

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE
CHANGE
(SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
DIVISION)



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ACRONYMS

AFD	Agence Francaise de Developpement
COP	Conference of Parties
IHWF	Interim Hazardous Waste Facility
ISLANDS	Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDs
IWPF	Interim Waste Processing Facility
GEF	Global Environment Fund
SWMD	Solid Waste Management Division
PPP	Public Private Partnership
WMRR	Waste Management and Resouce Recovery

INTRODUCTION

In line with the requirements of the Finance and Audit Act, the Solid Waste Management Division of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change has prepared its Annual Report on Performance for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

The report is structured as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, and provides information on the Solid Waste Management Division in line with the spirit of performance-based budgeting. It is the firm belief of the Division that transparency and accountability are the basis of good governance which ultimately lead to efficient and effective performance.

This report gives an overview of the Division's main roles/functions and general evaluation of its key actions, major projects, programmes and measures planned for the year. It also provides a Statement on the Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 2024-2025.

The Structure of the Annual Report is as follows:

PART I: About the Solid Waste Management Division

Part I sets out the vision, mission, core values, role and key functions of the Solid Waste Management Division and a statement on gender.

PART II: Achievements & Challenges

Part II covers mainly the major achievements, status of the budget measures and key actions for the financial year 2024/2025. It also includes an Implementation Plan giving the status of actions taken and planned following the observations and recommendations of the Director of Audit on the examination of accounts and records for financial year 2023-2024.

PART III: Financial Performance

Part III provides the financial highlights for the year, an overview of major changes and a statement of revenue and expenditure.

Part IV: Way Forward

Part IV provides a situational analysis of the environment in which the Division operates. It also includes the strategic direction to realize the Division's vision, objectives and desired outcomes.

Part V : Events and Activities

Part V shows in pictures the different events and activities the Division has organized or participated in, such as workshops, sensitization programmes, and including social activities.

STATEMENT OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER AND THE HONOURABLE JUNIOR MINISTER



I am pleased to present the Annual Report on the Performance of the Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) of my Ministry for financial year 2024-2025.

My conviction for the protection of the environment and by extension, of life, has brought me again to the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change.

The first encounter with my Ministry immediately after our swearing-in office was with the Solid Waste Management Division at, sadly, the site of fire at the Mare Chicose landfill, together with Junior Minister Mrs Joanna Berenger

On the spot, we took the commitment to have the fire completely extinguished in no more than a month when we were told that fire of such magnitude may take up to three months to circumvent. And we succeeded in only two weeks. We wish to express our gratitude to the staff of the SWMD and other Ministries, my colleague Ministers, Junior Ministers, the Police, the Fire Services, the NEL Health

Children are the best agents of change. Following our visit at the plants of PIM Ltd and WeCycle Ltd, the latter have joined effort with the Ministry and the Ministry of Education to initiate a wastepaper recycling project in 22 schools to inculcate good habits of separating waste.

Protection of the environment and cleanliness remains high on our agenda. Through the contracting out of cleaning services by the SWMD and with the assistance of the Beach Authority, all declared public beaches are cleaned. The Government Programme did emphasize on the restoration of neglected pathways to existing beaches. Thanks to the dedication of Junior Minister Joanna Berenger, we have been able to restore that at Pomponette and we are going to ensure cleaning of that public beach on a regular basis.

Too often, the Ministry has been called upon to manage crisis situations at the five Transfer Stations which act as interim storage between collection of municipal waste by Local Authorities and transportation to the landfill by transfer stations contractors. One of the causes has been the lack of lorries/trucks at the level of the scavenging contractors. New Regulations for the Registration of Scavenging Contractors have been made and it will be mandatory that the contractor owns at least two tipper lorries, so as to ensure proper service.

On the international front, we also stand guided by the provisions of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions on the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes. The Junior Minister had the opportunity to renew the commitment of Mauritius to the implementation of the three Conventions at the

authorities, CBVL, Local Authorities, NGOs, the private sector and the community at large for their response and invaluable support.

This Annual Report reflects the performance of and effort put in by the SWMD in ensuring safe disposal of solid and hazardous waste; as well as our commitment to achieve a sustainable waste management system in Mauritius through resource recovery and a circular economy in line with the Government Programme 2025-2029 and the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Waste Management is central to the Environment Sector as it influences several of its aspects encompassing the protection of ecosystems, reduction of greenhouse emissions, conservation of natural resources, improvement of public health and support to circular economy and sustainable tourism. The transition to sustainable waste management rests on the basic principle that waste is no more a waste and a liability but rather is to be seen as resource to be valorised. Besides encouraging Re-use, Repair, and Re-furbishment initiatives of pre-waste items, the possibility of creating wealth out of waste at sizable scale is being promoted.

In this vein, segregation of waste at source is one of the priorities of the SWMD for the purpose of recycling of dry waste and composting of organic waste through the upcoming Integrated Waste Processing Facilities. We are well aware that this is a shared responsibility, with a every citizen, local authorities, the private sector and NGOs. With the assistance of *the Agence Francaise de Developpement*, the legal framework, the institutional upgrade and appropriate operations methodologies to put in place the system are being drafted while workshops are being held on how to bring changes in the attitude of consumers and waste collectors.

high-level segment of the BRS Conference of Parties 2025, calling for climate equity, adherence to the common but differentiated responsibilities, global cooperation and the importance of supporting Small Island Developing States.

To better regulate the hazardous waste sector through new Regulations, a national comprehensive inventory is being carried out with funding from GEF under the ISLANDS project. The survey will enable a better enforcement of the law and a better utilization of the state-of-the art Interim Hazardous Waste Storage Facility at La Chaumiere.

The path towards transitioning the waste management sector with greater prominence on recovery from waste remains ambitious but is to the level of expectation from the public. We are convinced that with our devotion, leadership, the experience and the capability of the personnel of the institution, coupled with the constructive engagement of population, our openness to criticism and willingness re-adjust as necessary for an inclusive development, we shall bring the long awaited change in waste management and establish a cleaner and a sustainable circular society.

We wish to express our appreciation to all staff members of the SWMD for their effort, hardwork and dedication during this difficult year and their commitment to bring changes that will benefit one and all.

Honourable Rajesh Anand Bhagwan
Minister of Environment, Solid Waste
Management and Climate Change

&
Honourable Joanna Marie Berenger
Junior Minister of Environment, Solid Waste
Management and Climate Change

MESSAGE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY



It is with high responsibility and a renewed sense of pleasure that I submit this Annual Report on the Performance of the Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change for financial year 2024-2025.

Waste Management and Resource Recovery (WMRR) being a long-term process, having impacts, both immediate and in the long-run, on the environment, public health and quality of life demands a clear vision, far-sightedness and development of strategies and action plans in stages.

Financial year 2024-25 has been a year of concrete actions that will show the tangible results in the coming years, despite difficult circumstances. The main parts of the WMRR Act 2023 was proclaimed in July 2024 to allow strengthening of the legal and institutional framework.

Some seven sets of Regulations have been drafted and are being finalized. The WMRR (Registration of Scavenging Contractor) Regulations 2025 were promulgated to come into force on the first October 2025 with a transitionary period of 60 days. The Act has also given the technical cadre of the Division due recognition with the creation of the Department of Waste Management and Resource Recovery as reflected in the Civil Establishment Order (CEO) of 2025.

In October 2024, the Concession agreement for the setting up, under a PPP mode, of two Regional Integrated Waste Processing Facilities comprising of a Composting Unit for organic waste and a sorting unit for recyclables. This project will not only bring a major shift in the whole waste management landscape but also a change in the mindset of people both at household and commercial levels as the success of the project relies largely on a 3 bin-based segregation of waste at source.

The Mare Chicose sole engineered sanitary landfill commissioned in 1997 to put an end to dumping, proudly stands to-day on land of a total area of around 74 hectares acquired on 24 April 2025. Though geared towards Vertical Expansion, the landfill can cater for future lateral expansion and accommodate future projects such anaerobic digestion and compost plants.

Year 2024-2025 has unfortunately also been one fighting against various odds. Several officers in the Project Officer cadre left the Division for greener pastures ! The workload devolved on the remaining few had been tremendous. The post has been re-advertised and the selection exercise will soon start. Moreover, the need of a Registered Civil Engineer at the operational level has been deeply felt. Though solid and hazardous waste management as well as resource recovery requires competencies in chemical, civil and environmental engineering, chemistry or environmental science, yet the responsibility of infrastructural development, be it for the landfill or transfer stations or new projects such as the IWPF, can only be borne by a Registered Civil Engineer. I have after my posting at the SWMD been convinced of this reality and endeavoured to have this crucial post created. The post is budgeted, has been added in the CEO 2025 and will soon be advertised.

Year 2024-25 was sadly marked in November/December 2024, by the fire outbreak at the Mare Chicose landfill, which not only consumed waste but also lots of effort and time of the staff of the Ministry and other close collaborators.

One of my priorities since my posting at the Ministry has been to ensure a spacious, safe, clean and pleasant workplace for the staff, much better than where the Division was located !! With the procurement exercise initiated in March 2023, award of contract in February 2024, the SWMD finally moved to new premises at Nexsky Building, Ebene in September/October 2025

I am confident that with all the works undertaken and initiated, by the pool of dedicated staff, together with new recruits, the future of the Solid Waste Management Division is bright. I wish here to extend my sincere thanks to all staff of the Division, be it technical, administrative, procurement, financial, general service or manual, for their efforts, hardwork and support during the whole of my posting at the SWMD. I also wish to put on record my appreciation for the support given by colleagues of other Ministries, in particular the Ministry of Finance for their comprehension of the complexities and understanding the urgencies of waste management.

I seize this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Honourable Minister and Honourable Junior Minister for the trust placed on me since the very first day of our encounter on the fire site of the landfill and my appreciation for their commitment, clear vision and leadership to make Mauritius a cleaner, greener and safer place to live.

