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Confédération suisse  
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Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



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**EMBASSY  
OF DENMARK**  
*Yangon*

# Responsible Business Fund Plus (RBF+)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals

Open from 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025 to 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Awareness Event

**RBF+**  
RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS FUND



**Inclusive Systems Myanmar**  
©A Social Enterprise of **HELVETAS** Swiss Intercooperation

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- **Areas of Support**

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## **RBF+ Grant Application Process**

- **Further details**
- **Discussion**

# About RBF

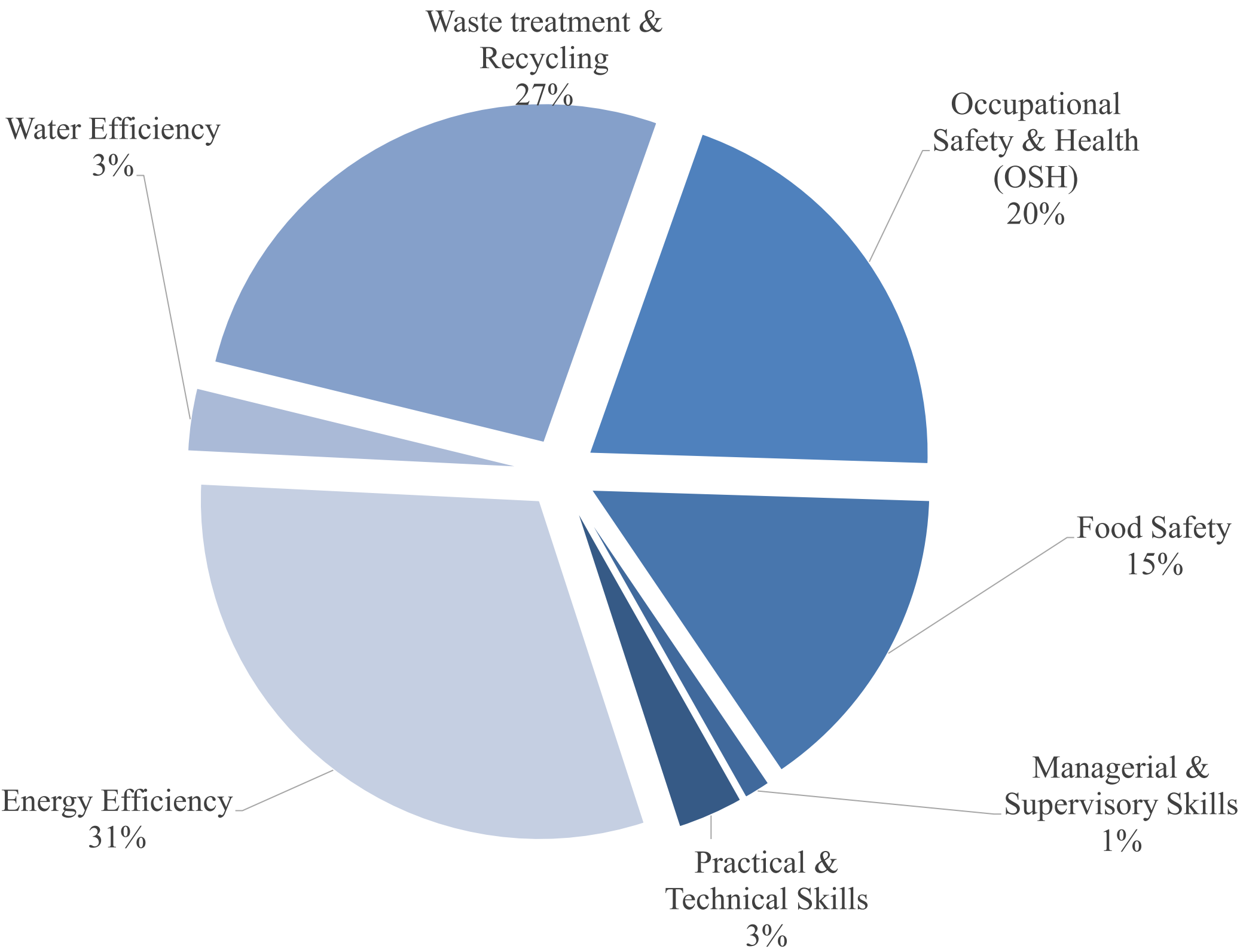
**2017 ~ 2023**

**DKK 125 million  
(USD 15 - 20 million)**

**Matching Grant Fund**

**Supported by  
Denmark**

# Number of RBF Supported Demonstrations - 7 Areas



Area	Number of Grants
Energy Efficiency	213
Water Efficiency	21
Waste Treatment and Recycling	184
Occupational Safety & Health (OSH)	139
Food Safety	104
Managerial & Supervisory Skills	9
Practical & Technical Skills	22
Total	692

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# About RBF+

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2024 To 2028

# Donors



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## ❖ RBF+ Objective

Promote **inclusive growth** of Agrifood MSMEs in local **agricultural value chains**, to enhance their economic resilience.

