



Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend
Nederland



Support International Business (SIB)

>> *Duurzaam, Agrarisch, Innovatief
en Internationaal ondernemen*



Support International Business (SIB)

SIB is a subsidy, intended for Dutch SMEs (legal entities) with

- Self-produced/developed goods or services
- The potential and ambition to conduct international business in a structural and socially responsible manner in a target country

With this scheme, they can finance various activities that help them take the next step in international trade



Eligible activities

SIB Collective activity (max. €1.500 / €2.500)

- Along with other companies, you can participate in a trade mission (max. €1.500) or trade fair (max. €2.500) in a specific country

SIB Individual trade fair participation (max. €2.500)

- You can participate in a trade exhibition in a country of your choice to promote your product or service. Only if it is not possible to participate in a collective submission

SIB Market entry (max. €2.500)

- With the help of a local expert, you will start new trade activities in your target country. These activities aim at positioning your product or service. The expert introduces you to local stakeholders



Eligible activities

SIB Coaching (max. €1.000)

- With the support of a coach, you will learn how to organize exports to your target country. After the coaching, you will have enough knowledge to write an export plan and deal with other export-related subjects

SIB Knowledge and skills (max. €2.500)

- You will learn about your target country's **judicial** and **fiscal** situation with an expert.
- An expert can also conduct **market research** about a specific sector in the target country
- Or you can follow an **export training** by an external expert to gain knowledge of international business and export skills

SIB Alternative markets (temporary, max. €2.500)

- Is your business affected by the war in Ukraine and the resulting trade sanctions against Russia or other trade restrictions? You can use this subsidy to look for a replacement export market



Terms

- The subsidy per activity is 50% of the costs up to a maximum of €2,500. For trade missions the maximum subsidy is €1.500 and for coaching €1,000.
- For participation in 'green' trade fairs and trade missions the subsidy per activity is 80% of the costs up to a maximum of €2.500 for trade fairs and €1.500 for trade missions.
- Maximum of €6,500 subsidy per SME per calendar year.
- Advisors and coaches have to have a proven track record in the field of international business development with relevant experience and contacts in the target country concerned.
- Within 2 years 1 subsidy for the same activity for the same target country. Exception: trade fair participation and trade mission -> a maximum of 2 grants for the same mission and/or trade fair in successive years.
- Subsidy for one SME per group or fiscal unit.
- Enterprises without a legal entity are not eligible for SIB Subsidy



How it works 1/2

- Check which activity best suits your business needs
- Find a consultant or trade fair to help you with this (collective or individual) activity and make sure the advisor complies with the conditions
- With their quotation and CV, submit your subsidy application
- VAT, travel and accommodation expenses are not subsidised
- Applications are submitted via sib@rvo.nl using the form provided on the RVO website. The applicant will receive a confirmation via email
- Once the application has been assessed the applicant will receive the decision via email within 13 weeks (in Dutch)



How it works 2/2

- In case of approval RVO will transfer the funds within a week
- SIB no longer works with vouchers. All funds are transferred directly to the applicant
- In case of rejection the applicant can object and appeal
- RVO works with random sample checks. When selected, the RVO will request proof that the execution of the project has been conform the application
- When no proof is provided or if it is deemed insufficient, the RVO will reclaim the subsidy



Apply for SIB

- <https://english.rvo.nl/subsidies-programmes/support-international-business>
- Select the activity for which you want to apply for a subsidy
- Click on the button 'apply for this subsidy'
- Click 'aanvragen' subsidie Caribisch gebied
- Then you'll be directed to the digital form to fill in
- After completing the form, save it and e-mail it to SIB@rvo.nl





Important

- Applications must be received by the RVO before initiating the activity for which the subsidy is requested.
- Applications must be signed by the applicant
- Target country(ies) must be indicated in the application
- Applications sent to sib@rvo.nl without quotation, invoice or CV of the service provider will not be considered.
- The bank account number of the applicant has to be linked to the name of the enterprise.
- Always save the application you sent at least until the application is finalized.
- Please respond to emails and calls, to avoid having to return the subsidy granted
- Business between the Netherlands and the Dutch Caribbean islands is for this subsidy not seen as export



Tips

- [Personal advice for doing business abroad \(RVO\)](#)
- [Contact your branch organisation to learn about collective activities abroad that they are organizing](#)
- [Contact the mission\(s\) in your target country\(s\)](#)
- [Dienstverleners \(nlinbusiness.com\)](#)
- [Curacao Business Point - Curacao Business Point](#)
- [Dutch Caribbean Legal Portal](#) offers contact details of legal service providers and relevant legal texts
- <https://english.rvo.nl/about-netherlands-enterprise-agency/contact-form-wssl>



Questions?

More information:

- www.english.rvo.nl/subsidies-programmes/support-international-business
- sib@rvo.nl