



Connect In One Place With Organizations That Provide Business Support
Colmena66 And The Federal Reserve Bank Of New York Will Hold A One-Stop Shop To
Assist Small Business Owners And Entrepreneurs

CAROLINA, PUERTO RICO—Next week, small business owners, merchants and entrepreneurs will find in one location information and tools necessary to develop, strengthen or establish a business on the Island post- Hurricane Maria.

Connect to Grow, organized by Colmena66 and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, is free to attend and will take place on Thursday, May 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Haydee Piñero Buck Auditorium of the Jesús T. Piñero Library and Social Research Center at the Universidad del Este (UNE) in Carolina, Puerto Rico.

Some of the services available to attendees are: business support, individual assistance appointments, information about assistance with recovering from natural disasters, legal assistance, how to access federal contracts, access to financing, as well as information on how to export.

"We are excited to collaborate with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and Kingbird Innovation Center of Universidad del Este to connect business owners and entrepreneurs with organizations that provide business support all in one place, this is precisely what we do every day in Colmena66, " said Denisse Rodríguez, director of Colmena66, a program of the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust.

Tony Davis, Director of Community Engagement of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, reiterated the New York Fed's commitment to supporting the business environment in Puerto Rico by providing the necessary tools, as well as information about financing and credit for development and growth of small and medium sized businesses. "Looking toward the future, the forum strengthens the business sector to create a stronger and more dynamic economy," Davis said.

Participating organizations include the Small Business Administration (SBA), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, Federal Contracting Center, Kingbird Innovation Center, among others.

Those interested in participating in Connect to Grow must register at <http://bit.ly/Connect-to-Grow>. For more information, call 787-829-6024.

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About Colmena66 and the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust



Its mission is to help entrepreneurs in Puerto Rico grow and prosper by providing easy access to the necessary resources. Colmena66 also analyzes the gaps in the business ecosystem and works with them to address those needs.

The Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust, as described in Public Law 214, is a nonprofit organization created in 2004 to promote the participation and creation of jobs in the Island in the global knowledge economy by promoting investment and the financing of research and development of science and technology. By investing in technology, research and commercialization, the Trust serves as a catalyst for the creation of jobs and the retention of highly qualified and often bilingual residents of the Island. It is also responsible for the public policy of Puerto Rico for science, technology, research and development. For more information: www.prsciencetrust.org.

About the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is part of the Federal Reserve System and its district is comprised of New York State, 12 counties in northern New Jersey, Fairfield County in Connecticut, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Contacts

Desirée Rodríguez

(787) 354-8746

desirée@colmena66.com

Betsy Bourassa

(212) 720-6885

betsy.bourassa@ny.frb.org