### **REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

### STATISTICS MAURITIUS



### COUNTRY PROGRESS TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

(MDGs)

2014

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### 1. Introduction

In September 2000, 189 Member States of the United Nations (UN), including Mauritius, unanimously adopted the UN Millennium Declaration. The Declaration consists of a roadmap setting out eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be reached by 2015, using year 1990 as a baseline. The eight goals are:

*MDG1* – *Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger* 

MDG2 – Achieve universal primary education

MDG3 – Promote gender equality and empower women

*MDG4* – *Reduce child mortality* 

MDG5 – Improve maternal health

MDG6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

MDG7 – Ensure environmental sustainability

MDG8 – Develop a Global Partnership for Development

The UN has come up with a list of specific targets and indicators to determine progress on each of the MDGs.

This report presents the achievement of the Republic of Mauritius towards the Millennium Development Goals during the period 1990 to 2014. It is based on the MDG indicators recommended by the UN as well as additional ones to show, to the extent possible, a complete picture of the situation.

### 2. Country progress at a glance

### MDG 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1A – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 a day

- Extreme poverty is negligible in Mauritius; less than 1% of the population lived below the extreme poverty line of \$1.25 a day from 1996/97 to 2012.
- The proportion of people living below a certain level of income has generally declined from 1996/97 to 2012 but income inequality is on the rise.

Target 1B – Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people

- Unemployment rate remained at around 8% at the national level from 2004 to 2014. It was markedly higher among young people with a rate of 25% in 2014.
- The gender gap in employment and unemployment persisted but is decreasing over time.

Target 1C – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

- The hunger reduction target should be almost met by 2015.
- The proportion of undernourished people is estimated to have declined from 8% in 1991 to 5% in 2014.

### MDG 2 – Achieve universal primary education

Target 2A – Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

- Almost all children of primary school age attend school, thanks to free education. However, not all of them successfully complete the full course of primary schooling.
- Youth and adult literacy rates are on the rise and the gender gap is narrowing.

### MDG 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 3A – Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

• Mauritius has already achieved the goal of eliminating gender disparity in education. However, gender inequality still persists in labour force and political participation.

### MDG 4 – Reduce child mortality

Target 4A – Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

• Mauritius has made progress towards Goal 4 but is still short of the under-five mortality target.

### MDG 5 – Improve maternal health

Target 5A – Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

• The number of maternal deaths is low and erratic from 15 in 1990 to 7 in 2014.

Target 5B – Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health

• Fewer adolescents are having children; the birth rate among adolescents almost halved from 45 births per 1,000 adolescent girls in 1990 to 25 in 2014.

### MDG 6 – Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Target 6A – Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

• HIV spread is being reversed; new HIV infections declined from 2000 to 2014.

Target 6B – Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it

• Government provides free treatment for HIV/AIDS but less than half had recourse to the antiretroviral drugs in 2014.

Target 6C – Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

• Mauritius is declared malaria risk-free with no indigenous cases since 1997.

• However, diabetes is a major concern and is increasing since 1987. In 2009, as many as 1 out of every 4 people aged 25-74 had diabetes

### MDG 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 7A – Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environment resources

- The target has been partly achieved.
- Mauritius has almost eliminated the consumption of ozone-depleting substances since 2007.
- However, forests are decreasing and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions are on the rise.

Target 7B – Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss

• Biodiversity loss was reduced following an increase in protected land area under protection.

Target 7C – Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

• Access to improved drinking water sources is almost universal and improved sanitation facilities which were already widespread in 1990, are on the rise.

Target 7D – By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

• In 2011, only 4% households in the urban regions lived in 'slum' conditions.

### MDG 8 – Develop a Global Partnership for Development

Target 8C – Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and Small Island Developing States

• Mauritius, part of Small Island Developing States, continued to benefit from Official Development Assistance (ODA) but the grant was consistently less than 1% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Target 8D – Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

• The debt burden measured as a proportion of external debt service to export revenue declined from 7.7% to 4.5% in the period 2002 to 2014.

Target 8E – In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries

• 100% population have access to essential drugs, given that the government provides free health care and services with essential drugs in all public health centres located in various parts of the country.

Target 8F – In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication

• Mauritius made substantial progress in the field of Information and Communication Technology particularly with regard to usage of cellular phones and internet.

### 3. Country progress by goal



### MDG 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1A – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 a day

- Extreme poverty is negligible in Mauritius; less than 1% of the population lived below the extreme poverty line of \$1.25 a day from 1996/97 to 2012.
- The proportion of people living below a certain level of income has generally declined from 1996/97 to 2012 but income inequality is on the rise.

### **Poverty**

Based on data collected at the past four Household Budget Surveys (HBS), less than 1% of the population lived below the extreme poverty line of \$1 PPP a day in 1996/97, 2001/02, 2006/07 and 2012.

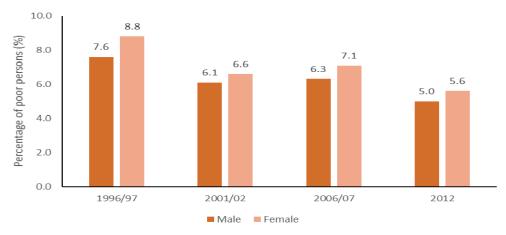
The UN also recommends using a national poverty line to monitor poverty in the country but this is not available. Instead, a Relative Poverty Line (RPL) defined as half of the median household income of an adult person is usually resorted to. However, its main limitation is that it cannot be used to monitor poverty trends as its changes depict mainly changes in the income distribution. To enable trend analysis in the absence of a national absolute poverty line, the relative poverty line of 1996/97 is being used as a fixed threshold, and adjusted for price changes to obtain the equivalent lines for 2001/02, 2006/07 and 2012. On this basis, poverty declined from 1996/97 to 2001/02; it then rose slightly in 2006/07 but reached its lowest level during the 15-year period in 2012 (Table 1).

Table 1 – Trend in the level of poverty, 1996/97, 2001/02, 2006/07 & 2012 HBS

	1996/97	2001/02	2006/07	2012
Poverty lines (Rs.)	2,004	2,665	3,572	4,750
Proportion of poor persons (%)	8.2	6.4	6.7	5.3
Estimated no. of poor persons	92,700	76,500	83,100	67,100

The same overall decreasing trend is observed among males and females. However, females were consistently more likely to be in poverty than males.

