BUILDING RESILIENT INNOVATION FOR DIGITAL & GREEN ENTERPRISES (BRIDGE) GRANT FACILITY 2025

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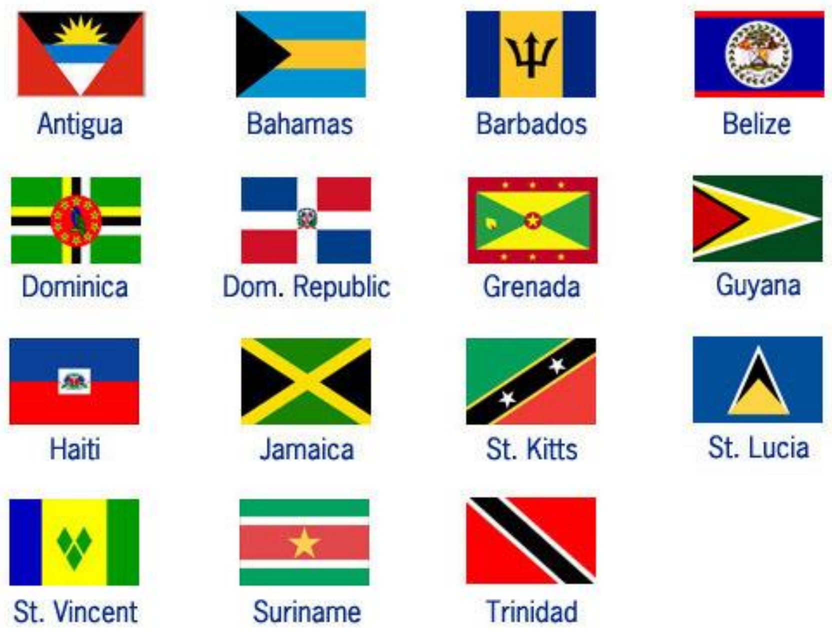
CARIBBEAN EXPORT: WHO WE ARE



Caribbean Export, is the regional trade and investment promotion agency focused on accelerating the economic transformation of the Caribbean. We work closely with businesses to increase exports, attract investment, and contribute towards the creation of jobs to build a resilient Caribbean.

Our Mission

To provide innovative, targeted initiatives designed to enhance Caribbean business growth, sustainability and job creation

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CARIBBEAN EXPORT: WHO WE ARE

Global Gateway

Caribbean Export is proud to partner with the **CARICOM Secretariat** and the **European Union** in promoting the sustainable development of the CARIFORUM States.

The Agency is currently implementing the Global Gateway Regional Private Sector Development Programme III.

Reinforce private sector diversification and competitiveness in the Caribbean, with a special focus on SMEs including women and youth owned enterprises.

Enhance Trade and Investment between the Caribbean and the EU in the framework of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) assisting the Caribbean private sector to grow in an inclusive and sustainable manner.

BRIDGE GRANT PROGRAMME

Building Resilient Innovation for Digital & Green Enterprises (BRIDGE)

- A transformative grant mechanism supporting CARIFORUM firms and Cuba in Digital & Green transitions
- Helps businesses modernise, innovate, and grow sustainably

Focus areas:

- Digital transformation (tech adoption, competitiveness)
- Green innovation (renewable energy, efficiency, circular economy)
- Resilience & inclusion (jobs, women/youth, community benefits)
- Provides direct financial support (matching grants) + capacity-building
- Goal: Position firms to attract regional & international investment

BRIDGE OBJECTIVES

The BRIDGE Grants connect Caribbean firms to the future by:

- Strengthening the resilience and competitiveness of Caribbean MSMEs
- Supporting green transition projects (renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, circular economy, blue/green technologies)
- Supporting digital transformation initiatives (process automation, cybersecurity, digital products, supply chain digitization)
- Promoting sustainability and ownership through co-financing (60/40 cost-share)
- Driving innovation, inclusivity, and access to new markets

