

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Education and Publicity Sub-Committee

Paper 02/04

Sustainable Development Fund – First Round of Applications

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' advice on the recommendations of the Vetting Committee (VC) in respect of applications to the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF).

Proposal

2. We propose that Members –
 - (a) note the recommendations of the Vetting Committee (VC) summarised at **Annex A** in respect of the 32 applications that have been initially recommended for further assessment; and
 - (b) advise as to which applications are suitable for the award of grants from the SDF, bearing in mind the recommendations of the VC and the further information and clarification from concerned applicants summarized at **Annex B**.

Applications previously not recommended by the VC are listed at **Annex C** for reference.

Considerations

Earlier Discussion at the Education and Publicity Sub-committee (EPSC)

3. At the EPSC meeting on 6 February, Members considered the recommendations of the VC, as summarized at Annex A. Of the **nine** projects originally recommended by the VC as being suitable for the award of grants, Members recommended that the following **two** applications

should be approved, subject to a review of the project budgets –

- “Education for Sustainable Development in Primary Schools” by the Centre for University and School Partnership, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) (SDF007)
- “建立可持續發展社區:從綠色網絡推動成可持續發展社區” (“Establishing an SD Community: To promote SD Communities through Green Networks”) by Baptist Wing Lung Secondary School (SDF048)

For the remaining **seven** projects, Members had a number of queries with respect to project or budget details. Members also asked for additional information in respect of **one** project that had previously been referred back by the VC for further clarification and which was therefore not listed among the nine recommended projects. In addition, Members considered that there might be projects among those not recommended by the VC that could be worthy of support. Members agreed to review the relevant applications and forward their comments and queries to the Secretariat, which would follow up with the applicants, if necessary. In the event, Members sought further information on **two** additional projects that had not been recommended for support by the VC.

Further Information and Clarification from Applicants

4. The information provided by applicants in response to the comments and queries raised by Members at the EPSC meeting on 6 February and through subsequent e-mail correspondence is summarised below. In addition, there are a further **three** projects for which the VC had previously sought information for possible consideration by EPSC Members.

“Part One” Projects originally recommended as suitable by the VC

- “Education for Sustainable Development in Primary Schools” by the Centre for University and School Partnership, Faculty of

Education, CUHK (SDF007)

The project budget has been reduced by 24%.

- “Sustainable Management of Coastal Wetland in Hong Kong and South China” by INREM, Department of Biology, Hong Kong Baptist University (SDF047)

The applicant will provide more detailed information than is currently available on databases for Hong Kong wetlands. The database will be updated annually. To assess and monitor feedback and “mindset” change, the applicant will employ focus group surveys and tracking of policy outcomes. The project budget has been reduced by 20%.

- “建立可持續發展社區：從綠色網絡推動成可持續發展社區” (“Establishing an SD Community: To promote SD Community through Green Networks”) by Baptist Wing Lung Secondary School (SDF048)

The project budget has been reduced by 5%.

- “Urban Green (城市綠洲)” by Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre (SDF056)

The project budget has been reduced by 18%.

- “Project S+E+E” by Veronica Luk (SDF064)

The applicant has provided supplementary information on the production, distribution, target readership and market position of a magazine on SD.

- “21 世紀可持續發展社區藍本 – 灣仔版”

(“Blueprint for a 21st Century Society – Wan Chai Edition”) by St. James’ Settlement Community Development Services (SDF078)

The applicant has clarified the main targets of the project and proposed outcomes. The project budget has been reduced by 4%.

- “持續新動力 – 離島創意商機”

(“Environmental Synergy”) by the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society (SDF081)

The project budget has been reduced by 2%.

- “青年獻策:凝聚意念・持續發展” – 香港公共政策創意獎勵計劃”

(“Youth Policy: A Concerted Vision. Sustainable Development” – Hong Kong Public Policy Innovation Scheme) by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (SDF088)

The project budget has been reduced by 26%

- “Peng Chau as a Green Culture Island in Hong Kong” by Green Peng Chau Association (SDF102)

The applicant has clarified that the eco-survey of the project will be conducted by professional surveyors and residents of Peng Chau. The project budget has been reduced by 14%.

“Part Two” Projects that the VC referred back for clarification

- (ii) “綠色女流建設環保屯門”

(“Green Females Building Environmentally Protected Tuen Mun”) by Yan Oi Tong (SDF020)

The Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) Secretariat has received an application for a similar project, albeit with a different focus. The project budget has been reduced by 15%.

“Part Three” Projects Not Recommended by the VC

- “「東方威尼斯」再生傳奇-大澳可再生能源發展計劃”

(“Venice of the East” Renew-Tai O Renewable Energy Development Project) (SDF086)

The CIIF has advised that the objective of this application, which focuses on the physical and cultural environment, is distinct from the CIIF Tai O project (for which the SDF applicant is the collaborator), which focuses on developing social capital, although the target participants may well be similar.

- “Action Model for Sustainable Development at Long Valley” by the Conservancy Association (SDF101)

The applicant has been asked to give a presentation at this meeting.

Other Applications For Consideration

5. In addition to the above applications, the VC also referred a further four applications back for further clarification with applicants prior to the EPSC meeting on 6 February. One of these applications was subsequently withdrawn. The **three** remaining applications, on which EPSC Members have raised no further comment are -

- “Sustainable Development Case Study Development and Distribution” by Civic Exchange Ltd. (SDF067)
- “Cross-Boundary Socio-Economic Integration and the Environment:

A Study of Public awareness on Sustainable Development in the Greater Pearl River Delta” by The University of Hong Kong (SDF094)

- “Transforming Our Community Heritage – Schools-Parents-Community-Professionals and Government Partnership in Enhancing Sustainable Development for Our Community” by Centre of Architectural Research for Education, Elderly, Environment and Excellence Ltd. (SDF100)

Further Action

5. Subject to the advice of this Sub-committee, where the amount of grant requested by applicants is **less than \$500,000**, we will seek the approval of the Director of Administration to award grants in respect of the recommended projects. For projects where applicants have sought grants of **\$500,000 or more**, we shall prepare a submission for consideration by the full Council for Sustainable Development, in accordance with the agreed guidelines. The submission to the Council will also set out in full the applications *not* recommended for SDF grants, as well as the recommendations for the award of grants to successful applicants. Having taken the advice of this Sub-Committee and the full Council as appropriate, we shall notify all applicants of the results of their applications. As advised by the ICAC, we shall briefly advise unsuccessful applicants of the reasons for their proposals not being approved.

Council Secretariat
March 2004