

**IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE FOR
2013 BUDGET MEASURES**

Timetable for the implementation of measures announced in the Budget 2013			
	Measures	Implementing Organisation	Date limit for implementation
	<i>Embracing a technological future</i>		
1	Reduction of entry level broadband cost from Rs 349 to Rs 200	ICTA	January 2013
	<i>Online Government</i>		
2	Payments by mobile in Governmental departments starting with MRA	MoFED/ AG	December 2012
3	Payments by mobile in Min of Housing and NTA	MoFED/ AG	March 2013
4	Online payment by credit card by 8 depts	MoFED/ AG	March 2013
5	Reduction of each Ministry's annual stationary budget by 25 %	MoFED	January 2013
6	Use of digital signatures to carry out transactions on-line	MICT/ NCB	March 2013
7	Head of IT in each Ministry to be a professional	MICT/CIB/ CISD	January 2013
8	All heads (Supervising officers and Senior Staff) of Ministries, Government Agencies and Departments will be expected to be IT proficient	MICT/NCB	June 2013
9	Merging of Central Informatics Bureau, Central Information Systems Division and IT Security Unit	MICT	June 2013
10	Promote use of ICT equipment in the National Assembly	Clerk of the National Assembly	March 2013
11	Replacing paper with digital documents in the National Assembly in line with MID Programme	Clerk of the National Assembly	March 2013
	<i>Harnessing the potential of our youth</i>		
12	One tablet computer for Form IV in all secondary schools	MoED/ MICT/ MoFED	2013

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13	Programme to introduce digital learning in schools starting with Form IV	MoED/ MICT/ MoFED	2013
14	Extension of high fibre optic cables to every secondary school	MT/ EMTEL/ MTML/ BHARAT	Ongoing
15	Implementation of a mass online IT training programme with Massachusetts Institute of Technology	MICT	June 2013
16	Emerging Leaders Award	MoFED/BOI	June 2013
	<i>Increasing our competitiveness</i>		
17	Reduction by cost of International Private Leased Circuits (IPLC) by a further 15 %	ICTA	January 2013
18	Setting up of incubators for Application Developers	ICT Operators	Ongoing
19	Strengthening of Privacy Laws	PMO	June 2013
	<i>A new digital era</i>		
20	Increase connectivity to Rodrigues by satellite from 37 to 155 MB	ICTA	June 2013
21	Switch off the analog television broadcast	IBA	December 2013
22	Accelerate the roll-out of 4G across the country by amending ICT Act	ICTA	2013
23	Encourage sharing of phone masts (Telecommunication Towers)	MICT/ Local Authorities/ MoEv/ MoH	June 2013
24	Dedicated hi-tech industrial park	BPML	September 2013
	<i>The awakening of Africa</i>		
25	IMF Regional Training Institute for Africa	MoFED	December 2012
26	Opening up of visa requirements for Nationals of 75 countries	PMO	December 2012
27	Appointment of Honorary Consuls in every major city on the African Continent	MFA	2013

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28	Launch a new scholarship scheme for 50 deserving African students	TEC/ MoED/ BOI/ MFA	April 2013
29	Signature of 5 DTAs and IPPAs	MoFED/MFA/BOI/MRA	2013
30	Amend legislation to allow freeport companies to carry out specific manufacturing activities	MoFED/BOI/MRA	December 2012
31	Planning of Freeport zones near the port and airport	AML/MPA/ BOI	June 2013
	<i>Consolidating our financial system</i>		
32	Limited Liability Partnership Bill	MoFED/ FSC	June 2013
33	Amending legislation to allow for a new category of non-treaty based funds	MoFED/ FSC	December 2012
34	Amending legislation to allow for setting up of Regional Treasury Centres and Regional Headquarters Administration	MoFED/ FSC	December 2012
35	Extension of network of DTAs and IPPAs	MoFED/MFA/BOI/MRA	Ongoing
36	Amending legislation for issue of Tax Residence Certificates only upon compliance with enhanced commercial substance requirements	MoFED/MRA/FSC	December 2012
37	Licence fees to be based on turnover for Management Companies	FSC	January 2013
38	Amendment to legislation for automatic penalties in cases of late filling of documents and late payments	MoFED/FSC	December 2012
39	Signature of Tax Information Exchange Agreement with India	MoFED/MFA/MRA	June 2013
40	Amendment of legislation to improve governance and the financial services regulatory framework	MoFED	December 2012
41	Deposit Insurance Legislation	MoFED/BOM	June 2013

