

Trade and Industrial Organisation Support Fund (TSF)

Important Notes to Applicants

With immediate effect, the following measures are implemented to enhance the effectiveness and governance of the TSF.

- (i) To motivate the industries to carry out more projects to assist enterprises in upgrading and transformation, full funding support (i.e. up to a maximum of 90% of the total approved project expenditure) will be provided for upgrading projects while only partial funding support (i.e. up to a maximum of 50% of the total approved project expenditure) will be provided for promotional projects (e.g. those involving the organisation of Hong Kong pavilions/roadshows). The funding ceiling of all projects, irrespective of their nature, remains at HK\$5 million.
- (ii) Along the principles in (i) above, funding support (in the ratio as stipulated in (i) above) will only be provided for projects involving Hong Kong pavilions in the same exhibition or roadshows in the same city up to a maximum of three times per applicant. Funding applications for subsequent organisation of Hong Kong pavilions in the same exhibition or roadshows in the same city from the same applicant will not be entertained. With a gap of three years, the application history for the concerned exhibition/city will be reset to zero.
- (iii) For more optimal use of government resources, funding support will not be provided for projects that propose to set up Hong Kong pavilions in overseas/Mainland exhibitions in which Hong Kong Trade Development Council will coordinate Hong Kong enterprises' participation.
- (iv) On governance:
 - (a) In general, each organisation is allowed to have one ongoing project ¹ (irrespective of the funding amount). Before completing its funded project, new applications from the same organisation will not be entertained.

¹ Ongoing projects are defined as those projects that have not yet submitted final reports and final audited accounts.

- (b) Notwithstanding (a) above, an established organisation (e.g. its Secretariat has more than 20 staff) may be allowed to carry out two or more projects concurrently, with the cumulative funding amount of all ongoing projects capped at HK\$5 million².
- (c) For organisations that have not been responsive to the Secretariat's enquiries on the progress/final reports of their funded projects, depending on the seriousness of the cases, new applications from the same organisations may not be considered.

Note: All TSF applications are subject to consideration and approval by the Vetting Committee according to the established vetting criteria.

December 2024

² The funded amount of projects where an organisation acts as an implementation agent will not be counted towards the cap.