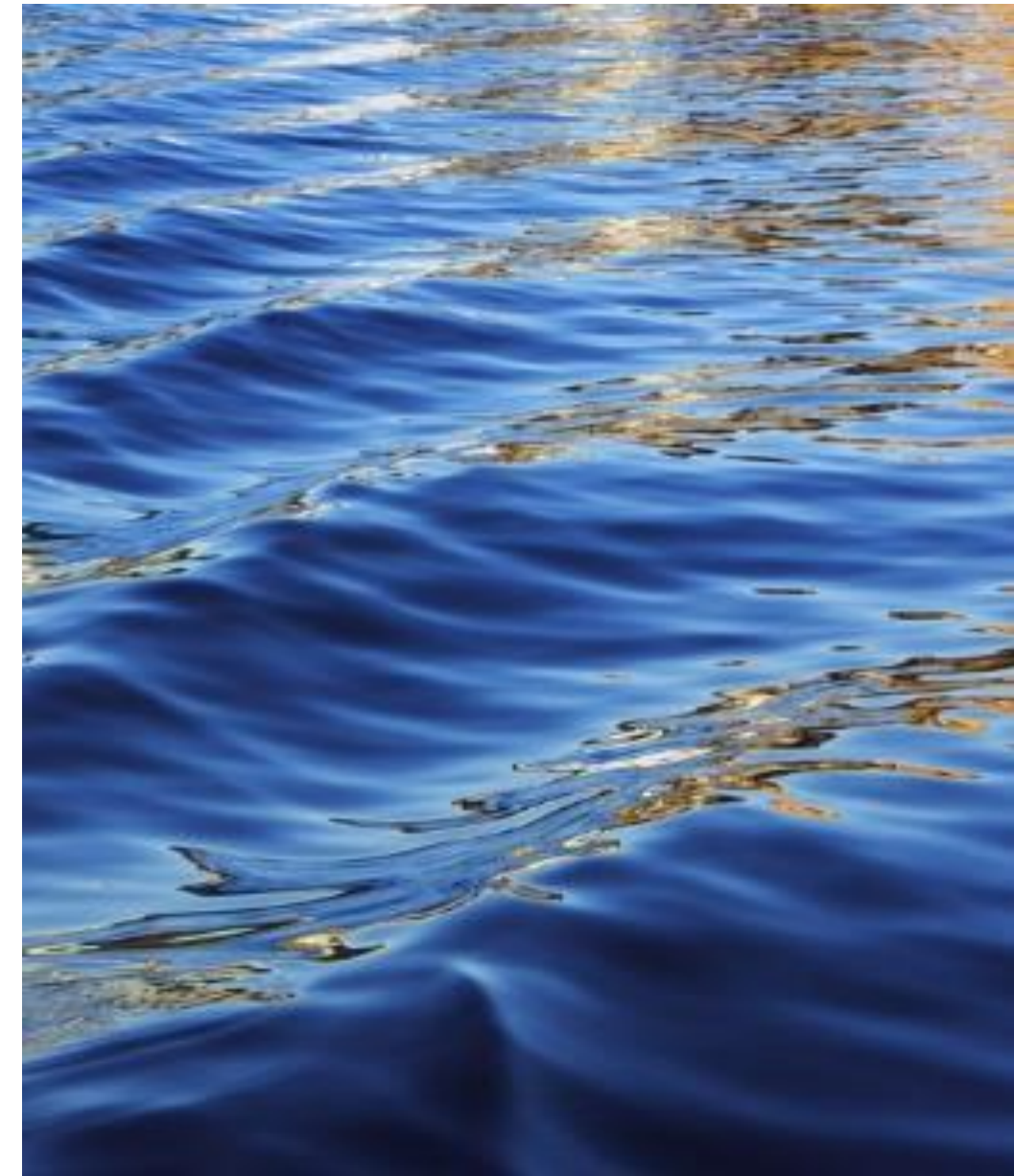


Environment and Conservation Fund Research and Development Projects

Briefing Session for 2026/27
Application Invitation

1 September 2026 (Tuesday) 2:00 p.m.



Research and Development Projects

Now calling for **2026/27** Application Invitation

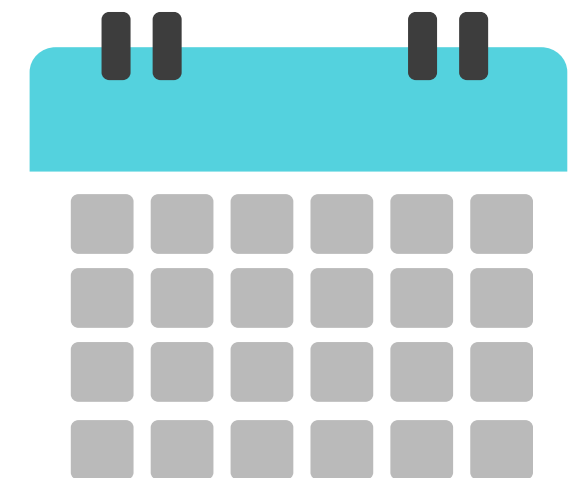
19.8.2026
APPLICATION
STARTS



1.9.2026
BRIEFING



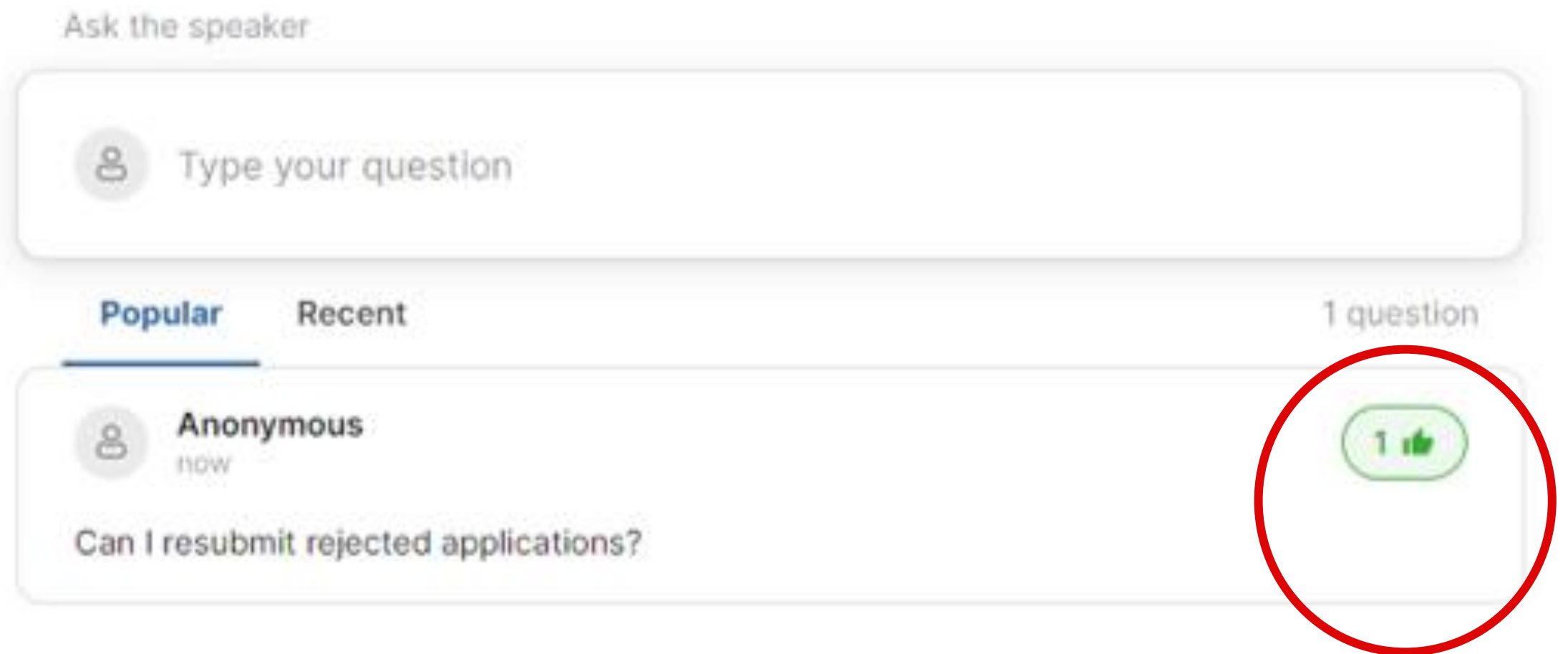
29.9.2026
APPLICATION
DEADLINE



The Briefing Session will cover:

1. Welcoming Remarks by Vetting Subcommittee Chairman
2. Introduction of Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) and Research and Development (R&D) Projects Funding Scheme
3. Priority Topics
4. Introduction to Smart ECF Online Application and Eligibility Requirements
5. Guide for Completing the Application Form
6. Notes on Application
7. Vetting Process and Criteria
8. General Requirements of Projects and Disbursement of Funds

Q&A Session



 Give a **LIKE** if you want to raise the same question

1. Welcoming Remarks



Dr Sigmund LEUNG, BBS, JP
Chairman
ECF Research and Development Projects
Vetting Subcommittee



2. Introduction of ECF and R&D Projects Funding Scheme



Introduction of ECF

- Since its establishment in 1994, the ECF has all along been providing **financial support** for eligible organisations and community groups in Hong Kong to **organise activities in relation to environmental protection and nature conservation**. Through these activities, members of the public are encouraged to change their daily behaviour and way of life, and develop a green and low carbon lifestyle.



Three Major Funding Schemes

Research and Development Projects
[Already open for application on 19 August 2026]

Publicity and Education Projects

Practice and Action Projects

Safeguarding National Security

- Applicant organisation has to submit an **Agreement (Section A of the application form)** along with the application form, to confirm that your organisation has understood and agreed with the following clauses: -
- the Government reserves the right to **disqualify the application** on the grounds that it has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security;
 - or otherwise the **exclusion of the organisation from future applications** is necessary in the interest of national security, or is necessary to protect the public interest of Hong Kong, public morals, public order or public safety.

Safeguarding National Security

- Even after the application is approved, the Government may **immediately withdraw or cancel the relevant approval** upon the occurrence of any of the following events: -
- the organisation has engaged or is engaging in acts or activities that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security;
 - the continued engagement of the organisation or the continued implementation of ECF project is contrary to the interest of national security; or
 - the Government reasonably believes that any of the events mentioned above is about to occur.

Safeguarding National Security

- The **Person-in-charge** should complete the agreement relating to safeguarding national security in Section A of the application form for each application. An application will be considered invalid if this section is not duly completed and submitted along with the application form.
- Please refer to section 2 of Guide to Application for definition of “Person-in-charge”.



Application proposals with elements of national education and patriotism may be comparatively meritorious.

Who can apply?

- Local **non-profit making organisations** are eligible to apply

**Local tax-exempt
charities**

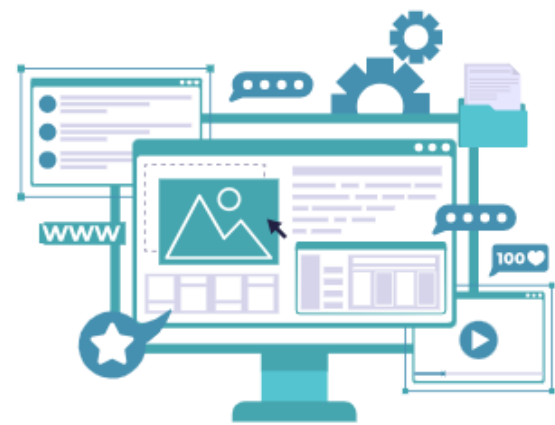
**Local registered
non-profit making
organisations**

Type of the Project



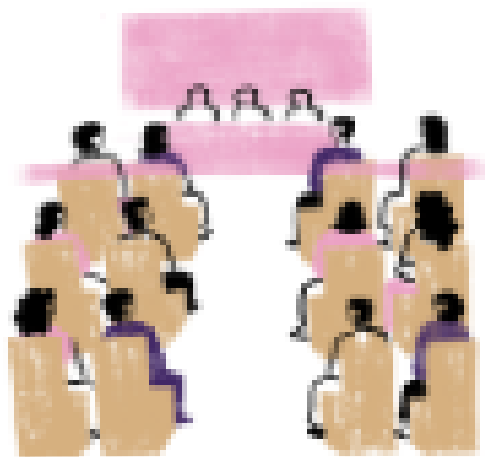
Research Projects

- Contribute to **academic advancement and policy development** in the field of environmental improvement and nature conservation of the local environment.



Technology Development and Demonstration Projects

- Be of **direct and practical** benefit to the improvement and conservation of the environment of Hong Kong, and the project outcomes should have the potential to be widely adopted.
- The project results, benefits or deliverables **must accrue to one or more sectors/industries**, and not just to individual companies/organisations.



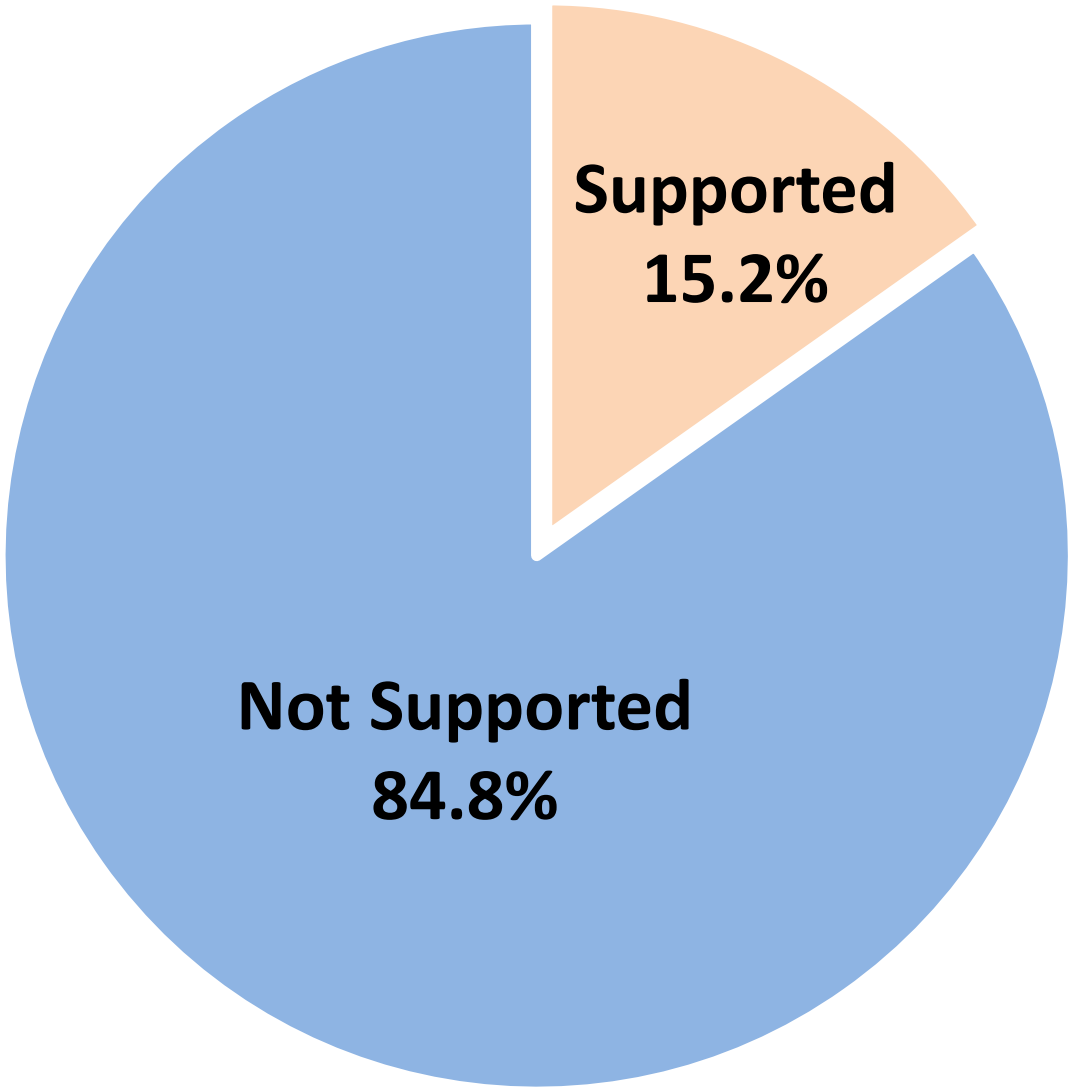
Conference Projects

- Focus on environmental protection and sustainable development, and **promote exchange of professional knowledge, academic research, technological development, best practices and experience** in the field of environmental protection and nature conservation.
- Raise Hong Kong's profile as a leading green city.

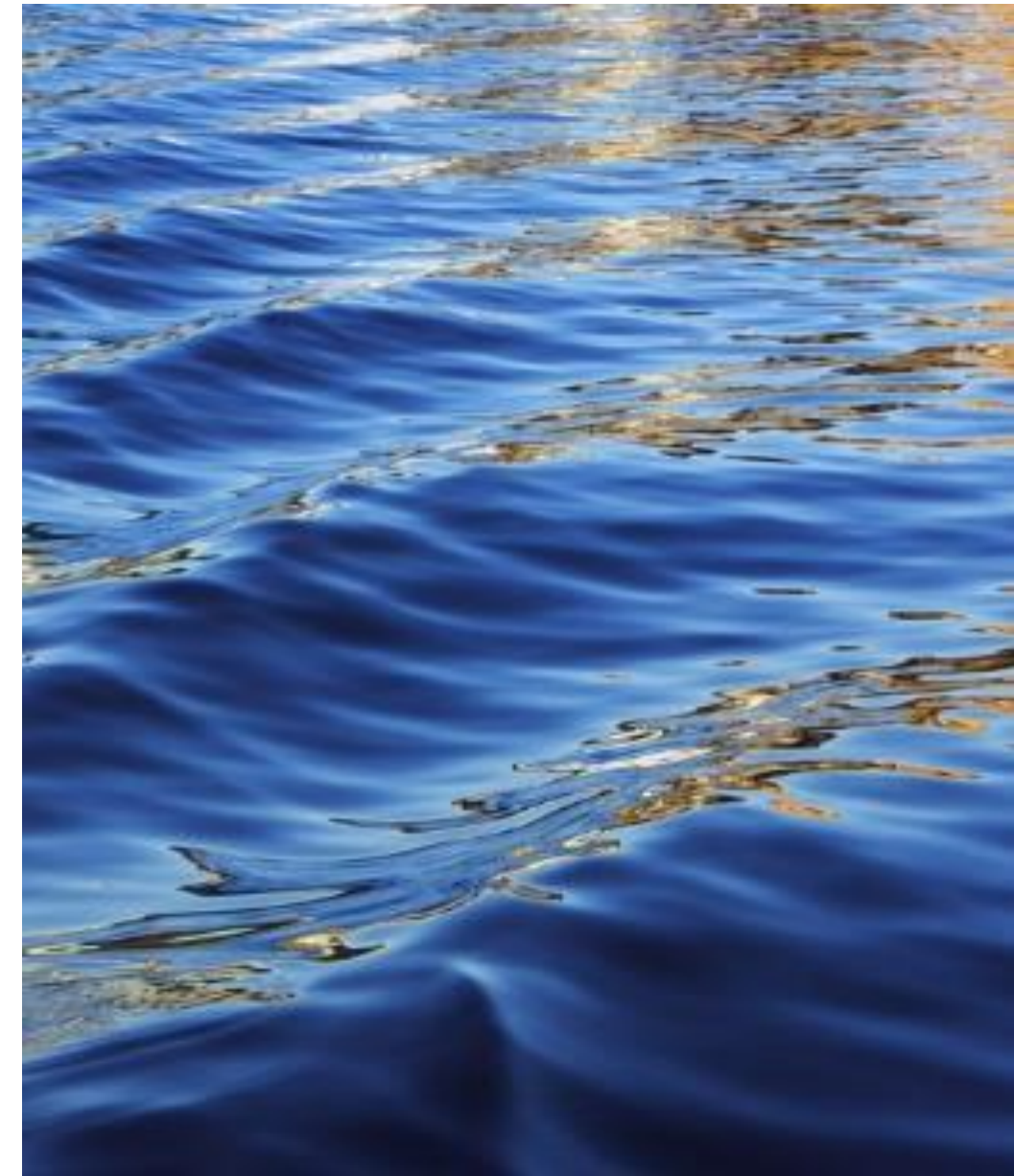
2025-26 Application Results

Results of 2025-26 application invitation exercise:

Total no. of applications received	303
No. of projects supported	46
No. of projects not supported	257
Approved amount	\$30.45M



3. Priority Topics



Priority Topics

Air Quality

Biodiversity and Conservation

Climate Change – Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience

Construction and Traffic Noise – Prevention and Mitigation

Waste Management, Reduction and Recycling

Water Quality and Water Pollution

Listed in Appendix I of Guide to Application

Air Quality

- *Assessment of market conditions and operational barriers to the adoption of electric commercial vehicles in Hong Kong
- *Realtime source appointment of air pollutants using realtime monitoring data
- *Photochemical ozone precursors (VOCs) and products monitoring technology, data mining and analytical capability
- Development and application of technologies for Greenhouse gas monitoring

*Newly added or updated

Biodiversity and Conservation

- *Studies on sustainable ecotourism
- Studies on urban biodiversity, wildlife-friendly designs, or applicability of Nature-based Solutions
- Baseline studies on understudied taxa groups of potential conservation concern
- *Studies on the conservation and monitoring of threatened species
- *Studies on risk and impact assessment, management and control of invasive alien species
- *Studies on or prototyping of habitat restoration and enhancing habitat connectivity
- *Studies on the impact of climate change on local ecosystems
- *Development and/ or application of smart technologies and molecular tools that facilitate monitoring and/or management of wildlife or habitat, aid enforcement against wildlife crime, or promote sharing of ecological knowledge
- *Environmental-economic assessments of Hong Kong's natural or urban blue-green habitats

*Newly added or updated

Species Occurrence Data

- The applicant organisation shall specify whether the project involves any collection of species occurrence data (location coordinates).
- The successful applicant organisation is required to submit the species occurrence data in a standardised data requisition form, together with the completion report and statement of accounts.
- The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will use the submitted data for public viewing. The data requisition form can be downloaded from the ECF website.

