

# Climate competitiveness: Building opportunities in the green economy for emerging and developing countries' Project - Mauritius' Perspective

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# Climate Competitiveness Project

- ▶ Mauritius is a beneficiary of the Climate Competitiveness Project, funded by the European Union and implemented in partnership with the International Trade Centre (ITC) since June 2023.
- ▶ In April 2024, a consultative mission was held in Mauritius:
  - ▶ to raise awareness among local stakeholders on the interlinkages between trade and climate; and
  - ▶ to identify technical assistance needs in collaboration with representatives from government and private sector, civil society, and academia.





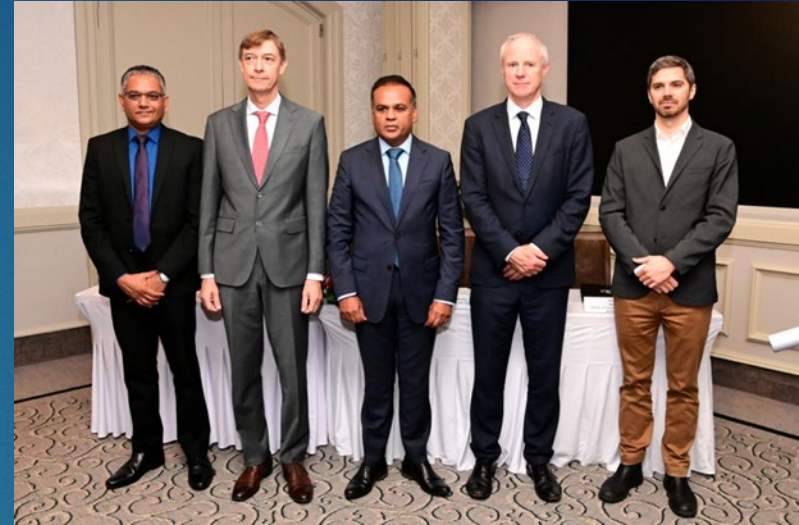
# Trade Policy Analysis and Dialogue to Support the Circular Economy <sup>(1/2)</sup>

- ▶ It is a key output for Mauritius under this project.
- ▶ Supported by the UNEP, Mauritius has already developed a Comprehensive Circular Economy Roadmap and Action Plan (2023–2033). The project is in line with the Government Programme 2025–2029 for advancing Mauritius as a green economy that encourages recycling and fosters a circular economy.
- ▶ As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Mauritius faces challenges in achieving economies of scale particularly in managing and recycling electric vehicle (EV) batteries.
- ▶ To address these challenges, the ITC proposed an initiative to explore how trade can support the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan, with a focus on battery waste management.



# Trade Policy Analysis and Dialogue to Support the Circular Economy <sup>(1/2)</sup>

- ▶ A study to explore how trade can support the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan, with a focus on battery waste management.
- ▶ In September 2024, an international consultant was engaged to conduct the study.
- ▶ Online stakeholder consultations began in December 2024.
- ▶ A first draft of the study was shared in February 2025.
- ▶ In March 2025, a national workshop on circular economy and the role of trade policy in lithium-ion battery waste management was convened to present preliminary findings and foster dialogue among industry and government representatives.
- ▶ Feedback from the workshop is currently being incorporated into the consultant's final report.





# Why this study is important for Mauritius?

- ▶ As Mauritius accelerates its shift towards renewable energy and electric mobility, the volume of lithium-ion battery waste is expected to rise significantly.
- ▶ Improper disposal of such waste can pose serious environmental risks, including soil and water contamination and the release of toxic substances. Thus, a sustainable, structured approach to battery waste management is essential.
- ▶ For Mauritius, the primary challenge remains the inability to achieve economies of scale.
- ▶ Regional cooperation could help overcome this constraint by pooling resources and harmonizing efforts across countries, thereby strengthening circular economy initiatives and supporting broader climate objectives.



Thank you!