

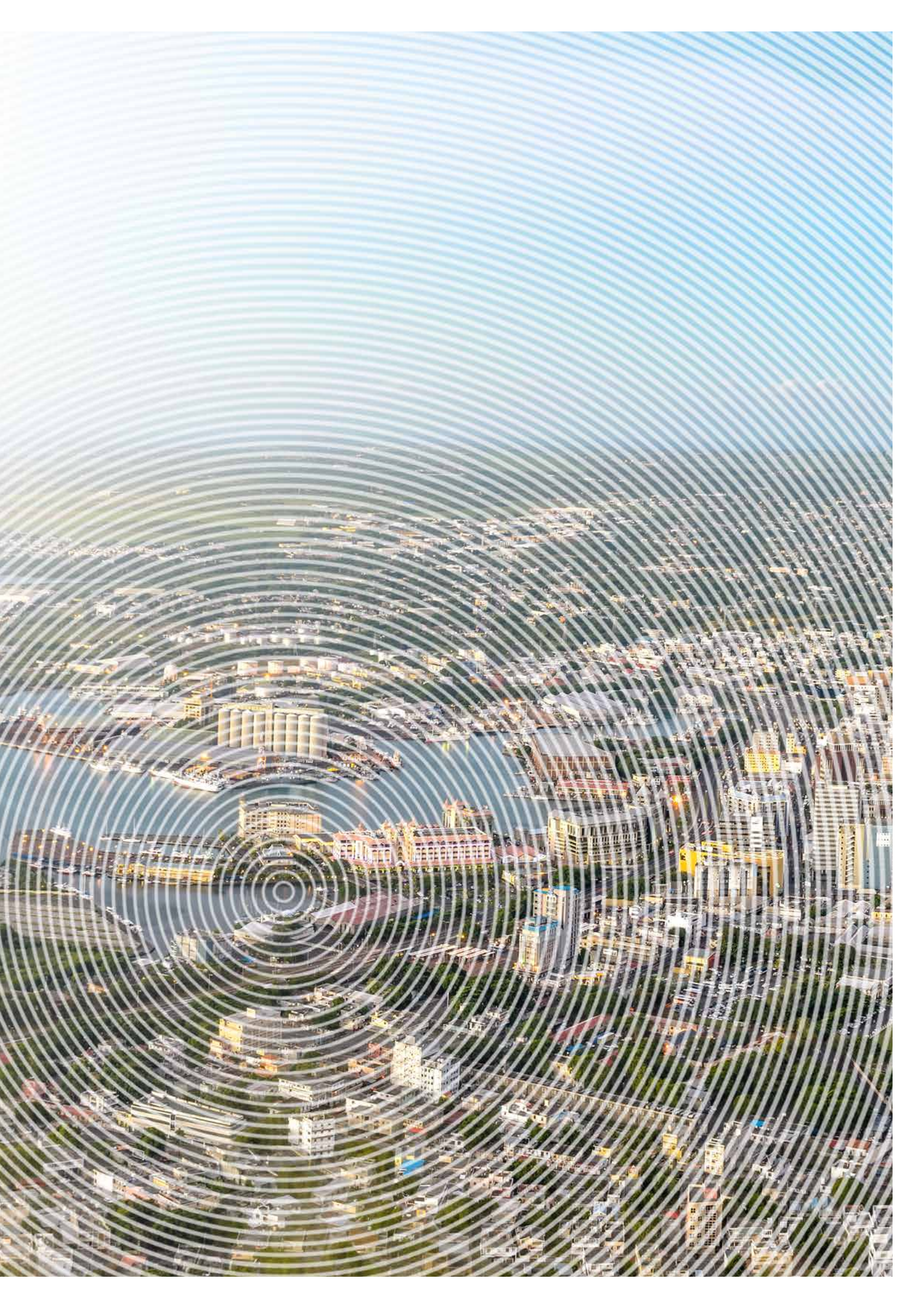


**Creating**  
*ripples*  
**Changing**  
*lives*

*The power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, have the potential to turn a life around. Multiply that by a thousand and you get multiple lives being changed.*

*This is the Ripples effect.*





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# Chairman's Message

The National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF) celebrates its 5 years' anniversary this year.

It is time to remember the path treaded, learn from the challenges, celebrate the accomplishments and consolidate our partnership with stakeholders as we look to make further progress on our social inclusion agenda.

This publication provides a general overview of the journey, work and achievements of the Foundation.

The Foundation started its operations in 2017 as the National CSR Foundation and was transformed into the National Social Inclusion Foundation in 2019 to become the central body for receiving and allocating public funds to NGOs.

The NSIF is governed by a multi-stakeholder Council composed of representatives of public and private sectors, civil society and academia. The Council is driven by a strong commitment to accountability and transparency.

We have developed comprehensive operational frameworks, particularly in respect of funding and monitoring of NGOs, that have reshaped the NGO funding landscape and brought greater efficiency and effectiveness in the allocation and use of funds.

Over the past 5 years, Rs2.2 billion have been disbursed to support programmes and projects of NGOs working with poor and vulnerable groups. The Foundation, in fact, provides regular funding support to around 240 NGOs, reaching out to more than 20,000 beneficiaries annually.

We believe EDUCATION remains one of the most powerful means of empowerment. 34 percent of our funding allocations to NGOs are in the priority area 'Educational support and training' and through the Fortified Learning Environment (FLE) National Programme we are addressing challenges and obstacles towards academic achievement among vulnerable children in a holistic manner.

The FLE National Programme supports the setting-up of new creches for low-income families in underserved localities and interventions in pre-primary and primary schools and in the Extended Programme in colleges both in Mauritius and Rodrigues. In this regard, I would like to thank the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology for their partnership.

In order to be even more impactful in the future years, the Foundation will look to invest in the capacity building of NGOs and we shall consolidate and deepen our partnership with all stakeholders: Ministries, institutions, private sector, academia, NGOs and our beneficiaries.

I believe much has been achieved but much more is left to be done.

I wish to thank all our stakeholders for their support during these past 5 years and wish that the spirit of collaboration continues to prevail.

I would like to put on records my appreciation to the Prime Minister for his ever-ready willingness to advise and support.

I am also grateful to our Founder, the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity.

I have a special word for all the Council Members, past and present, for their support and involvement in leading the Foundation.

Last but not least, I am grateful to each member of staff for their hard work and commitment.

Happy 5th Anniversary to the National Social Inclusion Foundation.

**Medavy Pillay Munien (Menon)**  
Chairperson

IMPACT REPORT 2022

*"Education is the passport  
to the future..."*

*Malcolm X*

English for Thursday 22/07/2022

Roll and Form



# About the Foundation

## Who we are

The National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF) is the Central Body for receiving and allocating public funds to NGOs. The Foundation operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Security, Social Integration and Economic Empowerment.

