

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



**NEWSLETTER
FEB 2021**

IN THIS ISSUE

Dear readers,

We are pleased to launch the first edition of the newsletter of the Ministry. For the present issue, we are providing an overview of projects, initiatives and measures undertaken for the Cooperatives Division during the last 6 months.

BOOST TO LOCAL PRODUCTION SCHEME FOR COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The Scheme is being operated since July 2020.

It finances 90% of the costs, up to a maximum of Rs150,000 per cooperative, for the

- (a) purchase of livestock; and
- (b) acquisition of equipment, machinery and accessories.

Up to now, 45 cooperative societies have applied for financial assistance under this scheme and disbursement to eligible societies is ongoing.

This will help to achieve self-sufficiency and food security objectives set by Government. The citizens will have a variety of choices at affordable price.

Application form available online
<https://cooperatives.govmu.org/Com-munique/-Boost%20Scheme-%20application%20Form.pdf>
and in all RCCs (details at the end of the newsletter)*



ORNAMENTAL FISH FARMING PROJECT FOR COOPERATIVES

The Ornamental Fish Farming Project is being implemented by the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (Cooperatives Division) with the collaboration of the Albion Fisheries Research Centre (AFRC). This is in line with the strategy to assist cooperatives to diversify their activities.

The training was conducted by an expert in ornamental fish farming from Taiwan, with the assistance of the African-Asian Rural and Development Organisation (AARDO).

Presently the farming of Cherry Barb is being encouraged. The scheme will be extended to other cooperatives in the near future.

Hon. S. Bholah, handed over the breeding equipment and fishes worth Rs 25,000 per beneficiary to nine societies who followed the training.

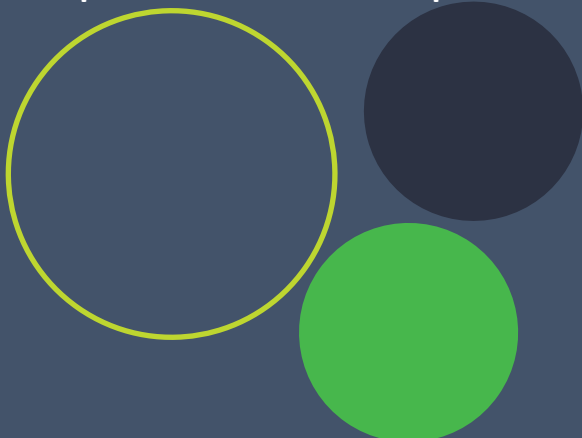


LA FLORA COOPERATIVE STORES SOCIETY LTD

La Flora Cooperative Stores Society Ltd was registered on 04 June 1948. The society was engaged in a traditional way of doing business, whereby the change in consumer behaviour and the need of a new concept that would promote more business had not been considered. Thus, the performance of the society had deteriorated over time and it was not able to keep pace with competition. The MCCF Ltd had been appointed as caretaker Board of the society.

With a view to adapting the store to consumers' expectation, the caretaker Board of the store (MCCF Ltd) embarked into a project to reorganise the La Flora CS Ltd into a "Superette". The project consequently materialised in the year 2020. The MCCF Ltd, has benefitted from the "Scheme for the upgrading of Consumer Cooperative Stores" from this Ministry.

The reorganised "Superette" is of an area of 130 m² and has all the necessary amenities and facilities to respond to customers' requirements.





M.O.U BETWEEN MCCF LTD AND AMB

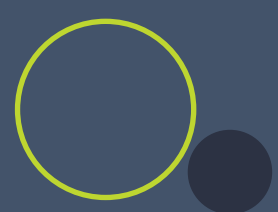
The AMB will supply commodities like onions, garlic and potatoes to the retail outlets of the MCCF Ltd with a view to providing quality products at competitive prices to consumers. Initially, the MCCF Ltd will have four retail outlets namely at Flacq, Terre-Rouge, Plaine Magnien and Bambous and the number of outlets will eventually be increased to cover other regions.

Cooperatives in Mauritius are mostly involved in local produce such as vegetables, fruits, flowers, agro-processing, handicrafts etc. The sale outlets will help to sell their products and boost local production and consumption.

Financial assistance would be provided to the MCCF Ltd to pay the rental fee of four retail outlets for the first six months of operation.

Objectives:

- Assisting cooperatives in the marketing of local products.
- Giving a boost to local production and consumption of fresh vegetables, fruits, etc.
- Creating more visibility for cooperatives products.





CO-OP MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

With a view to building an identity and a collective brand for the products and services offered by cooperatives, the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (Cooperatives Division) has developed the “Co-op Moving Forward Together” logo which is registered with the Industrial Property Office.

Besides building a cooperative identity, it also helps to valorise cooperative products. Moreover, the logo creates visibility for the activities of cooperatives and helps cooperatives in image building.

Cooperatives are therefore encouraged to use the “Co-op Moving Forward Together” logo on their products, letterheads, signage and websites.

