



**BIOCULTURE
CARES**



2025 Grassroots Grant



About the Grassroots Grant facility

The Grassroots Grant is designed to provide funding to individuals, networks, and non-profit organisations whose actions contribute to higher levels of socio-economic development in the southern region of Mauritius. The grant aims to support grassroots and community-based initiatives through financial support and technical assistance. Each applicant can request a maximum of Rs 100,000 to be spent over 12 months.

The minimum amount that can be requested through this grant is Rs. 10,000. Applicants must demonstrate that the funds will not be used for personal, political and religious activities. Recipients of the grant will be asked to participate in networking and mentoring workshops with a view to strengthening collaboration and capacity building amongst civil society actors in the southern region of Mauritius.

Bioculture Cares selected 36 grantees out of 91 applicants, awarding a total of Rs. 3.5 million in 2025.

2025 Grassroot Grantees



Janvier
Muzik
Prodyksyon

Atelier de Formation Joie de Vivre

Coremove Consultancy

Riambel Cooperative Credit Union



Dibout Ensam



Lions Club Savanne



Salesian Home

Souillac Athletics Club

Sunday Morning Star



Rose Belle North Government School

Notre Dame College

Vye Pre Primary School



Ms. Likshmintia Jeebun

Mr. Anirood Chunwan

Mr. Roopesh Hoseneea



Mr. Ram Mohes

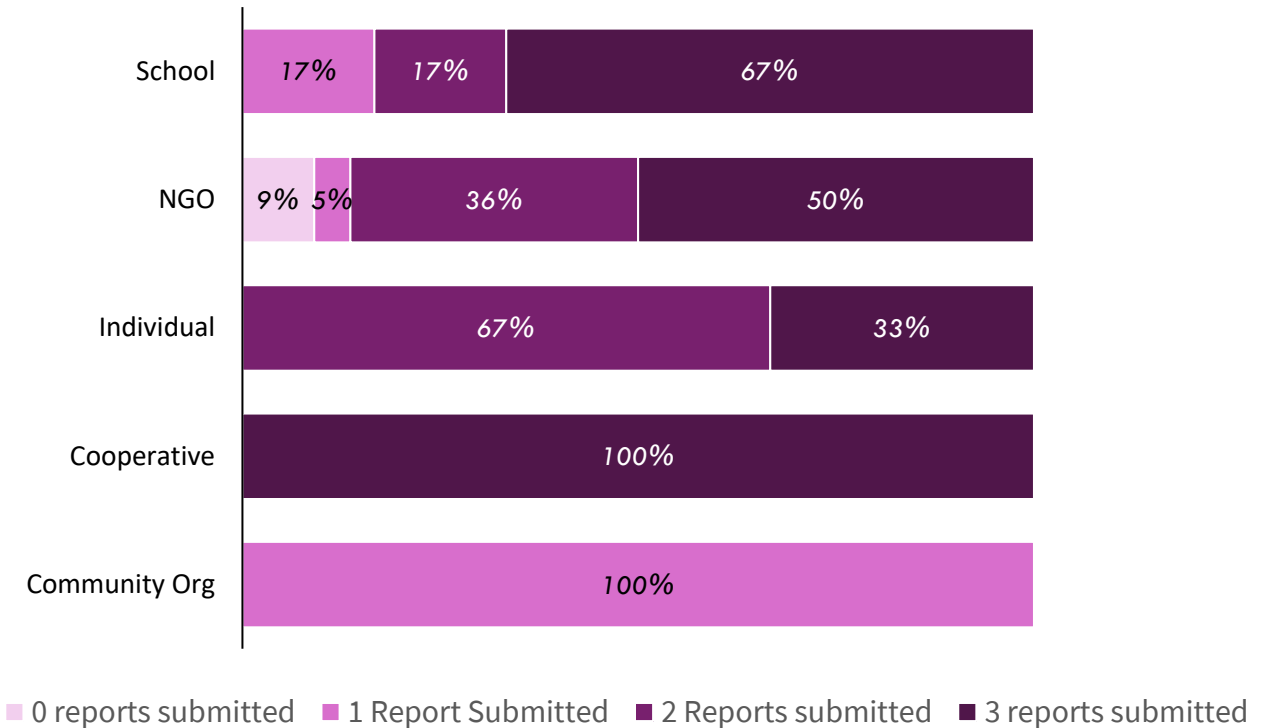
Mme Genevieve Labitte

Reports Submitted



