

SOCIAL INNOVATION AND RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME

PROJECT SUMMARY

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The information on this form may be made public.

Institution/Company:

University of Mauritius in collaboration with Lovebridge

Project Title:

Research on long-term holistic accompaniment of families living in poverty in the Republic of Mauritius.

TECHNICAL ABSTRACT

The Fight against Poverty is a global and national cause and has been identified as the goal number 1 under the Sustainable Development Goals. Even though Mauritius is considered as a middle-income economy, increasing economic vulnerability remains a worrisome trend. The share of the population considered economically vulnerable increased from 10.2 percent in 2007 to 12.7 percent in 2012. (Mauritius: Inclusiveness of Growth and Prosperity, World Bank Group, 2015). In spite of the numerous existing programmes (both public and private) targeting poverty alleviation, the number households living in poverty remains a national challenge. Faced with this situation, the Lovebridge project was set up in 2012 on a small-scale basis by proposing a new approach in the fight against poverty. The Lovebridge method targets the poverty issue horizontally through a close accompaniment to the beneficiary families to lead them towards long-term by intervening on 6 pillars which are:

- Education
- Employment/Employability/ Training
- Housing
- Food & Nutrition
- Health
- MASCO (Motivation, Attitude, Skills, Courage - the psychological pillar)

Given that there is a need for the identification of workable solutions to the poverty issue, it is essential for NGOs operating at grassroot level and the academia to collaborate in order to progress constructively in the fight against poverty. The primary aim of this study is to analyse the long-term holistic accompaniment approach adopted by Lovebridge, and its impact on the empowerment of people living in situations of poverty.

Key Words to Identify Research (8 maximum)