

HKEX Charity Partnership Programme Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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I. Eligibility

1. Eligibility of the Programme:

A: Local charitable institutions that are

- Registered under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap 112) for **at least 3 years** (on or before 24 Jul 2023).

2. If the organisation has been operating for more than 3 years, but obtained registration on 25 Jul 2023, would it meet the eligibility to apply?

A: No, the organisation does not meet the eligibility for this year's application, as it fails to meet the 3-year registration requirement before the application deadline.

II. Scope of Fund

1. What is the HKEX Charity Partnership Programme?

A: HKEX Foundation has set up the HKEX Charity Partnership Programme (the Programme) to support impactful community projects that create structural and systemic changes run by local charitable institutions. The Programme, currently in partnership with The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS), aims to give back to the community based on four focus areas: Financial Literacy, Social Empowerment, Talent Development and Environmental Sustainability, serving a wide spectrum of people in need and addressing various social and environmental challenges.

Please click [HERE](#) to find out more about HKEX Foundation.

2. What is the funding amount for each project?

A: HKD 500,000 to HKD 5,000,000 each project.

3. What is the project funding period?

A: The duration of each proposed project should be 12, 24 or 36 months.

(Starting from 1 December 2026 and to be completed on 30 November 2027, 2028 or 2029.)

4. What are the vetting criteria?

Vetting Prerequisite

Relevance with the Programme's focus areas:

- Whether the project aligns with the HKEX Foundation's focus area(s)

Vetting Criteria

| Vetting Criteria | Weighting |
|---|------------------|
| Project output, outcome and social impact <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Demonstrates a good understanding of the root causes of the identified social problems, needs of the target beneficiaries and the community/ environment- Addresses unmet needs by filling existing service gaps- Designs clear and targeted intervention strategies, with measurable outputs, outcomes and impact to address the identified social needs- Demonstrates potential to drive structural/systemic change by addressing underlying social and/or environmental challenges | 30% |
| Project content and planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Establishes an effective operational model and feasible work plan, with efficient use of resources and time- Demonstrates strong cost-effectiveness- Incorporates robust financial management and risk control measures | 25% |
| Organisation's capability and track record <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Demonstrates strong commitment and capability to deliver all proposed project deliverables- Possesses relevant experience, proven track record and solid past performance in delivering similar projects- Shows potential for organisational development through funding support | 20% |
| Project sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Demonstrates scalability and replicability, enabling amplified impact- Establishes mechanisms to sustain the project's impact beyond the funding period | 15% |
| Innovativeness <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pilots a new or significantly improved service model/ intervention approach in addressing social and/or environmental issues | 10% |

Rating scheme

| Score | Description |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Very poor |
| 2 | Unsatisfactory |
| 3 | |
| 4 | Inadequate |
| 5 | |
| 6 | Fair |
| 7 | Satisfactory |
| 8 | Good |
| 9 | Excellent |
| 10 | Exceptional |

5. Any advantages if my application includes more than one focus area?

A: No. The assessment will be based on the vetting criteria including Relevance with The Programme's focus areas, Project output, outcome and social impact (30%), Project content and planning (25%), Organisation's capability and track record (20%), Project sustainability (15%) and Innovativeness (10%).

6. Can I submit more than one application?

A: Yes, as long as the application meets the eligibility and focus area of the Programme.

7. Can I apply again to continue on a project previously funded by HKEX Foundation?

A: Yes. However, we encourage applicants to design innovative solutions. Therefore, applicants need to show enhancement built on the project(s) previously funded.

8. Can I accept any donation or sponsorship from sources other than the Programme?

A: If any donation or sponsorship for the project is anticipated, it should be reflected in the budget with details of the donation or sponsorship. Overlapping of resources is not allowed.

III. Application Procedure

1. When is the application period?

A: Please refer to the application timeline below:

| Item | Schedule |
|---|---|
| Application Start | 2 p.m. on 24 June 2026 (HKT) |
| Application Deadline | 5 p.m. on 24 July 2026 (HKT) |
| Screening and Interview (Applicants who do not receive an interview invitation may consider their applications unsuccessful) | Tentatively 21- 24 September 2026 |
| Result Announcement | October to November 2026 |
| Project Period | 1 December 2026 to 30 November 2027, 2028 or 2029. (12, 24 or 36 months) |

Note: The online system may slow down when a large volume of applications come in right before the deadline. Submit your application early to ensure a timely completion.

2. How do I apply?

A: Please click [HERE](#) to submit an application online.

3. Where can I find details of the Programme?

A: Please click [HERE](#) for more details.

4. What are the application procedures?

A: Applicants should follow the application procedures below:

- i. Eligible NGOs must submit their applications through the online system before the application deadline (i.e. before 5 p.m. on 24 July 2026). **Late submission will not be accepted.**
- ii. HKCSS will coordinate and verify all successful online applications.
- iii. Shortlisted NGOs will be invited by HKCSS to attend an interview with the HKEX Foundation and HKCSS. Applicants who do not receive an interview invitation may consider their applications unsuccessful.
- iv. Interviews will be held in 21-24 September 2026 (tentative) and the results will be announced from October to November. Only successful applicants will be notified.

