



# PROJECT REPORT



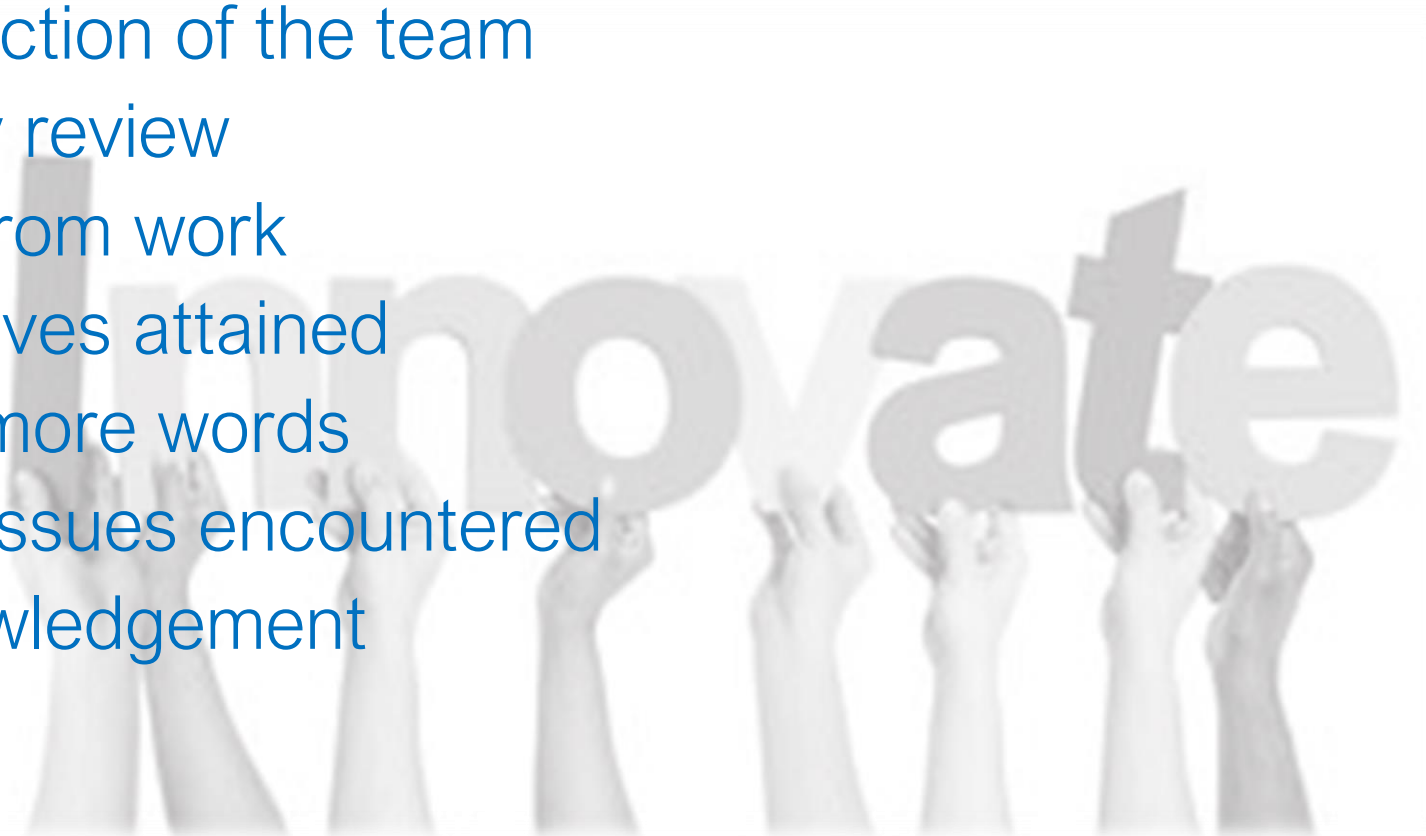
*Mauritius*

*Sustainably empowering Small and Medium Enterprises in Mauritius  
8<sup>th</sup> of August- 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2016*



## Table of contents

- Project Manager's message
- Introduction to project
- Introduction of the team
- Weekly review
- Apart from work
- Objectives attained
- A few more words
- Some issues encountered
- Acknowledgement





## Project Manager's message

I felt ready to take responsibility of this unique project in my LC at the last minute because of my previous experience as project manager. Little did I know that I would to face all sorts of new challenges- notably the fact that we had to welcome only 4 exchange participants instead of 8. Planning and managing the work without any team members were also a hurdle. Fortunately, I had the support of other project managers. I have been lucky to have amazing exchange participants, mature enough to understand the various challenges that we had to go through. The result of the project turned out to be better than expected and this could not have been possible without their utmost dedication in this project.





