



Innovation Challenge Facility

FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSALS

(Concept Notes (max seven (7) pages) to be submitted by 14th January 2022)

The Innovation Challenge Facility forms part of a larger programme, 'Shaping the Future of Innovation' which aims to contribute to a diversified economic base in Trinidad and Tobago, by developing new markets, products, services, and business models.

Shaping the Future of Innovation is an initiative of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the European Union (EU) and IDB LAB in collaboration with the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) as the executing agency. The programme is financed by the European Union and the IDB LAB. Registered businesses operating in Trinidad and Tobago and in the SME sector, including small organisations / innovators / entrepreneurs, medium sized organisations with an established commercial track record and other organisations / clusters innovating the delivery of goods and services, **are invited to respond to this first call for grant funding (non-reimbursable funds) for the commercialisation of their innovations.**

Grant funding under this Call will start from Euro 75,000 (approximately USD 87,000) subject to specific requirements of the project and evaluation.

Innovation is any new product, service, technology, device, process that provides an improvement and value for which the market or internal customers will be willing to pay.

The grant funds will be for the commercialisation of innovation that results in job creation, new markets, increased efficiency / productivity and competitiveness, exports, new skills, growth / profit potential, positive environmental, social and inclusive impacts.

Priority areas for this Call will include technologies for inclusion, ICT, maritime and logistics, creative industries, among other services, renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste reduction, high-value agribusiness and manufacturing.

Interested businesses are invited to download the [Concept Note Application Form](#) and the [Innovation Challenge Facility Programme Guidelines](#) for support in presenting high quality administrative and technically eligible documents, from the Shaping the Future of Innovation website at: <http://future.cariri4.com/>. For any questions about the Call for proposals scope and for additional assistance, applicants may send email requests to innovationchallengefacility@gmail.com.



The Innovation Challenge Facility is a two-stage application process. The first stage involves the **submission of a brief Concept Note of no more than seven (7) pages, due 14th January 2022**. An independent Expert Advisory Panel will evaluate the Concept Notes and applicants meeting the administrative and technical criteria will be invited to submit Stage 2 Financing Proposals. Applicants may also seek the technical support of specialists to assist in the preparation of realistic budgets and implementation plans.

The Expert Advisory Panel will direct those applicants with good potential projects, not selected for Stage 2, to other projects under the umbrella of the Shaping the Future of Innovation programme for further development work. Applicants with such projects can reapply at a later stage.

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