	-	-
Unrecognised actuarial gain/(loss)	9,949	1,421,807
Amounts recognised in balance sheet at end of year	**(2,407,599)**	**(1,499,347)**

Amounts recognised in income statement	2009	2008
Current service cost	368,670	629,445
Fund expenses	25,840	15,640
Interest cost	650,949	667,717
(Expected return on plan assets)	(1,070,223)	(872,992)
Actuarial loss/(gain) recognised	(22,163)	-
Total included in staff costs	**(46,927)**	**439,810**

Movements in liabillity recognised in balance sheet :		
At start of year	(1,499,348)	(1,157,151)
Total staff cost as above	(46,927)	439,810
(Contributions paid by employer)	(861,324)	(782,007)
At end of Year	**(2,407,599)**	**(1,499,348)**
Actual return on plan assets :	**(131,515)**	**1,165,502**

Main actuarial assumptions at end of year:		
Discount rate	10.5%	11.0%
Expected rate of return on plan assets	11.0%	11.5%
Future salary increases	7.5%	8.0%
Future pension increases	6.5%	6.5%
No. of members	**22**	**23**

4. PENSION ASSET (cont'd)

BALANCE SHEET

Reconciliation of the present value of defined benefit obligation	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Present value of obligation at start of period	6,199,516	6,070,159
Current service cost	368,670	629,445
Employee contributions	430,662	-
Interest Cost	650,949	667,717
(Benefits paid)	(48,894)	(38,509)
Liability (gain)/loss	187,956	(1,129,296)
Present value of obligation at end of period	**7,788,859**	**6,199,516**
Reconcialiation of fair value of plan assets		
Fair value of plan assets at start of period	9,120,670	7,227,310
Expected return on plan assets	1,070,223	872,992
Employer contributions	861,324	782,007
Employee contributions	430,662	-
(Benefits paid + other outgo)	(74,734)	(54,149)
Asset gain/(loss)	(1,201,738)	292,510
Fair value of plan assets at end of period	**10,206,407**	**9,120,670**
Distribution of plan assets at end of period		
Percentage of assets at end of year	**2009**	**2008**
Government securities and cash	56.35%	46.84%
Loans	8.06%	8.19%
Local equities	20.97%	30.19%
Overseas bonds and equities	13.65%	13.78%
Property	0.97%	0.99%
Debenture stocks	0.00%	0.01%
Total	**100%**	**100%**
History of obligations, assets and experience adjustments		
Year	**2009**	**2008**
Currency		
Fair value of plan assets	10,206,407	9,120,670
(Present value of defined benefit obligation)	(7,788,859)	(6,199,516)
Surplus	2,417,548	2,921,154
Asset experience (loss)/gain during the period	(1,201,738)	292,510
Liability experience (loss)/gain during the period	(187,956)	1,129,296

	2010 Rs
Expected Employer Contributions	968,112

Retirement benefit obligations have been based on a report from SICOM Ltd dated 27 August 2009.

5. OTHER RECEIVABLES

Other receivables are stated at their nominal value as reduced by appropriate allowances for irrecoverable amounts.

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Prepayments	444,972	361,141
Accounts receivable	788,150	1,012,980
Advances to employees for purchase of cars	1,722,220	1,069,381
	2,955,342	2,443,502

The staff loans bear interest at the rate of 7.5% p.a. and is repayable over a period of 5 or 7 years

6. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Bank Balances	11,224,960	8,286,740
Cash Balance	6,544	1,014
	11,231,504	8,287,754

Bank and Cash Balances comprise cash held by the Council. The carrying amount of these assets approximates their fair values.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Employee entitlements to bank sick leave as defined in the PRB 2008 Report (the regulatory body for determining remuneration of MRC employees) are recognised when they accrue to employees. An accrual amount of Rs 1,951,387 (2008: Rs 1,359,553) is made for the estimated liability for bank sick leave.

8. OTHER PAYABLES

Other payables are stated at their nominal value.

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Accruals	2,819,340	2,084,615
Loan from Accountant General	1,722,220	1,069,381
	4,541,560	3,153,996

9. REVENUE

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Recurrent Grant from Government	18,800,000	13,428,000
Non recurrent income:		
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	-	14,139
Other Income	2,175,423	1,807,542
	20,975,423	15,249,681
Deferred Income Release	11,281,943	12,313,240
	32,257,366	27,562,921

10. RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Solicited Research Grant Scheme	3,061,029	5,993,066
Unsolicited Research Grant Scheme	2,543,316	3,173,412
Small Scale Research Grant Scheme	5,000	70,540
Public Sector Research Grant Scheme	560,005	887,614
Private Sector Research Grant Scheme	-	273,968
Post Graduate Award Scheme	313,396	153,216
Centre for Applied Social Research	2,705,606	677,091
Poverty Observatory	30,000	-
Research Dissemination & Promotion	176,383	215,355
	9,394,735	11,444,262
Transfer to Intangible Asset	-	(873,730)
	9,394,735	10,570,532

11. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Personnel		
Salaries & Other related costs	12,906,521	7,944,289
Travelling & Transport	1,105,091	821,390
Training	274,075	766,411
Uniforms	51,600	41,850
	14,337,287	9,573,940
Office Expenses		
Motor Expenses	588,671	399,940
Printing,Postage & Stationery	400,032	409,373
Advertsing & Publicity Fees	199,919	142,484
Telephone & Fax	377,653	328,515
Newspapers & Periodicals	79,761	74,637
Office Expenses & Incidentals	441,152	501,008
	2,087,189	1,855,957
Building Facilities		
Rent	1,320,000	1,320,000
Security	277,656	277,656
Electricity & Water Charges	231,822	156,170
Insurance	55,103	65,368
	1,884,581	1,819,194
Advisory & Professional		
Legal & Professional Fees	219,464	60,500
Board Membership & Committee Fees	297,000	244,000
	516,464	304,500
International Liaison		
Overseas Missions	131,839	120,704
Total Administrative Expenses	18,957,359	13,674,295

12. OTHER CHARGES

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Interest paid to Accountant General under Car Loans	66,941	70,081

13. SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR

The surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging/(crediting):

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Amortisation of grants	(12,343,692)	(12,600,000)
Research and Development Expenses	9,394,735	10,570,532
Staff Costs	14,337,287	9,573,940
Other Charges	66,941	70,081
Depreciation and amortisation	1,887,208	1,742,708
Gain on disposal of Plant & Equipment	-	(14,139)

14. STAFF COSTS

The average number of employees during the year was:

	2009	2008
Number of Staff	31	25

Aggregate remuneration comprised:	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Salaries	12,906,521	7,944,289
Other Costs	1,430,766	1,629,651
	14,337,287	9,573,940

15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The immediate and ultimate controlling party of the Council is the Government of Mauritius. The Council has no related party transactions.

16. REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONEL

The remuneration of the Director, Board members and other members of key management personel during the year were as follows:

	2009 Rs	2008 Rs
Short Term and Fringe Benefit	239,960	154,595
Salary, Petrol Allowance, Medical Benefit	2,824,356	1,679,854
Chairman Fees	252,000	180,000
Board Fees	45,000	64,000
	3,361,316	2,078,449

17. COMMITMENTS

As at 30 June 2009, the Council has a commitment of Rs 17.037 million towards 75 ongoing research projects, whereas as at 30 June 2008, the commitment was Rs 16.7 million towards 115 ongoing research projects.

18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

For the financial year 2008/2009, there is no pending litigation, claim, judgements or settlement to which the Mauritius Research Council is a party, or of any transactions or changes in the Mauritius Research Council Unit's policies or business activities

MRC Photo Album

Seminar on "Evaluation of Executive Management Attitudes towards CSR as a source of Business success in Marketing Practices".
Presented by Dr T D Juwaheer and Mr H Kassean on the 20th August 2008

Making the most of Agricultural Biodiversity - New Perspectives from Bioversity International and the CGIAR. Presented by Dr Eshan Dulloo (Italy) on the 22nd August 2008

Waste Vegetable Oil. Presented by Mr M Chan, Mr Lassemillante and Dr B Rajkumarsingh on the 2nd September 2008

Identifying potention areas of collaboration between local research organizations and the "Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas" (CSIC) – Spain. Presented by Dr Inaki Hormaza (Spain) on the 8th September 2008

Seminar on "The Impact of the Tax Reform on the Individual Income Tax System in Mauritius". Presented by Ms K Juddoo on the 13th November 2008

Seminar on "Information System for optimized data management to increase the efficacy of Biodiversity Conservation efforts in Mauritius and Rodrigues". Presented by Mr V Tataya on the 19th February 2009.

Seminar on ""The State, Society and the Condition of the Mauritian Child in Mauritius". Presented By Dr S Payneeandy on the 4th March 2009

Awareness Workshop on Legal Aspects of the Use of Human DNA. Held on the 8th and 9th June 2009

Annex I : Ongoing Projects as at June 2009

No.	Title of project	Scheme	Partners	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
I. OCEAN TECHNOLOGY & MARINE RESOURCES					
1	An Evaluation of the Potential Use of Seaweed Extract as Bio-Fertiliser/ plant growth promoter in Mauritius (Phase I)	SRGS	MRC / AREU	201,000	140,700
2	Pilot Project for Marine Environmental Education and Reef Conservation centres for beaches around Mauritius	URGS	MRC / Mauritian Scuba Diving Association / Reef Conservation Mauritius	200,000	100,000
3	An innovative hybrid soil nailing, soil bioengineering and beach drainage method to stabilise the coastal slopes in Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	37,110
4	Characterising and modelling of oceanic processes in the South West Indian Ocean using ocean remote sensing	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	34,473
5	Studying the relationship of lagoonal stress and coral symbionts (zooxanthellae) population around Mauritius using fluorescence techniques	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	37,110
6	Mapping genetic diversity of microalgae and macroalgae in the lagoons of the Republic of Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	0
7	Spatio-temporal distribution of seaweeds in the lagoons of the Republic of Mauritius and exploration of both field and laboratory-based cultivation success of some selected seaweeds.	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	0
8	An Evaluation of the Physico-Chemical, Biochemical & Microbiological Parameters, Nutrient Content and Net Calorific Value of some local seaweed species of Mauritius, with focus on biomass for liquid fertilizer, energy and nutritional supplement	SRGS	MRC / MSIRI	665,750	599,205
9	Analysis of seaweed samples in the context of the proposed Seaweed Industry	SRGS	MRC / UOM	30,540	30,540
10	Agreement: Collection and Delivery of Seaweed Samples for Laboratory Analysis and Taxonomy Study	SRGS	MRC / AFRC	52,920	0
11	Analysis of seaweed samples in the context of the proposed Seaweed Industry - Phase II	SRGS	MRC / UOM	40,440	20,220
12	Seaweed - Evaluation of local seaweed sap under controlled condition	SRGS	MRC / MSIRI	58,000	0
Sub - Total				**1,848,650**	**999,358**
II. ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY					
13	Development of a locally designed wind turbine technology	PSCRGS	MRC / M&E Commercial Engineers Ltd	165,000	49,500
14	Wind Towers & Solar Radiation	SRGS	MRC	828,845	685,372
15	Life cycle assessment and economic and social evaluation of recycling in Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	49,160

No.	Title of project	Scheme	Partners	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
16	Life cycle assessment of electricity generation systems in Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	67,835
17	Assessing polluting potential of hydroponics effluents and developing methods for reuse	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	0
18	Modeling and predicting scenarios on energy demand and consumption (both peak and average) in electricity in Mauritius	SSRGS	MRC / UOM	50,000	0
19	Coconut oil as a substitute to diesel for electricity generation in Agalega Desktop study Demonstration of electricity generation	SRGS	MRC/OIDC/ CEB/M. Chan	475,613	0
20	Coconut oil as a substitute to diesel for transportation fuel in Agalega Implementation on vehicles in Agalega	SRGS	MRC / OIDC / M. Chan	769,780	0
Sub - Total				**2,649,238**	**851,867**
	III. WASTE MANAGEMENT & WASTE RECYCLING				
21	Creation of a database for products made of recycled solid waste and recycling industries	SSRGS	MRC / Services Sans Frontieres	45,000	31,500
22	E-Waste Qualification and Characterisation for Mauritius (Activity 1)	SRGS	MRC / UTM / Local Government	165,000	78,000
23	E-Waste Qualification and Characterisation for Mauritius (Activity 2)	SRGS	MRC / UTM / Local Government	250,000	117,000
24	Turning waste into wealth - Vinasse into an organic fertilizer	URGS	MRC / UOM	233,000	184,000
25	Development of an intelligent simulator for recycling of organic solid waste by composting	URGS	MRC / UTM	1,203,000	677,000
26	E-Waste disposal in Mauritius-An assessment of its environmental impacts and an evaluation of the risk potential	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	37,110
27	Implementation of computational models to simulate naturally occurring solid waste decomposition processes	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	40,000
28	Investigation on the production of best quality compost from biowaste and cellulolytic waste to be used as substrate for the cultivation of Oyster mushrooms	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	38,100
29	Reviewing & Testing E-waste policies using a systematic model	SRGS	MRC / UTM	75,100	0
Sub - Total				**2,286,100**	**1,202,710**
	IV. BIOMEDICAL & BIOPHARMACEUTICAL				
30	A Quantitative risk assessment study towards the law and the use of GMO's in a Mauritian Eating Habit	SSRGS	MRC / City Clinic	50,000	10,000
31	Contribution of the positional candidate gene OXR1 to premature coronary heart disease and to type 2 diabetes in the Mauritian population	URGS	MRC / UOM	625,500	614,500