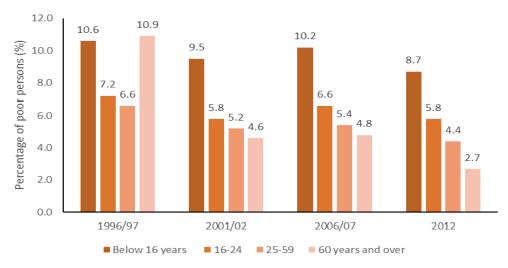
Chart 1 – Poverty rate by sex, 1996/97, 2001/02, 2006/07 & 2012



Source: Household Budget Surveys

The fall in poverty occurred across all age groups with a marked decrease among the elderly population, aged 60 years and over, largely due to increases in old-age pensions (Basic Retirement Pension) being provided by the Government to all elderly persons. Poverty also decreased among children aged below 16 years but the level in 2012 still calls for concern.

Chart 2 -Poverty rate by selected age groups, 1996/97, 2001/02, 2006/07 & 2012



Source: Household Budget Surveys

### Income inequality

Based on the past four HBS, the share of national consumption going to the poorest<sup>1</sup> 20% population remained at around 7-8%. In terms of income however, the poorest<sup>1</sup> 20% earned 7.6% of the total income in 1996/97; this share went down to 6.8% in 2012, indicating a deterioration in the income distribution.

<sup>1</sup> Poorest 20% refers to lowest quintile based on per capita expenditure/income

Target 1B – Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people

- Unemployment rate remained at around 8% at the national level from 2004 to 2014. It was markedly higher among young people with a rate of 25% in 2014.
- The gender gap in employment and unemployment persisted but is decreasing over time.

Labour productivity (Growth rate of Gross Domestic Product per person employed)

Labour productivity is a key measure of economic performance. It measures the amount of goods and services that a worker produces in a given amount of time, and indicates the extent to which an economy can generate and sustain decent employment opportunities. From 1990 to 2013, labour productivity increased continuously at an annual growth rate of 3.6% but a slowdown was noted in the period 2008-2014 (2.2%)<sup>2</sup>.

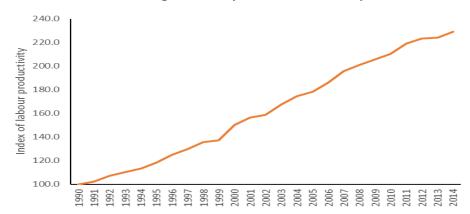


Chart 3 – Index of labour productivity, 1990 - 2014 (Base year 1990)

Employment to population ratio (the proportion of working age population that is employed)

In Mauritius, more than half of the working age population (16 years and over) are employed. From 1990 to 2014, the percentage of employed population remained at around 54%.

Women continued to be less likely to be working than men but the gender gap is gradually decreasing.

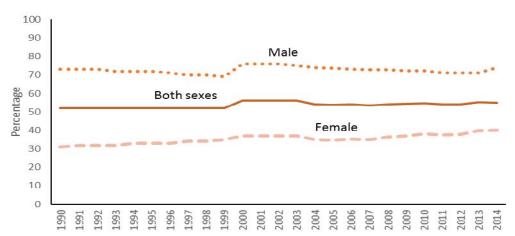


Chart 4 – Employment to population ratio, (expressed as a percentage), by sex, 1990 - 2014

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provisional

### Vulnerable employment

Vulnerable employment rate, defined by the UN as the percentage of own-account and unpaid family workers in total employment, made up 16.3% of total employment in 2014, up from 11.5% in 1990. It is to be noted however that in the case of Mauritius, own-account and contributing family workers may not necessarily be vulnerable – they may have decided to work on their own further to Government's encouragement for people to start their own business.

### Unemployment

Unemployment decreased from a rate of 8.4% in 2004 to 7.8% in 2014 but peaked at 9-10% in the period 2005-2006.

20.0 18.0 16.0 14.0 Female 12.0 Rate (%) 10.0 Both sexes 8.0 6.0 Male 4.0 2.0 0.0 2005 2007 2008 2009 2010 2012 2013 2014

Chart 5 – Unemployment rate (%) by sex, 2004 - 2014

Source: Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey

It continued to remain higher among women but the gender gap is gradually decreasing. It is also markedly higher among the youth (aged 16 to 24 years) with a rate of 25.3% in 2014 as compared to the national rate of 7.8%.

Target 1C – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

• The hunger reduction target should be almost met by 2015. According to statistics from Food and Agriculture Organisation, the proportion of undernourished people has declined from 8% in 1991 to 5% in 2014.



### MDG 2 – Achieve universal primary education

Target 2A – Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

- Almost all children of primary school age are at school, thanks to free education. However, not all of them successfully complete the full course of primary schooling.
- Youth (15-24 years) and adult (15 years and over) literacy rates are on the rise and the gender gap is narrowing.

Since 1990, Mauritius has a Net Enrolment Ratio<sup>3</sup> (NER) nearing 100%, indicating that almost all boys and girls of primary schooling age are at school.

In addition, almost all pupils (99%) are able to reach Standard VI, the last grade of primary education in Mauritius. However, not all of them successfully complete their primary schooling and are awarded the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE). On a positive note, the CPE pass rate is on the rise, from 58.4% in 1990 to 72.9% in 2014.

Pass rate

Pass rate

Failure rate

30
20
10
0

Source: Education statistics

Chart 6 - Pass and failure rates at Certificate of Primary Education, 1990 - 2014

Literacy rate

Moreover, Mauritius has a high literacy rate. At the 2011 Population Census, nearly 90% of the population aged 15 years and over reported that they are able to read or write a simple statement in any language. Among young people aged 15-24 years, the proportion is even higher at 98%.

Table 2 – Literacy rates (%) for selected age groups, 1990, 2000 & 2011 Censuses

Age group	1990	2000	2011
15 years and over	79.9	84.3	89.2
15 - 24 years	91.2	94.5	98.1

From 1990 to 2011, the level of literacy in the population aged 15-24 years improved among both males (from 91% to 98%) and females (from 92% to 99%).

<sup>4</sup> Provisional

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> NER refers to number of students aged 6-11 years per 100 population aged 6-11 years



### MDG 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 3A – Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

• Mauritius has already achieved the goal of eliminating gender disparity in education. However, gender inequality still persists in labour force and political participation.

### Education

Gender parity in education is reached when the gender parity index (GPI), defined as girls' gross school enrolment ratio divided by the corresponding ratio for boys, is between 0.97 and 1.03. In Mauritius, boys and girls are almost equally likely to enroll in primary school; the gender parity index worked out to 1.0 since 1990. At secondary and tertiary<sup>5</sup> levels, girls are more likely to be enrolled than boys.

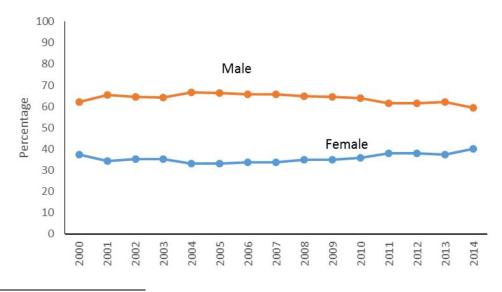
Table 3 – Gender parity index (GPI) by level of education, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 – 2014

GPI by level of education	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Primary	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Secondary	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Tertiary <sup>5</sup>					1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	

### Labour market

There are still fewer women than men in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector but the share of women is increasing. In 1990, women made up 34% of total wage employment in non-agricultural sector; this share increased modestly to 40% in 2014.

