



Conservatoire Botanique National de Brest

The Conservatoire Botanique National de Brest is a botanical centre located in Brest, France. Established in 1977, it aims to preserve endangered plant species from various regions around the world, including Mauritius, China, Japan, and New Zealand. The centre houses a significant collection of about 1,700 endangered plant species with successful preservation efforts for 20 of these species.

<https://www.cbnbrest.fr/>



Our environmental and cultural heritage

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For more than 185 years, we have played a central role in driving Mauritius' socio-economic development. Over this time, we have evolved our approach to ensure we continue to act as a force for good, contributing to a more secure, sustainable and inclusive society.

Today, climate change is one of our most urgent concerns, with more frequent and intense weather events affecting people, societies and economies and damaging land and marine ecosystems. As the leading bank in Mauritius, we are therefore committed to using our scale and influence to build local and regional resilience and support the transition to a low-carbon economy.

As illustrated on page 41, the direct environmental impacts generated from our daily operations are significantly lower than the indirect impacts from our financing activities, where we are exposed to sectors such as energy, agriculture, manufacturing, transport, and construction. We continue to invest in and implement initiatives to minimise our direct operational footprint while taking steps to address our upstream and downstream environmental impacts.

Our approach to environmental and cultural heritage supports the SDGs, UNGC, and UNEP FI PRB:

Alignment with the SDGs, UNGC, UNEP FI PRB



Principles 1, 2, 7, 8, 9



Principles 2, 3, 4

Responsible finance that supports environmental sustainability

We remain committed to embedding social, environmental, climate and nature considerations in our approach to responsible finance.

We continue strengthening our **governance structures** to support our approach to sustainable and responsible financing locally and regionally.

Read more on page 45.

We have a growing offering of sustainable financial products and services and developed a **green taxonomy** to facilitate sustainable financing. This year, we are developing a **social taxonomy**.

Read more on page 43.

We are **engaging with our employees** and have implemented various training and engagement initiatives throughout MCB to deepen their understanding of ESG-related risks and opportunities and promote sustainable practices.

Read more on page 41.

We are refining our **sustainable finance framework**, including reviewing the task force governance to mainstream sustainable finance in our financing activities.

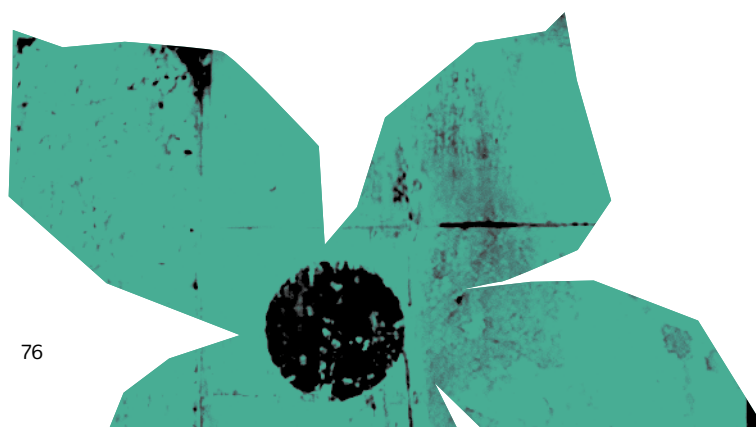
Read more on page 44.

We have stopped all new financing of coal infrastructure and trade worldwide. We are refining our oil and gas financing strategy to promote a **just transition to a more secure energy future**.

Read more on page 82.

We are **engaging with our clients** to promote responsible finance and identify opportunities to support them on their sustainability journeys.

Read more on page 85.



Our **ESR Policy** articulates how we manage and govern the environmental and social risks associated with our lending activities.

Read more on page 45.

We remain committed to managing our **direct environmental impacts** and operational footprint and are in the initial phase of evaluating the carbon footprint of our **financing operations**.

Read more on page 90.

We are **engaging with our stakeholders and communities** to create awareness of the importance of climate change and find innovative ways to address social and environmental challenges and drive positive change. This includes undertaking an extensive materiality analysis for MCB Ltd this year.

Read more on page 86.

Taking guidance from the UNEP FI PRB, we are exploring opportunities to help our clients adopt sustainable practices, including developing sustainable financial solutions to meet their needs.

Last year, we conducted an impact analysis to identify the significant positive and negative impacts of our local financing operations on people, the planet and prosperity.

As an outcome, we identified two potential high-impact areas and developed targets to monitor and manage these impacts:

1. **Climate:** Earmark a Rs 10 billion credit line to finance climate mitigation and adaptation projects by 2027 in line with Mauritius' Nationally Determined Contribution and National Adaptation Plan.
2. **Resource efficiency/circular economy:** Engage with at least 25 clients by 2026 to capture waste / resource efficiency data to promote a circular economy in Mauritius.

Growing our sustainable financing offer

Through our growing range of sustainable finance products and services, we aim to support individuals and businesses as we work together to transition towards a more sustainable economy.

MCB Sustainable Loan

MCB strengthened its sustainable financing offer with the launch of the MCB Sustainable Loan in February 2023. We have dedicated a credit line of Rs 10 billion to finance green and social projects that will positively impact the country and accelerate its transition to a more sustainable island. We are using our sustainable finance framework to determine the eligibility of potential projects and track progress against our Rs 10 billion credit line. This framework also guides the development of any new green or social financing products. Read more on page 43.

Approximately Rs 2 billion, equivalent to 41 facilities, was disbursed under this credit line from February 2023 until 30 June 2024 in the following categories: renewable energy, energy efficiency, green buildings, pollution prevention and control, circularity, clean transportation, and social.

Sustainable Trade Finance Facility

To support our sustainable financing offer, we launched a Sustainable Trade Finance Facility this year. The product targets local SMEs, MMEs and corporates that demonstrate sustainability practices in their import and export activities. In particular, any equipment or item that aligns with our green and social taxonomies is eligible for this sustainable trade facility. Our approach is in line with international practices established by the International Chamber of Commerce.

This product offers a competitive edge through a preferential rate, aligning with market demands for sustainable financing. Additionally, the sustainability lens offered through this product can act as a lever to tap into existing clients while providing scope to create a bigger impact within the trade finance industry.

MCB Capital Markets advised EnVolt on its green bond issuance of Rs 2 billion

As the foremost banking group in Mauritius, MCB is committed to deploying local resources to finance the domestic economy and infrastructure projects.

