

NIRDA OPEN CALLS



Reinventing Industries

Call for Applications

THE 2019 NIRDA OPEN CALL FOR BUSINESSES

Fruits and vegetable value chain

About NIRDA

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

NIRDA is launching the 2019-Open Calls program, aimed at bringing your business to the next level by supporting you to address your technological and technical barriers to your growth and competitiveness.

Our NIRDA support

NIRDA is ready to partner with capable businesses in order to improve your competitiveness and productivity (better quality and/or prices), by helping you to:

- ✓ Purchase, adapt and make better use of technology (such as equipment, tools, machines, software) – as a repayable facility at 0% interest rate, no fees, no collateral.

However, NIRDA does not give out cash to industries but rather provides the capital through direct payments to technology suppliers.

- ✓ 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.

Who can apply?

Applicants for NIRDA support must be established industries or enterprises within fruits and vegetable value chain having **been in the business for more than two years**, aiming but not only limited to:

- Acquire standard, better quality and higher capacity fruits/vegetables processing/value adding equipment
- Diversify fruits and vegetables products, and produce products such as semi-finished products (e.g.: concentrates and pulps), vegetables products such as pickles, frozen vegetables, dehydrated vegetables, vegetables powders, etc.
- Provide fresh produce transport facilities, storage facilities, sorting, grading, washing and packaging facilities
- Provide any other facility needed to improve the quality and competitiveness of handled fresh fruits and vegetables
- Facilitate the local supply of equipment for fruits and vegetables processing/value addition.
- Facilitate the local supply and installation of refrigeration systems (cold rooms, mobile cooling units)
- Improve waste management

Application Criteria

1. Be a private sector enterprise or cooperative formally registered in Rwanda
2. Must have been **operational for at least two years** in fruits and vegetable processing
3. Must have sufficient work space
4. Be directly responsible for the preparation and execution of the project
5. Demonstrate openness to sharing business financial information.
6. Have stable and sufficient financial resources to ensure the continuity of the business throughout the project.

How to 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:
 - Submit a Project Concept Note – must be submitted by Saturday 30th November 2019
 - If this is approved, you will be invited to submit a full Project Application
- ✓ NIRDA staff can provide necessary support upon request
- ✓ All proposals must be submitted through the NIRDA website: www.nirda.gov.rw
- ✓ **Deadline for Applications Saturday 30th November 2019**

APPLY NOW:

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