

**EUROPEAN UNION** Delegation to Vietnam



## PRESS RELEASE

## The EU grants € 2.5 million to business and consumer associations, universities and research institutions' participation in trade and investment policy development and support to access to EU market

On the 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2013, the European Union Delegation to Viet Nam launched a Call for Proposals on "Enhancing participation in trade & investment policy and supporting access to EU market", which will be funded by the European Trade Policy and Investment Support (EU-MUTRAP).

EU-MUTRAP, implemented by the Ministry of Industry, aims to further Viet Nam's integration into the global, ASEAN and sub-regional trading systems and to enhance EU-Viet Nam trade and investment relations, maximizing the benefits for the country's economic development, inclusive growth and poverty reduction.

The "Call for Proposals" is an activity under component 4 of EU-MUTRAP Project which total budget of 2.5 mil Euros granted for selected proposals. The proposals will focus on the following three objectives:

a) Develop business associations' understanding and awareness of key trade and investment issues, increase their capacity to participate in national policy consultations, and provide key export sectors with technical assistance information and training on market access requirements (e.g. security, environmental, health, safety and consumer protection standards, proof of origin, etc.) in European markets

b) Enhance research institutions' capacity to assist the policy development and review process, including research on FTAs, the social and environmental dimensions of trade, emerging trade issues, and joint research projects with EU counterparts

c) Enable universities, and academia to undertake research, curriculum development, and the organization of training on trade and investment issues covered by the project

Each of selected proposals will be granted from 250,000 to 500,000 Euros, which accounts for 50%-90% of the total cost of the proposed action. The duration of the action implementation will be 30-36 months.

An information session providing detailed explanation of the Call will be held in Ha Noi on July 25<sup>th</sup> 2013 at Hall A3, Army Hotel, 33C Pham Ngu Lao Str., Hoan Kiem Dist., and in Ho Chi Minh City on July 26<sup>th</sup> 2013 at Victory Hotel, 14 Vo Van Tan St., Dist. 3.

The full Guidelines for Applicants and related information are available on the following internet sites:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vietnam/funding\_opportunities/grants/index\_en.htm and http://www.mutrap.org.vn

The EU-MUTRAP project has a total budget of 16.5 million Euros, with the EU contributing 15 million Euro and Viet Nam providing 1.5 million Euros. The project will be implemented from 2012 to 2017.

(Source: EU-MUTRAP)

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