

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JULY 2011 - DECEMBER 2011

SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME: Comprehensive Information Portal for Entrepreneurs & SMEs

Project Number: BA-M1006 - Operation Number: ATN/ME-11406-BA

Purpose:

Improve the efficient formation and operation of formal micro and small businesses by providing entrepreneurs with a detailed, user friendly online information portal with (i) a detailed roadmap for business registration, (ii) information on the multiple financial and non-financial BDS being provided and (iii) information and training in the areas of entrepreneurship.

Country Administrator
BARBADOS

Beneficiary Country
BARBADOS

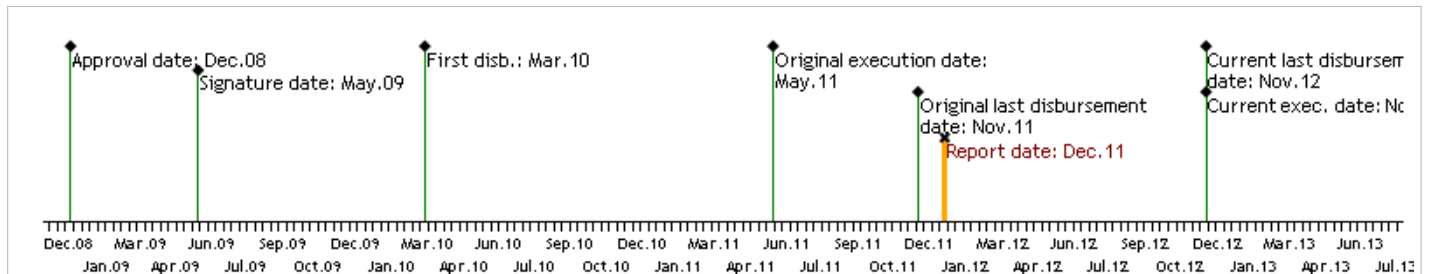
Group
SME - Small and Medium Enterprise
Development

Subgroup
BDEV - Business Development

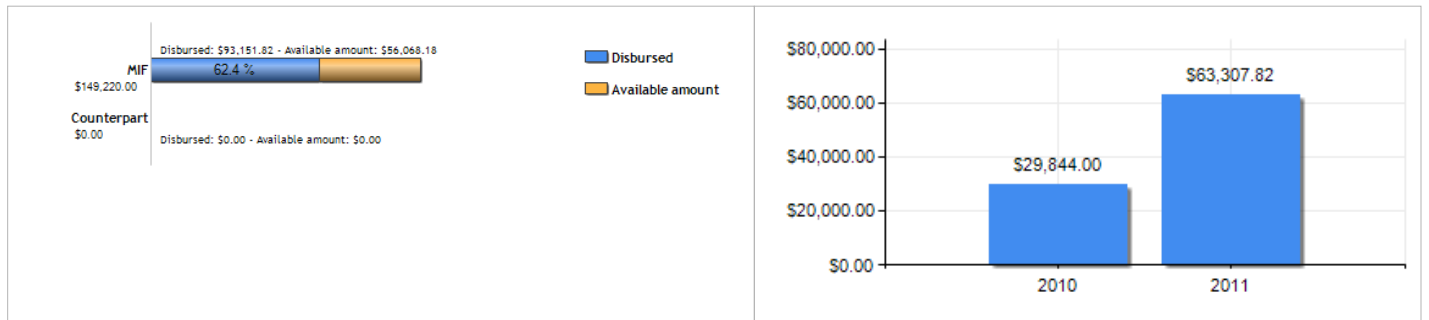
Executing Agency: UNIVERSITY OF WEST INDIES

Design Team Leader: Luna Olivares, Aitor
Supervision Team Leader: Dookiesingh, Vashtie