This year, MCB Capital Markets advised EnVolt (the renewable energy production arm of ENL Group) on its green bond issuance of Rs 2 billion, focusing on an inaugural issue of Rs 510 million. EnVolt will use the bond to finance the construction and operationalisation of 13 solar PV roof and ground-mounted facilities across Mauritius, with an aggregate capacity of 14 MWh.

The issuance is a landmark transaction for the Mauritian debt capital markets and reflects the rapid development of the local currency bond market over the past eight years. It is the first time that a renewable energy project is being financed by a bond issue and is the first Green Project Bond issued under the Green Bond Principles 2021 of the International Capital Market Association, with a Second-Party Opinion from a recognised ESG rating agency. The bond attracted a broad investor base comprising banks, asset managers and pension funds, with MCB Limited being the largest investor.

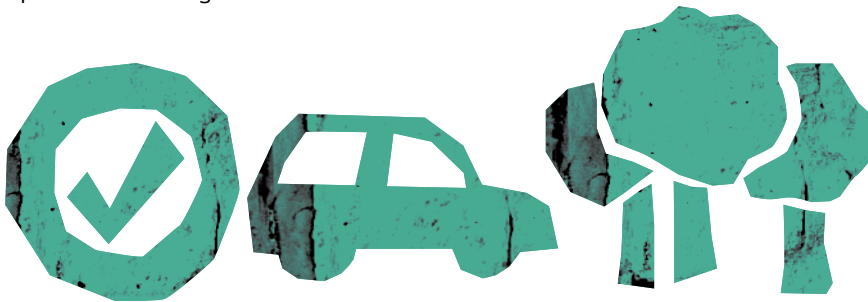
The project aligns with and contributes to the Mauritian government's ambition to achieve 60% renewable energy production by 2030.

Helping our retail customers choose environmentally-friendly products

As part of our home loan scheme, we have established exclusive partnerships with businesses committed to promoting green solutions. These businesses are primarily involved in photovoltaic installation for domestic use, the installation of solar water heaters, and rainwater harvesting. Customers can also earn a 15% discount on selected electric bicycle models from our business partners.

Sustainable Supply Chain Finance

Last year, we launched Sustainable Supply Chain Finance. This new financing facility is available to businesses, demonstrating that their activities contribute to environmental stewardship and socio-economic development throughout their entire supply chain. The first business to benefit from this facility was CIEL Textile's knitwear cluster (Ferney Spinning and Floreal), which is present in Mauritius, Madagascar, Bangladesh, and India. The business received a loan of USD 10 million. We are exploring more opportunities to partner with businesses as we deepen our understanding of how to best support responsible financing of trade activities.



Green Lease

Aimed at individuals and businesses, Green Lease covers the acquisition costs for electric or hybrid vehicles and the installation costs for photovoltaic-based charging stations at a fixed interest rate of 4.75% per annum.

Rs 243.9 million was disbursed for electric or hybrid cars this year (FY23: Rs 377.3 million) to a mix of retail and corporate clients. We anticipate demand for electric or hybrid vehicles to grow as consumers become more environmentally conscious and electric or hybrid cars become more readily available.

Green Drive

We continued to offer the GreenDrive loan scheme to employees. Launched in June 2021, this initiative encourages employees to choose electric or hybrid vehicles and supports our climate commitment to shift from fossil fuels to cleaner energy systems.

We disbursed 166 loans to our employees this year for purchasing electric and hybrid vehicles, valued at Rs 243 million (FY23: Rs 105 million). This represented 60% of car loans. Since 2021, 276 employees have benefitted from the scheme, amounting to Rs 412.5 million.

Embracing ESG in our funding model

At MCB, we are committed to making strategic choices with lasting, positive outcomes. We are dedicated to facilitating and securing financing for projects that assist with managing climate and social risks while supporting local and regional long-term resilience.

Incorporating our purpose and commitment to sustainability into our funding initiatives

In December 2023, MCB successfully signed a USD 400 million Sustainability Linked Syndicated term Loan, highlighting our commitment to environmental and social responsibility. The key performance indicators of the loan align with our Success Beyond Numbers commitments, focusing on sustainable financing and gender diversity:

- Rs 1 billion disbursed for sustainable financing as per MCB's green taxonomy by December 2024
- 35% of women at middle and senior management positions by December 2024

The deal was well received in the syndicated loan market and was oversubscribed 1.12 times. The facility further attracted 24 banks and investors in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, demonstrating MCB's credit strength and broad acknowledgement of our efforts to drive a responsible and sustainable financing agenda.

Our performance against the sustainability metrics will be assessed in December 2024, and a margin adjustment will be applicable based on the number of metrics achieved. A sustainability compliance certificate will be delivered by an external reviewer to testify to the achievement of targets.

Carbon offsetting

In line with our commitment to driving the transition to low-carbon in countries where we operate, we committed to investing € 5 million from 2021 to 2040 in Livelihoods Carbon Fund 3. This impact investment fund is focused on financing large-scale projects with positive social and economic impacts for rural communities. MCB's investment in the fund is expected to generate its first carbon credits in January 2025, reaching 800,000 credits at the end of 2040. We are exploring the best avenues and developing a strategy to use these carbon credits.

Supporting the scaling of climate finance

This year, MCB signed a USD 120 million climate line in partnership with development finance institutions Proparco and DEG to support the Bank's ambition to unlock opportunities to finance climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience locally and across Sub-Saharan Africa.

This new investment continues the success of the AFD Group's SUNREF lending programme, which has been active in Mauritius since 2009. This transaction also marks the fourth joint operation between Proparco, DEG and MCB, which is testimony to the long-standing relationship between these institutions.

The eligible projects that can be financed under this line can broadly be classified into the following categories: energy efficiency, green buildings, clean transportation, water management and waste management.

This is a ten-year facility, and USD 10 million has been drawn from this facility to date.

This year, our overseas banking subsidiaries also took steps to facilitate financing and funding that promotes environmental sustainability.

MCB Seychelles initiated a project to develop local capacity to build sustainable financing models. In January 2018, the government of Seychelles approved the Seychelles Blue Economy Strategic Framework and Roadmap. This framework aims to provide an integrated approach to ocean-based sustainable development that brings together economy, environment and society.

To support this local agenda, MCB Seychelles initiated an integrated capacity-building project this year, which aimed to provide clients with specialised training on how to integrate sustainability practices into their business models and financing strategies. This included providing more information on available financing opportunities. As an outcome of this project, clients will propose a business plan to MCB Seychelles, and the winning plan will receive financing support from the local bank.

