

Invitation of Applications for Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - First Round in 2017/18

The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) Committee is inviting local non-profit making organisations to submit funding applications for Environmental Education and Community Action (EE&CA) Projects (including projects with proposed installation of demonstration facilities) under the following themes from **31 March 2017 (Friday) to 29 May 2017 (Monday)**.

(A) General Theme

Around **\$10 million** would be available to support applications for **large, medium and small-scale 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	\$500,000
Medium-scale project	\$500,000	\$2,000,000
Large-scale project	No specific funding cap	\$7,500,000

(B) Special Themes

\$25 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}
Biodiversity	No specific funding cap	\$5,000,000
Clean Shorelines		\$10,000,000
Climate Change		\$10,000,000

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

Notes for Funding Applications for Installation of Demonstration Facilities

From 2017/18 onwards, **EE&CA Projects would no longer be categorized into “General Projects” and “Demonstration Projects”**. Applicant organisations may, based on their project objectives and target participants, submit applications that comprise both environmental education activities and installation of demonstration facilities as necessary.

For applications to install demonstration facilities at premises **with on-going former Demonstration Projects/Minor Works Projects 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 organisation for the projects concerned) before the closing date of 29 May 2017 (Monday) of this round of application invitation. Otherwise, the new application for demonstration facilities to be installed at the premises concerned **will not be processed**. Moreover, applications for installation of **energy saving items and procurement of prefabricated aquaponics system would generally not be supported**.

HOW TO APPLY:

The latest Guide to Application and Application Form for EE&CA Projects have been uploaded to the project website. **Applicants are STRONGLY ADVISED to read through the Guide to Application before submitting your applications. For applications with proposed installation of demonstration facilities, Appendix I of the Application Form must also be completed.**

Original hard copy of the completed application form **personally** signed by the person-in-charge of the proposed project and affixed with an original seal of the applicant organisation must be returned to 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 29 MAY 2017 (MONDAY)**. Please state “EE&CA Projects” on the envelope.

If the applications are submitted by mail, the postmark should be dated on or before **29 May 2017 (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 29 May 2017 (Monday), the invitation closing time will be extended to 6:00 p.m. on the next working day.

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 hard copy of the application form or

the application form is not personally signed by the person-in-charge of the proposed project and affixed with an original seal of the applicant organisation, will not be processed.

The EE&CA Projects Vetting Sub-committee will vet all the applications. Those applications involving funding of more than \$2 million will need to be approved by the ECF Committee. It is expected that the earliest time for announcement of the results would be in October 2017. Invitation for the next round of applications is tentatively scheduled in the fourth quarter of 2017.

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