

ANNUAL REPORT ON PERFORMANCE FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-2025

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Ministry of Arts and Culture

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Acronyms

CELPAC	Centre de Lecture Publique et d'Animation Culturelle
ESU	English-Speaking Union
HSU	Hindi-Speaking Union
ICH	Intangible Cultural Heritage
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LMCL	Le Morne Cultural Landscape
LMHTF	Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund
MAC	Ministry of Arts and Culture
MASA	Mauritius Society of Authors
MCB	Mauritius Bank Commercial
MFDC	Mauritius Film Development Corporation
MGI	Mahatma Gandhi Institution
MMC	Mauritius Museums Council
MTCCT	Mauritius Tamil Cultural Centre Trust
NHF	National Heritage Fund
NMCAC	Nelson Mandela Centre for African Centre
SMAS	School of Mauritian and Area Studies
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USU	Urdu-Speaking Union

Statement from Minister of Arts and Culture

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on Performance for the financial year 2024-2025, the first under my tenure as Minister of Arts and Culture since assuming office in November 2024. It is a privilege to serve our nation by contributing to the advancement of our cultural, artistic, and heritage landscape during this significant period.

Since taking office, the Ministry has marked milestones that reflect our national identity. The commemoration of the 190th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery at Le Morne, a site of memory, resilience, and freedom, reminded us of the foundations of our Republic. We have also collaborated with our parastatal bodies and other Ministries to deliver major national events that embody the unity and diversity of the Mauritian people. From the National Day Celebrations on 12th March 2025 to the wide range of festivals and cultural expressions across communities, these moments strengthened our shared identity and celebrated the rich tapestry that defines Mauritius.

Over this period, the Ministry has advanced key priorities and strengthened support mechanisms for the cultural sector. Financial assistance was provided to artists and cultural operators under various schemes. Renovation of the Serge Constantin Theatre has begun in phases to enable its reopening after four years of closure. I am personally overseeing the National Archives and National Library project at Réduit Triangle, Moka. Several new projects announced in the Government Programme have also been initiated, ensuring our cultural agenda evolves with national priorities and the aspirations of Mauritians.

Looking ahead, the Ministry remains committed to modernising the cultural sector, strengthening the professionalisation of artists, improving heritage management, and unlocking opportunities for creative industry growth. Our objective is to position Mauritius as a vibrant and inclusive cultural hub, where creativity flourishes and our heritage enriches national consciousness, guided by our spirit of unity **as one people, as one nation**.

I express my deepest appreciation to the officers of the Ministry and our parastatal bodies for their dedication, professionalism, and unwavering spirit. Your commitment has driven every achievement. I am confident that our collective passion and resilience will continue to inspire our people and strengthen the cultural heartbeat of Mauritius.

Hon. Mahendra Gondeea, OSK
Minister of Arts and Culture

Statement from Junior Minister of Arts and Culture

This year has once again shown how culture unites us and strengthens our identity. I have had the privilege of working closely with communities, artists, and organisations, and I am inspired by their creativity and resilience.

From festive gatherings such as Divali, Spring Festival, and the Dragon Boat Festival, to solemn commemorations like the 190th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery, our cultural events brought Mauritians together in celebration and remembrance.

I am particularly proud of initiatives empowering youth, women, and emerging artists, ensuring their voices are heard and talents nurtured. These efforts enrich our cultural life and strengthen social cohesion.

As we move forward, I remain committed to working with the Honourable Minister, the personnel of the Ministry of Arts and Culture, and all partners to ensure that our policies remain inclusive and transformative, celebrating culture as a true pillar of national pride.

Hon. (Mrs) Veronique Leu-Govind
Junior Minister of Arts and Culture

Statement from the Permanent Secretary

This Annual Report provides an account of the Ministry's performance for the financial year 2024-2025, with particular emphasis on the implementation of approved programmes, the management of public resources, and the strengthening of governance and administrative systems.

During the year under review, priority was given to reinforcing a results-oriented approach to operations, including improved planning, closer monitoring of outputs, and enhanced oversight of projects and support schemes implemented by the Ministry and its parastatal bodies. Efforts were directed towards ensuring compliance with statutory, financial and procurement requirements, while promoting greater accountability and efficiency in service delivery.

Within the context of budgetary constraints and increasing operational demands, the Ministry focused on optimizing the use of available resources, improving coordination with other Ministries/Departments, and maintaining continuity in the delivery of services to the cultural sector.

Looking ahead, the Ministry will continue to strengthen its performance management framework through clearer definition of outcomes and key performance indicators, more robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Further attention will be given to modernising administrative processes, building institutional capacity and improving collaboration with stakeholders, with the objective of achieving measurable and sustainable results.

I acknowledge the commitment and professionalism of officers of the Ministry, as well as the cooperation of the parastatal bodies under the aegis of the Ministry, whose continued support will be critical in advancing the Ministry's mandate and implementing performance outcomes in the years ahead.