Research and Development Projects

 Progress Report	↓
 Completion Report	↓
 Standardised Data Requisition Form (applicable to Biodiversity and Conservation related projects only)	↓



Climate Change – Mitigation, Adaption and Resilience

- *Low-carbon technology and policy development for promoting meritorious applications of energy saving and green buildings, net-zero electricity generation, renewable energy and green transport and waste reduction and management
- Smart technologies which promote adoption of low-carbon living in Hong Kong
- Use of smart technologies to compile carbon emission data of companies/ organisations in certain sectors (e.g. financial services industry or property management sector etc.)
- Innovative education technology (EdTech) to promote public education on climate change and low-carbon lifestyle or to provide capacity building

*Newly added or updated

Construction and Traffic Noise - Prevention and Mitigation

- *Evaluation of noise measurement methods, designs and materials of enclosures (inflatable or non-inflatable domes) or barriers for construction noise mitigation
- *Evaluation of the cost effectiveness, energy consumption and environmental friendliness of using enclosures (inflatable or non-inflatable domes) or barriers for construction noise mitigation
- *Development and field validation of quieter construction equipment or quieter methods for general construction, road resurfacing and building demolition works; and real-time autonomous construction noise monitoring
- Domestic renovation noise reduction (e.g. quieter equipment or method to dismantle tiles)

*Newly added or updated

Construction and Traffic Noise - Prevention and Mitigation

- Traffic noise mitigation designs and measures for incorporation in residential developments
- Acoustic metamaterials and active noise cancellation devices to enhance the performance of noise mitigation design
- Light-weight and/or ventilated design for noise barriers/enclosures on existing/new road or boundary structures of building developments
- Low noise road surfacing for local roads
- *Application of AI technology in sound recognition of domestic noise, domestic renovation noise and construction noise events

*Newly added or updated

Waste Management, Reduction and Recycling

- Reduction waste at source
- *Innovative solutions to facilitate recyclables collection from small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
- *Innovative processing and transformation technology to process recyclables currently lack of well established reliable recycling outlets
- *Innovative solutions in tracking, monitoring and planning the routing of recyclables from collection to proper recycling with enhanced logistics efficiency
- Innovative solutions to support self-service mode of community recycling network
- High-performance non-plastic alternatives to disposable plastic tableware
- Substitutes for composite packaging materials
- Innovative technologies for on-site food waste treatment

*Newly added or updated

Water Quality and Water Pollution

- Innovative technology for village houses in remote area
- Innovative techniques for use in sewer condition survey and rehabilitation
- Odour mitigation technology for sewerage facilities and sewage-polluted storm drains
- Innovative technologies for preventing microplastics from entering the water environment
- Risk assessment of antibiotics, anti-microbial resistance and antibiotic-resistant genes in the environment and sewage
- Smart technologies in the monitoring (including recognition, tracking, quantification, classification and mapping, etc.) of floating / marine refuse in watercourses and coastal region

Water Quality and Water Pollution

- Real-time water quality measurement and analysis system for nutrient and bacteriological parameters at inland, near-shore and open waters
- *Big data analysis of water quality, meteorological and other data to enhance understanding of the relationships and dynamics of different parameters for the development of more advanced predictive models
- Innovative technologies for cost-effective removal of phosphorus in wastewater and environmental waters
- Development and application of novel environmental indicator(s) for monitoring of aquatic environmental health status and trends of Hong Kong waters with respect to climate change impacts

*Newly added or updated

4. What is Smart ECF online application and who is eligible to submit?



Smart ECF Online Application

- ECF developed a **one-stop e-system Smart ECF**
 - To facilitate eligible organisations in submitting applications
 - To enhance the working efficiency in processing applications and managing approved projects

- To further enhance efficiency, starting from 2026/27 **NEW**
 - Secretariat will only accept online applications submitted through Smart ECF
 - **No other means of submission will be considered**

SmartECF 

Who is eligible to submit online application through Smart ECF?

- Submitting online applications through Smart ECF
- Must be Person-in-charge (i.e. Head or Deputy Head of the organisation;
 - Principal Investigator, Head of the relevant academic faculty/department/office and Research Office of Universities and THEi; and
 - Has successfully registered a Smart ECF account

<For the definition of “person-in-charge”, please refer to section 2.2 of the Guide to Application>

As the account verification process takes time, **organisations interested in applying for funding support from ECF please complete account registration as early as possible.**

Once the Secretariat has received the application for account registration and verified and approved the submitted documents, applicants will generally receive the Smart ECF account activation email within around 10 working days.

Enquiry

Tel:	(852) 2835 1234
Email:	ecf@eeb.gov.hk

****Please remember to****

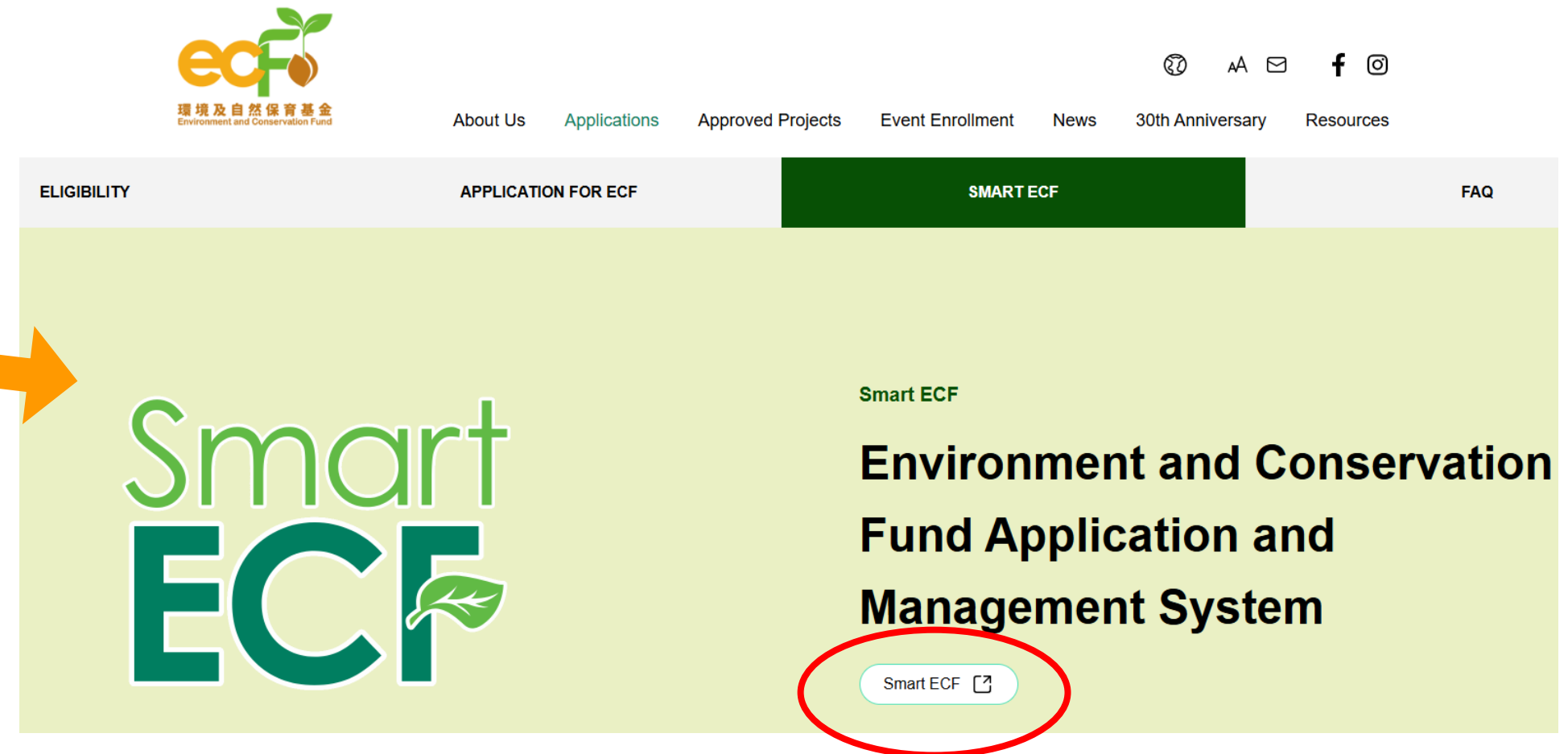
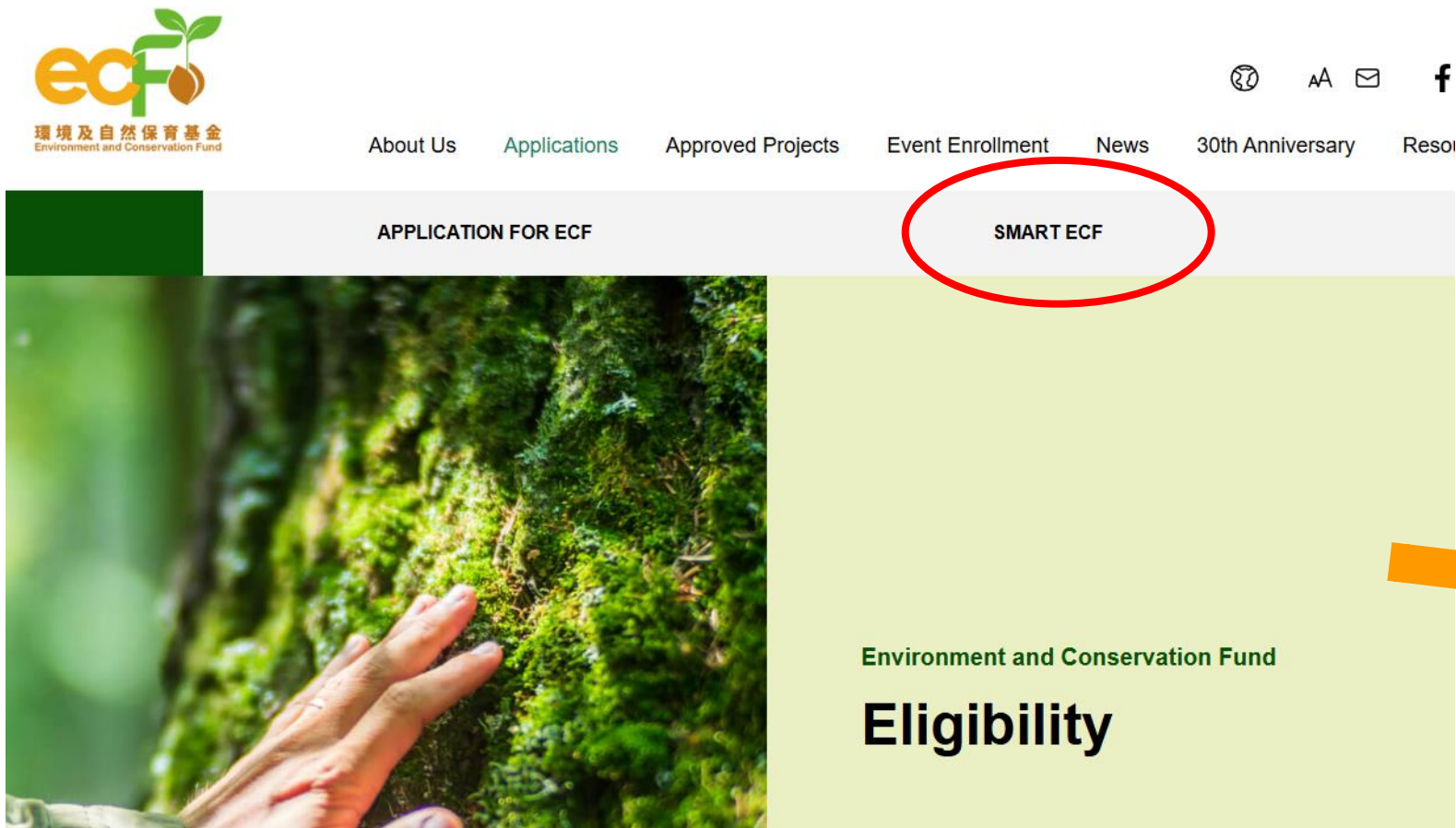
- 1) Complete the account registration as early as possible**
- 2) Submit online applications as early as possible to avoid potential internet congestion near the deadline which may have negative impact on the application submission**



5. Guidelines for Completing the Application Form



Submitting application form through Smart ECF



To ensure the service of Smart ECF can be delivered correctly and effectively, it is recommended using the latest version of the following browsers on a desktop device:-



Google Chrome



Microsoft Edge



Mozilla Firefox

Submitting application form through Smart ECF

Login

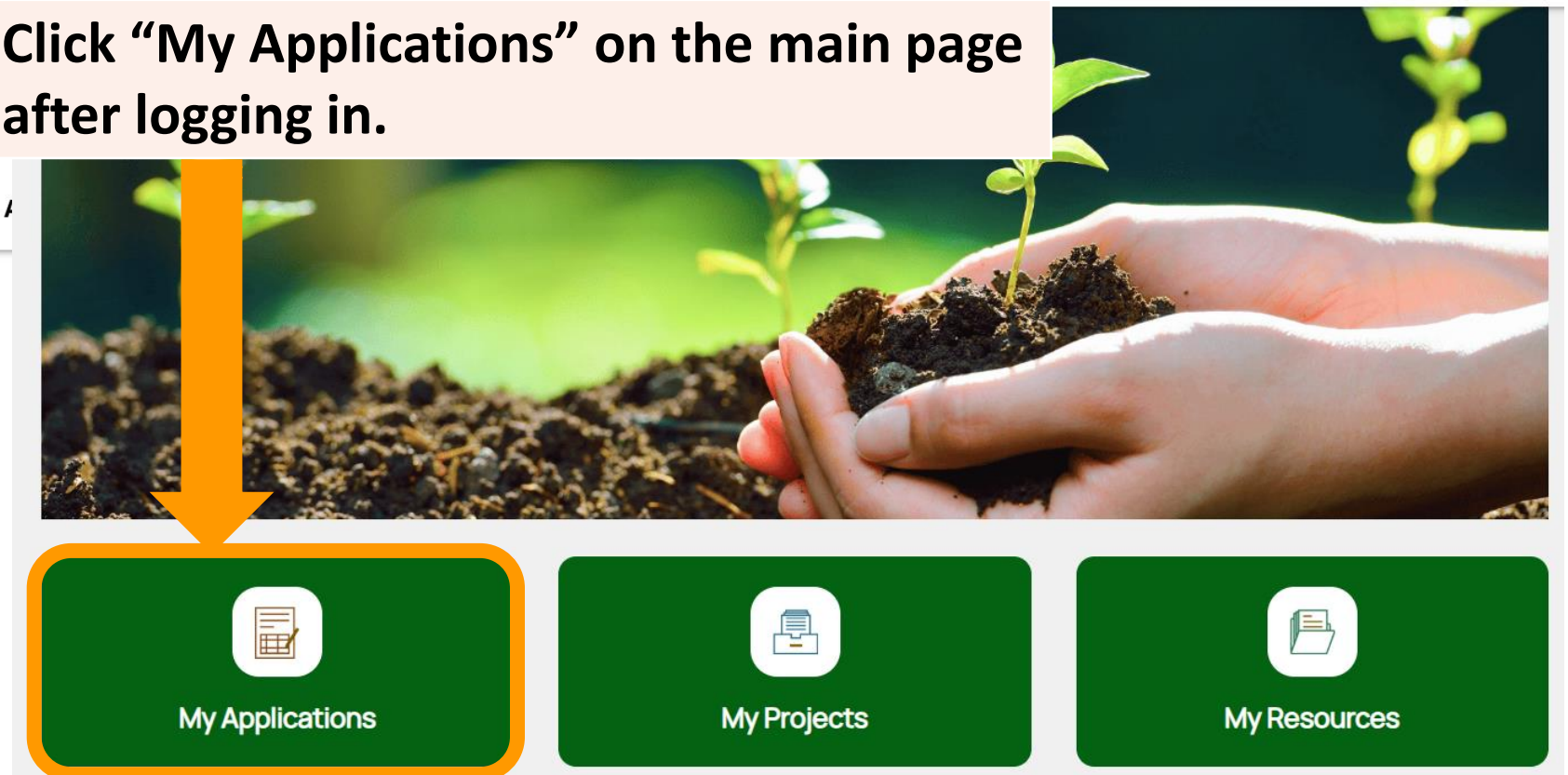
Login to Smart ECF via the following link:

<https://smart.ecf.gov.hk>



My Applications

Click “My Applications” on the main page after logging in.



If you do not have a Smart ECF account, please register first in order to login Smart ECF.

* Only the Person-in-charge (i.e. Head or Deputy Head) of the organisation or Principal Investigator & the Head of the relevant academic faculty/department/office from University and THEi who has successfully registered a Smart ECF account can submit an application form via Smart ECF.

Submitting application form through Smart ECF

+ New Application

Click "+ New Application" on the "My Applications" page.

 My Applications

Submitted (0)

Processed (0)

Draft (0)

+ New Application

P&EP

P&AP

R&DP

Project Title or No.

