

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

**Guidelines for the application of grant scheme for the
Setting up of Mini Fruit Processing Plants for Small
and Medium Enterprises
and Cooperative Societies**

04 December 2023

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 Applications for grant scheme 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 three (3) selected SMEs/Cooperative Societies, a financial grant of 50 percent (up to a maximum grant of Rs One Million), to cover **only** 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 **30 April 2024** as all disbursement will be effected at latest by **end of May 2024**.

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.

SMEs/ Cooperative Societies/ Beneficiaries which had previously applied for this Scheme and was/were issued with a Letter of Intent, but failed to comply with the latter would **not** be eligible to re-apply for this Scheme.

4. HOW TO APPLY FOR THE SCHEME

Interested SMEs/Cooperative Societies are invited to submit their applications for the grant scheme in

the prescribed format, in two copies, and should be deposited at the **Registry of this Ministry at 16th Floor, Newton Tower, Sir William Newton Street, Port Louis, or by Registered Post at latest by noon on Thursday 21 December 2023** 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 application of the grant scheme is available on the website of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) at <https://enterbusiness.govmu.org/>

5. MODALITIES

A meeting for interested SMEs/Cooperative Societies will be held on **Monday 11 December 2023 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 application of grant scheme

- 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 V. Veeramah-Ramiah** of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) may be contacted on:

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