

LES ASSISES DE L'AGRICULTURE 2026:

SMART AGRICULTURE FOR A RESILIENT MAURITIUS



[#assisesagriculture2026](#)

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Towards a Resilient and Inclusive Food Security Framework in Mauritius



FAREI

SFWF

AMB

A.S

APAU

Govt Programme (2025-2029)

Promoting a Modern Agro-Industry for Better Food Security

Government will launch an ambitious food security programme.

- Transformation and consolidation of the agricultural and food production sector in ways that support higher levels of local production and the supply of safer food while promoting the green economy concept.
- Rational use and management of prime agricultural land
- Agricultural land suitability mapping of the whole country
- Traceability of food and food products will also be introduced.
- modernisation of our agriculture
- Local producers will be encouraged to become export-oriented.

FOOD AS A HUMAN RIGHT

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1948)

recognises the right to food as part of the right to an adequate standard of living:



"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control" (Article 25).

WHAT IS FOOD SECURITY

- Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.- 1996 World Food Summit

SDG 2

- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS



Source: FAO. Transforming Food and Agriculture Through a Systems Approach

TRANSFORMED AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS

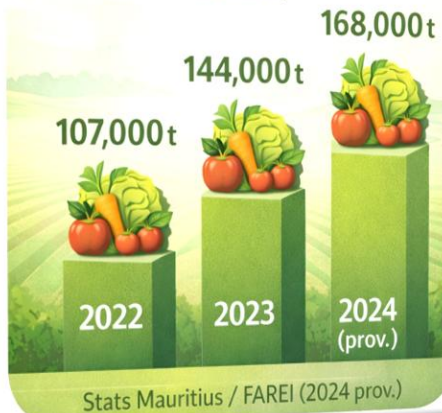


Source: FAO. Transforming Food and Agriculture Through a Systems Approach

THE PROCESS

DATA DRIVEN

Foodcrops Production (tonnes)

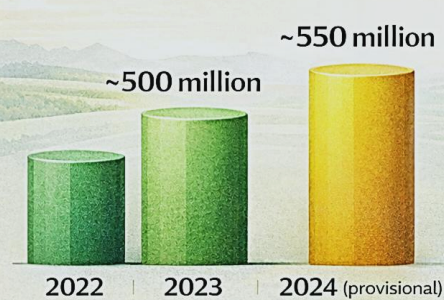


Annual Food Import Bill



Imports of Insecticides, Fungicides and Herbicides

HS 3808 - External Trade Statistics



HS 3808 - External Trade Statistics.
Based on Statistics Mauritius trade data (2024 provisional)

~7,000 tonnes/year



Represents total formulated agrochemical products imported.

Agricultural Employment



Agriculture & Agribusiness



Agriculture's Share of Economy



Food Production vs. Food Import



Based on national production and trade data
(Statistics Mauritius, FAO methodology)



PRE-CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

Nine liaison meetings for both crop and livestock sectors held at DCs, MFs and at FAREI St Pierre.

Stakeholders' Meeting – Crop Sector on 29 September 2025 at Boname Hall (91 participants).

Stakeholders' Meeting – Livestock Sector on 08 October 2025 at FAREI Head Office, Réduit (52 participants).

Youth Engagement Session on 07 November 2025 at FAREI Head Office (54 participants).

Pre-Validation Workshop with planters and breeders (FSC Hall, St Pierre – 24 October 2025) in collaboration with the Small Farmers Welfare Fund (SFWF), facilitated by FAREI resource persons.

Pre-Validation Workshop with Stakeholders (who attended the 29 September 2025 meeting) on 29 October 2025 at FAREI Head Office, Réduit.

Rodrigues has also been part of the process

THE PROCESS

STRENGTHS

- ❖ **INSTITUTIONAL DEPTH & COVERAGE**
- ❖ **POLICY RECOGNITION OF FOOD SECURITY AS A NATIONAL PRIORITY**
- ❖ **DIVERSE PRODUCTION BASE**
- ❖ **RELATIVELY STRONG REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS**

OPPORTUNITIES

- ❖ **SYSTEM INTEGRATION THROUGH CONSULTATIVE REFORM PROCESS**
- ❖ **FOOD-AND-FEED SUBSTITUTION POTENTIAL**
- ❖ **YOUTH, AGRITECH AND PROFESSIONALISATION**
- ❖ **MARKET DIFFERENTIATION FOR SAFE, TRACEABLE AND SUSTAINABLY PRODUCED FOOD**
- ❖ **PROFESSIONALISATION OF PLANTERS AS AGRI-ENTREPRENEURS**

THE PROCESS

ACKNOWLEDGING CHALLENGES



Labour
scarcity



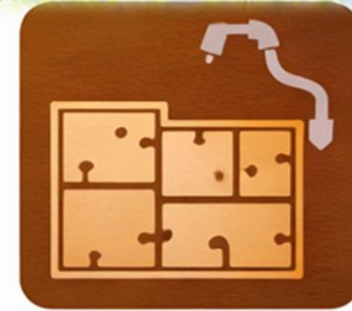
Youth
engagement



Climate
change



Water
shortage



Land
access



Soil health



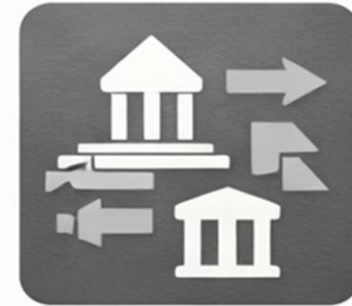
Farmer
professionalisation
integration



Data



Market
access



Policy
coordination

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES



“Embracing Innovative Agriculture to Enhance Food Security.” – BUDGET SPEECH 2025 – 2026



Digital Transformation 2025-2029. A BLUEPRINT FOR MAURITIUS A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE. Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation.



The Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) of the Republic of Mauritius. Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste, Management and Climate Change, September 2025



Obesity Action Acceleration Roadmap (2025-2030), Ministry of Health and Wellness



REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICIES

SDG GOAL 2:
End hunger,
achieve food
security and
improved
nutrition and
promote
sustainable
agriculture

The
Commonwealth
Secretariat:
National
Agricultural
Data
Infrastructure,
A Policy
Guide, 2025.

FAO: Digital
Agriculture
and
Innovation
Road Map,
2025.

Modern
Agriculture
(Wiley). 100
essential
questions for
the future of
agriculture,
2023.

CAADP
Strategy and
Action Plan:
2026-2035
(Building
Resilient Agri-
Food Systems
in Africa)

FAO: Global
Strategic
Framework for
Food Security
and Nutrition
(GSF), 2017.

FAO: The
State of Food
and
Agriculture /
Making Agri
Food Systems
More Resilient
to Shocks and
Stresses, 2021.

The 10 questions to the 10 Themes

1. How we ensure resilient and sustainable food production that reduce dependence on imports and external shocks?

2. How do we secure long term autonomy?

3. How do we build resilience to disaster risks and climate change?

4. How do we encourage resource efficiency and ecosystem restoration through regenerative practices, recycling of organic matter and circular production models?

5. How do we safeguard the productive base of agriculture by promoting responsible resource use, pollution control and integrated land-water stewardship?

The 10 questions to the 10 Themes

6. How do we promote safe, nutritious and diverse food systems that support human well-being?

7. How do we move beyond value chains to build a diversified , traceable and high value economy?

8. How do we make of agriculture a profitable business and how do we turn the farmer into an agropreneur?

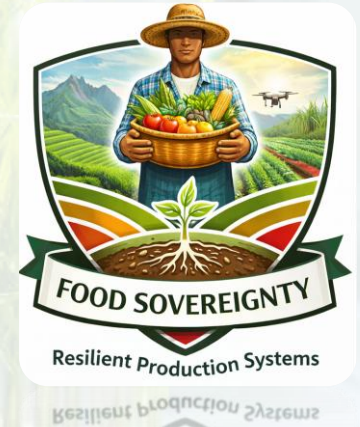
9. How do we leverage on emerging technologies to consolidate the agri food system?

10. How do we move from policy to action?

SOVEREIGNTY

Theme 1 : Food Sovereignty and resilient production systems

- ❖ Strategic crops (potato, onion banana interalia)
- ❖ labour scarcity : agricultural labour policies , shared mechanisation clusters
- ❖ Land Use through a live Land Bank
- ❖ Vertical Farming , hydroponics to address land scarcity
- ❖ Ensuring feed and fodder security



Theme 2 : Conservation of genetic resources and breeding

- ❖ Establishment of seed banks and germplasm collections, esp for underutilised crops
- ❖ Digital inventory platforms for real time seed availability
- ❖ Incentives for start ups to invest in seed in production



Theme 3 : Climate resilience, adaptation and disaster Risks

- R&D for genetic improvement; Climate smart housing for livestock
- Insurance schemes for farmers

Theme 4 : Regenerative and sustainable agriculture

- Natural Farming Zones, Avoid food loss and wastage(Avoiding food loss and wastage (279 kilos going to waste every minute in MRU) (UNEP, 2021).



Theme 5 : One health approach, integrating environment, plant and animal health

- Establish model conservation plots for demonstration and farming

Theme 6 : Nutrition security, food safety and wellness

- ✓ Strengthen pesticide residue monitoring
- ✓ Identify alternatives to chemicals
- ✓ Promote nutrition sensitive agriculture e.g biofortified crops
- ✓ Promote consumption of traditional crops (cassava, sweet potato, eddoes)
- ✓ Encourage Good Agricultural Practices
- ✓ Consumer and Farmer awareness



Turning the farmer into an agropreneur

Theme 7 : Value chains and market differentiation

- ❖ Post Harvest Systems, including harvest scheduling with market demand (Digital Platform)
- ❖ Setting up of agroprocessing zones
- ❖ Develop a digital market place to link farmers to hotels

Theme 8 : Empowering small holders, SMEs, women and youth

- ❖ National agri entrepreneurship programs
- ❖ Start up grants and mentoring
- ❖ Setting up of one stop shop to facilitate entry of youth in agriculture



Emerging Technologies and Innovation

Theme 9 : Information and Knowledge & Agritech

- Digital Decision Making Tools and Forecasting Models
- Promote and make available Agri Tech bundles
- Promotion of precision agriculture
- Develop digital B2B (planters to businesses) and B2C (planters to consumers market platforms)



From policy to action

Theme 10 : Good Governance, Institutional Coordination, Policy Coherence and Financing

- ✓ Interministerial councils or task forces to align policies on agriculture, food security, trade, environment and health
- ✓ Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability
- ✓ Financing and Investment Mechanisms
- ✓ Institutional strengthening and Human Capital



A SHARED VISION FOR A RESILIENT MAURITIUS

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THANK YOU

LES ASSISES DE L'AGRICULTURE 2026 PROCESS

