



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

The Social Register of Mauritius (SRM) & The Marshall Plan against Poverty (MP)

***An overview of UNDP-supported anti-poverty
reforms in Mauritius***

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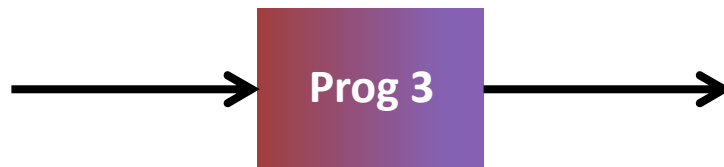
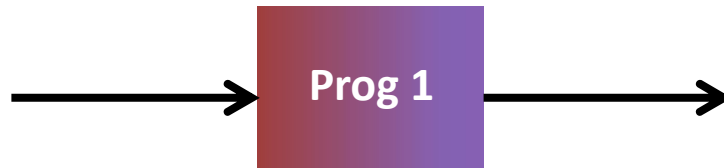
Topics of presentation

- **The Social Register of Mauritius (SRM)**
- **The Marshall Plan against Poverty (MP)**
- **Status of the MP implementation**
- **Link to the SDGs**
- **Way forward**

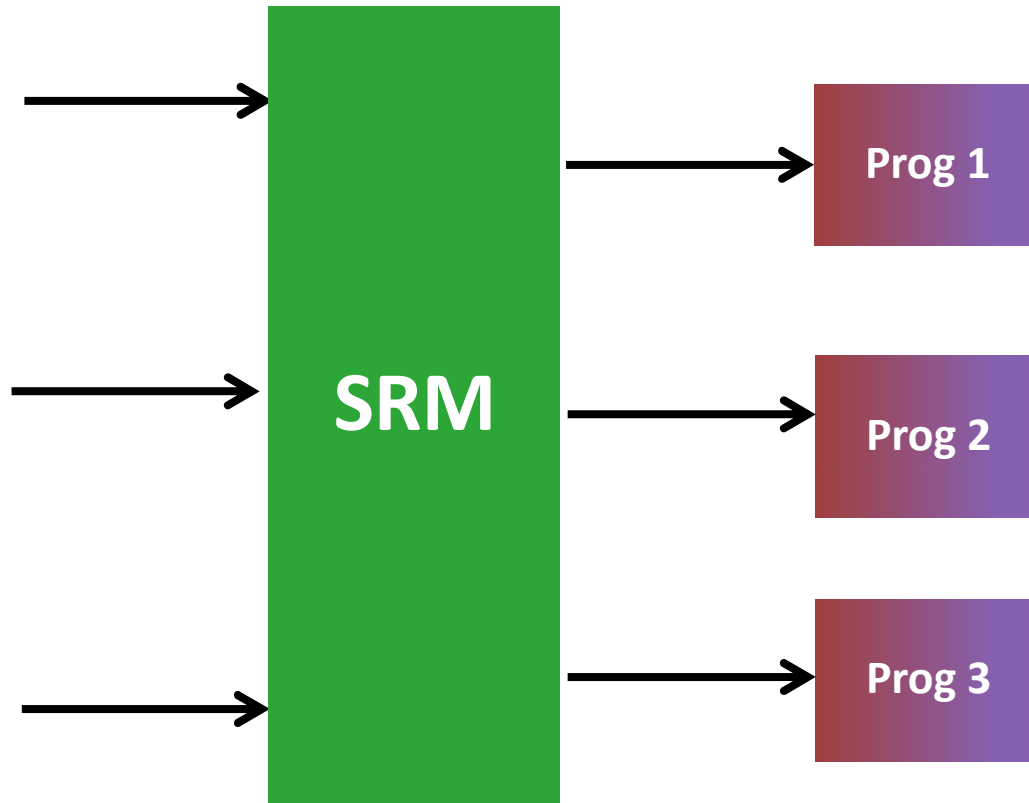
Brief description of SRM:

The SRM is a tool to register and identify the poor and their socio-economic profile so as to inform policy-makers on the effective demand for pro-poor policies.

