

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

MINISTRY OF BLUE ECONOMY, MARINE RESOURCES, FISHERIES AND SHIPPING

SEMI-INDUSTRIAL FISHING VESSEL GRANT SCHEME

GRANT TO INDIVIDUAL FISHERS

1. The Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping is inviting individual fishers who wish to benefit from the above scheme to submit their applications for a grant to purchase a semi-industrial fishing vessel.
2. Successful applicants will be eligible to a one-off grant of Rs 1M to meet the cost of a new or second-hand semi-industrial fishing vessel of less than 5 years old acquired during the Financial Year 2024/25.
3. Detailed information, along with the application form, can be obtained in all Fisheries Posts around the island or downloaded from the Ministry's website at the following link:
(<https://blueconomy.govmu.org/Pages/Downloads/Downloads.aspx>)
4. Duly filled in application form should be submitted along with all relevant supporting documents in a sealed envelope and marked "*Semi-Industrial Fishing Vessel Grant Scheme - Individual Fishers*". The envelope should be addressed to the Acting Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, Level 4, L.I.C Building, President John Kennedy Street, Port Louis or be deposited at the nearest Fisheries Post.

**Ministry of Blue Economy,
Marine Resources,
Fisheries and Shipping
Level 4, LICI Building
Port Louis**

11 October 2024

Semi-Industrial Fishing Vessel Grant Scheme - Grant to Individual Fishers

Additional Information

1. Semi-Industrial Grant Scheme

This Scheme provides for a grant of Rs.1 million to individual fishers for the purchase of a semi-industrial fishing vessel for off-lagoon and bank fishing.

2. Who is eligible

Under this Scheme, individual fishers will be eligible for a grant to purchase a new or second hand semi-industrial fishing vessel to fish in the outer lagoon and on the banks.

3. Who is not eligible

- fishermen who have already benefited from a grant under this scheme; or
- fishermen who are members of cooperative societies that have already benefited from the semi-industrial fishing vessel scheme for fishermen cooperative societies.

4. Type of Semi-Industrial Fishing Vessel

The semi-industrial fishing vessel should be above **12 metres but less than 24 metres** in length overall and should be fitted with inboard engine and all the navigation, communication, safety and appropriate fishing equipment. In the event of a second- hand fishing vessel is to be acquired, it should not be more than 5 years old with an economic lifetime of a minimum of 15 years.

The grant shall be used exclusively towards financing of semi-industrial fishing vessel.

5. How to benefit from the Scheme

Interested individual fishers are required to submit their applications together with all relevant documents in a sealed envelope to the Acting Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, Level 4, LIC Building, President John Kennedy Street, Port Louis or be deposited to the nearest Fisheries Post.

The sealed envelope should be clearly marked '**Application for Grant under the Semi-industrial fishing vessel grant scheme – Individual Fishers**'.

The Application Form and Project Guidelines can either be collected from a Fisheries Post or downloaded from the website of the Ministry (<https://blueeconomy.govmu.org>).

6. Processing of Applications

A Selection Committee set up at the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping shall verify all the applications received to ascertain whether the applicant is eligible for a grant under the Scheme. In this respect, the applicant may be required to furnish additional information/documents as may be required by the Selection Committee for a proper assessment of the applications.

Note: Individual fishermen who have already acquired a semi-industrial fishing boat during this Financial Year, that is, from 01 July 2024 to date, may also submit an application for a grant to this Ministry. The semi-industrial fishing vessel should be registered with the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping for fishing in the outer lagoons and on the banks.

In case the vessel is to be acquired, the Ministry will issue a Letter of Intent to successful applicants to allow them to proceed with the acquisition of the vessel.

7. Disbursement of Grant

The beneficiary shall inform the Acting Senior Chief Executive when the semi-industrial fishing vessel has been acquired and registered with the Ministry.

The semi-industrial fishing vessel shall be examined by a registered Marine Surveyor to ascertain compliance with the criteria set by the Ministry.

The Acting Senior Chief Executive will arrange for the disbursement of the grant to the beneficiary subject to such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate.

The one-off grant of Rs.1 million shall be made on a refund basis to eligible individual fishermen upon submission of documentary evidence of the semi-industrial fishing vessel acquired.

The beneficiary shall not dispose of or lease the semi-industrial fishing vessel, in respect of which a grant has been disbursed, during a period of at least 10 years as from the date of the disbursement of the grant.

The beneficiary will be required to sign a Letter of Undertaking with the Ministry prior to disbursement of funds.

Note: The Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping reserves the right to not accept any proposal and annul this exercise without thereby incurring any liability whatsoever to any companies.

