ERDF Grant Schemes
Selection Criteria

Operational Programme I - *Fostering a competitive and sustainable economy to meet our challenges*

Monitoring Committee
7th April 2016
Introduction

- Under the current operational programme, ERDF Grant Schemes will be centrally administered and managed, by the Measures and Support Division, which has been tasked to act as the Intermediate Body in terms of Article 123 (6) of EU Regulation 1303/2013.

- Under OPI, €51 M are earmarked for Grant Schemes under three Priority Axes 1, 2 and 3.

- In the first phase six grant schemes shall be launched with a total budget of €31M.

- The MC is hereby being today asked to examine the criteria for the schemes falling under PA 2 and PA 3. The allocation is by PA and by scheme.
Priority Axis 2

One scheme under Priority Axis 2 ‘Consolidating investment within the ICT Sector’ Budget €5M.

- e-Commerce Grant Scheme €5M
Priority Axis 3

Five schemes under Priority Axis 3 ‘Enhancing Malta’s Competitiveness through investment in SMEs’ Budget €26M.

- Start-up Investment Grant Scheme €7M
- SME Growth Grant Scheme €8M
- SME Diversification and Innovation Grant Scheme €8M
- SME Internationalisation Grant Scheme €2M
- SME Consultancy Services Grant Scheme €1M
E-Commerce represents an opportunity for businesses to exploit their potential to increase their market share and reach new markets. Notwithstanding the island’s strong IT infrastructure, enterprises in Malta have not as yet taken advantage of this reality that offers SMEs extensive possibilities, particularly in facilitating their internationalisation efforts by reaching new clients and markets through online selling.

Notwithstanding the fact that most enterprises are IT-enabled, e-commerce remains relatively low and local businesses are still transitioning to e-commerce, with only 14% of Enterprises conducting online sales.
Priority Axis 2 - E-Commerce Grant Scheme - €5M (cont.)

The measure shall support SMEs through a non-repayable Grant to part-finance investment towards the design, development, implementation and delivery of an e-commerce website and/or a mobile application, or the upgrade of an existing website or mobile application, to enable online sales/bookings through the integration of an e-commerce payment gateway featuring a product/service catalogue and a shopping cart.

Services shall be procured from external service providers registered with the IB under the Scheme.

Aid under the Scheme shall be granted in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid.
Priority Axis 2 - E-Commerce Grant Scheme - €5M (cont.)

Maximum Grant capped at €5,000, part-financing eligible expenditure up to 50%.

Eligible Costs:

- Domain name registration
- Hosting
- Content Management System (CMS), software including required licenses
- e-commerce Website and/or Mobile Application design
- Shopping Cart integration
- Other Set-up fees (including setting up and configuration of the CMS system, system design, customisation and development, integration with payment system/s, implementation of the required security features, testing and go live).

The measure shall be administered and managed through an open rolling call.
Exclusions

Fisheries and Aquaculture;
Primary Production of Agricultural Products;
Processing and marketing of Agricultural Products;
Energy Generation, distribution and infrastructure;
The Steel Sector;
The Coal Sector;
The Shipbuilding Sector;
The Synthetic Fibres Sector;
Financial and insurance activities;
Undertakings that perform intra-group activities whose principal activities fall under classes Activities of head offices or Business and other management consultancy activities;
Real Estate activities;
Gambling activities; and
Undertakings specialising in IT services and that have the capability of trading online using in-house resources.
In recent years the number of SMEs in the Maltese economy increased by approximately 20%. Notwithstanding, fostering an entrepreneurial culture, the creation of start-ups is still a significant challenge.

By their very nature, through their novelty start-ups offer just as many challenges and risks as rewards and opportunities. As part of the normal dynamics of a healthy economy, only 50% of businesses survive five years after their inception.

This together with the potential welfare gains to the economy that can accrue from nurturing an environment that supports start-ups, further instigates the need for tangible assistance to start-ups at an early stage.
Priority Axis 3 - Start-up Investment Grant Scheme - €7M (cont.)

This scheme seeks to assist start-ups established for less than three years, through a non-repayable Grant to part-finance their initial productive investment costs to implement their business growth strategies in order to facilitate their future potential business growth and better withstand increasing competitive pressures for which they may not be well prepared.