N. B. V. Payneeandy (Mrs)
Permanent Secretary

Introduction

As required by the Finance and Audit Act, this Annual Report gives an overview of the performance of the Ministry of Arts and Culture for the period 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

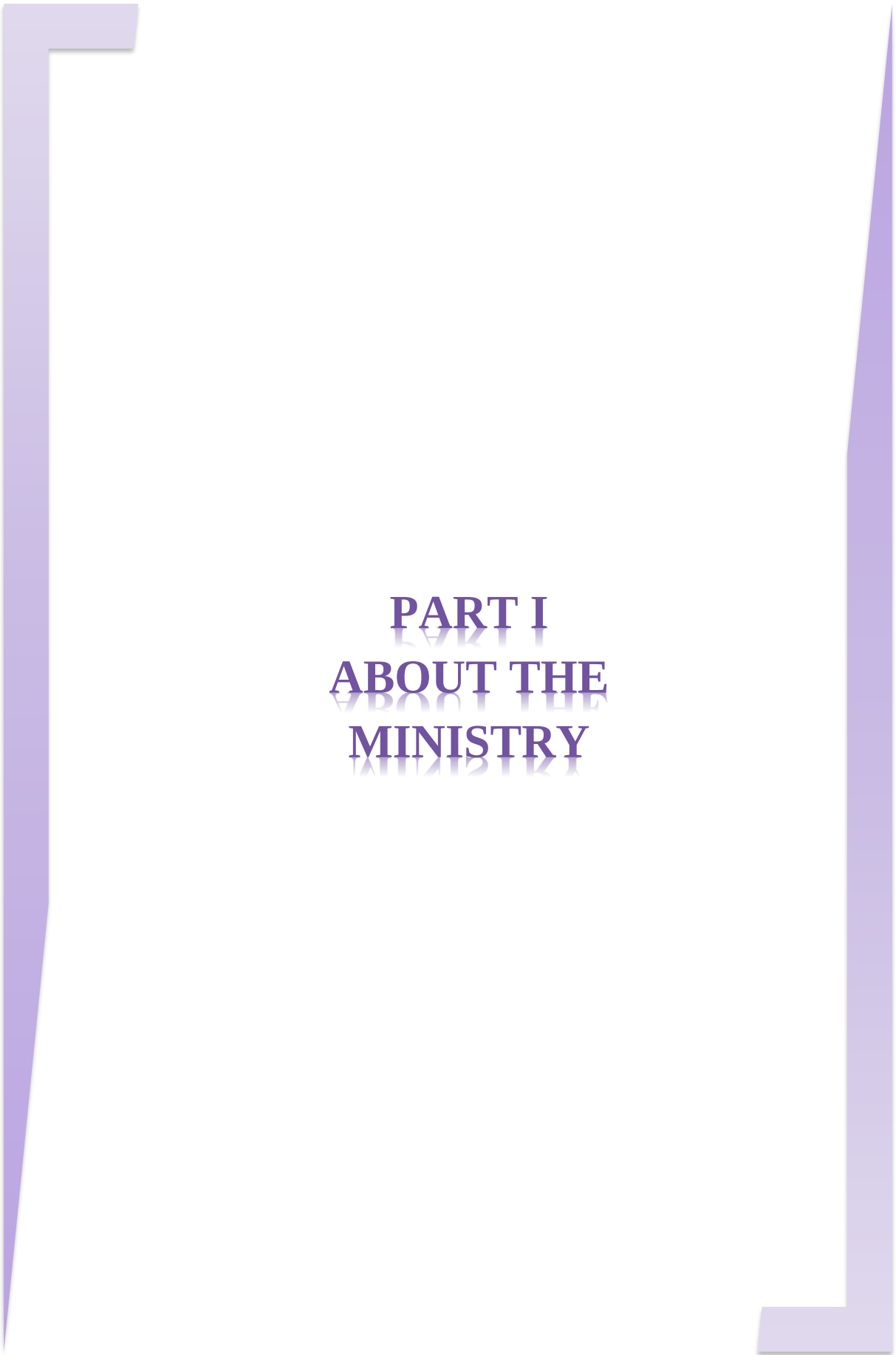
The objective of this Report is to share our key achievements, challenges and major strategic decisions with our stakeholders. In order to foster accountability at all levels, every attempt has been made to cover the functions, accomplishments, activities as well as the constraints of various parastatal bodies and functional areas of the Ministry of Arts and Culture during the Financial Year 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

This Report can also be used as an informative document by our customers, whether internal or external in line with good governance principles.

According to the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, this Report is structured into four parts as per below:



Figure 1: About the Ministry



PART I ABOUT THE MINISTRY

Vision and Mission of the Ministry

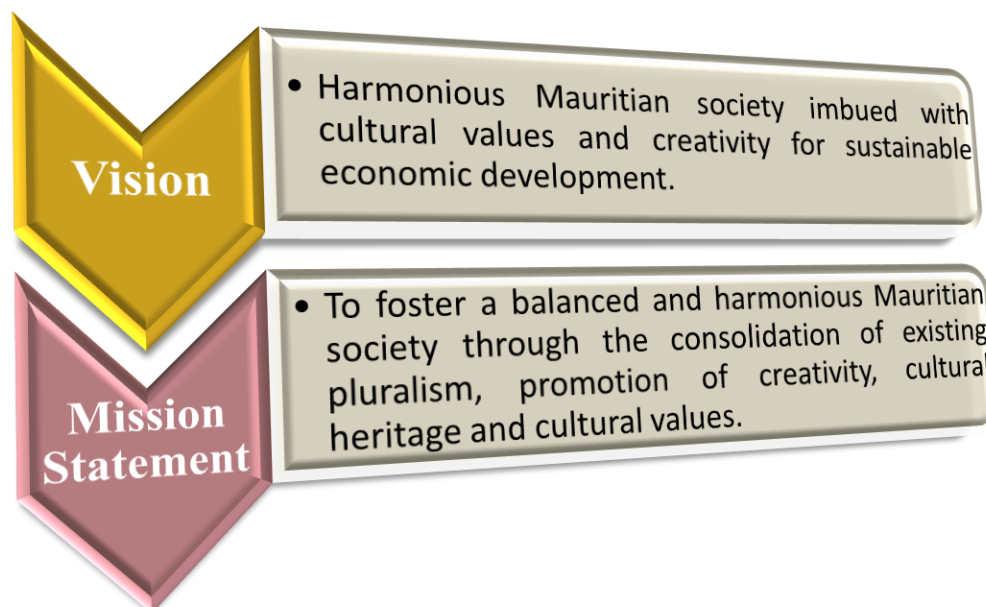


Figure 2: Vision and Mission

Roles and Functions of the Ministry

The Ministry of Arts and Culture primarily focuses on fostering a vibrant arts and cultural scene. Its mission includes promoting cultural interaction both within the country and internationally to enhance mutual understanding and enrichment. It aims at supporting artists, preserving cultural values, and organising various national events/activities for the public.

