

General guidelines on purchase of equipment for projects under the Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund

- (i) The purchase of equipment shall not be the core deliverable of the project. As a general rule, projects with proposed equipment cost equal or greater than 50% of the total project cost will not be considered unless there are very strong justifications.
- (ii) Only the direct cost of procuring the equipment may be funded, capped at 90% of the approved equipment cost or \$1 million per project, whichever is lower.
- (iii) Renovation and other overhead expenses for the installation and use of the equipment, as well as the maintenance cost of the equipment shall be absorbed by the applicant/implementation agent.
- (iv) The manpower required to operate the equipment shall also be absorbed by the applicant/implementation agent.
- (v) During the project period, the equipment and related service shall be provided free of charge to Hong Kong enterprises.
- (vi) After the project period, the applicant/implementation agent may continue to use the equipment for the benefit of the industries. It may charge users a fee on a cost-recovery basis, but shall not make any profits out of the service rendered. If the applicant/implementation agent intends to use the equipment to generate profits after the project period, no funding for the equipment will be provided.
- (vii) The applicant will be required to sign an undertaking agreeing to abide by the above before the project starts.
- (viii) Other requirements as set out in the Guide to Application will continue to apply.