Mrs Shabina (Ramhith) Lotun
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management
and Climate Change
(Solid Waste Management Division)

PART I:

ABOUT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES

Vision

To achieve a sustainable waste management system in Mauritius through resource recovery and adoption of a circular economy approach.

Mission

- Provide a safe and sound management of solid and hazardous waste;
- Recover resource and materials from waste;
- Contribute to protection of the environment and to public health for present and future generations.

Core Values

The Solid Waste Management Division is committed to uphold the following core values:

Integrity

Keeping the highest standards of professional ethics.

Innovation

Paving the way by fostering a working environment where creative thinking is encouraged.

Adaptability

Being flexible and capable to adapt to changing corporate environment and working conditions.

Sustainability

Managing our Landfill, Transfer Stations, Interim Hazardous waste facility and other facilities professionally for protecting the environment and ensuring safety and health in the country, in relation to waste.

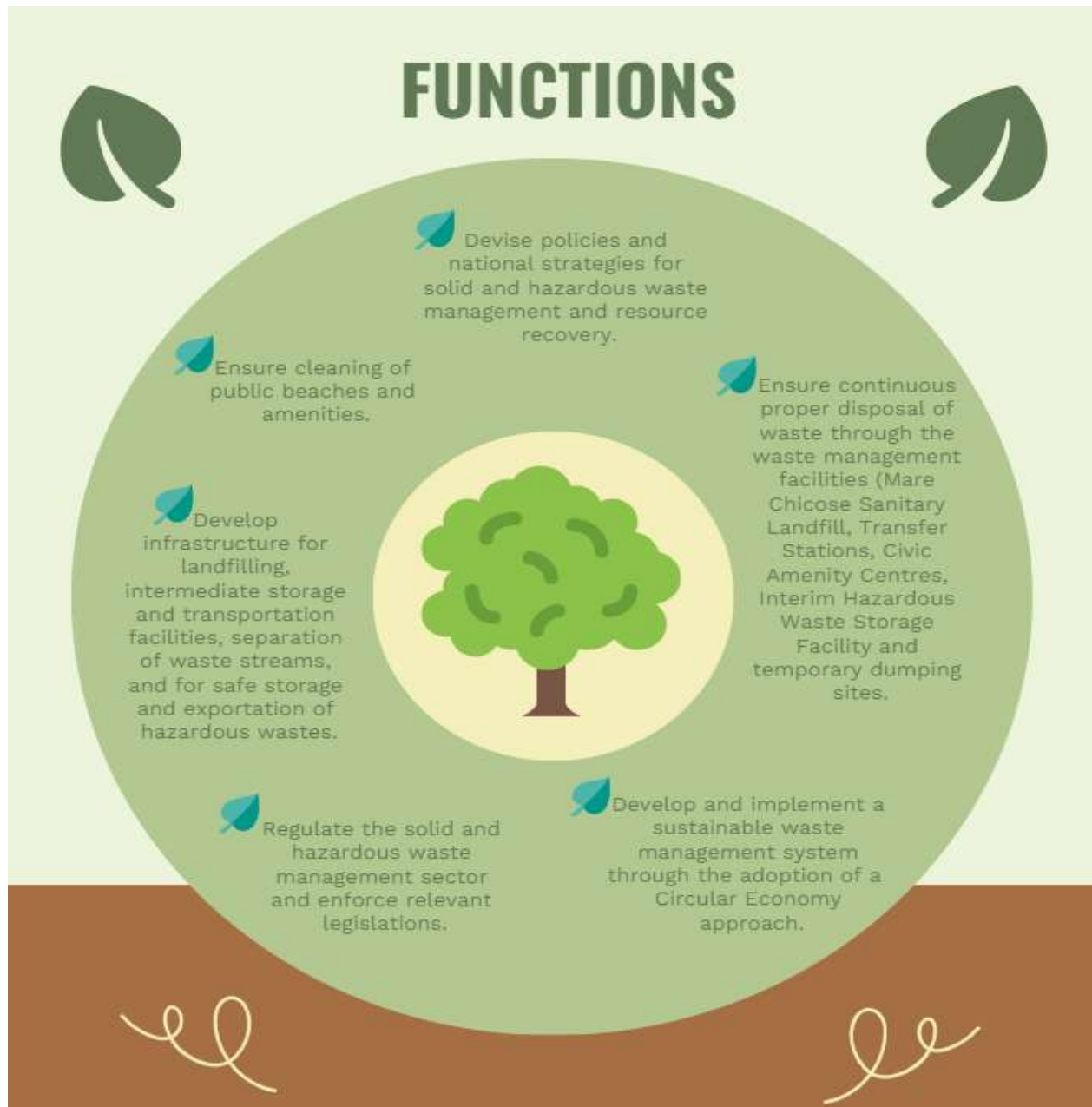
Teamwork

Fostering synergy among staff, promoting communication and information sharing.

ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Role

The Solid Waste Management Division is responsible for the environmentally safe and sound management of solid and hazardous wastes with the ultimate aim of contributing towards protection of the environment and public health.



Services Provided

01

Disposal of Solid and Hazardous Waste.

02

Issuance of Licences for Waste Carriers, Scavenging Contractors, Waste Oil Disposal & Treatment, and Registration of Exporters & Recyclers of Wastes.

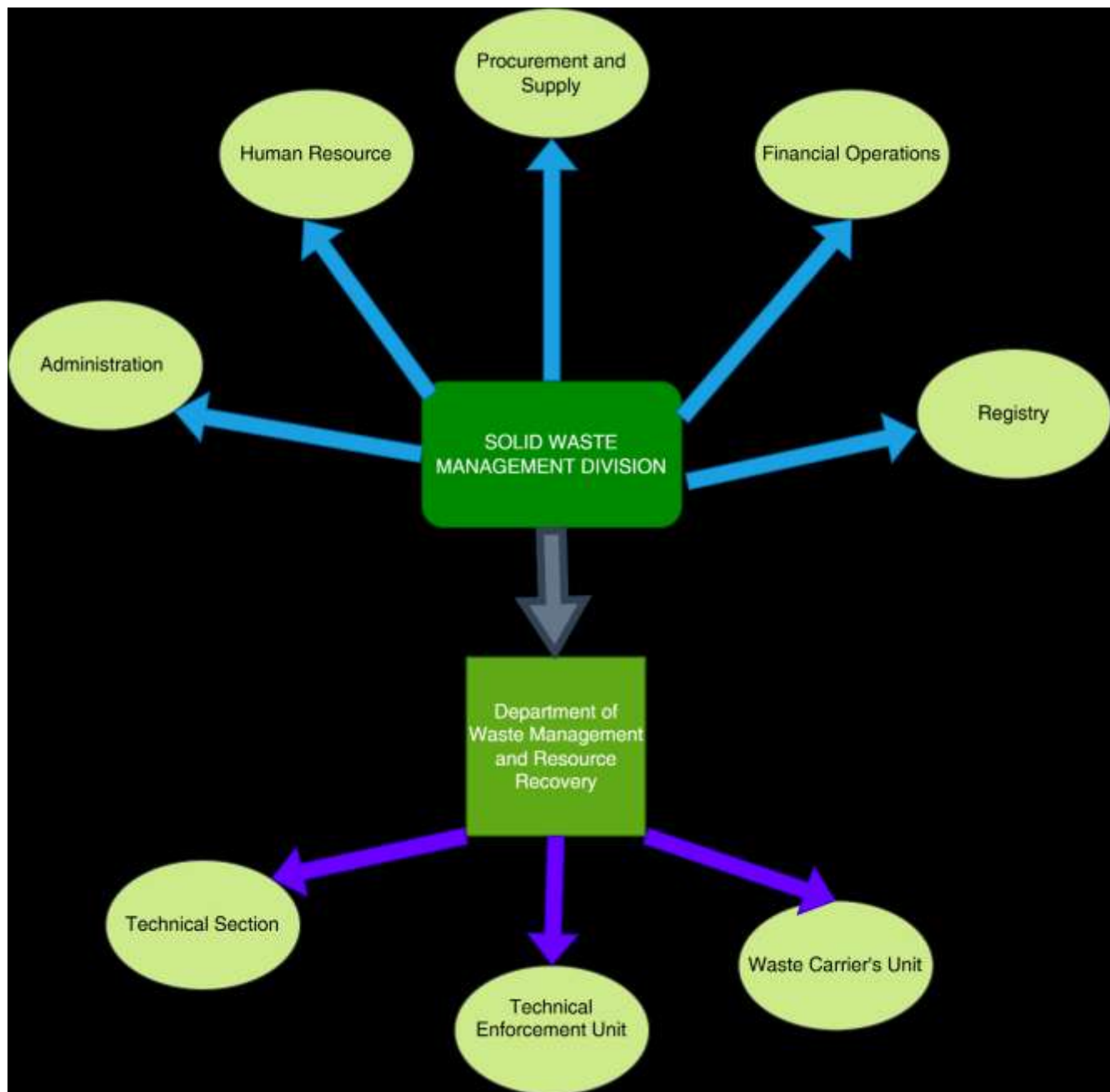
03

Disposal of condemned goods.

04

Removal of asbestos/materials from ex-CHA/EDC houses.

Units of the Solid Waste Management Division



KEY LEGISLATIONS PERTAINING TO THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act was introduced in April 2023 and was proclaimed on 31 July 2024. The main object of the Act is to provide the regulatory framework to ensure the environmentally safe and sound management of solid and hazardous wastes and a sustainable waste management system through the adoption of a circular economy approach, focusing on material recovery, recycling, composting and treatment of waste.



Registration of Scavenging Contractors

The Waste Management and Resource Recovery (Registration of Scavenging Contractor) Regulations 2025 made under the WMRR Act were promulgated to come into force on the first October 2025. A transitional period of 60 days has been provided.

