

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

2025/26

Mauritius Budget 2025 – 2026

From Abyss to Prosperity

Rebuilding the Bridge to the Future

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Key Indicators



4.7%

Real GDP Growth CY24



20%

Maximum income tax rate



6.0%

Unemployment CY24



Rs 94 billion

Tourism earnings in FY24



Rs 33 billion

Foreign Direct Investment CY24



Rs 10 billion

Price Stabilisation Fund



4.5%

Headline inflation CY24

As the newly elected *Alliance du Changement* Government unveils its first national budget, **Mauritius stands at a pivotal moment in its economic journey**. The country faces the daunting task of reversing years of fiscal deterioration evidenced by a public debt of Rs 642 billion (90% of GDP) and a projected budget deficit nearing 10% while also advancing an ambitious agenda for inclusive growth and innovation.

Yet Budget 2025–26, aptly titled ***“From Abyss to Prosperity: Rebuilding the Bridge to the Future”***, is more than a corrective plan. It presents a transformative blueprint for long-term resilience, economic renewal and digital modernisation.

As Prime Minister Dr. Hons. Navinchandra Ramgoolam remarked, this is a budget that ***“dares to challenge vested interests, disrupt the status quo and chart a new development path.”***

Laying the Foundations of an Innovative Mauritius

“The future belongs to those who prepare for it today.” - Malcolm X

At the core of the government’s economic renewal strategy lies a shift toward a future-facing economic model built on research, technology, human capital and digital transformation. Four designated **‘Pôles de Croissance’** in renewable energy, the blue economy, creative industries and sustainable agriculture are positioned to drive sectoral diversification and attract investment.

A newly created National Research and Innovation Institute will spearhead Research and Development across public and private sectors. Ministries and institutions are mandated to adopt **AI-driven systems** and the new **Innovative Mauritius Scheme** introduces fiscal incentives to foster digital entrepreneurship and accelerate startup growth.

Driving Digital Transformation and Data Empowerment

The budget makes a decisive investment in digital infrastructure, with plans to establish a **Tier IV Government Data Centre**, a national Cybersecurity Operations Centre and comprehensive reforms to align data protection and cybercrime legislation with global standards.

AI education will become compulsory while national programs will upskill both students and educators. Enhanced support to Statistics Mauritius will expand open data and big data capacity, ensuring more transparent governance and informed policy decisions.

Reimagining Growth Through Smart Finance and Tech Ecosystems

Mauritius is also strengthening its position as a regional fintech and innovation hub. New laws will legalise electronic trade documents, expand the use of secure digital signatures and streamline permitting for foreign research labs and high-net-worth investment.

A restructured Economic Development Board will lead international promotion of the **Innovative Mauritius** brand. Meanwhile, policy incentives in AI, waste-to-wealth technologies and e-agriculture are set to unlock new jobs and business opportunities for Mauritian entrepreneurs, especially in the diaspora.

Empathy in Action: A Budget for All

Despite fiscal constraints, the government has preserved essential social protections. A **Price Stabilisation Fund** has been introduced and a guaranteed minimum monthly income for full-time workers ensures wage security for low-income households.

Simultaneously, Mauritius is investing heavily in future-proof sectors such as renewable energy, climate resilience, smart healthcare and sustainable tourism. The upcoming **Future Fund**, launching in FY 2026, will finance long-term innovation in AI, food security, the blue economy and inclusive entrepreneurship for women and youth.

From Recovery to Reinvention

Mauritius is not merely responding to a crisis, it is designing a new economic future. Through Budget 2025–26, the government commits to not only stabilising public finances, but to building a digitally intelligent, inclusive and globally competitive economy. With foresight, technological ambition and a human-centered approach, Mauritius is laying the foundation for Innovative Mauritius where fiscal discipline, digital leadership and social equity converge to create lasting prosperity.

