

**Business Facilitation Advisory
Committee Wholesale and Retail Task
Force**

***Government Funding Scheme Management Centre and
The Biz Expands Easy Platform***

Purpose

This paper aims to brief Members on the Government Funding Scheme Management Centre (GFSMC) and the Biz Expands Easy (BEE) Platform.

Government Funding Scheme Management Centre

2. Established in March 2021, GFSMC has been tasked with leading, integrating, cross-fertilising, and leveraging funding schemes to upgrade and transform industries. We proactively identify enterprise and industry needs, develop and enhance schemes, and serve the business community, particularly local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

3. As the key implementer of Government funding schemes in Hong Kong, one of our main objectives is to reshape the funding scheme ecosystem in Hong Kong, and enable Hong Kong corporates to transform and expand their businesses with the help of well-matched subsidies, ultimately contributing to the economic growth of Hong Kong. Currently, we administer 10 Government funding schemes on behalf of two policy bureaux and four government departments:

- a) Chinese Medicine Development Fund (CMDf)
- b) Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (CPPP)
- c) Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund)
- d) Logistics Promotion Funding Scheme (LPFS)
- e) Patent Application Grant (PAG)

- f) Pilot Subsidy Scheme for Third-party Logistics Service Providers (TPLSP)
- g) Professional Training on Smart and Green Logistics Scheme (PTSGLS)
- h) Recycling Fund (RF)
- i) Smart Traffic Fund (STF)
- j) Technology Voucher Programme (TVP).

4. A brief description of the above 10 funding schemes is at Appendix.

Biz Expands Easy Platform

5. GFSMC has introduced the BEE 3-in-1 platform, consisting of BEE Web Platform, BEE ePass featuring Single Sign-on function, and the BEE@HKPC mobile app, in 2023 which is specifically designed to enable Hong Kong corporates to understand and apply for Government funding schemes more conveniently.

6. BEE is a one-stop platform providing integrated information for 25 Government funding schemes to foster digitalisation, cyber security, and smart and green living, and support for Hong Kong corporates, especially SMEs and startups, including a self-eligibility check kiosk, to facilitate users in exploring suitable funding schemes, accessing various funding resources and staying updated with the latest events and news of the funding schemes, catering to both professional and personal development.

7. Additionally, the BEE ePass allows enterprises to use a single user ID and password to access and manage multiple applications for funding schemes with secretariat support from the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC). Since January 2024, the BEE ePass has supported the “iAM Smart” login service and allows users to conveniently log in to BEE ePass using “iAM Smart” without the need to provide username and password, enabling them to access and manage the applications for relevant funding schemes easily and enhancing the user experience. The BEE ePass also automatically transfers existing application details with an auto-fill registration form function, reducing the time spent on completing form for new application.

8. Through the BEE@HKPC mobile app, users could access all the functions of the BEE portal and also reserve 1-on-1 consultation to understand designated Government funding schemes.

Biz Expands Easy Square (BEE²)

9. In January 2024, GFSMC inaugurated BEE². This initiative is a collaborative community that unites Government Departments, Industry Associations, and Funding Applicants. Its primary objective is to establish a platform that enhances the accessibility of funding resources for Hong Kong corporations and startups, and also foster a network for applicants to share their successful experiences. Membership is available to enterprises and organisations.

10. BEE² members can obtain the latest funding news and event invitations, participate in events organised by HKPC, including sharing and delivering presentations. We will also display the logo of the members' brand or association in different marketing materials and promotional campaigns, as appropriate.