The Solid Waste Management Division, after extensive consultations with key stakeholders and in alignment with national environmental objectives, will be promulgating new regulations to enhance the efficiency, sustainability, and accountability of waste management practices. These regulations will be formulated following comprehensive reviews of existing policies, feedback from related stakeholders as well as community representatives. The provisions aim at strengthening compliance with modern waste handling standards, promote waste segregation at source, improve collection and disposal systems, and ensure that all activities are conducted with minimal environmental impact. By integrating stakeholder input and adhering to international best practices, this Division seeks to establish a more transparent, equitable, and environmentally responsible framework for managing solid waste.

Upcoming Regulations under Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act:

- 1) Registration of Recyclers and Exporters.
- 2) Waste Carrier Licence and Waste Management Facility.
- 3) Segregation of Wastes at Source.
- 4) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Management of electronic wastes.
- 5) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Management of Beverage Containers.
- 6) Licensing of End-of-Life Vehicles Recycling Facility.

GENDER STATEMENT

Our Division is dedicated to embedding gender equality as a central pillar in the governance, planning, and execution of all solid waste management activities in Mauritius. The Division acknowledges that solid waste management is not merely a technical or environmental issue, but a social and developmental one that affects people differently across communities. Women, in particular, play a crucial yet often under-recognized role in household waste segregation, community clean-up initiatives, and informal recycling activities. Recognising this, the SWMD actively promotes inclusive participation in all decision-making processes related to waste collection, disposal, recycling, and policy formulation.

The Division strives to ensure that both women and men have equitable access to employment opportunities, training, and leadership roles within the waste management sector. Special emphasis is placed on capacity-building programmes that empower women entrepreneurs in recycling and waste valorisation initiatives, thereby supporting their economic independence while advancing sustainable waste solutions. Gender sensitive statistics need to be collected on employees and entrepreneurs in the resource recovery, and waste collection, transportation and disposal for removing any disparity.

By fostering a culture of equality and respect, the Division seeks to transform solid waste management into a platform for social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and shared national progress. Through this gender-responsive approach, the SWMD not only strengthens institutional performance but also contributes to Mauritius's broader commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). In doing so, the Division reaffirms its vision of a cleaner, greener, and more equitable Mauritius for all.

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

The Solid Waste Management Division operates under the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change. The Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate is the political head of the Ministry, and determines the policy direction and priorities of the Ministry.

The Permanent Secretary is the administrative head and the Accounting Officer of the Solid Waste Management Division. She is assisted in her functions directly by a Deputy Permanent Secretary and the Director, Department of Waste Management and Resource Recovery.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary is assisted by one Manager, Procurement and Supply along with his team; one Assistant Manager, Financial Operations with his team; two Assistant Permanent Secretaries, and one Senior Human Resource Executive with her team; for the purpose of procurement, finance, administrative, and human resource management respectively.

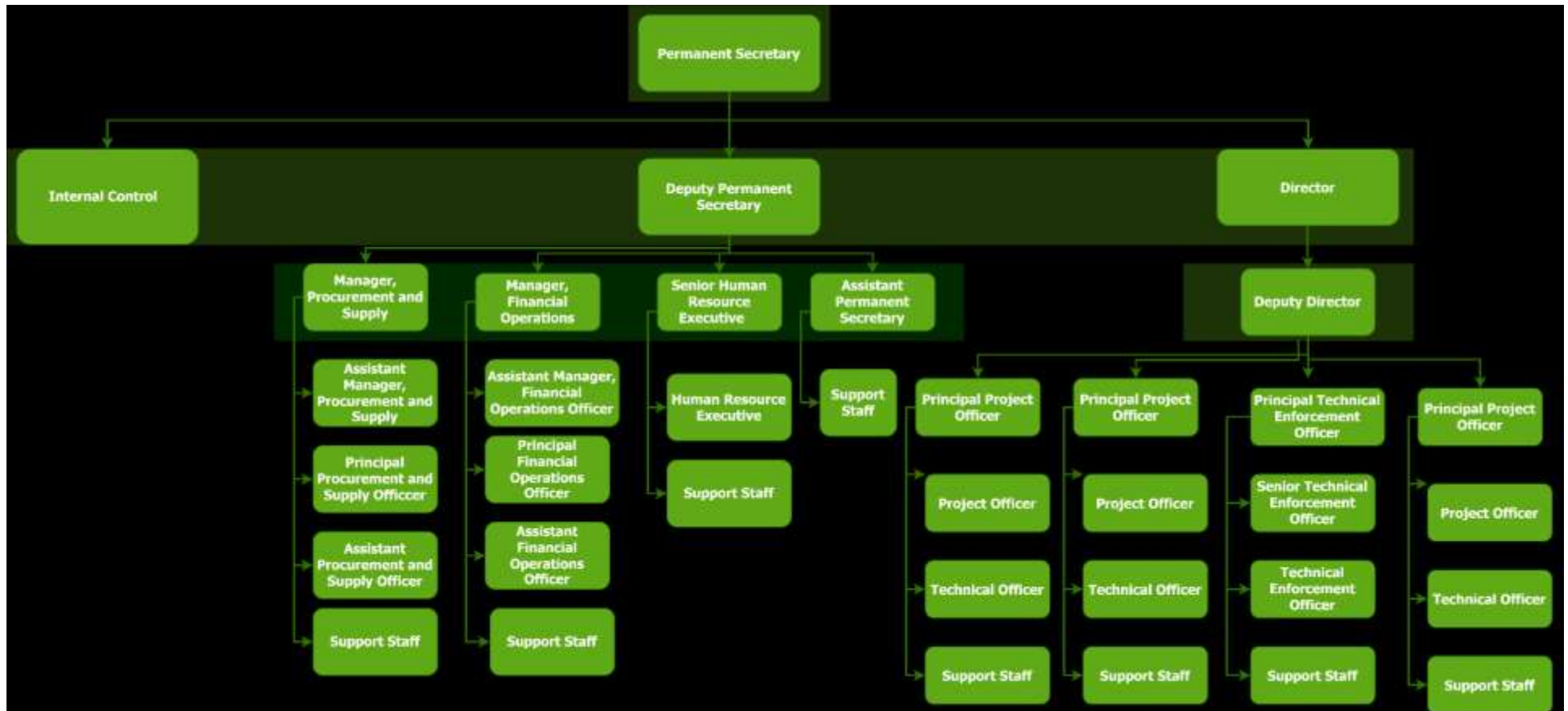
Following the enactment of the Waste Management and Resource Recovery (WMRR) Act 2023, the Director is responsible for the Department of Waste Management and Resource Recovery. The Technical team assisting the Director, Department of Waste Management and Resource Recovery comprises of one Deputy Director, Department of Waste Management and Resource Recovery, two Principal Project Officers, six Project Officers/Senior Project Officers, one Technical Officer and one Principal Technical Enforcement Officer. The latter heads the Technical Enforcement Unit which is responsible for enforcement of regulations pertaining to solid waste, hazardous waste and beach management and is assisted by two Senior Technical Enforcement Officers and eleven Technical Enforcement Officers.

Recognising the importance of civil engineering with competencies in landfilling and waste facility infrastructural development, a new post of Engineer/Senior Engineer (Department of Waste Management and Resource Recovery has been created.

The total workforce of the Solid Waste Management Division stands at 92 which includes 17 of workmen's class and 29 of General Service cadre.

The Department is manned by the Director, who is immediately supported by a Deputy Director and officers of the Project Officer cadre and the Technical Enforcement cadre.

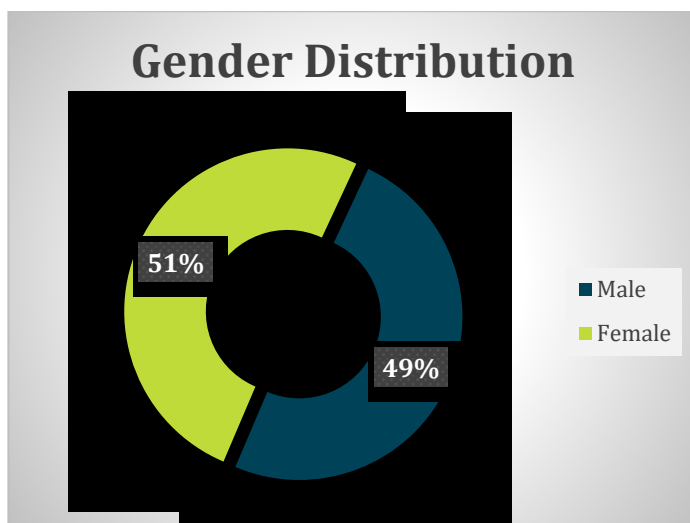
ORGANISATIONAL CHART OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION



STAFFING POSITION

As at 30 June 2025, the Solid Waste Management Division had a workforce of 92 officers with almost equal number of men and women as follows:

Staff	Male	Female	Total
Administrative Cadre	1	2	3
Director	1	0	1
Deputy Director	1	0	1
Financial Operations Cadre	2	1	3
Human Resources Cadre	0	1	1
Procurement and Supply Cadre	2	2	4
Internal Control Cadre	0	1	1
Technical Cadre	10	10	20
General Services Staff	10	29	39
IT Cadre	0	1	1
Workmen's class	17	0	17
Interns under Service to Mauritius	1	0	1
Total	45	47	92



TRAINING

Training opportunities locally and overseas are provided to all employees of the Solid Waste Management Division based on priorities and fairness.

68 employees benefitted from training courses dispensed by the Civil Service College, Mauritius sponsored by the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reform, by the Solid Waste Management Division and workshops/seminars organised by stakeholders or other Ministries.