## ❖ Mechanism

RBF+ will continue to use the “**Matching Grant**” mechanism.



## ❖ **Direct Target Group**

MSMEs within the various Agricultural Value Chains that can **benefit the farmers with productivity improvements, cost reduction or access to markets.**

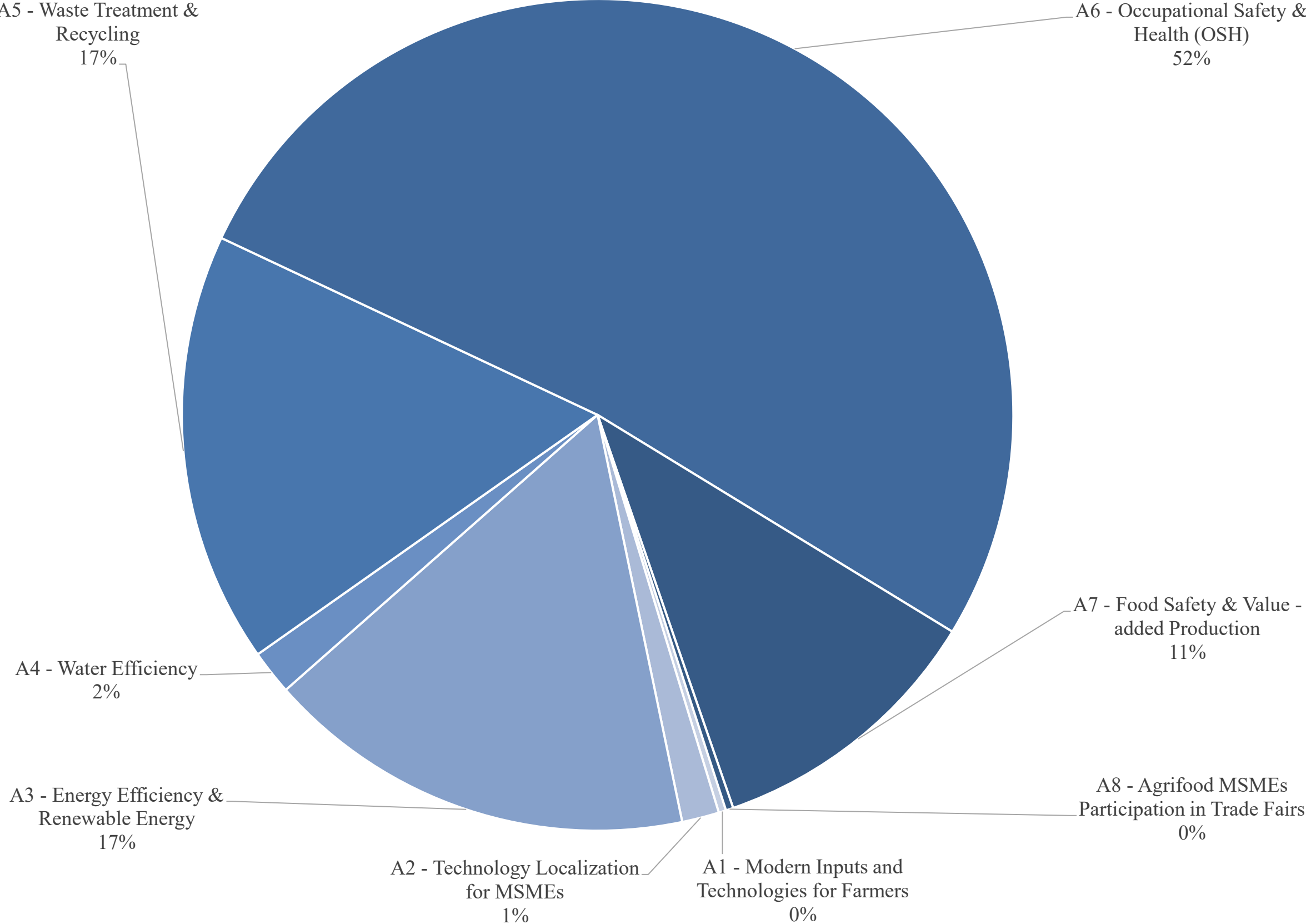
## ❖ **Enabling/Facilitation Target Group**

**Companies, Equipment/Technology Suppliers, Business Associations, and Large Local Retailers / International Buyers**, that have a commercial interest in serving the economic and environmental sustainability goals of Farmers and Agrifood MSMEs.

