



NPCC: Stakeholders discuss outcomes of Productivity Improvement Programme under SADC-TRF



GIS – 31 May 2021: Stakeholders of the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, and the Japan Productivity Centre (JPC), met virtually, today, to discuss about the outcomes of the “Productivity Improvement Programme for Manufacturing Companies in Mauritius”. The Programme is conducted under the Southern African Development Community Trade Related Facility (SADC-TRF). The Executive Director of the NPCC, Mr Ashit Gungah, was present for the online meeting.

The objective of the Programme was to provide, notably, a financial analysis of manufacturing companies (SMEs and large companies), in-company training and implementation of an appropriate improvement programme for individual companies so that they can continuously improve systems and processes to become more competitive on the international market.

Today’s presentation at the online meeting focused on the findings of the Japanese experts on three topics, namely, Operations and Production Management; Financial Management and; Sales and Marketing.

In his opening address, Mr Gungah underlined that the collaboration between the NPCC and the JPC has been a pinnacle in sustaining the productivity movement in Mauritius. The SADC-TRF project along with the technical expertise of the JPC strengthens the overall ambition of the NPCC

to sustain and help Mauritian enterprises in the short, medium and long terms, he added.

Speaking about the project, the Executive Director highlighted that it represents a landmark collaboration between the NPCC and the JPC. *'This has not only helped Mauritian enterprises to benefit from the expertise of the JPC, but also enabled the NPCC consultants to rub shoulders with Japanese counterparts and thus further sharpen their knowledge in the field of productivity consultancy,'* Mr Gungah stated.

For his part, the Director of the International Trade Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Mr Narainduth Boodhoo, stressed that there is a pressing need for Mauritian enterprises to increase their productivity and ultimately enhance their competitiveness in the highly volatile global markets. *'Highly productive companies also create the right environment to attract investments and promote exports,'* he pointed out.

Productivity Improvement Programme for Manufacturing Companies in Mauritius

The project, facilitated jointly by the NPCC and the JPC, comprised 27 Mauritian manufacturing companies that have undergone a positive transformation with highly motivating results following the introduction of the intensive productivity improvement programme.

In December 2020, the JPC was selected as the international consultancy service among 27 manufacturing companies that expressed interest to participate in this project. From January 2021 to May 2021, online training sessions as well as consultation meetings were held with the assistance of the NPCC. A diagnosis conducted by the experts allowed the companies to identify the different areas where they should be laying more emphasis in an effort to boost their productivity.

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