



## Development Bank of Namibia Finance for small and medium enterprises (SMEs)

The Development Bank of Namibia (DBN) views finance for SMEs as vital to the economy of the nation.

Finance through the DBN SME Center, or through DBN offices in Walvis Bay or Ongwediva, is provided for start-up enterprises and enterprises that need finance to grow.

- DBN defines SMEs as enterprises that have an annual turnover of N\$ 10 million or less.
- The minimum loan amount is N\$150,000.

Finance can be provided for:

- manufacturing,
- tourism,
- transport and logistics,
- business services,
- retail and wholesale outlets
- commercial property,
- construction,
- franchises,
- private health facilities, and
- private educational institutions

### Structured, responsive finance

The DBN SME Centre structures finance for SMEs depending on the complexity of the project.

The Bank works with applicants to develop a deep understanding of business models, project proposals, and project and enterprise milestones, so that it can develop viable financing models that take sustainability, risk and growth into account.

The normal maximum loan tenure is 10 years. The Bank also tailors finance for PPPs.

### Products

For projects and SMEs with less complex requirements DBN provides a range of financing products that may include:

- Installment sales agreements (vehicles and other assets)
- Business loans
- Commercial property development finance
- Performance guarantees
- Contract (tender) based finance
- Trade finance

### Application process

1. Please complete the application form.
2. All supporting documents must be provided with the application. Please refer to the application form for a checklist of required documentation, and ask the Portfolio Analyst for guidance on additional documents. A business plan guide is available on request.
3. All pages of copies of documents must be certified. Certification by a DBN Commissioner of Oaths is preferred where possible.
4. On acceptance of a complete application, an acknowledgment letter will be issued with a reference number.
5. An applicant may be requested to submit additional information, and a return period will be specified. If information is not provided in the return period the application will be closed.
6. An applicant may be requested to make a formal presentation as part of the appraisal process.
7. DBN will review the application, and will inform the applicant of the decision. Approval, decline, or referral of an application is entirely at the discretion of DBN.

### Time to process the loan process

- The time to process an SME application will be 4 – 6 weeks.
- The time to process a tender application will be 3 weeks.
- The application can be delayed if additional documentation required is not provided.

### Contacts

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**Development  
Bank of Namibia**

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