ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY

AGRI-BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AGRIBUSINESS DIVISION

PROGRAMME TO AGRIBUSINESS AND FOOD SYSTEMS AFTERCARE PROGRAMME

1. SECTION 67 MFMA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING

Support for 55 Entrepreneurial Development and SMME Sustainability

The eThekwini Municipality invites eligible Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs), Non-Profit Companies (NPCs), Public Benefit Organizations (PBOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and Social Enterprises operating within the eThekwini Municipal Area to submit proposals for grant funding aimed at strengthening entrepreneurship, enterprise development and the long-term sustainability of fifty-five (55) Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs).

This Call for Proposals is issued in accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act 56 of 2003), which permits municipalities to provide financial assistance for public benefit purposes.

This is a grant funding programme and not a procurement or tender process.

2. PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAMME

The Municipality seeks to partner with capable organizations that deliver programmes contributing to local economic development through:

- Entrepreneurial development
- Progressive and action orientated entrepreneurial support
- Post-training enterprise support
- MSME compliance and sustainability
- Business formalization and compliance
- Market access
- Agribusiness enterprise development
- Township and rural economy development
- Youth and women entrepreneurship
- Digital transformation for SMMEs
- Financial literacy and business governance

The programme aims to strengthen public benefit initiatives that create sustainable enterprises, employment opportunities and inclusive economic growth.

3. PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREAS

Proposals should address one or more of the following:

- Post-learnership entrepreneurial aftercare
- Business incubation and enterprise support
- MSME governance and financial management
- Digital adoption and e-commerce readiness
- Enterprise and supplier development
- Market access initiatives
- Agricultural and agro-processing development
- Youth-owned enterprises
- Women-owned enterprises
- Township and rural economic development
- Small-scale farmer commercialization

Preference may be given to programmes targeting:

- Municipal programme beneficiaries
- Previously trained entrepreneurs
- Informal businesses
- Township enterprises
- Youth
- Women
- Persons with disabilities
- Emerging farmers

4. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must:

- Be registered as an NPO, NPC or PBO.
- Be operational for a minimum of three (3) years.
- Operate within the eThekwini Municipal Area.
- Demonstrate experience in goal orientated enterprise development or related programmes.
- Have proven sound governance and financial management systems.
- Be compliant with SARS requirements.
- Operate within the eThekwini Municipal jurisdiction

5. FUNDING

Successful organizations may receive:

- Grant funding for public benefit programmes.
- Funding for a maximum implementation period of 12 months.
- Funding disbursed in tranches in line with the approved programme.
- Funding must be used strictly for approved programme purposes
- Funding subject to a written Grant Funding Agreement.

The Municipality reserves the right to:

- Approve full or partial funding.
- Allocate funding based on available budget.
- Request additional information.
- Decline any proposal.

Grant funds may only be utilized for approved programme activities.

Any unspent or irregularly utilized funds must be repaid to the Municipality.

6. REQUIRED SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS

Applicants must submit:

- Organizational Profile
- Proof of NPO/NPC/PBO Registration
- Governance Structure
- Detailed Programme Proposal including:
  - Programme objectives
  - Public benefit
  - Target beneficiaries
  - Geographic coverage
  - Programme Approach and Implementation methodology
  - Expected measurable socio-economic outcomes
- Detailed Programme Budget
- Latest Audited or Independently Reviewed Financial Statements
- SARS Tax Compliance Status
- Bank Confirmation Letter
- Declaration of Interest

7. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

Compliant proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Weight
Strategic Alignment with Municipal Priorities	15
Public Benefit and Development Impact	20
Organizational Capacity and Experience	15
Programme Design and Implementation Methodology	15
Financial Management and Governance	10
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	10
Budget and Value for Money	10
Sustainability and Exit Strategy	5
Total	**100**

Only proposals meeting all mandatory compliance requirements will proceed to evaluation.

8. GRANT CONDITIONS

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the Municipality.
- Maintain separate accounting records for grant funds.
- Submit periodic financial and performance reports.
- Allow monitoring, verification and audit by the Municipality.
- Comply with all grant conditions contained in the funding agreement.

Failure to comply may result in suspension, termination or recovery of grant funding.

9. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Closing Date: **12 August 2026,** Time: **12:00pm**

Submission Address / Portal: **81 Flower Road, Agribusiness Division Offices**. Late submissions will not be considered. Electronic submissions will only be accepted where expressly indicated.

ENQUIRIES

Agribusiness Division, Economic Development Cluster
eThekwini Municipality, Contact Person:
Ms. Nelisiwe Gumede
031 312 9341
Nelisiwe.Gumede@durban.gov.za

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This Call for Proposals is issued in terms of Section 67 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act 56 of 2003) for the provision of financial assistance (grant funding) to organizations implementing programmes that serve public benefit.

This advertisement does not constitute a Request for Tender and is not subject to the Municipal Supply Chain Management Regulations. No procurement of services is intended under this programme.