



<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Global India Update
<b>Date:</b>	6 November 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 that brings together over 350 chief executives from major Indian companies with their European counterparts to examine the potential for trade 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 to 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.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	On 4 October 2012 a visit took place by Mr Frank Richer, Chairman Horasis. The purpose of the visit was threefold; to have a project team meeting with officers in Council and Invest NI; to view the proposed venues of City Hall, Waterfront Hall and Titanic Belfast; and to meet key stakeholders including Elected Members.
2.2	Discussions with Invest NI and Council, focused upon the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alignment of the Conference Programme to reflect the key growth sectors in Belfast and the wider region including IT, creative industry and business services sectors. It was further agreed the conference programme presents an opportunity to explore the difficulties and</li> </ul>

	<p>similarities of the NI and Indian Diasporas. The draft programme is currently being revised by Horasis based upon these requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Opportunities exist to engage with the local business community, prior to the conference, to promote trade opportunities in the Indian market. The format and scope of engagement is to be agreed with Council and Invest NI at future project meetings.</li> <li>– Connecting the conference to local communities was a key theme of discussions. Council is currently engaged in scoping the possibility of delivering a series of social and cultural aimed focused on the Indian heritage. If feasible the events would be branded under ‘India Week’ and would require input from a range of stakeholders such as ArtsEkta.</li> </ul>
2.3	Horasis viewed all of the proposed venues during the visit including City Hall, Titanic Belfast and The Waterfront Hall. At this stage it is proposed to hold the welcome reception in City Hall, the main conference event in The Waterfront Hall and the closing dinner in Titanic Belfast.
2.4	Throughout the visit Mr Richter was given the opportunity to engage with a range of stakeholders including Queen’s University Belfast and University of Ulster. Further discussions also took place at an evening reception hosted by the Deputy Chair of Development and attended by Elected Members, Belfast Metropolitan College, Invest NI and Andras House.
2.5	The purpose of these discussions was to identify how the Global India Business Meeting could engage with the local businesses and communities; support stakeholders existing and future activities in the Indian market and promote a partnership approach to the event.
2.6	As Members will be aware the total cost of the event is around £160,000. To date Council has agreed to support the costs of the event to a maximum of £100,000 in conjunction with other funders. Invest NI has agreed to provide approximately £30,000 of funding. Additional funding is being sought from University of Ulster, Queen’s University Belfast and Belfast Metropolitan College. Following their engagement through the visit itinerary Council officers are now following up on these initial discussions with the purpose of securing the remaining financial shortfall.

<b>3</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
3.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

<b>4</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
4.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

<b>5</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
There is no Decision Tracking attached to this report.	