The NSIF receives, manages and allocates CSR funds collected by the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) under Section 50L of the Income Tax Act and funds

as may be appropriated by Government through the national budget.

The primary focus of the Foundation is to generate better social outcomes for the poor and vulnerable groups while ensuring accountability and transparency in the use of public funds.

## OUR VISION



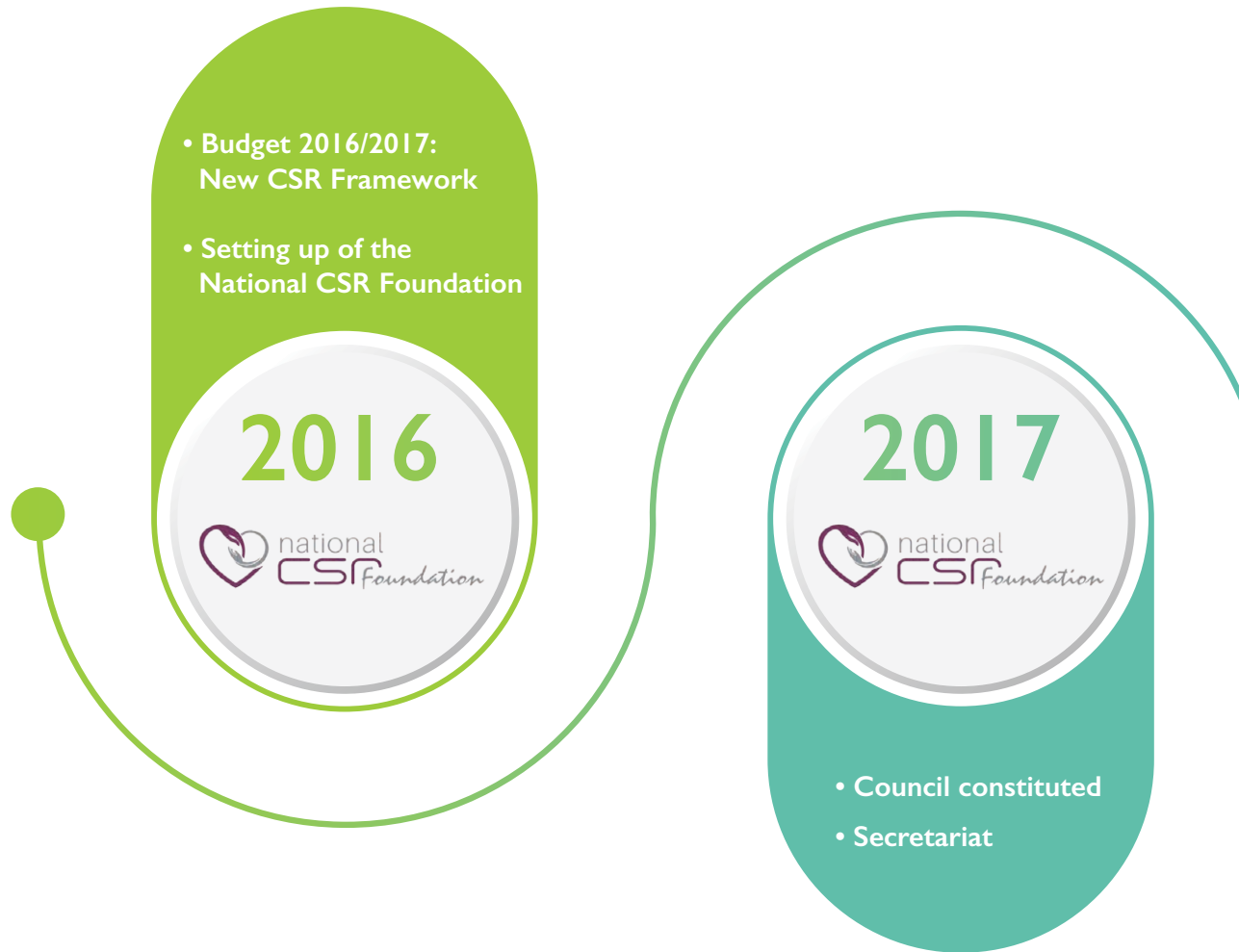
To be a catalyst for change, driving social inclusion, equity and sustainable development.

## OUR MISSION



To empower and improve the wellbeing of people living in conditions of poverty and vulnerability through impactful and sustainable stakeholder partnerships.

# Our Journey



# Our Strategic Goals

**1**



Ensure effectiveness of programmes and projects supported by the Foundation

**2**



Promote stakeholder collaboration and coordination



- Centralisation of public funds to NGOs at the Foundation
- Transformation of NCSRF into NSIF

2019



2022



- 5 Year Anniversary
- Consolidation

3



Empower NGOs to improve the impact and efficiency of their actions on the ground

4



Build and uphold a principled, professional and service-driven organisation culture and reputation

# What we do

The objects of the Foundation are to:

1. Undertake programmes and projects for the benefit of individuals and families registered under the Social Register of Mauritius and of vulnerable groups as defined in its Charter
2. Establish and update a register of NGOs/NPOs and allocate funds accordingly
3. Request and examine calls for proposals for the implementation of programmes and projects by NGOs/NPOs
4. Monitor and evaluate programmes and projects funded by the Foundation
5. Serve as a platform for coordination and communication among all stakeholders
6. Liaise with the relevant Ministries to facilitate implementation of programmes and projects by NGOs/NPOs
7. Promote the UN SDGs

*“...for the benefit of individuals and families..”*



# Our Ten Priority Areas



Socioeconomic development as a means for poverty alleviation



Educational support and training



Social housing



Supporting people with disabilities



Dealing with health problems



Family protection, including gender-based violence



Leisure and sports



Environment and sustainable development



Peace and nation-building



Road safety and security



# Our Framework for Action

The NSIF Framework for Action comprises four dimensions that are aligned to national policy objectives, human rights instruments and SDGs relating to its ten priority areas of intervention:

1. Active and meaningful participation and equal opportunity to develop and prosper
2. Good quality of life and wellbeing
3. Safe, harmonious and socially cohesive society
4. Clean, healthy and sustainable environment



# Our Beneficiaries

Individuals and families eligible under the Social Register of Mauritius

**Individuals and families recognised as vulnerable groups as defined below:**

- Children and/or adults living below the relative poverty line, as defined by Statistics Mauritius
- Children and/or adults with disabilities and/or suffering from a severe disease
- Abused children and/or adults
- Neglected/abandoned children and orphans and children in alternative care
- Street children, including children who: live and sleep in the street; and are in the street during the day but sleep in the family home
- Teenage mothers and children in single parent families
- Children with parents in prison
- Children suffering from family conflict
- Children engaging in violent or delinquent behaviour and children in conflict with the law;
- Out of school and illiterate children
- Illiterate adults
- Children and/or adults suffering from substance abuse
- Vulnerable elderly
- And such other stigmatised, discriminated, most-at-risks group as determined by the Council of the Foundation in consultation with its Founder



# Our Governance Structure

The NSIF is governed by a Council composed of multistakeholder representatives from the public sector, private sector, civil society and academia. The Council sets out strategic directions, provides management oversight and ensures good stewardship of the Foundation.