The Ministry is dedicated to preserving and promoting both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. This includes safeguarding historical sites, monuments, and artefacts, as well as promoting traditional music, dance and other cultural practices.

The main objectives of the Ministry include:

- ☑ organising artistic and cultural events at the national level;
- ☑ providing financial support to artists;
- ☑ upgrading cultural infrastructure and national heritage sites;
- ☑ offering library facilities to the public around the country;
- ☑ promoting the use of theatres;
- ☑ providing technical assistance as follows-
 - acting, play direction and stagecraft;
 - supporting the publication for writers; and
 - supporting socio-cultural organisations.

Gender Statement

The Ministry of Arts and Culture is committed to promoting gender equality, equity and inclusiveness across all its policies, programmes and institutional practices. Recognising the vital role of both women and men in shaping and preserving Mauritius' rich cultural heritage, the Ministry endeavours to ensure that its services, support mechanisms and opportunities are accessible to all.

We affirm that gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable society. The Ministry is therefore determined to:

- mainstream gender considerations in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all cultural programmes and schemes;
- ensure equal access to funding, facilities and recognition for women and men artists and cultural workers;
- promote balanced gender representation in institutions under the aegis of the Ministry;
- address and eliminate any form of gender-based discrimination or harassment within the Ministry, Departments and Institutions under its aegis; and
- support capacity-building and empowerment initiatives aimed at reducing gender disparities, particularly in the creative and cultural industries and heritage sectors.

This Policy Statement serves as the Ministry's pledge to uphold gender equality in line with the Constitution, national policies and international commitments.

The Ministry will regularly review and update its gender strategy to ensure that gender mainstreaming is successfully implemented.

About our People

The Minister of Arts and Culture plays a crucial role as the political head of the Ministry. The Minister is responsible for setting the policy direction and determining the priorities of the Ministry.

The role of the Permanent Secretary, as the Administrative Head and Accounting Officer of the Ministry, is to oversee the overall administration and ensure the smooth functioning of various sections within the Ministry. Additionally, the Permanent Secretary plays a key role in translating government policies and programs into actionable initiatives through the organisations operating under the Ministry's aegis.

The Permanent Secretary is supported by two Deputy Permanent Secretaries and a team of four Assistant Permanent Secretaries, who help manage the various functions and duties of the Ministry. This team ensures that the Ministry's objectives are met efficiently and that all sections operate smoothly.

The Director of Culture leads the technical unit of the Ministry, ensuring the effective implementation of cultural policies and programmes. The Director of Culture is supported by the Deputy Director of Culture and a team of officers from the Culture cadre, Arts cadre, and also comprise a theatre manager and light and sound technicians. This collaborative effort helps in organising events, managing cultural sites, and providing support to artists and cultural organisations.

Each team at the Ministry provides its expertise to ensure the smooth operation and success of the Ministry's initiatives. Employment as at 30 June 2025 is listed below. Contact details of key staff is at Annex.

Table 1: Employment as at 30 June 2025

Grades	Male	Female	Total
Permanent Secretary	-	1	1
Deputy Permanent Secretary	-	2	2
Assistant Permanent Secretary	3	1	4
Manager, Human Resources	-	1	1
Assistant Manager Human Resources	1	-	1
Senior Human Resources Executive	-	1	1
Human Resources Executive	1	-	1
Manager, Financial Operations	-	1	1
Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	-	1	1
Principal Financial Operations Officer	1	1	2
Assistant Financial Operations Officer	-	2	2
Manager, Procurement and Supply	1	-	1

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Grades	Male	Female	Total
Assistant Manager, Procurement and Supply	1	-	1
Principal Procurement and Supply Officer	1	1	2
Assistant Procurement and Supply Officer	2	1	3
Office Management Executive	1	1	2
Secretary, Film Classification Board	1	-	1
Assistant Secretary, Film Classification Board	-	1	1
Senior Projectionist	1	-	1
Projectionist	1	-	1
Receptionist	-	1	1
Theatre Manager	1	-	1
Public Address Operator	1	-	1
Senior Technician	1	-	1
Technician	5	-	5
Carpenter	2	-	2
Electrician	2	-	2
Coordinator CELPAC	1		1
Assistant Coordinator CELPAC	-	1	1
Library and Animation Officer/Senior Library and Animation Officer	3	-	3
Attendant/Senior Attendant (Arts and Culture)	5	15	20
Stores Attendant	2	-	2
Director of Culture	1	-	1
Deputy Director of Culture	-	1	1
Principal Culture Officers	-	4	4
Senior Culture Officers	2	2	4
Culture Officers	3	8	11
Head Office Auxiliary	2	-	2
Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	7	17	24
Chief Arts Officer	1	-	1
Principal Arts Officer	1	-	1
Senior Arts Officer	2	-	2
Arts Officer	3	6	9
Office Management Assistant	2	13	15
Word Processing Operator (Oriental Language)	-	1	1

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Grades	Male	Female	Total
Driver (on Roster day and night)	10	1	11
Gardener/Nursery Attendant	2	-	2
Handy Worker	5	1	6
General Worker	9	5	14
Assistant Manager Internal Control	1	-	1
Internal Control Officer/ Senior Internal Control Officer	-	1	1
Adviser	3	-	3
Management Support Officer	13	52	65
Word Processing Operator	-	10	10
Confidential Secretary	-	6	6
Assistant Systems Analyst/Senior Assistant Systems Analyst	1	-	1
Office Supervisor	-	1	1
Total	102	152	254

During Financial Year 2024/2025, 85 officers attended training locally while 18 officers attended training abroad (in-person or online) as detailed below.

