

SM plays a key role in tripartite negotiations on salary compensation

Tripartite negotiations were held in September to October 2013 among representatives of government, employers and employees to determine the quantum of salary compensation for year 2014. As is the practice every year, SM provided statistics to inform decisions thereon.

Aimée Cheung, SM Director presented an outlook of the economy covering growth, productivity, inflation and employment at the first technical committee meeting.

Workers' representatives extensively used SM statistics on employment level and income, household income and expenditure, and cost of CPI basket to arrive at their estimate of the quantum while employers focused on their capacity to pay, and job preservation by constantly referring to SM employment statistics.

SM's involvement was crucial in determining the cost of the different proposals on salary compensation to assist Government in deciding on the appropriate quantum.

SM receives training from World Bank on ADePT software

Mr. Victor Sulla, Senior Economist from World Bank, trained SM staff on the ADePT software from 8 to 10 October 2013.



Victor Sulla dispensing training at SM

Nine officers from SM who work in the areas of poverty and labour statistics as well in the analysis of Household Budget Survey received the training. They were taught how to use the World Bank-developed software to generate tables and graphs with regard to poverty, labour, gender and social protection, among others.

The training proved to be useful and SM will now use the software to upload past household survey data for speedier tabulation and more in-depth analysis. As a next step, World Bank will rope in SM staff in the preparation of an analytical report on *All-inclusive growth in Mauritius* commissioned by the Mauritian Government.

Malagasy colleagues visit SM to learn from our experience on National Accounts

A six-person delegation from Madagascar visited SM from 14 to 18 October 2013 mainly to learn from the experience of Mauritius in the compilation of quarterly national accounts. The delegation comprised five representatives of the Malagasy statistics office and one from the Ministry of Finance.



The Malagasy delegation during a working session at SM

Set Fong Cheung Tung Shing and her team from the Economic Division briefed the delegation on the methodology and software used for compiling the output of the different sectors of the economy as well as the techniques used for benchmarking and deseasonalisation.

The delegation also visited the main administrative data suppliers for Quarterly National Accounts namely, the MRA which provides data on Value Added Tax (VAT) and business turnover, and the Treasury where information is available on the government expenditure.

SM recruits another intern under the Service to Mauritius (STM) Programme

Ms Umme Salma Janally joined SM on 7 October 2013. She is posted in the Public Finance Unit under the supervision of Ms Gangamah Appadu, Principal Statistician.