# 1st Call - Implementation Overview - Approved RBF+ Projects

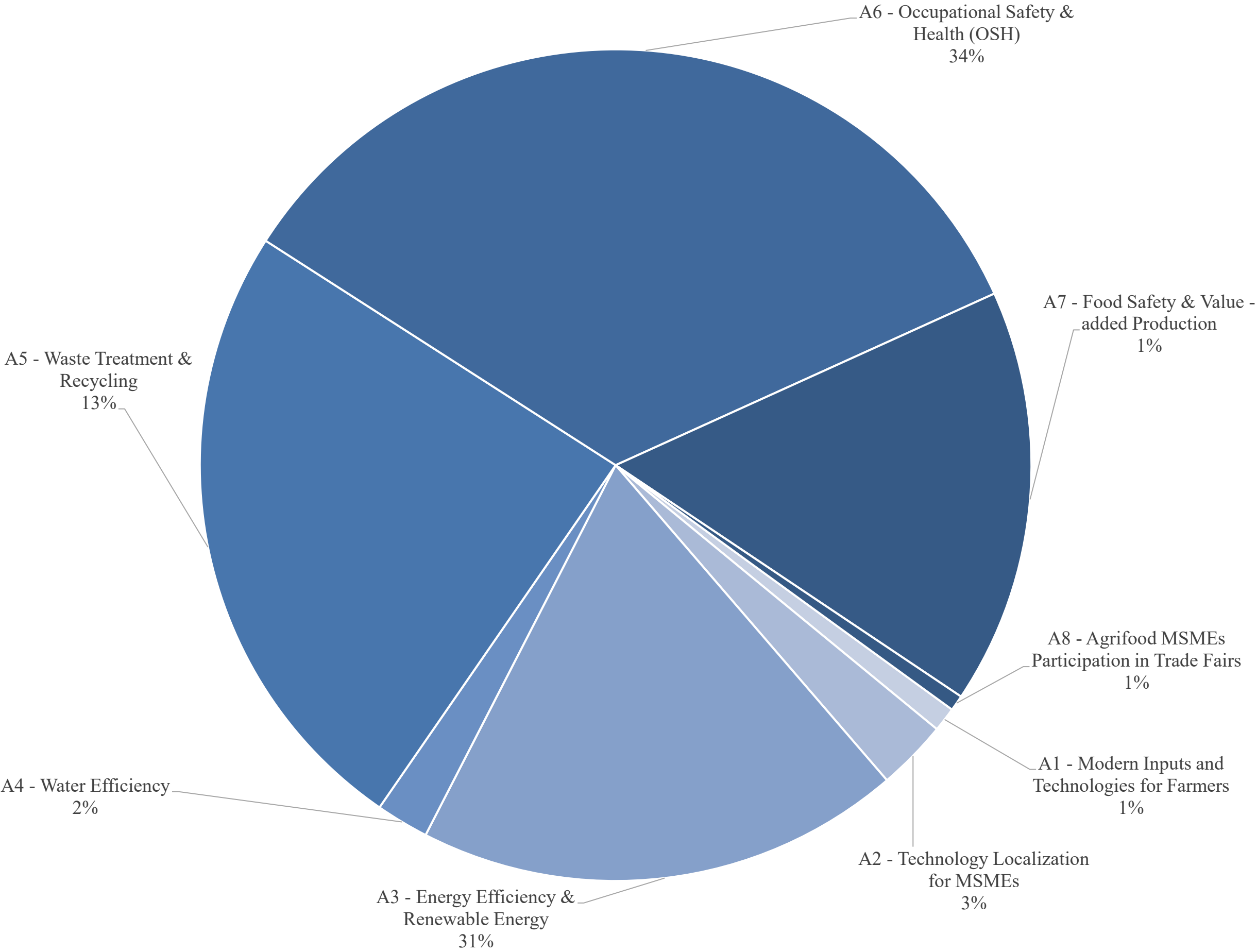
Status	Number of Projects
Number of Grants approved	421
Number of Drop-Out Cases—Unable to Fulfill Approval Conditions	84
Number of Projects under Implementation	337