Chart 7 – Percentage of employed persons in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector by sex, 2000 - 2014



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Tertiary enrolment figures refer to publicly funded institutions in Mauritius only.

In general, women draw lower wages than men, irrespective of occupation group and length of service. Substantial differences are noted particularly among low occupation groups such as skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers; and elementary occupations.

Table 4 – Average monthly employment income (Rs) for employees by occupational group, length of service and sex, 2014

		Ave	rage mont	hly income	(Rs)	
Occupational group	0 - 10	years	10 - 20	) years	Above	20 years
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Managers, senior officials and legislators; professionals; technicians and associate professionals	32,700	23,900	39,700	34,100	50,800	38,900
Clerks	15,900	14,100	23,600	21,800	30,300	30,900
Service workers and shop sales workers	13,600	8,200	20,500	13,400	25,300	15,700
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	11,300	5,900	15,500	6,700	16,300	6,300
Elementary occupations	10,100	5,300	15,400	7,000	19,200	8,000
All occupational groups	16,300	12,000	22,700	21,000	28,600	26,100

Source: Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey

### Political participation and decision making

Women's participation in politics is low in Mauritius but is gradually picking up. The proportion of <u>seats</u> held by women in national assembly increased from a meagre 3% in 1991 to 19% in 2010 and then decreased to 12% in 2014.

Table 5 – Selected election statistics by year of National Assembly Elections, 1991, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 & 2014

	1991	1995	2000	2005	2010	2014
Percentage of female candidates (%)	4.5	5.2	7.7	9.6	11.0	17.5
Proportion of <u>seats</u> held by women in National parliament (%)	3.0	9.1	5.7	17.1	18.8	11.6

Women are also less represented among higher grade occupations but are making good progress. In 2014, the share of women holding occupations as 'Managers, senior officials, legislators, professionals, technicians and associate professionals' was around 43%, up from 29% in 1990.



Target 4A – Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

- Mauritius has made progress towards Goal 4 but is still short of the under-five mortality target.
- Immunization against measles is almost universal among children aged under one year, thanks to free health services.

Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) decreased erratically from 23.1 in 1990 to 16.0 in 2014 but is unlikely to meet the UN target of a two third reduction, and attain the level of developed regions (6 per 1,000 live birth).

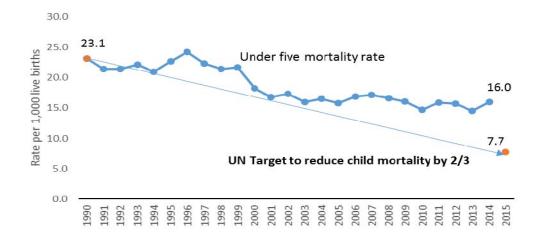


Chart 8 – Under five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births), 1990 - 2014

Infant mortality was also on the decline, decreasing from 20.4 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 14.5 in 2014. It is noted that most of the deaths among children aged below five years occurs among infants, particular during neonatal period (0 to 27 days).

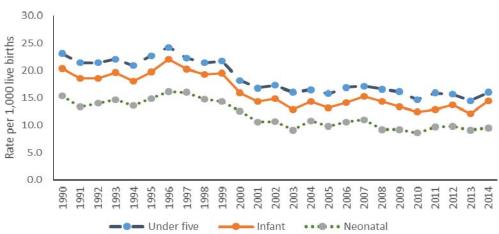


Chart 9 – Neonatal, infant and under five mortality rates (per 1,000 live births), 1990 - 2014

In Mauritius, Government provides free health services including vaccination and baby health care. Almost all children aged under 1 year are immunized against measles and as a result measles death is non-existent.

The leading causes of death among children aged below five years were congenital anomalies, and respiratory distress syndrome & other respiratory conditions of fetus and newborn. These causes accounted for 41% of total deaths among children aged under five years in 2014, up from 20% in 1990.

Table 6 – Number of deaths among children aged below five years by cause of death, 1990 & 2014

Correct Lords *	199	00	201	14
Cause of death *	No.	%	No.	%
Slow foetal growth, foetal malnutrition and disorders related to short gestation and low birth weight	130	25.0	10	4.7
Intrauterine Hypoxia and birth asphyxia	92	17.7	15	7.0
Congenital anomalies	62	11.9	55	25.7
Septicaemia and infections specific to the perinatal period	43	8.3	21	9.8
Respiratory distress syndrome & other respiratory conditions of fetus and newborn	41	7.9	32	15.0
Diarrhoea and gastroenteritis of presumed infectious origin	27	5.2	5	2.3
Pneumonia	21	4.0	8	3.7
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	1	0.2	10	4.7
Other causes	104	20.0	58	27.1
All deaths	521	100.0	214	100.0

<sup>\*</sup>Classified according to International Classification of Diseases (ICD)  $10^{th}$  version Source: Ministry of Health & Quality of Life



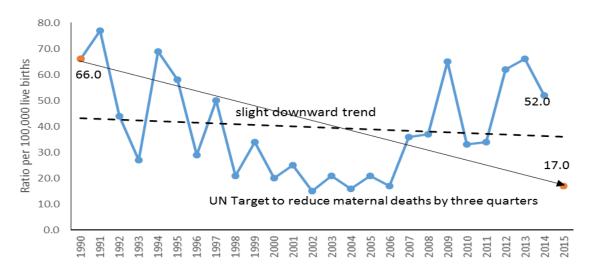
Target 5A – Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

• The number of maternal deaths is low and followed an erratic downward trend from 15 in 1990 to 7 in 2014. Given the small number of maternal deaths, maternal mortality ratios fluctuate widely but indicate a slight downward trend from 1990 to 2014.

Table 7 – Number of maternal deaths, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005-2014

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
No.	15	12	4	4	3	6	6	10	5	5	9	9	7
Ratio <sup>6</sup>	66	58	20	21	17	36	37	65	33	34	62	66	52

Chart 10 - Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births), 1990 - 2014



In Mauritius, almost all births (nearly 100%) are attended by skilled health personnel.

Target 5B – Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health

- Adolescent childbearing decreased by almost half from 45 births per 1,000 girls aged 15-19 years in 1990 to 25 in 2014.
- Contraceptive prevalence decreased from 75% in 1991 to around 67% in 2014.

