

- (v) The computer facility should be acquired in the registered name of the cooperative society and used solely for the activities of the society.
- (vi) The computer facility acquired under the Scheme should be registered in the Inventory of the society.
- (vii) The society should produce its Receipt/Document regarding the purchase of the facility and should include the costs thereof, the IP Address, the Reference Number as well as other details which may be required.
- (viii) It should show proof of a maintenance agreement for a period of at least 3 years.
- (ix) A password should be used on the computer to limit its use for the activities of the cooperative society.

Goal

The Scheme for Acquisition of IT Facilities aims at paving the way for an e-Cooperatives environment and encourages young people to join the sector.

Objectives of the Scheme

The Scheme for Acquisition of IT facilities will:

- (i) Improve the IT facilities for cooperatives.
- (ii) Assist cooperatives to undertake online transactions and reduce paperwork.
- (iii) Modernise the cooperative movement as well as attracting youth and women to join cooperatives.
- (iv) Equip Cooperative Societies to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in their activities.

Details of the Scheme

Under the Scheme for Acquisition of IT Facilities, cooperatives will benefit from a grant of 50%, up to a maximum of Rs 18, 000 for the procurement of a computer or laptop.

The Grant will be allocated in the first instance to cooperatives which do not have computer facilities and will be a one-off grant.

Eligibility Criteria

(a) The applicant should:

- (i) be active and compliant to the Cooperatives Act;
- (ii) be adhering to the cooperative principles;
- (iii) keep a proper record of its business transactions and should not be under inquiry;
- (iv) have paid any sum due to the Cooperative Development Fund; and
- (v) have viable projects for the development of the cooperative movement.

(b) The applicant should not be beneficiaries of financial assistance from any other organisations and should not have benefitted from any other financial assistance from the CDF for the last **three (3)** years as from the date of application.

Conditions of the Scheme

- (i) The application should be recommended by the Cooperatives Division of the Ministry.
- (ii) It should acquire the facility according to specifications which would be provided/vetted by the Cooperatives Division and should have internet facilities.
- (iii) It should give a written undertaking to the effect that it would use this facility
 - To keep its journal/ledger entries and other accounts according to a format to be provided or agreed to by the Cooperatives Division.
- (iv) To submit its Financial Statements online when the e-Cooperatives Division Registration System will be operational.

Scheme for Acquisition of IT Facilities

Background Information

The Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives (Cooperatives Division) is implementing a Cooperatives Division e-Registration Project (CDeRP). The main objective of the CDeRP is to provide a platform for online application for registration of a cooperative society, online payment for application and annual fees and online submission of financial statements.

Moreover, cooperatives are being encouraged to use Information and Communication Technology to modernise their activities and improve their productivity.

The introduction of digital facilities through all sectors of cooperatives will, no doubt, promote both the rejuvenating and engendering of the Mauritian Cooperative Movement.

Operation and Monitoring of the Scheme

The Scheme will be operated by the Cooperative Development Fund and the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives (Cooperatives Division). The applicant should fill the appropriate form and submit the following supporting documents, where applicable to the Ministry:

- Certificate of Registration
- A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting where approval has been obtained for the implementation of the project.
- Relevant quotations and other appropriate documents.
- Audited Financial Statements for the last three years.

The Cooperative Development Fund reserves the right to cease the operation of the Scheme for reasons which it may deem appropriate, including financial constraints.

Contact Details

Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives
(Cooperatives Division)

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Port Louis

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Fax No. 2089263/2085318/2111312

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VISION

A conducive legal and institutional framework for a rejuvenated, engendered and inclusive cooperative movement for the sustainability of a sound economic and social environment facilitating business development.

MISSION STATEMENT

To facilitate the promotion of diversified, emerging and innovative cooperatives and involve more young persons and women in the development, consolidation and advancement of the cooperative movement.

**Ministry of Business, Enterprise and
Cooperatives
(Cooperatives Division)**

*Scheme for Acquisition of IT
Facilities for Cooperative
Societies*

Cooperative Development Fund

July 2017