

## Erasmus+ National Policy Reviews 2024 Mauritius





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This national policy review provides a detailed analysis of Mauritius's educational policies and their alignment with the Erasmus+ programme. It offers official, first-hand information into the country's engagement with Erasmus+ from 2021 to 2024, highlighting opportunities for improvement and identifying strategies to enhance integration and outcomes. Prepared and submitted by the Erasmus+ National Focal Point, this review contributes to ongoing efforts to strengthen international cooperation and to maximise the benefits of the Erasmus+ programme in Mauritius.

## Reviews of policies, initiatives, projects, and/or stakeholders

#### Higher Education Internationalisation Policy

The new National Policy outlines a strategic plan to guide higher education institutions (HEIs) in promoting internationalisation and attracting international students, particularly from Africa.

#### **Futures of HE in Mauritius**

The start of a national consultation to develop a National Higher Education Strategy for Mauritius.

<u>https://www.hec.mu/foheconference</u> <u>https://education.govmu.org/Documents/2023/Tertiary/Higher%20education%20surveys%20updated.pdf</u>

## Legislative reforms and/or policies that have been put in place in the past three years or that are still being discussed

#### **Higher Education Act**

The new Higher Education Act in Mauritius introduces legislation to regulate the sector. It includes new measures such as standardising programs across public institutions, linking funding to performance, requiring accreditation for all programs, ensuring continuous pastoral care for students, promoting internationalisation, and conducting quality audits every five years.

https://www.hec.mu/pdf\_downloads/our\_act/bill2017\_heact.pdf

# Initiatives and/or programmes that have been launched in the past three years

#### Discussion on harmonisation of the public HEIs

In Mauritius, the ten publicly funded higher education institutions (HEIs) receive government grants but offer overlapping programs, which limits their enrollment potential by competing in the same small market. Authorities aim to harmonise these institutions by having each focus on a specific field of study. This approach is intended to reduce resource duplication and create a broader range of programs that can attract both local and international students.

#### National Value System and Credit Transfer

The National Value System and Credit Transfer initiative will enable students to transfer credits between recognised institutions. It will also allow students from mainland Africa to join higher education institutions in Mauritius by recognising their previously earned credits, in line with the Addis Convention's standards for the mobility of qualifications in Africa.

#### Micro-credential Recognition system

The Micro-credential Recognition system will allow credits earned from short and online courses at recognised institutions to be recognised. This aligns the Mauritian higher education system with current trends, making micro-credentials a valid way to enter the workforce.

#### **National Pathway Policy**

The National Pathway Policy aims to offer secondary students various routes to higher education beyond the traditional academic path. These alternatives include options like a locally awarded Technology Education Stream as an alternative to the Cambridge School Certificate and pathways through lower and higher technical and vocational education and training (TVET).

### Projects which are examples of good practice that have been launched in the past three years

#### Alignment of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) to the SADC Qualification Framework

The goal is to match the programmes of study between Mauritius' National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Qualification Framework. This will make it easier to recognise and compare qualifications across the region.

<u>www.mqa.mu</u>

#### Alignment of the NQF with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)

The goal is to align the programmes of study between Mauritius' National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and the European Qualification Framework (QF) through the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). This will help simplify the recognition and comparison of qualifications.

<u>www.mqa.mu</u>

#### Technology-Enabled Learning in HE, in collaboration with COL (TEL-COL)

The project, in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), aims to help local public and private HEIs improve their teaching methods using technology. The focus is on training educators, updating curricula, providing necessary tech tools, and sharing successful strategies to make learning more engaging and effective through tech.

#### **COL for Skills Scholarships**

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) offers scholarships for online courses and micro-credentials. So far, over 4,000 people have benefited from these scholarships, completing more than 11,000 short courses.

## Key players and networks (stakeholders) at the national level (or at the regional level with a national component)

#### Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (MOETESR)

The Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science, and Technology (MOETESR) oversees the entire education sector and sets the policies for all levels of education.

Education.govmu.org

#### **Higher Education Commission (HEC)**

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) is the regulatory body that enforces the policies established by the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science, and Technology.

www.hec.mu

#### Quality Assurance Authority (QAA)

The Quality Assurance Authority (QAA) is the regulatory body responsible for ensuring quality standards in the higher education sector.

<u>qaa.ac.mu</u>

#### Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA)

The Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA) is the regulatory body that implements the Ministry's policies related to technical and vocational education and training (TVET).

<u>www.mqa.mu</u>

#### University of Mauritius (UOM)

The University of Mauritius (UOM) is a public higher education institution in Mauritius. It operates autonomously under the Higher Education Act.

<u>Uom.ac.mu</u>

University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM) <u>Utm.ac.mu</u>

Open University of Mauritius (OU) Open.ac.mu

Université des Mascareignes (UDM Udm.ac.mu