SESSION OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, participants will:

- Understand the BRIDGE programme and its importance
- Learn about the Digital & Green Grant streams in detail
- Identify eligibility requirements and restrictions
- Know how funds are disbursed and how projects are evaluated
- Be aware of the deadlines and application process
- Understand next steps to prepare for application

AGENDA

- About BRIDGE Programme
- Why BRIDGE?
- Digital Transformation Grant
- Green Transition Grant
- Eligibility & Ineligible Costs
- Funding & Disbursement
- Evaluation & Selection
- Application Process & Deadlines
- Knowledge Check & Q&A

WHY BRIDGE?

Challenges facing MSMEs:

Limited access to finance

High energy costs

Need for digitalisation

Global supply chain shocks

BRIDGE responds by:

Supporting digital transformation

Advancing green innovation

Promoting resilience & adaptability

Creating inclusive opportunities

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THE STORY OF BRIDGE

BRIDGE is part of the EU-Caribbean partnership to:

- Build resilient private sectors
- Drive innovation for sustainable growth
- Position Caribbean MSMEs for new investment

Like a bridge connects two points, BRIDGE links:

- Today's MSMEs → Tomorrow's markets
- Traditional business models → Innovative solutions
- Local firms → International investment opportunities

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION GRANT

Purpose: Modernise operations with digital solutions.

Key Features:

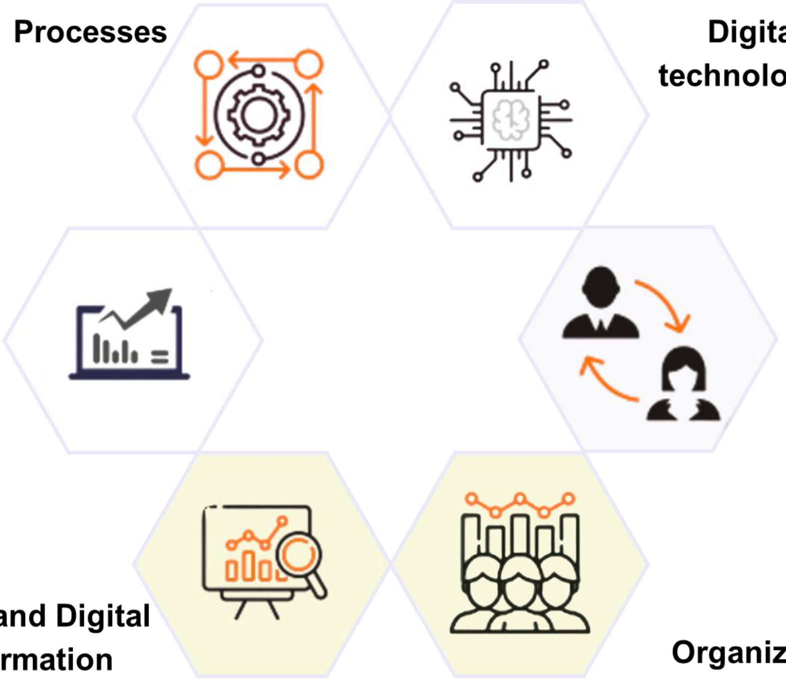
- Project size: €80k–100k
- EU covers up to €50k (≤60%)
- Duration: 12 months

Eligible Project Areas: (examples)

- Business Process Digitalisation
- Cybersecurity & Data Protection
- Mobile & Digital Product Development
- Digital Trade & Supply Chain Integration
- Capacity Building & Digital Skills

DIGITAL CHECKUP TOOL

Six Dimensions of Digital Maturity



Processes

Digital technologies

Data and Analytics

Communications and Sales channels

Strategy and Digital transformation

Organization and people

STEPS:

1. Visit the Digital Checkup Tool by scanning the QR code or the link below.

https://digitalcheckup.carib-export.com/#!