Five standing Committees are appointed by the Council to ensure the proper functioning of the Foundation in line with its Charter.

- Project Management Committee
- Finance Committee
- HR Committee
- Research and Development Committee
- Capacity Building Committee
- Audit and Good Governance Committee

# Operational Frameworks and Guidelines

The NSIF is committed to building and upholding trust of its stakeholders by ensuring objectivity and transparency of its core processes.

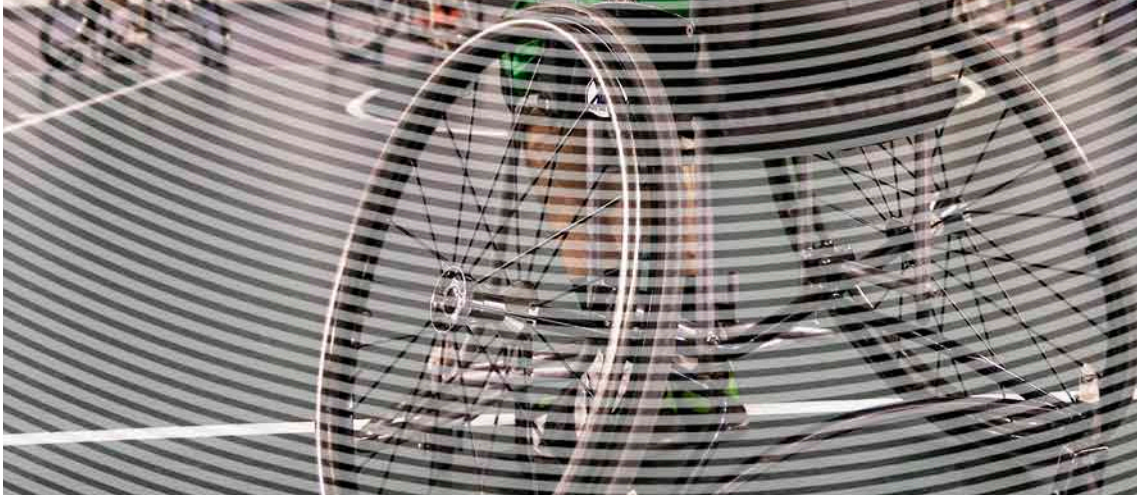
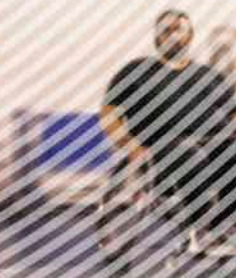
The Foundation has developed comprehensive operational frameworks and guidelines for:

- Registration of NGOs
- Funding of NGOs
- Monitoring of funded programmes and projects
- Approval of reduced CSR amount to be remitted to the MRA by companies liable to CSR

IMPACT REPORT 2022

*"Optimism is essential to achievement  
and it is also the foundation of courage  
and true progress..."*

*Nicholas M. Butler*



# Institutional Impact

## Highlights



The centralisation of CSR and public funds at the NSIF has enabled a more efficient allocation of funds to NGOs. Prior to centralisation, the funding of NGOs was largely fragmented and uncoordinated, leading to duplication of funds from different sources.



Funding by the NSIF is based on the principle of partnership. The Foundation works with and through NGOs to implement programmes and projects in its 10 priority areas.



The NSIF supports NGO programmes and projects on a yearly basis, offering greater predictability to NGOs and enabling them to focus efforts on delivering their actions and services to beneficiaries.





**Funding support by the NSIF is adapted to the nature of interventions, the funding needs and organisational capacities of NGOs.**



**Funded NGOs are subject to rigorous budgeting, monitoring and reporting in order to ensure a judicious and optimal use of funds allocated.**



**The NSIF is committed to the professionalisation of the NGO sector. It has developed an Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA) Framework to assess the strengths, weaknesses and capacity gaps of NGOs. The Foundation has also established collaborations with higher education and training institutions for the capacity building of NGO staff and the enhancement of governance and management of NGOs.**

# Highlights



Despite the uncertainty in revenue collection amid the economic ramifications of the Covid-19 pandemic, the NSIF has maintained its funding commitments towards NGO programmes and projects.



The accounts of the Foundation are audited annually by the National Audit Office and its Annual Report together with audited financial statements are published.



In the aftermath of the wreckage of the MV Wakashio off the coast of Pointe D'Esny on 25th July 2020 and the resulting oil spill in the south-east of Mauritius, Government set up the MV Wakashio Assistance and Support Cell under the NSIF to fast-track support to hardship cases and provide assistance as appropriate.





The NSIF provides valuable technical support to the Covid-19 Solidarity Fund which funds actions related to Covid-19 and other health related issues.



The Foundation collaborated with Government authorities and NGOs to facilitate the distribution of more than 2,700 food packs to individuals and families during the national lockdown.



The NSIF has set up Coordinating Committees with Ministries and institutions to share information pertaining to interventions by Ministries, public institutions and NGOs in the priority areas of the Foundation.



# Reshaping the NGO Funding Landscape

## Efficiency

- The centralisation of CSR and public funds at the NSIF has enabled a more efficient allocation of funds to NGOs.
- Prior to centralisation, the funding of NGOs was largely fragmented and uncoordinated, leading to duplication of funds from different sources.
- Funded NGOs are required to maintain a sound financial management system to prevent against any risk of irregularities.
- Funding by the NSIF is subject to rigorous budgeting and financial control to ensure the judicious and optimal use of funds allocated.

## Effectiveness

The Funding Framework of the Foundation allows for:

- The harmonisation of the disbursement of Government grants and allocation of CSR funding to NGOs
- Funding support to NGOs to be adapted and better tailored based on the nature of their interventions as well as their varying capacities and funding needs
- Larger-scale, impactful interventions through National Programmes

Different funding arrangements structured under “Funding Instruments” provide for the following:

- Regular, programme-based funding of ongoing NGO programmes
- New projects with a focus on social innovation
- Integrated community-based interventions
- Small-scale projects
- National Programmes
- Ad-hoc initiatives

## Accessibility and Predictability

- A central body dedicated to allocating funds to NGOs makes access to funding easier. NGOs know where, when and how to direct their applications for funding.
- Since 2017 14 Calls for Proposals/Expression of Interests have been launched by the Foundation.
- The NSIF covers the bulk of the funding requirements of NGOs, supporting programmes and projects to the benefit of vulnerable groups as well as sustaining the management and administrative costs of NGOs.
- Funding from the NSIF is available to NGOs regardless of size, provided they demonstrate sufficient track record in the priority areas of the Foundation.

