

City of Cedar Bay

Heritage Tourism Infrastructure Upgrade

Mediterranean Regional Development Fund · May 2026

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Municipality Seal
City of Cedar Bay

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00 Executive Summary

\$420,000

Total Budget

\$345,000

Funding Requested

18 mo.

Duration

2,400

Youth Beneficiaries

■ AI-assisted — verify before submission

Cedar Bay requests \$345,000 from the Mediterranean Regional Development Fund to upgrade heritage tourism infrastructure, extend the visitor season beyond four months, and create formal employment pathways for 2,400 youth currently without structured training or placement support.

The proposal aligns with RDF heritage tourism priorities, municipal LED Plan 2026–2030 Priority 2, and stakeholder consensus from 127 participants consulted in Q1 2026. Municipal co-financing of \$75,000 (18%) is committed; co-benefits include coastal resilience and youth employment targets required to close the single eligibility gap identified in grant matching.

Recommended action

Submit within 23 days — RDF heritage tourism window closes 15 June 2026. Align narrative to coastal resilience and youth co-benefits to meet eligibility criteria.

01 Background & Needs Justification

Municipal economic context

Cedar Bay (population 24,800) derives 42% of formal employment from heritage tourism, yet visitor volumes remain concentrated in a four-month peak season. Youth unemployment among ages 18–29 stands at 34% — 12 percentage points above the regional average. Infrastructure gaps include unpaved heritage access roads, limited year-round visitor facilities, and no integrated digital visitor experience.

Evidence base

✓ Municipality-entered data

Indicator	Cedar Bay	Regional avg.	Gap
Employment rate	61%	73%	-12 pp
Youth unemployment (18–29)	34%	22%	+12 pp
Tourism contribution	42%	28%	+14 pp
Heritage visitors (annual)	50,000	—	—

■ AI-assisted — verify before submission

Needs assessment (Q1 2026) ranked heritage tourism infrastructure as Priority 2 (urgency score 85/100) with an active RDF funding window. Stakeholder consultations identified seasonal income volatility and youth unemployment as the two highest-priority concerns requiring donor co-investment.

02 Objectives & Expected Results

Project objective

Upgrade heritage tourism infrastructure to extend year-round visitor engagement, create 150 direct and indirect formal jobs, engage 2,400 youth in vendor and programming pathways, and reduce youth unemployment from 34% toward 28% within three years of project completion.

Expected results

Level	Statement	Indicator	Target
Impact	Sustained heritage-led prosperity	Youth unemployment rate	28% by 2029
Outcome	Youth engaged in heritage economy pathways	Youth programme beneficiaries	2,400
Outcome	Year-round tourism employment	Season extension (months)	8+ months
Output	Upgraded visitor facilities	Sites operational	3 sites by Q4 2027
Output	Heritage access road paved	Road length completed	2.4 km

Alignment with LED strategic goals

- Priority 2 — Heritage Tourism Infrastructure (Projects 2, 4, 8 in Cedar Bay LED Plan 2026–2030).
- Vision target: year-round tourism employment share above 55% by 2030.
- Cross-cutting: minimum 40% women beneficiaries in vendor and programming roles.

03 Activities & Implementation Plan

Work packages

#	Activity	Duration	Responsible
1	Visitor centre refurbishment & interpretive signage	Q2–Q3 2026	Tourism office
2	Heritage access road paving (2.4 km) with drainage	Q3–Q4 2026	Public works
3	Digital heritage trail & AR visitor experience	Q4 2026–Q1 2027	Economic dev. unit
4	Youth vendor spaces & seasonal programming	Q1–Q2 2027	Stakeholder liaison
5	Mid-term review & donor reporting	Q3 2027	M&E officer

Implementation timeline

Activity	Q2'26	Q3'26	Q4'26	Q1'27	Q2'27	Q3'27
Visitor centre refurbishment & interpretive signage	◆	◆	—	—	—	—
Heritage access road paving (2.4 km) with drainage	—	◆	◆	—	—	—
Digital heritage trail & AR visitor experience	—	—	◆	◆	—	—
Youth vendor spaces & seasonal programming	—	—	—	◆	◆	—
Mid-term review & donor reporting	—	—	—	—	—	◆

Implementation note

Phased contractor milestones reduce construction delay risk. Municipal LED Steering Committee provides monthly oversight; quarterly reports submitted to RDF per grant agreement.