Sort by: Application / Project No. Descending

Filter

Application FY	Application No.	Project Title	Project Type	Grant Requested (\$)
No information available				

Rows per page: 10

Click "+ New Application"

Please read the introduction of each funding scheme before submitting an application.

Publicity and Education Projects (P&EP)

- P&EP Projects are promotional and educational programmes or activities mainly to enhance children's and the general public's environmental awareness and knowledge of environmental issues; and/or environmental projects that mobilise individuals to take direct and positive action to improve and conserve the environment, and induce individual behavioural change with a view to practicing a green and low carbon lifestyle.
- Project themes include (i) Waste Reduction at Source and Waste Recycling, (ii) Clean Shorelines, (iii) Carbon Neutrality / Low Carbon Living, (iv) Biodiversity, (v) Clean Air and (vi) Other Theme.
- Each P&EP Project period should normally last for not more than 2 years. For projects from First-time Applicant Organisations, the project period normally should not be more than 1 year.

Apply

Practical Projects (P&A)

- P&A Projects, which are community-based and result-oriented, aim to transform public awareness into behavioural practices of individuals to achieve waste reduction and carbon emission reduction. Such projects should bring about sustained and tangible effect in local communities.
- Project themes include (i) Waste Reduction at Source and Waste Recycling, (ii) Carbon Neutrality / Low Carbon Living, (iii) Biodiversity, (iv) Clean Shorelines / Clean Shorelines (Small Scale), (v) Clean Air and (vi) Other Theme.
- Each P&A Project period should normally last for not more than 2 years. For "Clean Shorelines (Small Scale)" Projects, the project period should not be more than 6 months. For projects from first-time applicant organisations, the project period should normally not be more than 1 year.

Apply

Research and Development Projects (R&DP)

- R&D Projects aim to encourage policy and technology research in the field of environmental protection and nature conservation, application of project outcomes and exchange of knowledge and professional development through conferences. R&D Projects cover three types of projects, namely research projects, technology development and demonstration projects, and conference projects.
- Priority topics include the following themes: (i) Air Quality, (ii) Biodiversity and Conservation, (iii) Climate Change – Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience, (iv) Construction and Traffic Noise – Prevention and Mitigation, (v) Waste Management, Reduction and Recycling, (vi) Water Quality and Water Pollution, and (vii) Other Topic.
- Each R&D Project should normally last for not more than 30 months.

Apply

Apply

Click "Apply" to choose a funding scheme to apply for.

Click "Apply"

Key Procedures for Online Application

 My Application

Apply Now

Read the Notes to Application carefully, then click "Apply Now".

Research and Development Projects

- Notes to Application
1. Please read carefully the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" (the Guide to Application) before completing this Application Form. The Guide to Application can be read or downloaded from the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF)'s website (www.ecf.gov.hk). Applicants must have understood and agreed with all the terms and conditions in the Guide to Application.
 2. The applicant organisation shall read the "Personal Information Collection Statement" on Smart ECF and understand its content.
 3. This Application Form may be amended by the ECF Committee, Research and Development Projects Vetting Subcommittee (the Vetting Subcommittee) and the Vetting Subcommittee Secretariat (the Secretariat) as and when necessary.
 4. This Application Form should be completed in Chinese or English, unless otherwise specified.
 5. All sections of this Application Form should be completed. The applicant organisations shall provide all details of the proposed project in a clear and concise manner with accurate and detailed information in the Application Form. The Vetting Subcommittee and the Secretariat are not obligated to carry out the vetting on the basis of the information submitted. Where the information sought is not applicable or not available, please fill in "N.A."
 6. Applications from universities and THEI must be submitted through the respective Research Offices of the institutions. Research Offices should provide supporting document(s) to support their eligibility as a local non-profit making organisation.
 7. The duly completed Application Form (together with all supplementary and supporting documents) must be submitted by the application deadline, i.e. before 6:00 p.m. on the application closing date. Late or incomplete applications will not be processed. To avoid potential internet congestion near the deadline, applicants are advised to submit their applications well in advance.
 8. If an applicant organisation decides not to disclose the information provided in this application form to Wheelock & Co./Woo Wheelock Green Fund (WWGF), such decision will not affect its chance of getting funding support from the ECF.
 9. Applicant organisations may be required to provide additional and/or supplementary information in relation to their applications by the Vetting Subcommittee or the Secretariat. If applicant organisations cannot provide the required information within the prescribed period without reasonable explanation, the application may be rejected.
 10. Any intentional misrepresentation or omission of information related to the application may result in the application being rejected or grant withheld, and the applicant organisation may be liable to prosecution for making a false declaration. The applicant organisation should note that obtaining pecuniary benefit from the ECF is a criminal offence under the Prevention of Bribe Ordinance.
 11. To ensure the service can be delivered correctly and effectively, it is recommended to use the latest version of Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge or Mozilla Firefox on a desktop device for the best viewing.
 12. The Secretariat will not be liable for any errors in, omissions from or delays concerning any applications, however, arising from the malfunction of operating system / internet web browser combinations.
 13. For enquiries, please contact the Secretariat at 2835 1234 or email to ecf@eeb.gov.hk.



You will be automatically logged out after 30 minutes of inactivity. Please save your work frequently to avoid losing any unsaved data.

☐ Don't show this again

OK

Save

Click "Apply Now"

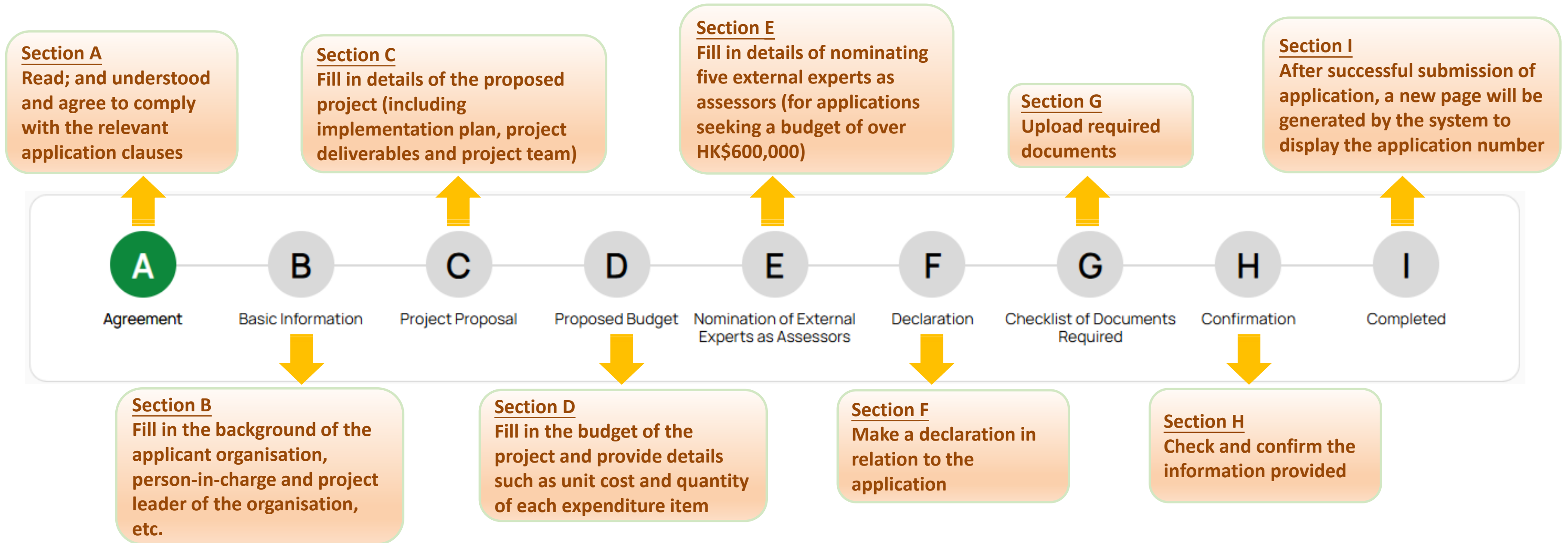
Apply Now

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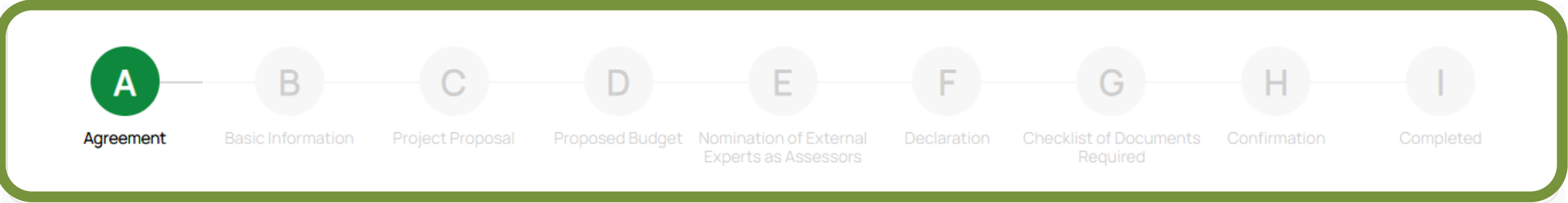
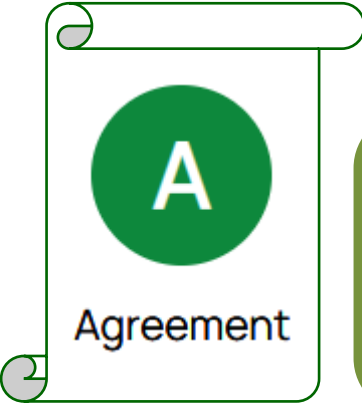
! Please save your work frequently to avoid losing any inputted data.

Key Procedures for Online Application

✿ The entire online application process consists of nine main steps



Section A - Agreement



Section A - Agreement

I have read and understood the following clauses before submitting the application:

- (i) the Government reserves the right to disqualify our application on the grounds that our organisation has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security or otherwise the exclusion of our organisation from future applications is necessary in the interest of national security, or is necessary to protect the public interest of Hong Kong, public morals, public order or public safety.
- (ii) even after the application is approved, the Government may immediately withdraw or cancel the relevant approval upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- our organisation has engaged or is engaging in acts or activities that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security;
 - the continued engagement of our organisation or the continued implementation of the ECF project is contrary to the interest of national security; or
 - the Government reasonably believes that any of the events mentioned above is about to occur.

☒ I hereby, on behalf of our organisation, confirm that we understand and agree with the above clauses.*

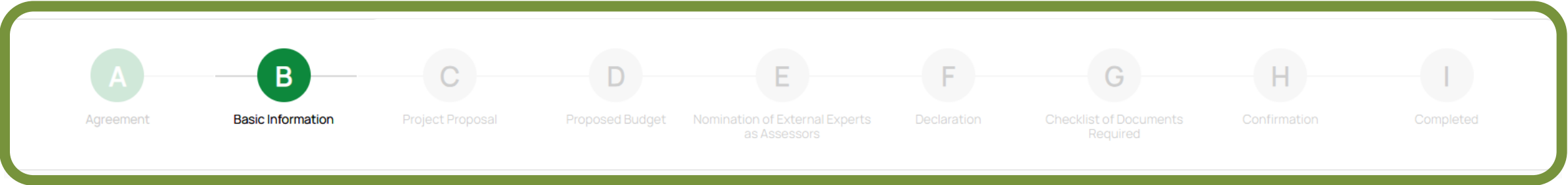
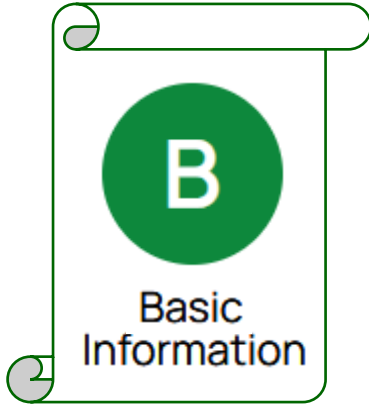
* Mandatory fields

Next



Please read “Safeguarding National Security” under section 2 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully before application.

Section B – Basic Information



1. Particular of Applicant Organisation

(Applicant organisation is the organising organisation of the proposed project. Organising organisation means the initiator, leader and party bearing ultimate responsibility for a project. The organising organisation owns the major intellectual property rights (such as brands and content) of the project, serves as the external representative during the project period, and takes the full accountability for the overall planning, implementation, quality and outcomes of the project. The key characteristics of an organising organisation are : leadership, ownership, ultimate responsibility. If the proposed project will be jointly organised by different organisations, an organisation meeting the above meaning of organising organisation should be selected as the applicant organisation.)

Name of Organisation (Chinese)*

Name of Organisation (English)*

For proposed projects from universities and THEi, please select the respective Research Office of your institution.

Universities and the Technological and Higher Educat... ▼

Research Office of the Institution*

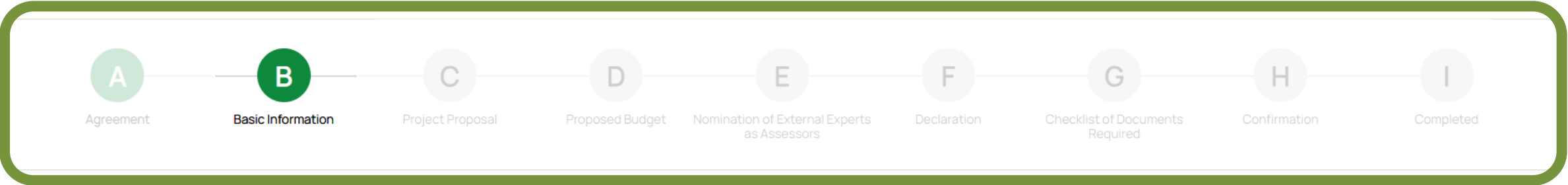
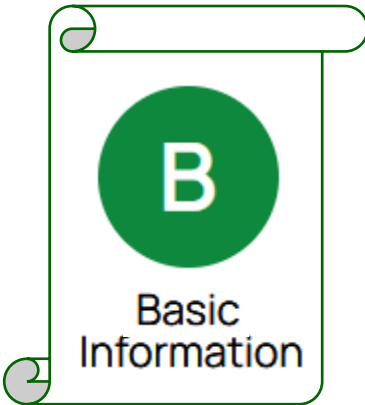
(The application will be submitted to the selected Research Office which has the right to use the information contained in the application form and confirm the eligibility of the principal investigator. The Person-in-charge must confirm that the chosen Research Office is accurate; otherwise, the application cannot be properly submitted to the Research Office of your institution for processing.)

Click to select ▼

☐ I confirm that the Research Office selected in this form is accurate.*

! Please **read** carefully and **confirm** the selected Research Office is accurate.

Section B – Basic Information



2. Particular of Person-in-charge

2. Particulars of Person-in-charge

(The person-in-charge should be the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation. For universities and THEi, please refer to section 5.2.3.3 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects".)

Please update the following information in [My Profile](#) if necessary and re-submit a new application.

Title*

Surname (Chinese)*

First Name (Chinese)*

Surname (English)*

First Name (English)*

Faculty / Department*

Position (Chinese)*

Position (English)*

Tel. No.*

Mobile No.

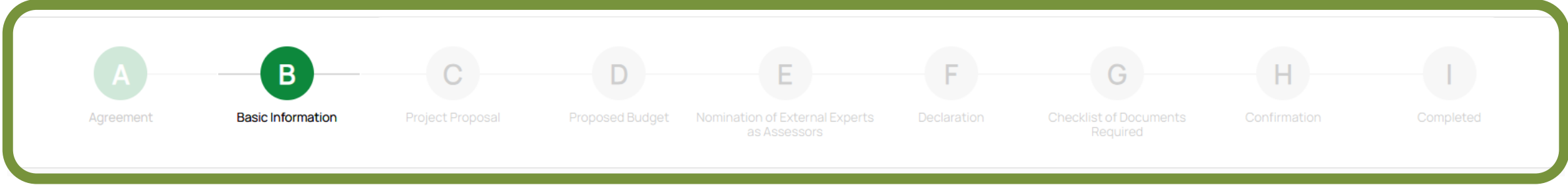
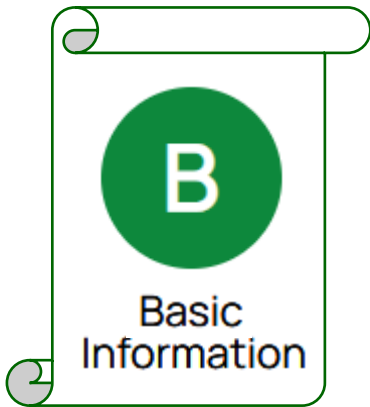
That is,

(1) Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation or

(2) Principal Investigator or head of the relevant academic faculty/ department/ office from University and THEi

If the information of the Person-in-charge under the Smart ECF account has been changed, please update at “My Profile” and then re-submit a new application form.

Section B – Basic Information



3. Particular of Principal Investigator

3. Particulars of Principal Investigator

Is the person-in-charge also the principal investigator of the proposed project?^{*}

☐ Yes

☐ No (Please provide the information of the principal investigator.)

Title^{*}

Click to select

▼

Surname (Chinese)^{*}

e.g. 陳

First Name (Chinese)^{*}

e.g. 小文

Surname (English)^{*}

e.g. Chan

First Name (English)^{*}

e.g. Sui Man

Position (Chinese)^{*}

e.g. 項目經理

Position (English)^{*}

e.g. Project manager

Tel. No.^{*}

e.g. 23456789

Mobile No.^{*}

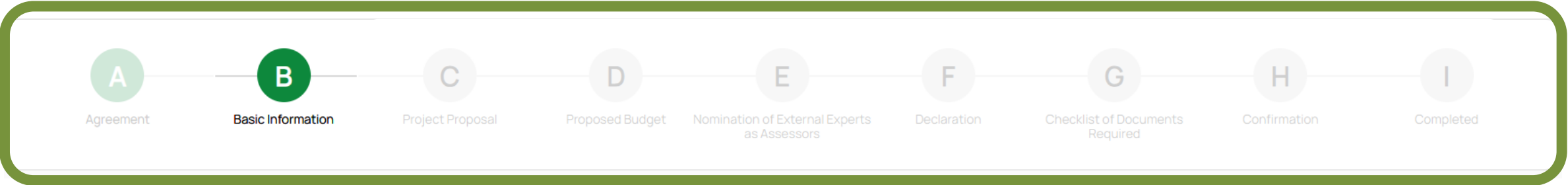
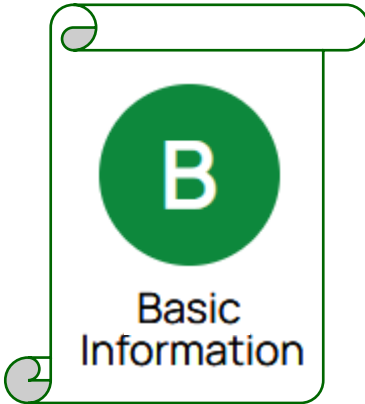
e.g. 91234567

Email^{*}

e.g. abc@gmail.com

Is the project-in-charge also the principal investigator of the proposed project?	
Yes	Information will be automatically copy from the “Q2. Particulars of Person-in-charge”.
No	Please provide the information of the principal investigator.