Local Training	
Training Programme in financial year 2024/2025	No. of Employees
Three Days Training on the Five Dimensions (Strategic, Economic, Commercial, Financial and Management) with a view to Improving the Preparation, Implementation and Monitoring of Capital Projects in the Public Sector	1
Training on Gender Mainstreaming for staff of the Solid Waste Management Division	68
Validation Workshop on Promoting the Presence and Leadership of Women within the Public Institutions at the National and Local Levels	1
Three Days Full Day Training Programme on "Operations and Processes Management Training Programme for Support Staff (Level 2)	1
FIDIC Contracts Introductory Course	1
Management of Claims & Resolution of Dispute under FIDIC Contracts	2
Sensitization and Training Programme_Consultancy Services on Review of Sitting Criteria for Stone Crushing Plants and Crematorial/Cremation Grounds	2
Leadership and Management Training	1
Induction Course for Office Supervisors	1
Half Day Training Course on Government Asset Register-Awareness for DPS/APS/Technical Cadre	1
Capacity Building Workshop on Waste Financing Mechanisms	10

Local Training	
Training Programme in financial year 2024/2025	No. of Employees
EAS Training	1
Workshop on "Professional Training on Data Protection"	1
One-Day Training Programme on "Safety and Health in the Workplace" for Management Support Officers (MSOs)- FY 2024/25	3
Six-Month Part Time Postgraduate in Project Management and Contract Administration	1
Foundation Course for Newly Recruited Management Support Officer	3
Training Programme on "Managing Safely for Line Managers (Officer-In-Charge) of Worksites/Outstations)"	2
Workshop under ICAT- MauNDC Registry Walkthrough and Data Gaps Validation	1
8th Follow-Up IMF IPSAS Mission on moving towards Accrual Accounting- Workshop on the IPSAS Sustainability Reporting Standards	1
Green Skills Benchmarking Seminar in Mauritius	1
One-Day Validation workshop-Observatoire de L'Environnement	1
Half Day Training Session for Observatoire de L'Environnement	1
Capacity Building Workshop on Circular Economy	1
First Mauritius- EU Partnership Dialogue	2
IslandPlas Project Inception Workshop- Mauritius	1
One-Day Workshop on the International Labour Day	1
GAR Practical Session Training	1
Two-Day Training Programme on "Fire Safety and Fire Risk Management" for Fire Wardens	3
Induction Course for Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	1
Inception Workshop on GCF/FAO Supported Project: Advancing the Agriculture, Water and Energy Pipeline, with increased Awareness of Key Stakeholders and Strengthening Capacities of the National Designated Authorities (NDA) and Direct Access Applicants in the Republic of Mauritius (GCP/MAR/002/GCR)	1

21 officers participated in overseas trainings, workshops and meetings in some 10 countries

Overseas Training & Meetings	
Training Programmes/ Meetings in financial year 2024/2025	Number of Employees attended
Regional Workshop on the implementation of the Basel Convention for Countries in the Africa Region	2
Workshop in connection with the training of Potentials Chairs for Meetings of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	1
United Nations Climate Change Conference - COP 29	1
Invitation au Forum General- un environnement inclusif de la Recherche et de L'Innovation au service de la filiere dechets-energie dans le Sud-Ouest de L'Ocean Indien	1
Seminar on Circular Economy and Sustainable Development Technology for Developing Countries	4
Training Course on "Technology for Solid Waste Management with Recycling Promotion for Sound Material-Cycle Society"	1
Training Course on "Integrated Waste Management Strategies and Circular Economy for Sustainable Development"	1
Training on Sustainable Waste Management and Smart Urbanisation	1
Basel Convention Household and Plastic Waste Partnership working group fourth meeting	1
Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS) Indian Ocean Regional Annual Meeting	1
Capacity Building Programme on "Waste Segregation and Plastic Recycling for IORA Member States"	1
Mission technique d'étude à La Réunion- Partage d'expérience autour de la gestion des déchets et de l'économie circulaire	1
Training Course on Environmental Monitoring and Pollution Control Technologies for Developing Countries	1
Integrated Solid Waste Management Training	3
Mission technique d'étude à La Réunion- Partage d'expérience autour de la gestion des déchets et de l'économie circulaire	1

APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, TRANSFER, LEAVE AND RETIREMENT

- Three Management Support Officers have been appointed in July 2024 and have been posted to the HR, Finance and Registry Sections of the Division.
- One Office Auxiliary/ Senior Office Auxiliary has been appointed.
- One Officer has been promoted from the grade of Computer Support Officer to Assistant Systems Analyst.
- The Deputy Permanent Secretary was assigned duties of Permanent Secretary and posted at the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries on 25 July 2025.
- The serving Assistant Permanent Secretary was accordingly assigned duties of Deputy Permanent Secretary
- One Project Officer/ Senior Project Officer has been promoted to Principal Project Officer in April 2025, following creation of a third post of PPO in year 2024/25
- One Principal Project Officer has proceeded on leave without pay to take up employment in the private sector and hence one PO has been administratively assigned duties of Principal Project Officer
- The Manager of Procurement and Supply, Mr C. SAHOKAR retired on 10 Jan 2025 after 44 years of service.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Mauritius has one sanitary Landfill, five Transfer Stations and three Civic Amenity Centres, which are under the responsibility of the Solid Waste Management Division.



The landfill spans over an area of roughly 74 hectares, of which 49 hectares are used for landfilling. Five Transfer Stations accept waste that is collected from residential and commercial properties by Municipal and District Councils.

Waste is transported by truck trailers from the Transfer Stations to Mare Chicose Landfill under management and operation services contracts.



Mare Chicose Landfill

Prior to the mid-1990s, the country relied on open dumping sites located in various regions such as Roche Bois, St. Martin and La Chaumière. Those unmanaged dumps operated without environmental controls, leading to open waste burning, air pollution, groundwater contamination, and pest infestations. With rising population and economic growth, waste generation surged, exposing the serious shortcomings of this informal disposal system.

Recognizing the health and environmental hazards of these open sites and the open burning of waste, an urgent need for a modern, centralized, and environmentally sound waste disposal solution was felt and the development of a sanitary landfill was initiated with international technical assistance. The site at Mare Chicose, obtained on lease, in the southeast of the island was chosen for its remoteness, suitable topography, and clay-rich soil that provided a natural barrier to groundwater infiltration.

Commissioned in 1997, the Mare Chicose landfill became the first and only engineered sanitary landfill in Mauritius, marking a major shift in national waste management policy. Its establishment represented a turning point, that of moving from unsafe open dumping toward modern, controlled, and environmentally engineered waste management. Unlike the uncontrolled dumps of the past, the landfill was designed with key engineering and environmental protection features to minimize ecological impact. These included a composite liner system made of compacted clay and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) to prevent leachate from seeping into the ground, a leachate collection and treatment network, and a landfill gas extraction system to capture methane for flaring and electricity generation. The site was organized into sequential disposal cells, each operating in phases to ensure stability and efficient land use. A system of surface water drainage, weighbridges, monitoring wells, and environmental control measures further enhanced operational safety.

Over the years, Mare Chicose has expanded to include multiple cells covering approximately 50 hectares, and it now receives around 500,000 tonnes of waste annually (1500 tonnes of household and commercial waste daily) transported from transfer stations across the island. Daily, a person generates around 1.1kg of waste to be disposed of out of which are household

True enough that we are engaged in a shift from a linear to circular approach, focusing on recycling, re-use and composting, there will always be residual waste for disposal and the landfill will always play a critical role in the Mauritius ecosystem for environmentally safe disposal of waste at the end.

Initiated in May 2023, the land accommodating the landfill and an additional 24 hectares was finally acquired on 24 April 2025, to put an end to the uncertainty of leases and to cater for

future projects or disposal of wastes. . With the project of Vertical Expansion of the landfill spanning over a period of 10 years, including a change in design whereby part of a natural mount will be used as retaining slope together with the additional land acquired, the safe disposal capacity of the landfill is being extended for at least another fifteen years

The landfill's upkeep, operations, and construction are contracted out. An approximate sum of Rs 250 million is paid out per year for these services. The Solid Waste Management Division's technical staff oversees site development, general oversight, and monitoring of the landfill.



Transfer Stations

Transfer stations in Mauritius play a vital role in the island's waste management system by serving as intermediate hubs where waste is temporarily stored, and then transferred to the landfill. These stations help streamline the waste collection process by reducing the distance waste collection trucks need to travel to the landfill, thereby lowering transportation costs and reducing fuel consumption and emissions. They are strategically located across the island to ensure efficient waste handling, particularly in urban and densely populated areas.

Five Transfer Stations are operated in Mauritius as follows:

1. La Brasserie Transfer Station, with a daily capacity of 300 tons, operational since 1991.
2. La Chaumière Transfer Station, with a daily capacity of 500 tons, operational since 2011.
3. La Laura Transfer Station, with a daily capacity of 150 tons, operational since 2005.
4. Poudre D'Or Transfer Station, with a daily capacity of 200 tons, operational since Year 2000.
5. Roche Bois Transfer Station, with a daily capacity of 400 tons, operational since 1992.

The transfer stations will be upgraded to take care of long-term tear and wear as well as to receive sorted waste in the context of segregation of waste at source for the purpose of feeding the two IWPFs for recycling and composting.

Civic Amenity Centres

Civic Amenity Centres have been constructed at three transfer stations as follows:

- (i) La Chaumiere – operational since 18 November 2020.
- (ii) La Laura – operational since 28 October 2021.
- (iii) Poudre D'or - operational since 15 August 2022.

A Civic Amenity Centre is a community-based waste disposal and recycling facility designed to provide residents with a convenient and responsible way to dispose of bulky household waste, bulky items and materials that are not typically collected through regular waste collection by Local Authorities and which has value for recycling or reuse like furniture, electronic waste, large appliances, garden waste, and recyclable plastic, paper, and metals. It consists of different compartments for temporary storage of differently sorted wastes.

Registered recyclers can collect the waste materials at the centres, free of charge for further processing. By providing easily accessible locations for the disposal of such materials, CACs help reduce illegal dumping and promote sustainable waste management practices.

