• We provide financial assistance to small businesses through our Direct Assistance Scheme, which is funded by the European Union. The Scheme is designed to support established businesses with strong potential to export their products and services.
– Caribbean Export disbursed 83% (€ 2.7 million) to 163 grant beneficiaries.

– Wide cross-section of sectors supported
Sectors Funded under 9th EDF - 2008-2010

- Professional Services: 14%
- Manufacturing: 21%
- Information Communication: 14%
- Creative Industries: 14%
- Technology: 5%
- Health & Wellness: 6%
- Agriculture (Livestock, Fishing): 3%
- Mining: 3%
- Tourism: 3%
- Agriculture: 1.5%
- Apiculture: 8%
- Automotive: 1%
- Business Support Organisation: 4%
The Direct Assistance Grant Scheme

• Funding is available through two (2) facilities:
  – Regular Procedures
  – Accelerated Procedures

• Eligibility Criteria:
  – Legally registered Business Support Organisation or firm
  – Last two years financial statements
  – Exporting or potential to export goods and services
  – Ability to finance their projects 100%
  – Operational for at least two (2) years
The Direct Assistance Grant Scheme

- Eligibility Criteria: (cont’d)

- Trading in the following Sectors: Alternative Energy, Agriculture, Agro-Processing, Creative Industries, Health & Wellness, Information Communication Technology, Manufacturing, Professional Services, Tourism;
Amounts to be Funded

• Regular Procedures - €5,000 – €30,000 (reimbursed up to a maximum of 70% (€ 30,000) of project cost)

• Accelerated Procedures - €1,000 to €5,000 (reimbursed up to a maximum of 70% (€ 5,000) of project cost)

• Grants will have a maximum duration of six (6) months
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Projects to be Funded</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Research, Development and Innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Advisory services</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Product and service development</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Marketing services and activities (e.g. trade fairs participation, trade mission and in-market activities)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Quality and environmental systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Promotional material (e.g. brochures, catalogues, cds and videos)</td>
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Projects to be Funded (cont’d)

• Training programmes
• Implementation of IT solutions (e.g. website, e-commerce and multimedia)
• Market research and testing
• Packaging, design
• Intellectual Property activities (e.g. brand registration and patents)

This list is for guidance only and is not exhaustive.
Application Process

• Applications can be submitted when a Call for Proposals is published by Caribbean Export.

• The application form and guidelines can be downloaded from Caribbean Export’s website at [www.carib-export.com](http://www.carib-export.com)
Training Workshop to develop business skills of SMEs
The GIZ EPA Implementation Support Project and Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export) recently held a first ProNET training Workshop in Barbados for twenty professionals connected with national and regional Business Support Organizations (BSOs). The participants were selected from across the CARIFORUM region to be trained as trainers of this interactive business development training programme.
Read more

Caribbean Export signs MCOU with UNRCE
Regional management consultants will soon be better prepared to compete and share in a lucrative global management consulting industry, which is estimated to be worth in excess of $350 million USD.
Read more

Caribbean Music Industry Representatives Concludes a Successful Mission to WOMEX
The Caribbean Export Development Agency in partnership with the Regional Council of Martinique, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Martinique, the CARICOM Secretariat and the German Development Cooperation, recently facilitated a Caribbean Mission to the World Music Expo 2011 (WOMEX) which was held in Copenhagen, Denmark from October 26-30 2011. WOMEX is one of the premier trade fairs for the music industry with particular focus on the world music genre(s).

Design Caribbean
Design Caribbean is the region’s largest trade show displaying the Caribbean’s finest handmade designs and innovative products onto the world stage.
Read More
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