The Grassroots Grant is designed to support individuals, community based organisations, schools or smaller NGOs that may lack formal structure but have a high level of proximity to communities they serve. In addition, to the financial support provided, grassroots grantees benefitted from capacity building sessions and dedicated accompaniment, as well as a high degree of flexibility with reporting requirements. With a view to encouraging accountability and a focus on impact, Bioculture Cares provided grassroots grantees with a simple online reporting form. Grantees were required to submit 3 reports over the course of the year.

One of the most important achievements of the inaugural Grassroots Grant is that 94% of grantees (34 out of 36) submitted at least 1 report and 89% (31) submitted at least 2 reports, demonstrating a high level of accountability on their part. Twelve grantees from the 1st cohort (32%) also received a Grassroots Grant in 2026, and 10 of these grantees submitted all 3 required reports.

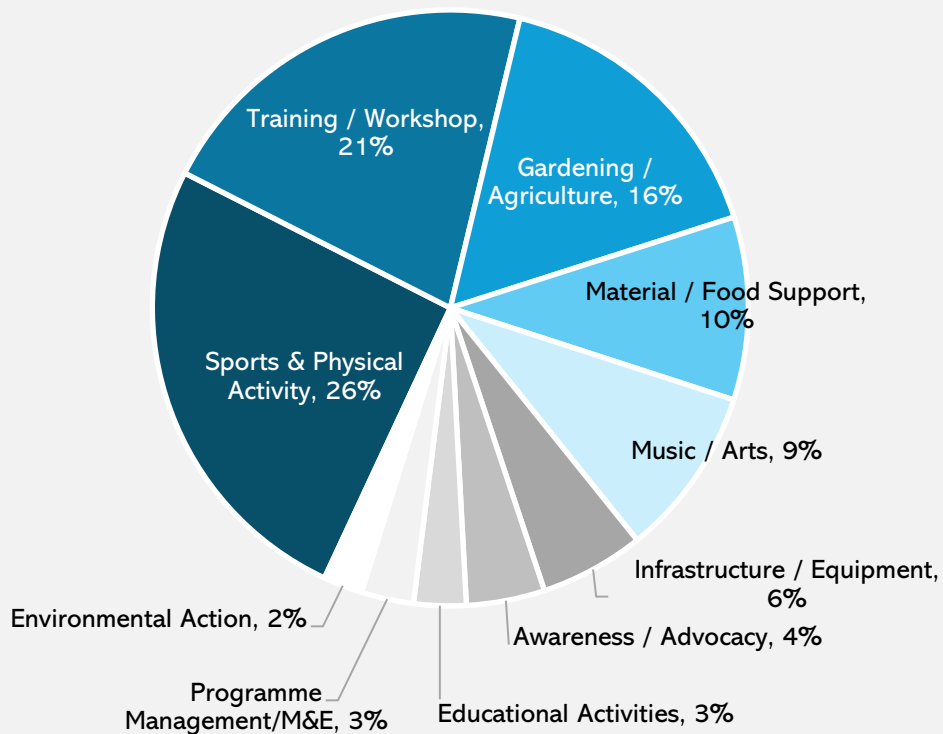



Activities Implemented


Over the course of the year, a total of 32 grantees reported 141 distinct activities. Two grantees, although they submitted reports, did not undertake any activity. One returned the grant amount in full. On average, grantees conducted 3 to 4 unique activities over the course of the year.

The activities reported were categorized into 10 activity types, with four categories making up almost 3/4 of all activities implemented: Sports and Physical Activity (26%), Trainings/Workshops (21%), Gardening/Agriculture (16%) and material/food support (10%).


