

National Institute for Civic Education

VISION

Civic education prepares people of a country, especially the young, to carry out their roles as citizens. Civic education, therefore, is the nurturing of the virtues, knowledge, and skills necessary for the building and functioning of a state.

The *National Institute for Civic Education* is an innovative initiative of the Prime Minister's Office, with the goal to educate and inspire secondary school students to be informed and engaged citizens of Mauritius. To that end, we have created a two-week training programme that will bring civic education to young Mauritians through fun and hands-on activities.

Moving the Nation Forward: Government Programme 2012-2015

To nurture proud and responsible citizens:

“Government believes that our unique plural diversity is not only a major strength but also a source of great pride in our national identity. We are committed to move even further in our Nation Building process. Government will initiate an innovative programme aimed at nurturing citizens who are filled with pride in national identity.

*Preliminary consultancy work has already been carried out for the setting up of the **National Institute for Civic Education (NICE)** whose main objective would be to instil character and nurture good citizens. It will do so by fostering a sense of shared human spirit, partnership for a common sense of purpose, and enterprise for the advancement of the nation. **An initial pilot project will be run during the December 2012 school holidays for some 200 youths.**”*

MISSION:

As part of national building, it is important for Mauritius to continually take effort to:

- a. Enhance the harmony and unity amongst its people, considering the diversity of its population.
- b. Anchor core Mauritian values amongst the youths who are increasingly exposed to external influences in the face of globalisation.
- c. Engage the youths in meaningful activities, so as to inculcate healthy habits and to widen their horizon towards positive development.

NICE is intended to be a national institution that would drive programmes, beginning with the Pilot Project that would:

- a. Reinforce the sense of national belonging & rootedness.
- b. Provide a common platform for shared experience and empathy.
- c. Strengthen mental ruggedness & social discipline.

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- d. Provide useful skills and awareness of opportunities.
- e. Promote a sense of purpose and pride in Mauritius.

Content of Pilot Project

*“The programme will comprise a **Core Module** which will focus on various themes such as Life-skills, Healthy Lifestyles, Human Values and Empathy, Personal and Social Discipline, Cultural Creativity, Teamwork, and National Pride. A series of elective **Tracks Module** will also be available” - Moving the Nation Forward*

The content for its programme would comprise the following broad subject focus:

- a. **National Education** - understanding Mauritius’ history, characteristics, strengths, institutions, citizens, resources, economy and essential factors for the future.
- b. **Values** - building character of individuals and forging community spirit, emphasizing development of values and mental ruggedness, as well as team spirit.
- c. **Skills and Directions**- developing essential and useful skills like leadership, survival, health & fitness, communications, etc.

Participants. The Pilot Project would be organised during the 2012 year-end school holidays for about **200 youths**, comprising both **male and female citizens of 16 years old**. The participants would come from various schools from all parts of the country, including both private and state schools.