No.	Title of project	Scheme	Partners	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
32	Fine mapping of a major yellow spot resistance gene in sugarcane variety M134/759	URGS	MRC / MSIRI	285,000	225,625
33	Contribution of the positional candidate gene OXR1 to premature coronary heart disease and to type 2 diabetes in the Mauritian population	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	42,735
34	Investigation into the use of sugarcane bagasse for producing fibre-based composites	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	24,200
35	Molecular Mapping of Sugar Cane, Saccharum sp Using Orthologous Marker Systems	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	49,160
36	Phytomagnetism: effect of magnetic fields on the physiology and biochemistry of plant cultures	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	33,400
37	Wheat flour fortification with iron and folic acid in Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	40,000
38	Legal Aspects of the use of the human DNA	SRGS	MRC / UOM	17,496	17,496
39	Phytoplasma diseases on tomato in Mauritius	URGS	MRC / AREU	600,000	0
40	Setting up of a Bio-Informatics Co-Ordinating Cell - Pre feasibility	SRGS	MRC/MISR	56,809	0
41	Interaction between PON1 Gln192Arg polymorphism and type 2 diabetes in agricultural workers exposed to herbicides	SSRGS	MRC / UOM	49,600	29,120
Sub - Total				**2,284,405**	**1,086,236**
	V. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION				
42	Conservation of Biodiversity: National Park of Black River Gorges	SRGS	MRC / MWF	135,000	5,610
43	"A study of students' mathematical achievement at form II level in Mauritius"	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	34,473
44	Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP)	SRGS	MRC / Min. Industry		9,565
45	Setting Up of a Science, Technology and Innovation Park - Pre feasibility	SRGS	MRC/MISR		0
Sub - Total				**255,000**	**49,648**
	VI. SOCIAL / ECONOMIC				
46	Casual and situational analysis of unemployment among squatters of valley pitot	SSRGS	MRC / SOS Poverty	50,000	10,000
47	A Qualitative Needs Assessment of the Education System in Promoting Knowledge and Awareness of Anti-Corruption Values in Mauritius	SRGS	MRC / CASR / ICAC	246,290	246,290
48	A Quantitative Needs Assessment of the Education System in Promoting Knowledge and Awareness of Anti-Corruption Values in Mauritius	SRGS	MRC / CASR / ICAC	521,325	220,663
49	KABP Study on Small Sugar Planters in Mauritius (Situational Analysis)	SRGS	MRC / CASR	659,400	526,102
50	Study on the Nature, Extent and Cost of Domestic Violence to the Mauritian Economy	SRGS	MRC / CASR / UNDP	874,000	1,980

No.	Title of project	Scheme	Partners	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
51	Religion, Health & Culture in the Indian Ocean: Representation of Interdisciplinary Practice in Mauritius and Western Australia	SRGS	MRC / University of Western Australia	3,795,000	34,812
52	National Study on Crime and Violence	SRGS	MRC / CASR / PMO	1,888,700	0
53	Establishment and operation of an independent observatory for the Repubic of Mauritius	SRGS	MRC / CASR / DCP	2,117,115	30,000
54	Mapping the supply chain of Broiler Chicken in Mauritius to assess the impact of external threat	URGS	MRC / UOM	353,850	299,781
55	A study of the implementation and impact of corporate governance in Mauritius	URGS	MRC / UTM	330,000	278,000
56	Strategy Process in Changing Mauritius: A study of its local business organisations	URGS	MRC / UOM	376,450	309,750
57	Thematic chronology of: Political life since 1598 to the present, of the Chinese Diaspora in Mauritius since 1654 of ' The Age of curiosity' and of L'Esclavage, L'Eglise et Francmaconneries: Publication of the works on Mauritius	URGS	MRC / Private	300,000	250,000
58	Cultural industry in Mauritius.	URGS	MRC / CASR / Ministry of Arts & Culture	379,375	0
59	Intergenerational Social Mobility in CHA Housing Estates in Mauritius	URGS	MRC / Straconsult	400,000	260,000
60	The Impact of Financial Liberalisation on corporate finance and corporate investment in developing countries. The case of Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	0
61	Service Contract - Dr S P Deenapanray: "Towards enhancing the quality of life in Mauritius and Rodrigues"	SRGS	MRC / EWF	120,000	60,000
Sub - Total				**12,531,505**	**2,527,378**
	VII. INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY				
62	Supporting QoS in Mobile IPv6 Systems	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	0
Sub - Total				**120,000**	**0**
	VIII. LAND & LAND USE				
63	Sustainable production of palm on marginal Lands: Optimum Sucker population density of Pejibaye	URGS	MRC / MSIRI	895,100	810,000
64	Ecology and Management of Maruca vitrata on beans in Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	24,200
Sub - Total				**1,015,100**	**834,200**
	IX. MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY				
65	Repositioning SME Entrepreneurs in the New Economy Context	URGS	MRC / Economic & Management Services Ltd	249,000	189,000
66	The Adoption of ERP Systems amongst SMEs in Africa and the Middle East	URGS	MRC / UTM	1,033,512	0
Sub - Total				**1,282,512**	**189,000**

No.	Title of project	Scheme	Partners	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
	X. WATER RESOURCES				
67	Drought Assessment and Management in MauritiusWARFSA	PGA	MRC / UOM / WARFSA	125,000	0
68	Impact of the use of fertilizers on water resources and health	SRGS	MRC		0
Sub - Total				**125,000**	**0**
	XI. OTHERS				
69	Ensuring effective emissions control by Catalytic Converters	PSCRGS	MRC / Omnitech Ltd	913,225	547,935
70	Guidelines on Intellectual Property Rights	SRGS	MRC	253,303	253,303
71	Isolation and Molecular Characterisation of Food-Borne Bacteria	URGS	MRC / UOM	1,155,000	380,000
72	A Geostatistical approach to forecasting rainfall over Mauritius.	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	48,360
73	A novel topography-based limited area model for numerical weather prediction for Mauritius	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	55,960
74	Advanced modelling of transportation networks in Mauritius using GIS	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	42,735
75	Climate indicators for climate change of Mauritius and Rodrigues	PGA	MRC / UOM	120,000	55,960
Sub - Total				**2,801,528**	**1,384,253**
Grand Total				**27,199,038**	**9,124,649**