04 Budget Summary

Category	Amount (USD)	Share	Source
Visitor centre refurbishment	\$180,000	43%	RDF grant
Access road paving	\$165,000	39%	RDF grant
Digital signage & AR trail	\$75,000	18%	Municipal co-financing
Total	\$420,000	100%	

Funding line	Amount	Status
Total project budget	\$420,000	Approved in LED plan
Secured (municipal allocation)	\$75,000	Committed FY2026
Requested (RDF heritage window)	\$345,000	Pending submission
Funding gap if not awarded	\$345,000	—

Co-financing

Municipal co-financing of \$75,000 (18%) covers digital heritage components and is committed in the FY2026 capital budget. RDF grant covers civil works and visitor facilities.

05 Logical Framework

Level	Description	Indicator	Verification	Assumptions
IMPACT	Youth unemployment reduced; heritage assets generate year-round prosperity	Youth unemployment rate	Labour survey	Macroeconomic stability; continued protection of heritage assets
OUTCOME	Year-round tourism employment; 150 jobs; 2,400 youth beneficiaries	Employment / season length / youth reach	Employer registry; tourism office; programme records	Tourism demand holds; youth recruitment targets met through schools and outreach
OUTPUT	3 heritage sites upgraded; 2.4 km access road complete	Sites operational; km paved	Site inspections; progress reports	Contractors available; weather windows respected
ACTIVITIES	Construction, programming, digital trail launch, youth vendor rollout	Milestones delivered	Contractor & municipal records	RDF grant disbursed on schedule; municipal co-financing released

06 Monitoring & Evaluation

The M&E framework tracks progress against logical-framework indicators using standardised data collection tools and quarterly reporting to municipal council and RDF.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Frequency	Responsible
Youth unemployment (18–29)	34%	28%	Semi-annual	M&E Unit
Youth programme beneficiaries	0	2,400	Quarterly	Stakeholder liaison
Heritage visitors (annual)	50,000	65,000	Quarterly	Tourism office
Year-round employment share	45%	55%	Annual	Economic dev. unit
Road completion (km)	0	2.4	Monthly	Public works
Women vendor placements	0	24	Quarterly	Stakeholder liaison

Evaluation milestones

- Inception report — within 30 days of grant signature.
- Mid-term review — Month 9 (construction progress, beneficiary outreach).
- Final evaluation — Month 18 (impact indicators vs. baseline).

07 Organisation & Contact

Role	Office	Contact
Project Director	Mayor's Office	mayor@cedarbay.demo
Technical Lead	Economic Development Unit	led@cedarbay.demo
Financial Controller	Finance Department	finance@cedarbay.demo
M&E Officer	Planning Department	me@cedarbay.demo
Grant Focal Point	Mayor's Office	grants@cedarbay.demo

Implementing arrangement

The Municipal LED Steering Committee (Mayor, department heads, private sector and youth representatives) provides monthly oversight. Day-to-day coordination sits with the Economic Development Unit. All procurement follows municipal transparency standards and RDF grant requirements.

✓ Municipality-entered data

Submission reference	Value
Applicant	City of Cedar Bay
Programme	Mediterranean Regional Development Fund — Heritage Tourism
Document ID	MG-CB-PR-2026-001
Submission deadline	15 June 2026 (23 days)
Prepared using	MuniGrowth LED Planning Platform

Illustrative sample from fictional demonstration municipality (Cedar Bay). Names, data, and content are for demonstration only.

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