SMEs Financial Support Options COVID-19

International Support Possibilities for Relief Packages and Emergency Loans

Funding Circle – Paycheck Protection Program

About
As a part of the $2.2 trillion federal stimulus package, the new Paycheck Protection Program provides small business loans with up to 100% forgiveness to help businesses impacted by COVID-19. The objective of this program is to help businesses retain their workforce and assist with operational expenses. These loans are meant to help small businesses cover employee salaries, total payroll support, rent, utilities, and other business related debt-obligations.

Further information: COVID-19 Paycheck Protection Program

Who can apply?
All businesses that were in operation before February 15, 2020 – including sole proprietorships, self-employed individuals, and independent contractors – with 500 or fewer employees can apply. For further information about qualification criteria, please click HERE.

Funding Circle will need the following information in order to process a loan:
+ Completed Paycheck Protection Application (we generate this form on your behalf)
+ A copy of official identification (such as a driver’s license) for all 20%+ owners
+ A voided check

Apply Now!

GIIN members and strategic partners around the world are leveraging the power of finance to address the world’s biggest challenges. GIIN provides a list of news and resources details many examples of the coronavirus-related initiatives being led by GIIN members around the world.

Further information: GIIN Response to COVID-19

Possible opportunities:
EBRD targets coronavirus financing of €21 billion through 2021
World Bank Group Increases COVID-19 Response to $14 Billion To Help Sustain Economies, Protect Jobs
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) launches $2 billion 0.875% 5-year Fixed Rate SDB Global Benchmark
**Impact Investment Exchange (IIX)** is launching the Emergency Financing Facility, a revolving facility providing refundable grants and working capital loans to select high-impact SMEs.

**EU Global Response Package**

Supporting the private sector, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and the self-employed, via guarantees, liquidity provisions and technical assistance and further reorient guarantees from the European Fund for Sustainable Development towards short-term risk-sharing on loans.

**Further Information:** [EU global response to fight the pandemic](press article)

**COVID-19 Response:** [develoPPP.de](develoPPP.de)

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) currently supports measures by privately owned companies that significantly alleviate the negative impact of the corona pandemic in developing or emerging-market countries.

Suitable projects can be funded with up to 200,000 EUR, in exceptional cases and in compliance with EU law higher funding may be possible. The public contribution can reach up to 100% of the project costs.

The program is open for German and European companies as well as companies from developing or emerging market countries that:

+ have an annual turnover of at least EUR 400,000
+ have records of two operational financial years
+ are registered in the EU or a country on the OECD DAC list

**NOTE:** Due to the positive reaction and high demand, project proposals can no longer be submitted for this develoPPP.de programme. They will provide further information [HERE](HERE), should this be possible again at a later point in time.

**Possibilities and Measures in Ecuador**

**Measures taken by the Ecuadorian Government**

+ Tax and credit area: the creation of credit lines, debt refinancing, and tax and financial incentives
+ “Delta – ED-“ and the contribution “Tourist Power” – PT-“ are temporarily suspended
+ Publication of (more flexible) emergency laws:
+ EMPLOYMENT: reduction of work hours 40 to 30h / reduction of salary paid to employees (-25%), reduction of employees work hours with same salary, repayment of work hours after crisis
+ FINANCING: tax payment/ credit deferral for April, May and June by six months; public banks launch soft credits for SME

**European Union – Support for Ecuador**

Ecuador has been declared as a prioritized country to receive help from the European Union. The support of the European Union will focus on:

+ Responding to the immediate health crisis and the resulting humanitarian needs. This will include supporting the response plans of the World Health Organisation and the United Nations, and providing humanitarian support in affected countries;
+ Strengthening health, water and sanitation systems, as well as partner countries’ capacities and preparedness to deal with the pandemic; and
+ Mitigating the **immediate social and economic consequences**, including support to the private sector with a focus on Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, and government reforms to reduce poverty.

**Further information**


+ ProCredit Bank Ecuador belongs to the German Financial Group ProCredit.
+ It is a development-oriented commercial bank with an AAA risk rating, and it is present in the country’s main cities. It offers a service specialized for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and also for Private Clients interested in saving.
+ Possibilities to apply for loans

**Possibilities and Measures in Tunisia**

The government tries to limit the socio-economic impacts especially with subsidies for the benefit for private sector employees or the unemployed.

For SMEs financial measures: payment of credit deferral for 6 months, tax and social security declaration deferred, stop of follow-up procedures related to unpaid bank checks. EUR 70 unemployment pay per company per month.
SANAD Technical Assistance Facility COVID-19 Crisis Response Program

The EU-funded SANAD Technical Assistance Facility (SANAD TAF) has launched a COVID-19 Crisis Response Program to help financial service providers in the Middle East and North Africa continue supporting micro, small, and medium enterprises in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

The program offers advisory services to investees of the SANAD Fund for MSME on a comprehensive set of business topics. These include risk and liquidity management, stakeholder communication, human resource management, and other areas where partners seek to refine their response to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 outbreak. By providing timely, quality consultancy on the challenges currently confronting financial institutions, the SANAD TAF aims to reinforce these institutions’ abilities to prepare for and overcome anticipated effects on their operations.

Further information
+ [SANAD](https://www.sananafund.org)
+ [EU Neighbours South - Tunisia](https://europa.eu)

### Possibilities and Measures in Nepal

Nepal Tourism Board is currently lobbying with the Government for Relief measures for the tourism industry.

| Nepal Tourism Board Recommendations to the Ministry for the Survival of Tourism Industry |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| **Job Retention (20 Million)** | **Policy Intervention** | **Financial Support to Institutions** |
| People with job proof will get the support. The proof of employment can be any of the following: | (Leave travel concession (LTD) Assumes 1.7 million people movement and business of NRP 53 billion) | Interest Rate reduction (Base rate or base rate +1%) NRB said to reduce 2% but Tourism required more preference. |
| (i) Last three months’ salary deposited in bank | Tourism Leave Travel (We can give this name at this situation) | Loan Repayment differ for 3 years (NRB can implement it) |
| (ii) Pan register certificate | Contribution on Tourism promotion and Infrastructure development should be considered as CSR Expenses (so include in industrial enterprise ACT and NRB circular). | One-year facility for interest Capitalization |
| (iii) TDS payment proof | Additional loan against existing collateral | 
| (iv) SSF confirmation | Deferment of Tax payment for 6 months | Rebate on Electricity payment and waiver on demand charges |
Decision Making Processes to Improve Liquidity Problems

- Urgently Liquidity Needed?
  - Liquidity only buys you time?
    - Internal money generation sources
      - Check own equity to be used
      - Possibility to pay invoices later
      - Check not yet paid outgoing invoices
      - Check on national level
      - Verify international options
      - Have a look on alternative options.
      - Crowdfunding, peer-to-peer networks
    - External money generation sources
      - Private provider
    - Government support, such as tax defer, short term work allowances
  - Liquidity solves the problem permanently?
    - Verify your market position
      - Check market trends
      - Check profitability of your business
      - Reflect on your market relevance
      - Start innovating!
  - Did you save liquidity for six months?
    - NO
    - YES

Note:
- Liquidity problems can kill your business.
- Everything leads to innovation.
- Money cannot solve your business problems