

Invitation of Applications for “Environmental Education and Community Action Projects” (Second Round in 2020/21)

The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) Committee is now inviting local non-profit making organisations to submit funding applications for Environmental Education and Community Action (EE&CA) Projects (including projects comprising both environmental education activities and installation of facilities) under the following themes:

(A) General Theme

Around **\$7 million** would be available to support applications for **small, medium, large-scale, and special grant projects** that are consistent with the overall nature and objectives of EE&CA Projects:

Project Type	Funding Limit per Application ^{Note}	Estimated Amount of Funding for the Present Invitation ^{Note}
Small-scale project	\$50,000	\$400,000
Medium-scale project	\$500,000	\$1,100,000
Large-scale project	No specific funding cap	\$5,000,000
Special grant project	\$100,000	\$500,000

(B) Special Themes

Around **\$14.6 million** would be available to support applications related to the following **special themes**:

Special Themes	Funding Limit Per Application ^{Note}	Estimated Amount of Funding for the Present Invitation ^{Note}
Climate Change	No specific funding cap	\$1,750,000
Biodiversity		\$5,840,000
Clean Shorelines		\$6,500,000
Clean Shorelines Small Scale Projects (Mainly for organisation of coastal cleanup activities)	\$10,000	\$500,000

Note: The amounts of funding support will be assessed and determined on the merits of individual funding applications. Those applications with applied budgets exceeding the amount of funding allocated for the respective project type/special theme will not be considered.

Notes for Funding Applications for Installation of Facilities

Applicant organisations may, based on their project objectives and target participants, submit applications that comprise both environmental education activities and installation of facilities as necessary.

For new applications to install facilities at premises with **on-going former Minor Works Projects, Demonstration Projects or EE&CA Projects with facility installations funded by the ECF**, all these on-going projects must be completed (i.e. with the EE&CA Vetting Sub-committee's endorsement of the Completion Reports submitted by the project organisations for the projects concerned) before the closing date of 7 December 2020 (Monday) of this round of applications invitation. Otherwise, the new applications **will not be processed**.

Applications for installation of facilities should have education elements together with substantial education activities. **The maintenance issues should also be taken into consideration.** Besides, applications for installation of **energy saving items and procurement of prefabricated aquaponics system would generally not be supported.**

School applicants are encouraged to participate in the "Pilot Programme on Provision of Small Food Waste Composters at Schools (Phase Two)" if applications solely involve the installation of food waste composters are intended to be submitted. The deadline of applications invitation of the Programme is 27 November 2020.

How to Apply

The latest Guide to Application for EE&CA Projects and Application Forms have been uploaded to the ECF and EE&CA Projects website. For application of "Clean Shorelines Small Scale Projects" or "Special Grant Projects", please fill in the specific application forms. **Applicants are strongly advised to read through the Guide to Application before submitting applications. For applications with proposed installation of facilities, Appendix I of the Application Form must also be completed.**

Original copy of the completed application form **personally** signed by the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation and affixed with an original seal of the applicant organisation must reach the office of the EE&CA Projects Vetting Sub-committee Secretariat (the Secretariat) at 5/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong **before 6:00 p.m. on 7 December 2020 (Monday)**. Please state "EE&CA Projects" on the envelope.

If the applications are submitted by mail, the postmark should be dated on or before **7 December 2020 (Monday)**. Please ensure payment of sufficient postage. The Secretariat will not accept underpaid mails nor bear the surcharge so arisen.

In case a Black Rainstorm Warning Signal or Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above is in force for any duration between 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. on 7

December 2020 (Monday), the invitation closing time will be extended to 6:00 p.m. on the next working day correspondingly.

Late or incomplete applications or applications not submitted in accordance with the format prescribed above, including applications submitted by facsimile or e-mail; or without submission of the original copy of the application form; or the application form is not personally signed by the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation and affixed with an original seal of the applicant organisation, will not be processed. Electronically scanned signature is not accepted.

The EE&CA Projects Vetting Sub-committee will vet all the applications. Those applications involving funding of more than \$2 million will have to be approved by the ECF Committee. It is expected that the earliest time for announcement of the application results would be in April 2021. Invitation for the next round of applications is tentatively scheduled in the second quarter of 2021.

For general enquiries or assistance in completing the application form, you may contact the Secretariat at 2840 1771 or via email (eecca@epd.gov.hk).