

FEASIBILITY STUDIES

A feasibility study is a vital step in the process of creating or developing a company. It aims to prove that a project is technically viable and economically profitable. Feasibility studies are an essential part of the business plan, containing valuable technical, commercial, financial and regulatory information, necessary for the investment decision process.

SUBSIDIES

The MSME Support Fund grants non-reimbursable subsidies to fund third-party experts and consultants to carry out the feasibility studies. The subsidy may account for as much as 50% of the total cost with a limit of EUR 100.000 per project. Feasibility studies already underway at the time of application cannot be financed, neither pre-feasibility studies costs.

CRITERIA

- Beneficiaries
Subsidies are granted to local enterprises, intermediary structures geared towards local SMEs, as well as infrastructure projects. An additional condition is that BIO should have a potential interest in investing at a later stage.
- Sectors
Local enterprises in all sectors are eligible for a subsidy except those on the 'Exclusion List' established by the International Finance Corporation (IFC). BIO's investment strategy focuses on three sectors: the financial sector; direct investments in SMEs (with a particular focus on the food industry); and infrastructure projects.
- Geographical focus
BIO concentrates its operations on 52 countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia. The list of 52 eligible countries can be consulted on BIO's website.
- Quality of the study
Applications for feasibility studies must meet a certain number of criteria besides the requirements of type of beneficiary, sector and geographical focus. BIO evaluates the sponsors' quality (particularly their economic performance, their financial involvement in the project and their stance towards corporate governance), the project's development impact in the host country, the expected outcome of the operation, the coherence of the work programme, the skills of the experts, and the practicality of the budget and planning.
The nature of the operation is essential: the feasibility study must objectively evaluate the advantages and risks inherent to the project and come to a decision whether or not to invest, on the basis of a 'bankable' document. Finally, the subsidy granted by BIO's MSME Support Fund must be proportional to the size of the business.

CONTACT

To apply for a feasibility grant from BIO, fill out the grant application form on our website and send it to MSMESupport@bio-invest.be.

For further information on our subsidies, please visit our website or contact us directly at the address below:

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