# Number of RBF+ supported Projects - 9 Areas



Area	Number of Grants
A1 - Modern Inputs and Technologies for Farmers	1
A2 - Technology Localization for MSMEs	5
A3 - Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	57
A4 - Water Efficiency	6
A5 - Waste Treatment & Recycling	54
A6 - Occupational Safety & Health (OSH)	178
A7 - Food Safety & Value - added Production	35
A8 - Agrifood MSMEs Participation in Trade Fairs	1
Total	337

# Distribution of RBF+ Grants – 9 Areas of Support



Area	Million in MMK
A1 - Modern Inputs and Technologies for Farmers	219.0
A2 - Technology Localization for MSMEs	632.5
A3 - Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	4,359.8
A4 - Water Efficiency	475.5
A5 - Waste Treatment & Recycling	5,522.2
A6 - Occupational Safety & Health (OSH)	7,891.1
A7 - Food Safety & Value - added Production	3,734.8
A8 - Agrifood MSMEs Participation in Trade Fairs	140.1
Total	22,975.1

# Geographic/Gender Distribution – RBF+ Supported Demonstrations



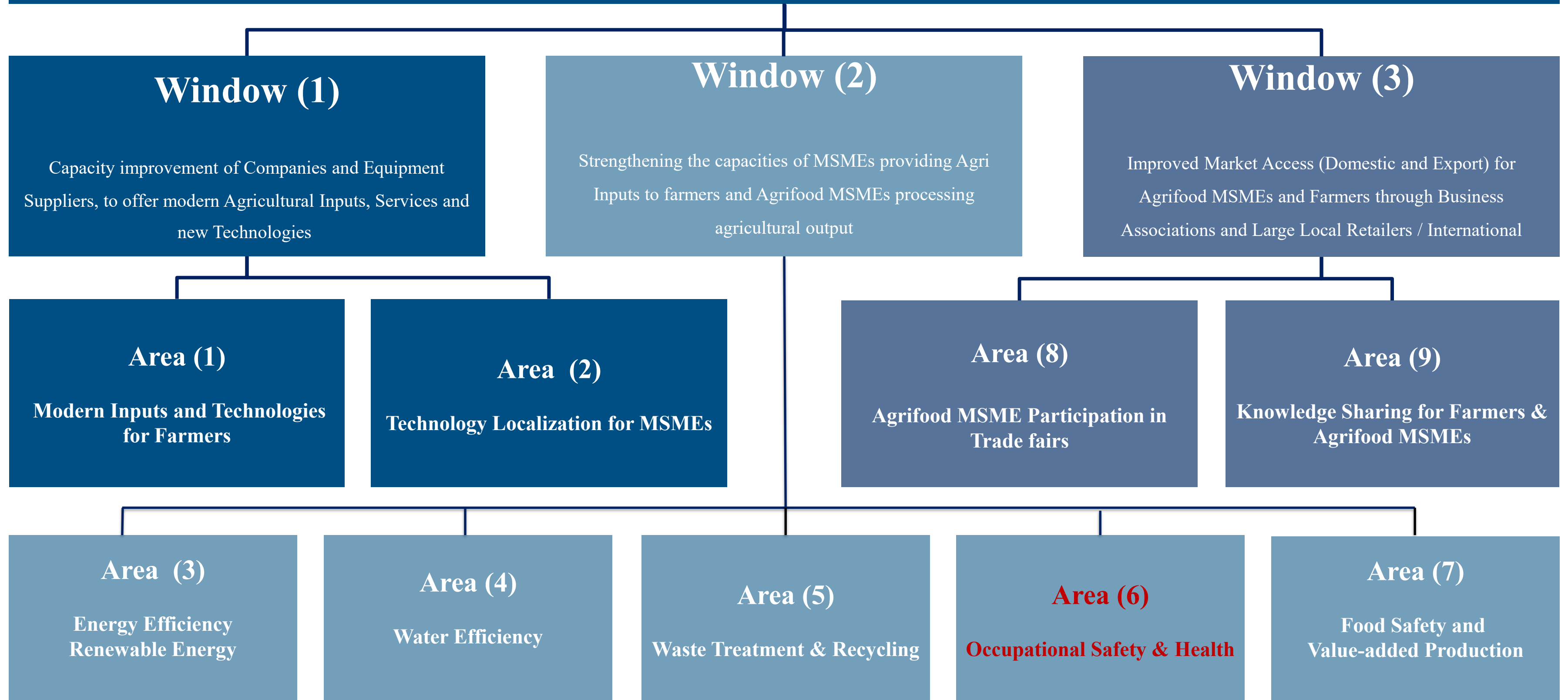
States & Regions	Number of Projects	Owned by Women	Managed by Women
Ayeyarwady	120	22	29
Bago	88	21	20
Chin	-	-	-
Kachin	3	-	-
Kayah	-	-	-
Kayin	19	9	10
Magway	16	1	3
Mandalay	1	-	-
Mon	5	-	1
Naypyidaw	13	5	9
Rakhine	-	-	-
Sagaing	20	5	7
Shan	48	11	16
Tanintharyi	1	-	1
Yangon	3	-	3
Total	337	74	99