Aid under this scheme shall be awarded in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. (Art. 22).

Maximum Grant capped at €300,000 part-financing eligible expenditure up to 50%.

This scheme shall be administered through a number of competitive calls.
Eligible Undertakings – start-ups engaged in one of the following activities:
The production, manufacture, improvement, assembly, preservation, processing of goods, materials, commodities, equipment, plant machinery;

Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences;

Research and Technological Innovation;

The repair, overhaul or maintenance of pleasure crafts, yachts having less than 100gt, aircraft, engines or equipment incorporated or used in such vessels or aircraft;

Information and communication technology (ICT) development activities, software development;

Eco-innovations, and environmental solutions;
The creation of tourism products and services as a result of networks created between traditional tourism service providers and the crafts and artisan sector;

The development and provision of tourism products and services related to emerging niche markets;

The development and provision of tourism products and services related to the promotion of natural and cultural heritage;

The development and provision of tourism products and services relating to social tourism with specific focus on senior tourists, accessible tourism and active ageing;

The development of innovative concepts, products and services offered by Boutique Hotels and Palazzini;
The development, and/or provision of E-health solutions;

The development and provision of services and products promoting healthy living;

The development and provision of services and products promoting active ageing;

The development and provision of services and products related to child-day care;

The development and creation of crafts and artisan products;

Retail activities by self-employed and family businesses engaged in craft;

Start-ups proposing products and/or services that can be marketed and distributed internationally and which are typically more advanced than those prevailing in their respective industry in terms of technology, know-how and skills.
Priority Axis 3 - Start-up Investment Grant Scheme - €7M (cont.)

Eligible Actions

This Grant Scheme will support Investment in Tangible and Intangible assets required by the start-up for its operations in line with an approved business plan.

Eligible Costs

- lease of private operational premises
- construction/up-grades of private operational premises
- purchasing of new equipment, machinery and plant
- patents and licenses
Exclusions

Fisheries and Aquaculture;
Primary Production of Agricultural Products;
Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products;
Energy Generation, distribution and infrastructure;
Transport Sector;
The Steel Sector;
The Coal Sector;
The Shipbuilding Sector;
The Synthetic Fibres Sector;
Financial and insurance activities;
Real Estate activities; and
Gambling activities.
SMEs encounter greater difficulty to respond to market demands which often require them to undertake rapid and timely intervention to secure the required capacity levels. Such challenges necessitate support to SME efforts and initiatives to increase their market share, overcome regional challenges, enter new markets and internationalise.

This scheme seeks to assist SMEs to address this gap by providing support in the form of non-repayable Grants to part-finance investments towards the implementation of their growth strategies related to the extension of the capacity of an existing establishment, or the setting up of a new establishment.
Aid under this scheme shall be awarded in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. (Art. 14) Maximum Grant capped at €500,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of Undertaking</th>
<th>Aid Intensity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Up to 31 December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Micro &amp; Small</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This scheme shall be administered through a number of competitive calls.
Eligible Actions

Initial Investment in tangible and intangible assets, related to the extension of the capacity of an existing establishment, or the setting up of a new establishment.

The investment should result in the growth of the Undertaking, and an increase in the number of employees (full-time equivalent) employed by the Undertaking.

Eligible Costs

- lease of private operational premises;
- construction/up-grades on private operational premises;
- purchasing of new equipment, machinery and plant; and
- patents and licenses.
Exclusions

Fisheries and Aquaculture;
Primary Production of Agricultural Products;
Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products;
Energy Generation, distribution and infrastructure;
Transport Sector;
The Steel Sector;
The Coal Sector;
The Shipbuilding Sector;
The Synthetic Fibres Sector;
Financial and insurance activities;
Real Estate activities; and
Gambling activities.
SME Diversification and Innovation Grant Scheme - €8M

The need to ensure that SMEs sustain a high level of resilience through their ability to adapt rapidly to market requirements, innovate and keep up a steady investment momentum is crucial to Malta’s macro-economic and competitive performance.

Diversification, and innovation are key to the survival of enterprises, such timely realisation and intervention can avoid dire consequences such as eventual closure or bankruptcy, and enables the enterprise turnaround.