In Mauritius, Government provides universal access to reproductive health services through a network of accessible health care delivery institutions (community health centres, area health care centres and regional hospitals). In spite of these free services, contraceptive prevalence<sup>7</sup> decreased from 75% among currently married women aged 15-44 years in 1991 to 67% in 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Maternal mortality ratio – number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>For comparison over time, the Contraceptive Prevalence Rate is calculated based on the age group 15-44 years; figures refer to the Island of Mauritius and for 2014, it is provisional

Antenatal treatment and teenage pregnancies are also strongly related to maternal health. Based on the World Health Surveys conducted by the World Health Organisation, it is estimated that the proportion of women aged 15-49 years who received treatment at least once from skilled health personnel during their pregnancy increased from 93% in 2003 to nearly 100% in 2014. The proportion receiving treatment at least three times rose from 83% to 98%.

It is important to bring down adolescent fertility since early childbearing is associated with health risks to both the young mother and her child. In 1990, adolescent (aged 15-19 years) birth rate was 45 births per 1,000 girls, it decreased by almost half to reach 25 in 2014.

60.0 50.0 Rate per 1,000 adolescents A downward trend 40.0 30.0 20.0 10.0 0.0 1999 2000 2002 2005 2001 2003 2004

Chart 11 - Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 adolescents), 1990 - 2014



### MDG 6 – Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Target 6A – Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

 Mauritius is on the right path to reverse HIV spread; both HIV prevalence and incidence decreased from 2000 to 2014.

According to the Ministry of Health & Quality of Life (MOH&QL), HIV prevalence is relatively low in Mauritius. In 2014, the rate was 0.8% (around 8,000 estimated cases) among the population aged 15 years and over, and lower among young people aged 15-24 years (0.17%).

During the period 2000 to 2014, HIV prevalence among the youth, aged 15-24 years, decreased from 0.36% to 0.17%. Projected figures indicate a continuous decreasing trend to 0.13% in 2020, suggesting that Mauritius is on the right path to reverse HIV spread.

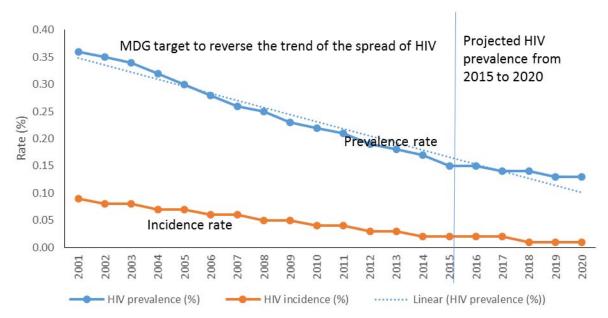


Chart 12 - HIV prevalence and incidence rates (%) among population aged 15-24 years, 2000 - 2020

The incidence rate, based on the new cases of HIV, is also on the decline. The HIV incidence rate among 15-24 year-olds dropped from 0.1% in 2000 (around 200 estimated cases) to 0.02% (around 50 estimated cases) in 2014.

Based on two behavioural surveys conducted among the youth aged 15-24 years, condom use during sexual intercourse with a non-regular sexual partner increased almost twofold from 34% in 2008 to 62% in 2011. The surveys also indicated that over 80% of the youth had a comprehensive knowledge of HIV.

Target 6B – Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it

• Government provides free treatment for HIV/AIDS but less than half had recourse to the antiretroviral drugs in 2014.

However, much progress has been made over time. Whereas only 11% of the population got treatment for advanced HIV infection in 2006, the proportion increased nearly fivefold in 2014 (49%).

Table 8 – Proportion of population receiving antiretroviral drugs among people with advanced HIV infection, 2006 - 2014

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Proportion of population receiving antiretroviral drugs among people with advanced HIV infection (%)	10.7	25.5	33.4	38.2	21.9	30.0	32.0	38.1	48.7

Target 6C – Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

• This target on spread of malaria and tuberculosis has been partly achieved.

Mauritius is declared a malaria risk-free area. It had a low incidence of 1.6 (*per 100,000 population*) in 2014, down from 5.1 in 1990. According to health statistics, most of the cases of malaria are imported and no indigenous cases occurred since 1997.

Table 9 – Incidence rate of malaria (per 100,000 population), 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 - 2014

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Incidence of malaria	5.1	4.1	5.2	2.9	4.2	4.3	2.6	3.9	1.6

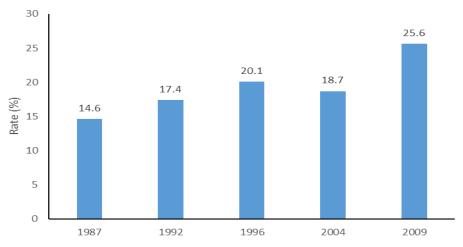
The incidence rate of tuberculosis is also relatively low; it stood at 10 (per 100,000 population) in 2014. In the same year, the death rate due to tuberculosis was 1.1 (per 100,000 population).

Table 10 – Incidence and death rates (*per 100,000 population*) associated with tuberculosis, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 - 2014

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Incidence of Tuberculosis	11	13	11	10	10	9	10	10	10
Death rate associated with Tuberculosis	2.4	1.1	0.5	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.3	1.1

However, diabetes is a major concern. According to the Non Communicable Disease surveys, diabetes prevalence is on the rise since 1987 (Chart 13). In 2009, a quarter of the population aged 25 to 74 years had diabetes and another quarter had impaired glucose metabolism (pre-diabetes), a condition associated with high risk of developing diabetes and heart disease.

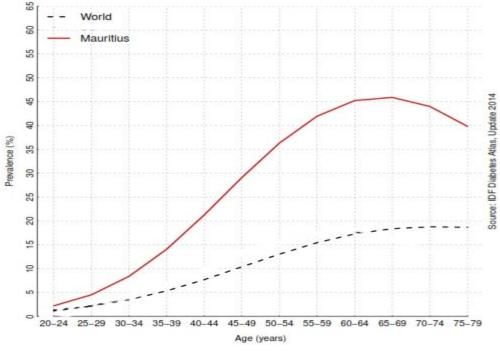
Chart 13 – Prevalence rate (%) of diabetes among population aged 25 – 74 years, 1987, 1992, 1996, 2004 & 2009



Source: Ministry of Health & Quality of Life

According to the International Diabetes Federation, the prevalence rate of diabetes for Mauritius is much higher than the world rate, with larger differences at older ages (Chart 14). Mauritius ranked 12th out of 220 countries with the highest diabetes prevalence in 2014.

Chart 14 – Prevalence rate (%) of diabetes among population aged 20 – 79 years by selected age groups, 2014



Source: International Diabetes Federation



### MDG 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 7A – Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environment resources

- The target has been partly achieved.
- Mauritius has almost eliminated the consumption of ozone-depleting substances since 2007 and controlled the amount of fish catch in the sea.
- However, forests are decreasing and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions are on the rise

### Deforestation

Deforestation decreases biodiversity, and increases soil erosion and the release of carbon into the atmosphere. In Mauritius, deforestation was on the rise from 1995 to 2005 and then kept in check until 2014.