2. Click 'Start Here' , complete the registration form with your contact and company information, fill out the survey.

3. Once completed, the results and recommendations for your company's digital maturity will be sent directly to the email address you provided.

GREEN TRANSITION GRANT

Purpose: Support sustainable, resource-efficient MSMEs.

Key Features:

- Project size: flexible (no min/max)
- EU covers up to €100k (≤60%)
- Duration: 15 months

Eligible Project Areas: (examples)

- Energy Transition
- Blue Economy
- Digital Transformation for Green Innovation
- Frugal/Nature-Based Innovation
- Circular Economy
- Sustainable Agriculture

DIGITAL VS GREEN

Digital Transformation Grant:

- €80k–100k projects
- EU max €50k (≤60%)
- Duration 12 months

Green Transition Grant:

- Flexible project size
- EU max €100k
- Duration 15 months

ELIGIBILITY

Digital Transformation

- Be a firm legally registered and operating in a CARIFORUM member state or Cuba
- Operational for at least 2 years with financial statements (audited or certified)
- Minimum of 1 year as a going concern
- Must have a company commercial bank account
- Engaged in exporting or demonstrate credible potential to export (digital adoption to enhance competitiveness)
- Complete the Digital Check-Up Tool

Green Transition

- Be a firm legally registered and operating in a CARIFORUM member state or Cuba
- Operational for at least 2 years with financial statements (audited or certified)
- Minimum of 1 year as a going concern
- Must have a company commercial bank account
- Engaged in exporting or demonstrate credible potential to export (green transition/business model to enhance competitiveness)

NOT ELIGIBLE

- NGOs
- Schools
- Business Support Organisations (BSOs)
- Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs)

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Not funded:

- Salaries and overheads
- Travel, vehicles, land & buildings
- VAT, duties, taxes
- Loan repayment
- Contributions in kind

FUNDING & DISBURSEMENT

- Co-financing: EU covers part, firm covers the rest
- Digital: 12 months; Green: 15 months

Disbursed in 3 tranches:

- Tranche 1 – 40%
- Tranche 2- 40%
- Tranche 3- (reimbursement)- 20%

EVALUATION & SELECTION

Process:

- Step 1: Eligibility check
- Step 2: Internal Evaluation & shortlisting
- Step 3: Evaluation by external experts

Criteria:

- Financial Capacity – 10
- Relevance – 40
- Feasibility – 25
- Sustainability – 15
- Budget – 10

APPLICATION JOURNEY

- Download forms from www.carib-export.com
- Complete and sign application
- Gather required documents
- Submit to grants@carib-export.com
- Subject line: 'Application – BRIDGE [Digital/Green] – [Company Name]’
- **Deadline: Nov 9, 2025 (11:59pm AST)**

SUBMISSION

Requirement	Details
Submission Method	By email to [insert official email address] no later than [insert deadline date] at 11:59 pm AST.
Subject Line	"Application – Digital & Green Transition Grant Facility – [Name of Company]"
Application Package	Completed, signed, and dated form with required documents (PDF/Word/Excel).
File Size	≤10 MB by email; if larger, split into multiple emails or send via WeTransfer.
Required Documents	– Notarised Registration/Certificate of Incorporation – Certified bank statements by applicants bank (12 months) – Financial statements (last 2 years) – Digital Check-Up Tool Assessment Report – Completed Budget and Action Plan Templates – CVs of Project Team – Co-financing: commitment letter, proof of funds, signed MOUs (if applicable)
Acknowledgement	Caribbean Export will issue an acknowledgement email upon receipt.
Language	Applications must be submitted in ENGLISH.

