Overview of the Direct Assistance Grants Scheme—Guyana Mission April 23rd, 2013

Presenter: Celestine Moe, Grant Advisor
What is a Grant?

• A grant is direct financial contribution
• A grant is not a guaranteed funding
• A grant is not a loan
• A grant is a specific type of financial assistance to firms/individuals/Business Support Organisations to finance projects/actions
• A grant may not be awarded retrospectively
• A grant requires 100% financing by the applicant
What is the Direct Assistance Grants Scheme?

• An EU funding facility specifically designed for Caribbean firms who are exporting or have the potential to export products and services.

• There are two grant funding facilities:
  • Accelerated Procedures (Maximum €5,000)
  • Regular Procedures (Maximum €30,000)
  • Maximum duration of six (6) months
What is the Direct Assistance Grants Scheme?

Procurement Rules – Goods & Services

• Prudent shopping – the most economical advantageous offer.

• All goods (e.g. equipment) and services (e.g. consultant) must be procured from service providers or suppliers that operate within African, Caribbean Pacific Member States (80) and / or European Union Member Countries (27).

• A financial contribution and not a loan. Beneficiaries incur the full 100% of their project costs and are eligible for reimbursement up to a maximum of 70% €30,000.00).
How to Access The Direct Assistance Grants Scheme

Firms interested in accessing this facility must be:

• A legally registered firm/individual/Business Support Organisation in a CARIFORUM Country

• Exporting or have the potential to export goods and services

• Operational for at least two (2) years

• Able to provide two years financial statements

• Able to finance their projects 100%
Projects Funded

- International Food, Quality & Environmental Standards
- Gap Audits
- Standards Certification
- Retrofitting facilities to attain a specific standard
- Equipment upgrade / modernization
- Research, Development and Innovation
- Advisory services
- Product and service development
- Market research and testing
- Packaging and design
Projects Funded

• Marketing services and activities (e.g. trade fairs participation, trade mission and in-market activities)
• Promotional materials (e.g. brochures, catalogues, CDs and video)
• Training programmes
• Implementation of IT solutions (e.g. website, e-commerce and multimedia)
• Intellectual Property activities (e.g. brand registration and patents)

This list is for guidance only and is not exhaustive.
Success Stories

• Under 9\textsuperscript{th} European Development Fund (EDF), 197 firms were beneficiaries of €2.7 million over the period 2008 and 2010

• Under the 10\textsuperscript{th} EDF, 50 out of 58 firms awarded Accelerated Grant Contracts totalling EUR 230,243.47

• Under the 10\textsuperscript{th} EDF 92 out of 340 firms awarded Regular Grant Contracts totalling EUR 2,498,794.00
Grants per Sector

- Manufacturing: 28%
- Agriculture: 16%
- Agro-Processing: 19%
- Business Support Organisation: 6%
- Creative Industries: 8%
- Health & Wellness: 4%
- ICT: 1%
- Professional Services: 9%
- Tourism: 9%
BENEFICIARIES PER COUNTRY
FOR
ACCELERATED PROCEDURES CALL – NOVEMBER 2011

The Bahamas, 1
Barbados, 2
Belize, 2
Dominica, 1
Dominican Republic, 2
Grenada, 6
Jamaica, 26
St. Kitts & Nevis, 2
St. Lucia, 3
St. Vincent & the Grenadines, 3

Total 50
APPLICATIONS PER COUNTRY
FOR
REGULAR PROCEDURES CALL – June 2012

Antigua & Barbuda, 7
Bahamas, 3
Barbados, 44
Belize, 12
Dominica, 12
Dominican Republic, 28
Grenada, 14
Guyana, 15
Haiti, 7
Jamaica, 108
St. Kitts & Nevis, 3
St. Lucia, 24
St. Vincent & the Grenadines, 5
Suriname, 14
Trinidad & Tobago, 44

TOTAL, 340
Further Information on the Direct Assistance Grant Scheme
Visit Caribbean Export’s website:

www.carib-export.com

On the Home Page Select Click on Grants
Eligibility Requirements

APPLICANTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY IF THEY ARE:

1. A legal entity, individual or company legally registered and operating in a CARICOM member state, or
2. A legally registered Business Support Organization (BSO) in a CARICOM member state such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, industrial development corporations, other business support organizations, etc. that offers services to private sector enterprises
3. Eligible activities should be non-financial and include activities such as trade fairs, exhibitions, road shows, seminars, conferences, etc.
4. The project subject to the following criteria: Agriculture, Livestock, Seafood, Fish, Aquaculture, Marine and Fisheries, Information Communication Technology, Manufacturing, Professional Services, Tourism
5. Farming activities that provide basic goods and services
6. Projects for at least six (6) years supported by at least two (2) years financial statements/corporate records
7. Able to finance and complete the project fully at the beginning, that is 100% financing is available prior to program initiation

APPLICANTS NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY:

1. Start-ups, firms, entities or individuals not financially operational for less than one (1) year
2. Educational institutions, such as Universities, Schools, Vocational centers, etc.
3. Non-Governmental Organizations, including not-for-profit human rights, social clubs, citizen associations and charities

Eligible Projects/Activities

General Project Objectives
Projects to be funded must be aimed at one or more of the following objectives

- Expanding new markets, increasing exports to the Caribbean region and/or other International Markets.
- Developing new sources of capital and new capital markets.
- Strengthening CARICOM’s position in the global marketplace.
- Encouraging innovative and creative developments.
- Enhancing the competitiveness and profitability of CARICOM firms.

Types of Eligible Projects

- Food safety standards/ certification/ regulations
- Research, Development and Innovation
- Product and service development
- Marketing, market research, and advertising
- Professional and technical support (e.g. archives, catalogues, CDs and videos)
- Training programmes
- Internet presence (e.g. website, e-commerce and multimedia)
- Export markets and trading
- Distribution
- Export
- Intellectual Property services (e.g. brand registration and patents)

Eligible Project Activities

- Eligible project activities must be in the areas:
- Export market development.
- Marketing and promotion.
- Training/ capacity building.
- Market research.
- Intellectual Property services.

Eligible Project Projects

- The following types of projects are eligible:
- Projects that are intended to be carried out in the country of origin.
- Projects that are intended to be carried out overseas.
- Projects that are intended to be carried out abroad.

The Duration of Projects

The duration of the project shall not exceed 15 months from the signing of the Grant Agreement.

Leave a reply

Your email address will not be published.

Your name

Your email

Website
THANK YOU

CONTACT:

Kirk Brown, Senior Grant Advisor, kbrown@carib-export.com

Celestine Moe, Grant Advisor, cmoe@carib-export.com

Sonia Bowen, Programme Assistant, sbowen@carib-export.com
WHERE TO FIND US

We encourage small business owners, heads of Business Service Organizations and also investors with an interest in the Caribbean to contact us. You may reach us at:

HEAD OFFICE
1st Floor, Baobab Tower, Warrens
St. Michael, BB22026
BARBADOS
Tel: (246) 436-0578 • Fax: (246) 436-9999
Email: info@carib-export.com

SUB REGIONAL OFFICE
Calle Carlos Lora No.9
Ensanche Los Restauradores, Santo Domingo
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Tel: (809) 531-2411 • Fax: (809) 473-7532
Email: c.export@codetel.net.do