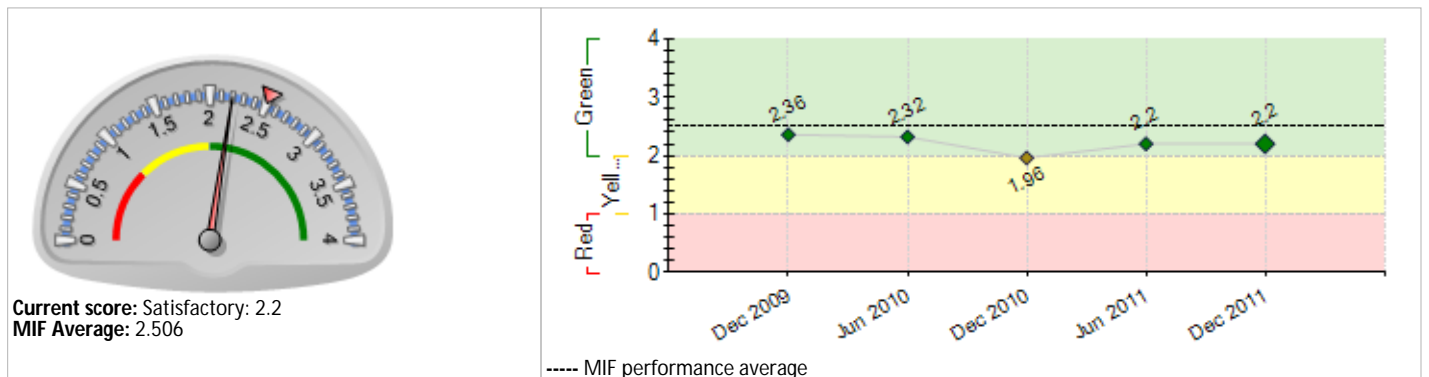
TIMELINE



FUNDS



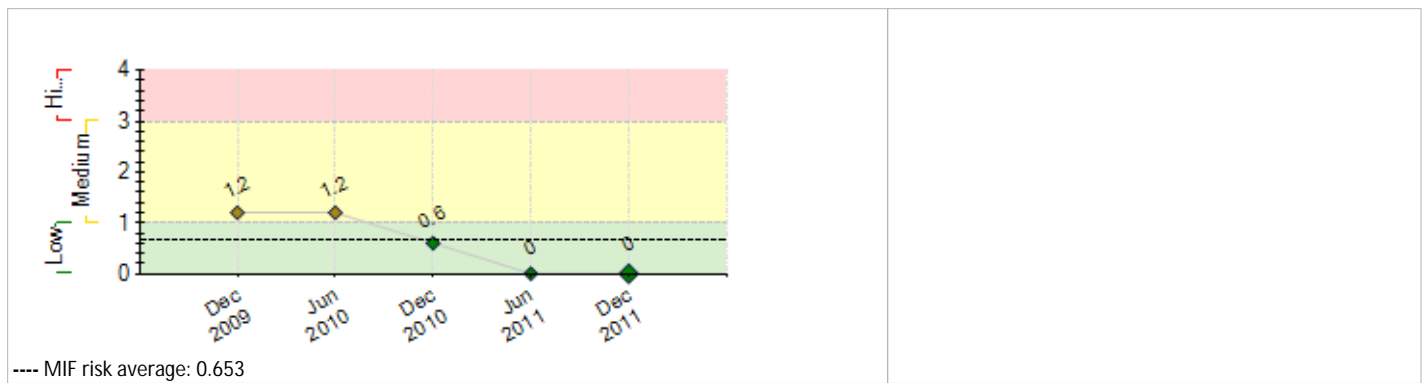
PERFORMANCE SCORE



EXTERNAL RISKS

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Risk
Financial Management: ---
Procurement: ---
Technical Capacity: ---



SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Summary of project performance since inception

Main Results Achieved so far:

Completion of Road Map

1

Completion of Web Portal

2

Completion of Portal being searchable on Google.com

3

Difficulties:

Delays have been encountered on with respects to the completion of the portal to the consultants approval

1

Delays have been encountered with respects to the Resource Centre being completed as it is part of the buildings overall expansion plans which are nearing completion

2

Actions taken to resolve the situations

The delay in construction of the Centre was unavoidable due to the nature of the expansion taking place.

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Project Achieving its final objectives

The main objective of having a comprehensive online information portal (www.barbadosentrepreneurs.com) accessible on the Internet to existing and budding entrepreneurs, that houses all relevant links and templates for setting up and conducting business in Barbados has been completed and met with support from all stakeholders.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

Summary of project performance in the last six months

- In this semester CHSB achieved the milestone of having the web portal (www.barbadosentrepreneurs.com) searchable on google.com. If a person types in the words "Barbados" "Entrepreneurs", CHSB's website is number three in the rankings.
- Similarly, if one searches for "entrepreneurs in Barbados", barbadosentrepreneurs.com is number ten.
- Delays have been experienced in executing the training of stakeholders (formally) to use the web portal. Members of CHSB would have directed persons to use the web portal informally, and Barbados being a country with moderate to high computer literacy visitors to the site have navigated the portal without any obstacles such as: technical jargon, broken pages, or login requirements

Execution of remaining Milestones

- The Resource Centre will be complete, and furnished by the middle of May
- Formal training of stakeholders on how to use the website will be completed by the middle of May at the latest.
- The final report and audit will also be completed in the allotted time.

Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments

SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Indicators		Baseline	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 3	Planned	Achieved	Status
Purpose: Improve the efficient formation and operation of formal micro and small businesses by providing entrepreneurs with a detailed, user friendly online information portal with (i) a detailed roadmap for business registration, (ii) information on the multiple financial and non-financial BDS being provided and (iii) information and training in the areas of entrepreneurship.	P.11 New business ventures formalized	0				30	0	
						May 2011		
	P.12 New and potential entrepreneurs trained in business creation and entrepreneurial skills	0				400	0	
						May 2011		
Component 1: Creation of an online information portal resourced with relevant content to guide and facilitate business formation, operation, and expansion. Weight: 29% Classification: Unsatisfactory	C1.11 Website is completed and fully running and operational in all its components	0				1		Delayed
						May 2010		
	C1.12 Number of visitors to the site is growing every month	0				1	0	Delayed
						May 2010	May 2010	
C1.13 Website is "indexed" by Google as top 5 sites for "entrepreneurship, business opportunities, business setup" and exporting in Barbados and the Caribbean.	0				1	0	Delayed	
					May 2011	May 2011		
Component 2: Resource centre Weight: 34% Classification: Unsatisfactory	C2.11 Centre construction is completed in the new CHBS building	0				1		Delayed
						May 2010		
	C2.12 Computers are available for consultation by the public in general	0				5		Delayed
						May 2010		
	C2.13 Centre is fully functional, staffed and fully accessible to scholars, students, entrepreneurs, and people.	0				1		Delayed
						May 2011		
	C2.14 Centre's operating principles have been established and are published.	0				1		Delayed
						May 2011		
	C2.15 Local institutions and potential entrepreneurs have participated in 6-8 workshops on centre presentation and entrepreneurship	0				400	0	Delayed
						Jun 2010	Jun 2010	
C2.16 Centre has developed a pipeline of recurrent information sharing and training activities for stakeholders	0				1		Delayed	
					Nov 2010			
C2.17 A methodology for continuous monitoring of new market opportunities arising from potential provision of new services and from international trade agreement is established is established and operating	0				1		Delayed	
					Jan 2011			
Component 3: Awareness building and training Weight: 37% Classification: Unsatisfactory	C3.11 At least one newspaper, two radio station or broadcasts have been informed in detail about the launch and have reported on it	0				3		Delayed
						May 2010		
	C3.12 Public, private and civil society stakeholders have participated in workshops where portal and Centre components have been agreed to, fully explained and demonstrated	0				1		Delayed
						May 2010		
C3.13 400 Potential entrepreneurs and SME's have been introduced to the Centre and the Portal and have been trained in business set up procedures, business plan development and exporting.	0				400	0	Delayed	
					May 2011	May 2011		
Milestones		Planned	Due Date	Achieved	Date achieved	Status		
M0	Previous Conditions	5	Jan 2010	5	Feb 2010	Achieved late		
M1	[*] Completion of Road Mapping	1	Jun 2011	1	Jun 2011	Achieved		
M2	Online Portal Accessible on the Web	1	Aug 2011	1	Nov 2011	Achieved late		
M3	[*] Completion of 3 of 8 Training Seminars	3	Sep 2011			Not Achieved		

M4	[*] Completion of 3 of 8 Training Seminars	3	Sep 2011			Not Achieved
M5	Purchase of Resource Centre Materials	1	Oct 2011			Not Achieved
M6	[*] Resource Centre completed and operational	1	Mar 2012			
M7	[*] Completion of final project report	1	May 2012			

[*] Indicate that the milestone has been reformulated

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

[None reported in this period]

SECTION 4: RISKS

MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE

	Level	Mitigation action	Responsible
1. There may not be enough people interested in creating new business ventures or SMEs interested in accessing the services provided.	Low	Sharing information of entrepreneurship opportunities among young people and will widely disseminated information on the services being provided through the organizations that are part of the Barbados Private Sector Association, as well as through other private and public agencies.	Project Coordinator
2. Lack of interagency cooperation could hamper the development of the road map for business creation and the information on Business Development Services.	Low	CSHB to establish strong relationships with the organizations involved in the "doing business cycle", facilitating meetings, consultations and workshops to gather support for public and private stakeholders.	Project Coordinator

PROJECT RISK LEVEL: Low TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS: 2 IN EFFECT RISKS: 2 NOT IN EFFECT RISKS: 0 MITIGATED RISKS: 0

SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY

Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion: P - Probable

CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

Issue	Comments
[X] A market is not generated for the project's services and/or activities (low payment capacity or low demand for those services)	
Actions related to sustainability which will be or have been implemented:	
www.barbadosentrepreneurs.com will be hosted and maintained by RCI Inc for three years.	
The Resource Centre, once completed and furnished will also be a mainstay at the Cave Hill School of Business for persons across the island to access and utilize.	

SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS

[No lessons learned added yet.]