- Small, community-based NGOs that previously had difficulties to access CSR funds are now funded by the NSIF.
- The NSIF supports NGO programmes and projects through its different Funding Instruments on a yearly basis. This offers greater predictability to NGOs in terms of sustaining their financial situation in the short and medium term, thus enabling them to focus efforts on delivering their actions and services to beneficiaries.
- Since 2018, a Reserve and Investment Policy provides for income received in one financial year to be accumulated and used in the following year. This has given financial stability to the Foundation and enabled it to overcome the shortfall in revenue resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic to maintain support to NGO programmes and projects.

### **Social Investment Funding Model**

- The NSIF adopts a social investment funding model as a way of promoting a performance culture in the NGO sector.
- The Foundation seeks to address the needs of poor and vulnerable groups and to contribute to solving human development challenges of national priority by investing in NGO programmes and projects that demonstrate a potential for improved social outcomes. This implies funding for results and outcomes rather than simply paying for inputs and activities.



# Reshaping the NGO Funding Landscape

## Results-based Monitoring

- Funded NGOs are constantly monitored. A Monitoring Toolkit has been introduced to ensure objectivity and consistency in the monitoring of NGO programmes and projects.
- The NSIF Monitoring Toolkit provides a standard method for collecting, analysing and reporting monitoring information and data. It covers five monitoring components with quantitative and qualitative indicators for:
  - Tracking progress of activities and delivery of outputs
  - Ensuring correct use of funds
  - Ensuring compliance with the FCA and relevant regulations
  - Ensuring accurate targeting of beneficiaries
  - Identifying risk situations with potential impact on programme/project implementation
- Disbursements of approved funds to NGOs are made in instalments subject to compliance with a Funding Contract Agreement (FCA) and satisfactory monitoring and reporting performance.
- An assessment of the past 5 years shows that overall NGOs have implemented their programmes and projects as per set plans and they have satisfactorily complied with the monitoring and reporting requirements of the Foundation.

- There have been less than 10 cases where funded programmes and projects have been terminated due to lack of implementation capacity and/or issues of non-compliance and misuse of funds.

## Partnership

- Funding by the NSIF is based on the principle of partnership. The Foundation works with and through NGOs to implement programmes and projects in its 10 priority areas. It seeks to promote a sustainable partnership with NGOs primarily and other stakeholders in the private and public sectors.
- Furthermore, the NSIF fosters effective collaboration among NGOs themselves and encourages collaborative partnerships of NGOs and other stakeholders to tap into different funding opportunities available to them.



## *Promoting Accountability and Transparency*

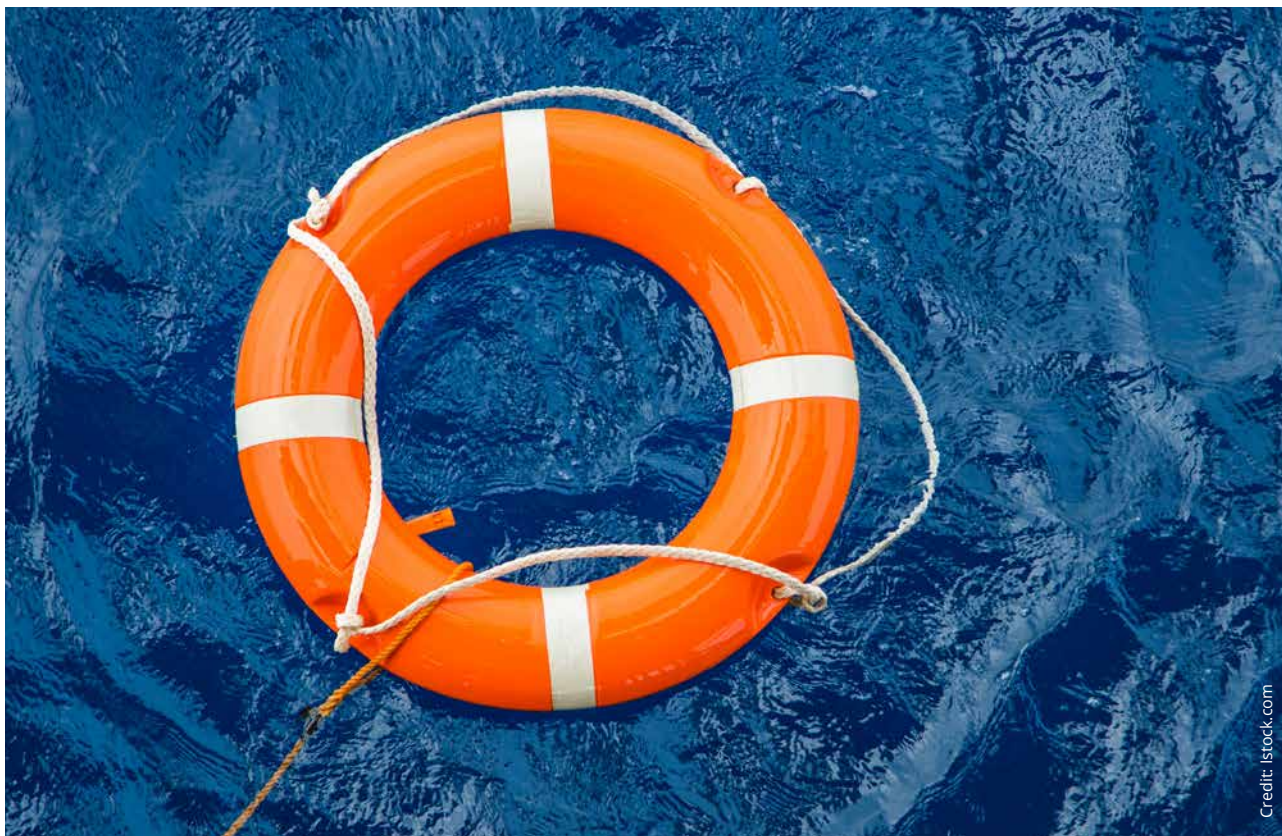
### **The Foundation**

- Accountability and transparency are core values that guide the work of the Foundation. The NSIF takes full responsibility for its actions. It is open to scrutiny and is committed to disclose information and data in a clear, accurate, timely and complete manner as may be required.
- The accounts of the Foundation are audited annually by the National Audit Office and its Annual Report together with audited financial statements are published.
- The outcomes of the funding and monitoring activities of the NSIF, including funding allocations to NGOs are regularly made public.
- An Independent Reconciliation and Arbitration Committee (IRAC) has been set up to examine requests from NGOs that feel aggrieved by any decision of the Foundation.