Annex II : Completed Projects as at June 2009

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
		I. Ocean Technology & Marine Resources				
1	RUN-0003	Estuarine algal tissue and sediment trace metal contamination along the western coast of Mauritius	URGS	Dr. R. T. Ramessur	376,375	316,646
2	RUN-9807	Growth and reproduction biology of lethrinus Mahsena	URGS	Dr. M. Bhikajee	150,000	139,643
3	RUN-9909	Investigation of Coral Bleaching in Mauritius	URGS	Prof. I. Fagoonee	92,420	92,420
4	RUN-0606	Tracking octopus and fishes to aid the development of marine resource management strategies	URGS	Prof. J M Green	292,800	192,800
5	RUN-9813	Use of bio-indicators for heavy metal pollution studies	URGS	Mr. D. Dabee	412,260	377,291
6	RUN-0303	Valorisation of Biopolymers (Carrageenans,alginates) from the Mauritian Marine Environment (Seaweeds and Algae)	URGS	Dr. D. Jhurry	300,000	300,000
7	RPS-9903	Development of ornamental fish breeding industry for export market	PSCRGS	Mr. V. Moothy	130,950	130,950
8	RPS-9927	Heating water to increase Red Snappy production	PSCRGS	Mr. J. Lamalettie	61,000	33,555
9	RSO-OI01	Analysis of Seawater	SRGS	SGS	645,900	0
10	RSO-HCB1	Co-operation hydrocarbon exploration with India	SRGS	MRC	87,180	87,180
11		Exploration of hydrocarbons in Mauritian Waters	SRGS	MRC	43,210	43,210
12	RSO-OEO2	Feasibility Study on OTEC plant	SRGS	MRC	225,126	225,126
13	RSO-SW01	Development of a seaweed Industry in Mauritius and Rodrigues (Phase I)	SRGS	MRC		
14	RSO-OI01	Land Based Oceanic Industry - Phase I (Prefeasibility)	SRGS	MRC	2,307,856	2,307,856
15	RSO-OI01	Land Based Oceanic Industry - Phase II (Feasibility)	SRGS	MRC	9,121,746	9,121,746
16	TWG-MR01	Marine Resources Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	61,086	61,086
17		Mauritius Oceanography Institute	SRGS	MOI	4,998,012	4,998,012
18	RSO-SW01	Pre-Feasibility Study on Seaweed	SRGS	Dr A Suddhoo, Mrs P V Ramjeeawon, Mr D Gangapersad	896,377	896,377
19	RSO-ROD1	Survey of Sea Cucumber in Lagoon of Rodrigues (Solicited)	SRGS	Mrs M. Koonjul	179,653	179,653
20		Continental Shelf	SRGS	MOI	-	-
Sub Total					**20,381,951**	**19,503,551**

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
II. Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy						
21	RUN-9808	A feasible solution towards efficient and economic generation and use of steam and utilities at Valentina industrial zone	URGS	Mr. G. Jawaheer	470,000	326,713
22	RUN-9804	Monitoring and control of pollution from engine exhausts	URGS	Mr. O. P. Seejore	222,268	222,268
23	RUN-9805	Oil monitoring based condition maintenance	URGS	Mr. J. Gokhool	1,300,000	1,269,932
24	RPS-9920	Implementation of Energy Management Systems in Floreal Group	PSCRGS	Dr. K. Elahee	451,865	451,865
25	RPS-9929	Modular Vertical-Axis Wind Turbine	PSCRGS	Mr. G. Pyndiah	300,000	300,000
26	RPS-9915	Process time reduction	PSCRGS	Mr. G. Jawaheer	122,800	107,829
27	RPS-9917	Stabilization of the moisture level in bagasse prior to its combustion in thermal power plants	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Philogène	100,000	77,202
28	RSO-ACS1	Deep Ocean Water Air Conditioning (DOW)	SRGS	MRC	115,222	115,222
29	RSO-SFI1	Ecological footprinting initiative	SRGS	UTM	13,603	13,603
30	TWG-EEE1	Energy and Energy Efficiency Thematic	SRGS	MRC	1,480,410	1,480,410
31	RSO-EME1	Energy Auditing, Management and Efficiency at CWA Pumping Stations	SRGS	CWA	103,657	103,657
32	RSO-EME1	Energy Auditing, Management and Efficiency at CWA Pumping Stations (Phase II)	SRGS	CWA	60,000	60,000
33	RSO-COD1	Feasibility study on the use of coconut bio-diesel in Agalega	SRGS	Michael Chan	255,480	31,625
34	RSO-ESC1	National Energy Savings Campaign	SRGS	CEM	200,000	200,000
35		Solar Concentrators and Desalinated Water	SRGS	MRC	2,674	2,674
36	RSO-STE1	Solar Thermal energy	SRGS	MRC	108,143	108,143
37	RSO-JAT1	Economic Feasibilty Study of Jatropha Biofuel	SRGS	MRC	1,486	1,486
38	RSO-WVO1	Study on the use of used vegetable oil as bio-fuel	SRGS	Michael Chan	490,602	490,602
39	RSO-T21P	T21-Dynamical Modelling for Sustainable Development	SRGS	Dr S Deenapanray & Dr H Neeliah	41,497	41,497
40	RSO-T21P	T21-System Dynamics-based Integrated Development Planning Course	SRGS	Dr H Neeliah	797,418	797,418
41	RSO-REE1	Workshop on Renewable Energy	SRGS	MRC	35,542	35,542
Sub Total					**6,672,667**	**6,237,688**

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
		III. Waste Management & Waste Recycling				
42	RUN-9611	Fabric Waste Recycling	URGS	Mr. E. Beedassy	100,000	100,000
43	RUN-9803	Lead pollution in Mauritius	URGS	Dr. R. Choong Kwet Yive	125,000	114,907
44	RPR-9914	Assessing recovery of solid waste	PSCRGS	Mr. B. Mooken	100,854	100,854
45	RPR-9909	Flowable rockdust - cement slurry as back fill	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Singh	100,000	71,650
46	RSS-0102	Oil Spillage-The damage caused to our tar Road	SSRGS	Mr Kheswar Beeharry Panray	50,000	45,335
Sub Total					**475,854**	**432,746**
		IV. Biomedical & Biopharmaceutical				
47	RUN-9603	Composting of solid waste in sub tropical regions	URGS	Mrs. R. Mohee & Dr. J. Baguant	270,000	248,964
48	RUN-9907	Detection of the phytoplasma associated with yellow leaf syndrome of sugar cane	URGS	Mr. S. Saumtally	413,282	413,282
49	RUN-0408	Effects of black tea consumption on ischaemic heart diseases among the Mauritian population	URGS	Dr T Bahorun	1,943,000	1,288,600
50	RUN-9905	Elimination of pathogen from noble canes	URGS	Dr. A. Dookun	504,720	504,720
51	RUN-9604	Genetic Epidemiology of Breast Cancer in Mauritius	URGS	Dr. G. Khittoo	760,000	709,593
52	RUN-0022	Identification of genetic variants of BSV among local and imported cultivars of banana and of the possible role of an insect vector	URGS	Dr. (Mrs) Y. Jaufeerally-Fakim	1,048,233	750,000
53	RUN-0106	Improving the post harvest of fresh Rodriguan limes	URGS	Mr. N. Boodia	163,000	116,470
54	RUN-9608	Improving the use of poultry waste for crop production	URGS	Mr. J. M. Heerasing	106,855	106,855
55	RUN-9401	Induced mutations and in-vitro culture of Anthurium Andreanum	URGS	Mr D Puchooa	340,000	285,536
56	RUN-0011	Knowledge, Attitudes & Practices on Menopause Symptom Alleviation in the Republic of Mauritius	URGS	Mr. N. Richards	396,500	365,925
57	RUN-0109	Molecular Mechanisms of anti-oxidant protection in health and disease: Potential of application and characterisation of anti-oxidant actions of endemic Mauritius plant extracts.	URGS	Dr. T. Bahorun & Prof. O. I. Aruoma	1,550,000	849,000

