

- (i) Capacity Building Programmes for **members of Social Action Committees** held during the months of **April / May 2017**. Some **83** members of the SACs participated in the activity.
- (ii) Capacity building programme for the political empowerment of Women Municipal Councilors held on **22 April and 06 May 2017**. Some **22** female councilors were trained. The phase was focused on the provision of skills such as leadership; communication; self-assertiveness; advocacy and campaign planning.
- (iii) The Gender Unit in collaboration with the Standard Chartered Bank (Mauritius) Ltd launched the Goal Programme on 24 July 2017. The objective was to empower girls aged 13 to 18 years old, who are mostly school drops or still attending school through the modules of the Programme that include, *inter alia*, Be yourself; Be Healthy; Be Empowered and Be Money Savvy so that they can make informed life choices.

Some 125 participants representing the 15 Women Empowerment Centres attended the launching.

- (iv) The Ministry of Gender Equality, CDFW in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life launched a Training of Trainers and Help Desk on the use of Synthetic Drugs on 14 September 2017. The objectives were to:
  - To equip participants with relevant and knowledge on the use of synthetic drugs so that the latter can assist women who are distressed due to their children being victims of this scourge;
  - To set up a Help Line at the level of Women Empowerment Centres wherein resource persons engaged in dealing with the issue can attend to those in need (half a day on a monthly basis)
  - To empower participants so that the latter can disseminate information regarding the use of synthetic drugs and other related implications.

60 participants comprising officers from the different units and its parastatal bodies were imparted with information and knowledge on the use of synthetic drugs and its related implications