

a. USAID – Job Opportunities For Business Scale Up (JOBS)

Higher Education for Development (HED) mobilizes the expertise and resources of the higher education community to address global development challenges. Funding from USAID's Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, Office of Education (EGAT/ED), as well as USAID's functional and regional Bureaus and worldwide Missions supports higher education partnerships to advance global development, economic growth, good governance, and healthy societies. These partnerships provide training, applied research, program evaluation, policy analysis, and program implementation, which are critical to furthering USAID's foreign assistance goals. The higher education partnership will support capacity building of the Cave Hill School of Business/The University of the West Indies.

In its preparation for work with USAID to expand training opportunities in entrepreneurship, CHSB-UWI conducted an informal examination of enterprise and entrepreneurship programs in the region to assess the capabilities of a number of national and regional organizations to determine if a multi-faceted effort exists in the Caribbean that involves both a state-of-the-art information mechanism, and a framework for addressing the learning and development of persons pursuing higher education.

The goal of this project is to support a growth in the number of business start-ups in the region through increased learning and knowledge in entrepreneurial skills development. This growth will be achieved by broadening the impact and contributing to the sustainability of CHSB's Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Centre as well as the strengthening of CHSB as a School of Business. CEE will continue to leverage other resources for support in the succeeding years of the project.

The results of the examination revealed the following gaps in the development and enhancement of enterprise and entrepreneurship. The needs include:

- The creation of an entrepreneurial mindset/attitude
- Capacity building for institutions and individuals
- Filling inadequacies in education, training and development - with a special focus on alternative energy initiatives, high-tech ventures, social entrepreneurship (of young men and women in particular), and cultural entrepreneurship
- Expansion of research

- Internships and other experiential learning/activities

For more information refer to the Barbados and OECS JOBS Project Facebook page.