



MRA SHAPES FUTURE TAXPAYERS TAX CLUB LAUNCH IN SCHOOLS

TAX CLUB:
An initiative of the
MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

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EDITORIAL NOTE

Empowering Voices, Elevating Excellence

At the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), we have long recognised that technical competence alone does not make a great officer. What completes the circle of excellence is the ability to communicate effectively, listen actively, think critically, and lead with purpose. It is in this spirit that the MRA Toastmasters Club has flourished—and recently celebrated its **100th** meeting, a milestone that speaks of both continuity and commitment.

Actively supported by management and personally encouraged by the Director-General, Mr. Sudhamo Lal, the Toastmasters initiative has evolved into a unique in-house training ground—one that transforms hesitant voices into powerful speakers and thoughtful listeners into persuasive communicators.

Our Toastmasters are not just practicing speeches in the comfort of meeting rooms—they are bringing their sharpened skills to boardrooms, training halls, and taxpayer-facing desks. Many officers now report increased confidence and clarity when making presentations, conducting outreach sessions, or engaging with taxpayers—ensuring the MRA's message is not only delivered but understood, trusted, and well-received.

Recent international recognition has added a brilliant feather to our cap. At the District 129 Toastmasters Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa, Ms. Yashvi Rampersad (Officer, Medium and Small Taxpayer Department) won first prize in the Speech Evaluation Contest, while

Mr. Arangen Botharrygadoo (Technical Officer, Internal Affairs Division) earned second place in the International Speech category. Their journey began at the Division F Contest held in Moka, Mauritius—and their success now echoes beyond borders.

These achievements are more than personal victories—they are a testament to the enriching environment the MRA provides. The Toastmasters spirit is contagious, and those who have not yet joined are regularly encouraged to take the plunge and discover their hidden potential.

As revenue administrations across Africa look to the MRA for inspiration and best practices, our Toastmasters success reinforces our leadership—not just in tax compliance, but in empowering people. At MRA, we are proud to be Partners in Progress—building competence, voice, and vision.



Mr. Amick Teeluckdharry

Assistant Director,
Taxpayer Education and
Communication Department,
Mauritius Revenue Authority

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MRA SHAPES FUTURE TAXPAYERS TAX CLUB LAUNCH IN SCHOOLS

TAX CLUB: An initiative of the MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY



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In a bold move to cultivate long-term tax awareness and civic responsibility among the youth, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) is establishing Tax Clubs in secondary schools across the country. This new initiative, spearheaded by the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD), builds on the MRA's ongoing efforts to promote tax education through school visits—already reaching approximately 50 colleges annually.

Purpose and Vision: Inspiring Civic Mindsets

The creation of Tax Clubs reflects the MRA's strategic vision: to build a generation of well-informed, tax-compliant citizens. These Clubs will serve as permanent platforms for learning and engagement, going beyond one-off sessions to foster a sustained culture of tax literacy.

Through these clubs, students will explore core tax concepts, understand the impact of taxes on public infrastructure and services, and reflect on their civic duties. The goal is clear: to inspire students to see tax compliance not as a burden, but as a vital contribution to the nation's progress.

Learning through Action

To make tax education accessible and engaging, Tax Clubs will organize a range of interactive learning activities, such as:

- Quizzes and debates on tax issues
- Essay competitions promoting critical thinking
- Workshops and seminars led by professionals from MRA
- Guest lectures that connect classroom knowledge with real-world practice

These activities are designed to spark curiosity, deepen understanding, and make taxation relatable to students' daily lives and future careers.

Students as Ambassadors

Tax Clubs also aim to extend the message beyond school walls. Students will take part in community outreach projects that emphasize the value of tax compliance. By organizing campaigns and distributing educational materials—newsletters, brochures,

posters—they will act as peer educators and public ambassadors of responsible citizenship.

This peer-led model creates a ripple effect, spreading tax awareness through schools, families, and wider communities.

Developing Life Skills

Each club will be managed by a student-led Executive Committee, composed of a:

- President - leading the club and coordinating events
- Vice-President - supporting leadership duties and stepping in when needed
- Secretary - handling communication, minutes, and documentation
- Treasurer - managing finances, budgeting, and resource allocation

These roles are not only functional but developmental, providing students with opportunities to enhance their leadership, teamwork, and organizational abilities—skills that will serve them well in any field.

