

THE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Enterprise Mauritius
March 2007



What is it?

The Enterprise Development Fund is specifically designed to assist qualifying businesses in Mauritius to access resources and expertise not readily available to them. This support programme aims at overcoming organisational barriers to growth and competitiveness with particular emphasis on developing exports.



Objectives?

The scheme supports the engagement of specialised advice and expertise to assist on well-defined mutually agreed priority projects or concepts that lead towards:

- ▶ **increased exports**
- ▶ **enhanced business capability**
- ▶ **increased profitability**
- ▶ **improved international competitiveness**



Who can apply?

- ▶ Registered under the Companies Act
- ▶ VAT registered
- ▶ Financially viable
- ▶ A commercial operation with at least 2 years operating history
- ▶ Able to finance the project for which funding has been sought
- ▶ Operating in the manufacturing; or non financial, non tourism exportable services sectors.



Please note that:

- ▶ Applicants must agree to provide all necessary company information requested by Enterprise Mauritius or its agents, including financial performance for the past 2-3 years trading, and realistic forecasts for the next 3 years.
- ▶ As the Enterprise Development Fund is limited, not all applications will be successful and the fact that an application meets basic entry criteria does not guarantee assistance under this scheme.



What does the programme offer?

Co-funding of up to 50% of qualifying project costs is offered on a reimbursement basis, subject to the project or activity meeting eligibility criteria.

**The level of co-funding available under this scheme is limited to maximum total of Rs500,000 per individual qualifying company per year
The amount can be spread over multiple projects.**



Special Scheme For SMEs

- ▶ Refund of up to 75% of the eligible activity costs.
- ▶ Annual turnover not exceeding Rs 50 million per year
- ▶ Already exporting or are willing to engage into exports and, are not controlled directly or indirectly through ownership by another large company, holding or otherwise.
- ▶ EM shall provide upfront payment to SMEs, upon submission of invoice for approved projects.



Who can benefit?

- ▶ Applications can be made by individual companies or groups of companies that jointly share a project.
- ▶ However, the eligibility criteria must be met by all participants in a group project, and contributions for a group project will be deducted off each individual company's annual maximum level applying under this scheme.



Eligible Activities

1. Market Development :

- ▶ **Market intelligence / new market investigation - regional and international markets**
- ▶ **Market Entry and Distribution research**
- ▶ **Trade Show participation**

2. Internal Business Capability Building

- ▶ **Access to specialised training**
- ▶ **Business process engineering consultation**
- ▶ **Support for internal capacity building**
- ▶ **Human Resource strategic planning**
- ▶ **Production process improvement**



Eligible Activities

3. Product Development

- ▶ **Prototype design, development and testing**
- ▶ **Improving product design capability**

4. Business and operational excellence

- ▶ **Quality Improvement programmes**
- ▶ **International standards certification**

5. Access to Innovation & new technology

- ▶ **Projects supporting innovation, enhancing access to new technologies, and new ways of creating value addition.**



Eligible Activities

6. Business Development

- ▶ Projects that will enable businesses to capture greater value in the supply chain.
- ▶ Design & development of Management Information Systems (specifically excludes hardware & software acquisition).



Exclusions:

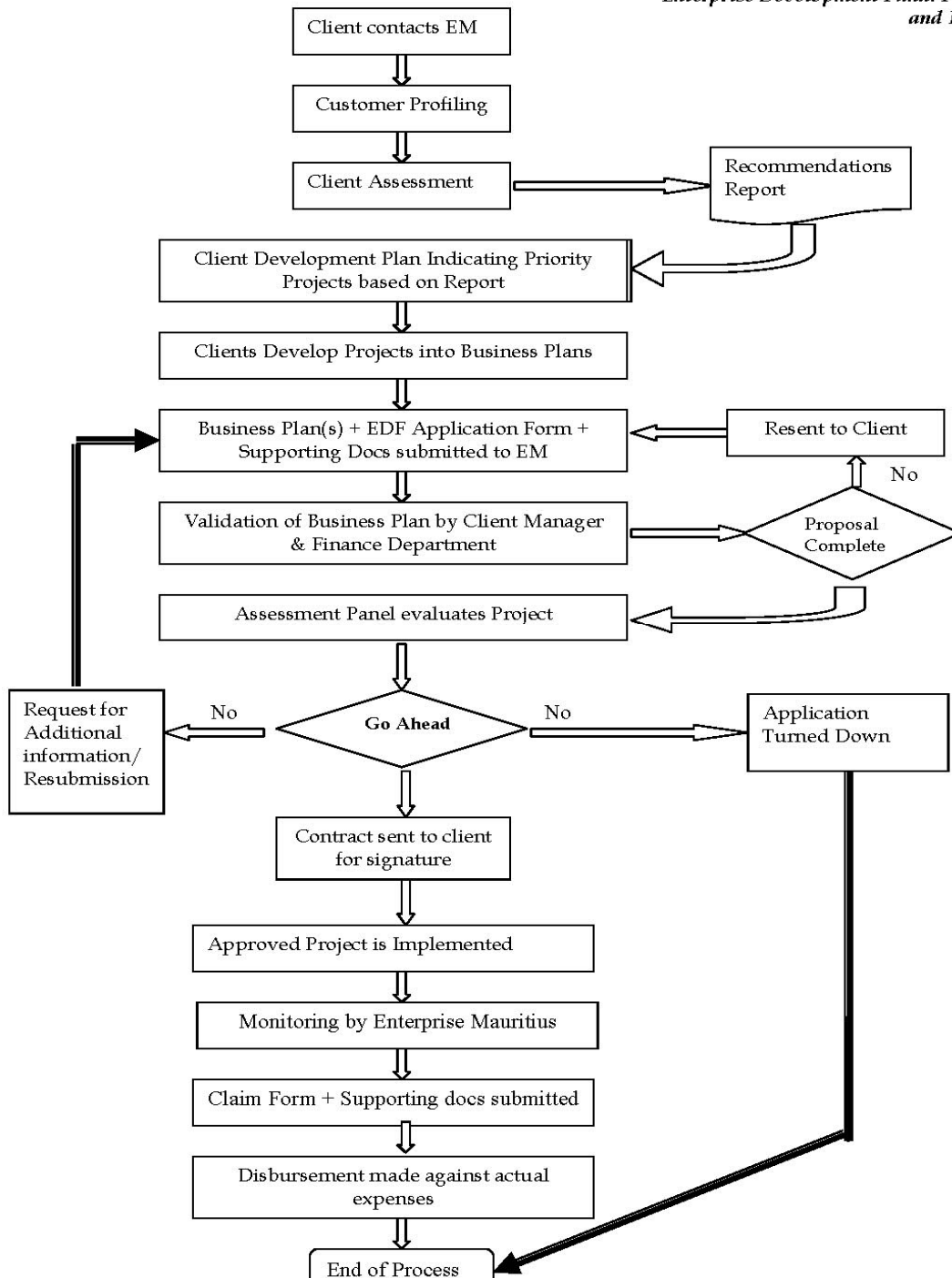
- ▶ **Costs to fund 'business as usual' activities.**
- ▶ **Activities more appropriately funded by other agencies.**
- ▶ **Costs associated with making an application under another government assistance programme.**
- ▶ **Projects or components of projects for which funding has been sought or received from another government agency or donor scheme.**
- ▶ **Cost of local permits or consents and licences, renewal or registration fees.**
- ▶ **Costs relating to commercialisation of the product/service, such as production runs, producing brochures, advertising.**
- ▶ **Capital expenditure.**
- ▶ **Costs incurred internally by the organisation, or that cannot be invoiced by a third party such as external consultant, e.g. salaries, wages, fees, personal expenditure, in-kind expenses or donations**



Exclusions:

- ▶ **Travel and accommodation costs.**
- ▶ **Retrospective costs - prior to his application for the funding.**
- ▶ **Work being undertaken in relation to the project by any of the applicant's employees or the employees/office holders of any subsidiary/associate/parent companies.**
- ▶ **Work being undertaken in relation to the project/activity by the immediate family of the applicant, the applicant's employees/office holders of any subsidiary/associate/parent companies.**
- ▶ **Costs of anyone with a financial interest in the project/activity**
- ▶ **Cost relating to website design and implementation.**





Enterprise Development Fund Process & Procedures



How to contact us

- ▶ www.enterprisemauritius.biz
- ▶ info@em.intnet.mu
- ▶ T (230) 212 9760
- ▶ F (230) 212 9767

