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## In the limelight

### MCCI SME Marketplace – Portail consacré aux PME

Le MCCI SME Marketplace a été lancé officiellement le vendredi 12 février 2016 par l'Hon. Soomilduth Bholah, Ministre des Affaires, des Entreprises, des Coopératives, en présence des dirigeants de la MCCI, des représentants d'Institutions parapubliques, d'Associations de PME et des membres de la MCCI, partenaires du projet.



*De gauche à droite: L'Hon. Soomilduth Bholah, M. Raju Jadoo, Secrétaire-Général de la MCCI et M. Bruno Salgues*

Ce portail en ligne est disponible sur notre site internet à <http://www.mcci.org/en/our-services/mcci-sme-marketplace/>.

Il vise à offrir aux PME, des offres exclusives en termes de biens et services dans plusieurs domaines tels que la finance, les assurances, la technologie, la formation et le coaching entre autres.

Dans le cadre de ce lancement, la MCCI a aussi invité M. Bruno Salgues, spécialiste français de haut niveau impliqué dans des sujets tels que le développement des PME et de l'innovation, à mener une réflexion collective sur le thème: "Réflexions sur une feuille de route numérique pour les PME mauriciennes vers un accès amélioré aux marchés et opportunités issus de l'entrepreneuriat et de l'innovation européens".

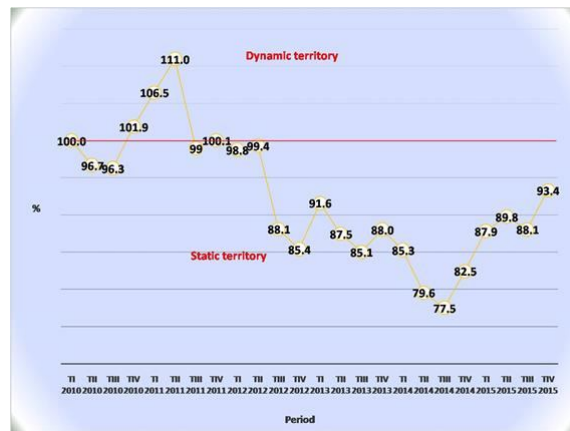
## Local News

## Increase of 6.0 percent in the Business Confidence Indicator

The MCCI released its Business Confidence Indicator for the 4th quarter of 2015 on Thursday 11 February 2016. The index registered an increase of 6.0 percent to settle at 93.4 points, its highest level since 2012.

According to the last survey, entrepreneurs stated that the current situation has improved as compared to the same quarter last year and are expecting positive performances in the short to medium term.

The BCI however remains in static territory below its long-term average of 100 basis points. Entrepreneurs pointed to the deterioration in the global economic environment as the principal factor having a negative incidence on their business performance.



Results of the Business Confidence Indicator for the 4th quarter of 2015

On a sectoral level, the fourth quarter of 2015 was marked by a strong increase of 10.5 points in the Services sector with the manufacturing sector also on the rise by 8.3 points. The commerce sector remained stagnant after two successive falls in the second and third quarters of 2015.

Expectations on investment and employment levels for 2016 are positive, while there is anticipation that there will be an other fall in prices over the first quarter of 2016.

The full report can be accessed on our website at: <http://www.mcci.org/media/111743/mcci-business-confidence-indicator-2015-q4.pdf>

## What's New?

In view of rationalizing the flow of information to members of the business community, the MCCI will be now issuing its E-news on a fortnightly basis.

We will continue to communicate through our "FLASH NEWS" mailing process for any urgent matter.

## International News

### WTO issues call for papers for 2016 WTO Essay Award for Young Economists

Young economists are invited by the World Trade Organisation to submit papers for the 2016 WTO Essay Award. The Award aims to promote high-quality research on trade policy and international trade co-operation among young economists and to reinforce the relationship between the WTO and the academic community.

Essays must be submitted by 1 June 2016. The author(s) of the winning essay will be rewarded a prize of CHF 5,000. The winning paper will be officially announced at the annual meeting of the European Trade Study Group (ETSG), which is the largest conference specializing in international trade. The award ceremony will take place in September 2016 in Helsinki, Finland. The winning author(s) will receive funding to attend the meeting.

For more information, please visit: [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news16\\_e/stud\\_08feb16\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/stud_08feb16_e.htm)

## GS1: Blue Number Initiative - A Global Registry for Sustainable Farmers

GS1 is part of a collective effort with the UN Global Compact and the International Trade Centre (ITC) to map and harmonise hundreds of disparate standards and certificates related to sustainable farming.