Before SRM



With the SRM (eventually)



Objectives of SRM

Better **identify** beneficiaries of social programmes

Manage social programmes in an **integrated** way

Better **harmonise the eligibility criteria** for the different social programmes

Analyse and informing about **poverty reduction policies**

Social Assistance Schemes in Mauritius – prior to SRM

Complex and costly to manage

Multitude of programmes - duplications

High Under-coverage of poor (Type I error)

High Leakage to non-poor (Type II error)

Lack of relevant data for poverty alleviation policies

Subjectivity present in eligibility assessment

Improvements with SRM

Unified registry (eventually) for all social programme beneficiaries – No duplication

Relevant information available for poverty reduction and policies

No subjectivity in eligibility assessment

Increases coverage of poor (reduces Type I error – programme more effective)

Decreases leakage (reduces Type II error – Programme more efficient)

Institutional arrangements

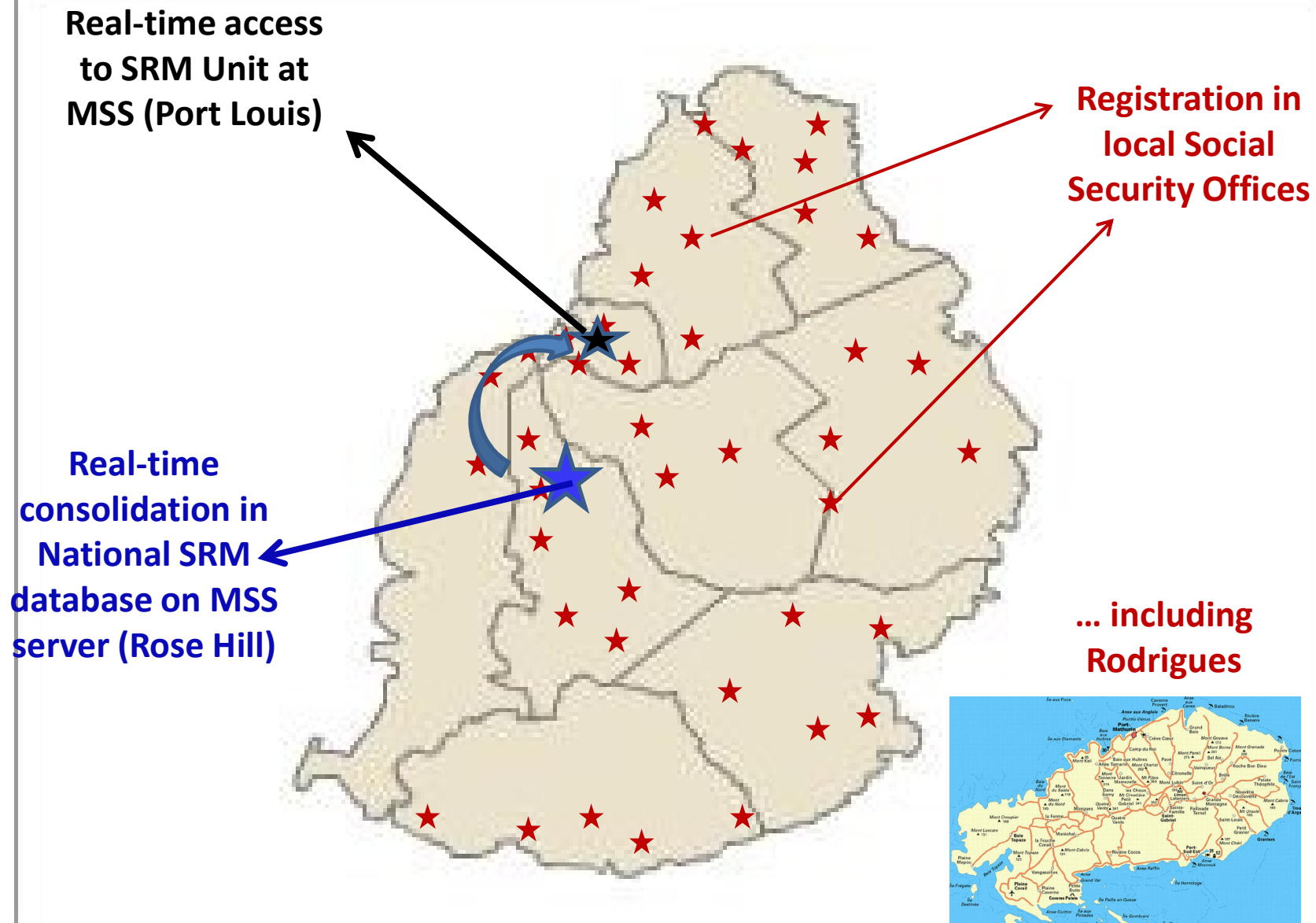
Operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Security