The centres are open to the public from Monday to Saturday as from 07 00 to 17 00 hrs, and on Sundays as from 07 00 to 12 00 hrs.

Cemented Asbestos in Ex/CHA and EDC Houses

Asbestos is a group of naturally occurring silicate minerals composed of long, thin fibres, resistant to heat and fire. Given its adverse effects on health, asbestos ceased to be used. However, many houses constructed in 1960s especially the ex-CHA/EDC houses contained cemented asbestos. The owners are encouraged to have their houses dismantled so as to remove the asbestos and dispose of it safely. The Solid Waste Management Division engages in the dismantling of those cemented asbestos and dispose of it safely and securely at the landfill by way of service contracts.

Originally, there were some 3113 houses surveyed to behaving cemented asbestos walls. Today, there remain some 1560 houses to be dismantled.

During the financial year 24/25, eight housing units have been dismantled for the cost of Rs 150,000 per house following the request and consent of the house owners.



Waste Carrier Unit

The Waste Carrier Unit is responsible for the processing of applications, registration and issue of Waste Carriers' Licence to applicants, especially scavenging contractors.

Under the Local Government (Dumping and Waste Carriers) Regulations 2021, applications for a waste carrier license are submitted to the Waste Carrier Licensing Unit. Following verification of the vehicles and upon payment of the prescribed fees, a Waste Carrier Licence is issued for a period of one day or one year. If accepted, the license should be renewed one month prior to expiry. For the period 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, a total of 1078 Waste Carrier's Licences have been issued of which 288 for vehicles owned by Local Authorities and Government Bodies, and the remaining 790 for vehicles owned by companies, parastatal bodies and individuals.

The licenses will now be granted under the new Waste Management and Resource Recovery(Registration of Scavenging Contractors) Regulations 2025, coming into operation on 01 October 2025

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

Mauritius became party in 1992 to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal and Bamako Convention in Africa on the prohibition of import of hazardous waste. The SWMD is thus the Competent Authority for these two Conventions, ensuring that hazardous waste generated locally are managed in an environmentally sound manner to protect human health and the environment as well as controlling the transit of hazardous waste through the prior consent procedure of the Convention.

In this vein, the establishment of the a state-of-art **Interim Hazardous Waste Facility at La Chaumière** is a significant step forward in Mauritius' commitment to improving its waste management infrastructure and protecting public health and the environment particularly by providing a dedicated space for the safe handling and temporary storage of hazardous waste, the facility reduces the risk of contamination and ensures that dangerous materials are properly managed until they can be treated or safely disposed of or exported for specialized processing. The facility, with a storage capacity of 1,600 tonnes, started operation on 24 April 2017 and provides the necessary infrastructure for the receipt, regrouping, repackaging and safe storage of hazardous chemical waste collected from hazardous waste generators all around the island prior to their exportation for recovery and disposal to licensed facilities in Europe.

Key Functions and Features of the Interim Hazardous Waste Facility:

1. **Temporary Storage and Segregation:** The facility is specifically designed to house hazardous materials that cannot be disposed of through regular waste collection systems due to their toxic or dangerous nature. These can include:
 - **Industrial Chemicals:** By-products from factories, manufacturing plants, and other industries.
 - **Medical Waste:** Used needles, contaminated bandages, pharmaceuticals, and other medical materials.
 - **Pesticides and Agricultural Chemicals:** Waste from the agricultural sector, such as expired pesticides or fertilizers.
 - **Asbestos and Lead-containing Materials:** Materials that pose significant health risks if not properly managed.

The facility ensures that these hazardous wastes are segregated according to their specific categories to prevent reactions between different types of waste and to reduce the potential for contamination or accidents.

2. **Safe Handling and Containment:** The facility is equipped with specialized infrastructure to safely handle hazardous waste, including:
 - **Impermeable Linings and Containment Systems:** To prevent any leaks or seepage of harmful substances into the soil or groundwater.
 - **Monitoring Systems:** Real-time monitoring of the environment inside the facility, including temperature, humidity, and air quality, to detect any potential risks early on.
 - **Fire and Explosion Protection:** Given the volatile nature of many hazardous wastes, the facility is designed with fire suppression systems and other safety protocols to minimize the risk of accidents.
3. **Environmental Protection:** The facility helps protect the environment by preventing illegal dumping or improper disposal of hazardous waste, which can lead to soil contamination, air pollution, or water contamination. By concentrating hazardous waste in a controlled environment, the risk of exposure to harmful chemicals is significantly reduced.
4. **Compliance with International Standards:** Mauritius is a signatory to the Basel Convention, an international treaty aimed at reducing the movement of hazardous waste between nations and ensuring the environmentally sound disposal of such materials. The La Chaumière facility helps Mauritius comply with these regulations by providing a safe, centralized location for managing hazardous waste.
5. **Collaboration with Private and Public Sectors:** The facility works closely with both the private sector (such as industries that generate hazardous waste) and government agencies to ensure proper waste management protocols are followed. Industries are required to segregate and safely transport their hazardous waste to the facility, where it can be appropriately processed.
6. **Future Plans for Expansion:** Given the growing challenges of managing hazardous waste, there are plans to upgrade and expand the facility's capacity over time. This includes the development of specialized treatment units for certain types of hazardous materials, such as chemical or medical waste, which may require advanced techniques like incineration or neutralization before final disposal.

7. **Public Awareness and Education:** The operation of the facility also involves public education and awareness programs. These initiatives aim to inform both businesses and the general public about the dangers of improper disposal of hazardous waste and the importance of using the facility for safe disposal. These programs help foster greater environmental responsibility and improve compliance with waste management regulations.

Export of Hazardous Wastes

Applications for the exportation of hazardous wastes for recovery or disposal purposes are submitted to the Solid Waste Management Division, for transmission to the competent authorities of destination to have their consent for transit and trans-shipment.

The consent of the country of destination and all countries of transit and trans-shipment, to the transboundary movements of the hazardous wastes under the Basel Convention, are obtained for the Ministry to authorize the exportation of the hazardous wastes from Mauritius.

The table below sums up the inspections made for the hazardous wastes identified and the amount being exported for period July 2024 to June 2025.

No of inspections as at 30 June 2025	85
Total Amount of Hazardous Wastes Collected as at 30 June 2025	88.19 Tonnes
Amount of Hazardous Wastes (Calcium Hypochlorite) Re-Used Locally as at 30 June 2025	Nil
Amount of Hazardous Wastes Exported as at 30 June 2025	63.25 Tonnes
Countries of Export	Netherlands, Greece
Types of Hazardous Wastes Collected:	• Waste laboratory chemicals/mixed expired chemicals including mercury-compound wastes • Inorganic solid and liquid wastes • Organic halogenated and non-halogenated liquid wastes • Organic solid wastes • Oxidising wastes • Waste pesticides/insecticides/agro-chemicals • Waste pharmaceuticals • Waste elemental mercury • Waste oil filters • Soil contaminated with Jet A-1 • Contaminated packaging and absorbent materials • Waste aerosols/sprays • Waste gas cylinders (acetylene, nitrogen, helium, methyl bromide) • Waste liquid refrigerant

IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE LOW AND NON-CHEMICAL DEVELOPMENT IN SIDS (ISLANDS) – GEF-7

The Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) Project is a GEF-funded project to be implemented in 30 small islands developing states (SIDS) countries to address challenges arising from chemicals and wastes that are common to all SIDS while also promoting inter-regional collaboration on these challenges.

The ISLANDS Project is structured into five child projects wherein one such child project referred as the Indian Ocean Regional Project focus on the implementation of the project activities under the ISLANDS project in four SIDS in the Indian Ocean namely Comoros, Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles.

The GEF-ISLANDS project in Mauritius is fundamentally a technical assistance program with the objectives of :

- (i) preventing the future build-up of materials and chemicals entering SIDS,
- (ii) safely managing and disposing of existing harmful chemicals, products and materials currently present in those SIDS, and
- (iii) (ensuring the safe management of products continuing to enter SIDS by closing materials and product loops.

The lead implementing partner (Executing Agency) for the ISLANDS Project Mauritius is the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change and the other project partners (Responsible Parties) are the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security.

The project also involves the participation of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and Business Mauritius, with the support of UNDP, particularly with respect to the Regional Component of the ISLANDS Project. Under the GEF-7 global envelope, the funds requested for Mauritius is USD 4,500,000. The project duration is 5 years. The project officially started on 21 September 2022 with the signing of the project document and the project is expected to end in October 2027.

The ISLANDS project is co-funded by GEF Trust Fund to the tune of USD 4,050,000 and the Government of Mauritius the tune of Rs USD 29,995,000.

Project Activities falling under the purview of the Solid Waste Management Division

SN	Project Activity	Budget available (USD)
1.	Carry out a comprehensive hazardous waste inventory	180,000
2.	Develop an online system for hazardous wastes generators and management companies and train its intended users	150,000
3.	Develop guidelines on the management of End-of-Life-Vehicles (ELV)	30,000
4.	Develop disposal/export plans/approaches for priority waste streams	18,000
5.	Review the current mechanism for hazardous waste management at the interim storage facility	30,000
6.	Develop a gender-responsive plan to ensure inter-institutional coordination with regards to the management and elimination of hazardous wastes	12,000
7.	Assess existing financial instruments related to waste management and propose recommendations to achieve long-term sustainability	40,000
8.	Develop and submit for approval a minimum of two (2) financial instruments for prioritized waste streams (from Indicator 7.1) along with their regulations	60,000
9.	Enhance the capacity of 3 waste management service providers (private sector)	27,000
10.	Link 3 hotel chains with hotel chains in the Seychelles and Maldives to further reduce waste generation through partnerships with the Association of Hoteliers and Restaurants in Mauritius (AHRIM)	45,000
11.	Build capacity of customs officials and enforcement officers on the identification, safe handling and management/treatment/disposal of banned chemicals and products	10,000

FEXTE CONVENTION-DECHÉTS ET ECONOMIE CIRCULAIRE

On 30 November 2023, a “Convention de Partenariat Fexte Tripartite” was signed by the **AGENCE FRANCAISE DE DEVELOPPEMENT (AFD)**, **Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie (ADEME)** and the **Republic of Mauritius** represented by the Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management & Climate Change for providing technical assistance towards sustainable waste management and circular economy.