Table 11- Proportion of land area covered by forest, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 - 2014

	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Proportion of land area covered by forest (%)	30.6	30.4	25.6	25.7	25.7	25.7	25.7	25.7

### Carbon Dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) emissions

The emission of  $CO_2$  in the atmosphere continued on an increasing trend; it increased dramatically from 553,000 tons in 1990 to 3,676,000 tons in 2014 (Table 12). On a per capita basis and per economic output basic, the increase was less dramatic but still high.

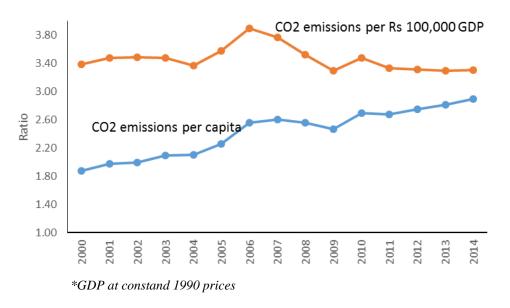
Table 12 – Carbon dioxide emissions<sup>8</sup>, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 – 2014

_	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Carbon dioxide emissions <sup>8</sup> ( <i>Gg or thousand tons</i> )	553	1,517	2,228	2,772	3,375	3,351	3,452	3,544	3,676
Carbon dioxide emissions <sup>8</sup> (metric tons) per capita	0.5	1.4	1.9	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9
Carbon dioxide emissions <sup>8</sup> per Rs 100,000 GDP at constant 1990 prices	1.40	3.03	3.39	3.58	3.48	3.33	3.32	3.30	3.31

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> refers to net CO2 emissions

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Chart 15 – Net carbon dioxide emissions per capita and per Rs 100,000 GDP\*, 2000 – 2014



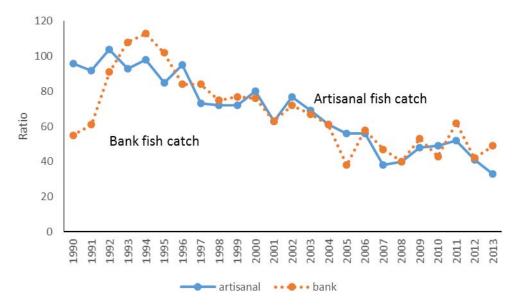
### Consumption of CFCs

Consumption of CFCs which stood at 65 metric tons in 1993, was almost eliminated in 2007 further to the implementation of appropriate control mechanisms to protect the environment.

### Fish catch

The proportion of fish catch over the maximum allowable threshold has decreased considerably since 1990, showing an improvement in sustaining environment resources. For artisanal fishing, the proportion dropped markedly from 96% in 1990 to 33% in 2013; for bank fishing, it decreased from 55% in 1990 to 49% in 2013, peaking at 113% in 1994.

Chart 16 – Ratio of fish catch to an allowable threshold, 1990 - 2013



### Renewable water resources

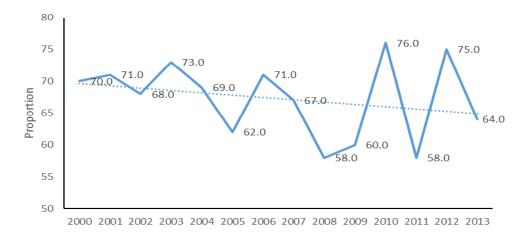
The UN defines renewable water resources as the total volume of groundwater and surface water withdrawn for human use (in the agricultural, municipal and industrial sectors). It considers water resources to be abundant if the proportion of total renewable water resources, used for agricultural, domestic and industrial purposes is less than 25%. In Mauritius, this proportion decreased from 26% in 2000 to 23% in 2013.

According to local experts from the Water Resources Unit of the Ministry of Public Utilities and Energy, it is more relevant to compute the proportion based on <u>total exploitable</u> renewable water. The proportion of total exploitable renewable water resources used decreased from 70% in 2000 to 64.0% in 2013.

Table 13 – Proportion of renewable water resources used<sup>9</sup>, 2000, 2005, 2010 - 2013

	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013
Proportion (%) of renewable water resources used over <u>total renewable</u> water resources	25.8	22.3	27.0	22.5	27.7	22.7
Proportion (%) of renewable water resources used over <u>total exploitable renewable</u> water resources	70.0	62.0	76.0	58.0	75.0	64.0

Chart 17 – Proportion of total exploitable renewable water resources used $^9$ , 2000 – 2013



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> figures refer to island of Mauritius

Target 7B – Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss

• Biodiversity loss was reduced further to an increase in protected land area under protection.

The proportion of terrestrial protected areas increased from 5.7% in 1990 to 7.6% in 2014 while that for marine areas 10 remained at 3.9%.

Table 14 – Proportion of protected terrestrial and marine areas protected, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 - 2014

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Proportion of terrestrial areas protected (%)	5.7	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
Proportion of marine areas protected <sup>10</sup> (%)	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9

### Species threatened with extinction

According to figures from the National Parks & Conservation Service, the percentage of endemic plant and animal species threatened with extinction was 88% and 89% respectively in 2014.

Target 7C – Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

• In Mauritius, access to improved drinking water sources is almost universal and, sanitation facilities which were already widespread in 1990, are on the rise.

Based on 2011 Housing and Population Census data, over 99% of the population had access to safe drinking water and to sanitation facilities<sup>11</sup>.

Table 15 – Proportion of population with access to an improved water source and sanitation facilities<sup>11</sup>, 1990, 2000 & 2011Censuses

	1990	2000	2011
Proportion of households with access to an improved water source (%)	95.7	98.9	99.6
Proportion of households with access to sanitation facilities (%) <sup>11</sup>	99.4	99.9	99.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Figures refer to island of Mauritius

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Access to sanitation facilities refer to availability of flush toilet or pit latrine, regardless of whether they are being shared or not. It is to be noted that in 2011, 95% households in Mauritius had their own toilet and the remaining 5% shared their toilets to maximum of three households.

Target 7D – By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

• An estimated 4% of households in urban regions lived in 'slum' conditions in 2011.

According to the UN Habitat, a slum household is a household located in the urban region that lacks any one of the following five elements

- (i) access to improved water,
- (ii) access to improved sanitation,
- (iii) durability of housing,
- (iv) sufficient living space and
- (v) security of tenure.

Based on the 2011 Housing Census, around 5,800 households (4%) lived in <u>at least one of the first four 'slum' conditions</u> compared to 14,100 (21%) in 1990. In 2011, over 50% are located in the Town of Port Louis.