In this context, such interventions become even more important when considering businesses facing difficulty emanating through particular challenges in their operations, primarily arising from market saturation, and the need for innovation to nurture a sustainable and competitive economic activity.
This Grant Scheme seeks to incentivise SMEs to adapt and become more resilient and address market challenges through:

- diversification,
- the implementation of a fundamental change, or
- investment to bring to the market significantly improved and advanced products/services to those already offered by the undertaking whilst offering timely support to nurture the right environment towards the potential future business growth of the enterprise.
Aid under the Scheme shall be granted in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid.

Maximum Grant capped at €200,000 subject to the receipt of de minimis aid by the undertaking during the applicable 3 year reference period, part-financing eligible expenditure up to 50%.

This scheme shall be administered through an open rolling call.
Eligible Actions

Investment in Tangible and Intangible assets related to the implementation of focused strategies resulting in:

• the diversification of the output of an existing establishment into products or services not previously produced by the establishment;
• the implementation of a fundamental change in the overall production process of an existing establishment;
• a new economic activity related to the diversification of the activity of the establishment, under the condition that the new activity performed is not the same or a similar activity to the activity previously performed in the establishment;
• the adoption of solutions that lead to the development of a significantly improved product or service;
• the acquisition and integration into the business operation of solutions that are new or significantly advanced than those currently in use by the undertaking.
Actions related to the diversification of the activity of the establishment should result in the beneficiaries engaging in one of the following activities:

- The production, manufacture, improvement, assembly, preservation, processing of goods, materials, commodities, equipment, plant machinery;
- Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences;
- Research and Technological Innovation;
- The repair, overhaul or maintenance of pleasure crafts, yachts having less than 100gt, aircraft, engines or equipment incorporated or used in such vessels or aircraft;
- Information and communication technology (ICT) development activities, software development;
Actions related to the diversification of the activity of the establishment should result in the beneficiaries engaging in one of the following activities:

- The production, manufacture, improvement, assembly, preservation, processing of goods, materials, commodities, equipment, plant machinery;
- Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences;
- Research and Technological Innovation;
- The repair, overhaul or maintenance of pleasure crafts, yachts having less than 100gt, aircraft, engines or equipment incorporated or used in such vessels or aircraft;
- Information and communication technology (ICT) development activities, software development;
• Eco-innovations, and environmental solutions;

• The creation of tourism products and/or services as a result of networks created between traditional tourism service providers and the crafts and artisan sector;

• The development and provision of tourism products and/or services related to emerging niche markets;

• The development and provision of tourism products and/or services related to the promotion of natural and cultural heritage;

• The development and provision of tourism products and/or services relating to social tourism with specific focus on senior tourists, accessible tourism and active ageing;
• The development of innovative concepts, products and/or services offered by Boutique Hotels and Palazzini;

• The development, and/or provision of E-health solutions;

• The development and provision of services and products promoting healthy living;

• The development and provision of services and products promoting active ageing;

• The development and provision of services and products related to child-day care;

• The development and creation of crafts and artisan products;
• Retail activities by self-employed and family businesses engaged in craft;

• The introduction of products/services that can be marketed and distributed internationally and which are typically more advanced than those prevailing in their respective industry in terms of technology, know-how and skills.

**Eligible Costs**

• leasing of private operational premises;
• construction/up-grades on private operational premises;
• purchasing of new equipment, machinery and plant;
• patents and licenses; and
• wage costs – Change Manager.
Exclusions

Fisheries and Aquaculture;
Primary Production of Agricultural Products;
Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products;
Energy Generation, distribution and infrastructure;
Transport Sector;
The Steel Sector;
The Coal Sector;
The Shipbuilding Sector;
The Synthetic Fibres Sector;
Financial and insurance activities;
Real Estate activities; and
Gambling activities.
The constraints emanating as a result of the size of the domestic market makes internationalisation crucial for SME business growth. Market targeting has huge impact for the internationalisation process since the business environment can clearly differentiate from a country to another.

Participation in International Business Promotion Fairs remains an important instrument in targeting markets and provides SMEs an opportunity to start building a network of business connections and to overcome barriers to enter the targeted foreign market.

Moreover, participation in business promotion fairs are a source of significant information for SMEs when operating in the international business field.
This Grant Scheme seeks to support SMEs through the provision of Grants to part-finance costs to actively participate in International Business Promotion Fairs held outside the territory of the Republic of Malta, aimed at the internationalisation of the Undertaking by introducing their products/services to new markets and by strengthening their international market presence.

