

ISSUE NO.8

# CREATING A CULTURE OF INNOVATION

Mauritius Research Council  
The Regular Newsletter of the MRC



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**"SHAPING UP THE MAURITIUS OF TOMORROW  
THROUGH RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY AND  
INNOVATION."**

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**FEBRUARY 2019**



## FIGHTING DIABETES AT THE WORKPLACE (FDW)

The FDW pilot programme is best seen as a socially innovative matching grant scheme accompanied by a pilot programme with the aim to incentivize interested large establishments to provide at workplace level, a range of medical, educational and psychosocial support facilities to their employees, especially for management of diabetic and pre-diabetic employees. As such, both the Public and Private sector in Mauritius are taking a pro-active role as interested stakeholder in this initiative to provide better health and quality of life to their employees as well as improving the productivity of the enterprise. Four big companies have already subscribed to the project where they have employed specialised medical personnel for screening purposes. Till date, up to more than 1000 employees have already been screened. Networking sessions among the big companies are being organised at the MRC regularly to share good practices, experiences and problems that can be encountered during the course of project.

### How to contact us?

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## IP AND THE ICT SECTOR

As our country is moving towards a knowledge and digital economy, the transformation of the ICT industry into a key sector through innovation is seen as a national priority. With a view to encouraging innovation and further use of Intellectual Property (IP) for the protection and exploitation of innovative technology, the Council is strengthening the links between research, innovation, IP and components of the knowledge economy. Over the next five months, the MRC will assess the impact of IP in ICT sector by determining how IP has a bearing on ICT innovation. As such,

Prof K Blind from Technische Universität, Berlin was invited to kick-start the process through a workshop entitled "The Role of Intellectual Property and Innovation in the ICT Sector", on the 25th October 2018. After the first workshop, an in-depth survey, interviews and data analysis will be carried out. A second workshop will take place in March 2019, to present the findings and recommendations on the way forward.



*"It turns out that creativity isn't some rare gift to be enjoyed by the lucky few—it's a natural part of human thinking and behavior. unblocking that creative spark can have far-reaching implications for yourself, your organization, and your community." - Tom Kelley*



## THE FIRST MAURITIAN CUBE-SATELLITE (MIR-SAT1)



## REGISTER AS A REVIEWER!

Those with relevant expertise and wishing to register as a Reviewer for potential project proposals are invited to fill in the form here:

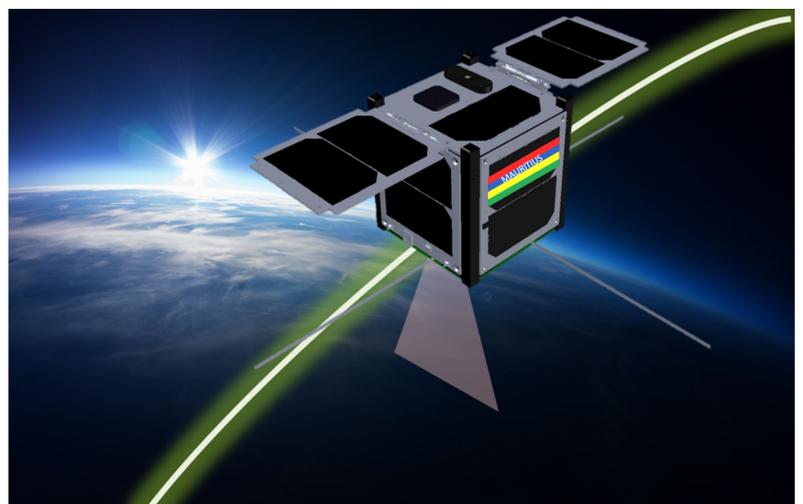
<https://goo.gl/forms/VdZWbHlXrEjQ3Lx22>

These details will be stored in a database and screened. Potential reviewers with the required credentials may be selected from the database as and when required. Local and International Reviewers are both welcomed.

Please note that as per the Data Protection Act (2017), all data provided will be kept confidential and will be used strictly for MRC proposal review purposes.

The Mauritius Research Council was invited by UNOOSA (United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs) & JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) from the 28th September to 04th October 2018 to participate in the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) Workshop and International Astronautical Congress (IAC) 2018 in Bremen, Germany, in respect of the 3rd (2018) Round KiboCUBE Programme & MIR-SAT1 Project.

The IAC 2018, with the theme 'involving everyone' consisted of a scientific conference program and a space exhibition. It covered all space sectors and topics in multidisciplinary environment with actors from around the world. The MRC was exposed to the latest space information and above all made new contacts that could result in potential partnerships in our endeavours towards becoming a space-faring country.





## WHAT'S IN?

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## GRAND CHALLENGES OF MAURITIUS

A "Grand Challenges of Mauritius" full day workshop was held at the Conference Hall of Cyber Tower 1 Ebene on Tuesday 09th October 2018 to conduct multiple working sessions with experts in relevant fields. 150 participants responded to our call to brainstorm on the list of ideas/proposals received through the website that could be transformed into full-fledged viable projects with a view to finding solutions for potential implementation. Five working groups debated on 5 specific themes (including education, employment, animal welfare, food security, traffic management & others) and the ideas which they believed were the most relevant ones in the local context.



## NATIONAL INNOVATION FRAMEWORK

On Monday 15th October 2018, the MRC welcomed 85 people for the launching of the National Innovation Framework (NIF), held in the Conference Hall of Cyber Tower 1 Ebene, jointly with the Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation. The NIF is a unique programme of creating innovation ecosystems to transform the landscape of the Mauritian economy by setting out a plan for Innovation based on integrated growth.

Such a balanced and concerted programme will ensure that Innovation becomes an organic part of the Mauritian economy. The process to develop the framework has been consultative with the participation of a range of research organisations and academia with the support of international experts from Nishith Desai Associates from India.