Section B – Basic Information



4. Background of Applicant Organisation

4. Background of Applicant Organisation

4.1 Year of Establishment*

e.g. 1991

4.2 Does the applicant organisation receive any government subvention?*

☐ No

☐ Yes

4.3 Applicant organisation's website*

4.4 Applicant organisation's social media platforms or its platform user name*

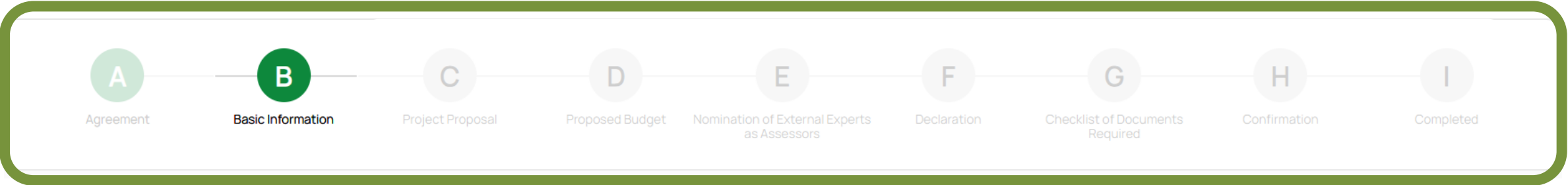
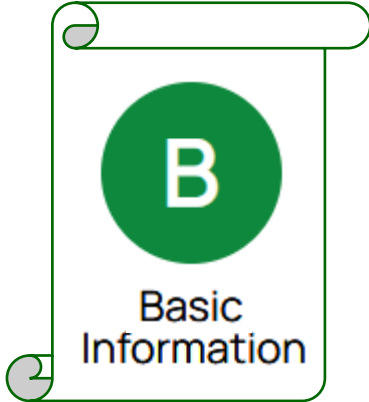
e.g. User Name of Facebook and Instagram Account : 環保友ECFriends (@ecf1994)

4.2 - Does the applicant organisation receive any government subvention?

Yes	If the proposed project is granted funding support from the ECF eventually, the administrative and overhead costs of the project will not be approved.
------------	--

Please provide the information about the **website, social media platform or its platform user name** of the applicant organisation.

Section B – Basic Information



5. Track Record

5. Track Record

5.1 List out the projects supported by the ECF in the past five years (if any)

Project Number	Project Title	Status	Approved Grant (HK\$)
Please specify	Please specify	Completed	Please specify

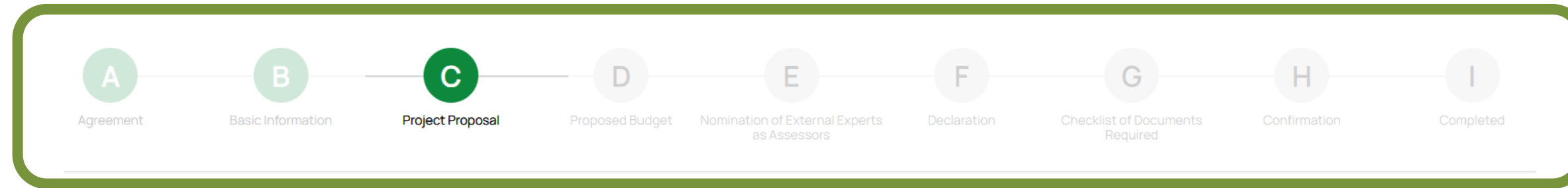
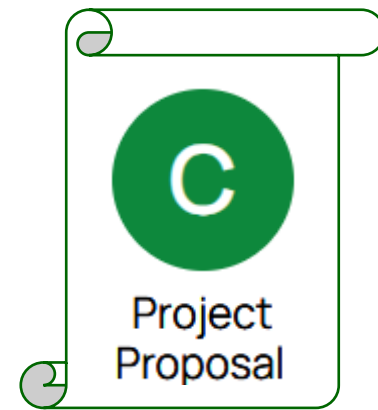
No more than 25 rows

5.2 List out the applications not supported by the ECF in the past five years (if any)

Application Number	Project Title	Requested Grant (HK\$)
Please specify	Please specify	Please specify

No more than 25 rows

Section C – Project Proposal



State the project title in **both English and Chinese**

Choose **ONE** project type only

1. Project Title (Chinese)*

環境及自然保育基金資助

(English)*

Environment and Conservation Fund

2. Project Type*

(Please choose one project type below.)

- ☐ Research
- ☐ Technology Development and Demonstration
- ☐ Conference

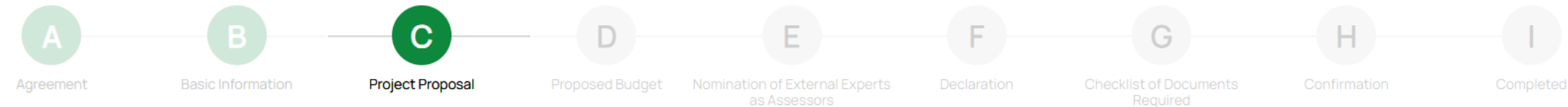
3. Theme*

(Please choose one theme only.)

- ☐ Air Quality
- ☐ Biodiversity and Conservation
- ☐ Climate Change – Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience
- ☐ Construction and Traffic Noise – Prevention and Mitigation
- ☐ Waste Management, Reduction and Recycling
- ☐ Water Quality and Water Pollution
- ☐ Other Topic(s)

Choose **ONE** theme only
(If the proposed project involves more than one type, please choose one dominating type).

Section C – Project Proposal



Under each theme,
choose **ONE** priority
topic.

3. Theme*

(Please choose one theme only.)

- ☐ Air Quality
- ☒ Biodiversity and Conservation
- ☐ Climate Change – Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience
- ☐ Construction and Traffic Noise – Prevention and Mitigation
- ☐ Waste Management, Reduction and Recycling
- ☐ Water Quality and Water Pollution
- ☐ Other Topic(s)

4. Topic*

(Please choose one topic only.)

- ☐ Studies on sustainable ecotourism
- ☐ Studies on urban biodiversity, wildlife-friendly designs, or applicability of Nature-based Solutions
- ☐ Baseline studies on understudied taxa groups of potential conservation concern
- ☐ Studies on the conservation and monitoring of threatened species
- ☐ Studies on risk and impact assessment, management and control of invasive alien species
- ☐ Studies on or prototyping of habitat restoration and enhancing habitat connectivity
- ☐ Studies on the impact of climate change on local ecosystems
- ☐ Development and/ or application of smart technologies and molecular tools that facilitate monitoring and/or management of wildlife or habitat, aid enforcement against wildlife crime, or promote sharing of ecological knowledge
- ☐ Environmental-economic assessments of Hong Kong's natural or urban blue-green habitats

**If Biodiversity and Conservation is selected, please answer
Q5 - Please state whether the project involves any
collection of species occurrence data**

5. Please state whether the project involves any collection of species occurrence data*

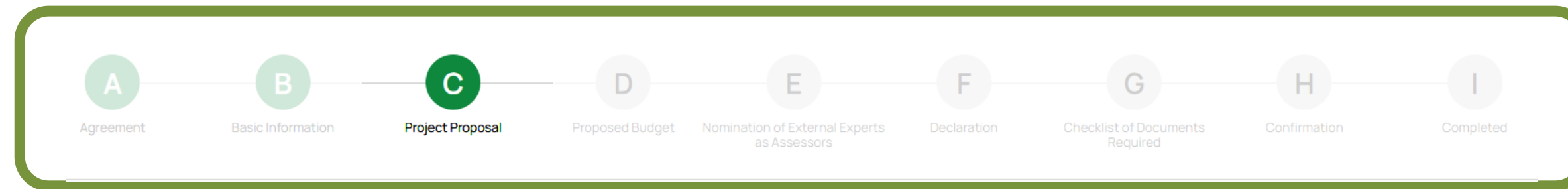
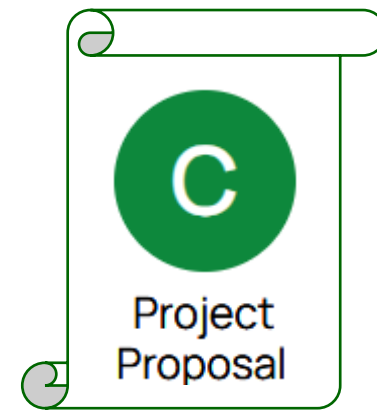
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Note: If the project involves species occurrence data collection, please submit the data using the standardised data requisition form on the ECF website upon completion of the project.



Please **read the list of priority topics in Appendix I of the
"Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully** before application.

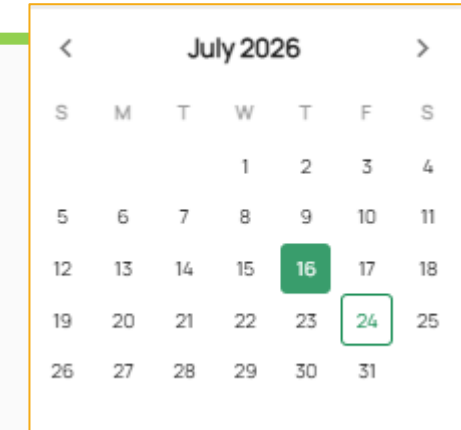
Section C – Project Proposal



The project period should be **specified in full month**

6. Project Application Nature*

- ☒ Application of newly proposed project
- ☐ Resubmitted application of the most recent not supported proposed project



7. Project Period

7.1 Project Period*

(Please specify the project commencement and completion dates in full month, e.g. 12 months from 28/01/2028 to 27/01/2029.)

From dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy

Project Duration (months)

-

If “Conference” is selected in Q2, please also provide the conference period in Q7.2

7.2 Conference Period*

(Please specify the conference date(s). The conference date(s) should be within the project period.)

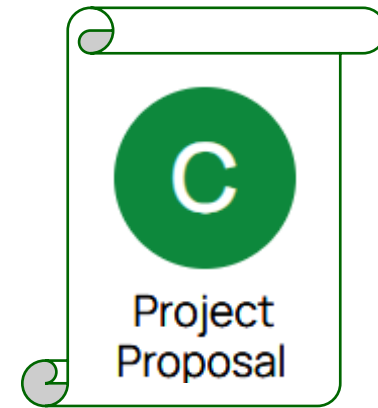
From dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy



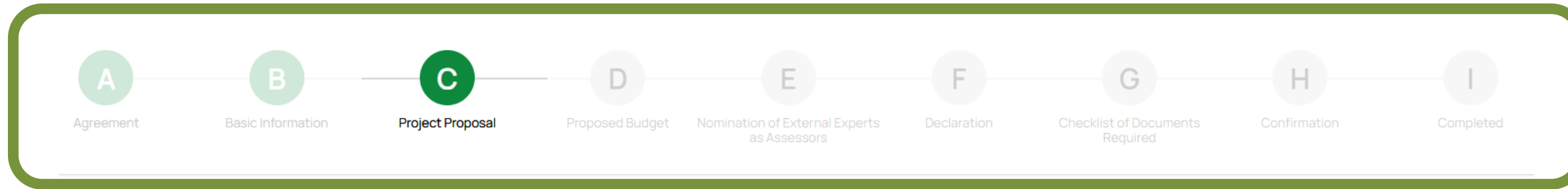
Conference Duration (days)

-

The conference start date should not be earlier than the project commencement date



Section C – Project Proposal



8. Project Brief

8. Project Brief*
(Chinese)

(If Chinese version cannot be provided, please fill in "N.A.")

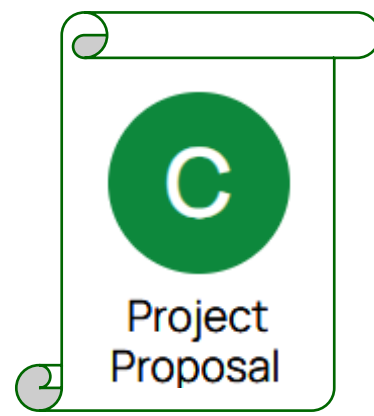
(Not more than 200 words)

Give a brief account of the project. If the project brief for one of the languages cannot be provided, please fill in "N.A.".

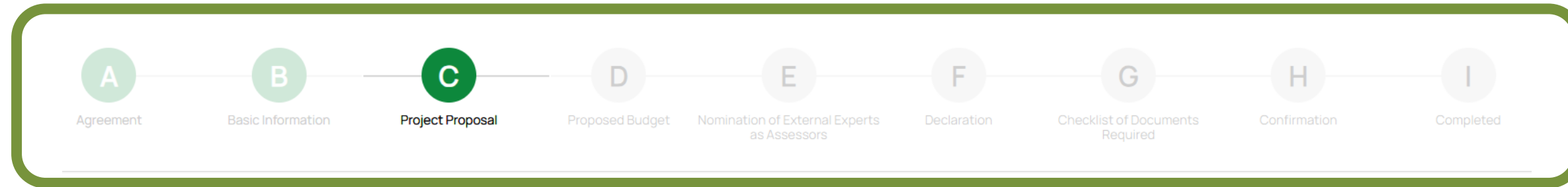
(English)*

(If English version cannot be provided, please fill in "N.A.")

(Not more than 200 words)



Section C – Project Proposal



9. Details of Collaborating Organisation(s) of the Project

9. Details of Other Collaborating Organisation(s) of the Project (if any)

Notes:

Collaborating Organisation including the following five categories -

Co-organising organisations: They are partners that are deeply involved in the planning, organising or implementation of a project, taking on equal or partial important duties. Their involvement in the project is not merely nominal, as they provide substantive resources (such as manpower, professional expertise, channels, etc.), and take forward the project and share ultimate responsibility with the organising organisation. Key characteristics: deep involvement, shared responsibility, substantive contribution

Sponsoring organisations: They are organisations that mainly provide financial or important material support for a project in exchange for brand exposure, marketing opportunities or other commercial returns. Sponsorship usually involves clear business partnerships and return expectations, and is often a promotional strategy for enhancing brand image. Sponsoring organisations, or sponsors, contribute money or efforts to acquire exposure or indirect commercial interests. Key characteristics: provision of financial/important material support for returns (commercial or non-commercial).

Donating organisations: They are organisations that primarily provide financial or material assistance or donations to support other individuals or institutions in achieving social objectives. Their motivation tends to be public-interest, academic or charitable in nature. The funding organisation may not seek direct economic or market returns, but acts out of social responsibility, industrial development or similar purposes. Key characteristics: provision of financial or material assistance to achieve public-interest, charitable or academic objectives.

Supporting organisations: They are organisations that provide some form of auxiliary resources for a project, with a level of involvement and responsibility significantly lower than that of co-organising organisations. Their support may take various forms, such as providing venues, publicity channels, partial technical input or volunteers. They do not undertake the core organisational work of the project. Key characteristics: auxiliary involvement, resource support, lighter responsibility.

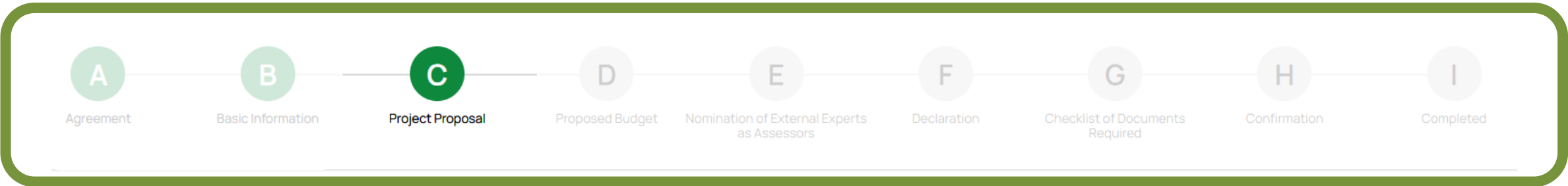
Beneficiary organisations: They are entities that directly receive benefits or service items from a project. They are typically the beneficiaries of public-interest activities, recipients of charitable projects or target groups of industry initiatives. They are not the organisers of the project, but rather its "clients" or "targets". Key characteristics: recipients of benefits or service items, non-organising parties.

(If the collaborating organisation(s) stated below has / have confirmed its / their involvement in the proposed project, please return the relevant written consent(s). Please refer to section 5.2.4.2 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects". If the organisation is a sponsoring or donating organisation, please fill in "Other Sources of Sponsorship or Donation of the Project" in Q3 of "Section D – Proposed Budget" at the same time.)

 Complete the form



Section C – Project Proposal



9. Details of Collaborating Organisation(s) of the Project

(If the collaborating organisation(s) stated below has / have confirmed its / their involvement in the proposed project, please return the relevant written consent(s). Please refer to section 5.2.4.10.2 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects". If the organisation is a sponsoring or donating organisation, please fill in "Other Sources of Sponsorship or Donations" in Q3 of "Section D – Proposed Budget" at the same time.)

Name of Organisation	Contact Details		Role	Duties	Status	Organisation's Website and Social Media Account
	Name	Tel. No.				
	Co-organising Organisation Sponsoring Organisation Donating Organisation Supporting Organisation Beneficiary Organisation		Co-organising Organisation		Confirmed	

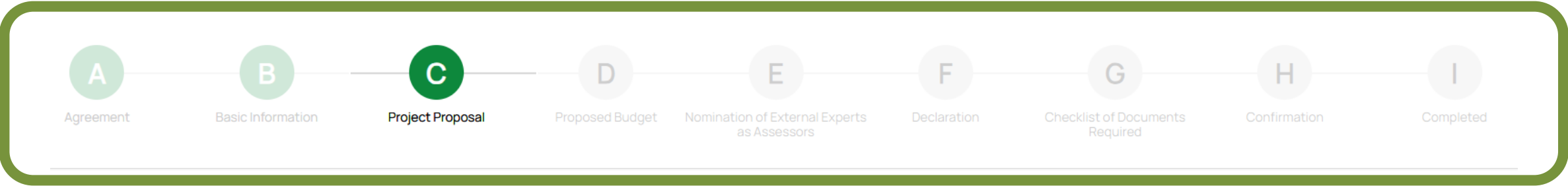
No more than 25 rows

+

-

Please read “Details of Collaborating Organisation(s) of the Project” under section 5.2.4.10 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully before application.

Section C – Project Proposal



Appendix VI

To: Secretariat, Research and Development Projects Vetting Subcommittee
5/F., Southorn Centre
130 Hennessy Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Environment and Conservation Fund
Research and Development Projects**

Written consent

I / our organisation / our company* hereby confirm to act as a co-organising^{1/} / sponsoring^{2/} / donating^{3/} / supporting^{4/} / beneficiary⁵ organisation* of the proposed project (Project title) Environment and Conservation Fund of the applicant organisation (Name of Organisation) _____ in the Research and Development Projects Funding Scheme under the Environment and Conservation Fund.

(To be completed by sponsoring^{2/} / donating³ organisation only)

I / our organisation / our company* will sponsor / donate* HK\$ _____ to the applicant organisation for the purpose of _____ in the above-mentioned project.

Signature of Individual/Authorised Person* : _____

Name of Individual/Authorised Person* : _____

Position in Organisation/Company : _____

Telephone No. : _____

Name and Official Chop of Organisation/Company : _____

Date : _____

*Please delete as appropriate

¹ Co-organising organisations refer to partners that are deeply involved in the planning, organising or implementation of a project, taking on equal or partial important duties. Their involvement in the project is not merely nominal, as they provide substantive resources (such as manpower, professional expertise, channels, etc.), and take forward the project and share ultimate responsibility with the applicant organisation. Key characteristics: deep involvement, shared responsibility, substantive contribution.
² Sponsoring organisations refer to organisations that mainly provide financial or important material support for a project in exchange for brand exposure, marketing opportunities or other commercial returns. Sponsorship usually involves clear business partnerships and return expectations, and is often a promotional strategy for enhancing brand image. Sponsoring organisations, or sponsors, contribute money or efforts to acquire exposure or indirect commercial interests. Key characteristics: provision of financial/important material support for returns (commercial or non-commercial).
³ Donating organisations refer to organisations that primarily provide financial or material assistance or donations to support other individuals or institutions in achieving social objectives. Their motivation tends to be public-interest, academic or charitable in nature. The funding organisation may not seek direct economic or market returns, but acts out of social responsibility, industrial development or similar purposes. Key characteristics: provision of financial or material assistance to achieve public-interest, charitable or academic objectives.
⁴ Supporting organisations refer to organisations that provide some form of auxiliary resources for a project, with a level of involvement and responsibility significantly lower than that of co-organising organisations. Their support may take various forms, such as providing venues, publicity channels, partial technical input or volunteers. They do not undertake the core organisational work of the project. Key characteristics: auxiliary involvement, resource support, lighter responsibility.
⁵ Beneficiary organisations refer to entities that directly receive benefits or service items from a project. They are typically the beneficiaries of public-interest activities, recipients of charitable projects or target groups of industry initiatives. They are not the organisers of the project, but rather its "clients" or "targets". Key characteristics: recipients of benefits or service items, non-organising parties.