In 2021, **MCB Madagascar** signed its first credit line of EUR 6 million with SUNREF. During the year, MCB Madagascar granted 18 green loans amounting to EUR 3.5 million under this credit line. The bank also extended the environmental and social analysis criteria for SUNREF loans to all corporate customer loan applications.



Our energy and commodities journey: supporting the long-term transition of Africa's energy landscape

Globally, the move to decarbonise economies is gaining momentum – with a vision to achieve net zero carbon emissions around 2050. While this ambition requires the collaboration of every region around the world, we believe the transition should balance climate objectives with the need to promote economic growth, social development, and access to energy in developing nations. This is particularly true for Africa considering the continent's economic and social development needs, which are hampered by a complex and deficient energy supply.

Understanding Africa's energy context

The oil and gas sector contributes significantly to the fiscal revenues of many African governments. For example, oil accounts for around 50% and 60% of total fiscal revenue for Nigeria and Angola, respectively ¹. Most African economies therefore remain highly dependent on fossil fuels revenues for socio-economic development.

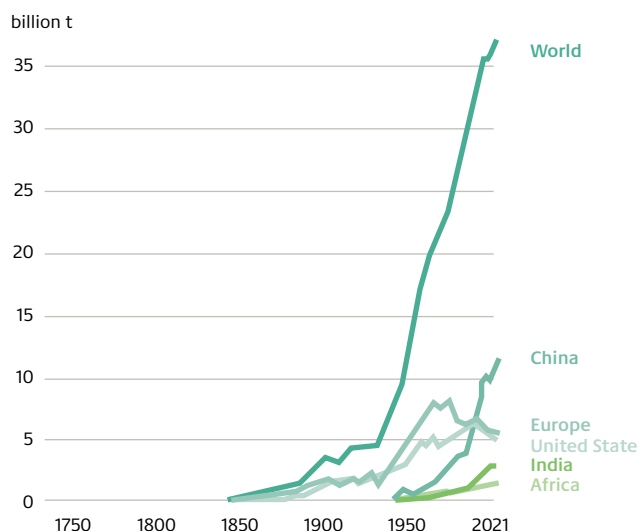
However, while the continent's output represented around 8.2% of the world's oil production in 2021, global fossil fuel consumption only represented around 3.7% ².

Roughly 60% of the African population lack access to modern energy sources (with an estimated 900 million Africans still relying on traditional solid biomass, such as coal and firewood) ³. It is further estimated that by 2050, Sub-Saharan Africa's population will grow by a further one billion people and Northern Africa's by almost 100 million, with energy demand increasing by 30%.

While there has been increased investment in Africa's vast renewable energy potential, this is insufficient to meet the continent's fast-growing energy demands. Furthermore, public debt in many African markets has already exceeded the prudential maximum, and the ability of governments to fund renewable projects largely remains limited. Considering the huge investments required to achieve a just transition to a progressively decarbonised and affordable energy mix, the shift to renewable energy is therefore expected to progress slowly.

As the continent that is considered as most vulnerable to climate change impacts, there is a clear and urgent need to build the resilience of countries and communities. A sufficient and affordable energy supply is critical to meet these pressing and growing socio-economic demands.

Annual Global CO₂ emissions



Our response to this critical challenge

As a Bank turned towards the future, we believe we have a responsibility to strike the right balance in response to climatic challenges, supporting social justice and the economic resilience of the African continent while influencing a just energy transition. This is supported by our commitment to develop a financing strategy that enables us to deliver on this responsibility.

As part of this longer-term vision, we recognise the important role that fossil fuels will play in addressing Africa's substantial energy demands (including providing access to low-carbon intensive energy and electrification) while contributing to the continent's sustainable development. MCB will therefore continue supporting the financing of Oil & Gas, having exited coal, for years to come as we believe this is key to promoting a just transition.

Natural gas is a low-carbon energy source, which we believe will play a crucial role in the continent's decarbonisation journey as it can replace existing high-carbon intensity fuels, such as coal and wood. It also has an important role to play in supporting Africa's socio-economic development, with 40% of all the natural gas discovered worldwide found on the continent between 2010 and 2022. Accordingly, the next stage of our financing strategy is to gradually reduce the carbon footprint of the fossil fuel mix in Africa, through the increase in use of natural gas.

¹ Source: BP Energy Outlook 2020 and PwC Africa Energy Review 2021 | ² Source: BP Stats, IRENA, IEA, PwC Analysis
³ Source: World Bank, 2019 | ⁴ Source: Global Carbon Budget (2022), www.ourworldindata.org

As the worldwide demand for cleaner energy sources increases, there has also been rising global demand for metals and minerals such as lithium, cobalt, copper, platinum, and manganese, which are increasingly used to manufacture batteries, responding to the large demand of electrification across the world, in general, and in sustaining the rapid growth of electric vehicles in particular. Many of these metals and minerals are abundant across the continent, which is home to resource-rich countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The third stage of our financing strategy will therefore focus on strategically exploring opportunities to fund the trade and projects in the metals and minerals segment. This funding will be critical to help the continent extract much-needed social and economic value from these mineral resources. Tapping into this value will require significant investment in metal and mineral extraction, separation, refining and

processing. We believe that MCB has a key role to play in ensuring that these activities are financed and conducted as responsibly and sustainably as possible to mitigate potentially adverse environmental and social impacts.

In summary, we believe that fossil fuels will remain a prominent source of energy for Africa and will play a key role in supporting socio-economic progress on the continent for at least the next 20 to 30 years.

As a bank focused on supporting a just energy transition, fossil fuels will therefore remain a key part of our business. Importantly, we will continue to develop and nurture a strong network of world-class oil and gas operators and traders present in Africa. We also remain committed to accommodating our clients and promoting our unique value proposition and brand as a reliable and trusted solutions provider in Africa's energy transition.



¹ Source: BP Stats, IRENA, IEA, PwC Analysis | ² Source: World Bank Africa Pulse April 2023

We are committed to conducting business responsibly

The following guides our financing of oil and gas projects:

- Projects are assessed against our ESR policy (page 45)
- We align all projects with the Equator Principles and the Performance Standards of the International Finance Corporation, which provide guidance on how to identify, manage and mitigate risks to ensure business is conducted responsibly and sustainably.
- Legal clauses are included in all facility agreements, requiring compliance with the IFC Performance Standards and Equator Principles.
- We ensure independent due diligence is undertaken on environmental and social projects, where relevant.
- We require regular environmental and social monitoring reports for facilities, where relevant. These reports usually cover a broad range of ESG-related performance metrics such as carbon emissions, gas flaring and health and safety. For example, a sustainability-linked margin is in place at one facility, with a reduction in margin based on a decrease in gas flaring to incentivise a reduction in carbon emissions. In the future, we anticipate including more sustainability-linked elements in our financing facilities.

