

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	Small Farmers Welfare Fund																
<b>Brief description of Organisation</b>	<p>1. The Small Planters Welfare Fund (SPWF) was established by the Government under the SPWF Act No. 12 of 2002 and following consequential amendments brought to the Act in 2011, the Fund was changed to the Small Farmers Welfare Fund (SFWF). The objective of the Fund is to promote the economic and social welfare of small farmers and their families.</p> <p>2. Small farmers as defined by the SFWF's Act are registered <b>small planters, small breeders</b> and <b>farmers</b> conducting <b>agro processing activities</b>.</p> <p><i>i) <u>Small Planters</u></i>  'Small Planter' means a planter who is <b>registered with the Fund</b> as a planter –</p> <p>(a) Growing sugar cane, tea, tobacco or food crops, fruit and ornamental plants, or conducting sheltered farming, on his land or on leased land, on an extent of not less than 10 perches but not more than 10 hectares; or</p> <p>(b) Growing a single crop on his land or on leased land, on an extend of less than 10 perches, provided that the land is under intensive cultivation.</p> <p><i>ii) <u>Small Breeders</u></i>  'Small breeder' means a breeder who is <b>registered with the Fund</b> as breeder raising such number of animals as:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="618 1108 1507 1476"> <thead> <tr> <th>Animals</th> <th>Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sows</td> <td>not exceeding 20 heads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cattle</td> <td>not exceeding 40 heads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Honeybees</td> <td>not exceeding 50 hives</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fattening pigs</td> <td>not exceeding 100 heads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Goats or sheep</td> <td>not exceeding 100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rabbits</td> <td>not exceeding 300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Poultry</td> <td>not less than 25 but not exceeding 5,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>iii) <u>Agro Processor</u></i>  'Agro-processing enterprise' means an enterprise owned by a small farmer or a group of small farmers, which is registered with the Fund as an enterprise conducting agro-processing activities, employing less than 10 persons and having an annual turnover not exceeding 10 million rupees.</p>	Animals	Number	Sows	not exceeding 20 heads	Cattle	not exceeding 40 heads	Honeybees	not exceeding 50 hives	Fattening pigs	not exceeding 100 heads	Goats or sheep	not exceeding 100	Rabbits	not exceeding 300	Poultry	not less than 25 but not exceeding 5,000
Animals	Number																
Sows	not exceeding 20 heads																
Cattle	not exceeding 40 heads																
Honeybees	not exceeding 50 hives																
Fattening pigs	not exceeding 100 heads																
Goats or sheep	not exceeding 100																
Rabbits	not exceeding 300																
Poultry	not less than 25 but not exceeding 5,000																
<b>Tel No.</b>	433 2052/433 1564																
<b>Fax No.</b>	433 3249																
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:info@sfwfund.com">info@sfwfund.com</a>																
<b>Address</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor – MCIA (Ex.FSC) Building, Saint Pierre																
<b>Website</b>	Sfwf.govmu.org																

Schemes /Incentives/Support Services that may benefit Cooperative Societies	Details of Schemes/ Incentives/ Support Services (Description)	Contact Person (Name, Tel. No. and Email Address) for each scheme/incentive/support service
<p><b>1. Registration of Farmers</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ By virtue of its Act, the SFWF has to register small farmers prior to providing them necessary facilities.</li> <li>▪ The SFWF is therefore conducting a registration exercise since 2003 accordingly. The registration extends over a two-year period and the actual registration roll will terminate end December 2022.</li> <li>▪ A <b>Farmer's Identity Card (FIC)</b> is issued to each registered farmers which give them the access to welfare schemes and facilities available at the SFWF as well facilities provided by the Government for the farming community for instance soft loans at DBM, purchase of restricted pesticides and controlled seeds and so on.</li> <li>▪ Farmer's Card will be issued to them only after their applications have been <b>certified by/validated against the documents issued by the following institutions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planters under food crops – SFWF/FAREI</li> <li>▪ Breeders – SFWF/FAREI</li> <li>▪ Processing companies - SFWF</li> <li>▪ Sugarcane Planters - Valid SIFB Card</li> <li>▪ Tea Planters - NAPRO Certificate</li> <li>▪ Beekeeper - Beekeeper Certification of the Entomology Division of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Safety</li> <li>▪ Small farmers of Rodrigues - Certification of the Rodrigues Agriculture Commission</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Filling of application form by farmers at SFWF office or any Post Office upon submission of all relevant documents</li> <li>▪ A <b>membership fee of Rs 650/-</b> collected by each member for a period of 2 years</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recording of all application forms for eligible farmers in a database by SFWF</li> <li>▪ Farmer's identity card printed and delivered to farmers within one month.</li> </ul>	
<b>2. Accident Insurance Scheme</b>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To provide small farmers a 24-hour worldwide insurance coverage to registered farmers against injuries caused by accident.</li> <li>▪ To extend financial support including redundancy allowance, reimbursement of medical expenses and disability compensation, etc in case of accident causing injuries and/or death.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmers, within the age bracket of 18 years to 75 years, are instantly covered by the insurance upon registration.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Claim Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmers claim for indemnity and relevant documents are sent to insurance company for payments to farmers.</li> </ol>	
<b>3. Life Insurance Scheme</b>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To provide financial assistance in the form of a death grant to the farmer or his/her family in case of the demise of a family member.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmers are instantly covered by the insurance upon registration.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Claim Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application for the Scheme together with relevant documents including Death Certificate are made by beneficiary of deceased member to SFWF's office, following which necessary payment is made to beneficiary.</li> </ol>	
<b>4. Vat Refund Scheme</b>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The SFWF is the authorized body certifying farmers to enable them benefiting from <b>VAT refund</b>, a FISCAL measure, on the purchase of agricultural machinery, equipment, spare parts, rental of agricultural land, rates payable on mechanised land preparation services, supply of manual labour in the</li> </ul>	