Aid under this scheme shall be awarded in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. (Art. 19)

Maximum Grant capped at €10,000, part-financing eligible expenditure up to 50%.

This scheme shall be administered through an open rolling call.
SME Internationalisation Grant Scheme - €2M (cont.)

Eligible Actions

Active participation in International Business Promotion Fairs held outside the territory of the Republic of Malta where active participation means having a stand and exhibiting products/services at the fair.

Eligible Costs

- Rental of the exhibition space/stand
- Contractual Services related to the construction and setting-up of the stand
- Air Travel
- Accommodation
- Design and printing of branding material
- Shipment of exhibits
Exclusions

Fisheries and Aquaculture;
Primary Production of Agricultural Products;
Processing of Agricultural Products;
Energy Generation, distribution and infrastructure;
The Steel Sector;
Transport Sector;
The Coal Sector;
The Shipbuilding Sector;
The Synthetic Fibres Sector;
Financial and insurance activities;
Real Estate activities; and
Gambling activities.
SMEs generally have limited in-house resources and competences required to conduct studies to assist them in their decision making processes to embark on investment initiatives, and assess their growth and competitive potential. This deficit presents a high dependency on external consultancy services.

The reliance on external consultancy services is even more accentuated when considering businesses facing particular challenges in their operations, primarily arising from market saturation, the need for modernisation and organisation/process re-engineering, where timely intervention through consultancy services can provide the necessary insight to entrepreneurs to take-up adequate initiatives aimed at securing their survival, and future business growth.

In this context, this grant scheme was designed to facilitate access to external consultancy services, in order to address the lack of expertise within SMEs.
The measure will support SMEs by part-financing expenditure incurred for consultancy services procured from external consultancy service providers registered with the IB under the scheme.

Consultancy Services shall not be of a continuous or periodic nature nor relating to the undertaking’s usual operating costs, such as routine tax consultancy services, regular legal services or advertising or related to the legal and regulatory obligations arising from the nature of the undertaking’s operations and economic activity.

Maximum Grant capped at €4,000, part-financing eligible expenditure up to 80%.

The grant scheme shall be administered and managed through an open rolling call.
Exclusions

Fisheries and Aquaculture;
Primary Production of Agricultural Products;
Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products;
Energy Generation, distribution and infrastructure;
Transport Sector;
The Steel Sector;
The Coal Sector;
The Shipbuilding Sector;
The Synthetic Fibres Sector;
Financial and insurance activities;
Undertakings that perform intra-group activities whose principal activities fall under classes Activities of head offices or Business and other management consultancy activities;
Real Estate activities; and
Gambling activities.
Eligible Actions

External consultancy services shall be procured to support the decision-taking process, by assessing and evaluating:

• the potential of the beneficiary of re-engineering the organisation, operations, processes and systems of the Undertaking aimed at rendering it more efficient, resulting in the development an Organisation and Operations Review, or a Process and Systems Review; and

• the potential of the undertaking, to undertake proposed investments aimed at the future potential business growth of the undertaking and at rendering it more competitive through any of the following:
  • the economic exploitation of new ideas,
  • expansion in the capacity of the establishment,
Eligible Actions (cont.)

- diversification of the activity of an establishment,
- diversification in the output of an establishment,
- fundamental change in the overall production process of the establishment,
- development of new or improved products, processes and systems,
- investment in new or improved products, processes and systems,
- organisation innovation,
- process innovation,
- the internationalisation of products and services,
- the entry, establishment and expansion into new markets,
- the introduction, upgrading and integration of e-commerce solutions enabling online selling by the undertaking.
Assessment, Evaluation and Selection
Gateway Criteria

All applications under each aid measure are required to meet the minimum eligibility requirements set out under the Gateway Criteria in order that any application may be considered for assessment and appraisal for selection for funding support. This stage will involve an assessment and a Due Diligence process to establish that these minimum requirements are met.
Complete application form: an Undertaking must present a fully compiled application form together with all the requested supporting documentation, by the indicated deadline.

Eligibility of Undertaking: the Undertaking is an eligible Undertaking, in line with the respective guidelines and within the state aid parameters.