### **NGOs**

- The funding agreement between the NSIF and NGOs is underpinned by a shared commitment to the core values of the Foundation including the principles of accountability and transparency.
- The monitoring of funded programmes and projects is an ongoing and systematic process of information and data collection. The monitoring framework of the Foundation provides for periodic activities and financial reporting by funded NGOs.
- NGOs are required to keep and disclose accurate and up-to-date records of activities, expenditures, beneficiaries and other matters relating to the implementation of programmes and projects funded by the NSIF.

# Ensuring Sustainability in Times of Crisis



## NSIF Covid-19 Response Strategy

- Despite the uncertainty in revenue collection amid the economic ramifications of the Covid-19 pandemic, the NSIF has maintained its funding commitments towards NGO programmes and projects.
- In the wake of the national lockdown between 20 March and 30 May 2020, the NSIF acted proactively and promptly to release funds to around 170 organisations eligible for regular funding in order to support the cash flow of NGOs and avoid the risk of breakdown in the delivery of essential services to beneficiaries.
- Following a rapid assessment of the challenges faced by NGOs in the delivery of their programmes/projects due to the pandemic, the NSIF set up a special desk to address their immediate financial and operational needs and provided primary support measures in the form of:
  - Greater flexibility in funding arrangements, for instance, to allow for adjustments in planned activities, budget reallocations, early disbursement of funds and carry forward of unused funds.
  - Access to additional funds to meet shortfalls in funding from other sources



## Basic Food Assistance

- The Foundation collaborated with Government authorities and NGOs to facilitate the distribution of more than 2,700 food packs to individuals and families, many working in informal sectors and not able to provide for themselves during the national lockdown.

## Covid-19 Vaccination of Homeless Persons

- The Foundation worked with the Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity to facilitate the vaccination of homeless persons residing in shelters for the homeless.

## Technical Support to Covid-19 Solidarity Fund

- The NSIF provides valuable technical support to the Covid-19 Solidarity Fund. The Foundation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Covid-19 Solidarity Fund in June 2020 for sharing of information and to provide technical assistance to the Fund for the assessment of project proposals from NGOs and the monitoring of funded projects.
- The objectives of the Covid-19 Solidarity Fund are to contribute to funding of projects, programmes and schemes related to Covid-19 and other health related issues and to provide support to citizens and organisations affected by Covid-19.
- The Foundation has monitored the implementation of 52 funded projects from 45 NGOs for a total amount of Rs 48.6 million.

## MV Wakashio Assistance and Support Cell

- In the aftermath of the wreckage of the MV Wakashio off the coast of Pointe D'Esny on 25th July 2020 and the resulting oil spill in the south-east of Mauritius, Government set up the MV Wakashio Assistance and Support Cell under the NSIF to fast-track support to hardship cases and provide assistance as appropriate.
- Consultative meetings and a workshop with stakeholders were held to assess the socioeconomic implications of the MV Wakashio oil spill and gather proposals for assistance and support to impacted populations and businesses.
- The Cell worked with relevant ministries, institutions and NGOs to provide a support package to help sustain livelihoods and businesses of vulnerable populations and economic operators whose activities were severely hit, either directly or indirectly, by the restriction of access to the sea due to the oil spill.

### The support package included:

- A Solidarity Grant (Rs10,200 per month)
- A Business Continuity Grant
- Waiving off administrative fees
- Provision of 1,500 food vouchers to affected families

Around Rs153 million were disbursed by the authorities to almost 2300 economic operators, including fishermen and fishmongers, registered tourist operators such as pleasure craft operators and skippers, restaurants, guest houses and scooter rentals, beach traders and hawkers and taxi owners.

# Building Capacity for Greater Impact

## Our Strategy

The NSIF recognises the work and engagement of NGOs towards the interests and benefit of the poor, marginalised and vulnerable segments of society. One of the key strategic goals of the Foundation is to harness and strengthen the capacities of NGOs so they are more effective and efficient at:

- Serving their beneficiaries and the communities in which they intervene
- Providing access to higher quality services
- Improving wellbeing and contributing to empowerment and social inclusion of vulnerable groups

## Organisational Capacity Assessment Framework

The NSIF has developed an Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA) Framework to identify and assess the strengths, weaknesses and capacity gaps of NGOs across 5 capacity dimensions, namely:

- Governance
- Operational leadership
- Financial control
- Human capital
- Programme Management

The OCA Framework can be used as a self-assessment tool by NGOs and for devising needs-based capacity building programmes.

## Training Collaborations

- The Foundation has established training collaborations with various institutions, in particular higher education and training institutions, such as the University of Mauritius (UoM), Mauritius Institute of Education (MIE) and Mauritius Institute for Training and Development (MITD) for the development of targeted capacity building programmes.
- These are aimed at the professionalisation of the NGO sector through the upgrading of qualification levels of NGO staff and the enhancement of the governance, management and technical competencies of NGOs.

## Mentoring Support

- The NSIF maintains an ongoing follow-up of funded programmes and projects. Funded organisations experiencing difficulties are provided with mentoring support to help them address programme management issues and problems encountered during the implementation of their interventions.

# Enabling Effective Coordination with Institutions

## Coordinating Committees

The NSIF has set up Coordinating Committees with Ministries and institutions relevant to its priority areas of intervention. The objectives are to:

- Share information pertaining to interventions by Ministries, public institutions and NGOs in the priority areas of the Foundation
- Support the monitoring of NGO programmes and projects
- Provide technical advice in respect of the assessment of funding proposals, design of programmes including national programmes, research and capacity building
- Identify emerging needs and gaps in service delivery and to propose relevant programmes and projects
- Explore opportunities for enhanced cooperation between the Foundation and Ministries and institutions

The following outcomes have been achieved through the collaboration with institutions and NGOs.