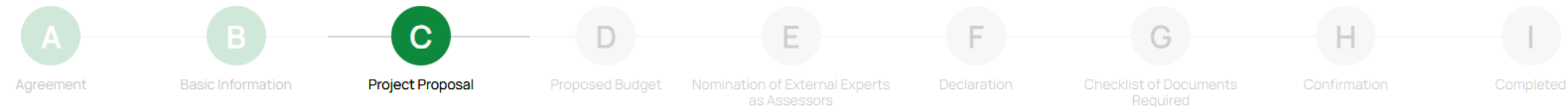
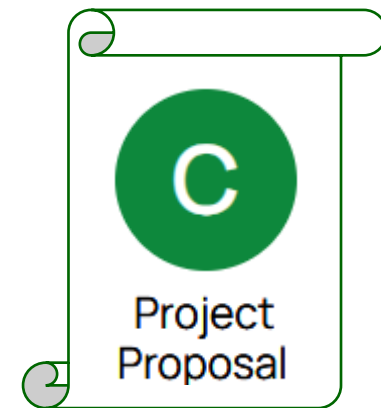
Appendix VI — Written Consent

Application Stage	After Approval
If the collaborating organisation(s) stated has / have confirmed its / their involvement in the proposed project, please return the relevant written consent(s) .	Please note that all confirmed collaborating organisations are required to sign a Confirmation on National Security individually after project approval.

The template of Written Consent is provided in **Appendix VI** of the "**Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects**"

Please **read “Details of Collaborating Organisation(s) of the Project”** under section 5.2.4.10 of the "**Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects**" **carefully** before application.

Section C – Project Proposal



10. Project Objectives

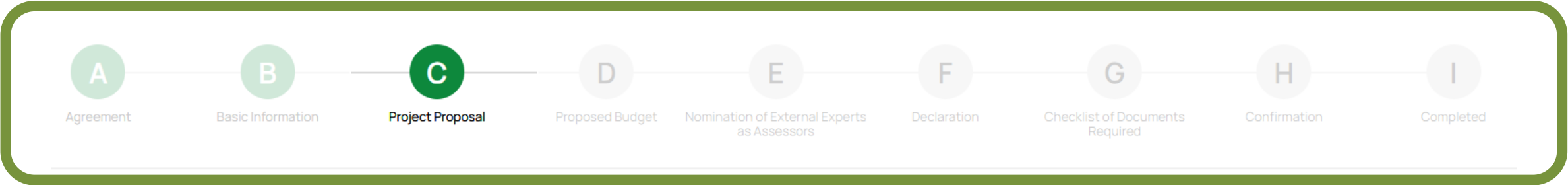
10. Project Objectives*

Mandatory field

(Not more than 200 words)

In **clear and specific** terms, state the project's direct and practical contributions & justify the broader goals it aims to achieve

Section C – Project Proposal



11. Target Group(s)/Sector(s) and the Estimated Size of the Sector

11. Target Group(s)/Sector(s) and the Estimated Size of the Sector *

Target Group(s) / Sector(s)	Estimated Size
Please specify	Please specify

No more than 25 rows

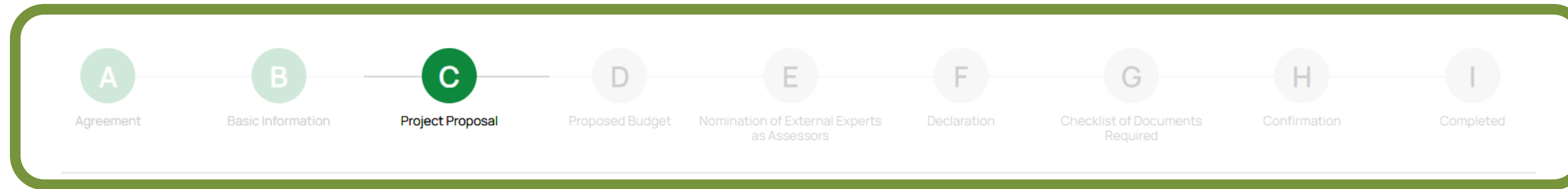
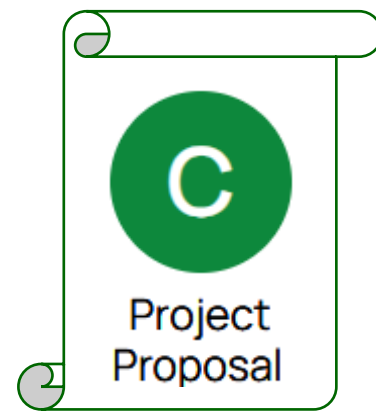
If “Conference” is selected in Q2, please also specify the theme, details activities, proposed/invited speakers and planned number of people involved in Q12

12. Please specify the theme, detailed activities, proposed/invited speakers and planned number of people involved *

Theme	Detailed Activity(s)	Proposed / Invited Speaker(s)	Planned No. of People Involved
Please specify	Please specify	Please specify	Please specify

No more than 25 rows

Section C – Project Proposal



13. Expected Benefits of the Project

13. Expected Benefits of the Project

(Please refer to section 5.2.3.4 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects".)

13.1 Deliverables and performance indicators of the Project*

State the targeted quantitative and qualitative outcomes of the Project, as well as the performance indicators as appropriate (Please provide in point form.)

e.g.: a) To develop a visualisation tool to showcase the robot; and b) Development of a coating with enhanced durability > 30%.

Please provide the details in point form

13.2 For the above-mentioned project deliverables and performance indicators, set out a detailed plan for their dissemination and/or knowledge and technology transfer*

(Please provide in point form.)

e.g.: a) Hold an oral presentation in an international meeting on marine science; b) Publish two academic papers in prestigious international journals; c) Train two postdoctoral researchers and two MSc students.

Focus on the **tangible** and **measurable** outputs the project will produce to achieve its stated objectives.

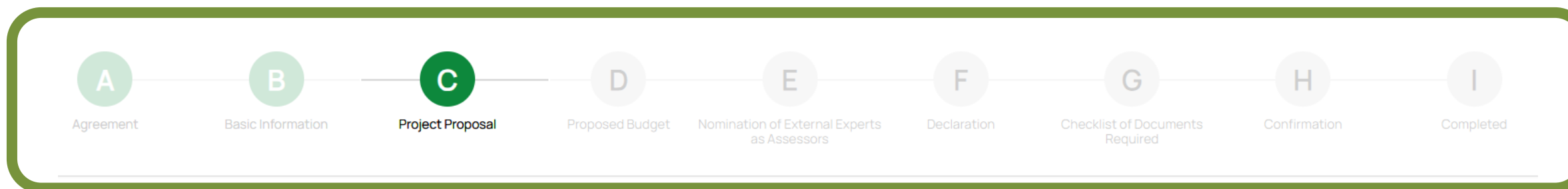
For reference

- (i) the number of journals, papers, manuscripts to be submitted or presented. Dissemination of the project findings and results through e-newsletters, websites, social media platforms, exhibitions, online seminars/workshops, etc.;
- (ii) the number of media coverage on the programmes; and
- (iii) the technologies transferred to stakeholders.

Please read "Expected Benefits of the Project" under section 5.2.4.13 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully before application.



Section C – Project Proposal



14. Overall Effectiveness of the Project

14. Overall Effectiveness of the project

14.1 Please specify how the Project makes contribution(s) to academic advancement in the field of environmental improvement and conservation*

(Not more than 200 words)

14.2 Please specify how the deliverables and performance indicators of the project can be applied to environmental improvement and conservation of the local environment (including its direct and indirect contributions/merits)*

(Not more than 200 words)

14.3 Please specify how the project facilitates the exchange of practices, expertise and experience on environmental protection and nature conservation among relevant practitioners, academia and professionals*

(Not more than 200 words)

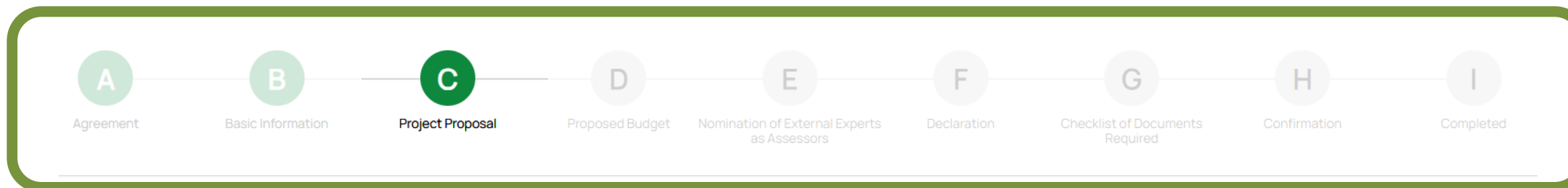
For “Research” Project

For “Technology and Demonstration” Project

For “Conference” Project



Section C – Project Proposal



15. Method of Implementation of the Project

15. Method of Implementation of the Project
(Please attach details of the methodology in Section G.)



Please upload the attachment to Section G of the Application Form

Section G - Checklist of Documents Required

Important Note:
If the applicant organisation fails to submit the required documents prescribed below together with this Application Form, the application may will not be processed.

Q15 of Section C - Method of Implementation of the Project*

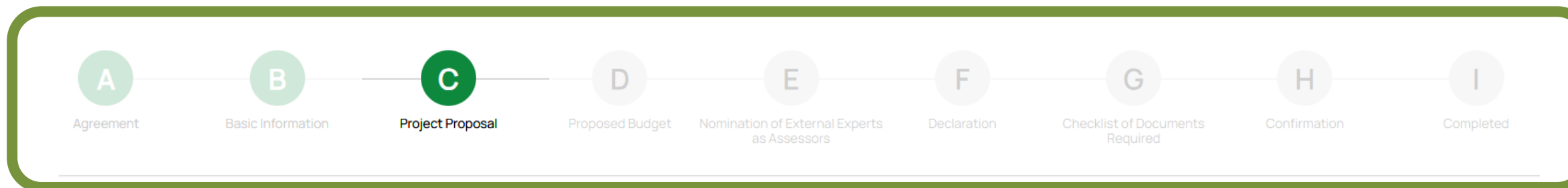
Click here to select file
File format: .JPG, .PNG, .PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .PPT, .PPTX, .XLS, .XLSX
File size no more than 20MB
(Accept maximum of 5 file(s))

16. Details of Implementation Plan and Timetable of Core Tasks

16. Details of Implementation Plan and Timetable of Core Tasks*
(You may attach details of implementation plan and timetable in Section G if necessary.)



Section C – Project Proposal



17. Innovative Element(s) of the Proposed Project and Difference(s) Compared to Similar Projects

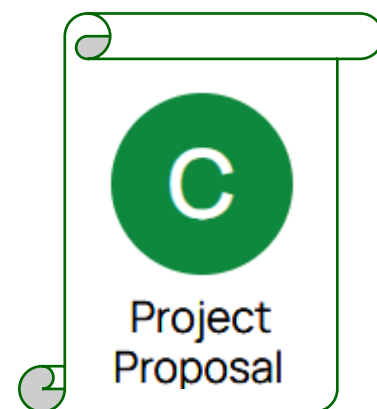
17. Innovative Element(s) of the Proposed Project and Difference(s) Compared to Similar Projects

17.1 List out the similar type of project(s) undertaken and/or all related research (both planned and completed) in the past or at present and provide the details*

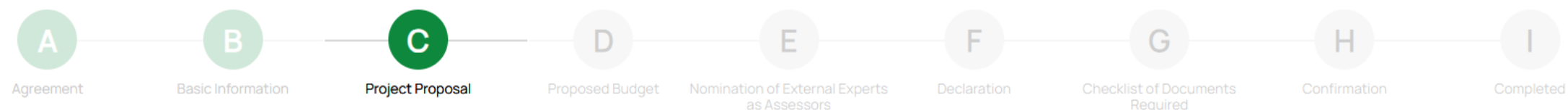
17.2 List out the innovative element(s) of the proposed project and difference(s) compared to similar projects (e.g. research method, methodology, target group, study scope, or deliverables etc.)*

Avoid duplication of the work already or currently being carried out by government departments or other organisations .

In clear and specific terms, state the innovative elements of the project and its **difference(s)** from similar type projects.



Section C – Project Proposal



18. Project Sustainability

18. Project Sustainability

18.1 Plan to sustain impacts upon project completion *
(Please provide in point form.)

e.g.: (a) The system demonstration project was adopted by the government department to remove algal biomass from reservoirs in Hong Kong; and (b) A bus company was interested in the waste heat recovery system developed under a research project and would collaborate with the PI to refine the system for trial use in its fleet.

18.2 Is there a possibility that the funded project output may generate significant income after project completion? *

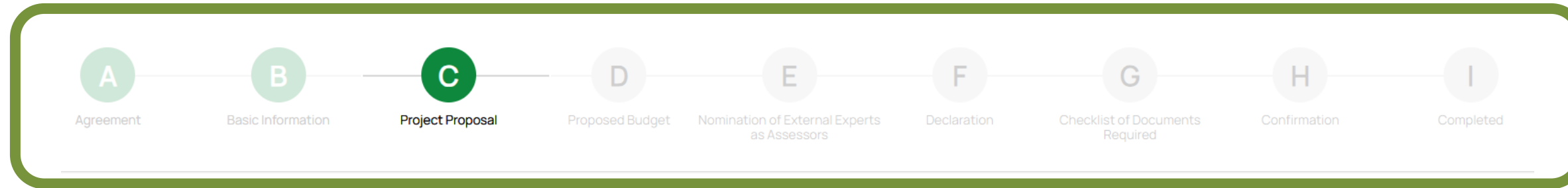
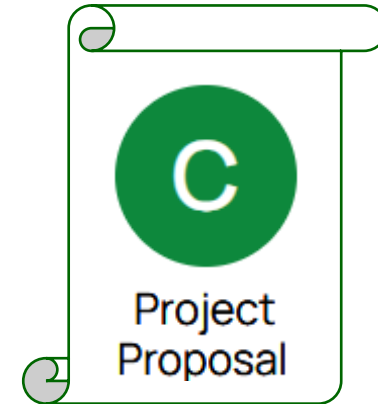
- ☐ No
☒ Yes

If "yes", please confirm the following:

- ☒ The project is not commissioned by a commercial body to conduct the study for deriving an income and it has not signed any deal with any commercial body. *
- ☒ The project could meet the non-profit making nature and satisfy the requirements prescribed in the Guide to Application, e.g. the recipient organisation is required to grant unconditionally and irrevocably to the Government and/or the Wheelock & Co. / WWGF the right to publish results, findings and to ensure widespread adoption of the technologies by relevant sectors. The benefits must accrue to one or more industries, and not just to individual companies, etc. The justification is as follows: *

Please read "Project Sustainability" under section 5.2.4.18 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully before application.

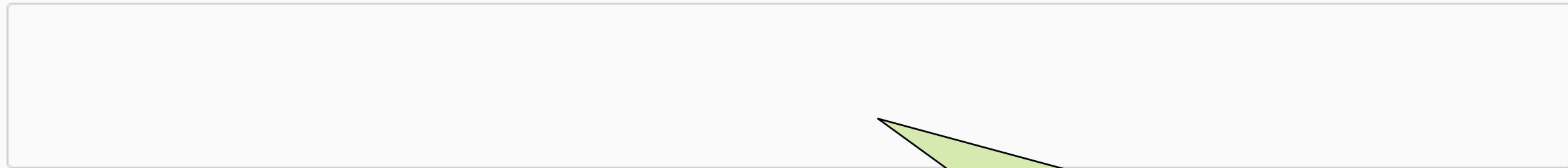
Section C – Project Proposal



19. Supplementary Information of the Application

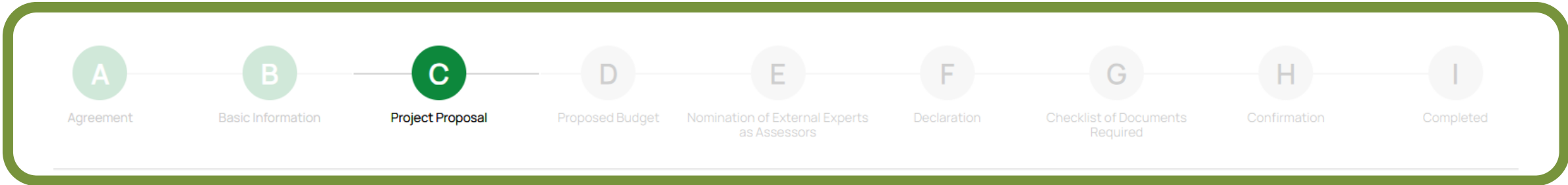
19. Supplementary Information of the Application*

(For example, the experience of the Person-in-charge or background information of the applicant organisation to support the application and demonstrate its capability in organising the proposed project.)



Applicant organisation could **briefly introduce the experience of the person-in-charge and/or background information of the applicant organisation** for reference by the vetting subcommittee when vetting the proposed project.

Section C – Project Proposal



20. Project Team

20. Project Team

20.1 Principal Investigator
(Please attach the Curriculum Vitae (limited to 2 pages) separately in Section G.)

20.2 Co-investigator(s)

Name			Position	Faculty / Department	Name of Organisation	Job Duties and Justification
Title	Surname	First Name				
Click to select ▼	Please specify	Please specify	Please specify	Please specify	Please specify	Please specify
	//	//	//	//	//	//

No more than 25 rows

Please upload the curriculum vitae of the principal investigator to Section G of the Application Form

Q201 of Section C – Curriculum Vitae of the Principal Investigator (limited to 2 pages)*

Click here to select file

File format: JPG, JPEG, PNG, DOC, DOCX, PDF, PPT, PPTX, XLS, XLSX

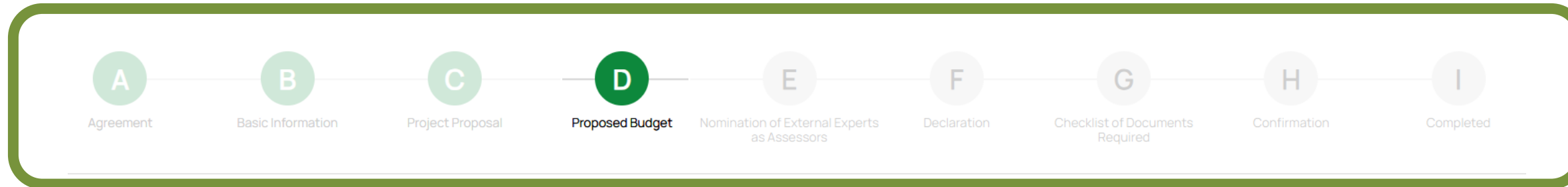
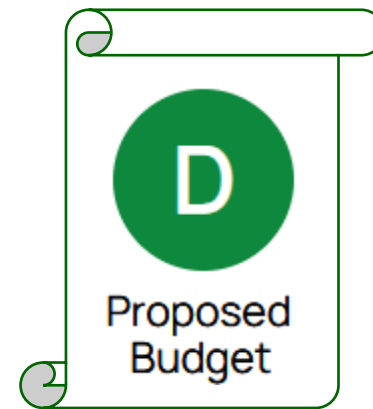
File size no more than 20 MB

(Accept maximum of 5 file(s))

After Approval

Please note that all **confirmed** collaborating organisations are required to **sign a Confirmation on National Security** separately after project approval.

