Dear All,

Please be advised of the following:

- The 2nd Call for Proposals under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) Direct Assistance Grant Scheme implemented by Caribbean Export Development Agency will be opened Monday, June 4, 2012 and close June 29, 2012 @ 4:30 p.m.

    a. Contact persons are Mr. Christopher McNair, Manager of Competitiveness and Innovation at cmcnair@carib-export.com or Mr. Kirk Brown, Senior Grant Advisor at kbrown@carib-export.com

    b. Only applications under the Regular Procedures will be accepted

    c. GIDC has signed an agreement with Caribbean Export formalizing GIDC as a conduit for applications

    d. Applicants can only submit an application after a Call for Proposals has been officially published by Caribbean Export

    e. To date we have received nine (9) request for grant assistance.

OTHER DETAILS

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

(A) A firm i.e. (entity, individual or company) that is/has been

1. legally registered and operating in a CARIFORUM member state
2. Trading in the following Sectors:
    a. Alternative Energy
    b. Agriculture
    c. Agro-Processing
    d. Creative Industries (e.g. Fashion, audio-visual, music, artisans, etc.)
    e. Health & Wellness
    f. Information Communication Technology
    g. Manufacturing
    h. Professional Services
    i. Tourism
3. Exporting or demonstrate their potential to export goods and services
4. Operational for at least two (2) years supported by last two years financial statements/accounts; and
5. Able to finance and sustain their projects fully at the beginning; that is 100% financing is available prior to project initiation.

(B) A legally registered Business Support Organization (BSOs) in a CARIFORUM member state such as trade association, chamber of commerce, industrial development corporation, other business support organisations which is undertaking an activity in partnership with at least two (2) private sector firms. **BSOs may ONLY apply to the Regular Procedures facility**;

WHO IS INELIGIBLE?

a) Start-ups; firms, entities or individuals not financially operational for two (2) years;

b) Educational institutions such as Universities, Schools, Vocational centres, etc.;

c) Non-Governmental Organizations, including but not limited human-rights, social clubs, citizen associations and charity;

WHAT ARE THE AMOUNTS TO BE AWARDED UNDER THE REGULAR PROCEDURES?

The minimum and maximum amount that can be requested are as follows;

- Minimum amount: €5,000
- Maximum amount: €30,000

The grant is reimbursable and therefore the applicant must absorb 100% of the costs of the project initially. Only 70% of the total costs of the project which should not exceed (€30,000) will be reimbursed.

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATION/S?

The deadline for the receipt of application/s under this call is June 29, 2012 @ 4:30 p.m. Applications received after the deadline may automatically be rejected even if the postmark indicates a date preceding the deadline or if the delay is due to the private courier service.

WHAT IS THE EVALUATION/APPROVAL PROCESS?

The evaluation process usually takes 3-4 weeks commencing from the deadline of the Call for Proposals.

Applications will be opened and examined by at least two (2) members of the Direct Assistance Grant Committee. Selected members of the Committee would also evaluate the applications for

presentation to the formal committee meeting. All projects submitted by applicants will be evaluated according to the following steps and criteria.

STEP 1: Administrative Check

STEP 2: Evaluation of the Application Form

STEP 3: Completion of Evaluation Grid

Accelerated Procedures Evaluation Grid

Regular Procedures Evaluation Grid

STEP 4: Notification of Caribbean Export's Decision

STEP 5: Award of Grant Contract

STEP 6: Implementation of Grant Contract

Additional information will be provided to you by June 5, 2012.

BUSINESSES WHO ARE ELIGIBLE-AS DEFINED -TO ACCESS THIS REIMBURSABLE GRANT ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THE GIDC FOR FURTHER DETAILS BY JUNE 18, 2012.