	<p>agricultural or construction sector and additional agricultural items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The objective of the scheme is to encourage small farmers adopting modern technologies to <b>increase farm's efficiency and productivity, boost up agricultural production and reduce cost of production.</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmers apply for VAT refund together with original receipts of equipment purchased to the SFWF's Office in respect of approved list of equipments for which VAT are refunded</li> <li>2. Application are recorded on a database by the SFWF and a copy filed</li> <li>3. Original applications together with original receipts of farmers are sent to the MRA every quarter for VAT Refund</li> <li>4. VAT refunded directly to farmers by the MRA</li> </ol>	
<p><b>5. Educational Achiever Award Scheme (EAAS)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To recognize and reward the achievement of children of small farmers who have performed best at the PSAC, SC and HSC 2019 and motivate them to pursue higher education, the SFWF operates the Educational Achiever Award Scheme (EAAS).</li> <li>▪ The aim being also to recognize the efforts and the contribution of farmers in the educational progress of their children, hence their contribution to our national development.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmers apply for the Scheme and submit a copy of all relevant documents</li> <li>2. Awardees are selected based on the pre-established criteria (best results, etc).</li> </ol>	
<p><b>6. Certification for Concessionary Road Tax</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The SFWF is the authorized body certifying farmers to enable them benefiting from <b>preferential rates on road tax</b> on utility vehicle.</li> <li>▪ The aim of this Scheme is to provide fiscal incentive to farmers to reduce cost of production and increase farm efficiency and productivity.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application made by farmers to the SFWF's regional offices.</li> <li>2. Field/Farm visited by SFWF's Officers to certify existence of acreage (crops) and number of heads.</li> <li>3. Certificate issued to eligible Planters/Breeders to certify existence of acreage (crops) and number of heads.</li> <li>4. Farmers to apply for preferential rates on road tax on utility vehicle together with the certificate and other documents, as would be required by the NTA.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>7. Farmers Families Fun day</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To provide leisure activities to small farmers and their families, including their children</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Farmers apply for the scheme at the SFWF office</li> <li>2. Details of the Farmer recorded</li> <li>3. A selection of eligible farmers is made based on registration criteria for the Scheme</li> <li>4. Presence of farmers confirmed.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>8. Work Based Placement for children of Farmers</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To promote on-the-job training to children of farmers to better prepare them for their future in terms of further education and career.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. List of Degree Holders for recent University Leavers requested from the UOM.</li> <li>2. Screening of the list is made at the Fund for children of registered farmers.</li> <li>3. Those Farmer's Children who are interested for a placement, recruited on a month to month basis.</li> <li>4. Payment of a monthly stipend fee of Rs 6000 plus traveling made to the children.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>9. Free Medical Check Up</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Free medical check-up provided on a regular basis to small farmers and their families.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>10. SFWF Agri-Tech (Agricultural Technologies Exhibition)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The SFWF organizes Regional Agricultural Technologies Exhibitions (<i>SFWF Agri-Tech</i>) in collaboration with suppliers of agricultural equipment, machinery, sheltered farming structures, inputs (<i>bio fertilizers, annual feed etc</i>), solar panels, etc to showcase the latest technologies and products available for the farming sector to accelerate adoption of same by farmers so as to increase their productivity and profitability and also address ramping challenges like ageing population, climate change, emergence of new pests and diseases and scarcity of labour.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>11. Tea Sector Support Scheme</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In line with the Government’s objective of boosting the tea sector, the SFWF is operating the Tea Sector Support Scheme (TSSS) since Financial Year 2016/17 whereby free fertilizers (NPK in September &amp; CAN in January) are provided to small registered tea planters to assist them in increasing their field productivity and also reducing their cost of production.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application made by planters to the SFWF’s Office and a copy of NAPRO certificate submitted.</li> <li>2. Application recorded in a database.</li> <li>3. Vouchers issued to each planter</li> <li>4. Planter collect fertilizer from selected supplier (by the Fund) on presentation of original vouchers by planters.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>12. Bio Farming Support Scheme (BFSS)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subsidy to the tune of <b>60%</b> is provided on the purchase price of bio inputs (pesticides and fertilisers) on a first come, first serve basis in the below order to registered planters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Holding a Bio Farming Certificate from Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security</li> <li>(ii) Holding Maurigap Certification</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<p>(iii) Holding a letter from the Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI)/Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security (MAIFS) certifying their intention to indulge into bio farming.</p> <p>(iv) Who are indulged in protected culture for a maximum of 10,000m<sup>2</sup>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The objectives and expected outcomes of the Schemes are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) To increase the accessibility of farmers to organic inputs such as bio fertilisers, Bio pesticides, etc so as to stimulate promote organic farming in the country.</li> <li>(ii) To increase the agricultural productivity while maintaining the soil health and environmental safety and produce safer food for consumption for the benefit of customers.</li> <li>(iii) To leverage the price of bio pesticides to that of synthetic pesticides.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planters apply for the Scheme and submit copy of title deed</li> <li>2. Vouchers issued to planters on a first come first serve basis</li> <li>3. Planters granted 60% subsidy on presentation of vouchers to selected suppliers (by the Fund)</li> </ol>	
<p><b>13. Bar Coding Acquisition System (BCAS)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The purpose of the scheme is to provide grant up to Rs 10,000 for the acquisition of bar-coding system for up to 1000 products, so as to access premium markers like hypermarkets and export markets. The grant will also cover training of the agro processors in the Bar-Coding System.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application procedures:</u></b></p> <p>Agro Processors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) To fill the Statement of Annual Turnover Form at GS1 (MAURITIUS) LTD and to avail for the respective quotation for the</li> </ol>	