The ‘FEXTE Convention’ makes provision for technical assistance towards sustainable waste management and circular economy to the tune of EUR 500,000 to ADEME, the technical executive arm of AFD, for a period of 30 months as from 01 December 2023. The main components of the FEXTE Convention are as follows:

- a) engage in the capacity building of the staff of the SWMD and stakeholders on the establishment of an enabling framework for the development of Public Private Partnership projects in the solid waste sector;
- b) support the Mauritian authorities in the implementation of the Circular Economy Roadmap in relation to waste management;
- c) assist in the sensitization of Mauritian stakeholders including households and the economic operators;
- d) assist in the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility scheme on selected waste streams;
- e) support the training of the staff of the Solid Waste Management Division in bio-waste treatment;
- f) develop plans with respect to prevention and recovery of construction and demolition waste;
- g) support Mauritian Authorities in the development of anaerobic digestion projects; and
- h) provide capacity building for the officers of the SWMD in hazardous waste management.

Steering Committee (*COPIL -Comité de Pilotage*) under *FEXTE Convention*

As per the provision of the FEXTE Convention, a Steering Committee – the *Comite de Pilotage* (COPIL), chaired by the Permanent Secretary meets every 6 months to oversee and to follow-up on the progress of the project's activities to ensure that the Government benefits optimally from the contributions of this FEXTE. So far, 4 Steering Committees have been held as follows:

- 1st COPIL on 29 February 2024;
- 2nd COPIL on 28 August 2024;
- 3rd COPIL on 23 January 2025;
- 4th COPIL on 16 July 2025
- 5th COPIL planned on 21 January 2026.

Deliverables from July 2024 up to October 2025

Tasks	Deliverables	Date submitted
Review on EPR for beverage containers	Document	30-Jun-24
1st training on waste management finance mechanisms (waste taxation, EPR Schemes, etc) - 20 officers in all : 2 (NEF); 4 (MoLG & DRM); 2 (DoE &CC); 12 (SWMD)	Training (3 days)	18-20 Sept 2024
Site visit at Reunion will consist amongst others :	Experience Sharing – Visit at Reunion island - 3days (4 staff from SWMD + 4 staff from MoLG)	27 - 29 Nov 2024
Capacity building on ELV recycling plant : Policy and legislation should be addressed to make the ELV recycling system viable.		
Capacity building of the SWMD on bio-waste treatment		
Presentation of C&D waste management in France	Experience Sharing	04-Dec-24
Presentation of 2 hrs on “Observatoire des dechets” by ADEME Expert.	Experience Sharing	06-Dec-24
2nd training on waste management finance mechanisms (waste taxation, EPR Schemes, etc) - 20 officers in all : 2 (NEF); 4 (MoLG & DRM); 2 (DoE &CC); and 12 (SWMD)	Training (3 days)	20-22 Jan 2025

Presentation de Synergie Pei La Reunion-écologie industrielle et territoriale (EIT) - Industrial Symbiosis	Experience Sharing- Document	03-Feb-25
Implementation Strategy on Behavioural Change towards waste segregation at source (Households, Scavengers, Cleaning agents/watchman)	Document	01-Mar-25
Presentation on initiatives of source segregation of waste in Mauritius - (Retour D'Experience). (not previously planned)	Document	14-Mar-25
Report from GTC on landfill fire management	Report	19-Mar-25
Technical Assistance on Waste management Financing Mechanisms	Report	14-25 July 2025
Proposed Workshop <u>“Changement de Comportement”</u> : on the findings of the implementation strategy on behavioural change towards source segregation of wastes	Workshop	17-Sept-25
Technical Assistance on EPR for e-waste management	Report	Sept 2025 to March 2026
Visit at Salon POLLUTEC in France from 05-12 October 2025 for 6 officers from SWMD and other relevant Ministries.	Experience Sharing	05-12 October 2025
Site Visit at Reunion (Deputy Director of SWMD)	Experience Sharing	28-30 October 2025

BEACH MANAGEMENT



Post Cyclonic Waste

The Solid Waste Management Division is also responsible for clearing of beaches after the passing of a cyclone. Post Cyclonic Wastes are collected, in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government and Local Authorities and kept in temporary dumpsites identified, for that purpose prior to sending to the landfill and to compost plants.

Cleaning of public beaches

Presently, 93 public beaches are cleaned and maintained through service-based contracts entered by the Solid Waste Management Division. Remaining ones are cleared and cleaned as and when required by officers of the Beach Authority. With the restoration of access to the Pomponette Public Beach, the latter is being included in the contracts for cleaning of beaches so as to ensure a clean and peaceful enjoyment by the general public. Regular inspections are made by Beach Enforcement Officers to ensure cleanliness of beaches.

A sum of Rs 180 Million was budgeted for the cleaning of public beaches in the Financial year 2024-2025.

SN	Contract	List of Beaches	Number of Beaches
1	Main Beaches Lot 1	Mon Choisy, La Cuvette, Pereybere, Grand Bay, Trou aux Biches (opposite police station), Trou aux Biches (opposite ex-aquarium)	6
2	Main Beaches Lot 2	Belle Mare and Palmar main beaches	2
3	Main Beaches Lot 3	Blue Bay and La Cambuse	2
4	Main Beaches Lot 4	La Preneuse, Flic en Flac/Wolmar (including Villa Caroline)- 3 lots, and Tamarin	6
5	Secondary Beaches Lot 1	Le Goulet, Bain Boeuf, Cap Malheureux, Pas Géométriques Union Ribet, Anse La Raie, Butte à L'Herbe and Grand Gaube	7
6	Secondary Beaches Lot 2	Poste Lafayette (near Toilet Block), Bras D'Eau, Palmar (near Surcouf), Quatre Cocos Village, Trou d'Eau Douce (main beach), Bambous Virieux (3 lots), Bois des Amourettes (Popular Beach) and Bois des Amourettes (3 lots -Public Beach)	12
7	Secondary Beaches Lot 3	Le Bouchon, Terracine, Gris Gris, Telfair Garden, Batelage (Popular Beach), Surinam, SSR Beach (near Souillac Cemetry), Pomponette, St Felix, Riv des Galets/ Ile St Marie, Bel Ombre, PG Bel Ombre and Riambel. Toilet Blocks: Bel Ombre & la Prairie	13
8	Secondary Beaches Lot 4	La Prairie, Pas Géométriques L'Embrasure, Le Morne Brabant (Trou Chenille), Pas Géométriques Le Morne (Pte Sud-Ouest), Pas Géométriques Le Morne (between Berjaya and Les Pavillons), Pas Géométriques Le Morne (nr Dinarobin), Baie du Cap, Maconde View point (popular beach)	8
9	Secondary Beaches Lot 5	Wolmar, P.G Albion (main beach), Petit Verger (Tilac) popular beach, Petit Verger (La Pointe), Pte aux Sables (main beach), PG Anna, P.G Mon Plaisir, Pointe aux Sables (Near Fisheries Post and Training Centre), Pointe aux Sables (Near Martello), Sables Noir, Bain Des Dames popular beach	11
10	Secondary Beaches Lot 6	PG Melville (Part Of) 1, PG Melville (part of) 2, PG Melville (Islet Matapan), Poudre D'or, Grand Gaube, Von Moltke, Pointe Des Lascar, Quatre Sœurs, Petit Sable, Palmar (Near Ambre Hotel), Old Grand Port, Riviere Des Creoles	12
11	Secondary Beaches Lot 7	Pointe aux Piments (Pointe Oberoi), Pointe aux Piments (between Le Meridien & Victoria Hotels), Pointe aux Piments (Near Fish Landing Station), Pointe aux Piments (Part of P.G & Govt Reserves), Pointe aux Piments (opp Aquarium), Pointe aux Piments (known as Pointe Cimetiere), Trou aux Biches(opp Casuarina), The Vale, P.G The Vale	9

BEACH AUTHORITY

The Beach Authority is a para-statal body under the aegis of the Solid Waste Management Division of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, it is responsible for the proper control and management of public beaches in the Republic of Mauritius. It came into operation in June 2002 after its establishment under the Beach Authority Act, 2002. It ensures an integrated approach for management of public beaches and provides infrastructures and facilities for the benefit of the public and tourists.

Key Functions

- (i) Regulate and monitor activities on public beaches while ensuring the security and safety of users of public beaches.
- (ii) Ensure day to day cleaning of public beaches.
- (iii) Implement projects relating to:
 - 1) the conservation and protection of the environment of public beaches;
 - 2) upliftment and landscaping works on public beaches;
 - 3) provision and maintenance of amenities on public beaches;
 - 4) provision of leisure facilities on public beaches;
 - 5) the enhancement of the quality of sea water; and
 - 6) day to day cleaning of public beaches.
- (iv) Issue beach traders' licence for activities on public beaches.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT CLEANING AGENCY (NECA)

The National Environment Cleaning Authority (NECA) is a para-statal body. It became under the aegis of the Solid Waste Management Division of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change on 28 November 2024.

It was established to spearhead national efforts in maintaining cleanliness and environmental beautification across Mauritius.

NECA became operational in July 2022, following the promulgation of the National Environment Cleaning Authority Act 2022 (Act No. 7 of 2022). This Act outlines the Authority's mandate and operational framework.

