

Afrasia, MFR launch 'educational farm'

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Afrasia through the Decentralised Cooperation Programme partnered the Maison Familiale du Nord (MFR) at Calebasses, Pamplemousses to bring a new vocation to teenagers.

This is in view of launching a unique project in Mauritius which will help Mauritian students to gain practical education skills for life, become responsible and committed.

MFR provides individual courses to students through an adapted pedagogy which help turn them into independent young adults.

Courses include English and French language and theory and practice.



(From left) James Benoit, CEO of Afrasia Bank, Philip Ah Chen, President of MFR, and Raj Jatoo, director of MFR address a press conference in Port Louis on Tuesday.

The project allows children to engage in farming and plantation. The president of MFR, Raj Jatoo be-

lieves the project will allow them to become entrepreneur and was launched in October 2009.

Moreover Food and Allied Industries Limited provided technical help by allowing students to visit and by providing young animals such as chicks to MFR.

The organisation caters for 80 students who follow a three year course based on alternative pedagogy.

Also the director of MFR Philip Ah Chen added that the project helped children to become punctual and could help to set up a self-sufficiency food programme at home.

He added students will receive a certificate at the end of the one-year course.

"This will give children a second chance to study and through MFR will allow Mauritius to receive help from other MFR from France,"

said Ah Chen.

MFR exists for the past 17 years in Mauritius and the Calebasses structure was set up in 2002 and officially launched in October 2009.

"Each year MFR allows a whole new batch of students to acquire skills which are essential in life," said Jatoo.

He also said that the project was jointly financed by Afrasia Bank and the European Bank.

Also the chief executive officer Afrasia Bank, Benoit James said that by sustaining the project they had acted as a role model to the world through the training and educational programme.

He added the project aimed at providing youths with a second opportunity in their life. feedback@theindependent.mu

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CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

AfrAsia Bank partnered with DCP on “La ferme pédagogique” project

AfrAsia Bank has partnered with 'Maison

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Familiale Rurale du Nord' (MFR) via the Decentralised Cooperation Program (DCP), in view of launching a unique project in Mauritius, “La ferme pédagogique”. Inaugurated on 30 March 2010 at MFR Calebasses in the presence of Mr. James Benoit, CEO AfrAsia Bank Limited, and Mr. Raj Jattoo, Director of MFR, the farm is now fully operational after spending several months in setting up the various facilities.

The aim of this project is to help youngsters who failed their CPE exams to take hold of their destiny and to be trained in agriculture so that they become independent and autonomous adults.

CSR | Partenariat AfrAsia Bank/PCD

Une "Ferme Pédagogique" à la MFR de Calebasses

AfrAsia Bank est entrée en partenariat avec la Maison familiale rurale (MFR) du Nord, et ce par le truchement du Programme de coopération décentralisée (PCD), pour le lancement de la « Ferme pédagogique », projet de formation agricole à des jeunes n'ayant pas réussi aux examens du Certificate of Primary Education (CPE). L'inauguration de la Ferme pédagogique a eu lieu la semaine dernière en présence de James Benoît, CEO d'AfrAsia Bank, et de Raj Jattoo, directeur de la MFR, au centre de l'organisation à Calebasses. L'objectif des promoteurs du projet est de donner l'opportunité à des jeunes recalés du CPE de prendre leur avenir en main en acquérant une formation théorique et pratique dans le domaine agricole et en gérant eux-mêmes leur ferme. La MFR de Calebasses va mettre des formateurs à leur

disposition. Environ 60 % des produits cultivés seront distribués aux stagiaires alors que le reste sera vendu sur le marché local. Les revenus provenant de la vente de la production en surplus seront utilisés pour financer les frais de roulement de la ferme.

Initié par Raj Jattoo, le projet est autofinancé et permet en même temps à l'institution concernée de remettre des certificats à ceux qui ont suivi la formation. « Nous sommes très enthousiastes d'apporter notre concours à la MFR du Nord, une participation qui cadre avec la stratégie du groupe de financer des projets innovateurs et financièrement viables. Les employés de la banque ont aussi pris part aux travaux de démarrage du projet. Nous travaillerons de concert avec la MFR de Calebasses pour que ce projet soit un succès », a déclaré James Benoît.