Table 2: Local Training attended by Officers of the Ministry

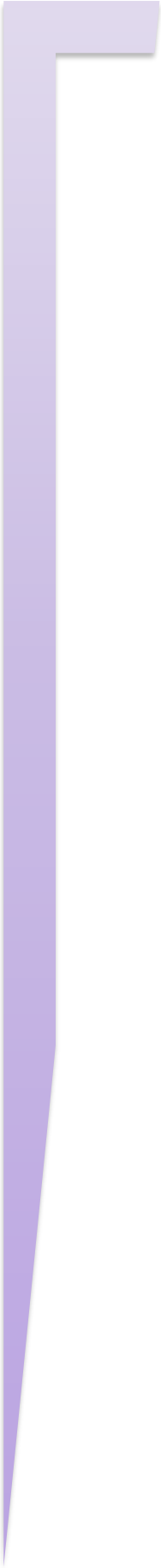
Local Training	Number of staff trained 2024/2025	Male	Female
Officers attended training at Civil Service College, Mauritius/ other institutions (cost met by the Ministry) ▪ Practical Session on Government Asset Register ▪ Training Course on Tea Making and Service ▪ First Aid ▪ Digital Proficiency Course (45 hrs) by MDPA	19	1	4
		2	2
		3	7
		3	16
Foundation Course/Induction Programme for new recruits Management Support Officers Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	30	7	17
		1	5
		8	22
Officers attended training sponsored by the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms	34	8	26
Officers attended training at Civil Service College, Mauritius sponsored by the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional	1		1

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Local Training	Number of staff trained 2024/2025	Male	Female
Reforms			
Officers attended Workshop/ Training organised by other Ministries/ Institutions	1		1
Total	85	19	66

Table 3: Overseas Training attended by Officers of the Ministry

Training Abroad	Number of staff trained 2024/2025	Male	Female
Officers attended training (in person) abroad	10	5	5
Officers attended training abroad (online)	8	4	4
Total	18	9	9



PART II

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MINISTRY

Major Achievements

In line with its mandate, the Ministry has organised several national events / activities during the Financial Year 2024/2025.

Commemoration of the 190th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery

In the context of the Commemoration of the 190th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery, the Ministry of Arts and Culture and its parastatals, namely Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund, the National Heritage Fund, the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture and the Mauritius Museums Council have organised several activities.

List of Activities

On 31 January 2025, a Wreath laying ceremony was organised at ‘Bassin des Esclaves’ at Pamplemousses.



Figure 3: Wreath Laying by Honourable Mahendra Gondea OSK, Minister of Arts and Culture

On 31 January 2025, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, in collaboration with Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund (LMHTF) and the Mauritius Film Development Corporation (MFDC), made arrangements for the inhabitants of Le Morne and its vicinity to attend the screening of the film ‘Ni Chaînes Ni Maîtres’ at M Cine Trianon.

‘Ni Chaînes Ni Maîtres’ is a feature film by Simon Montairou, which was shot in Mauritius, including the UNESCO World Heritage site of Le Morne Brabant. This site is a poignant symbol of resistance and memory for the descendants of enslaved people. The film also showcased and mentioned several actors/characters from Le Morne Village.

On 01 February 2025, a wreath laying ceremony and an official ceremony was held at Le Morne Public Beach to commemorate the 190th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery. The wreath laying ceremony was attended by the Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and other dignitaries at the International Slave Route Monument.



Figure 4: Wreath Laying Ceremony at the International Slave Route Monument at Le Morne.

The official ceremony comprised speeches by dignitaries and slam performances. The programme also included a vibrant ‘*Spektak Mizikal*’ as well as a prize giving ceremony to the winners of the Slam competition organised by the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture.

01 February 2025, a Wreath Laying Ceremony was led by H.E the President of the Republic, members of the National Assembly, Chairperson of District Council of Grand Port and President of Village Council of Mahebourg at the ‘Monument aux Esclaves’, Pointe Canon, Mahebourg.

On 02 February 2025, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, alongside the Mauritius Museums Council and National Heritage Fund, commemorated the 190th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery at the Frederik Hendrik Historical Site in Vieux Grand Port. The event featured the unveiling of a plaque and stèle of Anna Van Bengal, attended by dignitaries including the Honourable Mahendra Gondeea, OSK, Minister of Arts and Culture, and the Honourable (Mrs) Marie Veronique Leu-Govind, Junior Minister of Arts and Culture. The program included musical performances, poetry and slams by various artists.



Figure 5: Slam Poetry by Mr Maxs Juguilio Pierre Louis, winner of Slam Competition, Teenager Category



Figure 6: Wreath Laying by Honourable (Mrs) Veronique LEU-GOVIND, Junior Minister, Ministry of Arts and Culture



Figure 7: Unveiling ceremony of the plaque and stèle at Frederik Hendrik Historical site - Vieux Grand Port

National Spring Festival 2025

For the National Spring Festival 2025, the Ministry of Arts and Culture hosted the Hangzhou Opera and Dance Drama Theatre from the People's Republic of China from 17 to 21 January 2025. The cultural troupe performed for the annual Gala Show organized by this Ministry, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Mauritius and the China Cultural Centre on Saturday 18 January 2025 at the J&J Auditorium.



