RVO / Netherlands



Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland



Our Dutch member **RVO / Netherlands Enterprise Agency** is committed to keep SME lending afloat in times of the covid crisis.

In response to the growing liquidity concerns of SMEs affected by the covid outbreak and the subsequent lockdown and social distancing measures, **RVO** expanded and adjusted its **Borgstelling MKB Kredieten (BMKB)** programme by adding a covid section (**BMKB-C**). The budget of the programme was increased from mEUR 765 to bEUR 1.5. Furthermore, this extension includes the increase of the guarantee coverage from 50 to 75% for bridge financing. The duration of **BMKB-C** guarantees has originally been 2 year but was then extended to 4 years. The initial one-off guarantee commission of 3.9% was reduced to 2% for durations of up to 2 years and to 3% for longer terms. This reduction is financed with a budget of mEUR 30 and aims to make financing more accessible to entrepreneurs. Moreover, **RVO** has introduced special assessment criteria for the lenders to enable a quick and simple application.

In the area of agriculture, the **Netherlands Enterprise Agency** offers temporarily more favourable guarantees for working capital under the **Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (BL)**. The covid extension of this programme (**BL-C**) allows for bridge guarantees in the agricultural sector that now also include fisheries and aquaculture companies. This guarantee applies not only to the production, but also to the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products. The programme offers a coverage of 70% and is available for bridge loans of maximum mEUR 1.5 per company (for exceptional cases mEUR 2.8). The maximum term is 4 years and the guarantee commission is reduced to a range from 0.5% for starters and buyers with a loan of up to 2 year to 2.25% for other companies with longer durations. The repayment needs to start at the latest 2 years after the start of the credit and the personal guarantee for the entrepreneur has been reduced from 25% to 10% of the **BL-C** credit.





For small companies with a funding need of kEUR 10 to 50, **RVO** offers the **Small credit guarantee for SMEs (KKC)**. This guarantee is available for companies that are registered at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce and that were profitable before the covid crisis. Furthermore, **KKC** requires the underlying credits to have a 5 year term and a maximum interest rate of 4%. **KKC** is funded with a total budget of mEUR 750, 95% of which are covered by the Dutch government guarantee and 5% of the risk needs to be carried by the financiers.

The largest **RVO** support programme is the **Garantie Ondernemingsfinanciering uitbraak coronavirus (GO-C)** with a budget of bEUR 2.5. This programme covers 80 or 90% of loan of up to mEUR 150 to medium and large companies. It was originally planned to be closed in December 2020 but was then extended to mid-2021.

In addition, the **Netherland Enterprise Agency** offers the so-called **Fixed Cost Allowance (TVL)** to SMEs that are struggling to pay their fixed costs due to the covid crisis. In December 2020, it was decided that the subsidy percentage would depend on the loss of turnover. With a 30% loss of turnover, the subsidy percentage is 50%. With 100% loss of turnover, this increases to 70%. This adjustment applies to TVL Q4 2020 and TVL Q1 2021. While between June and September 2020 the maximum amount was kEUR 50, it was increased to kEUR 90 since October 2020.

More information on **RVO** measures can be found under the following link: <u>https://www.rvo.nl/subsidie-en-financieringswijzer</u>

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