Open Doors, Open Minds

Membership is open to all students, regardless of academic background. This inclusive approach encourages diverse perspectives and fosters a sense of ownership and pride in contributing to national development through informed citizenship. By creating a collaborative environment, Tax Clubs ensure that every student has a chance to participate, lead, and learn.

Laying Strong Foundations

As the Tax Clubs begin rolling out in schools, the MRA remains committed to supporting and evolving the initiative. This is more than a short-term project—it's an investment in the future, laying the groundwork for a society built on understanding, accountability, and civic duty.

Stay tuned as Tax Clubs continue to expand, collaborate and contribute to shaping the future landscape of tax compliance in Mauritius.

STUDENTS SEEK TAX INSIGHTS

POLYTECHNICS MAURITIUS HOSTS MRA



In a powerful example of student initiative and institutional outreach, Polytechnics Mauritius recently hosted a tax awareness session led by the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA). Unlike the usual “push” model where MRA reaches out to students, this session was triggered by student demand—highlighting a growing eagerness among young people to better understand their role in the tax ecosystem.

A Two-Way Strategy

The MRA, through its Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD), has long adopted a proactive approach to education—bringing fiscal literacy directly to classrooms. However, increasingly, students themselves are reaching out, requesting for sessions that shed light on tax obligations, systems, and the importance of compliance. This shift signals a promising trend: future taxpayers are not just being taught about tax—they are actively seeking to be informed.

Interactive learning in action

On Tuesday, 22 April, 2025, over 100 students from the Certificate in Accounting and Financial Operations programme at Polytechnics Mauritius gathered at the institution's Ebene campus for an in-depth, interactive session with the MRA. The session was facilitated by Dr. Rakesh Thecka from the TECD, who guided students through a range of engaging topics:

- The origins and history of taxation
- The evolution of Mauritius's tax system
- The everyday impact of taxpayer compliance

His presentation was designed to inform and to connect tax concepts to real-world issues, making the subject both relevant and accessible.

Investing in the future

This session reflects MRA's long-term vision to empower young people with fiscal knowledge. By ensuring that students understand how taxes fund public services and infrastructure, the MRA is helping to shape a generation that values civic responsibility.

More than just theoretical learning, these sessions foster a mindset of accountability—an essential foundation for any nation's sustainable development.

Thousands reached Nationwide

Over the past five years, MRA has engaged thousands of students across Mauritius and Rodrigues through similar outreach programmes. Whether in universities, secondary schools, or vocational institutions, the TECD's efforts continue to strengthen national tax literacy. These initiatives align with MRA's broader mission to create a culture of voluntary compliance, starting with those who will soon be entering the workforce and contributing to the economy.

An open invitation

The MRA encourages other educational institutions to take part in this impactful journey. If your school, college, or university is interested in hosting a similar tax awareness session, reach out to the TECD at: tecd@mra.mu

Together, we can nurture informed, responsible taxpayers—equipped not only with knowledge, but with the will to contribute meaningfully to national development.

MODERNIZING VEHICLE REGISTRATION

MRA AND RGD SIGN LANDMARK MoU



In a pivotal step toward transforming public services in Mauritius, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and the Registrar-General Department (RGD) have formalized their collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Signed on Wednesday, April 9, 2024, the agreement sets the stage for a more efficient, technology-driven system for motor vehicle registration.

The signing ceremony marked a historic moment for inter-agency cooperation, with the MoU signed by Mr. M. Sudhamo Lal, Director-General of MRA, and Mrs. Sadmadevi Gukhool, Acting Registrar General at RGD.

A Unified Vision

At the heart of this partnership is a shared commitment to simplify and modernize vehicle registration by leveraging digital integration and cross-agency data sharing. The project represents a collaborative effort involving key public institutions, including:

- National Land Transport Authority (NLTA)
- Ministry of Commerce
- Corporate and Business Registration Department (CBRD)

Together, these entities are working to eliminate redundancies, reduce paperwork, and streamline the motor vehicle registration process for citizens and businesses alike. *"Through this collaboration, we are taking a meaningful step toward improving service delivery, enhancing coordination, and facilitating data sharing for more streamlined processes in motor vehicle registration,"* said Mr. M. Sudhamo Lal, MRA's Director-General, during the signing ceremony.