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
58	RUN-9715	NIDDM: Do haemoglobin variants cause misleading results of indicators of glycemic control in diabetic patients	URGS	Dr. F. Hemraj	874,280	874,280
59	RUN-0004	Polyphenolics, vitamins and antioxidant status of the Mauritian diet	URGS	Dr. T. Bahorun	1,170,000	1,149,358
60	RUN-0108	Rehabilitation of local banana cultivars	URGS	Mrs. B. Jhuree-Dussoruth	1,870,000	572,534
61	RUN-9806	Start up and operation of the USAB process	URGS	Dr. T. Ramjeawon	263,000	250,000
62	RUN-0103	The Development of a Molecular Diagnostic Tool for the Detection of Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. Dieffenbachiae, the causal agent of Anthurium Bacterial Blight.	URGS	Dr. (Mrs) Y. Jaufeerally-Fakim	384,000	320,000
63	RUN-0020	The phylogenetic Relationship and pharmacological Properties of the Endemic Ebony Tree Species of the Mascarenes.	URGS	Dr. G. Khittoo	1,525,000	1,406,318
64	RUN-9902	Validation of the commonly used medicinal plants of Mauritius	URGS	Dr. (Mrs) A. Gurib-Fakim	515,000	408,350
65	RPS-9906	Factors causing discoloration of Anthurium Andreanum flowers	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Langlois	100,000	100,000
66	RPS-9902	Value addition to essential oils extracted from indigenous or chemotype plants of Mauritius	PSCRGS	Mr .P. Wong	120,000	74,938
67	RPR-BIN1	Bioinformatics Workshop	SRGS	MRC	162,000	162,000
68	TWG-BM01	Biomedical Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	941,516	941,516
69	TWG-BTE1	Biotechnology Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	60,351	60,351
70	RPR-BM04	Cervical Cancer Workshop	SRGS	MRC	86,357	86,357
71	RSO-RE01	Study on the Public Awareness of GM products and Labelling of Products in stores in Mauritius	SRGS	CASR	31,500	31,500
72	RSO-MP01	Traditional Medicine	SRGS	MRC	676,023	676,023
73	RPU-0501	Development of a Speech and hearing clinical assessment protocol for young children with cleft lip and/or palate in Mauritius	PuSCRGS	Mrs R Gopal	168,000	122,162
74	RSS-0003	Long Term Complications of Diabetes	SSRGS	Mr. R. Soomaree	50,000	29,200
Sub Total					**16,492,617**	**12,903,832**

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
V. Science & Technology Education						
75	RUN-0105	Investigating the common core constructs in student's acquisition of logico-mathematical concept in physics at HSC level	URGS	Mr. P. Parmessur	411,294	365,000
76	RUN-0202	Low-Cost Equipment for Teaching and Learning Science and Technology in Primary Schools	URGS	Dr. M. Atchia	230,000	163,949
77	RSO-SE07	Setting Up of Science Room in Primary Schools	SRGS	Mrs P V Ramjeeawon	100,000	0
78	RPR-MAP1	Atelier de Formation (La main a la pâte-"Lamap")-L'Enseignement des Sciences-Phase I	SRGS	MRC	85,495	85,495
79	RPR-MAP1	Atelier de Formation (La main a la pâte-"Lamap")-L'Enseignement des Sciences-Phase II	SRGS	MRC	137,000	137,000
80	RSO-SE06	Awareness Workshop for laboratory assistants	SRGS	MRC	708,612	708,612
81	RSO-SE07	Creation of a model science room in the primary schools having additional room space	SRGS	MRC	250,000	82,828
82	RPL-FAC1	Foundation Access Course	SRGS	MRC	72,153	72,153
83	RSO-SE11	Internet based Teaching and Learning resources for the promotion of Science and Mathematics in schools	SRGS	MRC	1,000,000	534,001
84	ADM-KH01	Knowledge Hub	SRGS	MRC	1,423	1,423
85	RSO-SE06	Lab Attendants (Manuals)	SRGS	MRC	178,918	178,918
86	RSO-MAS1	Mauritius Academy of Science and Technology	SRGS	MRC	500,000	5,760
87	RPR-BM01	Multi-year strategic plan to further strengthen the Health Research System in Mauritius	SRGS	MRC	15,080	15,080
88	RLK-US01	National Science Foundation	SRGS	MRC	220,000	220,000
89	RSO-SE08	Refurbishment of a 20' x 8' container to be used as a semi-mobile science laboratory prototype for the primary schools	SRGS	MRC	494,408	494,408
90	RSO-RE01	Research Ethics	SRGS	MRC	666,000	666,000
91	RPL-ST06	S & T and Innovation Audit	SRGS	MRC	1,967,463	1,967,463
92	RPL-ST13	S&T Technology Indicators	SRGS	MRC	-	0
93		School IT Project	SRGS	MRC	62,828	62,828
94	TMG-STE1	Science and Technology Education Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	66,985	66,985