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42	Implementation of a Compensation Fund in cases of 'hit and run'	FSC	June 2013
43	Ombudperson for Financial Services Bill and more clout to Borrowers Protection Act	MoFED/BOM/FSC	June 2013
44	Implementation of Treat Your Customers Fairly programme	BOM	December 2012
45	Amend legislation to allow BOM to impose a cap on bank charges	MoFED/BOM	December 2012
46	A service fee to be charged for issuing Tax Residence Certificate	MoFED/MRA	January 2013
	Tourism		
47	Direct flights to China	MoFED	January 2013
48	Direct Flights to Russia	MoFED	2013
49	Creation of a fully equipped kite surfing training centre	NDU/ MYS	September 2013
50	Rehabilitation of One-eye site near Le Morne	NDU/ MYS	September 2013
51	Extension for the next two years of the payment facility to loss making hotels, guest houses and tourist residences in respect of the Environment Protection Fee	MoFED	January 2013
52	Where necessary, the Alternative Minimum Tax will be suspended to enable establishment to benefit from special measures to support the Tourist Industry	MoFED	January 2013
53	Payment facility in respect of rentals of the new industrial lease will be provided to any hotels which do not distribute dividends	MoFED/ MoHL	January 2013
54	Higher reduction in rental for islets and sites with severe planning restrictions	MoFED/ MoHL	January 2013
55	50 % reduction in lease rental for Hotel undergoing reconstruction and renovation	MoFED/ MoHL	January 2013

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56	Rent for new industrial leases to be updated for inflation	MoFED/ MoHL	January 2013
	<i>Entertainment and Shopping</i>		
57	Framework for relocation of gaming houses, night clubs and similar establishments away from residential areas to shopping malls	MoFED/GRA/ MLG/ Local Authorities/ TA	June 2013
58	Incentives for fitting out of High Street Shops and restaurants	MoFED/MRA/ BOI	December 2012
59	The VAT refund system for visitors will be revamped	MTPA	2013
	<i>Extend holiday package in Rodrigues</i>		
60	Extend holiday package in Rodrigues	MoFED	December 2013
	<i>Manufacturing Industry</i>		
61	Development of overseas market for manufacturing companies	EM	January 2013
62	50 % accelerated depreciation on acquisition of plant, machinery and equipment	MoFED	December 2012
63	Abolishment of bank guarantee to be replaced by a fixed fee for expatriate work permits for export oriented industrie	MoL	January 2013
64	Abolishing the AGOA levy	MoFED/ MoID	December 2012
65	FSC authorised to licence service providers offering export credit insurance	MoFED/FSC	March 2013
	<i>Local Manufacturing</i>		
66	Any changes in import duty likely to affect local manufacturers will be announced with at least 6 months prior notice	MoFED	December 2012

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	<i>Further boosts to the SMEs</i>		
67	Loan to SMEs with turnover under Rs10 M	MoFED	January 2013
68	50 percent of losses incurred by banks to be guaranteed by Government	MoFED	January 2013
	<i>Revisiting LEMS and other measures for SMEs</i>		
69	The interest rate brought down to 7.25% for new leasing facilities	MoFED	December 2012
70	Doubling VAT registration threshold to Rs 4 M	MoFED	December 2012
71	Waiver on loans at the DBM	MoFED	January 2013
72	Regrouping and rationalising of all the schemes for SMEs	MoFED	January 2013
73	SMEs bidding for Govt contracts will not be required to produce performance bonds for contracts of up to Rs 5M	MoFED	December 2012
74	Advance payment guarantees will be over hauled	MoFED	December 2012
75	Outcomes of tender exercises will be displayed on the procurement portal for values of Rs 5 M and above	MoFED	December 2012
76	Doubling the amount of refund to SMEs for participation in international fairs from Rs 100,000 to Rs 200,000	MoFED	December 2012
77	MBGS to provide technical assistance to improve productivity in the shoe sector	MBGS	January 2013
78	Special grant of Rs 10 M to Enterprise Mauritius to support marketing for exports of shoes	MoFED	December 2012
79	SMEDA will develop the 'Made with Care' label	MoB/MAC/ SMEDA	June 2013

