

A vibrant green cornfield under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The corn plants are in the foreground, and the sky is filled with fluffy white clouds. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

Promoting trade of agricultural
and agro-processed products at
regional and international level

Market Access

- ▶ Multilateral - Member of WTO
- ▶ Regional - Member of SADC FTA, COMESA FTA, IOC
- ▶ Bilateral Trade Agreements
 - ▶ IEPA with the EU
 - ▶ AGOA
 - ▶ FTA with Turkey
 - ▶ PTA with Pakistan
- ▶ Negotiations underway
 - ▶ COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite FTA
 - ▶ Continental FTA
 - ▶ FTA with China
 - ▶ CECPA with India



Tariff Liberalisation

- ▶ WTO
 - ▶ bound rate of duties for most agricultural products is 122%
 - ▶ Applied rate - 95% of tariff lines duty-free in Mauritius
- ▶ COMESA FTA
 - ▶ Duty-free, quota-free trade since 2000
- ▶ SADC FTA
 - ▶ 85 % of trade liberalized in 2008
 - ▶ 100 % duty-free since January 2014
- ▶ IEPA
 - ▶ 96% of tariff lines duty-free, quota-free
 - ▶ 4% of tariff lines exclusion list
- ▶ AGOA
 - ▶ Enacted in 2000 and provides SSA countries duty-free access for some 6500 products



Tariff Liberalisation (Cont'd)

▶ FTA with Turkey

- ▶ FTA with Turkey signed in September 2011 but entered into force on 01 June 2013.
- ▶ Duty-free and quota-free access on all industrial products
- ▶ For agricultural products: Preferential access for some 40 products on a tariff quota basis
- ▶ Ex pineapples, palm hearts, guavas, mangoes, lychee, curry, tuna, pasta, sweet biscuits, mango chutney, citrus fruits, banana chips, beer, amongst others

▶ PTA with Pakistan

- ▶ Signed in July 2007
- ▶ Lists of concession exchanged between both sides
- ▶ In 2009, duty-free trade on the whole list
- ▶ E.g flowers, pineapples, black tea, tuna, fish fillet, sugar, pasta, soap and detergents, etc

List of Agricultural and agro-processed products exported by Mauritius

Unit : US Dollar thousand

Code	Product label	Exported value in 2015	Exported value in 2016
'160414	Prepared or preserved tunas, skipjack and Atlantic bonito,	239543	246075
'170199	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose,	148816	154626
'030389	Frozen fish, n.e.s.	78460	72104
'090510	Vanilla, neither crushed nor ground	22307	48122
'030487	Frozen fillets of tuna "of the genus Thunnus"	17003	20154
'010611	Live primates	18864	19758
'051191	Products of fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; dead fish, crustaceans, ...	15207	15512
'230120	Flours, meals and pellets of fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, ...	16164	15116
'220710	Undenatured ethyl alcohol,	15389	14497
'160420	Prepared or preserved fish	11782	13589
'190219	Uncooked pasta, not stuffed or otherwise prepared,	8349	10254
'230990	Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding .	10463	9101
'170310	Cane molasses	3207	6950
'240220	Cigarettes, containing tobacco	12013	6364
'110100	Wheat or meslin flour	9198	5991
'220840	Rum and other spirits	1588	3364
'150420	Fats and oils of fish and their fractions,	653	3082
'080430	Fresh or dried pineapples	3360	3060
'230400	Oilcake and other solid residues,	4131	2905
'220830	Whiskies	872	2506
'190230	Pasta, cooked or otherwise prepared	2563	2226
'220300	Beer made from malt	1974	1941
'190590	Bread, pastry, cakes, biscuits and other bakers' wares	2056	1886
'081090	Fresh tamarinds, cashew apples, jackfruit, lychees, sapodillo plums, passion fruit, carambola, ...	1413	1650
'060319	Fresh cut flowers and buds, of a kind suitable for bouquets or for ornamental purposes (excluding ...	1212	1195
'121190	Plants, parts of plants, incl. seeds and fruits	263	1183
'220210	Waters, incl. mineral and aerated	1806	1153