Main user: Ministry of Social Integration & Economic Empowerment – which implements the Marshall Plan against Poverty

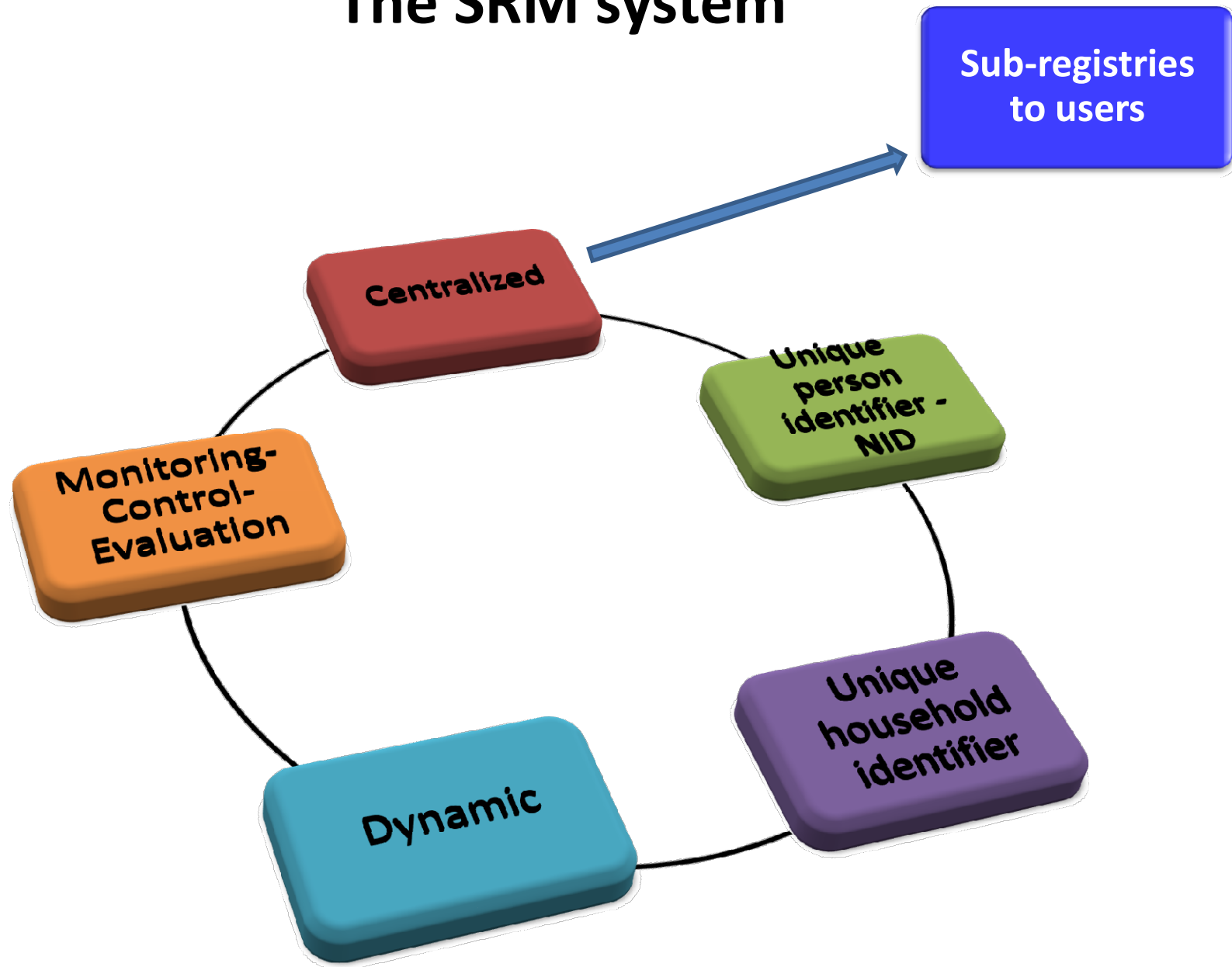
UNDP provides Technical assistance

Collaboration/involvement: Min. of Finance & Economic Development, Statistics Mauritius, State Informatics Ltd, Central Informatics Bureau, Central Info Systems Division, State Law Office...

The design of the SRM network

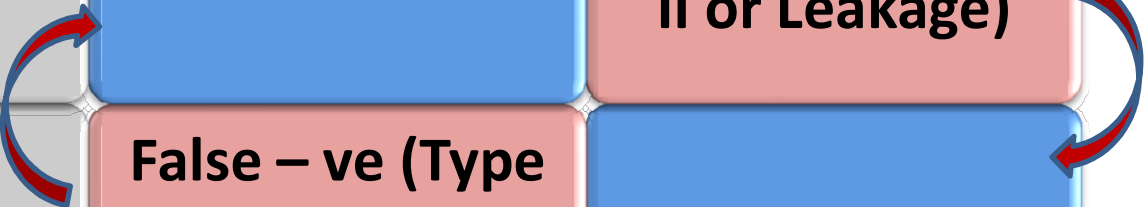


The SRM system



Assessing eligibility: Means Test

		Real or True Situation	
		Eligible	Not eligible
Predicted (Means Test)	Positive	True +ve	False +ve (Type II or Leakage)
	Negative	False – ve (Type I or Undercoverage)	True –ve



Types of Household Assessment Mechanisms

VMT	UMT	PMT
• Verified Means Test • Very costly to implement • Formal labour market • Therefore, cannot be applied in Mauritius	• Unverified Means Test • Informal labour market • Unreliable info on income	• Proxy Means Test • Informal labour market • Uses non-income variables to <u>proxy</u> household income • A solution to UMT

Mauritius has adopted the PMT

International recognition

- ***SRM won the International Social Security Association (ISSA) Good Practice Award for Africa 2014.***

The SRM has been recognized as an initiative which reinforces the impact and efficiency of social security services, and to maximize coverage, adequacy and sustainability of the schemes.

- ***The SRM was one of 12 innovations selected at global level to be showcased at the first Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum for the SDGs held at UNHQ, New York in June 2016.***

Status and link with Marshall Plan

- For the first time, the SRM has allowed Mauritius to have a **centralized database of the poor and their socio-economic profile**
- Exceptional leveraging due to its success resulting in **broad acceptability and recognition** among key collaborators / users: Ministries of Finance, Social Security, Social Integration & Economic Empowerment, Education, Housing, ICT; development partners; Statistics Mauritius; private sector and civil society.
- The SRM system is now being mainstreamed as the **backbone of all new pro-poor policies and programmes** in Mauritius, mainly through the Marshall Plan against Poverty.
- Some **11,000** households (with **40,000 persons**) are benefitting a subsistence allowance under the Marshall Plan Social Contract. **15,000** school-going children are benefitting from a monthly allowance for educational purposes.

