



# **ECOSOC High-level Segment**

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## **National Voluntary presentations**

# **Succeeding in Global Economy through Productive Capacity, Employment and Decent Work: Challenges, Policies and Strategies for Sustainable and Equitable Socio-economic Growth of MAURITIUS**

**By**

**Dr The Hon. V K Bunwaree, Minister of Education and Human  
Resources, Mauritius**



# MAURITIUS

- 1.25 million people with pop. Density of 604 persons/km<sup>2</sup>
- Pop. Urban: rural = 40%:60%
- Multi-ethnic Democracy
- Literacy rate (> 12 years) in 2011-Male: 92.3% and female: 87.3%
- 2001 to 2011: GDP at basic prices increased by an average of 4.3% per annum
- 2011: GDP grew by 4.0%
- GDP per capita (2011): 7500 USD



2011: 1<sup>st</sup>/53 countries in Africa on the Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance

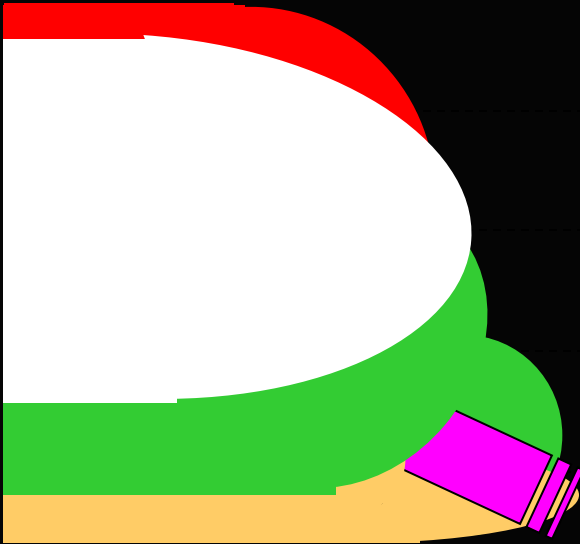
1<sup>st</sup> in Africa on the Fraser Institute's Economic Freedom Index

1<sup>st</sup> in Africa and 23<sup>rd</sup> in the world : World Bank's Doing Business 2012.