Table 16 – Number of households living in 'slum' conditions in urban regions, 1990, 2000 & 2011 Censuses

	1990	2000	2011
Number of private households in 'slum' conditions	20,800	10,300	5,800
of which living			
in houses made entirely of iron/ tin sheets	14,100	7,200	3,600
in overcrowded houses with 3 or more persons per room	8,100	3,700	2,500
Proportion of private households in 'slum' conditions (%)	21	8	4



Target 8C – Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and Small Island Developing States

• Mauritius, a small island developing state, continued to benefit from Official Development Assistance (ODA) but the grant was consistently less than 1% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

In 2014, Mauritius received ODA amounting to Rs 406 million, representing only around 0.1% of its GDP.

Target 8D – Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

• The debt burden measured as a proportion of external debt service to export revenue declined from 7.7% to 4.5% in the period 2002 to 2014

The improvement in the debt burden reflects an improvement in the country's vulnerability to economic shocks. From 2002 to 2007, the proportion was around 6-8%; it then dropped significantly to around 4.5% until 2014.

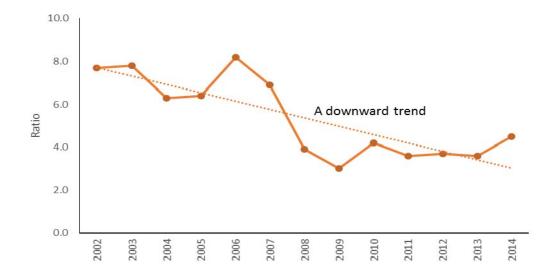


Chart 18 – Ratio of debt service to total exports of goods and services, 2002 - 2014

Target 8E – In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries

• 100% population have access to essential drugs, given that the government provides free health care and services with essential drugs in all public health centres located in various parts of the country.

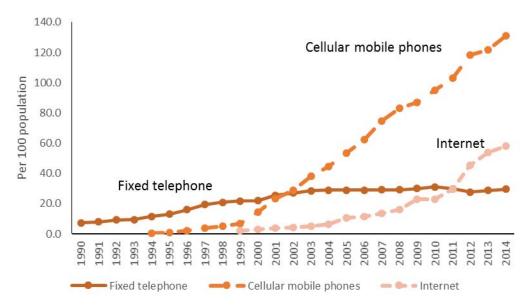
Target 8F – 'In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication'

 Mauritius has attained substantial progress in the field of Information and Communication Technology particularly with regard to usage of cellular mobile phones and internet.

Mobile-Cellular subscriptions (per 100 population) which stood at 0.2% in 1990 reached above 100% as from 2011. Internet users who made up only 18.0% of the population aged 12 years and over in 2006, increased to 46.5% in 2014.

Fixed telephone subscriptions (per 100 population) increased from 7.2% in 1990 to 31.0% in 2010. It then decreased to 29.5% in 2014 due to the emergence and rapid expansion of cellular phones which are more accessible and also provide large variety of services such as internet access.

Chart 19 – Fixed telephone, mobile-cellular phone and internet subscriptions (per 100 population), 1990 - 2014



### 4. The MDGs in the island of Rodrigues

Rodrigues is the second main constituent island of the Republic of Mauritius with a population of 41,700 persons out of a total of 1,260,900 in 2014. Its characteristics are quite different from the Island of Mauritius with an economy mainly based on agriculture, handicraft and fishing as opposed to the main island whose economy relies heavily on the services and manufacturing sectors. This section gives a summary situation of the island of Rodrigues with regard to the MDGs on the basis of limited available data.

### Goal 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

• Extreme poverty is negligible and inequality is on the rise.

Extreme poverty based on \$1.25 a day line is negligible. Data from the past four Household Budget Surveys (HBS) indicate that less than 1% of the population lived in extreme poverty.

Inequality, measured in terms of consumption expenditure, improved from 1996/97 to 2006/07 but deteriorated in 2012. The share of total consumption going to the poorest quintile increased from 6.3% in 1996/97 to 6.8% in 2006/07, but it then decreased to a low 5.9% in 2012.

In terms of achieving productive and decent employment

- o 56% of the working age population (16 years and over) were employed in 2011;
- o 37% of workers are considered to be in vulnerable employment (worked as own account workers and contributing family workers) in 2011.

### Goal 2 - Achieve universal primary education

 Rodrigues has almost achieved universal primary education. Almost all children of primary school age are enrolled at school; the total Net Enrolment Rate was 100% in 2014.

In general, over 95% of the students are able to reach Standard VI since 2000. However, not all of them are able to successfully complete their primary educational level. In 2013, only 71% of Standard VI students passed the CPE; this is lower than the national pass rate of 75% (2013).

### Goal 3 - Promote gender equality and empower women

• Gender equality has been achieved in primary and secondary education, but not yet in the labour force. Boys and girls are equally likely to be enrolled in primary and secondary schools. There is no gender disparity in primary schools (GPI of 1.0 since 1990), and more girls than boys are enrolled in secondary schools (GPI of 1.1 for most of years since 1990).

In 2011, there was only one woman for every two men in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector.

### Goal 4 – Reduce child mortality

• There has been significant improvement in the child and infant mortality rates since 1991. The under five mortality rate<sup>12</sup> (per 1,000 live births) dropped significantly from 35.7 in 1991 to 19.8 in 2013; infant mortality rate<sup>10</sup> (per 1,000 live births) also decreased sizeably from 30.9 to 17.0 for the same period.

### Goal 5 - Improve maternal health

• Maternal health conditions are good but adolescent childbearing calls for concern. Almost all births are attended by skilled health personnel. During the past ten years, no cases of maternal deaths were registered except one case registered in 2010.

Teenage pregnancies seem to be a concern. In 2013, the adolescent birth rate<sup>10</sup>, among the population aged 15-19 years, worked out to 59.8 per 1,000 live births, much higher than the national figure (27.1). However, there has been an improvement since 1990 when the rate was 75.2.

### Gola 6 - Combat HIV/ AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Rodrigues is considered to be malaria risk free.

The island is a malaria risk free area. Over the last 20 years, a total of only 5 cases were registered, all of which were 'imported cases'.

Few cases of tuberculosis are registered, on average 1 or 2 cases per year.

### Goal 7 - Ensure environmental sustainability

• Rodrigues is making progress in terms of re-afforestation and improved sanitation.

The proportion of land area covered by forest increased from 30.8% in 1995 to 32.7% in 2014.

The proportion of population with access to an improved source (piped water and water from tank/ wagon) of drinking water increased significantly from 61% in 1990 to 96% in 2011.

The proportion of population with access to an improved sanitation also increased from 85% in 1990 to 89% in 2011.