MAURITIUS STANDARDS BUREAU
NATIONAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION SCHEME



Certificate of Registration

Certificate Number

RF 083

This is to certify that
**the Cooperatives Division of
the Ministry of Industrial Development, SME's and Cooperatives**
has a quality management system to manufacture goods, operate processes or provide
services detailed in annex to this certificate and in accordance with

MS ISO 9001:2015

This certificate remains valid until

14 September 2023

and is subject to the terms and conditions contained in this certificate.

Signed for and on behalf of the Standards Council

15 September 2020

General Manager
Mauritius Standards

MS ISO 9001:2015 – CERTIFICATION OF THE COOPERATIVES DIVISION

The Cooperatives Division is ISO certified and therefore committed towards providing quality service to its customers.

The MS ISO 9001:2015 ensures that there are established processes and procedures, continuous improvement of service delivery, customer focus, leadership, management engagement and goal congruence. It also promotes the necessary climate for sustainable development in the Cooperative Movement

TRAINING IN ORGANIC FARMING

The Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Co-operatives (Co-operatives Division) in collaboration with National Co-operative College and the Falcon Bio/Organic Farming Co-operative Society Ltd mounted a training programme in Organic Farming for the benefit of Co-operative Societies involved in the agricultural sector.

The theoretical part was held at the National Co-operative College, Terre Rouge. Whereas the practical sessions were conducted at the Falcon farm, Bois Pignolet, Terre Rouge.

Hon. S. Bholah handed over the certificates as well as equipment and accessories to the trainees during a function organized at the Falcon farm. To promote green and sustainable agricultural practices among co-operative planters and unemployed persons and encourage entrepreneurship in green agri-business activities with a view to curbing the use of insecticides and pesticides in the cultivation of crops.



SALON CULINAIRE FOR WOMEN COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

A Salon Culinaire was organised by the Mauritius Women Entrepreneurs Co-operative Federation Ltd (MWEFCF Ltd) with the collaboration of the Cooperatives Division of the Ministry in September 2020 at the National Cooperative College.

The Salon Culinaire consisted of three main culinary categories, namely:

- Main course
- Pastry
- Dessert



COOPERATIVE MARKET FAIR AT CUREPIPE

Cooperative Market Fairs are organized in different regions of the island offering sale opportunities to cooperators as well as consolidating their customer base.

A 3-day Regional Cooperative Market Fair was held from 27 to 29 November 2020 at Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Curepipe.

51 cooperative societies, the Mauritius Cooperative Alliance Ltd and the Mauritius Consumers Cooperative Federation Ltd participated in the fair.





ONLINE REGISTRATION OF COOPERATIVES

Application for registration of a cooperative society can be submitted online by logging in to <https://cderp.govmu.org/>

Requirements for Registration of a Primary Co-operative Society:

- A minimum of 5 members
- Membership of the society shall be opened to persons who are 18 years of age and above and of good character
- The minimum issued and paid-up share capital should be Rs5000
- Each member should contribute at least Rs1000 (100 shares of Rs10 per member)

Once all necessary documents are received, the Certificate of Registration is normally issued within 3-5 days, after the payment of the Annual Fee amounting to Rs 500. For the period January to December 2020, a total of 151 cooperative societies have been registered. This represents an increase of more than 100% as compared to year 2019.

REGIONAL COOPERATIVE CENTRES

Region	RCC	ADDRESS	TEL/ FAX
North	Goodlands Regional Cooperative Centre	2 nd Floor, NPF Building, Goodlands	Tel No : 283 6339 Fax No : 283 6339
	Solitude Regional Cooperative Centre	MCIA Building, Solitude	Tel No : 261 8512 Fax No : 261 8512
	Terre-Rouge Regional Cooperative Centre	Bois Marchand Street, Terre-Rouge	Tel No : 249 1257 Fax No : 246 1257
Port Louis	Port-Louis (North) Regional Cooperative Centre	2 nd Floor, LIC Centre, Port-Louis	Tel No : 405 0770 Fax No : 208 9263
	Port Louis (South) Regional Cooperative Centre	2 nd Floor, LIC Centre, Port-Louis	Tel No : 405 0770 Fax No : 208 9263
South	St Felix Regional Cooperative Centre	MCIA Building, St Felix	Tel No : 622 5001 Fax No : 622 5001
	Rose-Belle Regional Cooperative Centre	Kulpoo Lane, Rose-Belle	Tel No : 627 7824 Fax No : 627 7824
Central	St Pierre Regional Cooperative Centre	MCIA Building, St Pierre	Tel No : 434 1031 Fax No : 433 3695
	Quatre-Bornes Regional Cooperative Centre	Immeuble Meguinville, 88 St Jean Road, Quatre Bornes	Tel No : 467 1116 Fax No : 467 1116
	Henrietta Regional Cooperative Centre	Maison des Eleveurs, Henrietta	Tel No : 684 9962 Fax No : 684 9962
East	Bon Accueil Regional Cooperative Centre	MCIA Building, Bon Accueil	Tel No : 418 6787 Fax No : 418 6787
	Beau Champ Regional Cooperative Centre	MCIA Building, Beau Champ	Tel No : 417 6895 Fax No : 417 6895