# RBF+ Grant Support

## Areas of Support

- 1) Modern Inputs and Technologies for Farmers
- 2) Technology Localization for Agrifood MSMEs
- 3) Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
- 4) Water Efficiency
- 5) Waste Treatment & Recycling
- 6) Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) (Excluded in this Call)
- 7) Food Safety & Value-Added Production
- 8) Agrifood MSMEs Participation in Trade Fairs
- 9) Knowledge Sharing for Farmers & Agrifood MSMEs

# Overview of Grant Support Areas





## **Window (1)**

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**Capacity improvement  
of Companies and  
Equipment Suppliers, to  
offer modern  
Agricultural Inputs,  
Services and new  
Technologies**

### **Area 1**

**Modern Inputs and Technologies for Farmers**

### **Area 2**

**Technology Localization for Agrifood MSMEs**



# Area 1

## Modern Inputs and Technologies for Farmers

- ❖ Satellite Images/Data based Analytics and Advisory Services for Precision Agriculture
- ❖ Tech Solutions Platform for Animal Care
- ❖ Innovative Crop Nutrients, Microbes and Protectants that lower production costs for farmers
- ❖ Tissue Culture production and multiplication of plants and crops
- ❖ Hatchery and Breeding technology for livestock and fishery
- ❖ Affordable Irrigation Management solutions using Sensors



Source - <https://www.circuitdigest.com>



Source - <https://freshfruitportal.com>



Source - <https://www.apacoutlookmag.com>



Source - [tissue culture](#)



# Area 2

## Technology Localization for Agrifood MSMEs

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- ❖ Energy Efficient Off-Grid Solar Powered Cold Storage Units
- ❖ Cost Effective Drip Irrigation solutions for Small Farmers
- ❖ Cost Effective Small Cold Storage solutions using Thermal Energy Storage Technology
- ❖ Local Fabricated Cost-Effective Grain Dryer
- ❖ Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS) for Fish Farmers
- ❖ Cost Effective Tractor Driven and Self-Propelled Combine Harvesters





# Grant Support For Window 1

50%



Up to  
400 Million MMK

## Window (2)

Strengthening the  
capacities of MSMEs  
providing Agri Inputs to  
farmers and Agrifood  
MSMEs processing  
agricultural output

**Area 3**

**Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy**

**Area 4**

**Water Efficiency**

**Area 5**

**Waste Treatment & Recycling**

**Area 7**

**Food Safety & Value-Added Production**



# Area 3

## Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

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- ❖ Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems
- ❖ Solar Powered Pumping Systems
- ❖ Biomass Power Systems
- ❖ Energy Efficient Motors and Compressors
- ❖ Micro Hydropower Plants
- ❖ Energy Efficient Dryers/ Cold Storage
- ❖ Energy Efficient Marine Engine
- ❖ Solar Paddle Wheel
- ❖ Motor Boat





# Area 4

## Water Efficiency

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- ❖ Rainwater Harvesting
- ❖ Drip Irrigation System
- ❖ Sprinkler Irrigation System
- ❖ Aeroponics
- ❖ Aquaponics
- ❖ Hydroponics
- ❖ Automatic Waterers / Nose Pumps
- ❖ Recirculating Aquaculture Systems





# Area 5

## Waste Treatment & Recycling

- ❖ Biomass Briquetting and Pelleting Systems
- ❖ Rice Husk Gasifiers
- ❖ Agro-waste to Organic Fertilizer Production Lines
- ❖ Biomass Grain Dryers
- ❖ Feed Mill Processing Equipment
- ❖ Upcycling Products from Agro-waste





# Area 7

## Food Safety & Value-Added Production

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- ❖ Solar Dryer Dome
- ❖ Electric Dryer
- ❖ Heat Pump Dryer
- ❖ Epoxy Flooring in food factories
- ❖ Food Packaging Equipment
- ❖ Cold Storage and Transport System
- ❖ Value-addition production equipment in food processing facilities





# Grant Support For Window 2

50%



Up to  
200 Million MMK

In the event of a high number of applications, RBF+ reserves the right to reduce the % of grant support accordingly.