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
95	ADM-NIC1	Setting Up of a National Innnovation Committee	SRGS		-	0
96		Setting-up of the Association of Science and Technology Educators of Mauritius (ASTEM) under the aegis of MRC	SRGS	MRC	200,000	26,497
97	RSO-SE01	Task Force on Science & Education	SRGS	MRC	340,577	340,577
98	RSO-SE09	Training in script writing of Science and Mathematics Curriculum	SRGS	MRC	507,230	507,230
99	RSO-ST11	Use of low Cost Equipment for Scientific experiments	SRGS	MRC	500,000	17,488
100	RSS-0107	A Study of primary school/CPE Low Achievers in Black River District	SSRGS	Mr. D. Descann	54,750	54,750
101	RSO/EXP-0918	Survey of Attitudes and Lifestyle implications of the Pilot Implementation of Summer Time in Mauritius 2008-09	SRGS	CASR	935,629	932,629
Sub Total					**9,705,845**	**7,707,074**
		VI. Social / Economic				
102	RUN-0021	A Preliminary Training Needs Analysis for Mauritian-managed Sugar Companies in Africa	URGS	Mrs. L. Mamet	402,040	402,040
103	RUN-0306	A study of factors influencing substance abuse among young (8-18 yrs) in housing estates of Mauritius	URGS	Mr. S. A. G. Ameerbeg	516,000	471,000
104	RUN-0305	A study of risk factors associated with suicide attempters in Mauritius - A case-control study	URGS	Mr. S. A. G. Ameerbeg	584,000	490,009
105	RUN-0204	A study of the buyer characteristics of the green consumers in Mauritius and their implications for marketing strategy	URGS	Mrs. T. D. Juwaheer	351,751	351,751
106	RUN-0603	An Evaluation of Executive Management Attitudes towards CSR as a source of business success in Marketing Practices-the case of Public Sector Companies in Mauritius.	URGS	Assoc Prof T D Juwaheer	380,000	337,567
107	RUN-0602	An Evaluation of the Degree of Consumer Ethnocentrism in Mauritius.	URGS	Mrs R R Ramsaran-Fowdar	174,000	164,000
108	RUN-9910	Appropriation des langues à Maurice: Dynamiques d'apprentissage et impact de l'environment social	URGS	Dr. R. Tirvassen	176,000	116,000
109	RUN-0409	Assessment of the use of English in International Business in Mauritius	URGS	Mrs Patricia N Day-Hookoomsing	348,400	348,400

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
110	RUN-0407	Benchmarking for continuous improvement - A project to encourage the private sector and the higher education sector to identify and monitor benchmarks for key areas of performance	URGS	Dr F Khodabocus	400,000	309,500
111	RUN-0107	Benchmarking training best practices	URGS	Mr. M. Mungur & Mr. D. Gokhool	431,000	380,863
112	RUN-9304	Changes in conditions, attitudes and behaviour of the agricultural labour force: Causes and Impact	URGS	Prof. R. Lamusse & Dr. C. Ricaud	520,000	520,000
113	RSO-SSP1	Desk Research - Evolution of Small-Scale sugar planters	URGS	FARC	31,552	31,552
114	RUN-0506	Financial literacy:Evidence from Mauritius	URGS	Mr S Fowdur	392,000	291,296
115	RUN-0206	History and Geography through ICT at Primary Level	URGS	Prof. A Senteni	395,776	395,776
116	RUN-0410	How do Mauritian Managers manage?	URGS	Mr S Parahoo & Mr A A Pather	400,000	394,582
117	RUN-0502	Implementation and practice of quality management in the tourism sector of Mauritius	URGS	Dr D Lai Wai	185,350	151,643
118	RUN-0001	Incidence of over-indebtedness among domestic households in Mauritius: Analysis and Implications - Phase II	URGS	Mr. P. Dinan	300,000	250,000
119	RUN-9814	Incidence of over-indebtedness among domestic households in Mauritius Phase II	URGS	Mr. P. Dinan	300,000	250,000
120	RUN-0301	Indiscipline et Violence en milieu Scolaire à Maurice	URGS	Dr. V. Ramharai	414,000	387,500
121	RUN-0302	Integration of the elderly in the family	URGS	Dr. B. K. Baguant	430,000	430,000
122	MRC/RFA02	Listing of historical buildings in Port-Louis	URGS	Mr. P. La Hausse de Lalouvrière	100,000	100,000
123	RUN-0203	Mapping Educational Achievement in Mauritius	URGS	Mr. C. Tengar	452,400	368,014
124	MRC/CASR	Mauritian Social Attitudes	URGS	CASR	500,000	500,000
125	RUN-9716	Mauritius and the Indian ocean rim association: prospects and potential	URGS	Mr. L. Bowman	99,500	99,500
126	RUN-0015	Motivation to entrepreneurship and enterprise performance	URGS	Mr. L. A. Darga	398,500	392,709
127	RUN-9613	New Industrial Strategies: A study of Gender, migrant labour & EPZ in Mauritius	URGS	Mrs. V. Nababsing	474,000	228,130
128	RUN-9614	Organisation Culture & Women's Progress in management	URGS	Mrs. A. Wong	360,000	236,602

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
129	RUN-9705	Origins of Slaves through a study of their demographic and spatial movements 1815-1971	URGS	Mrs. V. Teelock	349,149	349,149
130	RUN-0412	Prevalence of Substance abuse in Rodrigues 2005	URGS	Mr N Richards	559,800	452,219
131	RUN-0012	Prospective Study on the role, contribution and needs of the Mauritian elderly people by horizon 2010	URGS	Mr. P. Dinan	418,925	418,925
132	RUN-9612	Sexual & Reproductive Health Knowledge, Attitudes & related risk behaviour among young workers	URGS	Mrs. S. Ragobur	337,500	292,625
133	RUN-9707	Study of Consumer behaviour in a small island economy/consumer education development project	URGS	Mr. N. Essoo & Mr. J. Chellum	561,000	375,199
134	RUN-9801	Study on the evolution of women and gender development of over three generations in Mauritius	URGS	Mrs. S. Hawoldar & Mrs. S. Ragobur	499,723	499,723
135	RUN-0413	Study on Violence in Schools	URGS	Mrs V Hanoomanjee	49,000	44,500
136	RUN-0415	Study on work and Time in Mauritius	URGS	CASR	240,000	240,000
137	RSO-CSW1	Study on Work-Family issues	URGS	CASR	300,000	300,000
138	RUN-0208	Survey of Smoking, Drinking and Illicit Drug use among Secondary school students in Mauritius	URGS	Prof. M. Joynathsing	237,500	221,221
139	RUN-9712	The context of opportunity case studies in differential performance in the secondary schools of Mauritius	URGS	Mr. T. R. Morrison	1,586,000	1,482,262
140	RUN-0505	The Impact of the Tax Reform for the Individual Income Tax System in Mauritius	URGS	Mrs K B Juddoo	389,000	295,880
141	RUN-0007	The implications of the Informal Sector on the Mauritian Economy: Analysis and Evaluation	URGS	Mr. P. Dinan	405,840	405,840
142	RUN-0017	The state, society and the condition of the Mauritian child in Mauritius / A Study of the Rehabilitation of young Offenders in Mauritius	URGS	Dr. (Ms) S. Payneeandy	460,000	447,604
143	RUN-0604	Trade Unionism in Mauritius.	URGS	Associate Prof A Ramgutty-Wong	291,400	253,407
144	RUN-0401	Upgrading the core work skills of the Mauritian labour force to meet the challenges of an economy undergoing rapid technological change	URGS	Dr L Mamet	123,000	123,000
145	RFA-0401	Upgrading the core work skills of the Mauritian labour force to meet the challenges of an economy undergoing rapid technological change	URGS	Dr. R. Tirvassen	200,000	143,907