Type of Activities of 32 grantees reporting over the course of 2025



 19 NGOS

 6 Schools

 5 Individuals

 1 Community Based Org

 1 Cooperative

Outcome of Activities

One of the persistent challenges observed when appraising grassroots grantees, be it in the application phase or in reporting, is in capturing outcomes. This is in part a broader issue faced by all social impact work wherein any observable change takes time, but it is also in part linked to limited capacity for monitoring and evaluation within smaller organisations and a generalized tendency to focus on ‘doing things’, with little consideration for the ‘why’.

As part of our reporting, we nonetheless asked grassroots grantees to reflect on ‘what changed’ through their activities and overall, we detect some clear trends. As a result of the activities conducted, 4 key outcomes were reported by grantees: Improved skills and capacity for beneficiaries (27%), participation and inclusion in communities (18%), changes in awareness and attitudes (16%) and improved infrastructure/ assets (13%).

Outcomes reported for activities conducted by 32 grantees (# activities, 2025)



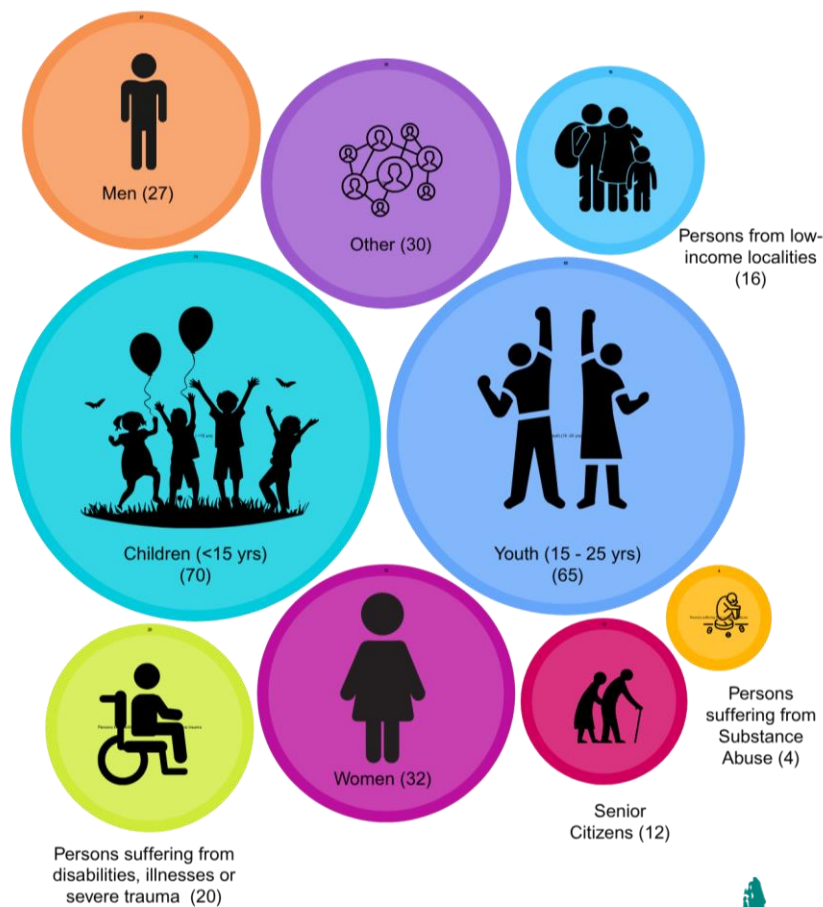
Reach of Activities

Grantees reported on who their various activities targeted.

As per grantee reports, their activities reached a total of 30,490 individuals, although the nature of activities, and consequently activity specific reach varied significantly. For example, skill training focused on repeated courses over the year tended to target 30 persons or less whereas large events aimed at raising awareness and school wide activities often exceeded 1000 persons reached.

The graphic below illustrates the different groups supported by the 141 activities implemented by 32 active grantees in 2025. Most activities (59%) targeted a single group, and almost a quarter (24%) targeted 2 groups. The groups targeted most frequently were children and youth.