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The Marshall Plan against Poverty

- Articulated around 39 actionable and costed proposals which include the areas such as social protection, employment, education, health, empowerment, environment, community development and equity in service delivery.
- Main proposal: Establish a **Marshall Plan Social Contract (MPSC)** to alleviate poverty and promote empowerment.
- MPSC operational since **January 2017** following the enactment of the new **Social Integration and Economic Empowerment Act 2016**.
- The MPSC is a conditional cash transfer (CCT) type of contract, with provision of cash allowance to households found eligible under the SRM, conditional to: (i) **Education of children**, (ii) **Economic Empowerment of adults**, (iii) **Family Empowerment**, and (iv) **Health**

Institutional arrangements when launching the MP

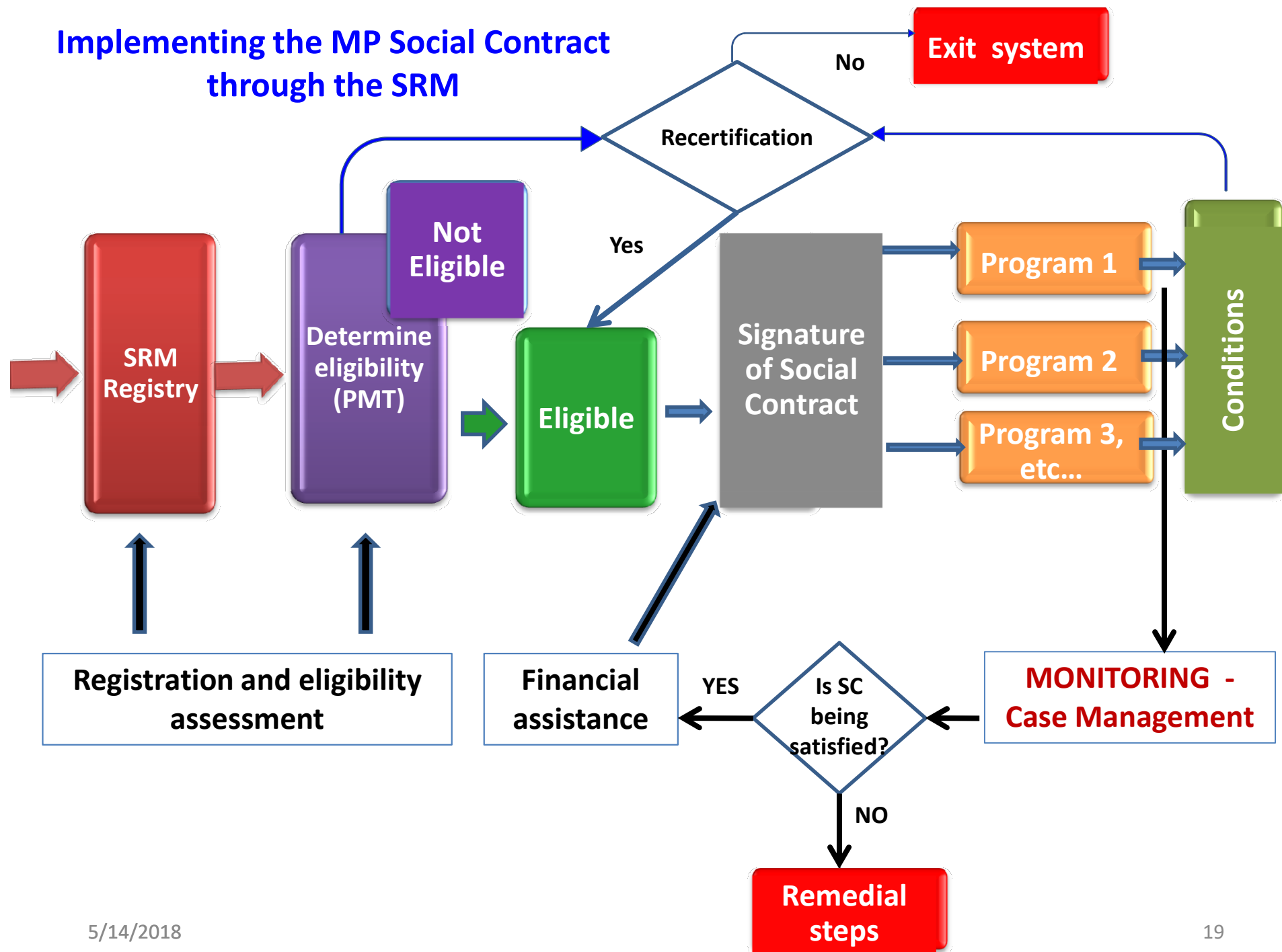
The MP proposals are implemented by the Ministry of Social Integration & Economic Empowerment (MSIEE) through its implementing arm: the National Empowerment Foundation (NEF). The main proposal is the Marshall Plan Social Contract.