Eligibility of action and activities: the action for which the applicant is asking for support is eligible and includes eligible activity/activities in line with the incentive guidelines.

Match Financing: the applicant has submitted evidence as to its capacity to match finance the project.
At this stage the Intermediate Body will draw in the Project Selection Committee as expertise and score each application against the set Selection Criteria. Only applications that meet all the requirements of the gateway criteria shall proceed for assessment under the selection criteria.

All the applications will be assessed and evaluated against the selection criteria outlined hereunder, with a total Score of 120 points.

Risk Assessment/Extent of need for Support*
Excellence
Impact and Sustainability
Quality and efficiency of implementation

*Risk Assessment/Extent of need for Support depending on scheme
Competitive Calls

Applications attaining 50% of the total score or higher will be ranked, and funding approval will be issued to applicants in accordance with the ranking order and subject to the budget availability under the respective call.

Open (rolling) Calls

In the case of measures administered through an open (rolling-call)*, after scoring, applications attaining 50% of the total score or higher will be approved for funding on a first-come-first served basis subject to the budget availability under the respective measure.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Scheme</th>
<th>Gateway Criteria</th>
<th>Selection Criteria</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy Services</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>Risk Assessment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Start-ups</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>Extent of need for support</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Excellence</td>
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<td>Impact &amp; Sustainability</td>
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<td>Efficiency and Quality of Implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SME Growth</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internationalisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>e-Commerce</td>
<td>√</td>
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Note: The points are assigned based on the extent of need for support, excellence, impact & sustainability, and efficiency and quality of implementation. The table provides a summary of criteria and points for each grant scheme.
Meets the requirement with additional assurance 81 to 100% of points: The information submitted provides strong evidence that the specified requirements can be met exceeds expectations, full confidence, and no concerns.

Meets the requirement 76 to 80% of points: The information submitted provides good evidence that the specified requirements can be met. Full and robust response, any concerns are addressed so that the proposal gives confidence.

Mostly meets the requirement with minor weaknesses in certain areas 50 to 75% of points: The application demonstrates reasonable ability, mostly meeting the requirement with minor weaknesses in certain areas. The evidence and information submitted is fairly clear and convincing with only minor reservations.
Mostly fails the requirement with major weaknesses in certain areas 26 to 49% of points: The evidence and information provided is unclear, unconvincing and mostly fails to meet the requirement. Insufficient information is provided to give assurance that the requirement will be met.

Fails the requirement up to 25% of points: The application fails to satisfy the stated requirement.
Selection Criteria

Extent of need for support - 15pts

This criteria shall be applied in relation to applications under e-Commerce Grant Scheme and the SME Internationalisation Grant Scheme.

Size of Undertaking – 5pts  The need for support will be determined on the size of the Undertaking, and the composition of the enterprise. The smaller the Undertaking the higher the score. Undertakings composed from one single autonomous enterprise will score higher than Undertakings that have a number of linked or partner enterprises.

Age of Undertaking – 5pts  The need for support will be determined on the age of the Undertaking. The younger the Undertaking the higher the score.
Selection Criteria

Extent of need for support - 15pts

**Undertaking Online Presence – 5pts** The need for support will be determined on the extent of online presence of the Undertaking. Undertakings that have limited or no online presence (do not have their own website) will score higher. (e-commerce grant scheme)

or

The extent of internationalisation within the Undertaking – 5pts The need for support will be assessed on the basis of the extent of internationalisation of the Undertaking, and their presence in international markets. Undertakings with limited international market presence will score higher. (SME internationalisation Grant Scheme)
Selection Criteria

Risk Assessment - 15pts

This criteria shall be applied in relation to applications under the Start-up Investment, SME Growth, SME Diversification and Innovation Grant Schemes.

Ratio of Project value to net assets of Undertaking – 5pts
Applications will be risk assessed in terms of the ratio of the project’s value to the financial resources of the Undertaking.

Qualitative assessment of the Undertaking – 5pts Applications will be risk assessed in relation to the business experience, track record of the management and controlling shareholders.
Selection Criteria

Risk Assessment - 15pts

Duration of the Project – 5pts Applications will be risk assessed in relation to the risks linked to the proposed duration of the project. The proposed duration of the project will be assessed in relation to the implementation timelines in the respective guidance notes, taking into account potential delays in implementation that may stretch the implementation timeline with a potential negative impact on absorption of funds.