Population Groups reached by 141 activities implemented by 32 grantees in 2025 (# activities)



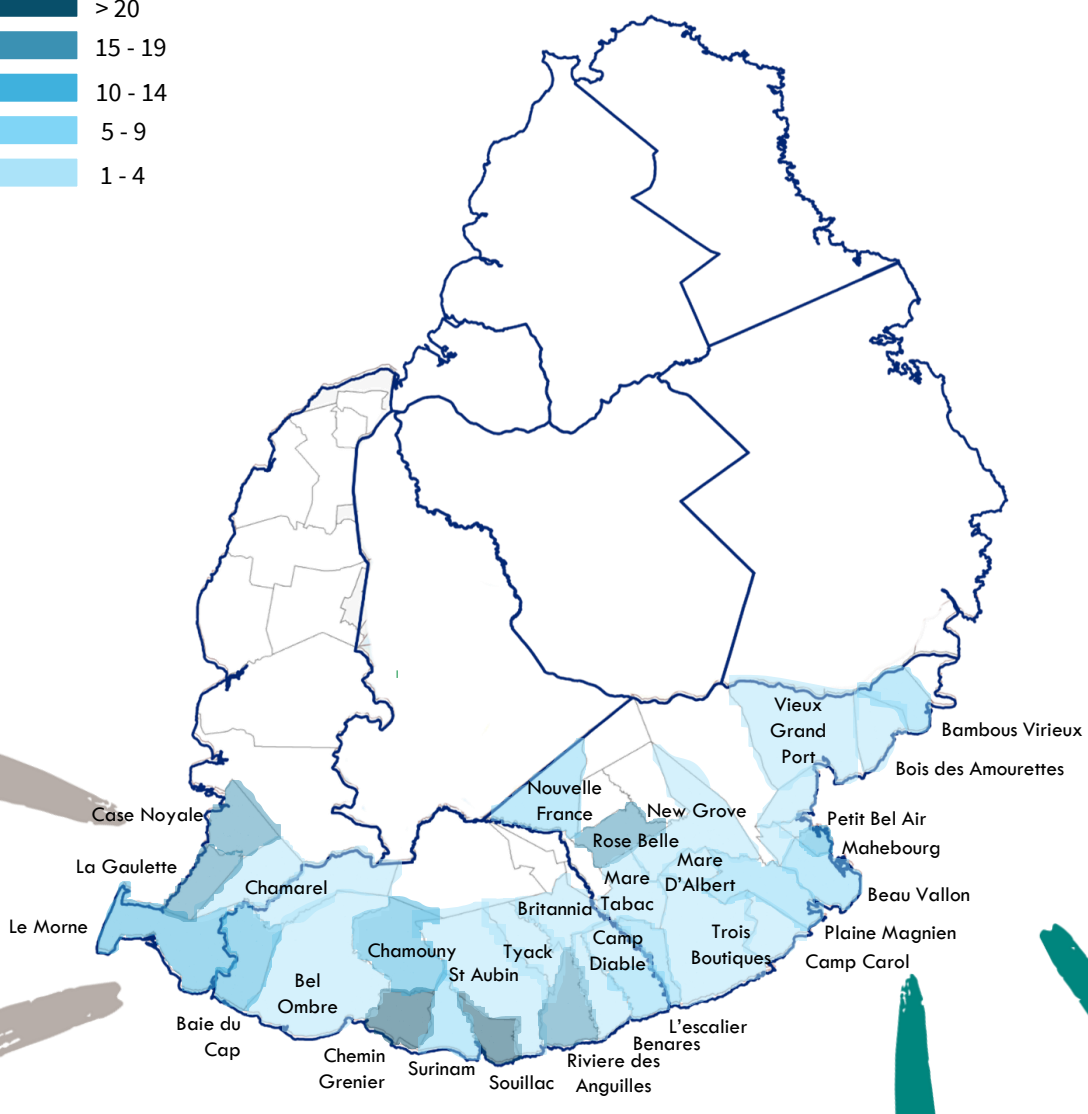
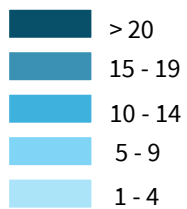


