



PRESS RELEASE

Request for Applications: For Grants, Loans, and Interest Subsidization Pilot Programme by UNDP

The **Entrepreneurial Development Programme (EDP)**, in collaboration with the **Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority (ABIA)** and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, is pleased to invite **Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)**, **Youth Entrepreneurs**, and **Female Business Owners** to apply for participation in the **Innovative Finance Pilot Programme**.

This initiative aims to **reduce borrowing costs** and **increase access to financing** for local businesses by offering a combination of **grants, loans, and interest subsidization support**. The programme forms part of a broader effort to strengthen financial inclusion and promote sustainable business growth across Antigua and Barbuda.

Eligible applicants include:

- **Small and Medium Enterprises** – existing businesses or start-ups that contribute to **local employment and economic growth**.
- **Youth Entrepreneurs** – individuals between the ages of **18 and 35** with viable business ideas or active enterprises.
- **Female Entrepreneurs** – women-led businesses seeking to expand or enhance their operations.

All applicants must have a **registered business** in order to apply.

Approved participants will also receive **free training and mentorship** in the areas of **financial literacy**, **business planning**, and **entrepreneurial development** to further strengthen their business capacity.

Application forms can be collected from the **EDP Office**, located at the **Sagicor Financial Centre**, St. John's. [Applications must be submitted with cover letter indicating UNDP Pilot Programme.](#)

The **deadline for submissions** is **October 31, 2025**.

Interested persons are encouraged to apply early and take advantage of this opportunity to grow and strengthen their businesses.

About the Partners

- **UNDP:** Supporting sustainable development and inclusive growth in 170 countries and territories, including Antigua and Barbuda.
- **Entrepreneurial Development Programme (EDP):** Providing access to financing for small entrepreneurs.
- **Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority (ABIA):** Facilitating investment and business development in Antigua and Barbuda.