Requirements for Equipment for Fishing Vessels of more than

12 Metres but less than 24 Metres in length

For each vessel:

1. Enough life rafts to accommodate all PERSONS the vessel is permitted to carry on board and fitted with Hydrostatic Release Unit (s). Life raft(s) to be serviced annually. HRUs to be replaced when expired. Life raft to be equipped as per SOLAS.
2. At least 2 lifebuoys fitted with buoyant line of 30 metres each.
At least one of the lifebuoys to be fitted with a self-igniting light.
Life buoys to be fitted with retro-reflective tape.
3. Pyrotechnics:
 - (a) Rocket Parachute Flares
 - (b) Hand Flares
4. At least one lifejacket (SOLAS & fitted with light) for each person on board and 2 spare lifejackets.
5. Enough and appropriate fire extinguishers as determined by the surveyor, but in any case, not less than four (Aqueous foaming 2x9lt, CO2 2x5kg). Extinguishers to be serviced regularly.
6. Electric Fire alarm which may be used as General Emergency Alarm.
7. Fire Hydrants/Fire Nozzles/Fire Hoses as appropriate.
8. At least 1 Fireman's Axe.
9. Radar reflector of suitable size.
10. **Navigation Equipment**
 - (a) Magnetic compass is to be in a waterproof marine binnacle. Compass awing is to be carried out for the compass at intervals determined by the marine surveyor and a deviation card is to be placed in a waterproof casing alongside it available for ready reference.
 - (b) Radar (at least one)
 - (c) Echo Sounding Device (one set)
 - (d) At least one GPS
 - (e) Navigation charts for area vessel intends to navigate
 - (f) Parallel Ruler/Set Squares, Pencils
 - (g) Dividers 1 set
 - (h) One Barometer
 - (i) Lights as per Collision Regulations
 - (j) Daylight signaling equipment for visual distress signaling as per international conventions.

11. **Communication Equipment**

- (a) HF/SSB Radio (one x 500 watts) with DSC facility
- (b) Standard MMB VHF set (25 watts)
- (c) EPIRB (one) with inbuilt GPS and fitted with HRU
- (d) SART (one)
- (e) Navtex Receiver (one)
- (f) One portable VHF – GMDSS compatible with Channel 16
- (g) One Satellite Phone
- (h) VMS and AIS (Class B)

12. Vessel to be fitted with anchor and associated equipment.

**MINISTRY OF BLUE ECONOMY, MARINE RESOURCES,
FISHERIES AND SHIPPING**
Level 4, L.I.C Building, President John Kennedy Street,
Port Louis, Mauritius

Tel.: (230) 2112470 – 75 Fax: (230) 208 1929 E-mail: blueeconomy@govmu.org

**APPLICATION FOR GRANT TO PURCHASE A SEMI-INDUSTRIAL FISHING VESSEL
BY INDIVIDUAL FISHERS**

1. Full name and address of applicant (*applicable for individual applicants*)

- a. Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. (Please tick as appropriate)
- b. Surname:
- c. Other names:
- d. Address:
- e. Fisher's Registration Number.....
- f. Contact No.: Phone: Mobile:.....
- g. NIC No.:

2. Description of vessel to be purchased/purchased

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3. Cost estimate (including vessel and equipment)

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4. Date of delivery / Expected delivery date of vessel

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5. Full name and address of boat builder/supplier of proposed semi industrial fishing vessel for second hand vessel (as applicable)

a. Name:.....

b. Address:

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6. Declaration

I declare to operate the semi-industrial fishing vessel, on which a grant has been provided, in the outer lagoon and bank fisheries in line with the fishing licence granted for a period of at least 10 years.

I declare that the particulars given above are true and correct.

Signature of Applicant:

Date:.....

List of supporting documents to be submitted for new vessels

S.N	Documents	Remarks
1	Certificate of Registration	
2	Quotation of vessel and list of equipment from an approved boat-builder or seller	
3	Evidence that the boat-builder is recognised by the Government authority in the country of origin	
4	In case the vessel will be procured through local supplier, to submit evidence that the local company is an accredited agent for the import of vessels and to submit quotation in MUR	
5	Project proposal as per the project guidelines	

List of supporting documents to be submitted for second hand vessels

S.N	Documents	Remarks
1	Certificate of Registration	
2	Quotation of vessel and list of equipment from seller	
3	Evidence that the boat-builder is recognised by the Government authority in the country of origin	
4	In case vessel will be procured through local supplier, to submit evidence that the local company is an accredited agent for the import of vessels and to submit quotation in MUR	
5	Project proposal as per the project guidelines	
6	Evidence on the availability of funds of an amount of at least 10% of the cost of the project (Vessel and equipment)	
7	A letter from owner confirming that he is agreeable to sell his vessel	
8	A copy of the registration certificate of the vessel	
9	A boat certificate certifying that the vessel is not more than 5 years old with an economic lifetime of a minimum of 15 years.	

Notes:

- i) application form and supporting documents to be submitted in DUPLICATE.**
- ii) failure to submit all the required supporting documents may delay the processing of the application and may also entail rejection of the application.**
- iii) applicants are advised to consult the website of the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping with respect to the equipment that should be included in the cost estimates.**

Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries & Shipping

Project Guidelines

SN	Description	Remarks
1	Fish species targeted	
2	Fishing areas where fishing will be carried out	
3	No. of fishing vessels already owned	
4	Total investment cost, including own contribution and loans	
5	No. of persons to be employed including number of registered fishers	
6	Marketing and sale strategy	
7	Expected turn over	