MCB does not fund oil prospecting or exploration activities. In 2022, MCB made a commitment to stop all new cross-border financing of coal infrastructure and trade, whether thermal or metallurgical. Locally, the Bank also stopped financing new coal-fired power plants.

MCB Energy and Commodities financing portfolio

USD million	June 2022		June 2023		June 2024	
	Funded	Unfunded	Funded	Unfunded	Funded	Unfunded
Oil and gas						
Trade finance	1,562	1,077	1,594	1,017	2,198	2,338
Exploration and production	360	45	492	191	506	3
Project finance	48	14	51	7	61	0
Prepayments	185	0	119	32	348	0
Coal						
Trade finance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2,155	1,136	2,256	1,246	3,114	2,342
% of MCB Ltd's total assets	14%		13%		15%	

Promoting sustainable finance and raising awareness about climate change

Engaging with our clients and equipping our employees

We are committed to understanding our clients' needs and ensuring that our employees are equipped with the skills and experience to support them on their sustainability journeys.

This year, we organised EDGE training for our clients to promote green building practices. We hosted two training sessions targeting clients involved in property development, architecture, project design, and engineering.

An EDGE trainer from the International Finance Corporation facilitated the training, attended by 45 clients from 25 companies and 23 MCB employees, demonstrating a shared commitment to sustainability and resource efficiency in the property development sector.

After completing the training, participants were encouraged to test their knowledge, and those who passed the examination were recognised as registered EDGE professionals. Three MCB clients and three MCB employees attained this recognition.

The participants are now equipped with an in-depth knowledge of environmental issues and opportunities in the property development sector, which will positively impact our business efficiency journey as we strive to achieve our sustainability goals.

EDGE is a green building certification system developed by the International Finance Corporation. It emphasises the importance of resource efficiency in building construction and operation.

Three clients and three employees are now recognised EDGE professionals.



We focused on equipping our employees with the skills and knowledge to advise our clients effectively.

Our CSO continually supports our Relationship Managers by providing information about our **green taxonomy as well as the relevant eligibility criteria** to enable our clients to participate in our sustainable financing initiatives.

This year we organised two training and awareness sessions for 23 Relationship Managers from our Mauritian and Regional Corporates and Business Banking segments. These sessions focused on circular economies, waste management, and green building practices and aimed to equip participants with the knowledge and tools to effectively advise their clients on sustainability practices.

We continued to conduct **Climate Fresk workshops** with colleagues across the business, including our leaders, to raise awareness about climate change. We completed four workshops in FY24, which 37 participants attended. In addition, ten employees have been trained to facilitate these workshops internally.

Eleven employees representing various functions within MCB (including our CSO, Strategy, Research and Development, Climate Risk, and Internal Audit teams) undertook **capacity building and training** on the methodology used to conduct a materiality analysis. Read more about our materiality analysis on page 40.

We are collaborating with several leading global institutions to enhance our international exposure and support our efforts to drive climate adaptation.

1. **UNEP FI:** We co-led the development of 'Climate Adaptation Target Setting' guidance with Standard Chartered Bank, UNEP FI, and strategic partners. This document was released in November 2023 and is available here: <https://www.unepfi.org/industries/banking/climate-adaptation-target-setting/>
2. **Standard Chartered Bank:** We contributed as a primary reviewer to the 'Guide for Adaptation and Resilience Finance', which was developed by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Standard Chartered Bank, and KPMG International. This document was published in April 2024 and is available here: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/guide-adaptation-and-resilience-finance>
3. **Proparco and DEG:** Proparco and DEG announced a new partnership with MCB to help us expand our climate finance offering in Mauritius and Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to a credit facility of USD 120 million, Proparco has appointed a consulting company to provide our team with training and capacity building on climate adaptation. The training aims to help us develop the following:
 - a. A catalogue of adaptation solutions for Mauritius' agriculture and tourism sectors
 - b. Tools and guidance for conducting eligibility checks for adaptation projects

In October 2024, we hosted in-person training sessions for the tourism and agricultural sectors. We focused on equipping participants with the tools and knowledge to identify and implement effective climate change adaptation measures. 51 employees and 30 clients attended the sessions.



Panel led by MCB and the Equator Principles on GHG emissions and climate change risk assessment.

The Equator Principles is the most recognised global set of standards for ESR management for financial institutions. Since 2022, the MCB Ltd has been a member of the Steering Committee of the Equator Principles, representing the Middle-East Africa (MEA) region. The Steering Committee coordinates the management and continuous development of the Equator Principles on behalf of the signatories.

MCB is actively engaged within the Equator Principles and annually participated in their in-person events and working groups.

Engaging with our communities

As the leading financial institution in Mauritius committed to sustainability, we are continuously mobilising stakeholders local stakeholders.

To increase community awareness of environmental issues, **we collaborated with Radio One and participated in 'Le Journal de l'Ecologie'**. The radio show is broadcast every Saturday morning from March until December 2024 and included a segment called 'La vwa nu later'.

During this segment, our employees and partners are given the platform to speak about various topics related to regional ecology and climate change. All discussions are conducted in Creole to make the show more accessible. Topics discussed included, among others, the causes of climate change, adaptation and mitigation measures, biodiversity, agroecology, circular economies, and the importance of youth sensitisation.

This year, we ran our second 'Deba Klima', a debate contest for local secondary schools where students present arguments on topics related to climate change.

The competition aims to raise awareness of the social, economic and environmental challenges climate change poses. It also encourages students to discuss measures, solutions and best practices that countries can adopt to address these challenges and promote sustainable development.

Debates are televised nationally and conducted in Creole to create awareness among and integrate the broader community in the fight against climate change. Messaging was broadcast on radio, billboards, and social media.



Hosted in partnership with the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre.

Dr François Gemenne, a specialist in environmental geopolitics and member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, provided training to the students and educators on the subject.

47
Schools signed up to participate

16
Schools were selected

48
Students took part in the debates

15
Debates televised nationally

1 300
People attended the live debates

4.6 million
Total impressions ¹ (+33.5%)

3.2 million
Total reach ² (+202%)

286,000
Total engagement ³ (+249%)

The campaign performed exceptionally, with a significant increase in engagement compared to our first 'Deba Klima'.