### Goal 8 - Develop a global partnership for development

• ICT<sup>13</sup> is on the rise

More people are using ICT devices. In the period 2001 to 2011, the proportion of households having

- o fixed telephone increased from 35% to 45%;
- o mobile cellular phone increased from nil to 84%; and
- o internet increased from 8% to 14%.

<sup>12</sup>Given the small number of cases in the island, rates have been averaged over a period of three years, to remove wide fluctuations in the yearly data.

<sup>13</sup> figures are based on data collected at 2001 Continuous Multi- Purpose Household Survey and 2011 Housing Census

### 5. The MDGs at international level

The following analysis compares the MDG indicators of Mauritius with other countries based on latest available figures of the UN as at June 2015.

### GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY & HUNGER

### World

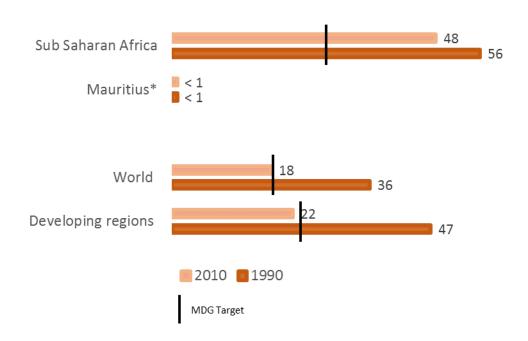
# • The target of reducing extreme poverty rates by half was met in 2010, five years ahead of the 2015 deadline. However, 1.2 billion people, or roughly 1 out of every 6 people were still living in extreme poverty.

### Mauritius

• Extreme poverty is negligible in Mauritius; less than 1% of the population lived below the extreme poverty line of \$1.25 a day from 1996/97 to 2012.

Chart 20 – Proportion (%) of population living below \$1.25 (PPP) a day line, 1990 & 2010

MDG Target – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 a day



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 1996/97 and 2012

### **GOAL 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION**

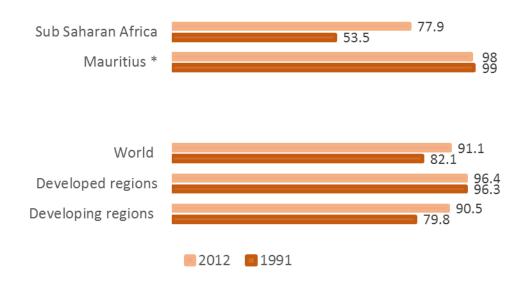
### World

- Enrolment in primary education in developing regions reached 91% in 2012, up from 82% in 1991.
- Youth literacy is increasing from 83% in 1990 to 89% in 2011. Still, around 11% of the youth population (aged 15 to 24) worldwide who lack basic reading and writing skills in 2011.

### **Mauritius**

- Almost all children of primary school age attend school thanks to free education. However, not all of them successfully complete their primary schooling and are awarded the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE). On a positive note, the CPE pass rate is on the rise, from 58.4% in 1990 to 72.9% in 2014.
- Youth literacy rates are on the rise from 91% in 1990 to 98% in 2011.

Chart 21 – Net enrolment rate (%) in primary education, 1991 & 2012



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 1990 and 2014

### GOAL 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

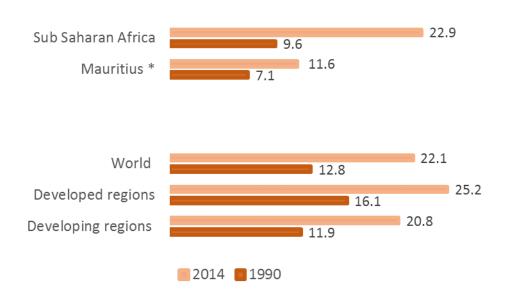
### World

- The world has achieved equality in primary education between girls and boys.
- In many countries, women continue to face discrimination in access to education, work, and participation in government.

### Mauritius

- Mauritius has already achieved the goal of eliminating gender disparity in education.
- However, gender inequality still persists in labour force and political participation.

Chart 22 – Proportion of seats (%) held by women in national parliament, 1990 & 2014



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 1990 and 2014

### **GOAL 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY**

### World

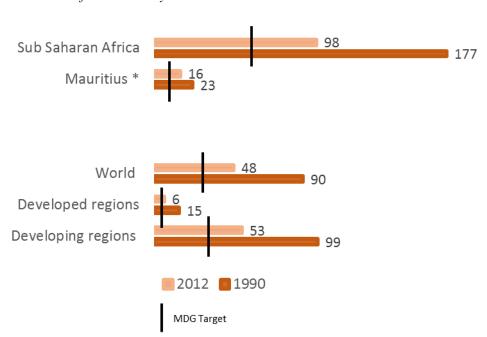
• Under five mortality declined significantly from 90 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 48 in 2012, but the decline is not fast enough to reach the target of a two-third reduction.

### Mauritius

• Mauritius made progress towards reducing child mortality but is still short of the target.

Chart 23 – Under five mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 1990 & 2012

*MDG Target – Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under five mortality rate* 



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 1990 and 2014

### **GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH**

### World

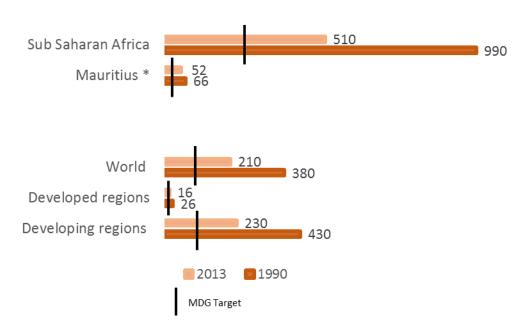
 The maternal mortality ratio dropped by 45 per cent between 1990 and 2013, from 380 to 210 deaths per 100,000 live births. All regions have made progress but accelerated interventions are required in order meet the target.

### Mauritius

• The number of maternal deaths is low and erratic, from 15 in 1990 to 7 in 2014. Given the small number of maternal deaths, maternal mortality ratios fluctuate widely but indicate a slight downward trend from 1990 to 2014

Chart 24 – Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births, 1990 & 2013

*MDG Target – Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio* 



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to year 1990 and 2014

### GOAL 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

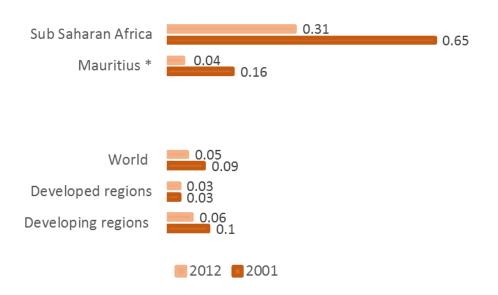
### World

## • The number of new HIV infections continues to decline in most regions. New HIV infections per 100 adults (aged 15 to 49) declined by 44 per cent between 2001 and 2012.