Multi-Agency Coordination

The presence of representatives from all partner organizations at the signing ceremony underscored a unified approach. This is not just an administrative agreement—it's a strategic reform aiming to lay the groundwork for digitally enabled public services.

By integrating platforms and enabling real-time data exchange, the initiative promises to:

- Accelerate registration timelines
- Improve accuracy and reduce fraud
- Ease the burden on citizens and front-line officers



FUTURE LEADERS EMPOWERED

MRA EXPANDS MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) has officially launched the second edition of its Mentoring Programme, reaffirming its commitment to leadership development, career growth, and a thriving internal culture rooted in continuous learning. Building on the success of its inaugural programme in 2023, this new chapter brings together experienced mentors and aspiring professionals under one shared vision: to foster personal transformation and organizational excellence.

Partners in Progress

Reflecting MRA's guiding philosophy of being "Partners in Progress," the mentoring programme has evolved into a platform where knowledge, values, and leadership are shared and nurtured. In his remarks during the first cohort, Mr. M. Sudhamo Lal, G.O.S.K., C.S.K., Director-General of MRA, described it as a defining step: *"This is a leap towards a future where every MRA member is a leader."* The second edition continues this journey—equipping individuals not just to grow, but to lead, inspire, and uplift others within the MRA family.

76 Mentees, 29 Mentors

For the 2025 cohort, 29 seasoned professionals—including Directors, Section Heads, and Team Leaders—have volunteered as mentors. 76 employees have enrolled as mentees, expressing strong interest in taking charge of their professional growth.

In the programme briefing, mentors were encouraged to embrace a reciprocal relationship - one in which both mentor and mentee benefit through dialogue, empathy, and reflection.

Mr. Mahmad Noor Oozeer, Acting Director-General, praised the programme's collaborative spirit, while

Mr. Dhoojanaden Maunikum, Director of the Human Resources and Training Department (HRTD), highlighted the importance of:

- Trust and openness
- Supportive communication
- A culture of continuous learning

Insights, Gratitude, Camaraderie

In a session that brought mentors and mentees together, three participants from the previous cohort shared heartfelt testimonies, thanking the MRA for providing this opportunity. The atmosphere was rich with connection—mentees bonded, shared goals, and began forming support networks that will extend

beyond the programme's duration. A structured pairing exercise was completed to match mentors with mentees based on development needs and professional aspirations.

Mentors have been asked to initiate first contact by April 15, 2025, ensuring strong momentum and engagement from the start.

Monitoring and Reflection

To ensure continuous improvement, the HRTD has implemented a monitoring and feedback framework, including:

- Progress evaluations
- Experience-sharing forums
- Development tracking tools

The goal is not just to measure outcomes—but to enrich the journey, ensuring every participant feels supported, heard, and inspired.

Mentorship as Transformation



In an emotional address to the mentees, Mr. Amick Teeluckdharry, Assistant Director of the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department, shared these powerful words *"Every one of us has hidden treasure inside. But potential doesn't shout—it whispers. That's why mentorship is so powerful. It turns that whisper into a voice."*

His message was clear: mentorship is not merely a means of career advancement. It's a transformative force—a path to cultural change, inspiration, and excellence.

Quoting Nelson Mandela, Mr. Teeluckdharry reminded the audience *"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."*

Mentees were encouraged to see themselves not just as employees, but as culture shapers, value carriers, and catalysts for meaningful change.



PROTECTING PRIVACY FIRST MRA CHAMPIONS DATA SECURITY

In an era where data is power, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) continues to place confidentiality and information security at the core of its operations. On 22 April 2025, the MRA hosted a comprehensive training session on data protection at its Training Academy, located at the Custom House, Mer Rouge.

The initiative forms part of MRA's ongoing effort to strengthen privacy safeguards, ensure regulatory compliance, and build a workplace culture that values ethical data handling.

Upholding Legal Standards

The session gathered 30 MRA staff members, with a focus on familiarizing them with the legal framework surrounding data protection in Mauritius, while reinforcing the agency's duty of care in handling taxpayer information. Mr. Nemraj Dayal, Principal of the MRA Training Academy, set the tone in his opening address: *"Data protection is an important topic for MRA because all departments must comply with it, particularly concerning the exchange of information. Hence, the necessity of training our staff on this subject."* His remarks highlighted that data protection is not optional—it is an operational requirement for every department, every officer, and every interaction.

