The Mauritius Research Council (MRC), operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation, is the apex body for the promotion and coordination of Government investment in research and innovation.

In April this year, the MRC Workshop on Intellectual Property (IP) and Sports highlighted the potential for innovation in the domain of sports, especially in the context of developing a sports economy in Mauritius. Moreover, in view of the forthcoming 10th edition of the Indian Ocean Island Games (Jeux des Îles de l’Océan Indien) in July 2019, the links between sports and innovation involving entertainment, games, culture and business, as well as sponsors, broadcasters, teams and players, are likely to create a wide range of possibilities for the future of the sports industry.

For this Call for Proposals, emphasis is on initiatives that can help develop a sports economy by providing support for the design and development of technology-based solutions addressing the needs of the local sports sector. Such initiatives can include innovative solutions in clothing, scoring and measuring systems, protective gear, safety and standards of equipment, competition attire and sporting equipment, amongst others. Any company can submit applications under the Proof of Concept Scheme (PCS), focusing on innovation in sports.

Funding:
Approved projects will receive funding up to MUR1 million per project for a project duration not exceeding 12 months. Awards will be made on a competitive basis.

Expression of Interest:
Prospective applicants are requested to forward their proposals (one soft and one hard version) to the Council using appropriate templates and guidelines, which can be downloaded from the MRC website. Applicants may also wish to discuss their ideas with the MRC. All information disclosed will be dealt with in strict confidentiality.