Figure 8: Performance by Cultural Troupe

A National Banquet was also organized by the Ministry of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the United Chinese Association and the Federation of Chinese Societies on Sunday 19 January 2025 at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre. The Chief Guest was Dr the Honourable Navinchandra Ramgoolam, GCSK, FRCP, Prime Minister.



Figure 9: National Banquet 2025

National Day Celebrations 2025 at Champ de Mars

Mauritius celebrated its 57th Independence Anniversary and 33rd Republic Anniversary with a flag-raising ceremony at Champ de Mars, under the theme "As One People, As One Nation." The event was attended by Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India as Chief Guest, His Excellency Dharambeer Gokhool, GCSK, President of the Republic of Mauritius, Dr the Honourable Navinchandra Ramgoolam GCSK, FRCP, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, and. His Excellency Dharambeer Gokhool conferred the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean to Shri Narendra Modi, who humbly accepted, dedicating the honour to the 1.4 billion people of India and the shared history, cultural bonds, and commitment to regional peace and development between Mauritius and India. The programme of the official ceremony was followed by a cultural programme by Mauritian artists.



Figure 10: Chief Guest, Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India

Dragon Boat Festival 2025

In the context of the 17th Dragon Boat Festival, the Ministry of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the Dragon and Lion Dance Federation, Le Caudan Waterfront, the China Cultural Center and Landscape Mauritius organized a traditional *défilé*, Dragon Boat Race and a cultural programme by a cultural troupe from the Mongolia, China on Sunday 25 May 2025 at the Caudan Waterfront:



Figure 11: Cultural troupe from the Mongolia, China

Other Achievements

Highlights of other achievements of the Ministry during FY 2024/2025 are detailed below:

Assistance Scheme for the Production of Audio Album

This assistance scheme aims at supporting the production of an audio album up to a ceiling of Rs50,000. Under this scheme, 26 applicants benefitted for a total sum of Rs 1.3M.

International Travel Grant Scheme

The International Travel Grant (ITG) Scheme is an assistance provided to artists to participate in international festivals where at least five countries are participating. The grant up to a ceiling of Rs250,000 is provided to artists/group of artists to refund the cost of air tickets. The Ministry disbursed a sum of Rs 631,100 to four artists.

International Competition Scheme

The International Competition Scheme is an assistance provided to artists to participate in competitions where at least five countries are participating. The grant up to a ceiling of Rs 200,000 is provided to artists/group of artists to refund the cost of air tickets. The Ministry disbursed a sum of Rs 113,560 to three artists.

International Award Ceremonies Scheme

Assistance to the tune of Rs 150,000 for participation in International Award Ceremonies is provided to facilitate the participation of artists who have been nominated in International Award Ceremonies in recognition of their outstanding performances on the international scene. The grant is provided to artists/group of artists to refund the cost of air tickets. The Ministry disbursed a sum of Rs 48,273 to an artist.

Statutory Bodies and Companies

The Ministry has 33 statutory bodies under its purview, including two (2) Special Funds, set up under the Finance and Audit Act, and two (2) State-owned companies, as depicted below. Each entity:

- ☑ is managed by a Board, consisting of a Chairperson, appointed by Government; and
- ☑ has its own goals and objectives.

Parastatal Bodies	Speaking Unions	Cultural Centres	Special Funds	State-Owned Companies
• Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund • Conservatoire National de Musique Francois Mitterrand Trust Fund • Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund • Malcolm de Chazal Trust Fund • Mauritius Society of Authors • Mauritius Council of Registered Librarians • Mauritius Film Development Corporation • Mauritius Museum Council • National Art Gallery • National Heritage Fund • National Library of Mauritius • Professional in the Arts Council • Professor Basdeo Bissoondoyal Trust Fund • Ramayana Centre	• Arabic-speaking Union • Bhojpuri-speaking Union • Chinese-speaking Union • Creole-speaking Union • English-speaking Union • French-speaking Union • Hindi-speaking Union • Marathi-speaking Union • Sanskrit-speaking Union • Tamil-speaking Union • Telugu-speaking Union • Urdu-speaking Union	• Islamic Cultural Centre Trust Fund • Mauritius Marathi Cultural Centre Trust Fund • Mauritius Tamil Cultural Centre Trust Fund • Mauritius Telugu Cultural Centre Trust Fund • Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture Trust Fund • Mauritian Cultural Centre Trust (Not operational since 2005)	• National Arts Fund • President's Fund for Creative Writing	• Intercontinental Slavery Museum (Mauritius) Ltd • National Troupe of Mauritius Ltd

Highlights of Activities by Parastatal Bodies

Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund

Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund plays a crucial role in the preservation and promotion of the historical, cultural, environmental, and ecological aspects of Le Morne. Its primary objectives based on the Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund Act 2004 include the following:

- 1) to promote Le Morne as a national, regional and international memorial site;
- 2) to preserve and promote the historical, cultural, environmental and ecological aspects of Le Morne;
- 3) to set up a museum and create public awareness in the history of Le Morne;
- 4) to encourage research and support projects and publications related to slavery and marronage;
- 5) to collect, publish and disseminate information pertaining to the history of slavery and marronage; and
- 6) to establish links with appropriate international organisations in line with the objects of the Act.