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80	Turnover threshold for operation of the CPS to be raised to Rs 4 M. Likewise, companies with turnover below Rs 4 M will benefit from the same facility under the Advance Payment System	MoFED	January 2013
81	MBGS unit to ensure coordination on technical assistance, start-ups and monitoring	MoB/MBGS	January 2013
82	SME Partnership Fund and the NRF Equity Investment Ltd to be placed under the same management	MoFED	June 2013
83	Providing a grant for freight expenses up to Rs 20,000	MoFED	December 2012
84	Imports of handicrafts depicting the national heritage of Mauritius to be controlled	MAC	January 2013
	<i>Agriculture: Land Use</i>		
85	Land Conversion Committee will elaborate criteria for land conversion	MoA	June 2013
86	Compiling of information on available land for lease and provide same to planters	MCI A	June 2013
87	Develop an appropriate legal framework to encourage owners of land to lease their lands for cultivation	MoA	June 2013
	<i>Supporting small planters</i>		
88	Provision of subsidy of Rs 40 M on locally produced compost	MoFED	December 2012
89	Expand financing of the Field Operations Re-grouping and Irrigation Project (FORIP) and land preparation and other related schemes and extend same facilities to non-sugar agriculture	MoFED	December 2012

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90	Framework for Government to bear full costs for pre-market test and certification fees for small agricultural enterprises with turnover not exceeding Rs 10 M	MoA	April 2013
91	Government will maintain the freight rebate scheme for planters and fruit exporters	MoFED	December 2012
92	Extension of VAT Refund scheme for small farmers	MoFED	December 2012
93	Salle de Decoupe	MoA	2013
94	Increase provision for enhanced coverage by Small Farmers Welfare Fund	MoFED	January 2013
95	Maintaining 80% advance to sugar cane planters	BOM	January 2013
96	Government will make more diplomatic efforts with the EU to ensure market access for refined sugar is maintained until at least 2020	MFA	Ongoing
	<i>Ocean economy</i>		
97	Look for strategic partners for exploitation of our mineral resources	PMO	2013
98	Consider creation of Off-Shore wind farms in the waters of Rodrigues	MoFED/RRA/ MPI/CEB	June 2013
99	Special scholarships for youth and professionals to embrace a career in the ocean economy	MRC/ MOI/ UOM	June 2013
	<i>Fishing</i>		
100	Initiate two more aquaculture pilot projects in Le Morne and Mahebourg	MoF	March 2013

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101	Increase pace for replenishment of lagoons	MoF	2013
102	Autonomy to the Competent Authority in fish and fish products intended for export	MoF	December 2012
	<i>Improving Health Services</i>		
103	Recruitment of another cohort of nurses, 75 General Practitioners and 25 Specialists	MoH	June 2013
104	Continuous Professional Development to be introduced and become mandatory for all doctors and dental surgeons practising in the Republic of Mauritius	MoH	September 2013
105	Introduction of a new Pre-Registration Examination for all doctors and dental surgeons	MoH	June 2013
106	All students to undertake medical studies to have appropriate qualifications at HSC or equivalent level	MoH	March 2013
	<i>Reforming Accident and Emergency treatment</i>		
107	Introduction of a new shift system for our casualty departments, not working more than 8 hours at a stretch	MoH	July 2013
	<i>Non-Communicable Diseases</i>		
108	Introduction of a new tax of 2 cents per gm of sugar content on soft drinks	MoFED	January 2013
109	Removal of levy of Rs 1.50 charged by CWA on locally produced soft drinks, bottled water and fruit drinks	MoFED/MPU	January 2013
110	Increase excise duty on cigarettes and cigars	MoFED	November 2012
111	Increase excise duty on alcoholic products	MoFED	November 2012

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	<i>Strengthening the medical hub</i>		
112	Introduction of Pre-Clinical Research Bill	MoA/MoH/ BOI	April 2013
	<i>Education: Foundation years</i>		
113	Amending CSR guidelines to enable financing construction and improvement of Day Care Centres	MoFED/CSRC	January 2013
114	One-off grant up to Rs 200,000 to existing Day Care Centres	MoFED	March 2013
	<i>Summer and Winter Schools</i>		
115	Extending summer and winter school programme	MoED	2013
116	Banks to offer students' loans to a maximum of Rs 100,000 per annum for university fees	MoFED	January 2013
117	Scholarships to children from vulnerable families if they cannot get a student loan and provided they qualify through the Social Register for Mauritius (SRM)	MoFED/ MoED	January 2013
118	Recruitment of 12 Quality Assurance Officers for Secondary schools	MoED	July 2013
	<i>Making Education work</i>		
119	Ensure consultation between Industry partners, Government and Education Institutions	MoED/MTED/ TEC	2013
120	Les Assises de L'Education' will be held annually	MoED/MTED/ TEC	July 2013