Global Competitiveness Report 2011-2012: 54<sup>th</sup>/142 countries



# Beginning....



**Professional**

**Highly-Skilled &  
Multiskilled**

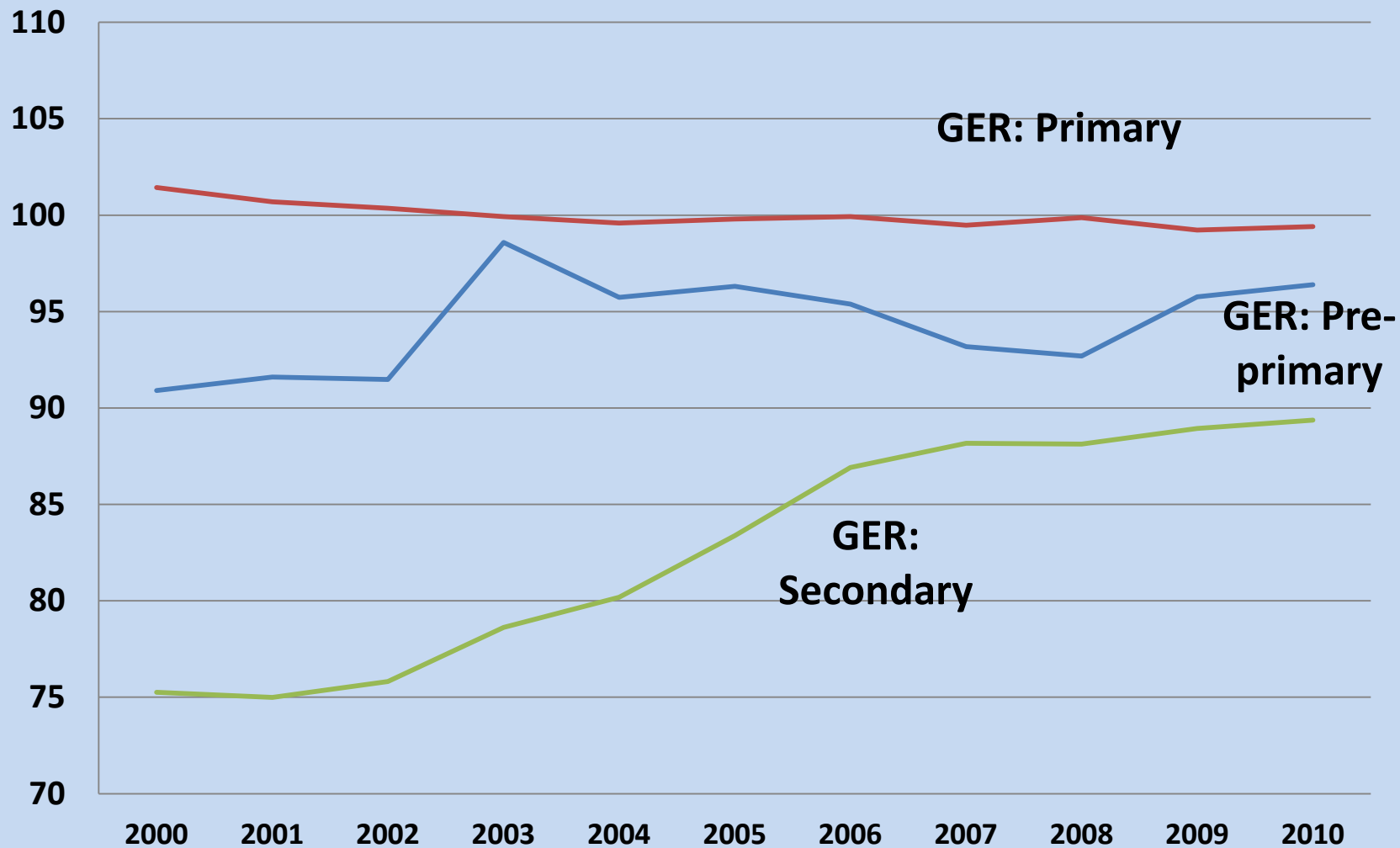
**Skilled**

**Semi-skilled**

**Unskilled**

**Our Vision: high-productivity, high-efficiency,  
high-technology and high-wage economy**

**Challenges: external shocks, global financial crises and the erosion  
of trade preferences, global pool of highly skilled labour....**



# Economic

- Fiscal consolidation and public sector efficiency: Reduce public sector debt to GDP ratio to 54 percent in 2012 and 50% by 2018
- Improving trade competitiveness and improving the investment climate

World Competitiveness Report 2011-12	Rank/142
No. days to start a business*	13
Total tax rate, % profits*	19
Soundness of banks	19
Strength of investor protection, 0–10 (best)*	22
No. procedures to start a business*	23
Prevalence of trade barriers	39

- democratizing the economy through participation, social inclusion and sustainability

**Challenge: Sustainability of Economic Growth..**

# Social Welfare

**Free  
Education**

**Free Transport for  
Students and  
pensioners**

**Non-contributory  
Pension to Orphans,  
widows, special-  
needs**

**Government expenditure on Social Security and  
Welfare: 323 million USD in 2004/2005 to 587 million  
USD in 2010 (82%↑)**

