

Corporate Social Responsibility



Creating a brighter future for all

IBL's corporate social responsibility (CSR) work is a key part of IBL's wider sustainability approach. It is a particularly crucial part of our stakeholder engagement and of our efforts to invest in the communities we work in. IBL delivers CSR work through Fondation Joseph Lagesse, the AfrAsia Foundation, the Helping Hands Foundation at Phoenix Bev, A Small Step Matters as well as via CSR committees within individual IBL businesses.

In order to achieve these goals, the foundation runs short-term in-house projects; manages long-term "corporate programmes" focused around each of its priority areas; and supports external NGOs. FJL seeks to reduce poverty by working in the following areas:



Education



Community development

including small-scale community projects known as "Projets Sourire"



Health

Fondation Joseph Lagesse

The primary channel through which IBL disburses corporate social responsibility is Fondation Joseph Lagesse (FJL). It was set up in 2005 by Arnaud Lagesse, now IBL's Group CEO.

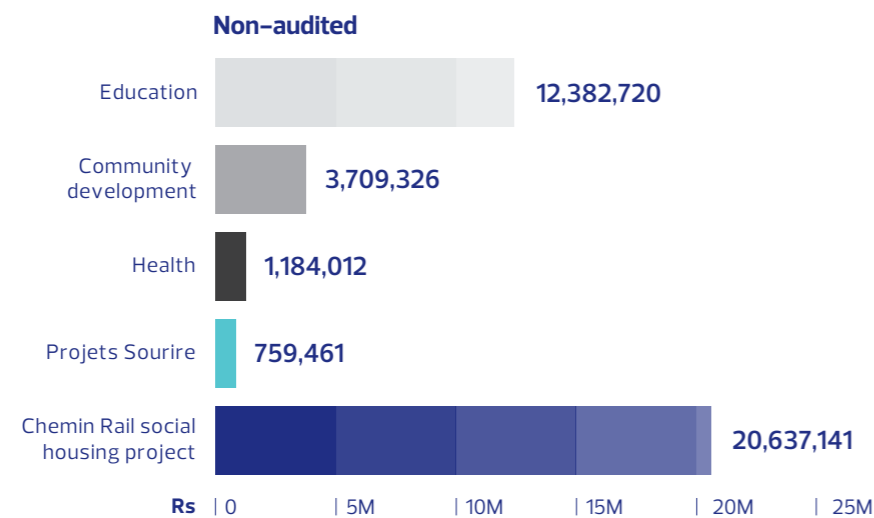
FJL's vision for 2018-19 onwards is to reduce poverty sustainably in Mauritius by:

- Supporting livelihoods;
- Promoting social justice and human dignity;
- Contributing to young people's growth and development;
- Providing access to high-quality education; and
- Empowering communities.

These aims are in line with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 1: No Poverty
- SDG 3: Good health & well-being
- SDG 4: Quality education
- SDG 11: Sustainable cities & communities

Allocation of funding by priority area



Projets Sourire: Strengthening IBL's engagement with the local community

Projets Sourire are local community projects that are managed by CSR Committees within IBL businesses. These small-scale or one-off projects, consisting of donations of supplies for instance, are run in areas where IBL is present or in which its employees live. Their aim is to strengthen local relationships between IBL and the community and to encourage IBL team members to become CSR volunteers.

In 2017-18

- 18 short-term in-house projects were run, reaching over 300 direct beneficiaries, of which more than 175 children, 50 young people and 180 families.
- 4 long-term corporate programmes were run.
- Funding was provided to NGOs including Caritas (Centres d'éveil), Kinouété, Soleil de L'Ouest, Terre de Paix, Passerelle, Tipa, Mission Verte and Mouvement Bien-Être de Batterie Cassée.

A challenging environment for CSR in Mauritius

Fondation Joseph Lagesse receives CSR funds from almost 100 different IBL companies and offices. It relies on these funds in order to operate. It also relies on non-CSR donations from other companies or individuals.

In the past year, FJL has experienced a major reduction in its CSR funding due to new Mauritian CSR regulations. These require 50% of corporate CSR funds to be transferred to a new national CSR fund administered by the National CSR Foundation. As a result, FJL has had difficulty in carrying out its own long-term corporate projects in education and health while continuing to fund its partner NGOs.

This government CSR levy is set to increase to 75%. FJL is therefore having to withdraw from its funding relationships with external non-profit organisations. However, its new research unit will use evaluation, community research and impact analysis to maximise the Foundation's effectiveness, allowing us to continue to reduce poverty in Mauritius in the long term.

FJL also plans to seek funding from and create meaningful partnerships with international organisations. It is already working with the Community Anti-Drug Coalition, an international NGO, to implement a unique community programme that aims to reduce substance and alcohol misuse in underprivileged neighbourhoods in Mauritius.

Despite the challenging environment for CSR in Mauritius, FJL intends to continue to develop its expertise in community development; encourage IBL team members and businesses to get involved in community service and create local CSR initiatives; and deliver on impactful programmes that empower vulnerable people and communities and sustainably reduce poverty in Mauritius.