## Window (3)

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**Improved Market Access  
(Domestic and Export)  
for Agrifood MSMEs  
and Farmers through  
Business Associations  
and Large Local  
Retailers / International  
Buyers**

### Area 8

**Agrifood MSMEs Participation in Trade Fairs**

### Area 9

**Knowledge Sharing for Farmers & Agrifood MSMEs  
(Market Requirements & Standards)**



# Area 8

## Agrifood MSMEs Participation in Trade Fairs

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- ❖ Food Expo Hong Kong
- ❖ VIETFISH - Vietnam Fisheries International Exhibition
- ❖ Coffee Expo Seoul
- ❖ Global Pulse Event
- ❖ World Sesame & Peanut Conference
- ❖ Ambiente International Consumer Goods Fair





# Grant Support For Window 3, Area 8

50%



Up to  
200 Million MMK



# Area 9

## Knowledge Sharing for Farmers & Agrifood MSMEs (Market Requirements & Standards)

### ❖ Market Requirements Knowledge Sharing Events for:


- Rice
- Maize
- Beans and Pulses
- Onion
- Mangos
- Avocados
- Melons
- Chilies
- Others





# Grant Support For Window 3, Area 9

100%



Up to  
**40 Million MMK**  
For International Market

Up to  
**28 Million MMK**  
For Domestic Market

## Window(1)

### Area (1 & 2)

Grant percentage and  
amount

Up to  
50%

Up to 400  
Million MMK

## Window (2)

### Area (3, 4, 5 & 7)

Grant percentage and  
amount

Up to  
50%

Up to 200  
Million MMK

## Window (3)

### Area (8)

Grant percentage and  
amount

Up to  
50%

Up to 200  
Million MMK

## Window (3)

### Area (9)

Grant percentage and  
amount

Up to  
50%

Up to 40 Million  
MMK (For  
International Market)

Up to 28 Million  
MMK (For Domestic  
Market)

# Who can apply for RBF+ Grant Support under Window (1)?



- ❖ Registered as a business in Myanmar
- ❖ Has been operational for a minimum of two years
- ❖ Financial statements and accounts for the most recent year
- ❖ **Well prepared** for the proposed project in terms of: **technology identification;**  
**supplier shortlisting** and **raising finances** to complete project implementation  
within **12 months from signing the Grant Agreement**

# Window (1) - Selection Criteria

No.	Selection Criteria	Weighting
1	Commercial viability of the investment as measured by the pay-back period of the investment	50%
2	Preparedness of the Grantee to deliver the proposed project within the indicated project period as assessed by RBF+ SEC based on the details in the Project Proposal and verified through telephone or other conversations.	10%
3	Potential for the specific investment or the technology, input, or service to improve the economic performance of agrifood sector MSMEs and provide economic benefits to primary producers, based on the description of results in the Project Proposal.	10%
4	Predicted reduction of environmental and climate impacts of primary production, by agrifood MSMEs and primary agricultural producers in the relevant value chains, based on the description of results in the Project Proposal.	15%
5	Appropriateness of the proposed service, input or technology in the Myanmar context	15%
6	The grantee considers GESI and conflict sensitivity in their proposal to show that they will do no harm (Up to 5 bonus points may be given for proposals that are GESI or conflict transformative)	Yes / No
	Total	100%

# Who can apply for RBF+ Grant Support under Window (2)?



- ❖ Registered in Myanmar and is an MSME employing 300 or less permanent staff or has less than 720,000 USD in paid-up capital
- ❖ Operational for a minimum of two years
- ❖ Financial statements and accounts for the most recent year
- ❖ **Well prepared** for the proposed project in terms of: **technology identification; supplier shortlisting and raising finances** to complete project implementation within **12 months from signing the Grant Agreement**

# Who can apply for RBF+ Grant Support under Window (2)?



- ❖ MSMEs located or operating in Yangon and Mandalay regions are not encouraged to apply for grant support under Window 2.
- ❖ However, MSMEs located in Yangon and Mandalay regions that source their raw material supplies from small farmers in economically weaker states/regions and conflict affected areas are encouraged to apply for grant support under Area 7.