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
146	RUN-0016	Women, Education and Development: The working women's perception of their real contribution towards personal and national development	URGS	Mrs. S. Gokool-Ramdoo	199,460	15,734
147	RUN-0503	Youth health risk behaviour in Mauritius/ Rodrigues:Prevalence and Determinants	URGS	Mr S A G Ameerbeg	713,350	654,699
148	RPS-9928	Trade secrets - The Export Answer Book for Small and Medium-Sized Exporters	PSCRGS	Mr. V. Nathoo	100,000	99,000
149	RLK-UK05	Centre for Applied Social Research at the University of Mauritius	SRGS	UOM	4,306,950	4,306,950
150	RSO-ICAC1	Prioritisation of research projects on corruption	SRGS	ICAC	180	180
151		Social Fabric Phase I	SRGS	MRC	1,022,286	1,022,286
152		Social Fabric Phase II	SRGS	MRC	1,848,297	1,848,297
153	RSO-ISM1	Study on the Informal Sector	SRGS	Dr R Juwaheer & Dr S Bunwaree	221,418	221,418
154	RSO/EXP-0822	Survey of Centenarians in the Republic of Mauritius	SRGS	Dr H Neeliah, Mr K Tatoree	270,726	270,726
155	RSS-0109	A Study of abused children who are in placement in Shelters and other children who have left	SSRGS	Mrs. M. F. Botte-Noyan	55,000	55,000
156	RSS-0104	Adjustment to retirement in old age	SSRGS	Ms. V. Dhawka	23,725	23,725
157	RSS-0114	Evaluation of training programmes of community leaders in Mauritius	SSRGS	Mr. B. Doobah	50,000	45,000
158	RSS-0806	Sexual Harassment of Women in the workplace: experiences and responses	SSRGS	Ms Alyyssa Fine	50,000	39,000
159	RSS-0123	Status of voluntary social work in year 2001 within the context of social welfare centres of the Republic of Mauritius	SSRGS	Mr. P. Ramputh	50,000	38,784
160	RUN-0013	Assessment of impact of road traffic and industrial sources on air quality through monitoring and modelling	URGS	Dr. T. Ramjeawon	658,000	246,000
Sub Total					**26,093,498**	**23,630,694**
VII. Information & Communication Technology						
161	RUN-9703	Adaptive Coding Techniques for Time Varying Channels	URGS	Mr. K. M. S. Soyjaudah	490,000	122,500
162	RUN-0405	Developing successful entry strategies for BPO operations in Mauritius	URGS	Mr S Mungur & Mr H Abdalla	398,000	394,875
163	RPS-0203	Evaluation of the importance of corporate e-learning in providing a competitive edge to Mauritian companies	PSCRGS	Mr Frederic Romann	103,449	103,449

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
164	TWG-ICT1	Information and Communications Technology Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	51,258	51,258
165	RMG-IT05	IT Security	SRGS	MRC	595,849	595,849
166	RS0-CE01	MU-CERT	SRGS	MRC	-	0
Sub Total					**1,638,556**	**1,267,931**
		VIII. Land & Land Use				
167	RD-9606	A practical guide to geotechnical site characterisation for Mauritius	URGS	Dr. A. Chan Chim Yuk	535,000	242,821
168	RUN-0414	Advanced Micro simulation of Road Traffic in congested Areas of Mauritius.	URGS	Dr K Neu	1,048,453	942,956
169	MRC/BIO	Biodiversity Project Phase I	URGS	Mr. K. Sooknah	501,000	447,159
170	RUN-0402	Information Systems for optimised data Management to increase the Efficacy of Biodiversity Conservation Efforts in Mauritius and Rodrigues.	URGS	Mr V Tatayah	1,663,408	1,288,006
171	RUN-9605	Integrated farming pilot project at Union SE	URGS	Prof. G. Chan	400,000	400,000
172	RUN-0008	Measurement of soil erosion and validation of the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE) under local conditions	URGS	Mr. S. Seeruttun	560,000	558,075
173	RUN-9706	Nitrous Oxide erosion from soils under sugarcane in Mauritius	URGS	Mr. K. F. Ng Kee Kwong	686,000	507,641
174	RPS-9918	Development of ecofloristic zones on Mauritius Island for recreation and ecotourism	PSCRGS	Mr. K. Sooknah	100,000	94,020
175	RPS-9922	Gestion raisonée des prairies Bilan fourrager dans differents elevages cervides de L'île Maurice	PSCRGS	Mrs. J. Sauzier	250,000	250,000
176	RPS-9908	Use of Coral sand and crushed basalt sand for mortars for plastering and rendering in the Construction Industry	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Singh	102,750	102,750
177	RSO-IFR1	Integrated farming at Union Ducray	SRGS	MRC	338,110	338,110
178	TWG-LLU01	Land and Land Use Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	71,080	71,080
179	RSO-IL01	Task Force on Internal Transportation and Logistics	SRGS	MRC	-	0
180	RSS-0127	Creation of a farming village (1st Phase)	SSRGS	Mr. V. Narrainen	50,000	45,000
181	RSS-0118	High speed non stop one level multiple road intersection	SSRGS	Mr Kjetil Mellingen	50,000	40,000
Sub Total					**6,355,801**	**5,327,618**

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
		IX. Manufacturing Technology				
182	RUN-9901	A study of technology and investments decision in the SME sector in Mauritius	URGS	Dr. S. Matadeen	168,000	59,896
183	RUN-0304	A study of technology and investments decision in the SME sector in Mauritius	URGS	Mrs D Goburdhun	385,500	347,000
184	RUN-0406	Can the local market sustain the existing locally oriented garment production capacity	URGS	Mr L Amedee Darga	890,500	845,848
185	RUN-0019	Design and manufacture of a cost-effective trailer for cane haulage from fields with humid soil conditions onto asphalted roads to the mill	URGS	Mr. E. Jacquin	600,470	583,281
186	RUN-9609	Development of a hydroponic production system for intensive home Gardening	URGS	Ms. R. Nowbuth	101,855	101,855
187	RUN-0023	Development of a processing package for pickling onion in Rodrigues	URGS	Mr. N. Boodia	240,000	120,732
188	RUN-0411	Entrepreneurship and Marketing Strategy : The Mauritian SME Under Globalisation	URGS	Mr G Prayag	338,000	338,000
189	RUN-0009	Fuzzy Control of Batch Dyeing Process	URGS	Dr N Kistamah	402,000	268,550
190	RUN-0024	Hydroponics and semi-protected environment for the production of vegetables in Rodrigues	URGS	Ms. R. Nowbuth	759,000	686,399
191	RUN-9303	National survey on qualities of cotton yarns and fabric knitted and finished in Mauritius	URGS	Mr. S. Mungur	128,000	128,000
192	RUN-9809	Processing of palm shoots	URGS	Mrs. S. Santchurn	253,000	212,168
193	RPR-FA01a	Research study of SME's in Mauritius	URGS	Mr. V. Appanah	250,000	250,000
194	RUN-9714	Synthesis and characterisation of novel environmentally friendly materials based on cellulose	URGS	Dr. D. Jhurry & Dr. R. Bissessur	795,000	553,525
195	MRC/TCS/94	Technological competence survey	URGS	Mr. R. Dubois	350,000	350,000
196	RUN-9702	Towards World Competitiveness: Manufacturing Industry in Mauritian Industries	URGS	Mr. R. Dubois	300,000	258,387
197	RUN-0019	Design and manufacture of ergonomic chairs for manufacturing operatives	PSCRGS	Mr. R. Goreeba	88,375	76,206
198	RPS-9907	Implementation of eco-efficiency initiatives	PSCRGS	Mr. R. Moortojakhan	90,000	88,364
199	RPS-9905	Packaging and commercialisation of peeled fresh pineapple ready for consumption	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Sarjua	75,000	65,935

