The Union for Ethical BioTrade Announces:
A Call for Proposals
Ethical BioTrade Community Grants

The Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT) is announcing its first call for proposals for the Ethical BioTrade Community Grants. A second round of grant allocations will take place autumn 2009.

What is the aim?

The Ethical BioTrade Community Grant Programme aims to assist local community suppliers to meet the principles and criteria of Ethical BioTrade in collaboration with Union member companies that source from these communities.

Who can apply?

Small and medium-sized Trading Members or applicants to the Union for Ethical BioTrade that have received approved candidate status may apply for the grants.

What are the maximum grant amounts?

The maximum amount per grant is 20,000 Euros.

What timelines apply?

Proposals must be received at the Secretariat of the Union for Ethical BioTrade by Friday 19 June 2009. Grant decisions will be announced on or before 2 July 2009.

What conditions apply?

Awarded grants should be solely used for attaining compliance with the Ethical BioTrade Verification Framework at the community level. Trading Members applying for the grant are expected to complement the grant with at least 50% of the requested grant amount. The grant objectives should be achieved within a maximum 2 years, by the end of which full compliance with the Verification Framework should be achieved at the community level as verified by a third party audit. A Trading Member can only benefit from one UEBT grant at a time.

What are the types of activities that grants may cover?

Grants may cover costs related to verification of the supply chain at the community level and costs related to the design and implementation of Ethical BioTrade practices at the community level. The latter typically includes: scientific research regarding sustainability aspects of used species and their ecosystems; community consultation processes; development of educational materials and coaching and training at the community level; legal advice regarding issues related to access to biodiversity, benefit sharing, or the use of traditional knowledge; establishment of monitoring and evaluation systems.
The Union for Ethical BioTrade is an association that promotes the 'Sourcing with Respect' of ingredients derived from native biodiversity. Its members are committed to gradually ensure that their sourcing practices promote biodiversity conservation, respect traditional knowledge, and ensure an equitable sharing of benefits all along the supply chain. This grant announcement is part of the Ethical BioTrade Community Grants Programme, which is financed by the Dutch DOEN Foundation and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

What are the decision-making procedures?

An independent grant committee composed of well-respected non-private sector entities will review the grant applications and make funding recommendations to the Secretariat of the Union for Ethical BioTrade. The Secretariat and the grant committee will treat information submitted to the Union for Ethical BioTrade as confidential. There is no possibility of appeal.

Which selection criteria apply?

When deciding between competing proposals, priority will be given to those with the highest, credible projections regarding the number of community beneficiaries, the volumes of native plants traded, the income generated in relation to the grant amount, the biodiversity significance of the eco-system involved, and the relative importance of the grant for the beneficiary communities.

For information regarding all conditions and procedures that apply to the Ethical BioTrade Community Grants, as well as to access the grant application form, visit the Union for Ethical BioTrade website: www.ethicalbiotrade.org

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