¹ Impressions: the number of times your content is displayed, regardless of whether it is clicked or not.

² Reach: The total number of users who have seen your content, including users who may have seen it multiple times.

³ Engagement: The total number of interactions (likes, comments, shares, etc.) that users have with your content.



The Deba Klima raised awareness in the fight against climate change among students because "this fight is a race against time, and we all have a role to play. Both individually and collectively," **highlighted Loïc Edouard, a winning team member.**

"After participating last year, we are back and better prepared this time around. It's been a wonderful adventure, rich in emotions and lessons learnt. I'm convinced that not only have they made the Saint Joseph family proud, but they've also gained valuable personal experience that will help them in their future lives." **Anais Karghoo, educator of the winning team.**

"The level of the debates was even higher this time! It is pleasing to see how the students have been inspired by the first season to take things up a notch. The arguments were well developed, there was a lot of research work, and broadcasting the debates on television really increased the impact of this Deba Klima: it is not just the students who were participating, but also their families, fellow schoolmates and all the viewers. It is great to see this progress when last year's level was already very high!" **Dr François Gemenne.**

Learn more on 'Deba Klima':



Spotlight: Mauritian Wildlife Foundation

The Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF) is Mauritius’ largest non-governmental organisation that focuses on conserving and preserving the nation’s endangered plant and animal species. We have been a proud sponsor of this important work since 2019.

Through an annual sponsorship of Rs 5 million, we support MWF’s programme to protect four endemic species under threat of extinction. To monitor the impact of our sponsorship, we track changes in population numbers and improvements in breeding habits.

Pink Pigeon

Population estimate: 592 (June 2024) – this is the highest recorded population since conservation efforts were initiated and is a significant increase on the 449 birds identified in December 2020.



Echo Parakeet

2023/2024 breeding season: 165 chicks fledged (from 380 eggs). The number of birds ringed also increased from 148 in 2023 to 179 in 2024. The estimated population of the Echo Parakeet stands at about 695 in 2024 compared to 646 in 2023.

Günther’s Gecko

Hatching success improved in 2024, from 152 eggs from 16 nests on Round Island and 42 eggs from 14 nests on Ile aux Aigrettes in 2023 to 208 eggs from 23 nest sites on Round Island and 51 eggs at 19 nest sites at Ile aux Aigrettes this year.



Round Island Boa

In 2024, 160 healthy boas (FY23: 171) were found on Round Island and 15 (FY23: 16) on Gunner’s Quoin, with no invasions detected on the island that would threaten the boas’ existence.

Through our annual sponsorship, we also contribute to protecting the fragile biodiversity of Mauritius’ islets. Key outcomes achieved in FY24 include:

13,672 visitors

educated on the importance of islet restoration to save species from extinction.

102 activities

showcasing the conservation efforts for Günther’s Gecko and the Round Island Boa.

Five refresher courses

with 40 participants. 1,278 students attended educational talks.

Eight educational visits

to the South East islets with 130 participants.

39 officers from various enforcement agencies reached through training

Including the Fisheries Protection Service, the Tourism Authority, the Beach Authority and others

Managing our direct and indirect operational environmental impacts

We are working hard to reduce our environmental impacts while driving resource efficiency and supporting the country’s transition to a resilient, low-carbon economy.

Understanding our impacts: MCB’s GHG emissions footprint ¹

Scope 1: Direct emissions from sources we own or control. For MCB, this includes fuel used in backup power generators, fluorinated gas losses and fuel for company vehicles.

Scope 2: Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy. For MCB, this reflects purchased electricity, which is mostly generated from non-renewable sources (fuel oil and coal).

Scope 3: For MCB, this includes upstream emissions from employee commuting and business travel. It excludes other upstream categories and downstream financing activities.

Total GHG emissions by category for 2023



The main known source of our GHG emissions is purchased electricity (Scope 2). We believe that our upstream and downstream financing activities (Scope 3) also constitute a significant portion of our GHG emissions. However, our current assessment of our Scope 3 emissions is limited. We are looking at how we can enhance our carbon measurement methodology and are also in the initial phases of evaluating the carbon footprint of our financing operations.

We purchase carbon credits for our Scope 1 and partial Scope 3 emissions and International Renewable Energy Certificates (IRECS) equivalent to our grid electricity consumption. The project funded from carbon credits for Scope 1 and Scope 3 emissions is the Longyuan Mulilo De Aar Maanhaarberg Wind Energy Facility in South Africa, which uses wind energy to produce clean electricity and provide a sustainable alternative to high-emission fossil fuels.

Year on review of our GHG emission (tCO₂e) by category



¹ MCB computes its GHG emissions according to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol carbon accounting methodology, developed by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

Tracking our performance to ensure we can manage our impact efficiently

In 2019, we set objectives and targets to monitor and manage our key direct environmental impacts. These impacts include GHG emissions, energy and water consumption, paper usage and waste generation¹.

While we could not achieve our 2023 direct environmental impacts' targets, we have gained vital learnings that we will apply going forward. They include improving data availability and monitoring. Increased oversight will also allow us to implement more targeted environmental initiatives. In the short term, we remain focused on maintaining our current consumption patterns while we set new environmental targets from FY25. Employee awareness will remain another critical focus area for the business moving forward.

Contribute to net zero carbon emissions within our operations



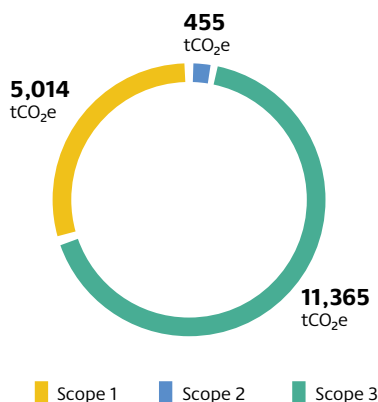
Progress in 2023: Total emissions amounted to 16,833 tCO₂e (2022: 16,165 tCO₂e), a 4% increase year-on-year.

Our Scope 3 emissions increased due to a higher volume of business travel (including regional and international travel as MCB expands its operations) and more employees commuting to work. Our Scope 2 emissions increased due to greater electricity consumption.

We purchased 3,294 tCO₂e of carbon credits, equivalent to our 2021 Scope 1 and Scope 3 emissions. We also purchased iRECS, equivalent to 11,219 MWh of our grid electricity consumption.

For an overview of our GHG emissions over the past five years, refer to page 90.