## Window (2) - Selection Criteria

No.	Selection Criteria	Weighting
1	Commercial viability of the investment as measured by the pay-back period of the investment	50%
2	Preparedness of the Grantee to deliver the proposed project within the indicated project period as assessed by RBF+ SEC based on the details in the Project Proposal and telephone conversations.	15%
3	Track record of Equipment/Technology supplier measured by the number of years in successfully serving similar customers in Myanmar and other countries in Asia.	10%
4	Potential for the specific investment or the technology, to improve the economic performance of agrifood sector MSMEs and provide economic benefits to primary producers, based on the description of results in the Project Proposal.	10%
5	Predicted reduction of environmental and climate impacts of primary production, by agrifood MSMEs and primary agricultural producers in the relevant value chains, based on the description of results in the Project Proposal.	15%
6	The grantee considers GESI and conflict sensitivity in their proposal to show that they will do no harm. (Up to 5 bonus points may be given for applications that are GESI or conflict transformative)	Yes / No
	Total	100%



# Who can apply for RBF+ Grant Support under Window (3), Area 8?



- ❖ Registered as a Business Association in Myanmar
- ❖ Has been operational for a minimum of two years
- ❖ Financial statements and accounts for the most recent year
- ❖ **Well prepared** for the proposed project in terms of: **clear identification of project activities; supplier shortlisting** and **raising finances** to complete project implementation before the end of 2027 **from signing the Grant Agreement**

## Window (3), Area 8 - Selection Criteria

No	Selection Criteria	Weighting
1	Preparedness of the Grantee to deliver the proposed project within the indicated project period as assessed by RBF+ SEC based on the details in the Project Proposal and telephone conversations.	60%
2	Potential for the specific investment or the technology, to improve the economic performance of agrifood sector MSMEs and provide economic benefits to primary producers, based on the description of results in the Project Proposal.	20%
3	Appropriateness of the proposed service and target market in the Myanmar context.	20%
4	The grantee considers GESI and conflict sensitivity in their proposal to show that they will do no harm. (Up to 5 bonus points may be given for applications that are GESI or conflict transformative.)	Yes / No
	Total	100%

# Who can apply for RBF+ Grant Support under Window (3), Area 9?



- ❖ Opening of Area 9 Call for Proposals: **(14-Aug-2025) to (21-Oct-2025)**
- ❖ Registered as a Business Association or a Supplier of Large Local Retailers or an International Buyer
- ❖ Has been operational for a minimum of two years — both Applicant entity and trainee farmers
- ❖ Financial statements and accounts for the most recent year
- ❖ **Well-prepared** for the proposed project in terms of: **clear identification of training program; trainer shortlisting** and **proven market** to complete project implementation before the end of 12 months from the date of **signing the Grant Agreement**

# Window (3), Area 9 - Selection Criteria

No.	Selection Criteria	Weighting
1	Preparedness of the Grantee to deliver the proposed project within the indicated project period as assessed by RBF+ SEC based on the details in the Project Proposal and telephone conversations.	60%
2	Potential for the specific investment or the technology, to improve the economic performance of agrifood sector MSMEs and provide economic benefits to primary producers, based on the description of results in the Project Proposal.	20%
3	Appropriateness of the proposed service and target market in the Myanmar context.	20%
6	The grantee considers GESI and conflict sensitivity in their proposal to show that they will do no harm. (Up to 5 bonus points may be given for applications that are GESI or conflict transformative.)	Yes / No
	Total	100%

# Notice



- ❖ **Must have a history of serving the needs of either Farmers or Agrifood businesses in the past**
- ❖ **Potential to help Farmers or Primary Agrifood producers to:**
  - **improve productivity**
  - **reduce costs**
  - **access new markets.**

# Notice



- ❖ Not operating in excluded sectors (hard liquor, gambling, tobacco, weapons, internationally recognized exclusion list)
- ❖ Not received RBF or RBF+ grant support in the past for the Area in which the RBF+ Grant Application is being submitted
- ❖ Area 6 (OSH) – excluded in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call
- ❖ YGN & MDY Regions – Eligible only for Area 1, 2, 7, 8 & 9

# What RBF+ Can Support

- ✓ **Equipment/Machinery/Auxiliary Systems and incidental investment costs** that are directly related to the investment/intervention in any of the RBF Plus focus areas under Window 1 & 2
- ✓ **Technical Assistance** provided by national and international experts or organizations **Training** either within Myanmar or abroad provided competent technology partners
- ✓ Costs of organizing **Knowledge Sharing Workshops/Seminars** within Myanmar
- ✓ **Out-of-pocket expenses** such as travel etc., that are directly related to the investment/interventions in any of the RBF Plus focus areas under Area 1, 2, 8, and 9