**Free text  
books at  
Primary level**

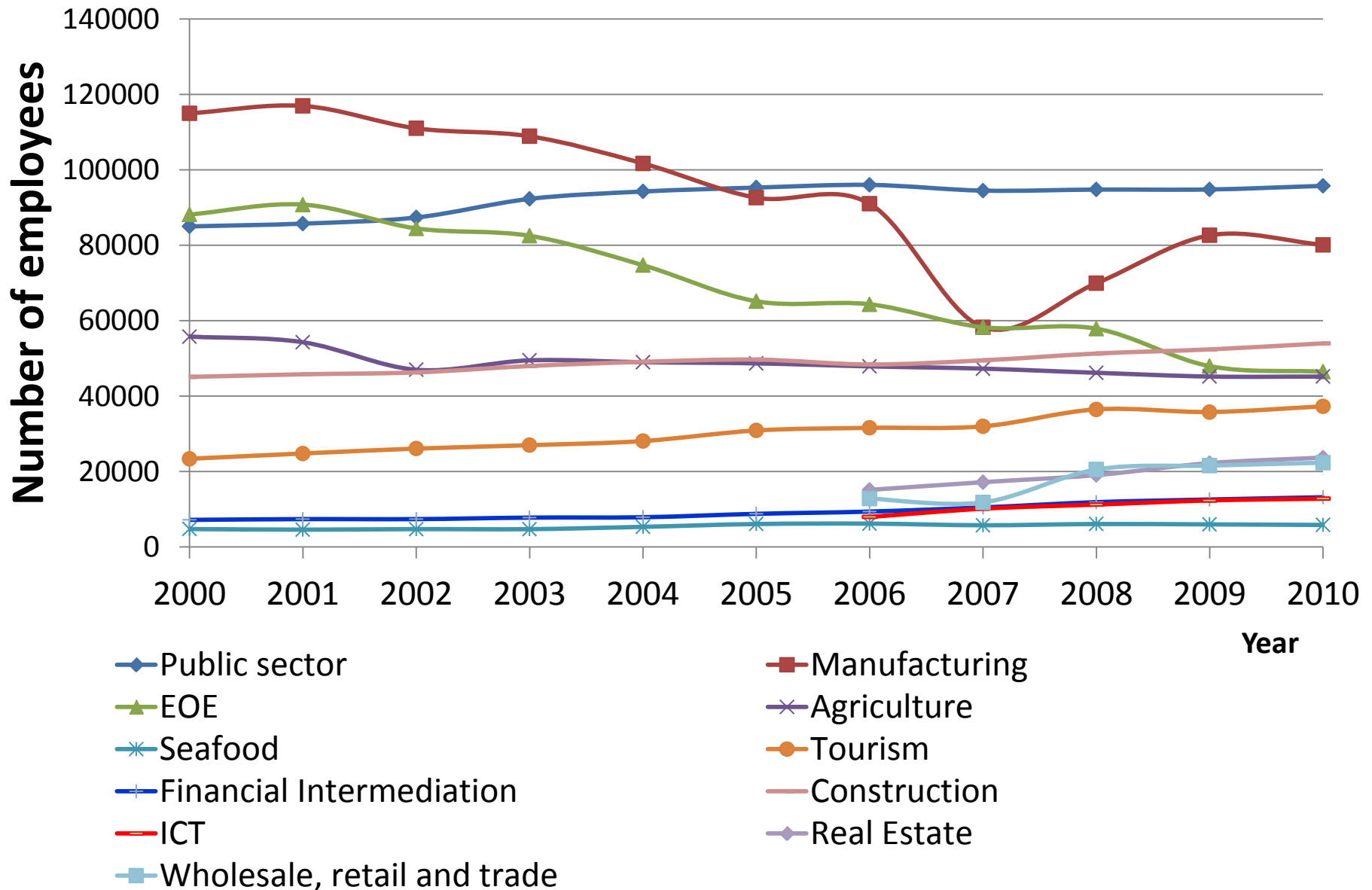
**Rs200 for every 3+  
child attending pre-  
primary**

