

Cluster Evaluation framework™ used to evaluate Cluster Project Concept Notes (PCN)

1.1	Project feasibility & sustainability	Market-driven	The market demand has been tested and processes are planned to adapt accordingly as it evolves. There is clear evidence that the segments targeted have the capacity and willingness to pay for the products and services involved.
1.2		Private sector-led	The cluster is led and managed by private sector firms that are clearly committed to grow. If the cluster project is led by a BSO, there is clear evidence of private sector engagement and commitment.
1.3		Technically sound	The products or services have been fully developed and tested. The project activities are realistic and well aligned with the objectives. The objectives are appropriate given the context and potential.
1.4		Capacity to absorb and sustain the technical assistance	The firms involved have sufficient resources (human, financial, technological) to engage effectively in the cluster project and adopt the required changes over time.
1.5		Risk management	The project is ambitious enough to identify important risks and measures are in place to mitigate them.
2.1	Value for the economy (Long term)	Growing market trend	The demand for these products and services is growing and the trend is expanding globally.
2.2		Digital transformation	The integration of technology within and among firms and BSOs will accelerate the transition towards the digital economy and increase competitiveness.
2.3		Comparative advantages	The cluster leverages local comparative advantages such as skills, resources, climate, relationships, etc. to increase competitiveness.
2.4		Positive externalities/spillover effect	The project will have valuable side effects on other businesses or sectors (eg: health, education, etc.).
3.1	Value for the economy (short/ medium term)	Foreign exchange (forex) generated	This cluster will generate significant sales from exports (or within country from tourists), or it may directly reduce imports by sourcing locally.
3.2		Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), capital, technology, skills	This cluster will attract valuable foreign resources such as specialised skills, technology, equipment, investments, expatriates, etc.
3.3		Current issues	This cluster will fundamentally address critical issues in the Caribbean eg: food security, crime, innovation, misalignment of labour force, access to finance, customs and trade, energy, etc.
3.4		Value for money	The outputs expected can be achieved with a small investment.
4.1	Value for the firms	Revenues generated	The total revenues expected for all firms involved will increase significantly over the next three years.
4.2		Revenues of women-led firms (President, executive director or owner)	A significant proportion of firms involved is led by women.
5.1	Value for the workforce	Employment creation for all	The cluster will generate new employment or self-employment (Full Time Equivalent).
5.2		Employment creation for women	A significant proportion of jobs created are for women.
5.3		Employment creation for vulnerable and marginalised groups	A significant proportion of jobs created are for people living in poverty or in remote areas isolated from social and economic infrastructure; people with disabilities, single-headed households; etc.).
6.1	Value for the environment	Resiliency and adaptation	This cluster is driving or accelerating the private sector transition towards climate change prevention and resiliency.
6.2		Reduced contamination (Water, air, soil and animal)	This cluster project will have significantly improved the quality of water, air, soil or animals in the food chain (eg: marine life, livestock, etc).