

PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT
AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION
IN OAS ACTIVITIES

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APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 OF THE GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION BY CIVIL
SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN OAS ACTIVITIES [CP/RES. 759 (1217/99)]

[Barbados Youth Business Trust (BYBT)]

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
BARBADOS YOUTH BUSINESS TRUST (BYBT)
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat to provide Member States of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization (CSO) *Barbados Youth Business Trust (BYBT)*.

The information contained in this report responds to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), "Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities." This document contains a summary and a list of supporting documentation presented by *BYBT* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

BYBT is a non-profit association founded on December 8, 1994 in St. Michael, Barbados with the objective of stimulating youth entrepreneurial development. The primary mission of *BYBT* is to support unemployed and under-employed youth to start businesses in the area of their choice.

BYBT seeks to alleviate unemployment in Barbados, recognizing the challenges of crime, poverty and emigration that result from it. To promote youth entrepreneurial development, *BYBT* divides its activities into four main thematic areas: lending start-up capital, business mentoring, personal counseling, and consistent business support. These activities assist young adults in Barbados to acquire the necessary skills to access existing lucrative entrepreneurial opportunities. *BYBT* focuses on both financial and non-financial needs and directs its activities toward both youth and socially/economically disadvantaged groups. *BYBT* business mentors are professionals who volunteer to mentor and advise young program participants.

BYBT has formed financial and technical partnerships with Youth Business International and Caribbean Youth Business Trusts, with which it shares best practices and expertise, and holds conferences.

BYBT receives the majority of its financing through programs with the Government of Barbados. The Central Bank of Barbados, Youth Business International, private businesses, and philanthropic individuals also finance its activities.

BYBT submitted its application on January 20, 2005.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment of the CSO

Name of the Organization: *Barbados Youth Business Trust (BYBT)*

Address: P.O. Box 306 Bridgetown, 1st Floor
Bridgehouse, Cavans Lane, St. Michael
Barbados

Telephone: (246) 228-2772

Fax: (246) 228-2773

E-mail address: bybt@youthbusiness.bb

Website: www.youthbusiness.bb

General Manager: Marcia Brandon

Date established: December 8, 1994

3. Primary areas of activity of the CSO and their relationship to OAS activities

BYBT's activities attempt to encourage economic growth, create jobs to alleviate poverty, promote equitable employment, and stimulate youth entrepreneurship. Its activities are related to those of the OAS in the following areas:

- Promote employable skills among youth populations in efforts to create jobs for poverty alleviation;
- Issue microcredit loans that catalyze entrepreneurial activity and contribute to the distribution of the benefits of economic growth;
- Create programs/initiatives that encourage gender equality in business development;
- Suggest ways the business community can act to address the social needs of vulnerable populations;
- Develop and implement activities that demonstrate forms of corporate social responsibility.

4. CSO contributions that could be of interest to the OAS

BYBT carries out its activities through the provision of services and activities to youth, such as business start-up loans, business related grants, business mentoring, and ongoing business supports directed toward personal and professional growth. In this regard, the following activities that this organization carries out may be of interest to the OAS:

- Provide grants and loans to socially and economically disadvantaged groups;
- Educate youth on necessary skills that lead to job creation and economic growth;
- Encourage the participation of civil society in promoting pro-growth economic activity;
- Promote youth business mentoring programs;
- Design technical education curricula;
- Implement activities that encourage the sharing of best practices among the public sector, private sector, and civil society.
- Monitor the relationship between unemployment and crime rates for those under 30 years of age in Barbados;
- Support social programs that assist socially vulnerable populations, such as HIV/AIDS affected, ex-offenders, and young men and women with disabilities.

5. Identification of the OAS work areas in which the CSO proposes to support ongoing activities or to make recommendations on the best way to achieve OAS objectives

BYBT could further the work of the OAS in promoting micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, job creation strategies, and social development programs. In particular, *BYBT* can assist the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization in the following ways:

- Collaborate with the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) to implement the Financial Education Initiative, providing young people with necessary financial management and banking skills;
- Assist the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) in the creation of jobs and the relief of poverty by generating mechanisms to promote solidarity and community participation.
- Contribute experiences and best practices to the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES) and the Department of Education, Culture, Science, and Technology (DECST) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development SEDI in the design of social development and anti-poverty programs;

- Support the Summits of the Americas Secretariat to follow-up on the implementation of Summit mandates, especially those related to the theme of the IV Summit of the Americas: “Creating Jobs to Confront Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance.”

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General (dated January 20, 2005)
- List of the Board of Trustees and Executive Council
- 2004 annual report
- Institutional Mission Statement
- Financial statements (for the year ended March 31, 2003, signed by Board Chairman and Trustee)
- Organizational charter (“Declaration of Trust”)