Section D – Proposed Budget



1. Budget of the Project

Section D - Proposed Budget

1. Budget of the Project

(Please refer to section 5.2.3.10 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects".)

1.1 Proposed budget table*

(Applications seeking a budget of over HK\$600,000 should complete "Section E – Nomination of External Experts as Assessors". (Please refer to section 5.2.5 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects".)

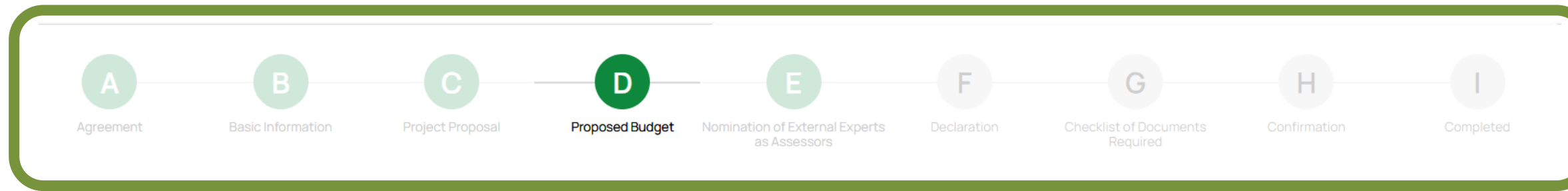
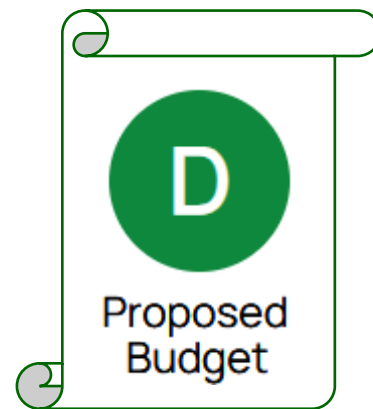
Item(s)*

- ☐ A. Staffing
- ☐ B. Equipment and consumables
- ☐ C. Others



Please **read "Proposed Budget" under section 5.2.5 of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully** before application.

Section D – Proposed Budget



A. Staffing

Grant Requested should not exceed Expected Expenditure

Expenditure Item	Unit Cost (HK\$)	Quantity	Estimated Total Expenditure (HK\$)	Grant Requested (HK\$)	Provide detailed justifications for each budget item
A. Staffing (For full-time research assistant, please provide the total "man-months" required. The budget for part-time research assistant must be calculated on the basis of "man hour". If more than one Research Assistant, please insert a new row separately.)					
Senior Research Assistant (full-time) ▼	Maximum \$34,220/month	/month	0	Please specify	Please specify job duties of each staff member
Student Research Assistant (part-time) ▼	Maximum \$63/hour	/hour	0	Please specify	Please specify job duties of each staff member
Subtotal (HK\$)			0	0	
Total Amount (HK\$)			0	0	

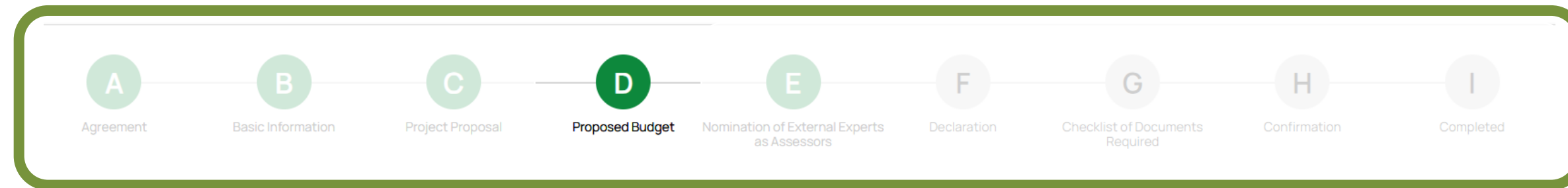
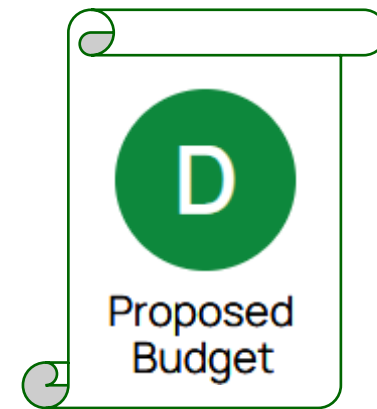
The **statutory minimum wage, MPF and employees' compensation insurance requirements**, as well as other employment legislations must be complied with.

If more than one Research Assistant will be recruited, please **insert a new row** and provide the details.



Please **read "Staffing" under section 5.2.5.1(a) of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully** before application.

Section D – Proposed Budget

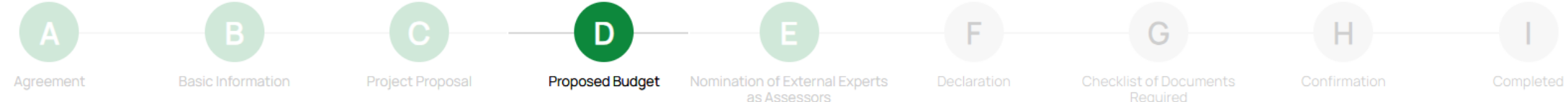
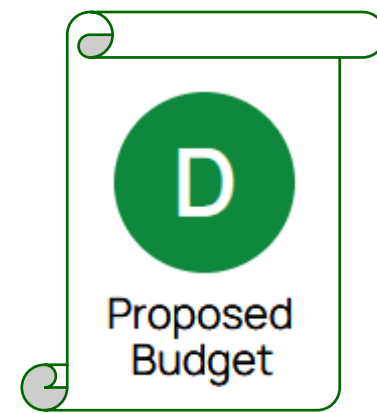


A. Staffing

1.2 Specifically, please provide strong justification(s) for the Vetting Subcommittee to consider whether to fully support the cost if the total "Staffing" cost exceeds 70% of the total requested amount of the Project^{*}

If the total Staffing costs exceeds 70 % of the total requested amount of the project, **full justification** should be provided in this field.

Section D – Proposed Budget



B. Equipment and consumables

Expenditure Item	Unit Cost (HK\$)	Quantity	Estimated Total Expenditure (HK\$)	Grant Requested (HK\$)	Provide detailed justifications for each budget item
B. Equipment and consumables					
Please specify	Please specify	Please specify	0	Please specify	Please specify
Subtotal (HK\$)			0	0	

Funding for purchase of individual capital items, such as computers and servers will normally **not be supported**.

C. Others

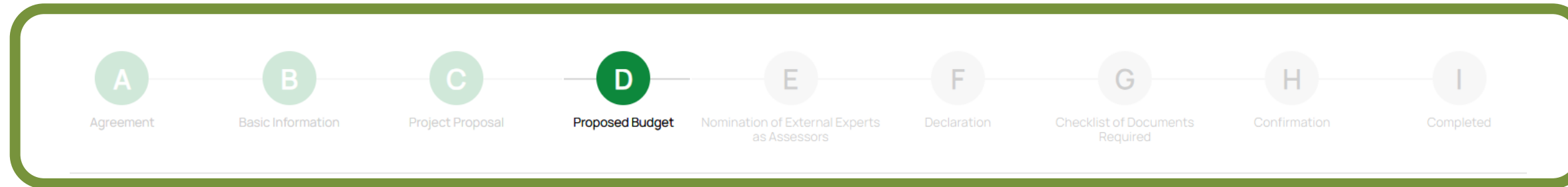
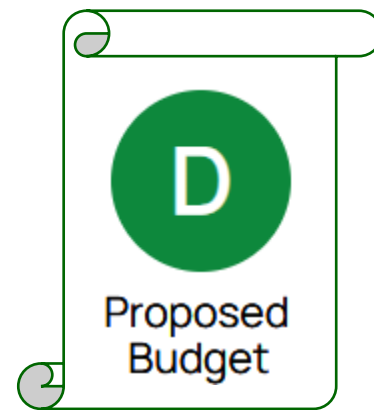
C. Others					
Please specify	Please specify	Please specify	0	Please specify	Please specify
Subtotal (HK\$)			0	0	
Total Amount (HK\$)			0	0	

Funding for publication of results, patent fees, production of printed promotion materials, etc. normally **not be supported**.



Please read “Equipment and consumables” and “Others” under section 5.2.5.1(b) & (c) of the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" carefully before application.

Section D – Proposed Budget



2. Estimated Revenue Generated from the Project (if applicable)

Smart ECF (Example)

2. Estimated Revenue Generated from the Project (if applicable)

(Recurring revenue refers to the average monthly recurring revenue multiplied by the number of months.)

Revenue Item	Type of Revenue	Estimated Revenue (HK\$)
Registration Fee	One-off Revenue	50000
Total Estimated Revenue (HK\$)		50,000.00

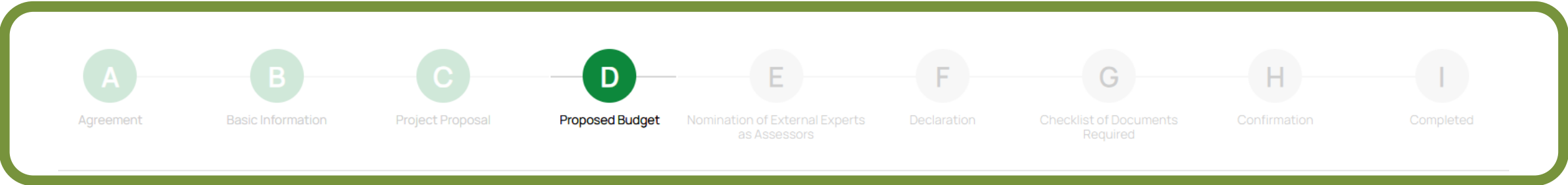
No more than 25 rows



Estimated revenue expected to be gained from the project shall be taken into account when formulating the amount of grant applied for. Details on **how the income will be used to offset the cost** of the project should be provided.



Section D – Proposed Budget



3. Other Sources of Sponsorship or Donation of the Project

3. Other Sources of Sponsorship or Donation of the Project

Has the applicant organisation applied for any sponsorship or donation from other source(s) or organisation(s) for the same project or activities under application?*

- ☐ No
- ☒ Yes

If yes, please list out details of the sponsorship(s) or donation(s) that is/are confirmed or to be confirmed.*
(If the sponsorship(s) or donation(s) stated below has / have been confirmed, please provide the relevant written consent(s) of the related organisation(s) (except government departments). Please refer to Appendix VI of "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects".)

Name of Organisation	Content of Sponsorship or Donation	Amount of Sponsorship or Donation (HK\$)	Status
			Confirmed Being Applied For
			Confirmed
Total Amount of Sponsorships or Donations (HK\$)		0	

No more than 25 rows

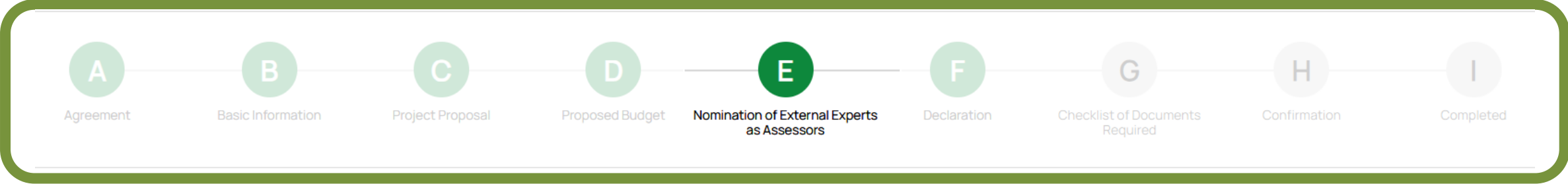
Application Stage	After Approval
If the organisation(s) stated has / have confirmed its / their involvement in the proposed project, please return the relevant written consent(s) .	Please note that all confirmed collaborating organisations are required to sign a Confirmation on National Security individually after project approval.

Section E – Nomination of External Experts Assessors



E

Nomination of External Experts as Assessors



1. List of Proposed Assessors

Section E - Nomination of External Experts as Assessors

This Section is only to be filled by Principal Investigator(s) seeking a grant of over HK\$600,000 for Research Project(s) or Technology Development and Demonstration Project(s).

1. List of Proposed Assessors*

(Please propose five external experts as assessors for assisting the Secretariat in reviewing the application. Give details of the name, contact email address of each proposed assessor and at most two of her/his publications / completed projects on the relevant research areas.)

No.	Name	Email	Publications / Completed Projects
(1)			
(2)			
(3)			
(4)			
(5)			

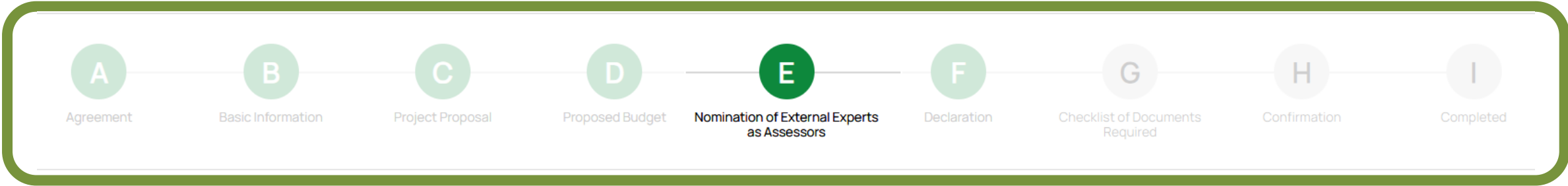
Propose **FIVE** external experts as assessors for assisting the Secretariat in reviewing the application

Give details of the **name, contact email address** of each proposed assessor and **at most two of her/his publications / completed projects** on the relevant research areas.

Section E – Nomination of External Experts Assessors

E

Nomination of External Experts as Assessors



2. Declaration of Relationship

2. Declaration of Relationship + -

Declare any past and present relationships between the Investigator(s) (i.e. the Principal Investigator and the Co-Investigator(s)) and the nominated external assessors. Each Investigator should complete a separate form to indicate, for each external assessor, the nature of the relationship and provide details (e.g. when and where the relationship was/is developed, name / nature of project, publications or events involved in the past or at present).

Name of Investigator:

Nature of Relationship

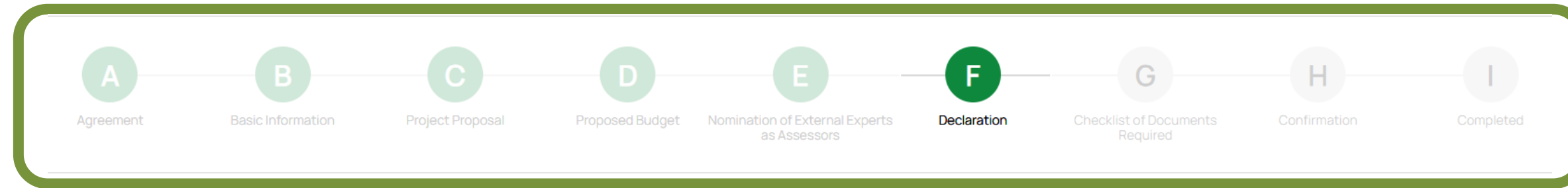
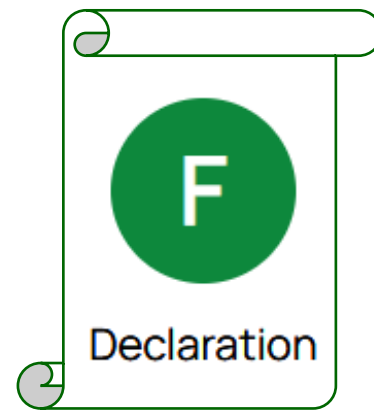
	Proposed Assessors No.				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Supervisor or Supervisee of PhD or MPhil studies	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Advisor or Advisee in research studies / research projects	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Colleagues in the same organisation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Collaborators in research projects / programmes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Co-authors of research publications / patents	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Relatives / Long-time personal friends	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fellow members of the same editorial board / professional association	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
None	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Others	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

3. Please provide details of the above relationships

The principal investigators and co-investigators are required to **declare their relationship** and any **potential conflict of interest** with the nominated assessors

Any undeclared relationships come to the attention of the Vetting Subcommittee will be treated seriously and will **affect the future chance of getting funding support** from ECF.

Section F - Declaration



To collaborate with the ECF in supporting R&D projects, the **Wheelock & Co.** set up the **Woo Wheelock Green Fund (WWGF)** in 1994 and select projects for joint funding support on an equal share basis.

Applicant organisation can decide **whether to disclose the information** provided in the application form to **Wheelock & Co./WWGF**.

The decision of disclosing information to the Wheelock & co./WWGF **will not affect** the chance of getting funding support from the ECF.



Section F - Declaration

English

I declare that:

- the information and personal data provided in this form is true and accurate. I understand that any intentional misrepresentation or omission of information related to this application may result in the application being rejected or grant withheld, and the applicant organisation may be liable to prosecution for making a false declaration. I also understand that obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception is a criminal offence;
- the applicant organisation is non-profit-making in nature;
- the proposed project and/or activities seeking grants are non-profit-making and will not be used for political, religious or commercial purposes for any individual or organisation;
- the applicant organisation understand and agree to abide by the terms and conditions as set out in the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" and will comply with all the requirements laid down in the Agreement should we be given an ECF grant for the project; and
- the applicant organisation agree / disagree to disclose the information provided in this application form to the Wheelock & Co. / WWGF for joint funding support (the decision not to disclose the information to the Wheelock & Co. / WWGF will not affect the chance of getting funding support from the ECF).^{*}

☐ Agree
 ☐ Disagree
- [only applicable to local universities and the Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi)] the Research Office selected in this form is accurate. The applicant organisation agrees that the Research Office selected in this form has the right to access, use, download, copy, print, display, link, frame, store for subsequent use, transmit or distribute any information contained in this form. The applicant organisation understand that the Secretariat will not be liable for any errors in, omissions from or delays concerning any applications.

☐ I hereby, on behalf of the applicant organisation, make the above declaration and firmly believe that it is true and accurate.

^{*} Mandatory fields

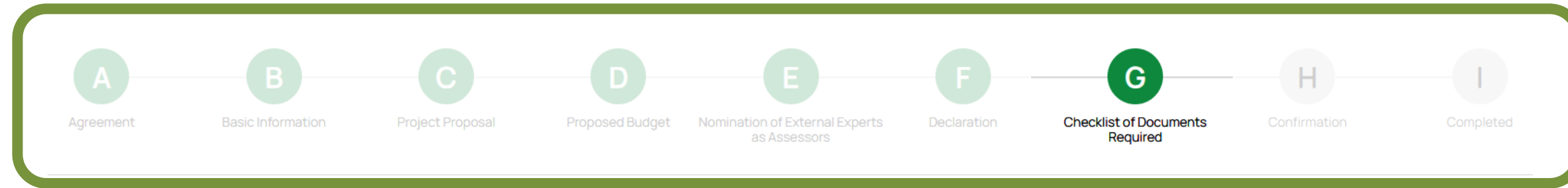
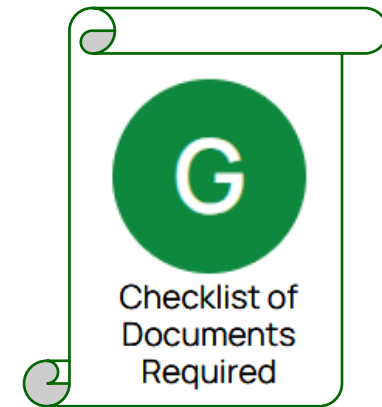
← Previous

Next →



Any **intentional misrepresentation or omission of information** related to this application may result in the **application being rejected or grant withheld**, and the applicant organisation may be liable to prosecution for providing false information. The applicant organisation's explicit attention is drawn that obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception is a criminal offence.