At OneLink, we recognise this Budget as both **innovative** and **catalytic**. It reflects a deep commitment to enabling structural transformation across the business, financial and civic landscapes. As a Corporate Service Provider at the heart of Mauritius's enterprise ecosystem, we welcome the focus on simplification, digitalisation and opportunity creation.

“The future will belong not just to those who adopt AI, but to those who use it to unlock opportunity, equity and enduring prosperity - creating **Endless Possibilities** for all.”



Smitha Algoo-Bissonauth
General Manager

Key Legislations

Act	Key Amendments
Companies Act	All Public Interest Entities (PIEs) must prepare an annual report within 6 months of balance sheet date, regardless of turnover.
Data Protection Act	To be amended to align with international and regional standards, including: Council of Europe Convention 108+ EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
Financial Reporting Act	Updates the definition of Public Interest Entity in line with international best practices.
Real Estate Agent Authority Act	The Real Estate Agent Authority Act will be amended to provide for revenue accruing to the Real Estate Agent Authority to be remitted into the Consolidated Fund.
Consumer Protection Act	Requires online traders to display prices. Defines “Consumer Protection Laws” to enable officers to initiate prosecution.

Non-Citizens (Property Restriction) Act – Key Amendments

Allows non-citizens to trade securities under the Securities Act.

Prohibits non-citizens from acquiring apartments in buildings (more than 2 floors) on State Land or *Pas Géométriques*.

Discontinue the scheme introduced in 2023, which allows non-citizens to acquire residential properties, including bare land, anywhere in Mauritius provided the property price exceeds USD 500,000.

Remove the provision relating to the powers of the Minister, responsible for the subject of internal affairs, to approve an acquisition of immovable property by a non-citizen after the deed of transfer has been registered. Consequential amendments will be made to the Registration Duty Act, the Companies Act and other relevant legislations to ensure such situations do not occur.

Ease of Doing Business

Investment and Permits Reforms

EDB to roll out new investor-friendly schemes including the **Innovative Mauritius** and **New Investment Incentive** schemes.

Occupation Permit process goes **digital**, with new permit categories for professionals and investors.

The Residence Permit conditions for retired non-citizens will be amended, requiring an initial transfer of **USD 2,000** within **60 days** and subsequent annual transfers of **USD 24,000** or **USD 2,000** monthly.

Property registration duty for non-citizens under EDB schemes will be increased from 5% to 10%.

Non-citizens will be allowed to trade shares/securities on licensed exchanges by removing the repealed Stock Exchange Act from the **Non-Citizens (Property Restriction) Act**.

Retired non-citizens must now reside at least **180 days/year** in Mauritius.

Permit durations for retirees, investors and self-employed reduced to **5 years**, with renewals allowed.

Young professionals will receive **2-year permits**, with progression paths to professional-level permits.

Company deposit/bank guarantee obligations for expatriate workers will be replaced with an **annual non-refundable fee**.

Unified work & residence permits will be issued with a **unique ID** for smoother processing.

SMEs Small and Medium Enterprises

SMEs are eligible under the new **AI Innovation Start-Up Programme** and can claim a tax deduction up to Rs 150,000 for investments in AI technologies.

The **Women Entrepreneur Loan Scheme** offers an extended grace period (from 12 to 18 months) and increased credit limits (from Rs 500,000 to Rs 1.2 million).

SMEs involved in **agriculture** can access AI tools for modernising operations and improving food sovereignty.

Renewable Energy

Rs 30 billion investment over three years into solar and biomass projects under a new *Pôle de Croissance*.

A “**Waste-to-Wealth Investment Scheme**” to convert waste into energy and support the national sustainability strategy.

Emphasis on green financing and climate resilience, with a Climate Finance Unit established at the Ministry of Finance.



Infrastructure

Rs 128 billion earmarked over five years for infrastructure: housing, roads, ports, water, solid waste, drainage and electricity.

Major projects include the Motorway M4, Ring Road Phase 2, Rivière des Anguilles Dam and water treatment infrastructure.

Mauritius Ports Authority to invest Rs 5.4 billion in expanding port infrastructure.

