

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

**Guidelines for the application of grant scheme for the
processing of Potatoes for Small and Medium
Enterprises
and Cooperative Societies**

06 November 2023

1. INTRODUCTION

In line with Government Programme 2020-2024 which emphasizes on the need to encourage local production and consolidate import substitution, 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 engage in the processing of Potatoes into value added products such as potato chips, potato wedges, potato French fries, etc.

2. THE SCHEME

SMEs/Cooperative Societies will be encouraged to engage in the processing of potatoes into value-added products.

2.1 Assistance/Support

The Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) will provide to a maximum of fifteen (15) selected SMEs/Cooperative Societies, a financial grant of 50 percent (up to a maximum grant of Rs 300,000), to cover the cost of equipment and machinery procured for the processing of potatoes.

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 potato processing from a recognised institution.

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 30 November 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 **Friday 17 November 2023 at 10.30 hrs** 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) Quotations from suppliers; and
- e) Bank details of Applicant.

For any additional information, **Ms T.Ramnarain, Business and Enterprise Analyst** of the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SMEs Division) may be contacted on:

Tel: (230) 4053100

Fax: (230) 2139176

Email: mbe@govmu.org

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