Section G - Checklist of Documents Required



Please provide the **Method of Implementation of the Project & CV of the Principal Investigator.**

Section G - Checklist of Documents Required English

Important Note:
If the applicant organisation fails to submit the required documents prescribed below together with this Application Form, the application may will not be processed.

Q15 of Section C – Method of Implementation of the Project*

Click here to select file
File format: JPG, JPEG, PNG, DOC, DOCX, PDF, PPT, PPTX, XLS, XLSX
File size no more than 20 MB
(Accept maximum of 5 file(s))

Q20.1 of Section C – Curriculum Vitae of the Principal Investigator (limited to 2 pages)*

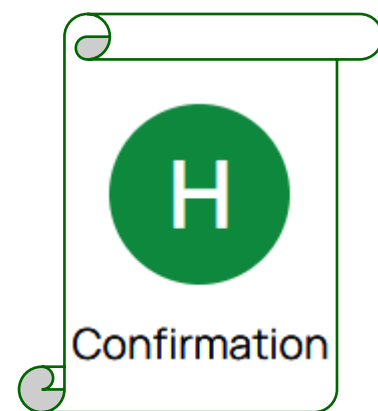
Click here to select file
File format: JPG, JPEG, PNG, DOC, DOCX, PDF, PPT, PPTX, XLS, XLSX
File size no more than 20 MB
(Accept maximum of 5 file(s))

Other supplementary document(s) (if applicable)

Click here to select file
File format: JPG, JPEG, PNG, DOC, DOCX, PDF, PPT, PPTX, XLS, XLSX
File size no more than 20 MB
(Accept maximum of 5 file(s))

Please upload the file according to the file format and file size specified. Generally, the file formats are **JPG, JPEG, PNG, DOC, DOCX, PDF, PPT, PPTX, XLS or XLSX**. The file size must not exceed 20 MB, and a maximum of 5 files can be uploaded.

If the applicant organisation fails to submit the required documents together with the application form, the application **may not be processed**.



Section H - Confirmation



Section B - Basic Information

1. Particulars of Applicant Organisation

(Applicant organisation is the organising organisation of the proposed project. Organising organisation means the organisation that has the ultimate responsibility for a project. The organising organisation owns the major intellectual property rights, serves as the external representative during the project period, and takes the full accountability for the overall outcomes of the project. The key characteristics of an organising organisation are: leadership, ownership, and it will be jointly organised by different organisations, an organisation meeting the above meaning of organising applicant organisation.)

Name of Organisation (Chinese)*

R&DP Test org

Name of Organisation (English)*

R&DP Test org

Nature of Organisation*

Local non-profit-making organisation

2. Particulars of Person-in-charge

(The person-in-charge should be the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation. For universities and research institutions, the person-in-charge should be the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation. For universities and research institutions, the person-in-charge should be the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation. For universities and research institutions, the person-in-charge should be the Head or Deputy Head of the applicant organisation.)

Please update the following information in [My Profile](#) if necessary and re-submit a new application.

Title*

Dr

Surname (Chinese)*

張

First Name (Chinese)*

小強

Surname (English)*

張

First Name (English)*

小強

Important Note:

If the applicant organisation fails to submit the required documents prescribed below together with this Application Form, the application may not be processed.

Q15 of Section C – Method of Implementation of the Project

[R&D Completion Report \(1\).docx](#)

Q20.1 of Section C – Curriculum Vitae of the Principal Investigator

[R&D Progress Report.docx](#)

Other supplementary document(s) (if applicable)

* Mandatory fields

← Previous

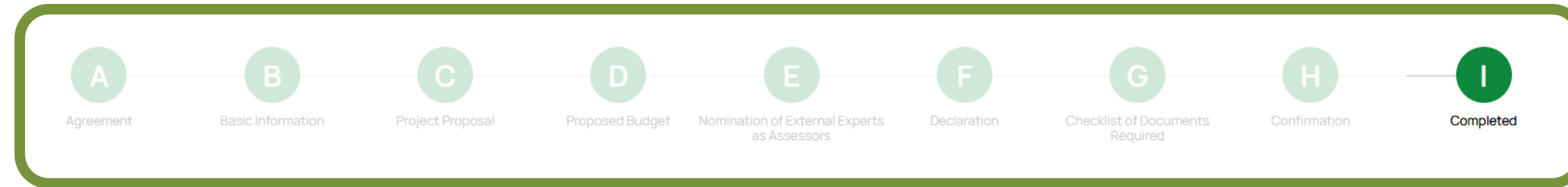
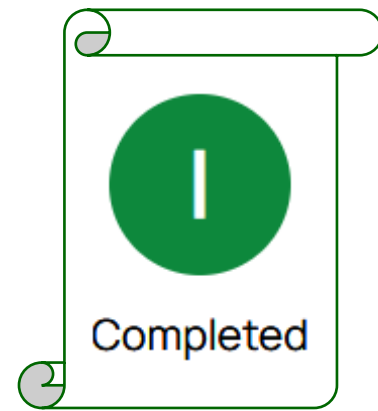
Confirm and Submit →

If any modification is needed, click **“Previous”** until returning to the necessary section for editing.

The applicant organisation needs to ensure that all information provided in the application form is in the fullest manner before making a submission. The Secretariat is not obligated to contact the applicant organisation for missing information or seeking clarification.

After checking and confirming that the information provided is accurate, click **“Confirm and Submit”**.

Section I - Completed



My Application

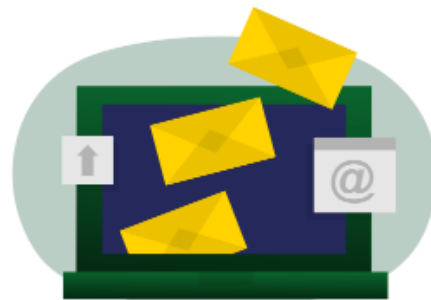
Smart ECF (Example)



Submission Time
24/03/2026 16:43

Reference Number
REF0201

Applicant organisation may download submitted application form if necessary.

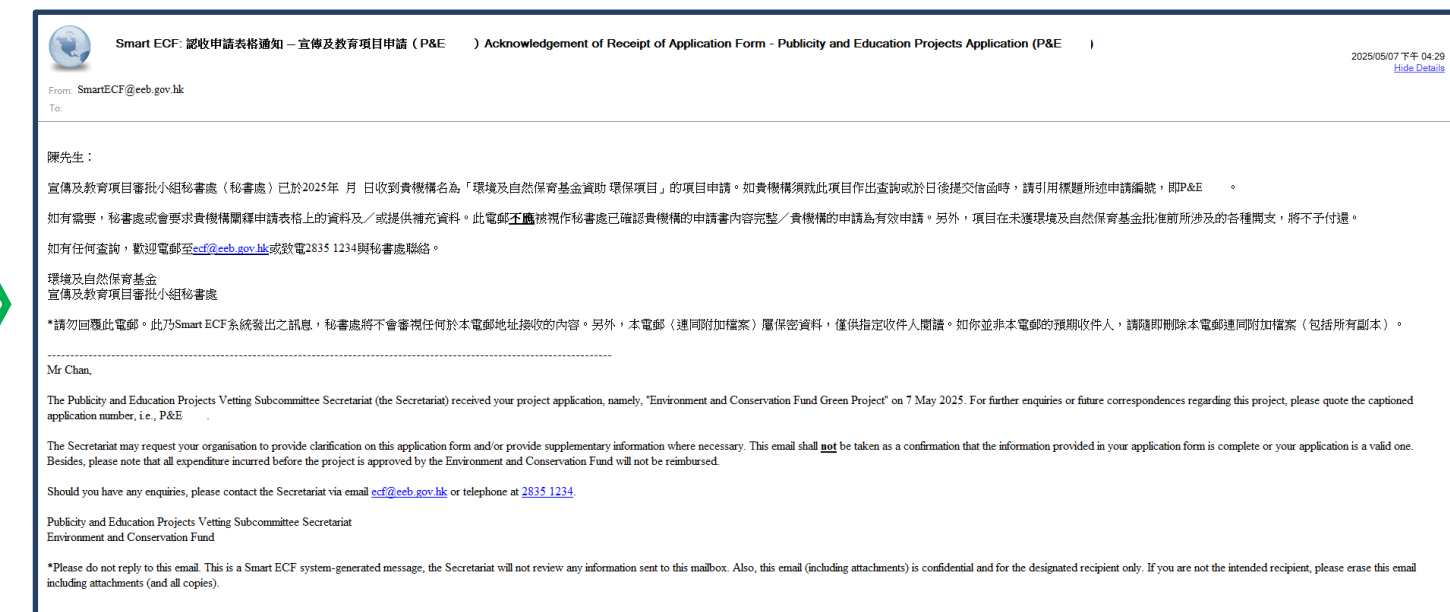


The application form has been submitted to the Research Office.

Download Submitted Application Form

Acknowledgment of receipt
of application form

An “acknowledgment of receipt of application form” will be sent to you via **email**.



If necessary, the applicant organisation should provide original copy of the supporting documents for verification upon request by the Secretariat, and **provide additional information through Smart ECF or other method as requested**

Please save your work frequently in the Smart ECF



Section F - Declaration

I declare that:

1. the information and personal data provided in this form is true and accurate. I understand that any intentional misrepresentation or omission of information related to this application may result in the application being rejected or grant withheld, and the applicant organisation may be liable to prosecution for making a false declaration. I also understand that obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception is a criminal offence;

2. the applicant organisation is non-profit-making in nature;

3. the proposed project and/or activities seeking grants are non-profit-making and will not be used for political, religious or commercial purposes for any individual or organisation;

4. the applicant organisation understand and agree to abide by the terms and conditions as set out in the "Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects" and will comply with all the requirements laid down in the Agreement should we be given an ECF grant for the project; and

5. the applicant organisation agree / disagree to disclose the information provided in this application form to the Wheelock & Co. / WWGF for joint funding support (the decision not to disclose the information to the Wheelock & Co. / WWGF will not affect the chance of getting funding support from the ECF).*

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

☐ I hereby, on behalf of the applicant organisation, make the above declaration and firmly believe that it is true and accurate.

* Mandatory fields

← Previous

Save

Next →

While filling in the application form, you can click “**Save**” at any time to save a draft of this application form and continue later.

Application forms that have been saved as drafts can be retrieved from the “**My Applications**” listing page and the application can be continued.

My Applications

Submitted (1)

Processed (3)

Draft (1)

+ New Application

P&EP | P&AP | R&DP

Project Title or No.

Sort by: Application / Project No. Descending

Filter

Application FY	Reference No.	Project Title	Project Type	Grant Requested (\$)	Application Status
2026/27	fdsf dfs		Research	110,000.00	Draft

Rows per page: 10

1-1 of 1

View



Applicant organisation is required to **submit the draft application form before the application deadline (i.e. before 6 p.m. on 29 September 2026)**. Otherwise, the draft application form will be automatically deleted after the closing of the application period without further notice.

Viewing of Submitted Application Form



My Applications

Applicant organisation could view the submitted application form by selecting “Submitted” on the page of “My Applications”.

Submitted (1)

Processed (0)

Draft (0)

Smart ECF (Example)

+ New Application

P&EP

P&AP

R&DP

Submitted to Research Office (1)

Submitted to Secretariat (0)

Project Title or No.

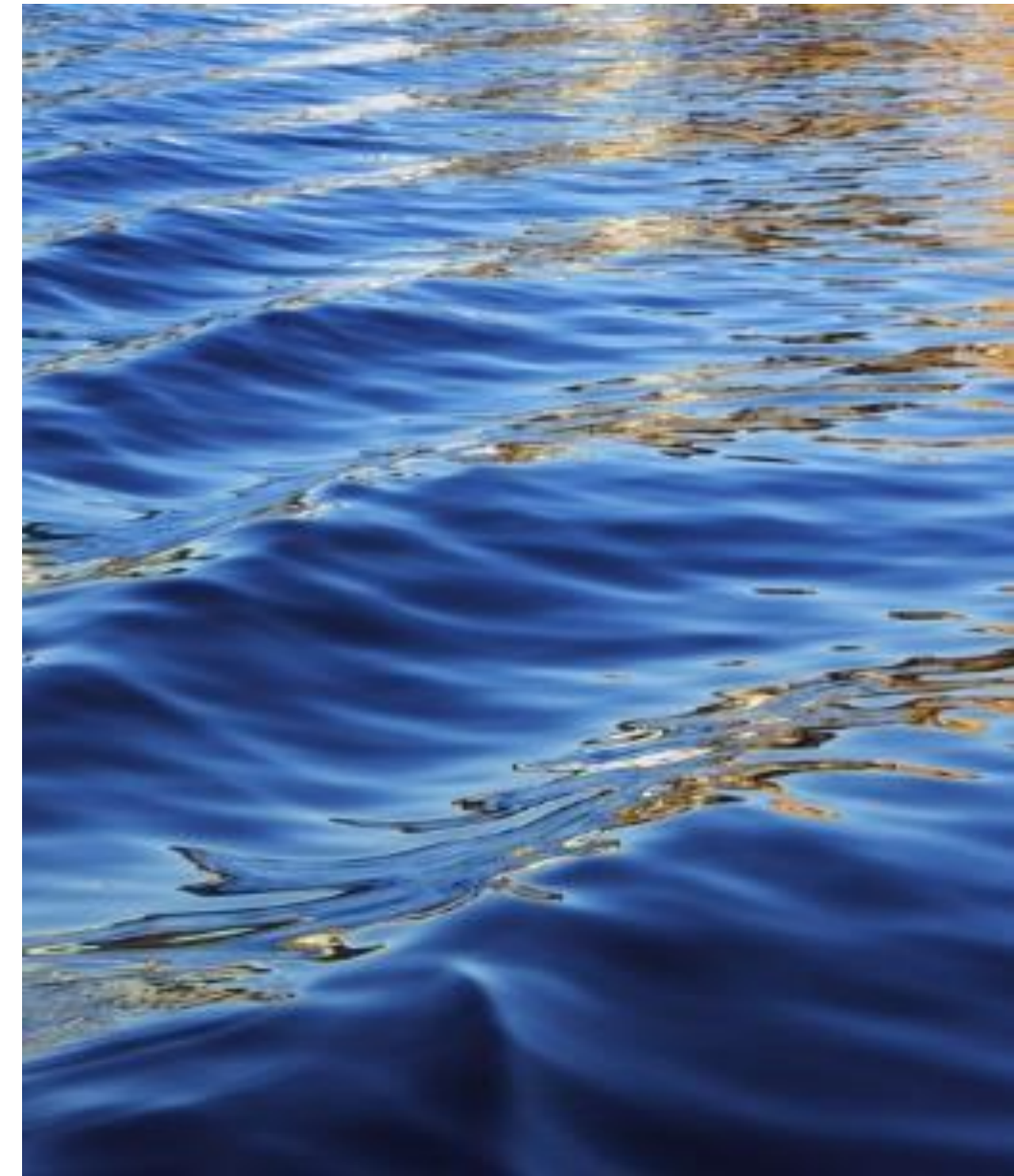
Sort by: Application / Project No. Descending

Filter

Application FY	Reference No.	Project Title	Project Type	Grant Requested (\$)	Application Status
2026/27	REF0201	環境及自然保育基金資助 fassa Environment and Conservation Fund fw	Technology Development and Demonstration	650,000.00	Being Processed by Research Office

View

6. Notes on Application



How to Apply?



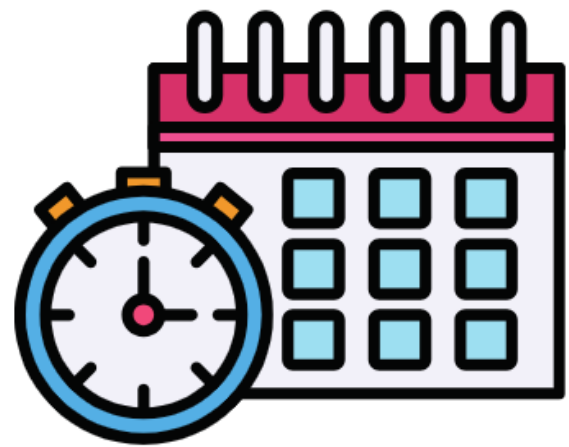
Paper-based & email applications would **NOT** be accepted



SmartECF 

Only accept online application via Smart ECF

Application Deadline



- Submit application **via Smart ECF** before 6:00 pm on 29 September 2026
- **Late or incomplete** applications will not be processed
- Before completing the application form, please **read carefully the “Guide to Application – Research and Development Projects”**

Probity Clauses

涉假文書呃環保署38萬 鮑思高青年中心前顧問被控

2018年10月10日(三) 18:10

推介 0

分享

Tweet

分享



被告本周五將在東區法院應訊。

廉政公署今(10日)落案起訴賽馬會長洲鮑思高青年中心前顧問，控告他涉嫌就一個節能項目欺詐及使用虛假文書，因而從該青年中心及環境保護署轄下一個基金取得共逾38萬港元款項。被告將於本周五(12日)在東區裁判法院應訊，以待案件轉介區域法院答辯。

假文書呃環保署3.64萬津貼 前顧問認罪囚5個月

2019年05月21日14:03 最後更新: 14:11



Like 0

擁有博士學歷的賽馬會長洲鮑思高青年中心前環境項目顧問，2012至14年故意向環保署和青年中心作虛假陳述，和隱瞞自己初創環保工程承辦公司的幕後負責人的身份，獲得3.64萬元的工程項目津貼。前顧問今在區域法院承認2項欺詐，另外2項使用虛假文書則由法庭存檔。法官斥被告知法犯法，最終被告雖損手而回，但仍非抗辯理由。法官念及他多年在環保界的貢獻，終判他入獄5個月。



前顧問今在區域法院承認2項欺詐，另外2項使用虛假文書則由法庭存檔。資料圖片

Points to note

- **Past unsatisfactory project performance and delay in report(s) submission will affect the applicant organisation's future chance of getting a grant from the ECF.**
The past record of an applicant organisation's punctuality in report(s) and/or related document(s) submission will be taken into account when considering new application(s) from the organisation.
- The new application(s) will in general not be considered by the Vetting Subcommittee if the applicant organisation has **project(s) under the same funding scheme and the required report(s) and/or document(s) is/are still overdue.**

Points to Note

➤ No. of application

- Each Principal Investigator (PI) can submit **ONE** application for research project or technology development and demonstration project and **ONE** application for conference project.

➤ No. of approved projects

- Each PI or applicant organisation (except for universities and THEi) can concurrently hold **TWO** on-going research projects or technology development and demonstration projects and **ONE** on-going conference project.

Points to Note

- If it is an application for **studies being carried out in phases/for extension**, whether the project **shows enhancement/improvement** in different aspects such as adding new elements, improving performance, and/or optimising the project, etc. and diminishing reliance on the ECF funding support without compromising the project performance.
- In general, the same project **will not be approved** for extension **more than twice**.

Points to Note

- Applications from Universities/THEi must be submitted through the respective **Research Offices (ROs)** of the institute.
- ROs must confirm the **eligibility of the PIs and the need to include Co-Investigator(s)**.
- If the current appointment of the PI cannot cover the whole project period, the project must include at least one eligible Co-Investigator from the same institution proper.