The effort, known as The Blue Number Initiative, a Global Registry for Sustainable Farmers, will enable farmers, governments, businesses and communities to communicate with one another.

This paves the way for smaller farmers in developing countries to be recognised for sustainable practices, opening up potential markets and allowing them to become more visible. Furthermore, multinationals can identify sources of food that are sustainable and consumers gain better visibility to make informed purchase decisions.



*Ensuring sustainable practices in agriculture*

Learn more about the Blue Number Initiative (<http://www.gs1.org/sites/default/files/docs/retail/BlueNumber-4pagerA4.pdf>)

## Events

### Business Protocol & Diplomacy Conference

The Mauritius First Business Protocol & Diplomacy Conference is being organized by the Research of Sustainable Educational Solutions (ROSES) Trust, in collaborative partnership with the International School of Protocol and Diplomacy (ISPD).

The ISPD, Brussels is Europe's leading academic institution solely dedicated to studies in the field of protocol, diplomacy and cross-cultural relations in order to bring students and participants a unique range of study programmes designed and developed by academics from a multi-cultural perspective.

**Date:** 2nd and 3rd of March 2016

**Venue:** Hilton Resort and Spa, Flic-en-Flac

**Contact:** (+230) 4543435 or [info@roses-trust.com](mailto:info@roses-trust.com) for more information, reservations and booking details

## Business Opportunities

## Trade and Investment

### Mozambique

Investment opportunities for SME entrepreneurs in areas such as foodstuffs, hardware, plastics, chicken farming, imports, etc.

Contact: Mr. Jean Pierre Chummun - High Commissioner of Mauritius, phone: +258 82 30 80 738 or email: [jeanpierrechummun@gmail.com](mailto:jeanpierrechummun@gmail.com)

### Poland

Fourniture de tubes et raccords en polypropylène, tuyaux en polyéthylène, PPSU et raccords en laiton, tubes et raccords en acier galvanisé et en acier inoxydable Inox, armoires métalliques, etc.

Contact: Honorata Maslowska, KAN-therm International Sales Office, phone: +48 85 74 56 655 ou email: [hmaslowska@kan-therm.com](mailto:hmaslowska@kan-therm.com), [www.fr.kan-therm.com](http://www.fr.kan-therm.com)

### Turkey

Supply of elevators.

Contact: Huden Tetik, RMT Asarsur, phone: +90 216 595 30 95 or email: [huden@rmtasansor.com](mailto:huden@rmtasansor.com)

### Zambia

Export of white maize, soya beans, beans, corn soya blend, white sugar, sunflower cake, soya cake, molasses, agricultural lime, compound fertilizers, cement and maize.

Contact: Goods and Services Suppliers of Zambia, phone: +260 211 222020 or email: [gssassociationofzambia@gmail.com](mailto:gssassociationofzambia@gmail.com)

## Trade Fairs

### India

Kashmir Expo 2016 - 7th International Buyer Seller Meet

**Date:** 14 to 16 May 2016, Srinagar, Kashmir

**More info:** [www.thekcci.com](http://www.thekcci.com)

### USA

7th Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES)

**Date:** 22 to 24 June 2016, Silicon Valley, San Francisco Bay, California

**More info:** [www.ges2016.org](http://www.ges2016.org)

### Malaysia

Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) 2016

**Date:** 1 to 5 March 2016, Kuala Lumpur

**More info:** [www.miff.com.my](http://www.miff.com.my)

### Seychelles

1st Afro Asian International Expo 2016

**Date:** 29 April to 4 May 2016, NSC Hall, Victoria, Mahe

**More info:** [www.rajasthanworks.com](http://www.rajasthanworks.com)

## Tenders from UN DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS

**Project: e-Consult: Road Safety Capacity Building for safe operation of the Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Bus Rapid Transit system**

Assignment Description: Objectives of the assignment: (i) improving safety and accessibility conditions for all road users; (ii) reducing road safety hazards; (iii) providing strategic elements to develop a comprehensive communications campaign; (iv) conducting training workshops for all bus operators; (v) assisting on the creation of a steering committee that will follow all road safety actions and strategies; and (vi) assist on the development of a periodic evaluation program.

Submission Requirements: The World Bank invites eligible firms to indicate their interest in providing the services. Expressions of Interest should be submitted, in English, electronically through World Bank Group eTendering. Interested members are requested to contact Mrs. Arline Sookahet at the MCCI for more information.

More procurement notices are available at <https://www.devbusiness.com/Default.aspx>

19 February 2016

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