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	<i>Education Hub</i>		
121	Student visa and part time work schemes for foreign students is being extended to technical and vocational institutions	PMO/MoL	January 2013
122	Campuses in Redit, Pamplermousses, Montagne Blanche and Forest-Side	MTED/SIC/MoFED	March 2013
	<i>Attracting FDI to our shores</i>		
123	Intensify investment promotion, especially targetting China and the rest of Asia	BOI	2013
	<i>Further improving the investment climate</i>		
124	The Business Facilitation Act will be revisited to adopt a 'whole of Government' approach	MoFED/ BOI	June 2013
125	The Registrar of Companies to act as a single point for payment of trade fees	MoFED/ ROC/MoLG	May 2013
126	Assist investors for implementation of large projects	BOI	2013
127	Bring fundamental changes to the system of permits and permanent residence	MoFED/BOI/PMO	December 2012
128	Bilateral Investment Treaty with USA	MoFED/MFA/BOI/PMO	2013
	<i>Youth and employment: Youth Employment Programme</i>		
129	Increase in the contribution to the monthly salary of non graduates from Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000	MoFED	December 2012
130	From Rs 6,000 to Rs 7,500 for graduates	MoFED	December 2012
131	This support being extended from 6 months to one year	MoFED	December 2012

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132	Subsidise half of the training cost up to a ceiling of Rs 7,500 per employee	MoFED	December 2012
	<i>Skills working group</i>		
133	Setting up of the Skills Working Group within the National Resilience Fund	MoFED	December 2012
	<i>Service to Mauritius</i>		
134	Recruitment of first batch new graduates under the Service To Mauritius (STM) programme	MoFED	March 2013
135	Scheme will be expanded with additional training and career counselling	MoFED	2013
	<i>Industry Placements</i>		
136	Promotion of sandwich courses by Tertiary Institutions	MTE	2013
137	Give priority to sandwich courses prior to graduation	MITD	2013
138	Companies employing at least 80 % of local workforce will get a 15 % preference on public works contracts	MoFED	January 2013
	<i>Opportunities for persons with disabilities</i>		
139	Government to open up employment opportunities for people with disabilities under the Service To Mauritius (STM) programme	MoFED	March 2013
140	Visually impaired students will be provided with braille personal computers	MoED	June 2013

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	<i>Equal Opportunities</i>		
141	Doubling Budget of the EOC	MoFED	January 2013
	<i>Reforms to Justice System</i>		
142	Judicial and Legal Provisions Legislation will be amended accordingly for judgements to be delivered expeditiously	AGO	April 2013
143	50 additional judicial assistants	MoFED/AGO/ Judiciary	2013
144	Creation of a proper Family Court	AGO/ Judiciary	June 2013
145	The Judiciary to chair a committee to make recommendations to the Govt on how to make a more effective use of Community Sentencing	Judiciary	June 2013
	<i>Law and Order</i>		
146	Recruitment of 600 additional Policemen	PMO	July 2013
147	Expansion of the CCTV street surveillance system	PMO	September 2013
148	The Customs Dept of the MRA to implement a Drug Entry Interdiction Programme	MRA	January 2013
149	Purchase rapid intervention crafts and boats	Police/PMO	2013
150	Installation of system for biometric passports and upgrading of border control system	PMO	End of 2013
151	Opening of Melrose Prison	PMO	December 2013
152	Acquisition of equipment for the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)	FSL	June 2013
153	Five fold increase in firearm license fees	PMO	January 2013

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	<i>Cleaner and Greener Mauritius</i>		
154	Acquisition of compactor lorries	MoLG	July 2013
155	Cleaning of all classified roads in Mauritius	MPI/RDA	January 2013
156	Urban and rural renovation projects to improve living environment	MPI/NDU	January 2013
157	Improve frequency of the service for removal of bulky , except construction waste, free of charge	MoLG	January 2013
158	Develop a framework to allow differentiated excise duties to be applied on households appliances	MPU	March 2013
159	25 % of Government's paper requirements will be met by recycled paper	MoFED	March 2013
160	Each Ministry and Department to segregate paper waste for recycling	MoLG	March 2013
161	Doubling the funds available for the solar water heater scheme	MoFED	December 2013
162	Installation of 10,000 smart electricity meters	CEB	End of 2013
163	Implementation of a time of use tariff for electricity	MPU/CEB	March 2013
164	Put in place a framework to require an energy audit to be conducted by end of December 2013 by every beneficiary of concessionary electricity tariffs with large consumption	MPU/CEB	March 2013
165	50% accelerated capital allowance for investment in green technology equipment	MoFED	January 2013
166	Upgrading of Vallee d'Osterlog	MoA	2013
167	Elaboration of a programme to protect sea turtles in Rodrigues	MoFED/ RRA/NSA	March 2013
	<i>Infrastructure</i>		