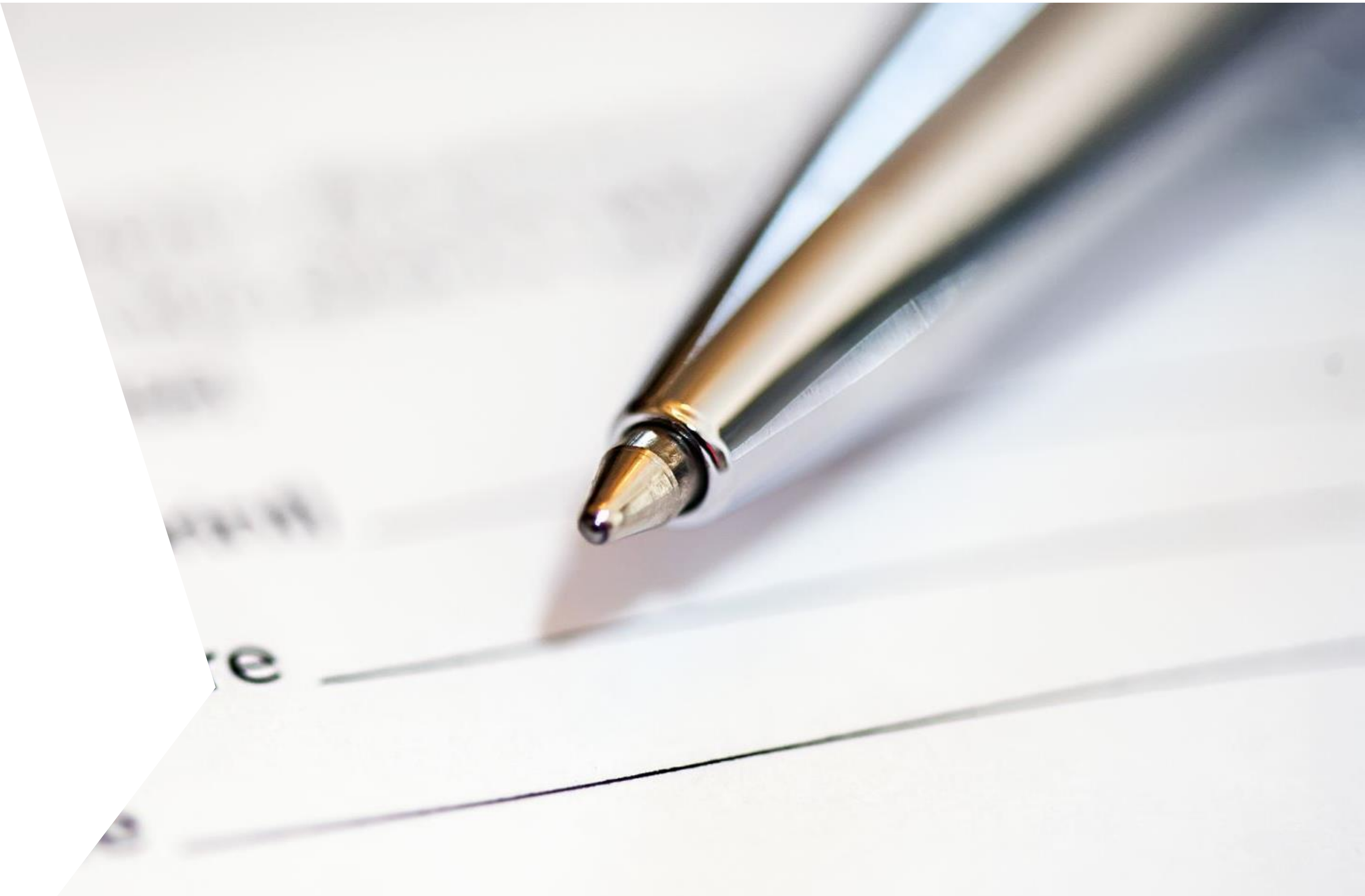
NEXT STEPS

Next Steps:

- Review eligibility
- Start preparing documents
- **Apply before Nov 9, 2025**

Contact: grants@carib-export.com

Resources: www.carib-export.com



KNOWLEDGE CHECK

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