To mark the 16th anniversary of the inscription of the Le Morne Cultural Landscape (LMCL) on the UNESCO World Heritage List and in tribute to Nelson Mandela month, Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund (LMHTF), in collaboration with the High Commission of South Africa, organised a series of educational and community engagement activities on the premises of Le Morne Government School.

Moreover, as part of its commitment to environmental stewardship and in recognition of World Environment Day, Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund partnered with Mauritius Commercial Bank (MCB) and the organisation “We Recycle” to organize a community-driven cleaning campaign on 20 June 2025 along the scenic Trou Chenilles trail.



Figure 12: Cleaning Campaign in collaboration with the Mauritius Commercial Bank and “We Recycle”

Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture Trust Fund

Table 4: Major Achievements of Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture Trust Fund

Month	Activities
July 2024	8th Nelson Mandela Memorial Lecture: The Lecture was organised on Thursday 18 th July 2024, by the MGI, in collaboration with the NMCAC and the Middlesex University. A fusion show was created for the occasion merging influences from Africa and India, in addition with a spoken word performance by students from the Middlesex University.
August 2024	International Nelson Mandela Day: The Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture, in collaboration with the Sacré Coeur Parish of Beau Bassin, inaugurated a community aquaponic garden project, at the Sacré Coeur Parish, Beau Bassin Rose Hill, on Saturday, August 3, 2024.
May 2025	Africa Day Celebration: The NMCAC participated in a conference under the theme “Year of reparations Justice for Africans & People of African Descent through Reparations”, on 29 th May 2025, at the University of Mauritius.

National Heritage Fund

Anniversary of the Inscription of Segá Tambour Rodrigues on UNESCO Representative List of ICH

To mark the 7th anniversary of the inscription of the Segá Tambour Rodrigues on the UNESCO Representative List of ICH, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and Commission for Arts and Culture in collaboration with the National Heritage Fund organised a workshop on Saturday 7 December 2024 on the ICH of the Republic of Mauritius.

Segá Tipik Night/Festival Kreole

In the context of Festival Kreol, the Ministry of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the National Heritage Fund, Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture and Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund organised a Segá Tipik Night on Thursday 12 December 2024 at Le Morne village.

The International Day for Monuments and Sites which is celebrated every year on 18th April was initiated by ICOMOS in 1972 and ratified at the 22nd UNESCO General Conference in 1983.

In this context the National Heritage Fund has organised open days at the National Heritage sites on Saturday 19th and 20th April 2025, and an official function followed by a seminar, on the theme that the UNESCO has proclaimed for the year 2025 that is, “Heritage under threat of disaster and conflicts: Preparedness and Learning from 60 years of ICOMOS Actions”.

English-speaking Union

The Spelling Bee Competition is organised by the ESU and sponsored by the US Embassy and the Mauritius Commercial Bank, for students of Grade 7 to 10, in Mauritius. For the year 2025, some 500 students from 125 schools participated in an in-house competition. The finals were held on Tuesday 10th June 2025 in the auditorium of MCB St Jean.



Figure 13: Open Days at one of the National Heritage Sites



Figure 14: The Spelling Bee Competition for Students of Grade 7 to 10

Risk Management and Good Governance

In keeping with good governance, the Ministry devised several appropriate measures, such as the setting up of a Risk Management Committee, the Audit Committee, the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Safety and Health Committee, as detailed below:

Risk Management Committee

A Risk Management Committee (RMC) has been set up at the Ministry for the implementation of a Risk Management Policy and Framework. The roles and responsibilities of the RMC include the establishment and monitoring of the risk management implementation strategy and plan, identification of capacity building needs, amongst others. The Risk Management Policy and Framework has already been prepared and approved.

Meetings were held with all Risk Owners as per the Ministry's Risk Management Framework to provide them with assistance and guidance in respect of Risk Management Processes (Risk Identification, Risk Analysis, Risk Assessment, Risk Treatment and Risk Monitoring). A detailed Risk Register will be prepared and will be used to manage the risks identified by the Risk Owners.

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 - Director of Audit Report

The Director of Audit, in its Annual Report of February 2025, made various recommendations. The Ministry promptly initiated remedial actions. Several meetings were held with different stakeholders to address the shortcomings highlighted by the Director of Audit.

Anti-Corruption Committee

The Ministry of Arts and Culture adopts a zero-tolerance policy on corruption, both within and outside its administration. It expects the highest standards of conduct from its staff, stakeholders and the public, and is committed to minimizing corruption risks and related losses. The Ministry upholds transparency and accountability in all its operations and ensures full compliance with anti-corruption legislation.

Safety and Health Committee

The Ministry remained firmly committed to fostering a safe and healthy work environment for all employees. Through proactive risk assessments, regular training programs and safety and health committee meeting which are held every two months and the implementation of enhanced safety protocols, we continued to prioritize the well-being of our workforce. The aim is to systematically evaluate and communicate the current state of occupational safety and health within the Ministry. Ensure compliance with national legal and regulatory standards and recommend safety measures for continuous improvement in creating a safe and healthy work environment.