Margin of Preference

HS Code	Product	EU	SADC		COMESA	
		France	South Africa	Tanzania	Egypt	Kenya
		Applied Tariff (as reported)	Applied Tariff (as reported)	Applied Tariff (as reported)	Applied Tariff (as reported)	Applied Tariff (as reported)
160414	Prepared and Preserved Tunas	24%	25% or 200c/Kg	25%	5%	25%
170114	Raw Cane Sugar	EUR33.9/100Kg	63.63c/Kg	100% or USD460/MT whichever is higher	20%	100% or USD460/MT whichever is higher
030389	Frozen fish, n.e.s	8%	0%	25%	0%	25%
030487	frozen fillets of Tuna	18%	0%	25%	0%	25%
190219	Uncooked pasta, not stuffed or otherwise prepared, not containing eggs	22.74%	40%	25%	30%	25%
190211	Uncooked pasta, not stuffed or otherwise prepared, containing eggs	22.98%	30%	25%	30%	25%
1101	Wheat or meslin Flour	17.34%	30%	50%	2%	50%
150410	Fish-liver oils	3.80%	0%	10%	5%	10%
150420	Fats and oils of fish	10.90%	0%	10%	5%	10%
040390	Buttermilk,curdled milk & cream,kephir & ferm or acid milk & cream nes	32.25%	17.16%	60.00%	5%	60%
040490	Products consisting of natural milk constituents	34.47%	4.07%	25.00%	2%	25%
220300	Beer	0%	5%	25%	1200%	25%
081090	Fresh fruits	0%	15%	25%	10%	25%
060319	Fresh Cut Flowers and buds	8.50%	20%	25%	40%	25%
150710	Soya Bean Oil, crude	3.20%	10%	0%	0%	0%

Existing and potential trade between Mauritius and Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa (COMESA) (Potential Exports)

Product code	Product label	Value in 2016	
		Mauritius's exports to Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa (COMESA)	Potential in 2016 Indicative potential trade
'160414	Prepared or preserved tunas, skipjack and Atlantic bonito,	233	245842
'170199	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form	22386	132240
'030389	Frozen fish, n.e.s.	0	72104
'170114	Raw cane sugar, in solid form,	6113	68459
'090510	Vanilla, neither crushed nor ground	1608	46514
'051191	Products of fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; dead fish, crustaceans, ...	53	15459
'230120	Flours, meals and pellets of fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, ...	759	12096
'160420	Prepared or preserved fish (excluding whole or in pieces)	0	10563
'030342	Frozen yellowfin tunas "Thunnus albacares"	141	9871
'220710	Undenatured ethyl alcohol, ethanol	7277	7220
'170310	Cane molasses	29	6357
'240220	Cigarettes, containing tobacco	418	5946
'220840	Rum and other spirits	52	3312
'080430	Fresh or dried pineapples	1	3058
'110100	Wheat or meslin flour	3518	2473
'030343	Frozen skipjack or stripe-bellied bonito	3	2240
'190219	Uncooked pasta, not stuffed or otherwise prepared,	8224	2030
'190590	Bread, pastry, cakes, biscuits and other bakers' wares,	97	1789
'081090	Fresh tamarinds, cashew apples, jackfruit, lychees, sapodillo plums, passion fruit, carambola, ...	0	1650
'030499	Frozen fish meat n.e.s. (excluding fillets)	0	1457
'220300	Beer made from malt	602	1339
'060319	Fresh cut flowers and buds, of a kind suitable for bouquets or for ornamental purposes	2	1193
'121190	Plants, parts of plants, incl. seeds and fruits,	8	1175
'230230	Bran, sharps and other residues of wheat,	14	906
'090520	Vanilla, crushed or ground	15	892
'100630	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice,	45	846
'220830	Whiskies	1709	797

List of Agricultural and agro-processed products imported by Mauritius

Unit : US Dollar thousand

Code	Product label	Imported value in 2015	Imported value in 2016
'030342	Frozen yellowfin tunas "Thunnus albacares"	65037	94448
'030343	Frozen skipjack or stripe-bellied bonito "Euthynnus -Katsuwonus- pelamis"	51818	73633
'030389	Frozen fish, n.e.s.	67414	62408
'240220	Cigarettes, containing tobacco	60042	62172
'090510	Vanilla, neither crushed nor ground	16376	47066
'100199	Wheat and meslin	43585	34110
'210690	Food preparations, n.e.s.	29099	31859
'100630	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice,	37639	30895
'040210	Milk and cream in solid forms,	32825	30665
'230400	Oilcake and other solid residues,	21728	19758
'040630	Processed cheese, not grated or powdered	17799	19433
'100590	Maize (excluding seed for sowing)	18877	19123
'170114	Raw cane sugar, in solid form,	22636	17707
'150710	Crude soya-bean oil, whether or not degummed	16077	16457
'051191	Products of fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; dead fish, crustaceans, ...	14448	15541
'190590	Bread, pastry, cakes, biscuits and other bakers' wares,	10777	15427
'180690	Chocolate and other preparations containing cocoa, in containers or immediate packings of <= ...	10693	14175
'040221	Milk and cream in solid forms,	9254	13556
'020230	Frozen, boneless meat of bovine animals	12881	12717
'220421	Wine of fresh grapes, incl. fortified wines, and grape must whose fermentation has been arrested ...	9902	12158
'010290	Live bovine animals (excluding cattle and buffalo)	9653	12080
'220830	Whiskies	8094	11258
'190531	Sweet biscuits	9031	10914
'210390	Preparations for sauces and prepared sauces; mixed condiments and seasonings (excluding soya ...	8204	10448
'030617	Frozen shrimps and prawns, even smoked,	8268	9437