### Mauritius

 HIV spread is being reversed in Mauritius; new infections per 100 adults (aged 15 to 49) declined from 0.16% in 2000 to 0.04% in 2014.

Chart 25 – HIV incidence rate (%) among persons aged 15-49 years, 2001 & 2012



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 2000 and 2014

### GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

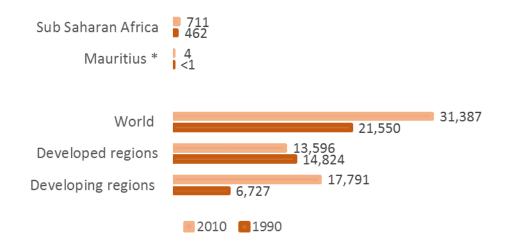
### World

- Global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) have increased by around 50% since 1990.
- The world has met the target of halving the proportion of people without access to improved sources of water, five years ahead of schedule. Between 1990 and 2012, 2.3 billion people gained access to improved drinking water sources but as many as 748 million people remained without access to an improved source of drinking water in 2012.
- Over a quarter of the world's population has gained access to improved sanitation since 1990.
   Despite progress, 2.5 billion in developing countries still lack access to improved sanitation facilities and one billion people still resort to open defecation.

### Mauritius

- Carbon dioxide emissions are on the rise, increasing from 0.6 Mn tons in 1990 to 3.6 in 2014.
- Access to improved drinking water sources is almost universal and improved sanitation facilities which were already widespread in 1990, are on the rise.

Chart 26 – Carbon dioxide emissions (million tons), 1990 & 2010



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 1990 and 2014

### GOAL 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

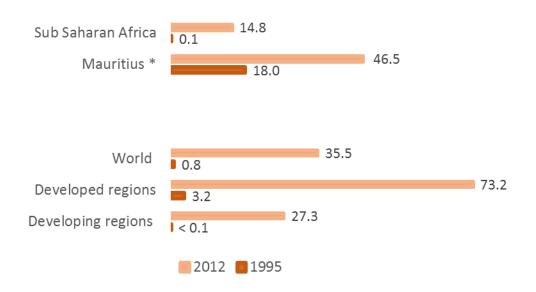
### World

- The debt burden on developing countries remains at about 3% of export revenue in 2010 and 2012.
- Mobile subscriptions are moving towards saturation levels and almost 40% of the world's population are online. However, more than four billion people do not use the Internet, and 90 per cent of them are from the developing world.

### Mauritius

- The debt burden declined by half from 7.7% of export revenue in 2002 to 4.5% in 2014.
- Mauritius has made substantial progress in the field of ICT particularly with regard to cellular phone and internet usage.

Chart 27 – Internet users per 100 population, 1995 & 2012



<sup>\*</sup> Figures for Mauritius refer to years 2006 and 2014

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### 6. Concepts & definitions

\$1 (PPP) a day	The \$1 (PPP) a day poverty line, also called extreme poverty line, is an international poverty line developed by the World Bank to assess the poverty situation in the world and in least developed countries.  The \$1 (PPP) a day poverty line, originally measured in 1985 prices, was re-evaluated to \$1.08 (PPP) in 1993 and \$1.25 (PPP) in 2005. The equivalent monthly poverty lines based on \$1.25 (PPP) a day are estimated at around Rs 420 in 1996/97, Rs 570 in 2001/02, Rs 770 in 2006/07 and Rs 1,020 in 2012.
Adolescent birth rate	The annual number of births to adolescents aged 15-19 years per 1,000 adolescents.
Contraceptive prevalence rate	Percentage of currently married women (married civilly/religiously or in a union) aged 15-49 years who resort to any method of contraception.
Employment	Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16 years and over who worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during the reference week of a month.
Employment rate	Employment rate is the ratio (%) of employment to labour force.
Gross enrolment ratio (GER)	The number of pupils enrolled in a given level of education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the relevant age group.
Gender Parity Index	Gender Parity Index = GER for female GER for male It is commonly used to assess gender differences in school enrolment. A value of less than one indicates that boys are favoured more than girls in school participation. A perfect Gender Parity Index would imply that the index is equal to 1.
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	GDP is the aggregate money value of all goods and services produced within a country out of economic activity during a specified period, usually a year, before provision for the consumption of fixed capital.
Labour productivity	Labour productivity is defined as the growth rate of GDP per person is defined as the growth rate of output per unit of labour input.
Incidence rate	The number of new registered (or notified) cases of a disease during a given year, expressed as the proportion of the mid-year population.
Infant mortality rate	Number of deaths of infants aged under one year per 1,000 live-births during the year.

Labour force	Labour force or economically active population is made up of employed and unemployed population.
Literacy rate	A person is considered as literate, if he or she is able, with understanding, to both read and write a simple statement (in any language) in his/her everyday life. The literacy rate is the proportion of the literate persons in a given age group over the total population in that age group.
Maternal mortality rate	Number of maternal deaths (ascribed to complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium) per 100,000 live births during the year.
Net Enrolment Ratio (NER)	Net enrolment ratio in primary education refers to the number of students aged 6-11 years per 100 population aged 6-11 years.
Prevalence rate	The number of persons suffering from a particular disease at a given point in time, usually 30 June or 31 December of a given year, expressed as a proportion of the estimated population at the same point in time.
Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)	The Purchasing Power Parity is the amount of money in a country's currency needed to buy goods and services equivalent to what can be bought with \$1 in the United States. (An international dollar buys roughly the same amount of goods and services in each country). The PPP estimate is different from the exchange rate.  Based on the latest PPP estimates on private consumption compiled by the International Comparison Program, US \$ 1 was equivalent to Rs 17.73 in 2005.
Under five mortality rate	Number of deaths of children aged under 5 per 1,000 live-births during the year.
Unemployment	Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16 years and over who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference period.
Unemployment rate	Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to labour force.

### 7. Notes

### 7.1 Contact person

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### 7.2 Note to Readers

Statistics Mauritius has constructed a comprehensive database <a href="http://statsmauritius.govmu.org">http://statsmauritius.govmu.org</a> on the Millennium Development Goals for the Republic of Mauritius. The database contains data on the 58 UN MDG indicators as from 1990, together with other useful information such as data sources, definition of indicator, etc.

Given the MDGs cut across various sectors namely poverty, gender, health, employment, Information and Communication Technology, etc. data are sourced from different organisations.

Almost all MDG indicators are compiled according to UN definitions. Proxy indicators are used in cases where relevant data are not available.

Additional information on UN MDG statistics and annual reports can be obtained at:-

### Official MDG list:

http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Host.aspx?Content=Indicators/OfficialList.htm

UN MDG database : <a href="http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Data.aspx">http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Data.aspx</a>
UN metadata : <a href="http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Metadata.aspx">http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Metadata.aspx</a>

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