

**MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT,
SMEs AND COOPERATIVES
(SMEs Division)**

Setting up of Mini Fruit Processing Plants

**Guidelines for the Submission of
Expression of Interest**

04 October 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

In line with the Import Substitution Strategy to boost up local production and decrease the import of consumables, the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) is inviting Expressions of Interest from existing and/or potential Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)/Cooperative Societies willing to set up Mini Fruit Processing Plants to convert locally available fruits into value added products for example fruit juice, jam, syrup or other fruit-based products.

2. THE SCHEME

SMEs/Cooperative Societies will be encouraged to reduce wastage of seasonal fruits and develop value-added activities.

2.1 Assistance/Support

The Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) will provide to a maximum of four (4) selected SMEs/Cooperative Societies, a financial grant of 50 percent (up to a maximum grant of Rs One Million), to cover the cost of equipment and machinery procured to set up the Plant.

Selected SMEs/Cooperative Societies will be requested to ensure that all equipment/machinery be procured and commissioned before **15 May 2023** as all disbursement will be effected at latest by **end of May 2023**.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must be registered SMEs/Cooperative Societies in Mauritius.

Existing SMEs/Cooperative Societies, not yet registered with the SME Registration Unit, may apply. They will have to, however, also register themselves with the SME Registration Unit before any award is made, if selected.

Potential SMEs/Cooperative Societies will need to be registered with the Corporate and Business Registration Department (CBRD) as well as with the SME Registration Unit.

Interested SMEs/Cooperative Societies should preferably have followed training course(s) in fruit processing from a recognised institution.

4. HOW TO APPLY FOR THE SCHEME

Interested SMEs/Cooperative Societies are invited to submit their Expression of Interest in the prescribed format, in two copies, at latest **by noon on Wednesday 26 October 2022**, in a sealed envelope to be deposited in the Tender Box and addressed to:

The Acting Permanent Secretary,

**Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division),
16th Floor, Newton Tower,
Sir William Newton Street,
Port-Louis**

The prescribed format for the Expression of Interest is available on the website of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) at <https://enterbusiness.govmu.org/>

5. MODALITIES

A pre-bid meeting for interested SMEs/Cooperative Societies will be held on **Thursday 13 October 2022 at 10.30 hours** in the Conference Room of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division), 16th Floor, Newton Tower, Sir William Newton Street, Port-Louis, wherein the modalities and disbursement of the grant will be explained.

6. Checklist of documents to be submitted by the Applicant in the Expression of Interest

- a) Copy of the Business Registration Number (BRN) issued by CBRD;
- b) Copy of the SME Registration Certificate issued by the SME Registration Unit for SMEs/Cooperative Societies already registered with the SME Registration Unit;
- c) Detailed Business Plan;
- d) Audited Financial Accounts, or any other relevant documents on the financial situation of the SME/Cooperative Society as applicable; and
- e) Bank details of Applicant.

For any additional information, **Mrs L. Bundhoo** of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) may be contacted on:

Tel: (230) 4053126

Fax: (230) 2144154

Email: mbe@govmu.org

Website: <https://enterbusiness.govmu.org/>