Steering Committee (SC): a platform promoting a holistic approach in the implementation of policy decisions with regards to poverty alleviation. To facilitate national coordination and collaborative mechanisms among all stakeholders involved in addressing social exclusion.

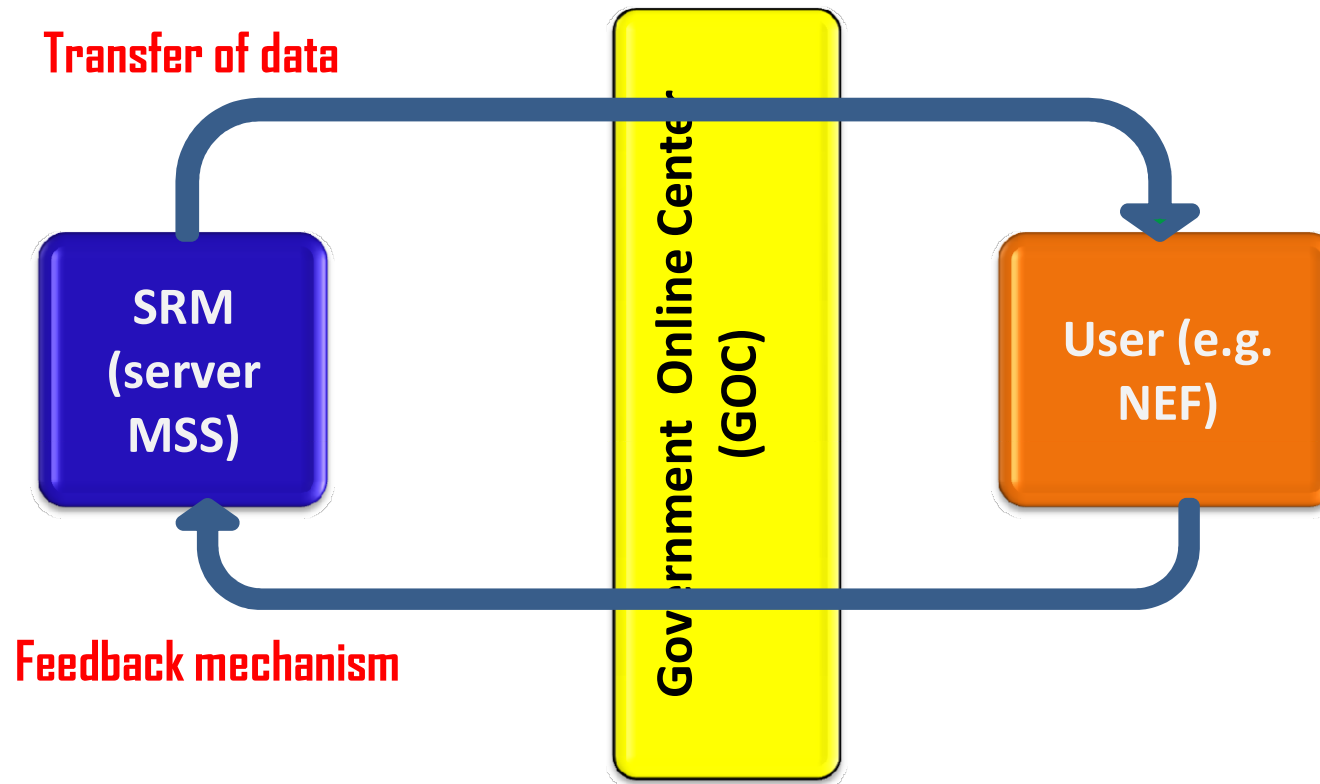
SC composition: Ministries of Social Security, Finance, Social Integration & Economic Empowerment, Education, Labour, Health, Gender, IT; National Empowerment Foundation; Statistics Mauritius; Human Resource Development Council, Mauritius Institute of Training & Development, Central Informatics Bureau, UNDP

Technical Working Groups (TWG): Worked on specific tasks allocated (e.g. Social Contract, Manuals, IT requirements for data exchange).

