



Responsible Business Fund RBF, Myanmar



First Call for Proposals – Open from 1st to 18th January, 2018

As a part of the Danish Development Assistance to Myanmar, Denmark has established the **MMK 12.5 billion RBF** 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 **7 Eligible Areas**:

1. *Energy Efficiency;*
2. *Water use Efficiency*
3. *Waste treatment and Recycling;*
4. *Occupational Safety & Health (OSH);*
5. *Food Safety;*
6. *Managerial & Supervisory Skills;*
7. *Practical & Technical Skills.*

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 through **Grant support (65%-80% of the Project cost - up to MMK 80 million for Areas 1,2,3; and MMK 40 million for Areas 4,5,6,7)** provide an incentive for you to **demonstrate** such best practices to the rest of the Myanmar business community.

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 abovementioned 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 qualifies on the following **5 Eligibility Criteria**:

- Proposed project falls within one or more of the abovementioned 7 areas.
- Proposed technology/capacity building solutions have not already been implemented by competing businesses in your locality/district. (*Not applicable to Areas 6 & 7*)
- Your company is registered in Myanmar and is an **SME** with 600 or less permanent staff or has less than 1 billion Kyat in paid-up capital.
- Your company has been operational for a minimum of two years and can show externally audited accounts for the most recent year
- Your company is not operating in excluded sectors (hard liquor, gambling, tobacco, weapons, 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** (*minimum of 2 pages and a maximum of 4 pages*) . As the selection of projects for grant support is based on a competitive call for proposals, they will be ranked using the following **5 Evaluation Criteria**.

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

Evaluation of the Concept Notes and the later steps to be taken by applicant SMEs are presented below:

Date	Activity
1 st Jan to 17 th Jan, 2018	Opening of RBF Call for Proposals
18 th Jan, 2018	Last day for submission of Concept Notes
19 th Jan to 1 st March, 2018	RBF Secretariat issues Approval Note for selected Concept Notes
2 nd March, 2018	Deadline for the submission of Full Proposals
5 th to 22 nd March, 2018	RBF Secretariat submits Appraisal Notes to Board of RBF
23 rd March to 5 th April, 2018	Board of RBF, announces Grant Support to selected SMEs
6 th April, 2018	Grant Agreements signed between RBF Secretariat and selected SMEs
9 th April onwards	Selected SMEs start implementation of their RBF supported Projects

Concept Notes can be submitted to: info@rbfmyanmar.com

Any queries regarding RBF support can be addressed to: info@rbfmyanmar.com or mobile phone numbers: 09258113737 or 09979327744 or 09402642579

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

Responsible Business Fund (RBF) info@rbfmyanmar.com www.rbfmyanmar.com