Key Functions

- (a) carry out an inventory and mapping of all sites to be cleaned and embellished and maintain a database thereof;
- (b) undertake, as and when required, cleaning and embellishment works;
- (c) address any gaps or bottlenecks with respect to tasks assigned to each relevant organisation in the implementation of cleaning and embellishment programmes;
- (d) prepare a sensitisation and communication strategy and Action Plan and ensure its implementation;
- (e) promote community engagement in the cleaning and embellishment programmes;
- (f) mobilise resources so as to support the effort of public organisations in the delivery of the cleaning and embellishment programmes;
- (g) develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure that all stakeholders provide feedback regularly;
- (h) cooperate with any other organisation, including the private sector, having objects wholly or partly similar to its objects;
- (i) advise the Minister on cleaning and embellishment policies and strategies, including recycling of waste, and on any other matter related thereto; and
- (j) do such other things as may be necessary for the attainment of its objects.

PART II: ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION



MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 24-25

- The Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act introduced in April 2023, was proclaimed on 31 July 2024..
- The “Waste Management and Resource Recovery (Registration of Scavenging Contractor) Regulations 2025” have been finalized and proclaimed. According to the Public Procurement Act, all Public bodies are required to hire the services of scavenging contractors who are registered with the Solid Waste Management of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change. Scavenging contractors have 60 days to register with effect from 01 October 2025.
- The Concession agreement for setting up on a PPP basis, two regional IWPFs, was signed in October 2024. Each facility, of capacity of 130,000 tons , consists of a composting plant that will allow organic waste, such as food wastes and green wastes to be composted and a sorting unit ensuring that recyclable materials such as paper, carton, plastics and metals are properly segregated prior for onwards recycling. It is planned that to deliver at least 260,000 tons of segregated waste annually to the two IWPFs.
- The Division has awarded a contract for the “Consultancy Services to Conduct a Comprehensive National Inventory of Hazardous Wastes Generated in Mauritius and Rodrigues for a period of 12 months to Strategic Networking Partners and Consulting Ltd. This inventory will serve as a foundational tool for policymaking, compliance with international obligations, and improved waste management planning as well as compliance to the Basel Convention, to which Mauritius is a signatory. The inventory will collect detailed information on the sources, types, and quantities of hazardous waste generated, as well as how these wastes are currently handled, managed, and treated. This includes identifying existing practices, technologies, and infrastructure. The aim is not only to understand what is generated and in what volume, but also how it is managed, where gaps exist, and what improvements are needed. The resulting analysis will support the formulation of targeted actions and recommendations to strengthen the national hazardous waste management system.
- A contract for the Dismantling, Removal and Disposal of Cemented Asbestos Sheets from 20 housing units from the Ex- CHA/EDC Houses across the island was awarded to the Contractor SNB Construction Ltd to the tune of Rs 2,645,000 exclusive of VAT, for a duration of 24 months. As at 21 October 2025, eight housing units have already been dismantled
- For the period July 2024 to June 2025, a total of 63.25 tons of hazardous waste have been exported to Netherlands and Greece out of the 88.19 tons collected at the Interim Hazardous Waste Facility.
- The SWMD being the Competent Authority for the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal has given its consent to 15 such transboundary movements through Mauritius.

STATUS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF BUDGET MEASURES

In the Budget Speech 2024-2025, the following measures were announced by the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development pertaining to waste management. The table below depicts the status of these Measures:

Paragraph in Budget Speech	Measure	Status
240	Implementing extended producer responsibility for electronic and electrical wastes (Objective: To make producers/importers responsible for the management of their end-of – life packaging and products to promote circularity	Regulations are being vetted by SLO
233	Companies will be issued a licence for the cleaning of beaches through collection of algae and seaweeds for valorisation into products such as fertilisers.	A meeting was held on 17 December 2024 at the Ministry of Finance in the presence of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change (Solid Waste Management Division), the Ministry of Agro-Industry, Food Security, the MRIC, the FAREI and the Beach Authority. It was agreed that a technical committee to be led by the Solid Waste Management Division would be set up accordingly to look into the issue for authorization to appropriate organisations.

STATUS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY ACTIONS AND KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Main Service	Key Performance Indicator	Target	Status
Revamp popular public beaches	Number of Beach enhancement projects completed (cumulative)	4	Two Public Beaches (Mont Choisy and Belle Mare) have been enhanced.
Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes	Amount of hazardous chemical wastes collected (tonnes)	100 tons	88 tons collected.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Internal Audit

With autonomous operation, the Ministry's Internal Control Unit helps Management to achieve its goals by assessing and refining the efficacy of the organization's risk management, control, and governance processes. The Internal Control Unit and the Ministry proposed an Annual Audit Plan for Financial Year 2024-2025, while identifying audit areas using a risk assessment technique, with prime focus on areas that presented most risk to the Ministry. For the Financial Year 2024-2025, the Internal Control Unit covered a total of 4 major audits and one special assignment as per the approved Annual Plan.

Anti- Corruption Committee

An Anti-Corruption Committee has been set up at the Ministry to identify, assess corruption risks and recommend on measures to mitigate or eliminate such risks. The Committee has the responsibility to develop and coordinate the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Policy. It also sets priorities, provide advice when issues, including ethics, arise and communicate the policy to all levels of management and staff.

Audit Committee

In line with the Government's decision to set up an Audit Committee within every Ministry/Department to minimise the number of audit queries, an Audit Committee has been setup at the Ministry. The Audit Committee has, as agenda, the prompt examination of the following Reports:

- ☐ Director of Audit Report;
- ☐ Public Accounts Committee Report; and
- ☐ Internal Control Report.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN TO ADDRESS SHORTCOMINGS IDENTIFIED IN AUDIT REPORTS AND STATUS OF REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Issues	Comments and Recommendations	Status
Mare Chicose Landfill- No Fire Certificate	Mare Chicose Landfill had no fire certificate as of November 2024.	Will be delivered after installation of the fire fighting system by contractor
Transfer Stations – No valid Fire Certificate	- The Roche Bois transfer station did not have a valid fire certificate as from February 2023. - La Brasserie and La Chaumiere transfer stations did not have a valid fire certificate since 2022 as improvement works recommended by Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS) were not yet completed by private contractors and SWMD.	- Application for fire certificate for Roche Bois transfer station was made on 14 June 2023 which was issued on 26 January 2024 and is valid up to 25 January 2027. - Additional improvement works have been submitted following reapplication of Fire Certificates at La Brasserie and La Chaumière Transfer Stations which have already been communicated to the Contractor for appropriate actions.
Installation of Firefighting Systems not yet Implemented	- No expenditure incurred for the firefighting and allied works at La Chaumiere and La Brasserie transfer stations. - The location and design for the firefighting system using water for Mare Chicose has not been decided by SWMD.	The Division does not have the manpower to undertake works. Any improvement or additional works would have to be effected under the contract for operation and maintenance.

Lapses in Procurement Procedures and Operational Activities of Roche Bois Transfer Station	Bidding documents not finalised after 1 Year for Operation and Maintenance of Roche Bois transfer station	With view to expediting the finalisation of bidding documents, CPB should have one joint meeting with all departments concerned to vet and finalise all bidding documents.
Non-Compliance with Contract Agreement for the Disposal of Inflammable Products	SWMD should ensure that the Contractor strictly complies with the conditions of the Contract Agreement regarding the safety measures and make necessary arrangements for the proper disposal of hazardous chemicals under the relevant sections of the "Safety Data Sheet" to avoid any risk of fire incidents.	It is the duty of the Contractor to effect random sampling of wastes entering the transfer station and not to accept such wastes, to redirect them to the appropriate disposal sites.
Weighbridge- Out of Order	- The Contractor of the Transfer Station was responsible to ensure that the Weighbridge "IN" and "OUT" are always in operation. - The Weighbridge 'OUT' has not been operational since November 2022 and was out of order.	- The weighbridge 'OUT' load cells have been installed and is working properly. - The Division may consider a penalty clause in the contract for non-functioning of the bridge in future procurement exercise.
(a) Lapses in Contract Management		
Extension of Contract and Emergency Procurement on Several Occasions to Same Contractor	Extension of Contract and Emergency Procurement on Several Occasions to Same Contractor	The question of the emergency contract will no longer arise as a 10-year contract has been awarded on 28 June 2024 commencing on 1 July 2024.
Emergency Contract Agreement Signed after Completion Date	The fourth and the sixth Emergency Contracts were signed after their completion period while the fifth Emergency Contract was signed two weeks before the contractual completion date.	The delays in signing the Contract Agreements for the 2 Emergency Procurements were due to heavy workload.
Taking Over Certificate- Not Issued	The Taking Over Certificate for the contract which ended on	The Taking Over Certificate is achieved automatically once a period of 28 days post the

	30 June 2024, had not yet been issued by the Contractor as at 19 October 2024.	time for completion has passed.
(b) Operational Activities-Appropriate and Prompt Actions Not Taken	The Division did not take appropriate and prompt actions against the Landfill Contractor and the Consultant for several shortcomings noted by the Technical Enforcement Unit.	The Consultant has been requested to ensure close supervision and to enforce the contractual obligations upon the contractor.
Lapses in Landfill Vertical Expansion Project	- There was a delay in awarding a new contract. - Some conditions of the contract was not complied with. - There was the absence of an amended Environmental Impact License.	- The procurement of the contract has suffered numerous setbacks encompassing cancellation of the first procurement exercise, preparation of new bidding documents and land issue. - Following discussions with the land owner, the Accounting Officer successfully negotiated the lease of the land temporarily pending the acquisition procedure. - The contract was finally awarded in June 2024. The land accommodating the landfill and additional land region totaling to 74 Hectares has been acquired in April 2025.
Distribution of Compost Bins	There was a significant delay in distribution of compost bins from the date procured.	The logistics available at the Living Environment Unit of Environment and Climate Change Division will be used to assist in the distribution of the remaining compost bins. Decentralisation of the distribution will be effected through environment enhancing projects at community level.