Total GHG emissions by category



We will continue to find opportunities to contribute to net zero carbon emissions.

Target: 23% reduction in energy intensity² by 2023

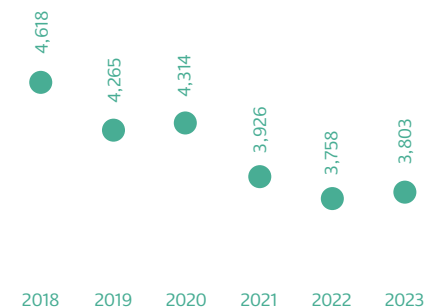


Progress in 2023: Energy intensity increased from 3,758 kWh per full-time employee (FTE) in 2022 to 3,803 kWh per FTE, representing a 1.2% increase and a 17% cumulative decrease against our 2018 baseline.

This decrease is primarily due to ongoing efforts to increase the energy efficiency of our equipment and buildings.

We continue investigating opportunities to add renewable energy sources into our energy mix. One of our main offices at St Jean is equipped with a solar farm that generated around 516 MWh (2022: 577 MWh) of electricity in 2023. We also installed photovoltaic generators at five branches, which are being commissioned by the Central Electricity Board.

Energy Intensity (KWh per FTE)



We achieved a 17% reduction in energy intensity against our 2018 baseline (Target set: 23%).

¹ We monitor data related to energy and water consumption, GHG emissions, paper usage, and waste generation annually from January to December.
² Energy intensity takes into account electricity consumption at our owned and leased buildings in addition to diesel-sourced generators.



Target: 25% reduction in water intensity by 2023

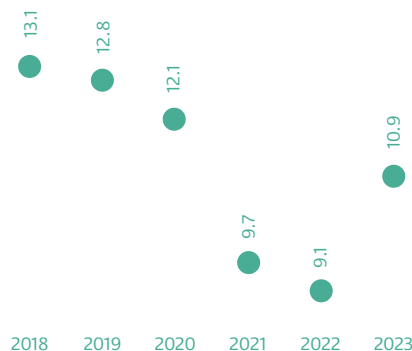


Progress in 2023: As Mauritius is a water-stressed island, we focus on monitoring and reducing our water consumption and have implemented water-saving projects such as installing automatic sensor taps.

This year, our water intensity increased from 9.2 m³ per FTE to 10.9 m³ per FTE. This increase was mainly due to building occupancy reaching pre-pandemic levels (80% occupancy in 2023 compared to around 35% in 2021 and 2022).

We achieved a 13% cumulative decrease in our water intensity against our 2018 baseline.

Water intensity (m³ per FTE)



We achieved a 13% reduction in water intensity against our 2018 baseline (Target set: 25%).

Target: Below 100 tonnes by 2023 for our direct operations

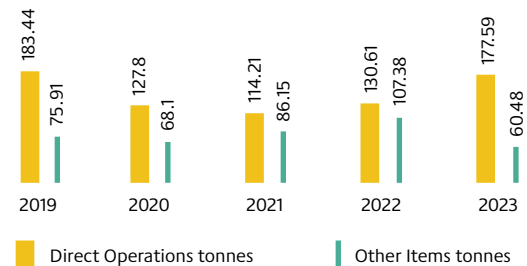


Progress in 2023: We classify paper consumption into direct operations and other items linked to paper use for clients and for producing annual reports.

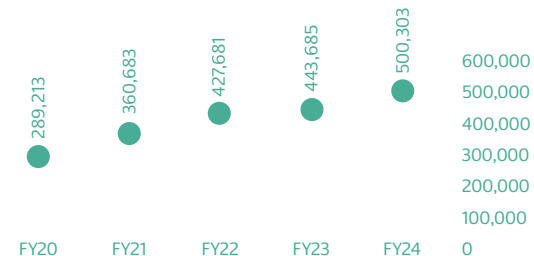
Paper consumption from direct operations remained stable year-on-year. While we saw a decrease in other items mainly due to a reduction in the use of point-of-sale thermal paper rolls and printing fewer annual reports, this decrease was offset by an increase in our direct operations due to the printing of required documents.

We encourage customers to subscribe to e-statements and shareholders to adopt the electronic annual report ³. We achieved an 8% cumulative decrease in our paper tonnage against our 2018 baseline.

Paper consumption (tonnes)



Number of e-statements subscriptions



Below 100 tonnes not achieved (however, we achieved an 8% decrease against baseline).

³ Following a change in regulation and to reduce paper consumption, MCB has elected not to send copies of our Annual Report to our shareholders in 2024 unless they request a printed copy. This is in accordance with the provisions of Practice Direction No.2 of 2022 issued by the Registrar of Companies pursuant to section 12 (8) of the Companies Act 2001. A shareholder shall retain his/her rights to receive a copy of the Annual Report at any time upon request.

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Embed responsible waste segregation and recycling



Progress in 2023: Our waste segregation and management system includes collecting and recycling plastic, alkaline batteries, coffee capsules, printer ink toners, and e-waste. We encourage employees to recycle their domestic waste and use the waste collection facility provided at MCB's buildings. We work with registered recycling companies to dispose of and recycle waste.

While we saw a dip in plastic recycling this year, there was an increase in the number of coffee capsules recycled due to an extensive employee awareness campaign.

Employee awareness will remain a key priority going forward as we look to increase our employees' participation in our waste segregation and recycling initiatives.

	2023	2022	2021
Ink toners (units)	683	583	517
Plastic (kg)	188	1,511	553
Alkaline batteries (kg)	239	146	146
Coffee capsules (units)	23,547	6,743	2,090
E-waste (units)	1,223	2,325	1,287

We will continue to find opportunities to increase waste segregation and recycling.

This year, our overseas banking subsidiaries also took steps to manage their direct environmental impacts.

All of our overseas banking subsidiaries remain focused on digitalising customer and employee communication to limit paper usage and printing. MCB Madagascar and MCB Maldives have also made great strides to reduce printing incoming SWIFT messages on paper by opting for electronic reports instead.

To reduce reliance on non-renewable electricity, our overseas banking subsidiaries are rolling out solar power (for example, three of MCB Madagascar's branches are run on solar power, and MCB Seychelles installed solar panels at two facilities in FY24). There is also an ongoing focus on installing energy-efficient motion sensor lights at all subsidiary operations.

