

MAURITIUS 2.0: WEALTH MANAGEMENT AT A STRATEGIC CROSSROADS

Once peripheral to global wealth management, Mauritius now stands at an inflection point. Its steady economic progress and robust financial infrastructure are attracting investors across Africa and beyond. As wealth grows both in scale and complexity, the shift is not just quantitative but also qualitative – signalling a transformation in how wealth is defined, managed, and expected to perform.

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FROM DISTRIBUTION TO STEWARDSHIP

Mauritius has long served as a regional offshore centre, offering tax-efficient structures to global investors. But its role is evolving—from administrative support and passive product distribution to active stewardship and strategic advice.

The wealth landscape is changing fast. The number of high-net-worth individuals is set to double by 2033, and the mass-affluent segment is growing rapidly. A generational shift is underway: younger, globally educated, and digitally native investors are moving away from traditional asset mixes like property and fixed deposits. Instead, they seek comprehensive solutions aligned with global opportunities, long-term goals, and personal values—with listed equities at the core.



This isn't just a preference—it's grounded in long-term evidence. In the U.S., from 1928 to 2024, equities delivered +9.9% annualised returns, turning \$100 into nearly \$1 million (\$982,818). By comparison, government bonds returned +4.5% (\$7,159) and real estate +4.2% (\$5,554). Equities offer superior returns and greater resilience over time, making them the foundation of prudent, enduring wealth creation.

At Accresco Investment Management, we believe that stocks should anchor every strategic wealth plan. Other asset classes—fixed income, property, and alternatives—have a role, but should diversify, not dilute, the power of equities.

This shift heralds a new era of wealth engagement—one requiring strategic thinking, personalised service, and the ability to translate global standards into locally relevant solutions.

A SOPHISTICATED CLIENT BASE EMERGES

The demographic and behavioural evolution of Mauritius' investor base is one of the most defining shifts in the financial landscape. Today's wealth holders are younger, internationally exposed, and far more discerning—bringing expectations shaped by global financial centres such as London, Singapore, and increasingly Dubai.

Meeting these expectations requires rethinking the value proposition. Advisors must go beyond transactional relationships and deliver comprehensive solutions: from investment strategy to estate planning, cross-border structuring, ESG integration, and multigenerational wealth transfer. Standardised offerings no longer suffice.

At the same time, trust and access remain essential. Clients want institutional-grade capabilities and personalised relationships—world-class investment processes, delivered by local advisors who understand their aspirations and contexts.

For wealth managers in Mauritius, this presents both a challenge and



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an opportunity: to scale talent, technology, and advisory models fast enough to meet evolving demands, and to become a trusted partner across the investor's life cycle—from wealth accumulation to preservation and legacy.

At the same time, the regulatory framework must evolve with global standards to build investor confidence.

CASE IN POINT: A NEW GENERATION OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT

The evolving wealth landscape in Mauritius calls for a new generation of asset managers that combine global best practice with a deep understanding of local realities. The future of wealth management lies not in scale alone, but in a firm's ability to bring together disciplined investment principles, transparency, and

long-term value creation.

Across global markets, investors are placing increasing emphasis on sustainability, resilience, and strategic alignment with personal values. Principles popularised by legendary investors like Warren Buffett—such as conviction, clarity, and risk management—are being reinterpreted in today's context, with ESG integration and digital agility becoming critical. To serve the growing diversity of investor needs, especially in a market like Mauritius, wealth managers must move beyond one-size-fits-all products. The emergence of multi-tiered approaches—ranging from packaged solutions to modular and fully customised mandates—is helping democratise access to sophisticated investment strategies across client segments, from mass-affluent individuals to family offices and institutional investors.

What matters most today is the ability to translate conviction into action through process-driven frameworks, independent oversight, and a deep understanding of global markets, while remaining anchored in local context. As Mauritius develops into a hub for wealth advisory, the focus must be on building firms that are not only technically proficient but also strategically thoughtful and ethically grounded.

Wealth Management

SYSTEMIC IMPLICATIONS AND STRUCTURAL REFORMS

To realise its potential as a regional wealth management hub, Mauritius must complement private sector innovation with systemic progress. Advancing to the next tier requires targeted reforms across three critical dimensions.

- **Professionalization:** As clients become more discerning, they expect holistic advice that goes beyond product selection—encompassing wealth structuring, active portfolio management, ESG integration, and multigenerational planning. Meeting this demand requires institutional standards and scalable, personalised models.
- **Talent Development:** Human capital is a vital asset. To sustain momentum, Mauritius must develop skilled professionals through formal training, global partnerships, and executive education, while bilingual fluency in English and French remains a key advantage in serving pan-African and global markets.
- **Digital Integration:** The future is hybrid. Clients want seamless digital interfaces alongside trusted human relationships. Investment in secure, user-centric digital platforms, embedded analytics, and AI-powered tools will enhance transparency, compliance, and scalability—distinguishing market leaders from laggards.

These pillars form the infrastructure of a globally competitive ecosystem. Mauritius has made commendable progress, but continued focus is needed to maintain its edge amid rising competition from other jurisdictions.

THE ROLE OF FAMILY OFFICES AND CROSS-BORDER WEALTH

Family offices are increasingly defining wealth management. Globally mobile, multi-generational, and values-driven, they demand a holistic wealth architecture that requires services that go far beyond traditional investment advice.

Through its legal and regulatory



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framework, Mauritius is well positioned to serve this segment. Political stability, bilingual talent, and a knowledgeable base of financial and legal professionals further reinforce its appeal.

As more family offices relocate or expand into Mauritius, they are not just seeking a regulatory base—they are looking for trusted partners who offer clarity, independence, and strategic perspective. Firms that combine international expertise with local engagement will define this next chapter.

At Accresco, we offer bespoke mandates designed for sophisticated families. We help clients align wealth with family values and generational priorities—often in collaboration with tax, legal, and fiduciary partners across jurisdictions.

THE PATH FORWARD

Positioning Mauritius as a regional wealth management hub is no longer aspirational—it's an imminent opportunity. With growing domestic and cross-border wealth, stronger institutional engagement, and rising interest from family offices, the country can evolve into a strategic centre for wealth advisory.

Realising this potential requires investment—in talent, platforms, and partnerships. Wealth managers must uphold global standards while remaining locally relevant. The broader ecosystem must stay committed to continuous improvement.

As wealth increasingly demands more strategic thinking, alignment with values, and international fluency, Mauritius can lead the way not just as a convenient jurisdiction, but as a true partner of substance.

Accresco is proud to help chart that course—delivering global best practice, long-term investment discipline, and deep local insight to every client relationship.