From Laws to Real Cases

Mr. Gianish Purusram, Team Leader at the CMS/IT Unit of MRA Customs, led participants through a deep

dive into national and international data protection regimes, including:

- The Data Protection Act (DPA) of Mauritius
- The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Real-world applications and case studies

By connecting theory to practice, the session equipped participants with tangible knowledge and actionable best practices to apply in their daily responsibilities. As Mr. Purusram rightly emphasized, understanding the why and how behind data protection is essential. This training session is a step forward in the MRA's long-term commitment to operational excellence and responsible digital governance. By equipping its people with knowledge and tools, the organization ensures that its systems are secure, its people are informed, and its values are upheld.



Gianish Purusram, Team Leader at the CMS/IT Unit of MRA Customs

STRENGTHENING TIES

MAURITIUS HOSTS MALAWI DELEGATION

In a key demonstration of regional collaboration and knowledge exchange, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) hosted a high-level delegation from the Malawi Revenue Authority and allied agencies from 24 to 28 March 2025.

The delegation, led by Mrs. Christina Zakeyo, brought together 16 senior officials representing Malawi's Ministry of Trade, E-Government, Finance, Agriculture, and other key institutions involved in trade facilitation. Their collective goal: to learn from Mauritius's success in implementing the National Single Window system and apply best practices back home.

Focus of the Visit

The National Single Window (NSW) system in Mauritius has become a regional benchmark for enhancing trade efficiency and customs modernization. During the week-long engagement, Malawian officials explored:

- Operational workflows and system integration
- Legal and regulatory frameworks supporting the NSW
- Institutional coordination between customs, trade, and IT stakeholders

Discussions underscored the strategic role of technology in streamlining border processes, improving data accuracy, and facilitating trade while maintaining compliance and control. The visit included interactive training sessions, technical briefings, and a courtesy call with key Mauritian officials. Through these engagements, the delegation gained a holistic understanding of:

- System architecture and stakeholder alignment
- Risk management and digital documentation
- Public-private partnerships and policy implementation

This immersive approach provided both technical depth and strategic context, ensuring that lessons learned are directly applicable to Malawi's development roadmap.



Name	Position	Institution
Christina Chatima	Secretary for Trade and Industry	Ministry of Trade and Industry
Charity Musonzo	Director for Trade in Goods	Ministry of Trade and Industry
Diamond Chikhasu	Deputy Director for Investment	Ministry of Trade and Industry
Rose Kadewere	Chief Trade Officer	Ministry of Trade and Industry
Paul Kachingwe	Trade Officer	Ministry of Trade and Industry
Chimvano Thawani	Principal Economist	Ministry of Finance
Natasha Kandoje	Principal Revenue Officer	Ministry of Finance
Beatrice Mwangwela	Legal Officer	Malawi Revenue Authority
Chimwemwe Kawalewale	Deputy Commissioner – Customs	Malawi Revenue Authority
Hosea Phiri	Deputy Director, Infrastructure	Malawi Revenue Authority
Chawezi Chijere-Chirwa	ICT Officer	Malawi Revenue Authority
Temwa Nyirenda	Senior ICT OFFICER	Malawi Bureau of Standards
Macdonald Chisale	Department of Animal Health	Ministry of Agriculture
Burnet Phiri	Financial Manager Specialist	Southern Africa Trade and Connectivity Project
Hastings Ngoma	Project manager	Southern Africa Trade and Connectivity Project
Maloto Nyirenda	ICT Specialist	Southern Africa Trade and Connectivity Project



National Single Window

The WCO National Single Window is a digital platform designed to simplify and accelerate international trade processes. It enables all relevant government agencies, private operators, and stakeholders involved in import, export, and transit procedures to submit and access trade-related documents and data. It is through a single entry point. By integrating systems and facilitating real-time information sharing, the National Single Window:

- Reduces paperwork and administrative delays
- Enhances transparency and coordination
- Improves efficiency in border and customs operations

This centralized approach not only benefits businesses by cutting costs and time, but also strengthens regulatory compliance and revenue collection. It is a key tool promoted by the World Customs Organization (WCO) to support trade facilitation and economic development worldwide. Promoted by the World Customs Organization (WCO), it is a vital tool to support trade facilitation and economic development worldwide.