# Introduction to Innovate Mauritius

Innovate Mauritius is a project which aimed of sustainably helping small and medium enterprises. According to the Mauritius Statistics Bureau, Mauritius has an unemployment rate of 7.9%. Most people find it difficult to find a job as the demand for labour is higher than the supply of labour in the Mauritian economy. The best way to solve the issue of unemployment is to create a job-creator mindset rather than a job-seeker mindset

This is why we thought of creating this project-enabling young international students to use their expertise and culture to help us find innovative solutions.

Moreover, this project correlates with the 8<sup>th</sup> SDG- that is, to promote **inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**. SDG no. 8 aims to encourage sustained economic growth by achieving higher levels of productivity and promoting policies that encourage entrepreneurship and job creation







# Introduction of the team



Winnie

Nikita

Ellen Marie

Christian



## Weekly Review

- Although the first and second weeks were designed for them to discover the island, they had already started the work a few days after their arrival in the country. It started with a meeting with the first enterprise. More meetings followed during the coming weeks. After analysis, they wrote proposals and created presentations for the enterprises.
- The main problem was visibility, so they worked on their marketing department, where they voluntarily designed websites or updated their “Facebook” page.
- Lastly, they wrote a project report which they have duly submitted.

**Small Actions** X **Many People** = **Great Impact**

*Hello Mauritius*





Meeting at F.E.R



Meeting at CansFurniture



## Apart from work...

- Interns have been able to get a taste of each and every culture present in the house, from sharing food to trying traditional outfits. They also had fun while discovering the island during their non-office hours.







# Objectives Attained

## Impact on Enterprises

- ✓ Increase the visibility of the enterprise, hence awareness of the public about the cause it is fighting for.
- ✓ Find solutions to tackle managerial issues and hence making the enterprise more functional.
- ✓ Finding ways to improve financial sustainability of the enterprise

## Impact on Exchange participants

- ✓ Learn about the Mauritian culture among other cultures
- ✓ Instil a sense of responsibility in creating a change by helping the enterprises
- ✓ Become more independent by living in a foreign country



## A few more words...

Our interns decided not to carry out the survey and not to go forward with the entrepreneur fair after analysis of the enterprises they have been visiting. We gladly welcomed this change as an opportunity to do something even better. They decided to write articles to tackle an issue that came up for most enterprises. After thorough analysis, corruption has been found to be the main culprit of why small and medium enterprises couldn't rise in the business industry. This initiative clearly showcases innovation from our interns. By doing so, we've allowed them to express their creativity, team-work was definitely at play and I could notice how the values of AIESEC were fully demonstrated. They were not aware of it then, but they behaved like true leaders. I feel so proud to have been part of this experience!



## Some issues encountered

- Slow Wifi-connection in the house
- Poorly organised project since we worked with only three enterprises instead of 10
- Lack of work space for interns since they had to share the house with other interns from another project
- Too short time frame to carry out an entrepreneur fair (which had to be cancelled)

What we definitely intend to improve is our organisational skills! This is a huge constructive feedback for our LC that we warmly welcomed





# Acknowledgment



My special thanks are conveyed to those wonderful people:

- ❖ Mohamed Bouya Maalainine (Member Committee Vice President IGV 16-17)
- ❖ Decigen Koothan (Local Committee President)
- ❖ Rajcoomar Purvashi (Local Committee Vice- President-IGV)
- ❖ Ivrano Textile Enterprise
- ❖ CansFurniture Enterprise
- ❖ Femmes Entrepreneurs Reunies (F.E.R)
- ❖ Exchange Participants: Ellen Marie Solem

Christian Christensen Sorensen

Winnie Carmo

Nikita Fernandes

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