Implementation Risks – max 0pts (-5 lowest) This section will carry negative marking to reflect project implementation risks linked to the complexity of the proposed activities. The more complex the activities the lower (more –ve) the score.
Selection Criteria

Excellence- 30 pts

This criteria shall be applied in relation to applications under all the Grant Schemes involving an evaluation against selection criteria.

**Action is Holistic in nature – 10pts** Actions need to be holistic in nature through the integration of the different activities to be undertaken through the project and other complimentary activities.

**Action is addressing an identified gap in the market for the specific sector – 10pts** The action identifies and addresses a gap in the market for the specific sector through novel approaches and concepts, and internationalisation. Actions targeting emerging markets and that have high internationalisation potential will score higher points.
Selection Criteria

Excellence - 30pts

Action is ambitious by proposing products and/or services that are more advanced than those present in the market – 10pts The action will be assessed on the basis of the novelty and technology level of the proposed products and/or services. Products/services that are more advanced than those present in the market, and presenting a novel concept to the respective sector will score higher marks. (Start-up Investment Grant Scheme & SME Diversification and Innovation Grant Scheme)

Action seeks to maximise the internationalisation of the Undertaking – 10pts The application will be evaluated in terms of the extent that the project seeks to exploit the potential of the Undertaking in optimising networking opportunities, and securing or strengthening its presence in the global market. The state of preparedness of the Undertaking to take up internationalisation initiatives through its business model will also be evaluated. (SME Internationalisation Grant Scheme, SME Growth Grant Scheme)
Selection Criteria

Excellence- 30 pts

Action seeks to maximise the potential of e-commerce – 10pts The evaluation will assess the extent that the action seeks to maximise the potential of e-commerce. The state of preparedness of the Undertaking to integrate e-commerce in its business model will be taken into consideration. Moreover, the action will be assessed to determine the extent of online presence the applicant is seeking to attain, a strong online presence through both an e-commerce website and a mobile application, and the extent that as a result of the action the different establishments within the Undertaking will be enabled to conduct sales online. Actions targeting also the international market will score higher (e-Commerce Grant Scheme)
Selection Criteria

Impact and Sustainability - 50 pts

This criteria shall be applied in relation to applications under all the Grant Schemes involving an evaluation against selection criteria.

Impact in relation to the applicant’s future growth and sustainable economic viability leading to long term market resilience – 10pts

The application will be evaluated in terms of the project’s impact vis-à-vis the future growth of the applicant, the potential to increase its turnover. The application will also be evaluated on the potential cost reductions to the operations of the Undertaking.

Impact on employment – 10pts

The application will be evaluated in relation to the project’s potential to create new employment and retain jobs.
Selection Criteria

Impact and Sustainability - 50 pts

Impact on improvements in the Undertaking’s business model – 10pts The application will be evaluated in terms of the project’s impact on the potential sustainability of the business model.

Impact in relation to National Priorities and Strategies linked to the Op – 10pts The application will be assessed in relation to potential impact on National Policies and Strategies linked to the OP.

Effective Integration of the OP’s Horizontal priorities – 10pts The application will be assessed in relation to the effective integration of the OP’s horizontal priorities being Environmental Sustainability and Equal Opportunities.
Selection Criteria

Quality and Efficiency of Implementation - 25 pts

Level of Management and Control Systems in place – 5pts The evaluation will be assessing the project’s quality and efficiency of implementation, the level of Management and Control Systems in place, and the extent of quality standards adopted by the Undertaking.

Level of private match financing and additional investment addressing complementary actions – 5pts The proposed action will be assessed against the Undertaking’s level of additional match financing and the potential to inject further investment to address complementary actions.
Selection Criteria

Selection Quality and Efficiency of Implementation- 25 pts

Level of capacity and allocation of resources towards the project – 5pts The evaluation will be assessing the allocation of resources towards the project to ensure its successful implementation and sustainability.

Coherence and Clarity of work plan – 10pts The evaluation will be assessing the project’s work plan and strategy. High scores will be given to those actions that show high levels of quality, coherence and clearly identify and address potential risks.
Contact Details

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