Geographic Reach

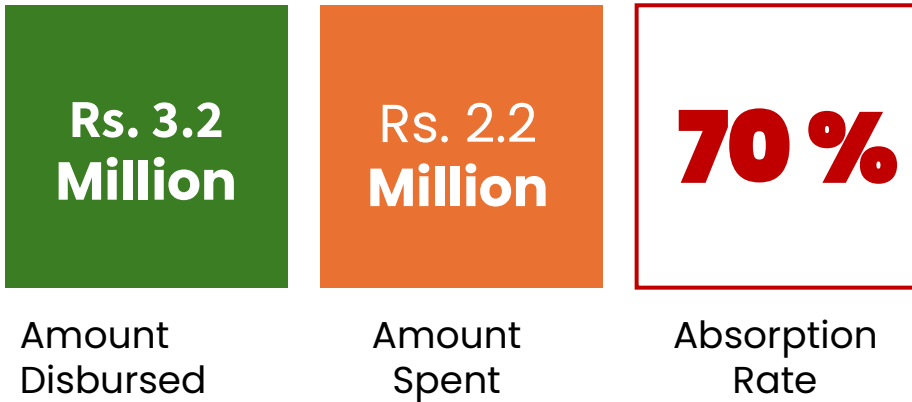
The Grassroots Grant is entirely dedicated to the southern region of Mauritius*. All activities implemented by grantees targeted individuals and groups living in the districts of Savanne, Grand Port or Black River. Half of all grantees are typically focused on a single village, but we note instances where a single grantee can serve between 5 and 7 villages. This is especially true in the case of local sports clubs that mobilize athletes from several villages.

Activities implemented by grassroots grantees reached a total of 34 villages across the 3 districts. A little over half of these villages (55%) benefitted from 1 to 5 activities over the course of the year. Six villages benefitted from over 15 initiatives (La Gaulette, Rose Belle, Case Noyale, Rivière des Anguilles, Souillac and Chemin Grenier)

Geographic Reach of activities implemented (# activities)



* Southern region of Mauritius is defined here as covering the entire district of Savanne and the following Village Council Areas (VCAs) in the districts of Black River and Grand Port: BR: Morne, Chamarel, Case Noyale, La Gaulette; GP: Bambois Virieux, Beau Vallon, Bois des Amourettes, Camp Carol, Grand Sable, L'Escalier, Mahébourg, Mare Tabac, Petit Bel Air, Plaine Magnien, Rivière des Créole, Rivière du Poste, Trois Boutiques, Vieux Grand Port



A total of Rs. 3.2 Million was disbursed for 36 grantees. Based on reporting throughout the year and receipts submitted, grantees spent a total of Rs. 2.2 Million. The remaining 1 million was either unreported or unsubstantiated.






Only 9 grantees (25%) successfully spent and substantiated the full grant amount, whereas 10 grantees had more than 50% of the initial amount left to spend at the time of submitting their final reports. Two grantees submitted no report at all and have not received their second disbursement.



Challenges Encountered

Over the course of 2025, we received 88 reports from 34 grantees (some reported 3 times, others just once), and at every reporting cycle, we asked them to share some of the challenges they encountered and the solutions they had recourse to.

Challenges cited most frequently

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Beneficiary Engagement | <i>Irregular attendance by beneficiaries; low parental involvement in youth projects; difficulty securing long-term community commitment.</i> |  |
| Human Resources | <i>Reliance on volunteer labour leading to burnout; unavailability of specialized coaches/trainers; competing professional and religious commitments.</i> |  |
| Weather & Environment | <i>Unexpected heavy rains, extreme heat, and strong underwater currents disrupting outdoor activities, sports, and community gardens</i> |  |
| Finance & Budgeting | <i>Initial disbursements insufficient to cover rising market costs; high supplier quotes; unanticipated costs for logistics and materials.</i> |  |
| Logistics and Infrastructure | <i>Complexities in transporting materials/students; lack of adequate venues; poor drainage in gardens; delayed contractor availability.</i> |  |

Solutions reported

AGILITY: Adapting to weather conditions by changing location, date or activity

COLLABORATION: Leverage networks to fill resource gaps

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES: To motivate volunteers and beneficiaries to participate

OUTREACH : Communicate more proactively and through peers to engage beneficiaries



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With thanks to all Bioculture Cares Grantees for the work they do!



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