Implementing the MP Social Contract through the SRM



Data Exchange and Feedback mechanisms *(through the GOC)*



An IMIS is being developed at the National Empowerment Foundation to further facilitate data management and transfer

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Some of the main MP proposals that are being implemented

Establish a Marshall Plan Social Contract (MPSC) to eradicate poverty and promote empowerment

- Introduced in 2017 and operates under the SIE (Social Integration and Empowerment) Bill voted in 2016

NEF reorientation

- Shift from programme-based approach to **case management** of the MPSC beneficiaries.
- Development of an Integrated Management Information System for NEF

Set up a mobile technology to improve coverage, outreach and access to information on social programmes

- System planned to be operational in September 2018

Institute monitoring and evaluation of social protection programmes delivered via SRM

- M&E framework for the SRM developed.
- Training of MSIEE and NEF staff in data management/analysis to ensure integrity of the the SRM data.
- Under process: M&E Officer recruitment.

Community-based service delivery for social inclusion

- District Community Working Groups (CWG) launched in 2018 by Hon. Minister.
- Under process: Community Development Officer recruitment.

Some of the main MP proposals that are being implemented (contd.)

Enhance access to training and placement opportunities for the poor

- This is the Economic Empowerment part of the MPSC conditions. MSIEE will seek Cabinet approval to have the collaboration of all ministries that are "suppliers" of the MPSC conditions.

Introduce public works programmes to create employment and skills enhancement opportunities for low-skilled workers.

- Following a suggestion from Min of Finance & Eco Dev (MOFED) to include this proposal in the 2018-19 Budget, preliminary consultations have started.

Introduce a school completion premium

- Introduced in 2017 for MPSC students who have successfully completed primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels.

Introduce a Citizens Reporting Mechanism (CRM) and data analysis tool to improve outreach and service delivery to the poor

- System of type UNICEF's RapidPro planned to be operational in September 2018

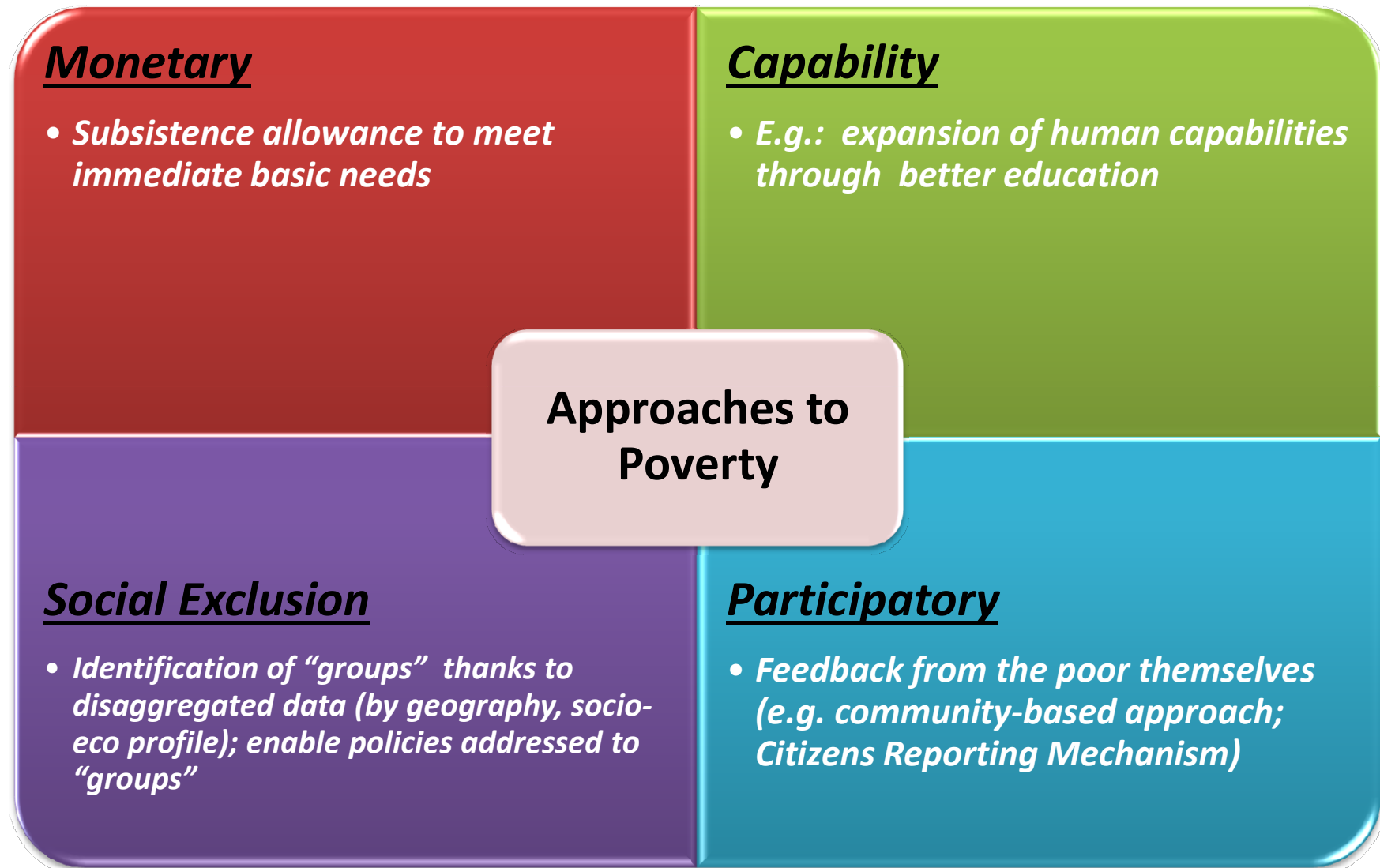
Design an official Poverty Line per adult equivalent for Mauritius