Agriculture Boost

Smarter
Greener
More Profitable

Food Resilience Scheme launched to promote vertical farming, indoor agriculture and modern seed and fertilizer production.

Rs 800 million in direct support for **farmers, breeders and planters**.

Sugarcane planters producing up to 60 tonnes to receive a guaranteed Rs 35,000/tonne.

Digital Land Marketplace via Landscape to help farmers access small plots more efficiently.

Moka Agri Hub to drive training in climate-smart agriculture and tech-led farming.

Education *Reimagined*

National Education Council & Curriculum Board launched to raise quality.

Rs 438 million earmarked to upgrade school infrastructure nationwide.

New education blueprint unveiled with AI courses now mandatory at public universities.

“Study Mauritius” campaign targets doubling international student intake in 3 years.

Rs 20 million allocated to better support learners with Special Education Needs.

Digital Leadership & AI in Public Service

Digital Blueprint (2025–2029): Steering Committee to drive secure, integrated, citizen-focused e-services.

Digital Trade: Legal recognition of e-bills & trade docs enables full digital trade finance.

E-Permits: Digital portal & unified Work–Residence ID streamline expat processing.

Smart Tax:

- From FY 2025/26: E-invoicing becomes mandatory for firms with turnover above Rs 80 million.
- From Jan 2026: Foreign digital service providers must register and charge Mauritius VAT.

AI in Public Governance:

Rs 25 million Public Sector AI Programme to be led by a new AI Unit under ICTI. Ministries will adopt AI tools for policymaking and service delivery. AI training becomes mandatory in education, with a national policy driving cross-sector adoption.

Innovation and Technology at the Core of Progress

Fueling the next generation of Mauritian innovation:

- National Research and Innovation Institute (NRII) to coordinate cutting-edge public and private research
- Rs 200 million in R&D funding allocated to ministries, unlocking new collaboration pathways

Launch of the Innovative Mauritius Scheme, offering:

- Fast-track permits for tech-driven ventures
- Fiscal incentives tailored to R&D-intensive enterprises

Digital Twin Mauritius, a bold leap into virtual governance

Launch of Digital Twin Mauritius, a national-scale AI project using real-time virtual modelling to:

- Optimise land use
- Enhance infrastructure investment
- Transform urban planning and resilience

Fishing / Blue Economy

Strategic Focus

- Strengthens Mauritius' identity as an Ocean State.
- Aligns with SDGs and sustainable fisheries transformation.
- Integrated with Climate & Sustainability Fund and coastal resilience.

Financial Support

- Rs 300,000 grants for traditional boats (*canottes*).
- Rs 1 million (individuals) & Rs 6 million (cooperatives) for semi-industrial boats.

Safety & Infrastructure

- Rs 10 million for marker buoys (marine safety).
- Island-wide upgrades: navigational aids, solar lighting, mooring aids.
- 3 new fish sheds for post-harvest & trade.
- Free first-aid kits for registered fishers.

Welfare & Retirement

- Retirement grants increased:
- Artisanal / Net fishers: Rs 125,000 → Rs 200,000
- Cooperatives: Rs 250,000 → Rs 300,000

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Manufacturing and Exports

Industrial Policy & Productivity

Establish an **Industrial Policy Coordination Committee** focused on raising *capital productivity in the manufacturing sector*.

Roll-out of **expanded product-quality certification** to raise domestic & export demand for Mauritian products.

Investment Tax Credit for Small Businesses

Available to businesses or service providers with **annual turnover not exceeding MUR 10M**.

5% tax credit on the cost of acquiring new equipment, valid for **3 years** (total of 15%). The maximum annual investment eligible for the tax credit is MUR 500,000.

Expanding Partnerships

Equip embassies to focus on economic and developmental diplomacy, creating actionable trade and investment projects through **economic cooperation agreements**.

Strengthen **trade and investment ties** with the UK, EU member states and **negotiate a trade agreement** with the USA to boost economic cooperation.