MCB Madagascar undertook a carbon footprint calculation for its own operations this year with the support of an external consultant. The results are for the calendar year 2023 and 247,5 tCO₂e of GHG emissions were calculated. Scope 1 emissions accounted for 23% of total emissions, Scope 2 accounted for 53% of total emissions, and partial Scope 3 emissions accounted for 24% of total emissions. The categories for Scope 3 are business travel, purchased goods and services (paper) and fuel and energy-related activities.

Additional environmental initiatives at MCB

Working together to reduce our environmental footprint

This year, we launched a Direct Environmental Impact cross-functional working group. This group brings employees from various departments together to collaborate, identify, implement and oversee initiatives that will help us reduce our direct environmental footprint and enhance our overall sustainability practices.

We also hosted a training session called 'La Fresque du Numerique' to support the Group's efforts. This training aims to raise awareness of the impact of digitalisation and technology on the environment and society. During the training, 16 employees from our Technology SBU and our Sustainability, Reputation and Engagement SBU exchanged ideas on how to collaborate internally to decrease our carbon footprint and the impact of digitalisation on the environment.

One of the Group's first focus areas was exploring how we can better manage the environmental impact of digitalisation. The Technology SBU organised a Digital Clean-up Week in April 2024. During the week, **280 kg of e-waste was collected and recycled by our recycling partner, BEM Recycling.**

A sustainable alternative for our card portfolio

MCB was among the first card issuers worldwide to propose a more sustainable alternative to polyvinyl chloride for its card portfolio. In FY20, we collaborated with international software and digital security company Gemalto to gradually convert our card portfolio into a recyclable, bio-sourced and degradable polylactic acid (PLA). PLA is typically made from plants and plastic removed from the ocean. We make approximately 95% of our debit and credit cards from PLA. We will convert the remaining 5% to PLA upon renewal or request.

Our new rock garden project

We initiated a project to transform a pond at our office in St Jean into a sustainable, endemic rock garden. The garden features native plants and a curated landscape design, including rocks from our local sugar cane fields. Alongside promoting sustainable landscaping practices, this project demonstrates our commitment to finding opportunities to promote environmental responsibility in all aspects of our business. We anticipate the project will deliver environmental benefits such as annual water savings and decreased chemical use and waste generation.

Ongoing focus on food waste prevention

In 2021, we joined the Food Waste Prevention Project in Mauritius, a nine-month project focused on reducing food waste and minimising negative environmental impacts to obtain the international certification The PLEDGE™ on Food Waste ¹.

As an outcome of this project, we obtained Gold certification for the two restaurants we operate at our head office and the St Jean office. We have since retained our Gold certification. Our catering operations also comply with the HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) principles to ensure food safety practices.

MCB's food waste performance:

10.8 tonnes in FY24 (82 grams per serving) – up marginally from 10.1 tonnes in FY23 (53 grams per serving).

This increase is largely due to more people returning after the pandemic-related restrictions were lifted, as well as an increase in our workforce.

We remain focused on reducing food waste and promoting environmental responsibility in our operations.

¹ The PLEDGE™ on Food Waste is a Singapore-based third-party benchmarking and certifying body for restaurants, hotels and canteens aiming to help organisations reduce food waste and save money on food.

Our key environmental and cultural heritage impact partnerships

We understand that to effectively address environmental and social challenges and build long-term resilience, we must work alongside our stakeholders and communities.

We are engaged in partnerships across Mauritius that bring together stakeholders from various sectors to maximise value creation. Each partnership is guided by a clear set of key performance indicators that enable us to track and measure progress. We maintain our partnerships for a minimum of three to five years to ensure we can adequately assess the effectiveness of each project over time. Beyond financial support, we work alongside our partners to find innovative solutions for complex challenges.

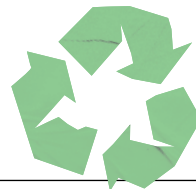
Read more about our impact partnerships throughout this report.



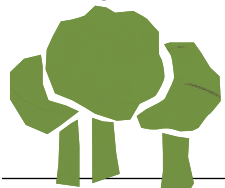
Mauritian Wildlife Foundation
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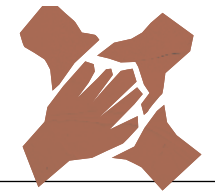
Small Step Matters
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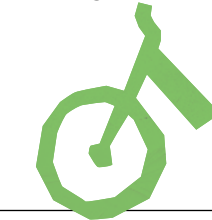
We-Recycle
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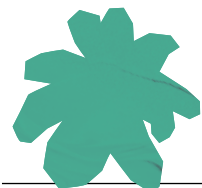
Ebony Forest
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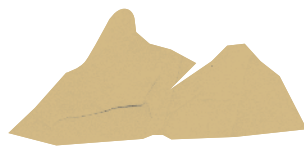
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RTN
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La Semaine Internationale du Dépistage
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The Good Shop
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REEF Conservation
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Arts and culture

We are proud to continue supporting the rich diversity of the cultural heritage of Mauritius, alongside various initiatives to nurture local creative arts.

This year, we invested in local cultural enrichment

Founded by MCB in November 2001, the Blue Penny Museum is a history and philately museum wholly devoted to Mauritius. The museum displays items that MCB has collected and preserved since we were established more than 185 years ago.

MCB's collection includes items ranging from artworks and artifacts to books, coins and stamps, all reflecting local Mauritian culture and heritage. Previously, a small percentage of our collection at the Blue Penny Museum was exhibited and we are committed to sharing more of the collection with the public with the start of the newspaper digitalisation project.

This year, we initiated a Rs 10 million project to draw up a more detailed inventory of all the items in the museum's collection and to digitalise our collection of newspapers and journals, which date back to 1832. Our collection of newspapers and journals shall be available on a free online public platform which shall be launched in FY25.

We are also digitalising our collection of coins, stamps, and paintings to make them available. As at July 2024, more than 3,900 items of the collection have been digitalised.

24,529 Newspaper Le Cernéen (from 1832 to 1981) have been digitalised so far, representing approximately 100,372 pages.

The Birth of the Press in Mauritius

250

years ago

January 13, 1773

Nicolas Lambert launched *Annonces, Affiches et Avis Divers pour les colonies des Isles de France et de Bourbon*.

This was the first press publication in Mauritius and on the African continent, and even in the Southern Hemisphere. At that time, it was only a modest and succinct booklet of various information, but it marked the first step in a long journalistic process.

Now-controversial Adrien d'Épinay created the island's first 'independent' newspaper, *Le Cernéen*, which ceased publication 150 years later in May 1982. At its closure, it was among the oldest French-language newspapers in circulation.