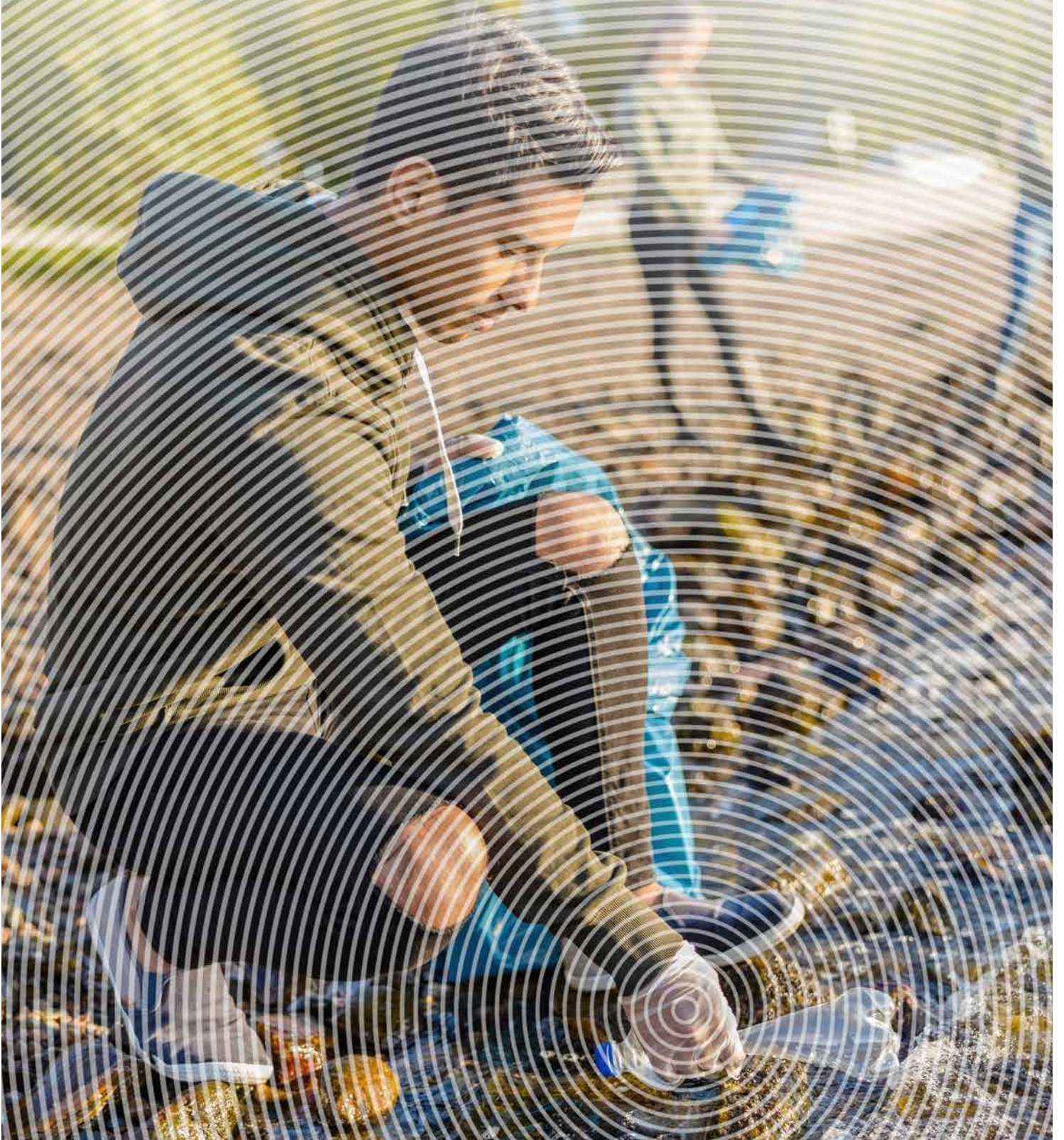
- Elaboration of a National Programme for children in RCIs in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Children and the UN Guidelines on Alternative Care
- A study on homeless persons
- Identification of a gap to access vocational training at the MITD. A Basic Course in Literacy and Numeracy leading to the National Certificate (NC) Level 1 has been introduced as from May 2022. One hundred and two (102) youths from 12 NGOs have been registered to take part in the exams. Participants will be eligible to access all MITD courses upon obtaining the NC Level 1 qualification.

ISSUE	INSTITUTIONS
RCIs for Protection and Welfare of Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Health and Wellness</li> <li>• National Aids Secretariat</li> </ul>
Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>
Support to Persons with Disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity</li> <li>• Training and Employment of Disabled Persons Board</li> </ul>
Promotion of Leisure and Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mauritius Sports Council</li> </ul>
Rehabilitation of detainees and ex-detainees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mauritius Prisons Service</li> </ul>
Vocational training of youths in the non-formal education sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mauritius Institute of Training and Development</li> </ul>
Special Education Needs Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Education Needs Authority</li> </ul>

IMPACT REPORT 2022

*"The earth is what we all  
have in common..."*

*Mehmet Murat*



# Funding Impact

## Highlights

**300  
NGOs**

More than 300 NGOs have been funded over the past 5 years, of which 240 are regularly supported each year.

**Rs2.2  
BILLION**

The Foundation has disbursed more than Rs2.2 billion since 2017 to support programmes and projects in its 10 priority areas to the benefit of individuals and families registered under the Social Register of Mauritius (SRM) and of vulnerable groups as defined in its Charter.

**34%**

34% of funding allocations to NGOs are in the priority area 'Educational support and training'.



# Highlights

**20,000**

More than 20,000 beneficiaries are reached annually through the funded programmes and projects.

**Rs 257 MILLION**

Rs 257 million approved under the reduced CSR mechanism for companies to use for their CSR programmes and/or finance NGOs.