PART III
FINANCIAL
PERFORMANCE

Financial Highlights for FY 2024/2025

The summarised and detailed Statement of Expenditure by Sub-heads for FY 2024/2025 were as follows:

Table 5: Summary of Statement of Expenditure by Sub-heads under Vote 21-1 FY 2024/2025

SUMMARY				
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 21-101, 21-102, 21-103	2023-2024 Actual Rs	2024-2025 Estimates Rs	2024-2025 Actual Rs	2024-2025 % Spent
Recurrent Expenditure	501,162,457.20	529,000,000.00	500,241,925.00	94.56
Annual Allowance to Minister	2,400,000.00	162,000,000.00	156,603,757.00	96.67
Compensation to Employees	142,328,610.23	162,000,000.00	156,603,757.00	96.67
Goods and Services	89814400.86	73000000	78347674	107.325580 821918
Contributions to International Organisations	277,686.61	800,000.00	135,102.00	16.89
Grants	251,778,658.00	271,200,000.00	245,735,247.00	90.61
Other Expenses	14,563,101.50	19,600,000.00	16,064,812.00	81.96
Capital Expenditure	29,684,443.07	151,000,000.00	106,238,400.00	70.36
Grants	5,000,000.00	16,000,000.00	9,908,083.00	61.93
Other Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	24,684,443.07	135,000,000.00	96,330,317.00	71.36
Acquisition of Financial Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	530,846,900.27	680,000,000.00	606,480,325.00	89.19

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Table 6: Statement of Expenditure by Sub-heads under Vote 21-1 FY 2024/2025

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE BY SUB-HEADS UNDER VOTE 21-1 FY 2024/2025				
21- 101- GENERAL	2023-2024 Actual Rs	2024-2025 Estimates Rs	2024-2025 Actual Rs	2024-2025 % Spent
Recurrent Expenditure	32,156,573.21	35,000,000.00	36,191,070.00	103.40
Annual Allowance to Minister	2,400,000.00	2,400,000.00	3,355,333.00	139.81
Compensation to Employees	27,931,213.96	31,000,000.00	31,185,039.00	100.60
Goods and Services	1,825,359.25	1,600,000.00	1,650,698.00	103.17
TOTAL	32,156,573.21	35,000,000.00	36,191,070.00	103.40
21 102: PROMOTION OF ARTS AND CULTURE	2023-2024 Actual Rs	2024-2025 Estimates Rs	2024-2025 Actual Rs	2024-2025 % Spent
Recurrent Expenditure	307,093,605.67	311,000,000.00	289,365,984.00	93.04
Compensation to Employees	97,441,339.08	109,000,000.00	105,654,067.00	96.93
Goods and Services	79,823,007.09	53,400,000.00	65,101,858.00	121.91
Current Grants	116,343,658.00	130,000,000.00	103,535,247.00	79.64
Other Expenses	13,485,601.50	18,600,000.00	15,074,812.00	81.05
Capital Expenditure	10,612,329.66	41,000,000.00	9,090,467.00	22.17
Grants	5,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	83.33
Acquisition of Non- Financial Assets	5,612,329.66	35,000,000.00	4,090,467.00	11.69
TOTAL	317,705,935.33	352,000,000.00	298,456,451.00	84.79
21- 103: PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF HERITAGE	2023-2024 Actual Rs	2024-2025 Estimates Rs	2024-2025 Actual Rs	2024-2025 % Spent
Recurrent Expenditure	161,912,278.32	183,000,000.00	174,684,871.00	95.46

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STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE BY SUB-HEADS UNDER VOTE 21-1 FY 2024/2025				
Compensation to Employees	16,956,057.19	22,000,000.00	19,764,651.00	89.84
Goods and Services	8,166,034.52	18,000,000.00	11,595,118.00	64.42
Contributions to International Organizations	277,686.61	800,000.00	135,102.00	16.89
Grants	135,435,000.00	141,200,000.00	142,200,000.00	100.71
Other Expenses	1,077,500.00	1,000,000.00	990,000.00	99.00
Capital Expenditure	19,072,113.41	110,000,000.00	97,147,933.00	88.32
Grants	0.00	10,000,000.00	4,908,083.00	49.08
Other Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	19,072,113.41	100,000,000.00	92,239,850.00	92.24
TOTAL	180,984,391.73	293,000,000.00	271,832,804.00	92.78
GRAND TOTAL	530,846,900.27	680,000,000.00	606,480,325.00	89.19

PART IV
WAY FORWARD

SWOT Analysis and Strategic Direction 2024 - 2026

SWOT Analysis

A SWOT Analysis for the Ministry is illustrated below:

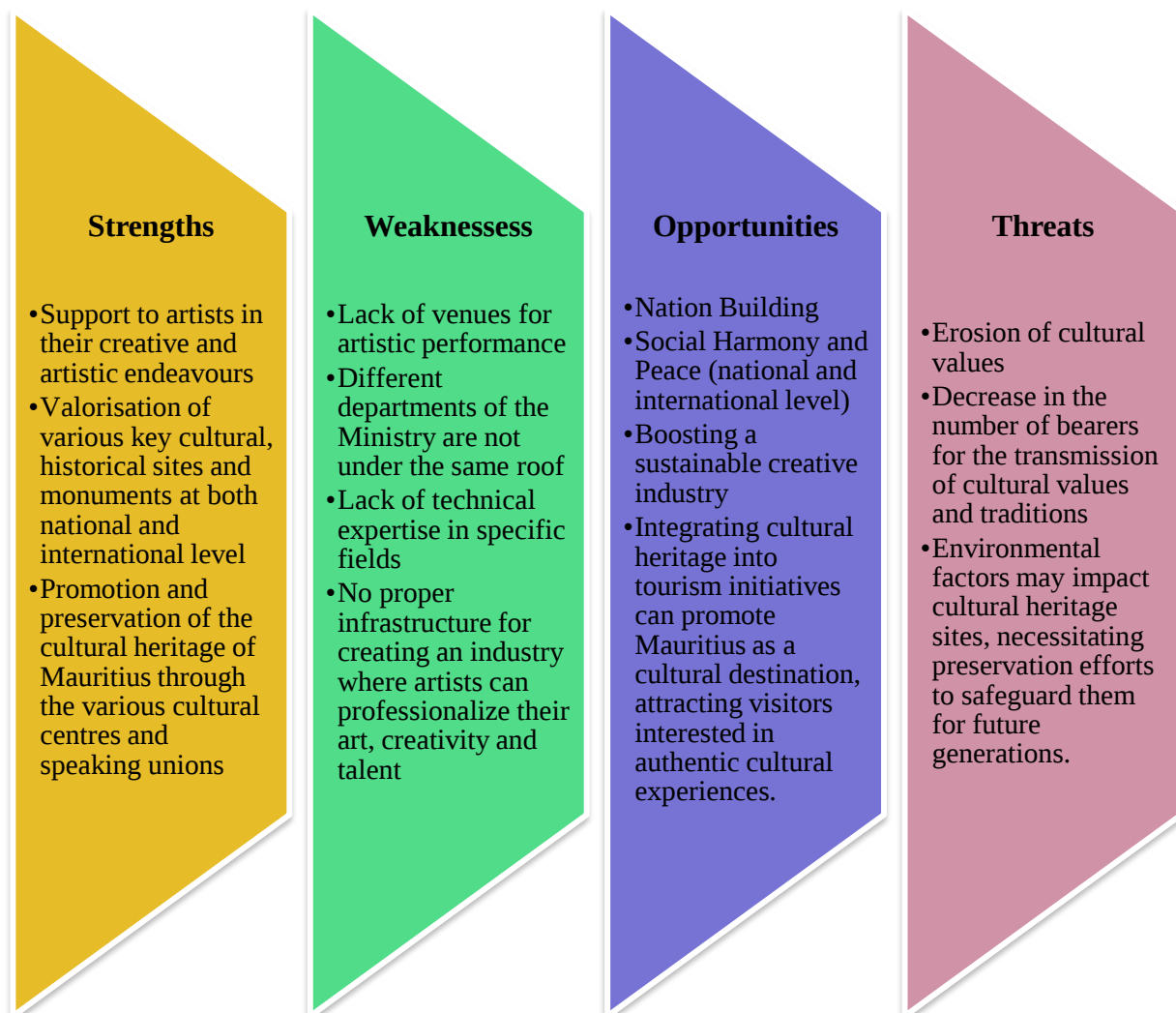


Figure 15: SWOT Analysis

Strategic Direction 2024 – 2026

During FY 2024/2025, the following strategic direction for the period 2024 – 2026 was employed, a summary of which and the enablers employed are listed below:

Table 7: Strategic Direction and Enablers employed during FY 24/25

Strategic Direction	Enablers
Developing the creative arts and cultural heritage sector as a new pillar of the economy	➤ Develop and implement a long-term strategy and action plan to unlock the potential of the creative arts and cultural heritage sector, in consultation with relevant stakeholders ➤ Devise a methodology for the collection of data related to culture, creative arts and heritage
Creating an enabling environment for artists and performers	➤ Review and expand schemes to further support artistic creations, including virtual performances ➤ Organise cultural activities and operate a yearly “<i>calendrier culturel</i>” of events ➤ Promote creative mural artworks across Mauritius ➤ Set up a cultural and artistic trail in the city of Port Louis ➤ Organise an annual ‘<i>National Artist of the Year Award</i>’ to give due recognition to outstanding local artists ➤ Boost local film industry through support to local film makers
Professionalising the status of artists	➤ Status of the Artist Bill will be reviewed ➤ Set up a ‘cultural desk’ facility to assist artists
Improving efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery	➤ Institutional review of parastatals, including public museums ➤ Restructure the Mauritius Society of Authors ➤ Upgrade facilities in existing training centres and theatres [<i>Centre de Formation Artistique, Centre de Lecture Publique et d’Animation Culturelle (CELPAC), Serge Constantin Theatre, Pointe Canon Open Air Theatre</i>]
Preserving and promoting the cultural heritage	➤ Develop a risk assessment and contingency plan for the World Heritage Sites with mitigation measures to address impact of climate change ➤ Encourage public-private partnerships to better promote and preserve the national heritage sites, including restoration of heritage buildings. ➤ Implement programmes and initiatives to

Strategic Direction	Enablers
	conserve, manage and protect the unique and rich heritage and culture ➤ Review legislations to make provision for appropriate enforcement mechanism to better protect the national heritage.
Promoting Mauritius as a cultural tourism destination	➤ Devise a marketing strategy to promote the country's tangible and intangible heritage, in collaboration with public-private stakeholders.

Concluding Remarks

In alignment with the government's strategic vision for the arts and culture sector, this year has been significant in boosting the development of the creative industry and strengthening the cultural heritage of Mauritius.

With a new Government Programme 2025-2029 in place, the Ministry is now aiming to lay the foundation for a vibrant and sustainable arts sector through initiatives such as the establishment of a Cultural Desk, the review of the Mauritius Society of Authors (MASA) functions, and the introduction of a Cultural Rebate Scheme.

As we look ahead, the creation of the National Arts Open Commission will further ensure the artistic community's voices are adequately heard and supported and advise on a comprehensive policy for arts and culture accordingly.

On an international level, the Ministry actively collaborates with the UNESCO in a bid to develop cultural indicators enabling us to effectively monitor and evaluate the valuable contributions of the creative arts and cultural heritage sectors. Together, these initiatives pave the way for a more inclusive and culturally enriched society.

The Ministry is confident that the efforts outlined in this report will contribute to a lasting impact on our creative industry, fostering innovation, inclusivity and growth for many years to come. The collaboration between government, public and private sectors, as well as academic institutions, has proven and remains to be essential in nurturing the next generation of creative talent and professionals.

Key Staff of the Ministry

Annex

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