

## Background Information on the Training Fund

Skills for Youth Employment (SkYE) is a four-year programme designed to develop a better skilled, more productive and inclusive workforce in St. Lucia, Grenada, Dominica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The programme is focused on improving the occupational skills and employability of youth aged 15-30 years to enable them either to move out of unemployment or to progress within their current employment. The programme has three distinct but interrelated components:

- Component One supports high quality training in sectors which show good prospects for economic growth, job creation, and career progression.<sup>1</sup>
- Component Two will support basic and work readiness training for disadvantaged young people, including those with disabilities.
- Component Three will provide targeted capacity building and other support to improve national and sub-regional training systems in the 4 participating countries.

The Training Fund relates only to Component One. Applications will be welcome from public or private training providers, employers or employer organisations, NGOs or partnerships of any of these; so long as they have the means to train young people in skills which can be shown to be in demand in the labour market. Applications trying out innovative approaches will have a dedicated window reserved for them.

The training may be short- or medium term but is not expected to exceed six months. It may be based in the workplace and/or in an institution, must incorporate soft skills and should lead to a recognised certificate, such as a CVQ, or modules towards one.

A grant from the Fund may be used to cover the costs of delivering the training, the development of training materials and manuals, consumable materials, small tools and training equipment, job placement support and tracking, and fees charged by the certificating body. It may also be used to pay for particular needs of some trainees, such as provision for those with a disability, meals, transport and child-care.

Grants awarded will be in the range of £25,000 to £225,000 with those specified as innovative being in the region of £25,000. Co-financing will be encouraged.

Applications will be assessed by a Technical Committee. Support to applicants will be provided by the programme's team of Country Co-ordinators. For guidelines and an online application form, send an email to:

[SMO-SkillsforYouthEmployment@365site.mottmac.com](mailto:SMO-SkillsforYouthEmployment@365site.mottmac.com)

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<sup>1</sup> Examples of sectors of economic growth are:

St. Vincent & the Grenadines: agro-processing, tourism, marine services, tourist infrastructure; renewable energy; creative industries, construction, logistics, manufacturing.

St. Lucia: (eco)agriculture and agro-processing, ICT, creative industries, tourism including maritime tourism, boat maintenance, events management & production, construction, green technology, manufacturing.

Grenada: agri-tourism, maritime tourism, pleasure craft repair and maintenance, renewable energy, infrastructure development, logistics, human health.

Dominica: agriculture, agro-processing, tourism, manufacturing, construction, applied ICT, renewable energy, automotive mechanics.