

Apex Block Grant Guidelines

Why does your organisation need an Apex Block Grant?

Your organisation needs to develop and manage strong collaborative networks in advocacy and sustained dialogue between its members and other private sector organisations. This can be achieved through communication links, knowledge-sharing, and more efficient use of expertise. You also need to maintain sustained dialogue with government at local, regional and national levels.

BEST-Dialogue provides a lump sum of funding up-front, which guarantees coherence through forward planning and resource availability. The organisation is therefore better able to promote its cause, and give direction to its members resulting in increased credibility, a well-maintained membership base and the capacity to levy fees.

Who can apply?

Membership based organisations of other private sector groups in the sector can apply. Your organisation has already received funding from BEST-Dialogue in the past, and has a proven track record of fulfilling advocacy projects, and is now looking to elevate your advocacy work by engaging in continuous discussions with government, known as "sustained dialogue".

How to apply?

You are requested to contact BEST-Dialogue and present a brief explanation of your past advocacy track record, and explain the nature of your advocacy activities. This can be done with the support of a consultant, or an in-house expert. You are then required to identify your advocacy issues and present those which require urgent attention.

Advocacy issues often develop a cyclical pattern, as each year their relevance comes back into the political domain, for example with regard to the preparation of the national budget. Organisations are required to provide a list of ongoing obstacles in the sector which they want to tackle. They identify difficulties they are facing in effectively engaging in advocacy and dialogue, which can highlight a lack of human resources and training. This triggers discussions from BEST-Dialogue, who then decide on grant requests.