Advice Sought

11. Members are invited to note the information of this paper and offer comments, if any.

**Government Funding Scheme Management Centre
Hong Kong Productivity Council
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Government Funding Schemes
with Secretariat Support from HKPC

Funding Scheme	Objective	Beneficiaries	Administrating Government Department/ Bureau
a. Chinese Medicine Development Fund	To promote the development of the Chinese medicine and drug sectors; enhance the overall standard of the industry; nurture talents and promote related research etc.	Registered and listed Chinese medicine practitioners, Chinese medicine related healthcare professionals, Chinese medicine clinics, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers of Chinese herbal medicine, universities, higher education institutions, trade associations, institutions and professional bodies related to the sector	Health Bureau
b. Cleaner Production Partnership Programme	To encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong and Hong Kong to adopt cleaner production (CP) technologies and practices, thereby contributing to improving the environment	Hong Kong companies with factories belonging to eight targeted industries: chemical products, food and beverage, furniture, metal and metal products, non-metallic mineral products, printing and publishing, paper and paper products, textiles	Environmental Protection Department
c. Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales	To support individual Hong Kong non-listed enterprises in undertaking projects to develop brands, upgrade and restructure their business operations and promote sales in the	All non-listed enterprises registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Chapter 310) with	Trade and Industry Department

Funding Scheme	Objective	Beneficiaries	Administrating Government Department/ Bureau
	markets of FTA, IPPA as well as the Mainland China, covering 37 economies by Q2 2022	substantive business operations in Hong Kong	
d. Logistics Promotion Funding Scheme	To support and encourage local organisations and professional bodies to promote the logistics industry with the focus on modern and smart logistics through organisation of promotional projects.	Non-profit-distributing organisations, charitable professional bodies or non-government organisations in or related to the logistics sector in Hong Kong, such as professional bodies, trade and industry associations, research institutes or other industrial support organisations	Transport and Logistics Bureau
e. Patent Application Grant	To assist local companies and individuals to apply for patents of their own inventions	Companies registered in Hong Kong, Hong Kong permanent residents and Hong Kong residents permitted to remain in Hong Kong for not less than 7 years	Innovation and Technology Commission
f. Pilot Subsidy Scheme for Third-party Logistics Service Providers	To encourage the adoption of technology by the logistics sector for enhancing efficiency and productivity	Hong Kong non-listed enterprises registered in Hong Kong which provide third-party logistics services, related to inbound / outbound cargo	Transport and Logistics Bureau
g. Professional Training on Smart and Green Logistics Scheme	To subsidise eligible logistics-related organisations, professional bodies and education/training institutes to strengthen the training courses and initiatives on smart and	Non-profit-distributing organisations, charitable professional bodies and non-government organisations in or related to the logistics sector in Hong Kong, such as	Transport and Logistics Bureau

Funding Scheme	Objective	Beneficiaries	Administrating Government Department/ Bureau
	green logistics for in-service practitioners and those who are interested to join the industry	professional bodies, trade and industry associations, academic and training institutions, research institutes or other industrial support organisations	
h. Recycling Fund	To promote the recovery and recycling of waste by facilitating the upgrading of the operational capabilities and efficiency of the recycling industry for sustainable development	All enterprises registered in Hong Kong with substantive business operations locally and involving in recycling related operation with a proven track record for at least 1 year. Non-profit-distributing organisations operating as supporting organisations, trade and industrial organisations, professional bodies or research institute.	Environmental Protection Department
i. Smart Traffic Fund	To provide support for enterprises or local organisations and enterprises for conducting research and application of innovation and technology with the objectives of enhancing commuting convenience, enhancing efficiency of the road network or road space, and improving driving safety	Accept applications from companies, research institutions, professional bodies, trade associations, non-government organisations and applications submitted jointly by applicants from corporate sector and Public Sector Research Institutions	Transport Department

Funding Scheme	Objective	Beneficiaries	Administrating Government Department/ Bureau
j. Technology Voucher Programme	To subsidise local non-listed enterprises and organisations on the use of the technological services and solutions to improve productivity, upgrade or transform their business processes, in order to enhance their long-term competitiveness	All non-listed companies / organisations / statutory bodies registered in Hong Kong with substantive business operation in Hong Kong and not a government subvented organisation	Innovation and Technology Commission