Non-Submission of Report on Performance	• The annual report for FY 23-24 was not yet submitted for Solid Waste Management Division. • The Annual Report of Beach Authority for period 2022-23 has not been laid before the National Assembly.	•The annual report for 2023-24 has been submitted. •Delay was due to heavy workload , lack of staff as well as unforeseen situations cropped up such as the fire at the landfill and transfer station. •The Annual Report is under publication.
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PART III: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The operation and activities of the Solid Waste Management Division of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change are funded under the Estimates of Financial Year 2024/2025 Vote -11-2 (Solid & Hazardous Waste and Beach Management) to the tune of Rs 857 Million and also under the National Environment and Climate Change Fund (NECCF) for a provision of Rs 379 Million.

ANALYSIS OF MAJOR CHANGES

- An increase of Rs 55,500,000 was observed in the Budget provision under Vote 11-2 for Financial Year 2024/2025 when compared to the amount of 801,500,000 in 2023/2024. However, additional funds to the tune of Rs 302,773,800 has been made available from the NECCF to meet contractual payments, bringing the total funds for 2024/2025 to Rs 1,538,773,800.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

The actual expenditure for Financial Year 2024/2025 under Vote 11-2 is Rs 854,322,976 as compared to Rs 791,340,472 in Financial Year 2023/2024.

A comparative expenditure for Estimates and Actual Expenditure is as follows:

Economic Category	2022/2023	2022/2023	2023/2024	2023/2024	2024/2025	2024/2025
	Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Estimates	Actual Expenditure
Compensation of Employees	45,000,000	43,669,802	49,300,000	46,396,242	52,100,000	54,053,610
Goods and Services	706,300,000	733,405,057	675,000,000	679,907,486	718,100,000	731,653,461
Grants	69,400,000	67,322,909	73,100,000	60,244,547	81,600,000	63,991,410
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	4,300,000	2,371,255	4,100,000	4,792,197	5,200,000	4,624,495
TOTAL	825,000,000	846,769,023	801,500,000	791,340,472	857,000,000	854,322,976

REVENUE

A total amount of Rs 12,811,527 has been collected by the Solid Waste Management Division during Financial Year 2024/2025 as follows:

Description	Amount (Rs)
Waste Carrier's License	2,869,600
Disposal of Hazardous Waste	9,941,927
TOTAL	12,811,527

EXPENDITURE UNDER THE CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY FUND(CSF)

Funds under the Climate and Sustainability Fund (CSF) are provided to the Solid Waste Management Division mainly for infrastructure development of the Mare Chicose Landfill, Composting Units, Civic Amenity Centres, Regional Composting & Sorting Facilities and other

A breakdown of expenditure under NECCF for Financial year 2024/2025 is as follows:

S.N	Description	Estimates 2024/2025 (Including Additional Funding)	Actual Expenditure 2024/2025
	Promotion of Circular Economy	20,200,000	2,436,700
1	National Waste Recycling Programme for Segregation of Waste at Source	16,000,000	0
(i)	Tipping Fee	-	-
(ii)	Consultancy Services (Independent Engineer)	10,000,000	0
(iii)	Sensitisation Campaign for Waste Segregation at Source	3,000,000	0
(iv)	Covering of Civic Amenity Centres	3,000,000	0
2	Setting up of Scrapyard Facility for End-of-Life Vehicles (<i>Study</i>)	200,000	0
3	Consultancy Services for Upgrading of Transfer Station	500,000	0
4	Consultancy Services for Construction of Transfer Station	500,000	1,436,700

S.N	Description	Estimates 2024/2025 (Including Additional Funding)	Actual Expenditure 2024/2025
5	Composting of Green Wastes from Parks and Gardens	1,000,000	1000,000-
6	Acquisition of Mobile Shredder	1,000,000	0
7	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Mechanism for e-wastes	1,000,000	0
	Upliftment of Public Beaches	27,800,00	7,136,000
8	Beach Management Plans	9,700,000	4,791,000
(i)	Mont Choisy - Construction of Toilet Block	200,000	0
(ii)	Mont-Choisy (Consultancy)- phase 2	1,000,000	187,000
(iii)	Flic-en-Flac (PV Rs 12 M)	-	-
(iv)	La Prairie- Phase 1	3,000,000	0
(v)	La Prairie - Construction of Panoramic Viewpoint	500,000	0
(vi)	Belle Mare	-	-
(vii)	Belle Mare-Construction of Toilet Block	3,000,000	4,604,000
(viii)	Le Bouchon and Poste La Fayette (Consultancy)	1,000,000	0
(ix)	Bois des Amourettes- Upgrading of beach and Lighting of Jetty	1,000,000	0
9	Beach Amenities	18,100,000	2,345,300
(i)	Amenities at Pomponette ,Pte aux Piments, and other Beaches	6,000,000	0
(ii)	Upgrading works at Mont-Choisy (near Mystic Hotel)	2,400,000	2,345,300
(iii)	Provision of Segregation Bins at Mont Choisy and Pereybere	1,000,000	0
(iv)	Amenities at at Bras D'eau, Palmar, Pointe-aux-Sables (Consultancy)	-	-

S.N	Description	Estimates 2024/2025 (Including Additional Funding)	Actual Expenditure 2024/2025
(v)	Reinstatement of Bato Roche at Remy Ollier public beach	-	-
(vi)	Setting up of a Swimming Zone at St Felix public beach	1,000,000	0
(vii)	Upgrading Works at Pointe aux Piments (Cemetery), Trou aux Biches (Station), Bel Ombre, Roche Noire, Poste La Fayette, Belle Mare (Res Thalassa), Caro Bringel	2,000,000	0
(viii)	Upgrading of Kiosks at Blue Bay public beach	1,700,000	0
(ix)	Upgrading of Kiosk at Pointe aux Piments (Cemetery)	1,000,000	0
(x)	Supply and refurbishment of two containers for Belle Mare and St Felix public beaches	2,000,000	0
(xi)	Disaster Management Remedial Works (Beach Reprofilng)	1,000,000	0
	Clean-Up Mauritius Programme of which	204,000,000	379,055,200
10	Cleaning of Public Beaches and Operation and Management of Landfill Site and Transfer Stations	200,000,000	379,055,200
11	Cleaning of Beaches and Lagoons	4,000,000	0
	Solid Waste Management Programme of which	127,000,000	293,145,900
12	Solid Waste Disposal Facilities at Mare Chicose Landfill	120,000,000	286,065,700
(i)	Creation of Void Space on existing cells at the Landfill	60,000,000	28,842,400
(ii)	Consultancy Services for Supervision of Vertical Expansion Works and Operation of the Landfill	10,000,000	20,446,500

S.N	Description	Estimates 2024/2025 (Including Additional Funding)	Actual Expenditure 2024/2025
(iii)	Works for Vertical Expansion of the Landfill	50,000,000	236,776,800
13	Compensation for the Relocation of Inhabitants of Mare Chicose	500,000	0
14	Consultancy Services for the New Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act	500,000	0
15	Asbestos Treatment Programme in ex-CHA Houses	1,000,000	2,080,200
16	Carting Away of Post-Cyclonic Wastes from Transfer Stations	5,000,000	5,000,000
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	379,000,000	681,773,800



PART IV:

WAY FORWARD

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Strengths S	➤ High quality engineered sanitary landfill. ➤ 100% waste collection coverage in Mauritius. ➤ A modern state-of-the-art interim Hazardous Waste Storage Facility. ➤ Civic Amenity Centres for the separate collection of waste materials for recycling. ➤ Dedicated legislation, Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act 2023.
Weaknesses W	➤ Lengthy procedures for identification and acquisition of land for projects. ➤ Complex procurement procedure. ➤ Low recovery of solid organic wastes. ➤ Inadequate incentive to recycling companies. ➤ High Turnover of Technical Staff.
Opportunities O	➤ Introduction of new Solid waste management technologies with PPP projects. ➤ Renewable energy production from anaerobic digestion of organic wastes. ➤ Creation of specialised and green jobs in composting and biogas plants. ➤ Extension of the landfill life through diversion of waste to composting, recycling and anaerobic digestion. ➤ Maximise Revenue through conversion of landfill gas to energy under new contracts.
Threats T	➤ Loss of high value resources in solid wastes. ➤ Further greenhouse gas emissions from composting. ➤ Solid and hazardous waste disposal emergency situation in the future. ➤ Climatic Changes resulting in higher precipitation levels.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Ensure optimum use of the landfill	 Increase the disposal capacity of the landfill through the implementation of Vertical Expansion.
	 Increase diversion of waste by expanding the network of civic amenity centres and implementing segregation at source.
Promote a circular economy in the waste sector	 Introduce segregation of wastes at source.  Setting-up and operation of regional composting plants and sorting units on PPP basis.  Introduce tipping fee for recycling of waste.  Education and sensitisation campaigns.
	 Set-up a Producer Responsibility Organisation for the recycling of the electrical and electronic wastes based on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).
	 Establish the criteria for the operation of scrapyard facility for end-of-life vehicles by the Private Sector.
Ensure maximum collection of hazardous	 Complete the survey of hazardous waste generators  Carry out collection campaigns for household hazardous wastes.

PART V

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Relocation of the Solid Waste Management Division

To Level 3, Nexsky Building, Ebene.

New & Pleasant



Spacious....



At the Mare Chicose Landfill.... November 2024...



Workshop on *Mecanismes de Financement de la gestion des dechets*



Visit at Recycling facilities at PIM Ltd and WeCycleLtd



Workshop on Segregation of Waste at Source



Recycling of Plastic on board of the Odyssey



Mauritian Delegation at the BRS COP 2025...



Initiating school children to Segregation of Waste and Recycling...



End of Year Get-Together



Proudly Celebrating the National Day...



Teamwork...and Participation of SWMD in International Day of Protection of the Ozone Layer...



4eme Comite de Pilotage (COPIL), sous Convention Fexte



End of Financial Year 2024-25....



Key Staff

Permanent Secretary

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Deputy Permanent Secretary

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