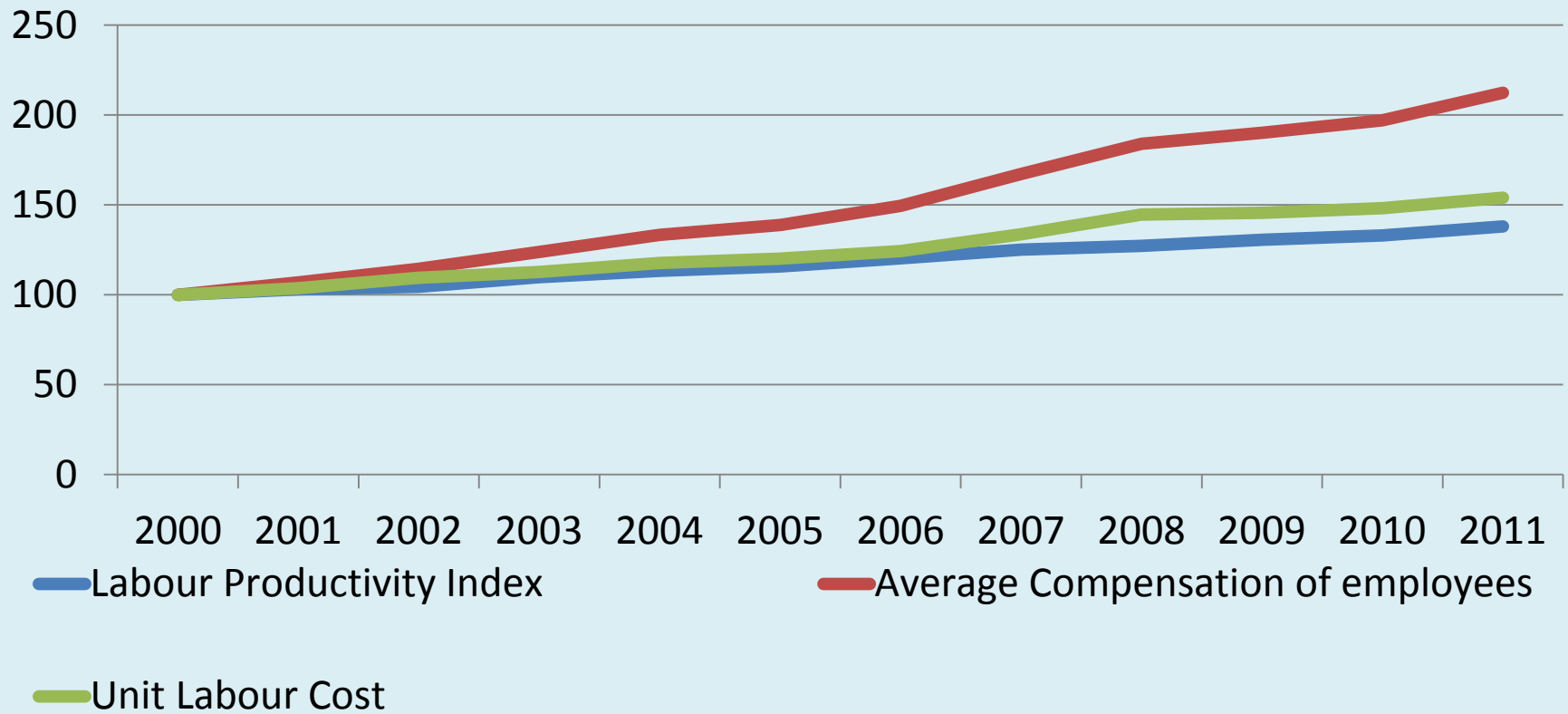
**Subsidies on gas, rice,..  
Eradication Of Absolute  
Poverty  
Trust Fund for the  
Integration of  
Vulnerable Groups**

**2010: Ministry namely the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment**

**Challenge: Sustainability of Welfare State**

# Employment by Sector: 2000-2010





**Between 2001 and 2011, Unit Labour Cost grew annually by 4.0%.**

## Challenge: Improve Competitiveness of Mauritius

Unit labour cost is the remuneration of labour (compensation of employees) to produce one unit of output.  
 Labour productivity is defined as real GDP per worker



