

Investec Bank (Mauritius) Limited Sustainability report (2018)

Sustainability

The bank believes in making a positive contribution to the society and the environment in which we operate. Our corporate social investment (CSI) strategy is to focus on projects and initiatives in the following areas:

- Education
- Environment
- Sports development.

Investec bank looks to spend 30% of its budget in each of the above areas. The remaining 10% of the annual budget is allocated to discretionary philanthropic donations; while it may fall out of the bank's focus areas, it allows us to make small but meaningful donations to worthwhile causes.

Moreover, corporate social responsibility (CSR) was legislated by the government of Mauritius in July 2009. In terms of the legislation, all Mauritian companies need to allocate 2% of their Segment A chargeable income to CSR-approved NGOs or projects. The bank will remit 50% of its CSR Funds to the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), in accordance with the Income Tax Act. Segment B profits pertaining to offshore income derived by banks is, however, exempt. Notwithstanding this the bank has chosen to contribute an additional 0.25% of the average previous three years' Segment B chargeable income to corporate social investment. In line with the government's focus on poverty alleviation, the bank's CSI projects are directed at communities or beneficiaries that are financially disadvantaged. Its approach is to ensure long-term sustainability. This means making multi-faceted interventions in selected communities and may include building operational skills and organisational capacity.

The bank criteria for assessing projects are:

- Ability to make a meaningful difference
- Capacity to deliver sustained benefits
- Measurability
- Potential to engage co-sponsors to increase leverage and provide an integrated solution
- Opportunity for staff involvement.

In terms of ad hoc donations, Investec has reached towards 'Link to life', an NGO that supports cancer patients by providing psychological assistance, early detection screening and cancer awareness education. Investec encourages its staff to contribute and participate in its CSI programme, whereby in December 2017, 68% of staff participated in the Santa shoebox volunteer drive by providing Christmas and grocery boxes for communities in need from Solitude. Staff have given their time to assist the Terrain for the Interactive Pedagogy through Arts (TIPA) and the SOS Children's Villages.

Projects supported by Investec Bank Mauritius:

Education

Education is the key to empowering disadvantaged communities and enables individuals to make a better life for themselves.

• Our key project within the education sector is our support of the Guy Rozemont Government School in Tranquebar for the past five years which includes a remedial

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education programme for children preparing to write their exams, programmes that raise pupils' self-esteem and develop life skills through art and drama, skills development for teachers, a forum for parental participation in education, as well as the upgrade of the children's playground.

- Assistance for children preparing to write Club de Parents Investec sponsors the monthly meeting of parents and school representatives. The purpose of this club is to provide a forum for parental participation in education. The club supports their CPE exams also uses this forum as an opportunity to upgrade and enhance the skills of parents.
- TIPA (Terrain for Interactive Pedagogy through Arts): is an NGO that runs an educational programme at the Guy Rozemont School enabling vulnerable children to develop essential life skills. Their focus is to empower children to become critical thinkers, participate in discussions, be responsible and be team players through art, drama and cultural education. They also develop teachers' skills and organise an annual art festival at the school.

The bank supports Education for Sustainability (EFS) at Loretto College Curepipe. The project develops ecologically literate students who will play a role in society, steering business and the Mauritian economy towards a responsible approach to our non-renewable resources and an attitude of care and stewardship towards our natural environment. The EFS programme embeds the ecosystems education into the curriculum. The project is a partnership between the Bureau de l'Education Catholique and Earth wise centre, an entity focusing on education, training and consulting for sustainability.

Environment

The bank believes that the natural heritage of Mauritius is a critical resource to the country and needs to be respected and protected. In the environment sector we support the Mauritian Wildlife Foundations' Learning with Nature Education Project and the Protection of Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) to develop and implement its education programme that focuses on the health and welfare of companion animals.

- In terms of the Mauritian Wildlife Foundations' Learning, the bank supports the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation's 'Learning with Nature' education project at L'îles aux Aigrettes that teaches children about the flora and fauna of Mauritius. The project allows students to experience and understand their natural environment, and appreciate its relevance in their day- to-day lives and their school curriculum.
- The bank partners with the Protection of Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) to implement its education programme focusing on the health and welfare of companion animals and the dire need to have them sterilised. Aside from the cruelty and the negative image to tourists, stray dogs and cats can be a danger to community health.
- Continuation of its environmental project in collaboration with Ecole Pere Henri Souchon and Animaterra Vegetable Farming Project. The project teaches pupils basic crop cultivation skills in a sustainable manner using principals of biological farming and no chemical pesticides. This school is a vocational school for those pupils who are unable to continue in mainstream government education. This project is part of the school curriculum and provides pupils with skills that assist them in finding employment in the agricultural/horticultural sector. This year, they plan to do theoretical teaching which will enhance their practical skills.

Sports development

Investec believes that access to sport should be available to all. We also believe that aside from the importance of physical exercise, sport also teaches children discipline, perseverance, team-work and develops self-esteem. Our support of the sports development sector includes the following sport development projects:

Tranquebar Boxing Club

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Investec has been sponsoring the Tranquebar Boxing Club in renewing their equipment and providing them with adequate training. The team competes at National and International Level.

Tranquebar Dalton Football Club Investec has been sponsoring the Tranquebar Dalton Football Club for the past four years. The team has reached the Super League Regional of the capital of Mauritius, Port Louis and are currently participating in the international games of 'Trophee de la Jenesse'.

Tranquebar Black Rangers Women's Volley Ball Club

Investec has been sponsoring the Women's Volley Ball Club 'Black Rangers' for the past 10 years. The club consists of 45 members and are made up of a strong first team with a junior development team.

Environmental footprint

In terms of the bank's environmental footprint, it measures its use of energy, paper and water. The bank continues to work towards reducing its overall energy and resource usage. Investec is environmentally friendly with a no plastic approach. Going forward, the bank will implement the "go-green" strategy by recycling its waste.

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