STRENGTHENING REGIONAL TAX COOPERATION

MRA WELCOMES TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY DELEGATION

In a landmark exchange, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) welcomed a high-level delegation from the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) from 28 April to 2 May 2025. This visit marked a significant step in deepening cooperation and knowledge sharing on data governance and tax compliance between the two institutions. Led by Ms. Annette Magogo, Director of Risk and Compliance at TRA, the delegation paid a courtesy call to MRA Director-General, Mr. M. Sudhamo Lal, at Efram Court, Port-Louis. Both leaders reiterated their commitment to strengthening collaboration and enhancing tax administration through innovation and shared expertise.

Expert delegation from Tanzania

The TRA team included specialists such as Mr. Mathias Chanila (Manager of Data Mining and Analytics), Mr. Daniel Wilfred Mwasomola (Risk Officer), and Ms. Lulu Shangali (Manager of Corporate Affairs and Compliance). Ms. Magogo praised MRA's advanced data analytics function, positioning Mauritius as a regional leader in this domain.

Learning Sessions on Data Governance

During the five-day program, the delegation engaged in detailed sessions focused on Mauritius's comprehensive data governance framework. This included lessons on maintaining data integrity and consistency through a well-structured enterprise data warehouse and leveraging cloud-based analytics solutions. Delegates explored MRA's pioneering data validation techniques, risk profiling methods, and tax compliance management strategies. The sessions highlighted how business intelligence tools support regulatory compliance monitoring and improve decision-making.

A Platform for Knowledge Sharing

The exchange underscored the vital role of international collaboration in adapting to the rapidly evolving challenges of tax administration. By sharing best practices, both MRA and TRA strengthened their capacity to build data-driven, risk-informed tax systems that promote transparency and efficiency. This study tour reaffirmed the value of partnerships in Africa's tax landscape, demonstrating how cooperative learning can help institutions prepare for the future of tax governance and compliance.



DATA ANALYTICS

Data analytics is a powerful process that involves examining and interpreting vast amounts of financial and tax-related information. For tax authorities like the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), it plays a critical role in identifying patterns, detecting tax evasion, and ultimately improving tax collection. By leveraging advanced tools and techniques, data analytics helps organizations analyze taxpayer data to ensure compliance. Beyond enforcement, these insights streamline administrative workflows, optimize resource use, and support smarter, evidence-based decision-making. In today's digital era, data analytics is a cornerstone for modern tax administrations seeking to boost efficiency, transparency, and revenue performance.

MRA TOASTMASTERS TRIUMPH

A HISTORIC VICTORY ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

In an inspiring display of eloquence and leadership, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Toastmasters Club made history at the Toastmasters District 129 Conference, held from April 24 to 27, 2025, in Johannesburg, South Africa. This remarkable achievement marks a new high for Mauritius in the regional Toastmasters community.

Champions crowned



Ms. Yashvi Ramparsad, Officer at the Medium and Small Taxpayer Department (MSTD), claimed 1st place in the highly competitive Speech Evaluation Contest – a first-ever win for Mauritius at this prestigious level. Her insightful, thoughtful critiques and polished presentation skills captivated judges and fellow contestants alike.



Complementing this triumph, **Mr. Arangen Botharrygadoo**, Technical Officer at the Internal Affairs Division (IAFD), earned a commendable 2nd place in the International Speech Contest. His dynamic and compelling delivery showcased the exceptional communication prowess fostered within the MRA Toastmasters community.

From Local Roots to Global Recognition

Since its foundation in February 2021, the MRA Toastmasters Club has rapidly grown into a powerhouse of personal and professional development. Hosting bi-weekly meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Custom House in Mer Rouge, the club serves as a vibrant platform for MRA officers to sharpen their public speaking and leadership skills. The club's 100th meeting, celebrated recently with alumni, current members, and distinguished guests, was a milestone event that underscored its enduring value and the close-knit community spirit it has cultivated.

The Road to Johannesburg: Standing out among Africa's finest

The journey to international success began earlier in April 2025 at the Division F Contest held at the Royal Green Wellness Resort, Moka. Representing Mauritius and Madagascar, Ms. Ramparsad and Mr. Botharrygadoo emerged victorious in their respective categories, securing their places at the District Championship in Johannesburg.

