

PUBLIC NOTICE

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE AND LAB ACCREDITATION

Export oriented industries needs to introduce quality assurance systems to maintain product quality and provide product test results to regulatory authorities or customers in the importing countries. Availability of accredited testing facilities in Pakistan is thus essential for meeting customer demand and compliance requirements.

Under the Quality Assurance and Lab Accreditation Scheme announced in the Trade Policy 2004-05, the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, is extending financial support to eligible private sector enterprises by meeting 100% cost of consultancy services for development of certified/accredited testing facilities for international acceptability. For any capital investment in quality assurance, lab accreditation as well as for research and development equipment, the TDAP is subsidizing the interest cost on bank loan up to a maximum of 6%.

Applications are invited from private sector enterprises wishing to avail financial support under the quality assurance and lab accreditation scheme. The scheme is being managed at the TDAP by a Steering Committee having representation from public and private sectors.

Following are the terms for the scheme and application procedure:

Terms:

- i. All Manufacturers exporters in the private sector are eligible.
- ii. Service providers enterprises in the private sector providing quality testing services or intending to do so are also eligible.

- iii. Selected enterprises will be allowed 100% cost of consultancy services for development of certified/accredited testing facilities.
- iv. For capital investment in quality assurance, lab accreditation, R&D equipment, TDAP will subsidize interest cost of bank loans up to a maximum of 6% (loans can be applied under the Long Term Finance Scheme of the State Bank of Pakistan for Export Oriented Projects).
- v. Fees/charges to be paid for obtaining accreditation are not covered
- vi. TDAP will disburse cost of consultancy services directly to the consultants against their invoices
- vii. Subsidy for markup will be provided to enterprises on reimbursement basis.

Application procedure:

Applications for availing assistance under the scheme to be sent to TDAP along with details/documents.

- i. Objectives and scope of consultancy with cost details duly supported by detailed consultancy proposal and consultant's profile
- ii. Estimated cost of obtaining desired accreditation along with confirmation by the enterprise for meeting the same
- iii. Details of tests to be performed
- iv. Particulars of machinery and equipment with cost for which bank loan may be needed
- v. Company profile with details of products exported and or services provided with value for the last three financial years separately.
- vi. For existing laboratories, details of existing equipment/facilities/record of testing services provided to the export sector over the last three years.

- vii. Bank certificate of exports for the last three years
- viii. Feasibility reports for setting up new laboratory testing services
- ix. Amount, period and markup rate of loan negotiated/agreed with the bank along with supporting documents
- x. Execution of consultancy as well as loan by the enterprise will be undertaken only after relevant support has been approved by TDAP.

RIZWAN TARIQ
Assistant Director
Trade Development Authority of Pakistan
Block-A, 3rd floor, FTC Building, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi
Tele: UAN 111-444-111, Email: tdap@tdap.gov.pk, Website: www.tdap.gov.pk