Matters to be Avoided



Not using the **specified format** to fill out the application.



Have not properly filled in the application form with **part(s) not applicable with N/A**.



Submitting application documents **not relating to Research and Development Projects**.

Matters to be Avoided



Have not **duly signed** required document(s) of the application form (e.g. written consent).



Submit applications of **identical content** in the name of **different organisations**.

7.

Vetting Process and Criteria



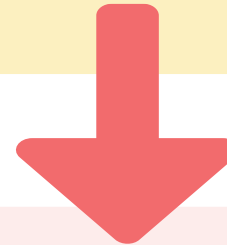
Vetting Process

(normally be completed within 6 months)

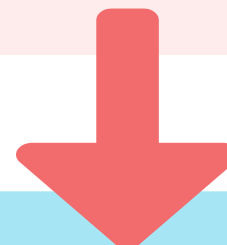
Applications submitted to the Secretariat



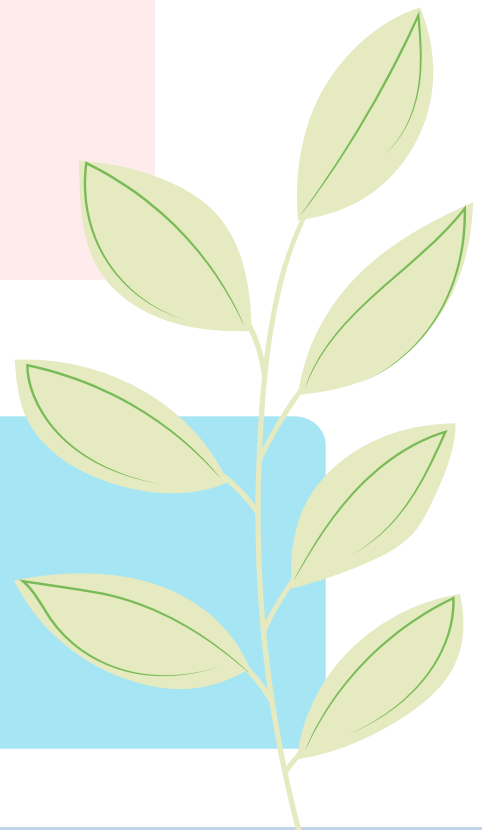
**Relevant Government Departments and/or External Assessors
will review the applications**



**The Vetting Subcommittee will consider all applications and make
recommendations for endorsement by the ECF Committee**



**The Secretariat will notify applicant organisations of the decisions
of the ECF Committee**



Competition-based Vetting Mechanism



The following marking scheme is adopted to evaluate the merits of the applications and select the most meritorious applications for the consideration of the Vetting Subcommittee.

Assessment Criteria	Scoring Weight (Percentage of Total)		
	Amount of Grant Applied		
	\$500,000 or below	Over \$500,000 - \$2,000,000 or below	Over \$2,000,000
Quality of the proposed project	60%	55%	50%
Effectiveness of the proposed project	20%	20%	20%
Practical application potential of the project results	10%	15%	20%
Capability and track record of the applicant organisation*	10%	10%	10%

* Applicant organisation includes the organisation itself and/or the principal investigator/project team

Competition-based Vetting Mechanism (Con't)

If the proposed project **fails to attain half or more of the relevant scoring weight in any of the assessment criteria** (e.g. a project applying for a grant of HK\$3,000,000 fails to get 25% of the total score in “Quality of the proposed project”), then the application **will not be approved** for funding.

Assessment Criteria	Scoring Weight (Percentage of Total)		
	Amount of Grant Applied		
	\$500,000 or below	Over \$500,000 - \$2,000,000 or below	Over \$2,000,000
Quality of the proposed project	60%	55%	50%
Effectiveness of the proposed project	20%	20%	20%
Practical application potential of the project results	10%	15%	20%
Capability and track record of the applicant organisation*	10%	10%	10%

* Applicant organisation includes the organisation itself and/or the principal investigator/project team

Competition-based Vetting Mechanism

- All types of projects will be considered **on an equal footing together**, including conference projects.
- Research project and/or technology development and demonstration project application(s) submitted by a PI who is already undertaking two approved on-going research projects and/or technology development and demonstration projects **with overlapping project periods** will not be approved.
- Late or incomplete applications **will not be processed**. The Vetting Subcommittee and the Secretariat are not obligated to contact the applicant organisations for missing information or clarification, and would proceed with the vetting on the basis of the information submitted before the application closing date.
- Welcome to call the ECF hotline at 2835 1234 for enquiries.

Main Reasons for Supporting the Applications



- ✓ The project is creative, **echoes the theme of government policies,** and **not duplicating with the approved projects.**



- ✓ The project research outcomes are **application-based,** **insightful** or **demonstrable.**



- ✓ The project has clear indicators and can achieve **significant outcomes,** and with credible monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for measurement.

Main Reasons for Supporting the Applications



- ✓ The proposed budget is **reasonable**, prudent and **cost-effective**.



- ✓ The **track record** of the applicant organisation is good.



- ✓ The project is **well-planned** and the implementation plan is reasonably practicable.

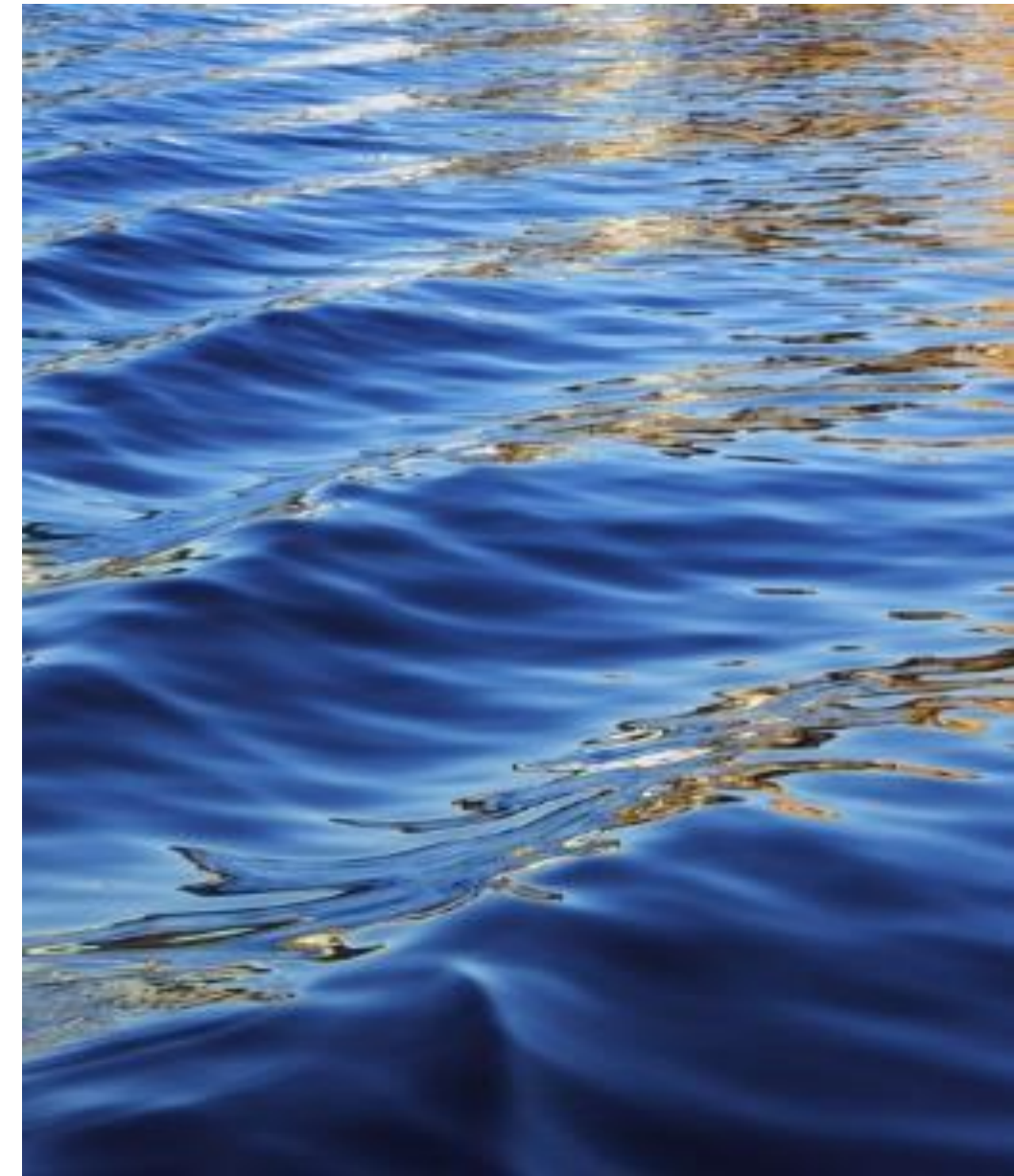


- ✓ The applicant organisation possesses the **knowledge, technical capability and resources** to run the project.

Main Reasons for **NOT** Supporting the Applications

- ✗ **Incomplete** application form and/or **required documents** are **not submitted**.
- ✗ The PI or applicant organisation (except for universities and THEi) already has **TWO** on-going research projects or technology development and demonstration projects and **ONE** ongoing conference project, of which the project periods overlap with the proposed project period of the new application.
- ✗ The applicant organisation has **unsatisfactory performance** and/or **frequent delay** in report(s) submission in their past project(s).
- ✗ The proposed project is **too theoretical** in nature.
- ✗ The proposed project has **already been conducted** by other researchers or that the technologies are already available in the market.
- ✗ The **duration** of project period is **not practical**.

8. General Requirements of Projects and Disbursement of Funds



Publicity of Project

- To acknowledge the source of funding, the **ECF logo should be clearly marked** on all publications and publicity materials related to the project and project activities.

Funded by



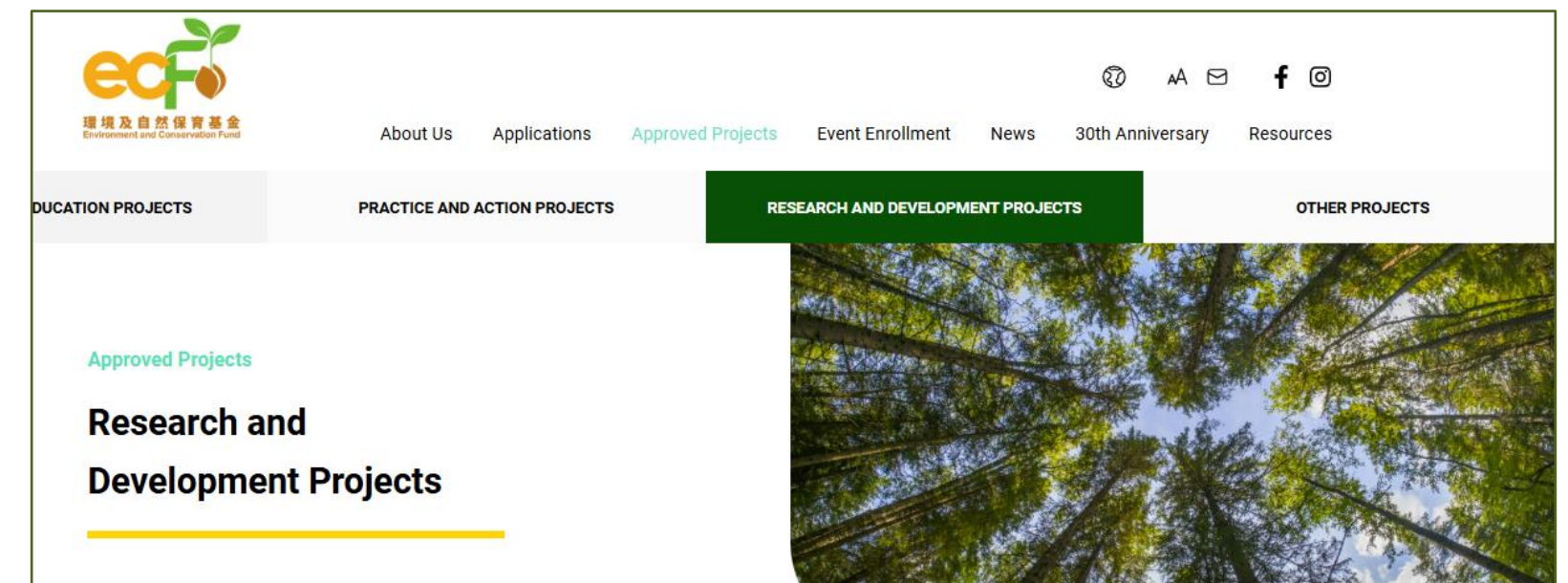
(Vertical)



(Horizontal)

- Information of the projects may be uploaded to the websites of ECF for public access.

<https://www.ecf.gov.hk/en/approved-projects/research.html>



Reporting Requirements



Type of Report	Reporting Period and Deadline of Submission	Report Content
Progress Report	Report every six months Submit within one month after the reporting period	Report project progress, performance and financial position (including statement of accounts) by phases
Completion Report	Report the whole project period Submit within two month after project completion	Report outcome(s) (including comparison with original target(s)) and financial position (statement of accounts) of the project, and submit along with the auditor's report(s) with reasonable assurance, if applicable.

! Recipient organisation may need to **report on a regular basis to the Secretariat the project progress** (including but not limited to trial run data and attendance of activities, etc.) **via smart electronic means** provided by the Secretariat

Reporting Requirements



- The applicant organisation should form the project team with reference to the manpower need for fulfilling the reporting requirements.
- All progress and completion reports must be signed by the **person-in-charge/principal investigator** of the recipient organisation, and submitted in standard format (including statement of accounts).

Statement of Accounts and Auditing Requirements

For the 22 degree-awarding higher education institutions in Hong Kong:

- Regardless of the amount of grant involved in a project, a statement of accounts certified by the **finance office of the university** is acceptable. No need to follow the auditing requirements.

For other recipient organisations:

- Audited statement of accounts must be submitted together with the **completion report**.

Auditing Requirements

Approved Grant	Statement of Accounts	Audited Statement of Accounts	Supporting documents of the expenses
Below HK\$150K			
HK\$150K or above and below HK\$300K		Recipient organisation may opt to submit: 1. Audited statement of accounts (no need to attach supporting documents of the expenses), <u>OR</u> 2. Non-audited statement of accounts (need to attach supporting documents of the expenses).	
HK\$300K or above		 *For projects lasting more than 18 months, organisations are required to submit once every 12 months .	

Auditing Requirements

- Audited statement of accounts must be submitted together with the completion report.
- Please refer to the detailed requirements provided in the “Notes for Auditors of Recipient Organisations” and “Sample Auditor’s Report on the Annual /Final Accounts under the Environment and Conservation Fund” in the approval letter.

Disbursement of Funds



Criteria for disbursement of funds	Estimated % of Disbursement	Remarks
Upon signing of the funding agreement, other required documents and submission of the completed auditor undertaking form (if applicable)	maximum 50%	Depends on the content of implementation plan
Upon submission of a progress report with financial position and satisfactory performance	Further disbursement	Depends on the financial position and the progress of the project
Upon submission of completion report with a statement of accounts and auditor's report (if applicable) and subject to endorsement by the Vetting Subcommittee	NEW 20%	Depends on the actual expenditure

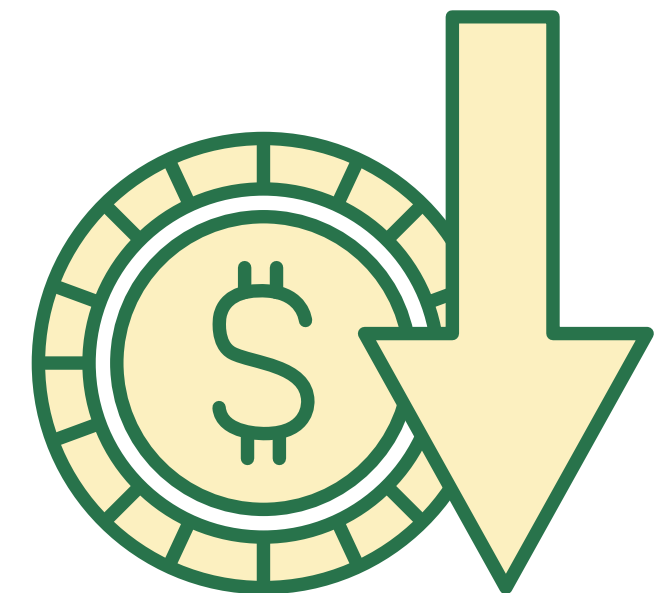


Disbursement of Funds

- The final amount of funding depends on the **content of individual application**.
- **Funding cap** will be set for **individual budget items** (e.g. staff cost for research supporting staff and attendance of overseas conferences).
- **Flexible use of approved funds** among budget items under the **same category** may be allowed. The arrangement will be detailed in the Approval Letter.
- Requests for **additional funding** after project approval will normally **not be considered**.

Reduction of the Amount of Funding Disbursement

- In the case of **unsatisfactory performance** or for any reason that the recipient organisation is unable to attain the project targets with no reasonable justification.
- The Vetting Subcommittee reserves the right to **reduce the amount of the funding disbursement** based on the performance of the recipient organisation, by taking into account of the **percentage of the quantifiable targets achieved** and/or other factors which deemed relevant.



Suspension / Termination of Funding Support

- The project does not commence **within one year** of the approval of the grant and no reasonable explanation has been given.
- The project has **not progressed satisfactorily** and no reasonable explanation has been given.
- The **principal investigator leaves** the recipient organisation prior to the completion of the project and no one is considered suitable to take over the role.
- The recipient organisation **fails to submit** the required report and/or achieve the deliverables by the deadline stipulated.
- The recipient organisation **fails to make proper acknowledgment** of the ECF.
- The recipient organisation **fails to comply** with the funding conditions as set out in **Guide to Application** and the **Approval Letter** and no reasonable explanation has been given.

Suspension / Termination of Funding Support

The Government may **immediately terminate** any agreement with the organisation upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- the organisation has engaged or is engaging in acts or activities that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security;
- the continued engagement of the organisation or the continued implementation of the ECF project is contrary to the interest of national security; or
- the Government reasonably believes that any of the events mentioned above is about to occur.

Q&A Session

SCAN HERE



Enquiry

Research and Development Projects Vetting Subcommittee Secretariat



Tel.: 2835 1234



Email: ecf@eeb.gov.hk



Website: www.ecf.gov.hk

Research and Development Projects

Now calling for **2026/27** Application Invitation

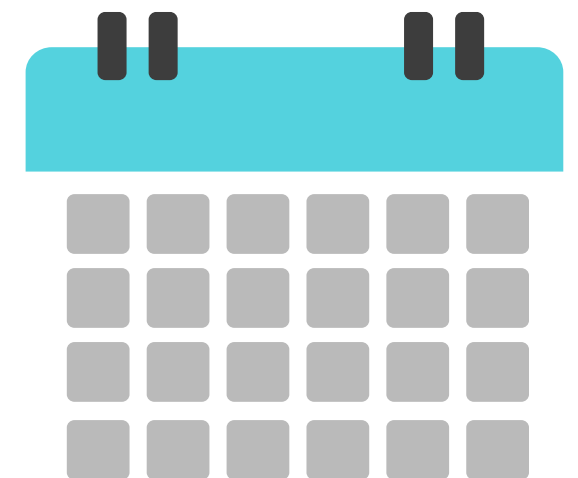
19.8.2026
APPLICATION
STARTS



1.9.2026
BRIEFING



29.9.2026
APPLICATION
DEADLINE





Thank you!

Survey QR Code



環境及自然保育基金
Environment and Conservation Fund