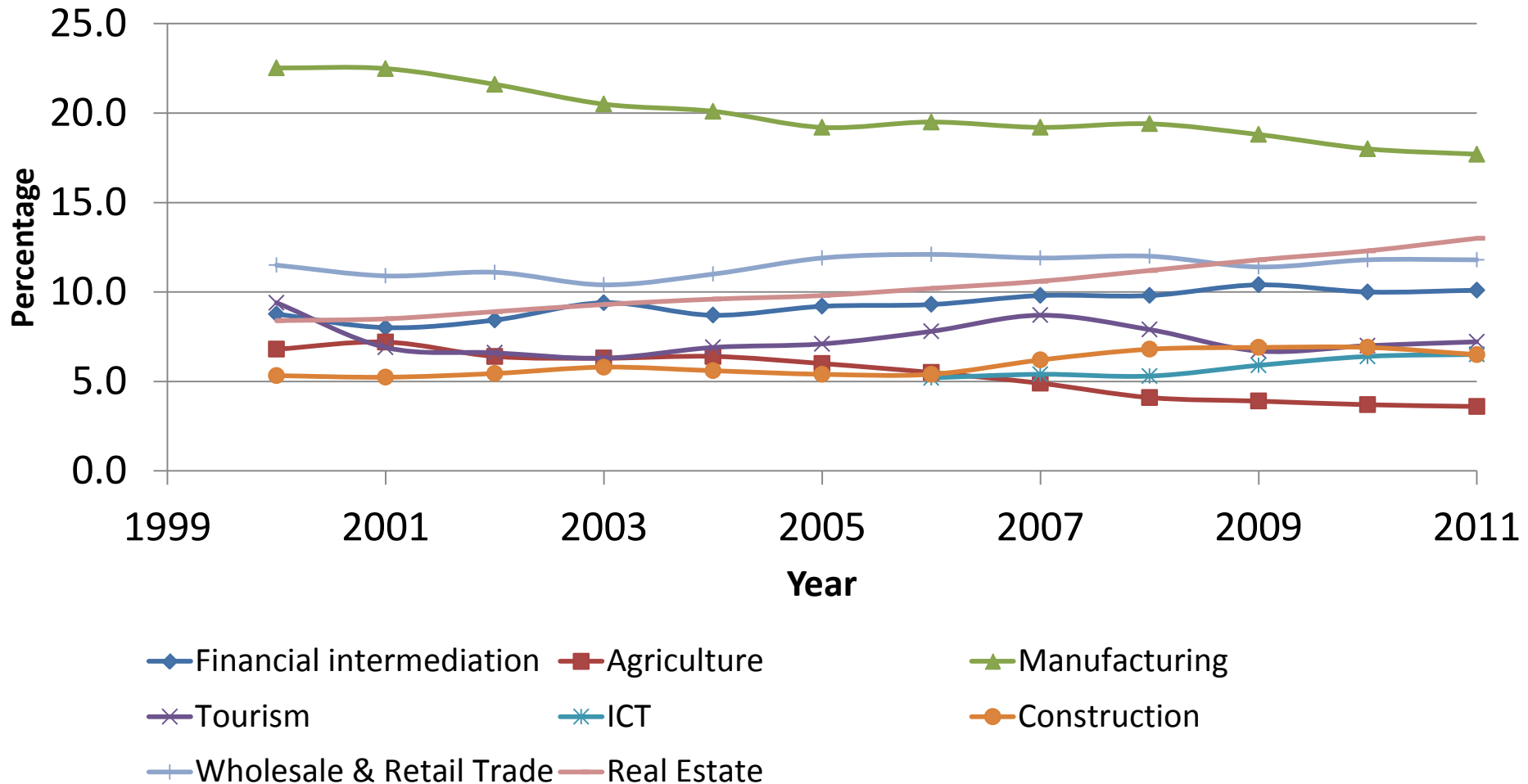
## **Maurice Ile Durable (MID): 2008**

Aim: “sustainable Mauritius with a green future”; reduce dependency on fossil fuels through the efficient use of energy and increase use of renewable energy. MID Policy /a ten year MID Strategy.

The government set up the Rs 1.3 billion (approximately US\$ 39 million) Maurice Ile Durable Fund for the period 2008-2011, representing about 0.2% of the GDP of Mauritius.

The Fund is mobilising resources from taxes, Government subsidies, development partners, carbon credits, and the private sector, including the introduction of carbon footprint offsets in the aviation sector.

# Percentage Distribution of GDP By Sector at Current Basic Prices: 2000-2011



**Thank you**  
**Dr The Hon V K Bunwaree,**  
**Minister of Education and**  
**HR-Mauritius**