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168	Increasing public sector capital investment programme by 39% to reach Rs 28.6 billion	MoFED	January 2013
	<i>Reinforcing protection for the most vulnerable</i>		
169	Provision of daily hot meal to each child in every ZEP school	MoED	January 2013
170	Children on the NEF Extreme Poverty List will be offered child support schemes provided their parents apply through the social register of Mauritius	NEF/MoED	January 2013
171	Child Benefit will be set at a minimum of Rs 750 per month per child, provided the families apply through the Social Register of Mauritius	MoFED/ MSS	January 2013
172	Conditional cash transfer scheme for children from families with monthly income of less than Rs 6,200 who show improvement and attendance in school	NEF/MoED	March 2013
173	The MRA Tax return Forms will be simplified for house workers	MoFED/MRA	January 2013
174	Amending Social Security Act to cover wives and orphans of persons who disappeared at sea	MSS	January 2013
	<i>Social Housing</i>		
175	Ministry of Housing to launch its own tender for the construction of houses	MoHL	March 2013
176	Extension of subsidy to NHDC syndics for another year	MoFED	December 2013
177	NEF will intensify its activities for the construction of concrete and CIS houses	NEF	Ongoing

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178	4 other sites identified for construction of social housing	MoFED/HT	2013
179	Construction of houses at Karo Kalyptis	NEF	2013
	<i>Small Lease Holders</i>		
180	Housing and agricultural land leases will be replaced by a nominal fee of Rs 1 per annum	MoA/MoHL	February 2013
	<i>Getting maximum impact from Corporate Social Responsibility</i>		
181	Setting up of an Advisory Technical CSR sub-Committee	MoFED/ CSRC	January 2013
182	NCSR Committee to provide annually on its website a statement of the sector-wise distribution of the CSR Fund	MoFED/ CSRC	January 2013
183	Companies allowed to use CSR to finance the construction and upgrading of Child Day Care Centres	MoFED/ CSRC	January 2013
184	Companies will be allowed to carry forward excess CSR funds	MoFED	January 2013
	<i>Culture, Arts and Leisure</i>		
185	Grand Baie Conference Centre put at the disposal of artists at highly discounted rates	SPDC/SIC	January 2013
186	Installation of protective equipment for the turf at Anjalay Stadium to enable the organisation of major concerts	MAC/MYS	February 2013
187	Reviewing the rebate under the film framework for qualified production expenditures from 25 to 30 %	MoFED/BOI	January 2013

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188	Broaden the spectrum of eligible productions under the film framework to include high end TV commercials and documentaries	MoFED/BOI	January 2013
189	Central server of the GRA (Gambling Regulatory Authority) to be operated by the MRA	MRA/GRA	June 2013
190	Abolishing VAT on cinema and concert tickets and shows	MoFED	January 2013
	Sports		
191	Additional 'Bourse de perfectionment'	MYS/TFES	September 2013
192	Expanding Sport Etude Programme	MYS	April 2013
193	Increase the monthly allowance for high level athletes by 50 %	MoFED	January 2013
194	Relaunching the famous Sports Inter Colleges	MYS	April 2013
195	Increasing funds for Trust Fund for Sports	MoFED	January 2013
	Improving control on public sector expenditure		
196	Setting up a Public Sector Taskforce	PMO	January 2013
197	Introduce interim audit for in time monitoring	NAO	September 2013
198	Empowering the PAC (Public Accounts Committee)	MoFED	March 2013
199	Benchmark scavenging services and delivery of building and land use permits	LAGU	June 2013
200	Setting up of a single Defined Contribution Pension Scheme applicable in respect of all new entrants in the Public Sector as from 1st January 2013	MoFED/ NPF Investment Committee	January 2013
201	NPCC Act to be amended for more effectiveness	MoFED	January 2013

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202	Public Procurement Act to be reviewed	MoFED	January 2013
	<i>Supporting consumers in Rodrigues</i>		
203	Equalising price of Rice and flour with Mauritius	PMO	January 2013
204	Subsidy on freight to Rodrigues for cement, milk, oil and tea	PMO	January 2013