

## The EU funds the Human Resource Development Programme in Barbados

**Today, the European Commission approved a financing decision for a total amount of EUR 14.77 million in favour of Barbados's Human Resource Development Strategy. The overall objective is to promote sustainable growth and poverty alleviation through increased competitiveness.**

*"The EU is proud to support the development of an efficient, coordinated, knowledgeable, and demand-driven human resource development system geared to Barbadian conditions and aspirations."*, said Ambassador Valeriano Diaz, Head of the EU Delegation to Barbados.

The Barbados Human Resource Development Programme is seen as fundamental in responding to the present global economic crisis and is expected to lead to the acquisition of new competencies, to enhance existing skills, to improve institutional efficiency and to assist in developing a sound workforce.

Specifically, the programme is expected to contribute to:

- the creation of an environment for human resource development through institutional strengthening and capacity building,
- the development of an internationally recognised national certification and qualifications network
- the establishment of demand-driven professional development and training services allowing career planning, quality assurance and greater involvement of youth at risk
- the enhancement of research capabilities in order to improve innovation and entrepreneurship as well as the strengthening of management systems and information access.

The European Commission is providing the Government of Barbados the EUR 14 770 000 grant via budget support. The programme will be mainly implemented by the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development but delivery will be spread across multiple ministries. Capacity within both the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Ministry of Labour is also expected to be strengthened through the initiative.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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