At the District 129 Championship, the competition intensified as contestants from nine countries—including Angola, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—battled for top honours. Ms. Ramparsad's top podium finish and Mr. Botharrygadoo's strong runner-up position illuminated the exceptional talent nurtured within Mauritius, raising the nation's profile in the international Toastmasters arena.

A triumph beyond trophies

These victories are not just accolades; they are a testament to the MRA Toastmasters Club's unwavering commitment to excellence and professional growth. More importantly, they inspire all MRA officers and the wider community to embrace continuous learning, leadership, and the power of effective communication.

Mauritius's remarkable achievements on this stage affirm the country's growing influence and promise in the realm of leadership development – a beacon for future generations to follow.

MRA Management and staff extend their warmest congratulations to the winners on their outstanding achievement.

Interesting information on the contest categories

- 1. International Speech:** Participants deliver original, motivational speeches (any topic) with universal appeal under 7 minutes. Eligibility requires completion of Pathways Levels 1 & 2 are eligible.
- 2. Evaluation contest:** Participants evaluate a test speaker's presentation, emphasizing constructive feedback for a maximum duration of 3 minutes. Contestants are given 5 minutes to prepare the evaluations.
- 3. Table Topics:** Impromptu speeches on a surprise topic (same topic for all contestants) and the speech would last a maximum of 2 minutes.



Yashvi Ramparsad

Winner of the Speech Evaluation Contest at the Toastmasters District 129 Conference, held in Johannesburg, South Africa

Born on May 28, 1994, Ms. Yashvi grew up in Laventure with her elder sister and younger brother. Her achievements serve as a source of inspiration for both her family and colleagues. Her academic journey began at a local primary school in Laventure and continued through Rajcoomar Gujadhur SSS and Droopnath Ramphul State College. A high achiever from an early age where she ranked among the top 500 scholars on the 2012 HSC Scholarship list. Demonstrating early leadership qualities, she served as Head Girl in 2012, laying the foundation for her future leadership endeavors.

Yashvi graduated from the University of Mauritius in 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in Finance and a minor in Law. During her studies, an internship at the MRA in 2015 sparked her interest in taxation. This ultimately led her to base her final year dissertation on the impact of fiscal policies on stock market behavior, effectively combining her background in finance with macroeconomic analysis. At that time, she couldn't have foreseen what the future would bring, but life's unexpected turns gave her the chance to return and build her career at MRA.

She became an ACCA member after successfully completing all her ACCA exams by December 2018.

Professional Pathway

Yashvi's professional journey began at Deloitte in June 2016, where she gained over three years of experience in audit and accounting. In March 2020, she joined MRA as a Trainee Tax Officer and was confirmed in her current role within the MSTD in March 2021. Her responsibilities include conducting comprehensive audits, issue-based audits including PAYE & TDS audits, record keeping audits, overseeing de-registrations and carrying out intelligence and site visits at taxpayers' premises. Over the past year, she has been mostly involved in the MRA's e-invoicing initiative, a project at the cutting edge of tax technology.

Beyond the Workplace

Yashvi actively pursues a variety of interests including travelling, hiking, dancing, yoga, and public speaking, enhancing her communication skills. She also

dedicates time to community service at her local temple during festivals, exemplifying her belief that "Service to Man is Service to God."

A Passion for Public Speaking and Leadership

Her passion for public speaking began early, through participation in Model United Nations (MUN), competitions organized by the English-Speaking Union of Mauritius, and ICAC contests. She represented her school at the MUN in India and participated in the AIESEC Global Community Development Program in Poland—experiences that broadened her international perspective and sharpened her leadership skills.

Her involvement with the MRA Toastmasters Club has been transformative, significantly enhancing her communication and leadership capabilities. Public speaking has become an essential tool, enabling her to explain complex tax concepts clearly and effectively—improving her interactions with both colleagues and taxpayers. She also served as Master of Ceremonies at the Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators (CATA) Conference in Mauritius, further showcasing her talent to the international tax professionals.

Philosophy and Inspiration

Yashvi believes that "*communication is both a discipline and an art*," emphasizing the importance of continuous practice, openness to feedback, and a growth mindset as key to mastering speaking and listening skills. Her story illustrates the critical role that effective communication plays in professional success and leadership development.

