

# REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

## MINISTRY OF OCEAN ECONOMY, MARINE RESOURCES, FISHERIES AND SHIPPING

Reference No: F/15421/5/1

### Invitation for submission of application for financial assistance for the purchase of semi-industrial fishing boats

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 The Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping is inviting applications from registered Fishermen Cooperatives Societies who wish to benefit from financial assistance for the purchase of semi-industrial fishing boats.

#### 2. Background

2.1 The Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resource, Fisheries and Shipping is proceeding with the implementation of a special scheme to provide financial support to cooperative societies to enable them to acquire semi-industrial fishing vessels as a means to fish in the outer reef and on the banks.

3. **Budget Measure:** Provision of a grant of 50 percent, up to a cap of Rs. 4 million to registered Fishermen Cooperative Societies to enable them to acquire semi-industrial fishing boats.

3.1 **Amount provided under the budget 2016/17:** Rs. 12 million

**Aim:** To provide financial assistance for the acquisition of semi-industrial fishing boats above 12 metres but less than 24 metres in length overall as a tool to venture into the outer reef and fishing banks thus enhancing the livelihood of fishermen and increase local fish production.

**Objective:** Encourage Fishermen Cooperative Societies to operate in the outer-reef targeting tuna and tuna-like species and on the banks targeting

demersal species by providing a 50% grant up to a maximum of Rs.4 million for the acquisition of semi-industrial fishing boats.

**Type of boat:**

The semi-industrial fishing boats should be a new or second-hand (less than 15 years old) boat above 12 metres but less than 24 metres in length overall fitted with inboard engine and all navigation, communication, safety and appropriate fishing equipment.

**Estimated Cost:**

The estimated cost of a semi-industrial fishing boat ranging from 12 to 24 metres in length and fitted with inboard engines, navigation communication, safety and fishing equipment is between Rs 6 million to Rs 8 million rupees.

**Criteria for eligibility:**

(a) The applicant shall:

- (i) be a registered Fishermen Cooperative Society.
- (ii) provide evidence on the availability of funds (loan or otherwise) that may be required over and above the 50% grant.
- (iii) have at least 3 members with a minimum of two years' experience in fishing.
- (iv) demonstrate the ability to manage a fishing business.
- (v) provide evidences of any experience claimed.
- (b) grant will be used exclusively towards financing of semi-industrial vessel.
- (c) Successful applicants should contribute 10% towards the cost of the project.
- (d) Maubank will provide financing at a level of 40% of the cost of the boat under the Maubank Financing Scheme of 3.00% interest rate p.a through MyBiz.
- (e) Financial assistance scheme applies to Fishermen Cooperative Societies incorporated as from **02<sup>nd</sup> June 2015**.

**Application:**

The registered Fisherman Cooperative Society shall submit an application to the Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Ocean Economy,

Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, Level 4, LICI Building,  
President John Kennedy Street, Port Louis.

**Selection:** A Selection Committee will be set up for the assessment of the technical feasibility of projects and selection of applications. The Financial feasibility will be carried out by Maubank. The Ministry will issue a letter of intent to successful applicants.

**Conditions:** Disbursement will be effected following a satisfactory report from a registered Marine Surveyor  
The fishing boat shall be registered with the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping  
The beneficiary shall not dispose of the boat unless and until the loan is fully repaid.

#### **4. Scope**

4.1 The Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping is inviting applications from registered Fishermen Cooperative Societies to invest in the purchase of semi-industrial fishing boats for off-lagoon/bank fishing.

4.2 Government will provide a grant of 50% up to a maximum of Rs 4 million for the purchase of a semi-industrial fishing boat by registered Fishermen Cooperative Societies.

4.3 Applications should contain a brief describing the Fishermen Cooperative Societies (including the name, registration details, field(s) of activity, experience and financial details) and should attach all relevant documents including **a project proposal**.

#### **5. Submission of Application**

5.1 Fishermen Cooperative Societies who wish to be considered for selection are requested to submit their application in three(3) copies in a sealed envelope clearly marked '**Application for Financial assistance for the purchase of semi-industrial fishing boat**' and addressed to the Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, LIC Building, John Kennedy Street, Port Louis, Mauritius and to deposit same in the **Tender Box** at the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping on the above address **on or before 16 May 2017 up to 13.30 hrs** (local time).

5.2 A help desk will be available at the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 for clarifications.

5.3 Any late submission of application shall be rejected. The Application will be opened at the address given above at 13.45 hrs on the same day in the presence of representatives of interested Fishermen Cooperative Societies who wish to attend. Applications are not transferable.

5.4 The Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping reserves the right to accept any proposal and annul this exercise without thereby incurring any liability whatsoever to any Fishermen/ Cooperative Societies.

**Senior Chief Executive**

**Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources,**

**Fisheries and Shipping**

**4<sup>th</sup> Floor, LIC Building**

**Port Louis**

**Mauritius**

**Tel: + (230) 2112470 to 75**

**Fax: + (230) 2081929**

**E-mail: fishadmin@govmu.org**

**Date: 21 April 2017**