



Responsible Business Fund (RBF) Myanmar



5th Call for Proposals - Open from 4th to 27th January, 2020

As a part of the Danish Development Assistance to Myanmar, Denmark has established the additional **MMK 5 billion RBF** for 5th Call for Proposals to function as “a Challenge Fund” to “increase the competitiveness and responsible behavior of Myanmar enterprises” by providing partial grants to SMEs for the implementation of innovative projects in the following **6 Eligible Areas**:

1. *Energy Efficiency;*
2. *Water Efficiency;*
3. *Waste to Value;*
4. *Occupational Safety & Health;*
5. *Food Safety;*
6. *Waste Water Treatment;*

Hence if your enterprise has been facing financial constraints that prevent you from undertaking projects in the above-mentioned areas, potentially making your business more responsible/competitive, RBF can provide **Grant support** as follows to provide an incentive for you to demonstrate such best practices to the rest of the Myanmar business community.

- **30% of the Project Cost (up to MMK 80 million)** for Areas 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(Kindly note that, SMEs proposing project ideas under Area 4 and 5 must be producing products that are either currently being exported or have a strong potential for export.)
- **50% of the Project Cost (up to MMK 80 million)** for Area 6
- **50% of the Project Cost (up to MMK 80 million)** for the commercially weaker states namely Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin and Rakhine
- **50% of the Project Cost (up to MMK 80 million)** for Danish technologies and equipment
(However, the selection of the equipment supplier for the proposed project is entirely the choice of SMEs and RBF will not be choosing the suppliers for SMEs.)

RBF is an instrument to absorb some of the financial risk of being an early-mover to adapt responsible business practices. The emphasis of RBF is therefore on creating as many demonstration projects in the above mentioned areas, with a wide geographic spread all over Myanmar, across all the sectors vital for growth of SMEs and the inclusive benefits they provide such as employment and development of small household producers as sub-suppliers. Hence it is important that your Project Idea/Company (or) Business qualifies on the following **7 Eligibility Criteria**:

1. Proposed project has the potential to demonstrate the “business case” for a responsible investment/practice in one of the above mentioned 6 eligible areas.
2. SME is well prepared for the proposed project in terms of: identification of technology; shortlisting of suppliers; and raising finances required for SME’s contribution etc., in order to complete project procurement before April 2022.
3. Proposed technology or responsible business practices have not already been implemented



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by competing businesses in your locality/district. If RBF has already approved grant support for a similar project in your locality/district/township or other businesses have already implemented similar project ideas, there will be a very little chance for your project to be considered by RBF's BOD for grant approval. Please check the projects already supported by RBF from the following RBF Myanmar Website Page:

<http://www.rbfmyanmar.com/supported-sme-list>

4. Your company (or) business should have not been approved for RBF grant support through the earlier 'Calls for Proposals'.
5. Your company (or) business is registered in Myanmar and is an SME with either 600 or less permanent staff or has less than 1 billion Kyat in paid-up capital.
6. Your company (or) business has been operational for a minimum of two years and can show externally audited accounts for the most recent year.
7. Your company (or) business is not operating in excluded sectors (hard liquor, gambling, tobacco, weapons, and internationally recognized exclusion list).

In case you have a project idea that fits into the above requirements, the first step to seek assistance from RBF is to fill-in the attached Concept Note. As the selection of projects for grant support is based on a competitive call for proposals, they will be ranked using the following **4 Evaluation Criteria**.

No.	Criteria	Method of Rating Higher Preference for:	Weightage
1	Demonstration potential within Myanmar/ Region/ State/ District/ Township	Projects that have a national level demonstration value	45%
2	Commercial viability measured in terms of pay-back period	Projects that face larger risks and longer pay-back periods	30%
3	Equipment Supplier's track-record	Equipment Suppliers that have a proven track-record of delivering on the proposed technology/initiative Providing more than one quotation	15%
4	Non-financial / Non- quantifiable benefits to Employees, Local Community and Environment	Projects with higher potential to create benefits that extend beyond the costs/profits of the SME	10%
Total			100%

Timeline for the 5th Call for the evaluation of Concept Notes/Project Proposals and the later steps to be taken by applicant SMEs are presented below:



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Date	Activity
4 th Jan to 26 th Jan 2021	Opening of RBF Call for Proposals
27 th Jan 2021 (12 pm)	Last day for submission of Concept Notes
28 th Jan to 15 th Feb 2021	Screening by RBF Secretariat issues for Concept Notes
16 th February 2021	Announcement of Shortlisted SMEs - Concept Note Stage
16 th March 2021 (12 pm)	Deadline for the submission of Full Proposals by Shortlisted SMEs
9 th April 2021	RBF Secretariat submits Appraisal Notes to Board of RBF
10 th April to 23 rd April 2021	Assessment by Board of RBF and approval of Grant Support to selected SMEs
30 th April 2021	Grant Approvals (e-mails) sent to selected SMEs along with draft Grant Agreements
3 rd May to 15 th June 2021	Grant Agreements signed between RBF Secretariat and selected SMEs
31 st May 2022	Last date for disbursement by RBF to Grantees or Suppliers

Concept Notes must be submitted by 27th Jan 2021 (12:00 pm).

Submission Instructions

- We will be accepting concept notes from **Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing, Ayarwaddy, Tanintharyi, Shan, Mon states and regions** through Google Form.

Online Google Form Link

Myanmar Version : <https://forms.gle/biNtetPYaFBQQvvp9>

English Version : <https://forms.gle/r72GRm5PV6YmdQUb7>

Please note that once you made a successful submission you will be receiving a notification email from RBF Myanmar.

- We will be accepting concept notes from **Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Rakhine** via emails.
Email address : applications@rbfmyanmar.com
Email subject : 5th call – January 2021 - Submitting Concept Note of () company
- If you need any assistance in submitting your concept notes to RBF Myanmar, kindly review the demonstration video of **How to Fill Concept Note and Google Form Guide** in the link below.



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Video Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XjHPnakW0K754B19Flh5Rmw17oCvn2DG/view?usp=sharing>

- Please note that submitting concept notes with one method is adequate for the application. Submitting concept notes with the use of two methods is not necessary.

Any queries regarding RBF support can be addressed to: info@rbfmyanmar.com or mobile phone numbers: 09-250284175 or 09-795766825 or 09-794275505.

Thanking you for the interest in responding to the challenges of finding responsible and sustainable business solutions to make Myanmar competitive.