



**NIRDA**

National Industrial  
Research and Development  
Agency

**NIRDA OPEN CALLS**  
**Reinventing Industries**

**Call for Applications**  
**THE 2020-2021 NIRDA OPEN CALLS PROGRAM**  
**CLAY VALUE CHAIN FOR CONSTRUCTION**

Apply to: [www.opencalls.nirda.gov.rw](http://www.opencalls.nirda.gov.rw)

# WHAT IS NIRDA?

The National Industrial Research and Development Agency (NIRDA) is a Government of Rwanda institution that enables a generation of industrial innovators to become competitive through technology monitoring, acquisition, development, transfer and applied research.

NIRDA's 2020-2021-**Open Calls program** aims at bringing your business to the next level by supporting you to address technological and technical barriers hindering your growth and competitiveness.

## WHAT SUPPORT DOES NIRDA OFFER?

Through NIRDA's Open Calls Program, we are ready to partner with capable businesses in order to improve competitiveness and productivity (better quality and/or prices), by helping you to:

- ✓ Purchase, adapt and make better use of new technology in the processing stage (such as equipment, tools, machines, software).
- ✓ Improve factories facility namely energy permanent and efficient and upgraded energy kilns construction;
- ✓ Improve drying facilities;
- ✓ Benefit from cost-free technical and business advice to support the growth of your business – improving production and management.

- ✓ Train you and your staff and management on the best technology, quality production processes, and business and marketing strategies.
  - **The technology is offered as a repayable facility at 0% interest rate, no fees and no collateral.** This is done in partnership with Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD).
  - However, NIRDA does not give out cash to industries but rather provides the capital through direct payments to technology suppliers.

## WHAT IS THE CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION?

- The applicant must be a company or a cooperative in Clay value chain, making construction materials, and registered with Rwanda Development Board (RDB) or Rwanda Cooperative Agency (RCA) operating formally.
- The aspiring applicant must have been operational in the clay value chain for construction materials for the last two years. (2020 is not mandatory for COVID-19 pandemic reasons);
- The aspiring applicant must have at least 5 employees;
- The aspiring applicant must already be in clay processing (so not only extracting);
- The aspiring applicant must have sufficient infrastructure to host a typical clay processing plant.

## HOW CAN I APPLY?

- ✓ It is a competitive process through which only the best project proposals will be selected. A **two steps** selection process through which applicants will:
  - For step one, fill the application form found on NIRDA Open Calls portal (***www.opencalls.nirda.gov.rw*** )
  - If this is approved, you will be invited to submit a full Project Application
- ✓ NIRDA staff shall provide necessary support upon request
- ✓ All proposals must be submitted through the NIRDA Open Calls portal: ***www.opencalls.nirda.gov.rw***
- ✓ **Deadline for Applications: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

## WHAT IF I NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Visit: *www.nirda.gov.rw* or talk to us anytime at Kigali City Tower 7th Floor, Contact our NIRDA toll free number: **1055**, or E-mail: *opencalls@nirda.gov.rw*