Maximise opportunities from existing agreements, particularly the CECPA with India, the FTA with China and the AfCFTA to **enhance Mauritius' global trade presence**.

Align Mauritius' trade and investment policies with the Africa 2063 Agenda to support integration and growth across the African continent.

Transport

Excise and Registration Duties

Excise duties on hybrid and electric vehicles will be reintroduced, while excise and customs duties on conventional vehicles will increase by **45% to 100%**.

A **30% rise in registration duty** will apply to first registrations of new vehicles, though registration duty on the sale and transfer of domestic pre-owned vehicles will be abolished.

Road Safety

The Budget allocates **Rs 205 million** to enhance road safety, including:

- Introduction of a **points-based driving license system in January 2026**.
- Expansion of **Safe City cameras** for better traffic management.
- Additionally, a **Road Safety Fund** will be established to support initiatives and infrastructure development.

Public Transportation

The Bus Service Bill will be introduced to regulate the service level of public bus transport, focusing on **safety, reliability and quality**.

A fleet of **105 new electric buses** will be deployed in January 2026 under the National Transport Corporation (NTC).

A **Fleet Management System** and **Cashless Ticketing System** will be introduced in public buses to enhance operational efficiency and passenger convenience across the network.

Tourism Strategy Reimagination

Mauritius is reshaping its tourism model to drive higher spending, tackle seasonality and boost global appeal.

Key strategies include:

- Focus on value-added tourism to increase per-visitor spend.
- Sustainability-led reforms across the industry.
- Diversified offerings & regional footprint, with push for off-peak growth.
- Enhanced air connectivity and competitiveness.
- Stronger public-private partnerships for better alignment.

Visitor Experience & Regulation

- E-gates to ease entry for tourists.
- Tourism Authority Act amended to extend certificate and licence validity from 1 to 3 years.

Tourist Fee (from Oct 2025)

- Euro 3 per night, applicable in hotels, guesthouses, tourist residences and domaines.
- Exemptions: Tourists under 12 years old.

Healthcare

“Path to Remission Programme”

Allocation of Rs 47 million to launch a programme, targeting 450,000 diabetic and prediabetic patients, including children in the current School Health Programme with such health issues.

Establishment of 5 regional diabetes centres in public hospitals.

Promotion of preventive health care as from 6 June 2025

Alcohol & tobacco: Excise duties will increase by 10%.

Sugar-sweetened products: Excise duty rate will increase from 6 cents to 12 cents per gram of sugar and this will be extended to chocolates and ice cream starting 1 October 2025.

Strengthening Healthcare Systems

Implementation of digital health solutions, including electronic health records, telemedicine and e-prescriptions.

Creation of a National Health Quality Commission to secure strong and effective quality control.

Recruitment of 1,000 student nurses, 50 trainee midwives, 50 medical and health officers and 30 specialists over the next three years to address staffing shortages and improve service delivery in healthcare centers.

The School of Nursing will be merged into the Mauritius Institute of Health for a more coordinated and interdisciplinary approach to training of healthcare professionals.

Increasing the training and capacity building in the health care system from Rs 22 million to Rs 44 million.

Planned investment of Rs 24 million in the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) Production Facility to deal with mosquito-borne diseases.

Real Estate Registration Duty & Land Transfer Tax at 10%

Smart City Scheme

The fiscal incentives granted to smart city promoters are being discontinued, with a transitional period for projects already under construction.

Property Acquisition Measures

The **registration duty** payable by non-citizens acquiring residential property under the EDB schemes or an apartment will increase from 5% to 10%.

Land transfer tax on the seller of residential property or apartment will be increased from 5% to 10%.

Resale of Residential Property by a Non-Citizen

If a non-citizen is selling a residential property originally acquired under the **EDB schemes** or **G+2 scheme** (an apartment in a building of at least 2 floors above ground floor), the land transfer tax will be the higher of:

- 10% of the value of the property, or
- 30% on the gain realised on the resale of the property.

The gain will be computed as the difference between the resale value and the value at the time of acquisition.

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