



<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Global India Business Meeting 2013 Update</b>
<b>Date:</b>	4 September 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	At Development Committee of 8 May 2012, Members agreed to support the hosting of the Global India International Meeting in 2013.
1.2	Global India Business is a major international networking event which brings together over 350 chief executives from major Indian companies with their European counterparts to examine the potential for trade development and investment between the two regions.
1.3	The Global India Business Forum is the foremost annual gathering of Indian business leaders and their global counterparts. The event is open to CEO's of the world's leading companies. Horasis the event organiser has a partnership with leading Indian firms and uses this network to connect with other leading companies across the globe. The 2012 Global India event took place in Antwerp, Belgium on 24-25 June. Other cities which have recently hosted the event include Munich, Madrid and Naples.
1.4	The 2012 event was attended by Councillors Spence and Keenan and the Head of Economic Initiatives.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	Following Committee approval work has been ongoing to progress the contractual negotiations and secure arrangements. Presently the proposed dates for Global India are 24-25 June 2013 with the opening taking place in City Hall, the main event in the Waterfront Hall and the closing dinner in Titanic Belfast. Delegates will select from a variety of accommodations but it is likely a city centre hotel will be used as the main venue to accommodate guests.
2.2	The total cost of hosting the event is around £160,000. Should a funding shortfall occur, Members are asked to consider the way forward.

2.3	BCC has agreed to support the costs of the event to a maximum of £100,000 in conjunction with other funding options. To date Invest NI have agreed to provide £40,000 maximum and additional finance is being sought from Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB), Tourism Ireland and the university sector.
2.4	The programme will comprise a series of international and local speakers examining global economic issues of particular interest to the Indian Sub-Continent. There will be a dedicated session on Doing Business in Belfast which will be delivered in conjunction with Invest NI. Council will also have the opportunity to influence the programme content to showcase Belfast's competitive edge and contemporary and forthcoming business opportunities. Local delegates will have the opportunity to interface with CEOs of leading Indian firms and business to business meetings will be arranged in parallel with the conference. At this point, Minister Sharma, Commercial Minister for India has confirmed attendance.
2.5	Belfast have agreed with Horasis that access will be given to details of the attending delegates in advance so that advance marketing of Belfast and its opportunities can be undertaken. Furthermore there is the potential of pre and post-conference activity to attract delegates to stay longer and directly explore specific issues or indeed to avail of the tourism offering.
2.6	The format of the Global India meeting is based on the model used over the past 6 years. A great deal of time has been invested to date in ensuring that the local Belfast/NI dimension is adequately reflected in the programme as well as securing the maximum anticipated outputs for the financial resources invested by BCC and its partners. There is a need to conclude the contract details in the immediate future.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u> The total required is £160,000.</p> <p>BCC has agreed £100,000 towards hosting of the Conference.</p> <p>Invest NI have agreed £40,000.</p> <p>Current shortfall is £20,000.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Members are asked to note progress of the Global India Business Meeting 2013 and to consider how to respond, should the full funding package not be secured inside the available timeframe.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
Report back on progress in securing additional funding to be brought back to November 2012 Committee.	
Timeframe: November 2012	
Reporting Officer: Shirley McCay	

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
BCC – Belfast City Council	
NITB – Northern Ireland Tourist Board	