Unit : US Dollar thousand

Product code	Product label	Mauritius's imports from Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa (COMESA)		Indicative potential trade (imports)	
		Value in 2015	Value in 2016	Potential in 2015	Potential in 2016
'030389	Frozen fish, n.e.s.	2509	1317	64905	61091
'252329	Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured)	0	0	31533	36323
'240220	Cigarettes, containing tobacco	28410	30780	31632	31392
'210690	Food preparations, n.e.s.	9484	9341	19615	22518
'100630	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	0	0	37639	21630
'230400	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting ...	0	0	21728	19758
'100590	Maize (excluding seed for sowing)	3	7	18874	19116
'170114	Raw cane sugar, in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter (excluding ...	0	0	22636	17707
'090510	Vanilla, neither crushed nor ground	15372	29768	1004	17298
'040630	Processed cheese, not grated or powdered	1890	2413	15909	17020
'051191	Products of fish or crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; dead fish, crustaceans, ...	36	0	14412	15541
'190590	Bread, pastry, cakes, biscuits and other bakers' wares, whether or not containing cocoa; communion ...	1	0	10776	15427
'180690	Chocolate and other preparations containing cocoa, in containers or immediate packings of <= ...	0	0	10693	14175
'040229	Milk and cream in solid forms, of a fat content by weight of > 1,5%, sweetened	0	0	10700	12893
'190531	Sweet biscuits	258	41	8773	10873
'210390	Preparations for sauces and prepared sauces; mixed condiments and seasonings (excluding soya ...	53	49	8151	10399
'220830	Whiskies	1	0	8093	8947
'220210	Waters, incl. mineral and aerated, with added sugar, sweetener or flavour, for direct consumption ...	169	225	7296	8857
'030617	Frozen shrimps and prawns, even smoked, whether in shell or not, incl. shrimps and prawns in ...	538	647	7730	8790

'230990	Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding (excluding dog or cat food put up for retail ...	0	146	5037	8426
'040210	Milk and cream in solid forms, of a fat content by weight of <= 1,5%	0	0	17595	8297
'100640	Broken rice	0	0	7908	7823
'010290	Live bovine animals (excluding cattle and buffalo)	2084	0	7569	7191
'030283	Fresh or chilled toothfish "Dissostichus spp."	0	0	8420	6440
'040690	Cheese (excluding fresh cheese, incl. whey cheese, curd, processed cheese, blue-veined cheese ...	0	114	4536	6050
'151710	Margarine (excluding liquid)	30	25	5506	5966
'070310	Fresh or chilled onions and shallots	165	103	4717	5629
'070190	Fresh or chilled potatoes (excluding seed)	1	0	3867	5235
'170490	Sugar confectionery not containing cocoa, incl. white chocolate (excluding chewing gum)	6	0	4892	5034
'160413	Prepared or preserved sardines, sardinella and brisling or sprats, whole or in pieces (excluding ...	0	0	6333	4883
'030383	Frozen toothfish "Dissostichus spp."	0	0	2019	4572
'160420	Prepared or preserved fish (excluding whole or in pieces)	0	0	4278	4477
'151190	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined (excluding chemically modified and crude)	0	0	4494	4350
'220290	Non-alcoholic beverages (excluding water, fruit or vegetable juices and milk)	577	375	3417	4280
'151620	Vegetable fats and oils and their fractions, partly or wholly hydrogenated, inter-esterified, ...	0	0	3350	4175
'170199	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form (excluding cane and beet sugar ...	1	2	9451	3948
'200410	Potatoes, prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid, frozen	768	776	2587	3924
'071340	Dried, shelled lentils, whether or not skinned or split	0	0	2793	3676
'190190	Malt extract; food preparations of flour, groats, meal, starch or malt extract, not containing ...	0	0	3497	3514
'080610	Fresh grapes	851	1010	2594	3505

Rules of origin



- ▶ What are Rules of Origin?
 - ▶ criteria that are used to determine the national source/ origin of a product
- ▶ In PTA/FTA, preferential rules of origin applied on goods from particular countries (Member States)
- ▶ Products have to fulfill certain originating criteria, such as
 - ▶ Wholly /obtained criteria
 - ▶ products have undergone sufficient working or processing with a Member State such as
 - ▶ Non-originating materials not exceeding 60% of total costs of material used
 - ▶ 35% value-added rule
 - ▶ Change in tariff heading

Rules of origin for agricultural and agro-processed products

- ▶ Wholly produced goods criteria
 - ▶ Minerals extracted from the ground or sea-bed of a Member State
 - ▶ Vegetables harvested in a Member State
 - ▶ Live animals born and raised in a Member State
 - ▶ Products obtained by hunting or fishing conducted within a Member State
 - ▶ Products obtained from sea, rivers and lakes within a Member State by a vessel of a Member State
 - ▶ Products manufactured in a factory of a Member State exclusively from the products referred above
 - ▶ Waste and scrap from manufacturing operations within a Member State

Non-Tariff Barriers

▶ What are Non-Tariff Barriers?

