

Issue 40 March 2014

NEWSLETTER

Corporate Identity



To enhance the corporate character of Statistics Mauritius, corporate colours have been identified, and a logo created and officially launched on Monday 23 September 2013 during an event organised to celebrate the International Year of Statistics (IYS) 2013.

New ID and business cards, email signatures, and power point templates have been designed accordingly. Since end March 2014, SM staff is making use of the new corporate materials with the logo of Statistics Mauritius thereon.

In order to be consistent and to maintain the visual image of the corporate identity, SM is now working on reviewing other stationery items such as letterheads, memos and fax sheets. SM publications covers will also be redesigned to include the corporate signature to ensure immediate recognition and to maximize impact.

International Women's Day 2014

Each year, on March 8, International Women's Day is celebrated to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women while also focusing world attention on areas requiring further action. This year's theme is "INSPIRING CHANGE"

In Mauritius, to mark the International Women's, an official ceremony was held on the 8 March 2014. The Prime Minister, in his message, emphasized the need to bring changes in the attitude and behavior of men in order to combat domestic violence. He also highlighted the exceptional role women play in their family and their invaluable contribution to the socio-economic development of the country.

At the end of 2013, the Mauritian population comprised 636,400 women compared to 623,500 men. Women outnumbered men by 12,900 and live on average seven years longer than men. More women are now occupying high positions in government services; thus, the proportion of women in the most senior positions is around 40%.

In 2012, Mauritius ranked 70th out of 146 countries according to the Gender Inequality Index of the UN. The index reflects inequality in achievements between women and men in reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.

FinScope Consumer Survey in Mauritius 2014



Making financial markets work for the poor

FinMark Trust (FMT) is an independent trust operating in South Africa whose purpose is to make financial markets work for the poor by promoting financial inclusion and regional financial integration. It conducts research to identify the systemic constraints that prevent financial markets from reaching out to these consumers and advocates for change on the basis of research findings.

FMT is currently conducting a FinScope Consumer Survey in the Republic of Mauritius with the assistance of a local private firm. The key objective of the survey is to find out how individuals source their income and how they manage their financial lives. It also provides insight into attitudes and perceptions regarding financial products and services. The survey results will be useful to key stakeholders such as policy makers, regulators and financial service providers for policy reform and innovation in product development and delivery.

The local partners in the project are the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Bank of Mauritius, Financial Services Commission and Statistics Mauritius. To date, FinScope Consumer Surveys have been conducted in 18 countries. The results of the surveys in other countries can be accessed at www.finmark.org.za. The results for the Finscope Consumer Survey in Mauritius are expected for release in August 2014.

SM archives its print publications

As at late, SM's publication archives consisted only of paper documents including valuable and rare historical documents such as Census reports dating as far back as 1847.

The historical documents had suffered long-term storage conditions such as mould, mildew and moisture, and badly needed to be preserved. In addition, the ever-increasing number of publications being released by SM led to lack of physical space for appropriate storage and document retrieval.

For these reasons, SM undertook to archive its publications and outsourced this task to Software Activities and Images Management Ltd.

Safik Boodoo, then Statistician responsible for Publication, ably managed the project till completion before retiring from service.

To date, all the 840 publications not available in electronic format have been scanned and their digital images submitted for storage on SM servers. SM will now make post these publications on an 'Archives' section on our website for the benefit of all users.