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
200	RPS-0001	Packaging and commercialisation of peeled pineapple ready for consumption and production of vacuum pack pickled local fruits, vegetables and spices - Phase II	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Sarjua	460,000	431,215
201	RPS-9912	Post baking drying of biscuits	PSCRGS	Mr. R. Reetoo	100,000	89,420
202	RPS-9904	Production of vacuum pack pickled local fruits, vegetables and spices	PSCRGS	Mr. D. Sarjua	80,000	75,428
203	RPS-9923	Research on raw materials for constructed textile fibreworks with a Mauritian identity	PSCRGS	Mrs. H. Langlois	461,730	461,730
204	RPS-9916	Upgrade of an existing handling system for the textile industry	PSCRGS	Mrs. A. Wong Sik Hee	95,000	88,362
205	RSO-FRT1	Fire Risks and thatched roofs	SRGS	MRC	500,000	60,317
206		Food Technology	SRGS	MRC	3,447	3,447
207	RSO-CM01	Low-Cost Housing	SRGS	MRC	2,459,554	2,459,554
208	TWG-MAN1	Manufacturing Technology Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	52,760	52,760
209	RSO-NCC1	National Coordinating Committee on Small enterprise – Action Plan for Small Enterprise Development	SRGS	MRC	1,443	1,443
210	RSO-CM01	Task Force on Construction Materials and Technology	SRGS	MRC	791,610	791,610
211	RTC-CO01	Technology Centre	SRGS	MRC	324,369	324,369
212	RSS-0106	Inhibition of atmospheric corrosion on constructional metals	SSRGS	Mr. B. Yashwansingh. & Mr. R. Surnam	35,000	24,153
213	RSS-0105	The role of Personal Entrepreneurial competences in setting up SMEs	SSRGS	Mr. S. S. Motah	38,000	38,000
Sub Total					**11,617,613**	**10,235,95**
		X. Water Resources				
214	RUN-9602	Integrated management of sugar cane mill waste water for environmental protection, bio-energy production and irrigation	URGS	Dr. T. Ramjeawon	600,000	588,720
215	RUN-9501	Monitoring of pesticide concentration in ground and surface waters	URGS	Mr. K. F. Ng Kwee Kong	548,000	548,000
216	RUN-9402	Potable water quality assessment of micro-organisms in Mauritius using Polymerise Chain Reaction (PCR) technology	URGS	Prof. I. Fagoonee	430,000	380,000
217	RUN-9502	Study of effluent treatment in dye-houses in Mauritius	URGS	Dr. B. Ramgulam	415,000	347,608
218	RUN-9607	Treatment of Dyehouse Wastewater for reuse	URGS	Dr. M. E Allyboccus	555,000	350,553

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
219	RUN-9503	Water Quality Modelling along rivers in Mauritius	URGS	Mr. V. Proag	115,000	50,000
220	RPR-9919	Recycling waste water, agro-industrial affluent, sewer & sludge for the establishment of an integral artificial wetland & wild fruit trees orchard model	PSCRGS	Mr. K. Sooknah	100,000	77,828
221	RSO-CSO1	Cloud Seeding	SRGS	MRC	438,467	438,467
222	RSO-DPR1	Desalination plant in Rodrigues	SRGS	MRC	-	0
223	RPR-RH01	RainWater Harvesting	SRGS	MRC	211,304	211,304
224	TMG-WR01	Water Resources Thematic Working Group	SRGS	MRC	80,080	80,080
225	RPR-WRF1	Water Research Fund for South Africa (WARFSA)	SRGS	MRC	150,140	150,140
Sub Total					**3,642,991**	**3,222,700**
		XI. Others				
226	RSO-FSM1	Setting Up of a Task Force on Food Security	SRGS	Dr H Neeliah & Ms M Madhou	4,471	4,471
227	RUN-9808II	An investigation into the level of insecticide resistance in liriomyza trifoli populations in Mauritius (Phase II)	URGS	Mr. D. Abeeluck	272,100	208,050
228	RUN-9808	An investigation into the level of insecticide resistance in liriomyza trifoli populations in mauritius Phase I	URGS	Mr. J. Maureemootoo	542,000	180,296
229	RUN-0018	Conservation management of endangered endemic Mauritian bird species - Analysis of long-term trends in wild and captive populations.	URGS	Dr. C. G. Jones	452,947	452,947
230	RUN-9812	Dust at red shift greater than 4	URGS	Mr. G. K. Beeharry	120,000	79,475
231		French - Hindi Dictionary	URGS	Mr V K Beeharry	80,000	80,000
232	RUN-9810	New generation polymer beads for solid-phase synthesis	URGS	Dr. R. Choong Kwet Yive	416,000	275,000
233	RUN-9610	Post Harvest Quality of Bananas	URGS	Mr. R. A. Bhugaloo & Mr. N. Sobhun	207,669	207,669
234	RUN-9811	The Mauritius Radiotelescope II	URGS	Mr. R. Somanah	90,000	77,000
235	RPS-9921	Control of Stomoxys nigra Macquart in Mauritius Phase I	PSCRGS	Mr. P.de Maroussem	100,000	49,525
236	RPS-0101	Control of Stomoxys nigra Macquart in Mauritius Phase II	PSCRGS	MMPA	309,750	169,750
237	RPS-9924	Late production of onions in La Marie/Glen Park	PSCRGS	Mr. G. Hurree	102,273	102,273

No.	Ref No.	Title of project	Scheme	Principal Investigator	Project Value (Rs)	Amount Spent as at June 2009 (Rs)
238	RPR-IP03	Guide to Patent searching	SRGS	MRC	41,400	41,400
239	RPR-IP03	IPR Rights & Patenting & Publication	SRGS	MRC	497,138	497,138
240	RSO-ROD1	Rodrigues Research Initiatives	SRGS	MRC	20,924	20,924
241	RSO-SKA1	SKA Radiotelescope Project	SRGS	MRC	83,952	84,203
Sub Total					**3,336,153**	**2,525,650**
Grand Total					**106,413,546**	**92,995,438**

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