

DoEE-Loden Spring Call for Business Proposals 2026

The Department of Employment & Entrepreneurship (DoEE), Ministry of Industry, Commerce, & Employment (MoICE) and the Loden Foundation is excited to announce the **Spring Call for Business Proposals 2026**, offering a blended financing package. This initiative is supported by DoEE through the Government of India (GoI) via-Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) and the Loden Foundation, Society Switzerland Bhutan, and a dedicated **Women's Enterprise Window** supported by the **Bronwen and Brian Mills Educational Trust**.

We invite aspiring and established Bhutanese entrepreneurs to submit innovative, viable, and scalable proposals. This programme aims to support ventures aligned with national priorities, including employment creation, import substitution, and enhancing economic resilience.

Special Category: Loden Women's Enterprise Window

In collaboration with the **Bronwen and Brian Mills Educational Trust**, we are privileged to introduce a dedicated funding window designed exclusively for women entrepreneurs. This initiative offers **collateral-free start-up financing** together with **international mentoring opportunities**, thereby fostering women's economic leadership and advancing their role in shaping Bhutan's entrepreneurial future.

Standard Funding Scheme and Repayment Procedure:

Selected applicants will receive a blended financing package of up to **Nu. 1.5 Million**, consisting of an **interest-free, repayable loan** along with a **non-repayable derisking fund** (risk-sharing component). This fund is designed to help early-stage businesses upscale or expand during their formative phase, without imposing the immediate financial burden of repayment. This derisking fund is made possible through the DoEE via ESP-GoI, as well as the Bronwen & Brian Mills Educational Trust for women-led ventures. ***This derisking component shall be distributed equally among all selected candidates and is not subject to repayment.***

The repayable portion of the financing will be disbursed in two tranches within two months of the final results, provided all prerequisites are met. The Loden Foundation requires a signed loan agreement and a personal guarantor for all recipients. The second installment (tranche) will be released only after the DoEE and Loden monitoring team jointly verifies the proper utilization of the initial funds.

Mentoring Support: Mentoring support will be provided to the selected entrepreneurs to help them advance their businesses and provide guidance in business-related areas. Once the business is up and running, the entrepreneurs must send a detailed bi-annual written report to the Loden office. Entrepreneurs are usually granted a grace period of three to six months before being required to repay the entire loan amount within four years.

What types of business ideas are eligible to apply?

The **Calls for Business Proposal** was instituted to support young Bhutanese endowed with vision, determination, and innovative ideas in establishing or expanding enterprises that are economically viable, socially responsible, culturally attuned, and environmentally sustainable.

The proposal will be evaluated based on the following priority criteria:

1. Financial viability (able to repay the loan)
2. Cultural, social and ecological sensitivity (e.g. not a slaughterhouse, fishery, logging, bar etc.)
3. Clear and realistic
4. Social impact such as employment generation, community benefit, etc.
5. Geographic suitability or regional balance
6. Non-duplication of LEP funded project or projects (should not be something which is already in the market and where there is no requirement for such projects)
7. Entrepreneurial drive and motivation (good business is not sufficient; we need real entrepreneurs)
8. Personal commitment (teamwork and personal investment are a plus)
9. Skills (understanding competition and key business indicators)

Application Process:

There are **TWO** application processes; please choose any **ONE** of the following:

Process A: Applicants must submit the business proposal template developed by Loden Foundation, which is available [HERE](#). If you are following process A, you do not have to submit the documents listed in process B because those documents need to be attached to the same template.

Process B: Applicants who are submitting their own business proposal must submit the following documents:

- Business proposal (not exceeding 15 pages) [GUIDELINE](#)
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Personal statement explaining why you are interested in the chosen business
- Duly filled 'Business Plan Submission form available [HERE](#)
- Latest CIB report of the applicant. If you are married, you also need to submit your spouse's CIB report from the Credit Information Bureau of Bhutan. For further details, you may visit:
https://www.cib.bt/CIB/files/CIBSIRCONSFOM_LODEN.pdf
- CID or Permit Card copy

Note 1: We also encourage you to submit supporting documents (if applicable) such as lease approvals for land, proforma invoices of machinery & equipment and relevant recommendation letters proving proficiency or recognitions etc.

NOTE 2: If you are a returning applicant applying with the same idea, you must explicitly mention what is new in your business plan. You must also indicate if you have received or applied for funding for the same business from other funding sources.

Interested applicants must submit the complete set of documents in a single PDF file to [Google Forms](#).

Applications submitted after 5:00 PM, 2nd April 2025, will not be considered. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the interview rounds. For any further information, you may contact Mr. Karma Losel Yangnyen, Asst. Programme Manager, at office phone 77195599 or email at lep@loden.org during office hours.

DOCUMENTS TO DOWNLOAD :

- [1. GUIDELINE FOR A BUSINESS PLAN](#)
- [2. LODEN BUSINESS TEMPLATE](#)
- [3. BUSINESS PLAN SUBMISSION FORM](#)

Click [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional information.

FACEBOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

DoEE-Loden Spring Call for Business Proposals 2026 is Here! 🇧🇹

The Department of Employment & Entrepreneurship, (DoEE), Ministry of Industry, Commerce, & Employment (MoICE) and the Loden Foundation are thrilled to open applications for our Spring 2026 cohort! This year, we are offering a **blended financing package**, combining interest-free loans with a **non-repayable derisking fund** in collaboration with the Department of Employment and Entrepreneurship (DoEE).

☀️ **NEW: Loden Women's Enterprise Window** Supported by the **Bronwen and Brian Mills Education Trust**, we have a dedicated funding window specifically for women entrepreneurs! This includes specialized startup capital and international mentoring through the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women.

Key Submission Requirements:

📄 **Page Limit:** Business proposals must not exceed **15 pages**. Please note that any content from page 16 onwards will not be reviewed or considered for scoring.

📊 **Financials:** Operational businesses must submit **books of accounts/financial reports** for the past 2 years.

📷 **Supporting Docs:** We encourage you to include **pictures of your establishment**, recommendation letters, and pro forma invoices to strengthen your case.

Whether you are starting a new venture or scaling an existing one, we want to hear your innovative ideas for a more resilient Bhutan.

📍 **For full guidelines and to apply, visit our website:** [Link to Website] 🕒 **Deadline:** 2nd April 2026 (5:00 PM)

For inquiries, contact **Mr. Karma Losel Yangnyen** at 77195599 or lep@loden.org / Ms. Tshering Yuden, APO at 17288154 or yudentshering49@gmail.com during office hours.

#LodenFoundation #WomenInBusiness #BhutanEntrepreneurs #SpringCall2026
#SocialEnterprise #BrianMillsFoundation #EntrepreneurshipBhutan