



CARIBBEAN
EXPORT
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

GET THE EDGE

with the **DIRECT ASSISTANCE GRANT SCHEME (DAGS)**



Increase the export of your products or service with a Direct Assistance Grant from the Caribbean Export Development Agency.

Get Funding

Caribbean Export provides financial assistance to SMEs through the Direct Assistance Grant Scheme (DAGS) which is funded by the European Union under the 11th EDF Regional Private Sector Development Programme. Designed to support established businesses with strong potential to export their products and services, DAGS is your opportunity to receive the necessary funding to support your business' growth and development.

Nature of the Grants

DAGS is a reimbursable grant scheme. This means that successful applicants are reimbursed – to an approved level - for funds spent on pre-approved and agreed activities. Typically, grants are used for a range of activities or projects that support the development and growth of a business to either start exporting or increase exports such as:

- **Equipment modernization**
- **Food safety standards/certification/regulations**
- **Research, Development and Innovation**
- **Advisory services**
- **Product and service development**
- **Marketing services and activities (trade show booth procurement fees and registration costs)**
- **Quality and environmental systems**
- **Promotional material (e.g. brochures, catalogues, CDs and videos)**
- **Training programmes**
- **Implementation of IT solutions (e.g. website, e-commerce and multimedia)**
- **Market research and testing**
- **Packaging, design**
- **Protection of Intellectual Property Rights (e.g. registration of trademarks, patents, etc.)**
- **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

This list is for guidance only and is not exhaustive.



Available Funding

The project must be financed fully by the applicant via their own resources, or from other funding sources, and the DAGS will reimburse upon completion of the project. The Grant allows you to be reimbursed to a maximum of 70% of the total project value and this is capped at €30,000. The minimum Grant amount that can be applied for is €10,000.

For example, if you submit a proposal to receive a DIRECT ASSISTANCE GRANT to support the purchase of a new piece of equipment that cost €42,875, Caribbean Export will reimburse up to a maximum of 70% or in this example, €30,000, once it is approved under the scheme. Reimbursement for monies spent retrospectively or outside of the DAGS contract period is not permitted.

Full terms and conditions of the DIRECT ASSISTANCE GRANT SCHEME can be found in the grant procedures on the website www.carib-export.com

Who Can Apply

To apply for a grant, applicants must:

- Be a firm (i.e. individual or company) legally registered and operating in a CARIFORUM member state;
- Be a firm trading and operational for at least two (2) years supported by the last two years' financial statements/accounts;
- Be able to finance and sustain their projects fully at the beginning; that means 100% financing is available prior to project initiation;
- Be exporting or can demonstrate their potential to export goods and services; and
- Applicants that have an open Grant contract under EDF11-18-01 are NOT Eligible to apply.

If your business meets the criteria then visit the website
www.carib-export.com
to find out more and to apply.

How to Apply

Subscribe to the mailing list and the website to receive an alert when we announce the call for proposals for the direct assistance grant scheme.

Our team of country advisors are available to help guide you through the process. It will require the completion of the official DAGS application form which can be downloaded from the website at www.carib-export.com after we have announced the call for proposals.

The full details and guidelines of the European Union's procedures can also be downloaded to ensure your application meets the requirements and is complete.

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