- The older per household threshold (which was unfair to larger households) has been replaced by a per capita Subsistence Allowance in 2017.

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The MP encompasses elements of the 4 broad approaches to poverty



Contributions to SDGs

1: End Poverty in all its forms

- 1.1 Eradicate extreme poverty
- 1.2 Reduce by half poverty in all dimensions according to national definitions
- 1.3 Implement social protection systems

4: Ensure inclusive and quality education

- 4.1 Complete primary and secondary education for all boys & girls
- 4.2 Early childhood development
- 4.3 Affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education
- 4.4 Youths and adults with skills for employment, decent jobs & entrepreneurship

5: Gender equality and empowerment

- 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against women & girls
- 5.b Enhance the use of enabling ICT to promote empowerment of women

Contributions to SDGs (contd.)

8: Inclusive growth & employment

- 8.5: Achieve full and productive employment for all
- 8.6: Substantially reduce proportion of youth not in employment, education or training

10: Reduce inequality

- 10.1 Income growth of bottom 40% higher than national average
- 10.2 Empower and promote inclusion of all
- 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome

17: Strengthen means of implementation / Global Partnership

- 17.6 *Technology*: Enhance SSC
- 17.18 *Data, monitoring and accountability*: Increase availability of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data

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Some priority tasks

[but noting as well that the MPSC program is only 16 months old].

Enhance capacity of NEF in the “Case Management” approach	• Training and tools • Delineation of roles and responsibilities
Compliance enforcement	• As per conditions in MPSC • Review of compliance after 12 months • Enforcement will improve self-selection and reduce leakage & unnecessary workload
Re-certification(<i>using PMT</i>)	• Full-fledged reassessment using PMT after 24 months
Updating of PMT and Threshold for Subsistence Allowance	• Using the last HBS 2017 data
Exchange of SRM data with other partners of the Marshall Plan	• E.g. the CSR Foundation – main mandate is to undertake programmes & projects for the benefit of persons registered in the SRM
Impact evaluation	• Compliance and Recertification (longitudinal studies of MPSC clients) • Impact on poverty reduction through national surveys

Thank you