An attempt to revive the title online occurred in 2006 when a small team led by François Cayeux and Joy Rajinundun tried to resuscitate the newspaper by offering it online. However, the experiment did not last.

Six decades later

During World War II, due to the scarcity of paper, a joint Mauritian publication (*Le Cernéen - Le Mauricien - Advance*) began on April 14, 1942. Other publications with differing political views emerged in 1940. During the period leading up to independence, there was considerable activity in the Mauritian democratic space thanks to a **free and varied press**. These newspapers, which sometimes viewed each other with suspicion, nonetheless **showed solidarity** during dark periods in the country's history.



Other journals are being digitalised, and the number of pages digitalised to date is listed below:

- The Planters and Commercial Gazette (1936 to 1945): 5,398 pages
- The Mercantile Record and Gazette (1881 to 1884): 2,306 pages
- The Commercial Gazette (1874): 602 pages

Looking forward, we will continue to invest in local cultural enrichment and entertainment. To strengthen our approach, and in line with our purpose of Success Beyond Numbers, we are reflecting on how we can refine our internal governance and management structures to further promote the preservation of our local heritage, artefacts and elements of history for future generations.



We continued to invest in and promote appreciation for our local artists on a global stage

Malcolm de Chazal is recognised as one of the most important Mauritian artists of the 20th century. He was also a much-loved poet, acclaimed by major literary and artistic figures of the post-war period.

This year, the Blue Penny Museum, in collaboration with La Halle Saint Pierre, sponsored and co-curated a four-month exhibition of more than 200 of his artworks at La Halle Saint Pierre in Paris, France. Inaugurated in 1995, La Halle Saint Pierre houses a museum, gallery, bookstore, auditorium, and café. It is here that major temporary exhibitions and various artistic and cultural activities dedicated to outsider art, pop culture and unexpected forms of creation are presented.

The exhibition will take place from September 2024 to January 2025 and is the first exhibition showcasing a Mauritian artist in France.

Additionally, this year, MCB sponsored the publication of Malcolm de Chazal’s exhibition catalogue, ‘Demi-Confidences’, locally and at La Halle Saint Pierre.

Aphorism of Malcolm de Chazal:

- Aphorismes
- L’œil
- De la lumière
- Sommeillant
- Entre les cils
- De cette fougère ...
- Le vert
- Passa la main
- Sur l’épaule du jaune
- Qui eut un frisson mauve
- Le silence est un avocat qui plaide avec ses yeux
- L’homme est prêt à croire à tout, pourvu qu’on le lui dise avec mystère
- Qui veut être cru, doit parler bas



- Si l’on était aimé, on se passerait d’être obéi
- C’est presque toujours par manque d’amour que l’homme se jette dans l’amour-propre
- La bouche est un fruit qu’on mange à même la peau
- Le bleu est une plongée inconsciente interminable
- Le baiser est flèche, et la volupté est jet d’eau
- Les larmes ne sont un aphrodisiaque qu’à vingt ans
- L’Art, c’est la nature accélérée et Dieu au ralenti
- La liberté d’être soi est la plus haute forme de justice envers les autres
- Les cimetières sont des alignements de fétiches
- L’idéaliste a la marche des orteils ; et le matérialiste a la marche des talons



We continued to showcase the work of local artists

During the year, Blue Penny Museum sponsored events and expos to showcase the work of local artists, reaching more than 10,000 residents and tourists. Attendance remains free of charge for local Mauritian residents, and the Blue Penny Museum continues to attract more than 100,000 visitors annually.

Events and expos in FY24 included, for example:

- **Sea, Happiness & the Lagoon**, which aimed to raise awareness about protecting the lagoon. About thirty works of art, including paintings, corals, philately and stuffed fish were displayed.
- **Brèdes, Oeuvres**, an exhibition that showcased the work of Deepa Bauhador with the aim of generating a better understanding of endemic plants, leaves, vines, and roots among the general public.
- **Timbrés!** which showcased more than 100 stamps with errors, as well as postal art by local artists.
- **Maurice Lontan**, showcasing an impressive collection of photographs of Port-Louis dating from 1882.

We invested in nurturing young, creative talent

This year, MCB partially sponsored the Young Artists category of the Samudra Art Prize for visual artists. This prize provides a platform for young artists to exhibit and sell their work while driving collective awareness on social and environmental issues. Along with a cash prize, the winning artist participates in a weeklong workshop with a renowned Mauritian artist who helps guide and refine their practice.



Our overseas banking subsidiaries also invested in partnerships and programmes to promote cultural heritage in FY24.

MCB Madagascar entered into a three-year partnership with the Museum of Photography of Madagascar to promote the region's culture and history. **MCB Seychelles** sponsored the Praslin Culinary and Arts Festival, which aims to bring local businesses together while promoting art and cultural heritage. MCB Seychelles also extended financial support towards Seychelles' francophone community through the French Embassy.

Spotlight: Mission Verte

In 2019, MCB partnered with Mission Verte, a local NGO that aims to protect the environment by raising public awareness about the importance of reducing, reusing, recycling and composting waste.

MCB provides Mission Verte with an annual sponsorship of Rs 2 million, which is used to fund:

- Waste collection at 15 sites around Mauritius
- Salaries of administrative staff who support Mission Verte’s daily operations
- Awareness programmes at ten educational institutions around the island
- A recycling container at MCB St Jean (since 2019)



302

Children trained in circular economies

53

Awareness sessions at schools

1,688

Pupils in awareness sessions

59, 952 kg

Recyclable waste collected across sponsored sites in FY24

Recyclage Collected in kg by Mission Verte

Waste in kg

60000

50000

40000

30000

20000

10000

0

Paper

Carton

PET

Other Plastic

Cans & Aluminium

FY20

FY22

FY23

FY24

- Ecole Paul et Virginie
- Parking Winners - Vacoas
- Parking Winners - Terre Rouge
- Centre Commercial du Barachois
- Zone industrielle - St Antoine
- Village Hall - Q Soeurs
- Parking Winners - Phoenix
- Parking Winners - Pereybere
- Le Bocage International School
- Ecole du Centre
- Village Hall - Mare Tabac
- London Way - mahebourg
- A côté de l'Ecole du Nord
- Lycée La Bourdonnais - Primaire
- Parking Winners - Forest Side
- Parking Save Mart - Flacq

Recyclages Collected at MCB St Jean

2,500

2,000

1,500

1,000

500

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

- Paper Kg
- Carton Kg
- PET Kg
- Other Plastic Kg
- Cans & Aluminium Kg