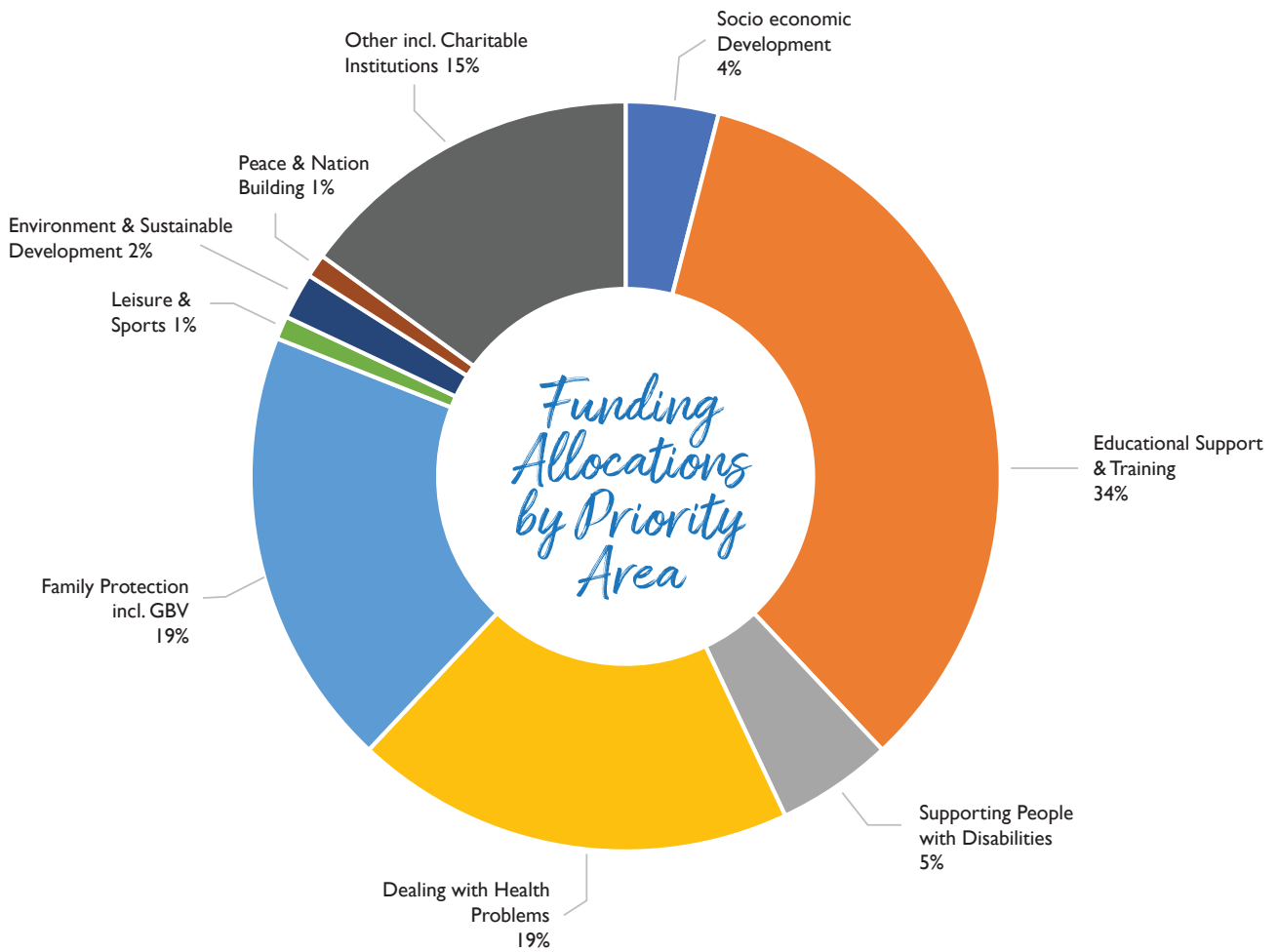
**3000 JOBS**

Funding by the NSIF helps to sustain some 3,000 jobs in the NGO sector. Technical human resources represent 75% of employment in NGOs.

**Rs 120 MILLION**

Setting up of the Fortified Learning Environment Unit with an annual budget of Rs120 million to implement the Fortified Learning Environment (FLE) National Programme.





### Number of Beneficiaries Reached Annually



Socioeconomic Development as means of Poverty Alleviation	<b>+1800</b>
Educational Support & Training	<b>+8500</b>
Supporting People with Disabilities	<b>+1000</b>
Dealing with Health Problems	<b>+6300</b>
Family Protection including Gender-based Violence	<b>+700</b>
Leisure and Sports	<b>+1000</b>
Charitable Institutions	<b>+600</b>

## Supporting active and meaningful participation and equal opportunity to develop and prosper

### Priority Areas:

Socioeconomic Development as a means of Poverty Alleviation  
Educational Support and Training

**1** NO POVERTY



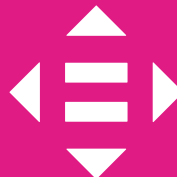
**2** ZERO HUNGER



**4** QUALITY EDUCATION



**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES







## Socioeconomic Development as a means of Poverty Alleviation

The Foundation funds programmes and projects aimed at strengthening capacities, resilience and livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable groups.

**Around Rs 110 million have been disbursed to some 35 NGOs since 2017 to provide support to :**

- Low income and vulnerable families
- The homeless
- Unemployed women and men
- Detainees and ex-detainees

**The main programme areas include:**

- Livelihood support and social accompaniment
- Skills development, employability and economic empowerment

- Supported accommodation provided to the homeless
- Social rehabilitation of the homeless and ex-detainees
- More than Rs20 million are provided yearly for basic needs assistance, social accompaniment and economic empowerment of poor and vulnerable individuals, including ex-detainees and families.
- Around Rs 11 million are allocated annually to support 4 homeless shelters accommodating around 150 beneficiaries.



## Educational Support and Training

- The NSIF seeks to promote access to all levels of education and training for vulnerable children and youth.
- The Foundation provides for vital educational support to vulnerable children and youths, in the form of early childhood care and education, basic literacy, life skills and remedial education, vocational training, support to non-formal educational structures and special education needs schools.
- Technical/vocational training
- Specialised education and therapies
- Music and creativity workshops
- Psychological support and counselling
- School feeding programmes
- Funds allocated to some 150 NGOs exceed the amount of Rs 800 million since 2017.
- Around 7,000 vulnerable youths and children, of whom 53 percent are young girls, are supported through the educational programmes and projects funded by the NSIF.

**The types of interventions supported are:**

- Creche services and pre-primary schooling
- Academic support
- Life skills, literacy, numeracy and IT

## **Fortified Learning Environment National Programme**

- The Fortified Learning Environment (FLE) National Programme is the first National Programme of the NSIF.
- The overarching goal of the FLE National Programme is to address challenges and obstacles towards educational achievement of vulnerable children in a holistic manner.

### **The National Programme comprises 3 strategic pillars of action:**

- Enhancing access of children aged 3 months to 3 years from poor and vulnerable families to quality early childhood care and services
- Transforming the learning environment of low performing primary schools and dealing with educational and related developmental needs and challenges of children including psychosocial, emotional and behavioural, for improved long-term academic attainment
- Providing educational, psychosocial and family support to secondary school students enrolled in the Extended Programme (EP) and experiencing learning difficulties
- The FLE National Programme is being implemented since 2020 through the NSIF's FLE Unit (FLEU) in partnership with NGOs, the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare, Mauritius Institute of Education and Active Mauritius.

### **A budget of Rs 120 million is allocated to the FLE National Programme annually. Some of the major achievements to date include:**

- Setting-up of 2 new crèches in Chemin Grenier and Poste de Flacq, accommodating around 40 children from vulnerable families

- Recruitment and training of 19 FLE Primary School Coordinators through 3 NGOs and identification of 70 primary schools needing support
- 56 FLE Tutors, 7 FLE Coordinators through 10 NGOs providing educational support in small groups of less than 8 students to some 854 students of Grade 7 and 707 students of Grade 8 enrolled in EP across 160 secondary schools both in Mauritius and Rodrigues
- Ongoing capacity by the MIE, including the development of a customised toolkit to provide individualised, learner-centered and activity-based remedial support by FLE EP Tutors
- Regular health and wellbeing activities organised for FLE EP beneficiaries, including sports activities in collaboration with Active Mauritius
- A Family Support Programme providing support to 400 families of EP students across 119 localities in Mauritius
- Early results show improvement in English, French and Maths. There are, in particular, encouraging signs of more effort, regularity, punctuality and better behaviour at school as well as progress in socio-emotional wellbeing and psychosocial factors such as self-esteem, willingness to learn and educational autonomy, contributing to the overall academic advancement of students in the Programme.