5. What application documents are required?

A: The following documents are required to complete the application:

- Duly completed online application

- Approval letter issued by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue, under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Registration date should be on or before July 24, 2023)
- The latest audited accounts or certified management accounts of the organisation
- Organisation’s certificate of incorporation or registration document under the relevant ordinance(s)
- Details of members of highest governing body, such as Board of directors and Executive Committee members (English and Chinese name with title)
- Chart of organisation structure, job duties and biography of the core team members (not more than 200 words per team member)
- Signed declaration form

6. When will the results be announced?

A: HKCSS will invite the selected NGOs to attend interview by the HKEX Foundation and the HKCSS on 21-24 September 2026 (tentative). The final results will be announced between October and November. Applicants who do not receive an interview invitation may consider their applications unsuccessful.

7. If I cannot submit all required information and document by the application deadline, can I submit it later?

A: No, incomplete applications will not be considered.

8. Can I amend my application details after submission?

A: No, once your application is submitted, no edits can be made.

9. Apart from this online platform, can I submit my application by fax, post or other methods?

A: No, all applications must be submitted through the online application system:

<https://cppngo.hkcss-co-creation.org.hk/>

10. Can I apply funding from the Programme for new project management staff or administrative staff? Or is it required to assign current staff to work on this project?

A: Yes, applicants could decide to hire additional staff or arrange existing staff to assist the project. Please fill in the details in “Team Capability and human resources” of the application system.

11. Do I need to hire an independent accountant to conduct an audit?

A: Yes, you are required to hire an independent accountant. Please fill in the details in the “Cost of Programme Implementation” of the application system.

IV. Selection and Interview

1. Will all applicants be invited to the interview?

A: No. Applications will be assessed by HKEX Foundation and HKCSS based on the vetting criteria. Only shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview. Applicants who do not receive an interview invitation may consider their applications unsuccessful.

2. When will the interview be held?

A: Interview will be held on 21-24 September 2026 (tentative). Selected applicants will be invited to the interview by email containing details of the interview.

V. Technical Enquiries about Online Application

1. If the applicants forget password, what should they do?

A: Please select "Forgot Password" on the front page of the online application system. Then follow the written instructions on the page.

2. What should the applicants do if he/she does not receive any email for set up / reset the password?

A: Your email service provider' spam filters may mark our email as spam automatically. Please be reminded to check with your spam folders in your email account.

3. What is the minimum IT requirement for this Online Application System?

A: Online Application System is applicable for most of the internet browsers. In order to enjoy the best user experience, we recommend you use the following standard browsers e.g. Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari or Edge

4. Am I able to save my application for further editing before submission?

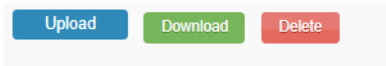
A: Yes, you can press "Save" button at the bottom of the screen in order to save your unsubmitted application. When the system pops up "Save Successfully", you can log-out the system. Your application form can be changed during the application period. Please note that the Online Application System does not have an auto-save function. We recommend you save the application regularly.

5. If my internet connection was interrupted during the application process, what should I do?

A: Please log in the system again. The system will display your last-saved information. We recommend you save the application constantly.

6. How do I know whether the documents are successfully uploaded?

A: If the documents are uploaded, it will display as below:



7. If I wish to re-upload the document, what should I do?

A: You can press  to re-upload the documents.

Please note that the previous document will be replaced by the new documents.

8. If I have to amend something while I am on the confirming page, what should I do?

A: You can still amend the information, as long as you still haven't submitted the application. Please click "Back" to go back to the edit page to edit the information.

9. What should I do if the expenses item cannot be divided into "Quantity" and "Unit Cost"?

A: Please enter "1" as "Quantity" and enter the total amount in "Unit Cost". The actual quantity should be listed in item description.

10. How do I know the application has been successfully submitted?

A: A notification email will be sent to you once we receive your application. If you have not received the notification email, please log in the Application System and double check whether the application has been submitted or not.

11. Will I receive the copy of my application submitted?

A: Yes, the notification email will be sent to you once we receive your application, together with the copy of your application submitted. Your email service provider's spam filters may mark our email as spam automatically. Please be reminded to check with your spam folders in your email account.

12. Can I review or amend the submitted application?

A: If you have submitted the application, you can ONLY REVIEW the application information. Please note that the information cannot be amended once the application is submitted.

13. What should I do if I cannot access the function of this online platform / encounter any system problem?

A: Please try to use a different browser for login, such as Chrome or Firefox. If the problem persists, please take a screenshot and send to the programme's email.

Enquiry

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Email: cppngo_hkex@hkcss.org.hk