- *Non-tariff barriers to trade (NTBs) are trade barriers that restrict imports or exports of goods or services through mechanisms other than the simple imposition of tariffs - conditions that make importation/exportation difficult or costly*
- *NTBs - growing problem in trade agreements*

Ex of NTBs are:

- ▶ Cumbersome customs procedures & documentation
 - ▶ Complex export/import licensing/permits
 - ▶ Import/export quotas
 - ▶ Unnecessary import bans/prohibitions,
 - ▶ Excessive domestic regulations and stringent standards, etc
- ## ▶ NTBs online Mechanism (www.tradebarriers.org)
- ▶ NTMs are policy measures other than tariffs that affect trade
 - ▶ Ex of NTMs: technical regulations, product standards, customs procedures
 - ▶ Unlike tariffs, impact of NTMs not straightforward



Non-tariff Measures

- ▶ NTBs v/s NTMs
- ▶ NTMs are necessary to ensure the quality of exports and to protect human and animal health and plant life
 - ▶ Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures (SPS)
 - ▶ Technical Barriers to Trade

SPS Measures in Trade Agreements

Members have the right to take SPS measures for protection of human, animal or plant life or health provided that they do not constitute a means of disguised restriction to trade

TBT Measures in Trade Agreements

Members have the right to take TBT measures (intl standards, conformity assessment) for improving production efficiency provided that they do not constitute a means of disguised restriction to trade

SPS Measures in Trade Agreements

- ▶ SPS measures are necessary to protect human, animal and plant life and health
- ▶ SPS measures should not be disguised restriction to trade
- ▶ SPS measures should not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between Members
- ▶ SPS measures should be based on scientific principles
- ▶ Members shall base their SPS measures on international standards
- ▶ Equivalence - encourage members to make compatible their respective SPS measures with other members with a view to facilitating trade



Challenges facing export of agricultural and agro-processed products

- ▶ Far from market - difficulty to export perishable agricultural products
- ▶ Some countries have stringent SPS measures (ex. EU)
- ▶ Supply side capacity
- ▶ EU withdrew a consignment of pineapples in 2015 due to excessive presence of Ethephon in pineapples
- ▶ Foot and mouth disease - Madagascar imposed a ban on many animal and animal derived products (ducklings, day old chicks, animal feed, dairy and meat products)

- ▶ In Oct 2017, Mauritius imposed temporary ban on importation of poultry and poultry products from S. Africa - outbreak of avian flu
- ▶ In April 2017, Mauritius imposed temporary ban on import of cherry tomatoes from S. Africa due to incursion of *Tuta absoluta*, destructive pest not present in Mauritius

Trade Obstacles Alert Mechanism (TOAM)

- ▶ Developed with the technical and financial assistance from the (ITC) and is operational through the Mauritius Trade Portal. It allows Mauritian trade operators to report obstacles/NTBs they face when exporting or importing their products. (<http://www.tradeobstacles.org/mauritius>)
- ▶ Via an alert system based on email notifications, the relevant national authorities are informed of these obstacles and they are expected to respond to these trade alerts and take remedial measures, where required
- ▶ The objective is to create a more conducive environment for our business to operate by identifying and eliminating trade barriers.
- ▶ The TOAM comprises of the following two structures:
 - (i) A National Monitoring Committee (NMC) ; Chaired by the Director of the ITD; and comprise of 21 Members which are agencies from both public and semi-public sector which are involved in the enforcement of trade
 - (ii) A National Focal Point (NFP)- MCCI
- ▶ Up to now 28 trade alerts have been reported on the platform and 19 has already been resolved.

Export/Import Information

- ▶ Mauritius Trade Portal (supported by Ministry of Foreign Affairs - ITD)
 - ▶ www.mauritiustrade.mu
- ▶ Import Procedures
 - ▶ Taxes and customs duties applicable to imported products
 - ▶ Import permits required
 - ▶ List of controlled products
 - ▶ List of prohibited goods
- ▶ Export Procedures
 - ▶ Key Export regulations
 - ▶ Export permits
 - ▶ Export certificates
- ▶ Market Intelligence
- ▶ Trade Agreements



Thank you for your attention!