**Enabling a good quality of life and wellbeing**

**Priority Areas:**

- Supporting People with Disabilities
- Dealing with Health Problems
- Leisure and Sports



## Supporting People with Disabilities

- Funding to programmes and projects in the area of disabilities aims at improving the wellbeing and socioeconomic participation of persons with disabilities.
- The Foundation supports the running of 5 day care centres and 1 residential facility, accommodating more than 125 beneficiaries.

**Around 1,000 persons with disabilities are supported annually through access to:**

- Rehabilitation programmes
- Medical and paramedical services
- Assistive devices
- Vocational training and employment
- Sport and recreational activities

Total funds amounting to around Rs 115 million have been disbursed to some 15 NGOs since 2017.



## Dealing with Health Problems

- The Foundation supports health programmes addressing:
  - Non-communicable diseases notably diabetes, cancer and other severe diseases including haemophilia, thalassemia and muscular dystrophy
  - Family planning, sexual and reproductive health
  - Mental health
  - Substance abuse and HIV/AIDS
- Around Rs 325 million have been disbursed to some 45 NGOs in the area of health over the past 5 years.

- More than 40% of funds are directed towards substance abuse and HIV/AIDS programmes.

**Funded programmes reach more than 6,000 beneficiaries annually, helping them to increase control over their own health and improving their wellbeing and social inclusion through:**

- Prevention, education and screening
- Treatment, care and therapeutic services
- Psychosocial support and socioeconomic empowerment



## Leisure and Sports

- The Foundation seeks to expand access and participation to leisure and sports activities by vulnerable children, youths and adults, including the elderly, as a means of improving physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing.
- More than Rs16 million have been disbursed to some 18 NGOs since 2017 for the promotion of leisure and sports.
- Leisure and sports projects funded by the NSIF reach more than 1,300 vulnerable children and youth and 200 elderly every year.

### Activities include:

- Athletics, Badminton, Football, Brazilian Jujitsu, Kabbaddi
- Music, dance and singing, Yoga, Tai Chi, Home Economics





**Promoting a safe,  
harmonious and socially  
cohesive society**

**Priority Areas:**

Family Protection including  
Gender-based Violence



## Family Protection including Gender-based Violence



Credit: istock.com

The NSIF provides funding support to NGO-run Residential Care Institutions (RCIs) which annually accommodate around:

- 420 children victims of neglect, violence and abuse in need of alternative care
- 615 elderly placed in charitable institutions
- 375 women victims of gender-based violence, often accompanied by their children

Residential facilities cater for:

- The basic needs, care and protection of beneficiaries
- Their health and wellbeing
- Specialist support such as psychosocial accompaniment and counselling

- Around Rs 500 million have been disbursed to more than 30 NGOs running around 70 residential structures.
- Around Rs 105 million are disbursed to some 14 NGOs running RCIs for children every year.
- Disbursements to 21 charitable institutions operated by 11 NGOs amount to nearly Rs90 million per annum.
- Some Rs 13 million are allocated annually to 4 shelters for women and young girls.



**Helping a clean,  
healthy and sustainable  
environment**

**Priority Areas:**  
Environment and Sustainable  
Development





# Environment and Sustainable Development

The Foundation supports programmes and projects aimed at:

- Protection and conservation of biodiversity and wildlife
  - Environmental education and sensitisation
  - Waste segregation and recycling, in particular plastics
  - Promotion of green jobs
  - Enhancing resilience of vulnerable communities to climate change impacts and other disasters
- Around Rs 50 million have been disbursed to 16 NGOs to fund environmental programmes and projects since 2017.
  - Some Rs 30 million have been allocated to support preservation and conservation works of endemic flora and fauna in our natural forests and on islets.



IMPACT REPORT 2022

*"From the mouths of our elders"  
comes a fountain of wisdom...*

*Ransom Riggs*



# Approval of CSR Programmes

## Reduced CSR Mechanism

- Companies liable to CSR are required to remit 75 percent of their CSR fund to the MRA. The CSR amount to be remitted to the MRA may be reduced by an amount not exceeding 25 per cent of the CSR Fund of a company where it is used to finance a CSR programme started before 1 January 2019. This is subject to prior approval by the NSIF.
- The Foundation approved Rs 257 million to be used by companies to implement their CSR programmes and/or finance NGOs during the period January 2019 to June 2022.
- More than 30 percent of the reduced CSR amount approved went towards supporting CSR programmes in the priority area 'Educational Support and Training'.
- On average, applications from more than 200 companies are approved annually. Some 100 NGOs are financed through the reduced CSR mechanism.

# Looking Ahead

## 7-Point Plan Moving Forward

### **1. Renewed strategic focus**

The Foundation will adapt its strategic focus in line with its transformation into a central funding agency for NGOs, taking into consideration emerging challenges and expectations of its partners, beneficiaries and other stakeholders. It will review and update its strategic plan.

### **2. Impactful funding through National Programmes**

The Foundation will redouble efforts to make its funding more impactful in response to pressing social problems. It will devise National Programmes to implement integrated and coordinated initiatives and actions in its priority areas of intervention to advance social inclusion and SDGs.

### **3. Improving transparency and accountability**

The Foundation will strengthen the necessary systems, tools and technology to continually improve transparency and accountability through consistent reporting, communication and engagement with stakeholders.

### **4. Harnessing digital technology**

The Foundation will streamline and digitise its core processes for greater efficiency and improved responsiveness towards its partners and stakeholders.

### **5. Investing in capacity building**

The Foundation will further invest in capacity building programmes to fortify NGO governance, management and service delivery in order to improve the efficiency and impact of their actions on the ground. It will promote the professionalisation of the social work profession and advocate for a National Council of Social Work to regulate social work education and practice.

### **6. Advancing collaborations**

The Foundation will build on existing coordinating committees to formalise appropriate frameworks for advancing collaborations with ministries, institutions, the private sector and NGOs as a way of building a coordinated, multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach for identifying and addressing gaps and enabling a more strategic and impactful funding and monitoring of programmes and projects.

### **7. Promoting an evidence-based approach**

The Foundation will endeavour to build a knowledge base of key issues addressed by its funding and significant and measurable outcomes achieved through the conduct of relevant research and evaluations of funded interventions.









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