	<p>required bar codes at the GS1 (MAURITIUS) LTD.</p> <p>(ii) To submit the above documents along with a copy of the National Identity Card (NIC), BRN and copy of location plan and apply for the said grant at the office of SFWF;</p> <p>(iii) The SFWF then issue a cheque as payment in favor of GS1 (MAURITIUS) LTD based on above documents to enable the issuing of the barcodes by the GS1 (Mauritius) to the Agro processor.</p>	
<p><b>14. Calf Productivity Incentive Scheme/Heifer (CPIS)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A Cash Incentive of Rs 7,500/- is provided under the Scheme to small cow breeders per calf having reached the age of 3 months up to a maximum of 30 weaned calves per year</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Breeders apply for the cash incentive at the SFWF's Office</li> <li>2. Farmers are visited by SFWF's officers to ensure presence of the calf.</li> <li>3. Application sent to DVS for certification of calf's tag number/s and date/s of birth.</li> <li>4. After certification obtained, breeders are paid accordingly.</li> </ol>	



<p><b>15. Incentives For Milk Production (IMPS)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A cash incentive of Rs 5000/- is provided to small breeders under the Scheme, lactating cows, up to a maximum of 40 heads per breeder for the first time.</li> <li>▪ The objective of the Scheme is to provide a stimulus to small cow breeders to take better care to their heifers up to lactation period (a most critical period for the survival of both the cow and the calf) so as to boost up milk production.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application Procedures:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Breeders applied for the cash incentive at the SFWF's Office.</li> <li>2. Farmers are visited by SFWF's officers to ensure presence of the heifer.</li> <li>3. Applications sent to DVS for certification of Heifer Tag Number/s and first lactation.</li> <li>4. After certification obtained, breeders are paid accordingly.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>16. Land Mechanisation Support Scheme (LMSS)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To assist small planters in <b>addressing the rampant challenges</b> like scarcity of labour and ageing population, <b>increase crop production</b> and <b>enhance their sustainability</b> to <b>ensure the national food security.</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Application procedure:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eligible planters are requested to apply at Head office and different sub office along with their planter's card</li> </ul>	
<p><b>17. Winter Allowance Scheme</b></p>	<p><b><u>Feature:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Winter Allowance was introduced in the National Budget 2018/9, to provide an income support to small tea growers to cope with the reduction of tea leaves production during the five (5) months winter period.</li> <li>▪ <b><u>Application procedure:</u></b> The payment of the Winter Allowance is calculated based on the official lists of tea planters (containing among others the respective production of each tea planter) as submitted by NAPRO to the SFWF.</li> </ul>	