As she eloquently states, "*Talent is only the beginning; it is the consistent effort and the willingness to learn that truly shape success*." Her journey serves as a lesson for those who aspire to lead through communication, reminding us that true growth comes not from innate ability but from the dedication to evolve continually. It is through this relentless pursuit of improvement that one's potential is realized, she says. Ms. Yashvi Ramparsad's story embodies the essence of perseverance, lifelong learning, and belief in the power of effective communication.

INTER-COUNTRY COMPETITION ON GREEN CUSTOMS

MRA CUSTOMS CLAIMS 1ST PLACE

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) has achieved a landmark victory by securing first place in the prestigious Inter-Country Competition on Green Customs 2023, organized by RTC Kenya. This remarkable accomplishment positions Mauritius at the forefront of environmentally responsible Customs enforcement in the East and Southern Africa (ESA) region.

Regional excellence recognized

The competition, open to participants of the Green Customs Course – Module 2, concluded on 22 September 2023 and brought together Customs officers from several WCO Regional Training Centres (RTCs), including Kenya, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Mauritius.

Participants were challenged to devise innovative strategies to address control gaps surrounding environmentally sensitive commodities (ESCs)—an increasingly critical area in global trade regulation.

Winning with Innovation

Each national team was tasked with designing a detailed control list of ESCs aligned with key Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). This required integrating a range of classification tools, including HS Codes, UN Codes, CAS numbers, and visual identifiers. The result? A robust, user-friendly reference guide to help Customs officers on the front lines protect the environment more effectively.

The MRA team's winning submission stood out for its clarity, comprehensiveness, and practical utility—

highlighting Mauritius's leadership in applying green principles to border management.

Honouring the Champions

In March 2025, RTC Kenya formally awarded certificates to the winning team. These were proudly presented to MRA's Customs officers by Mr. Vivekanand Ramburun, Director, MRA Customs. In a special ceremony on 27 March 2025, they were applauded for their outstanding contribution to environmental protection through smart Customs innovation.

Strengthening Green Customs

This competition was part of a broader initiative spearheaded by the Kenya School of Revenue Administration (KESRA), in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Launched during the 2022-2023 financial year, the Green Customs Curriculum aims to build the capacity of Customs administrations to enforce MEAs effectively.

To date, three training modules have been successfully implemented, equipping officers across the region with essential knowledge and tools to support sustainable trade and ecological protection.

MRA's victory in this competition underscores its unwavering dedication to aligning border control practices with global environmental priorities. Through strategic training, innovation, and collaboration, the MRA continues to lead by example in building a greener, safer, and more sustainable Customs environment.





DID YOU Know?

INTERESTING FACT

RELIEF FOR TAXPAYERS AMID ADVERSE WEATHER

In a timely and considerate move, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) has announced a temporary relief period for taxpayers and employers affected by recent adverse weather conditions.

Originally due on 30 April 2025, the deadlines for filing income tax, VAT, PAYE, and social contributions returns and statements have been officially extended to 02 May 2025. This extension also applies to the payment of related taxes and contributions.

No Penalties or Surcharges

No penalties, interest, or surcharges will be levied for any delays arising due to the weather-related

disruptions. This proactive measure ensures that taxpayers can meet their obligations without incurring unnecessary financial strain during challenging circumstances.

MRA urges all concerned individuals, businesses, and entities to take full advantage of this extension and submit all outstanding returns and settle dues by the new deadline. Timely compliance remains essential to avoid any penalties beyond the grace period.

For guidance and assistance, the public can visit MRA website at www.mra.mu or contact MRA helpdesk on **207 6000** during working hours.



COMMUNIQUE

FILING OF RETURNS & STATEMENTS & PAYMENT OF INCOME TAX, VAT, PAYE AND SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The **Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA)** informs the public that, due to the torrential rain warning in force, no penalties, interests or surcharges will be applied to taxpayers and employers who have been unable to submit returns/statements or to pay the tax/contributions payable by the due date of 30 April 2025, provided such returns/statements are submitted and the tax/contributions are paid on or before **Friday 02 May 2025**.



Ehram Court, Cnr Mgr. Gonin & Sir Virgil Naz Streets, Port Louis, Mauritius
T: +230 207 6000 | F: +230 211 8099 | E: headoffice@mra.mu | W: www.mra.mu