# What RBF+ Cannot Support

- **Any operational cost** of MSMEs
- **All employee costs** of MSMEs, including the ones managing the RBF+ supported project
- Investment that can be used for **purposes other than** the RBF Plus supported project (e.g. vehicles, land, etc...)
- **Building Related Civil construction costs**

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# **RBF+**

# **Grant Application Process**

1

Concept Note  
Stage

2

Full Proposal  
Stage

# Stage (1) Concept Note Stage



Meeting with RBF+  
Team to develop  
your Concept Idea  
(with/without the  
assistance of Service  
Providers)



Online Submission of  
Concept Note



Screening by RBF+



Approval of the Project  
Idea by RBF+ based on  
Qualifying  
Requirements

# Stage (2) Full Proposal Stage



Preparation of Full  
Project Proposal  
with/without the  
assistance of Service  
Providers



Online Submission of  
Full Proposal



Evaluation and  
Approval of Grant  
Support by the RBF+  
Grant Approval  
Committee



Grant Agreement,  
Implementation &  
Reporting

# Role of Consultant/ Service Provider



Develop the project idea together with Business/MSME/Business Association to apply for RBF+'s (9) Areas of support.



Develop a quality Project Proposal together with the Business/MSME/Business Association which includes a detailed implementation plan with clear timelines and milestones, identifies desired economic outcomes for MSMEs and producers, assesses potential environmental benefits, etc



Carry out the financial feasibility of the project idea which includes estimations of investment and expenses, calculations of potential revenue or cost reductions, an estimated payback period, and accurate cost allocation for the requested RBF+ support.



Identify two or more equipment suppliers to ensure that the business is proposing the right technology, service, and cost-effective equipment for the Business/MSME/Business Association to implement the project.



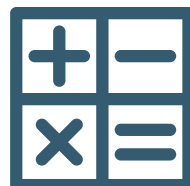
# Role of Consultant/ Service Provider



Develop a quality Project Proposal together with the Business/MSME/Business Association which includes a detailed implementation plan of the project idea within the timeframe, identifying desired economic outcomes for MSMEs and producers, assessing potential environmental benefits, etc.



Demonstrate the strong connection between RBF+'s areas and Supported Equipment/Technical Assistance etc.



Collect baseline data required for establishing the Monitoring and Evaluation requirements of the project and assist the Business/MSME/Business Association in the pre-grant agreement meetings with the RBF+ Team, which is a prerequisite for signing the grant agreement.



Advice Business/MSME/Business Association about the documentation required at least seven days ahead of the required submission date.

# Tentative Timeline – RBF+ 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals

Date		Day	Activity
From	To		
14 Aug 2025	4 Sep 2025	22	1. Opening of RBF+ Call for Proposals
4 Sep 2025		1	2. Last day for submission of Concept Notes by Grant Applicants
5 Sep 2025	25 Sep 2025	19	3. Screening by RBF+ Secretariat
26 Sep 2025		1	4. Announcement of Shortlisted Project Ideas - Concept Note Stage
29 Sep 2025	21 Oct 2025	23	5. Preparation/Submission of Full Proposals by Shortlisted Grant Applicants
22 Oct 2025	21 Nov 2025	31	6. RBF+ Secretariat conducts due diligence and submits Appraisal Notes to the RBF+ Grant Approval Committee
17 Nov 2025	3 Dec 2025	17	7. Assessment by RBF+ Grant Approval Committee and approval of Grant Support to selected Grant Applicants
4 Dec 2025	16 Dec 2025	13	8. Grant Approvals (e-mails) are sent to selected Grant Applicants along with draft Grant Agreements
17 Dec 2025	27 Feb 2026	73	9. Collection of baseline data, consensus on Project Indicators, followed by signing of Grant Agreements between RBF+ and Grantee
2 March 2026	2 March 2027	1 year	10. Grantees implement approved project activities and with their own funds and claim reimbursement from RBF+ within the deadline of 12 months



# Channel Name – RBF Plus

Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/rbfplus>

Telegram



<https://t.me/rbfplus>

Website



<https://rbfmyanmar.com>

Viber



<https://invite.viber.com/rbfplus>

LinkedIn



<https://www.linkedin.com/rbfplus>

# Thank You



## Address

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[www.facebook.com/RBFMyanmar](https://www.facebook.com/RBFMyanmar)

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*For complaints, please use the contact channels below.*



[complaints.myanmar@helvetas.org](mailto:complaints.myanmar@helvetas.org)



<https://www.rbfmyanmar.com/complaints/>