<u>Women Empowerment Fund invites 2025-26</u> <u>first-round applications</u>

The Women Empowerment Fund is open for the first round of applications this year starting from today (June 9) until July 8. The Fund subsidises projects that support women in balancing their career and family commitments, raise awareness of women's physical and mental health, and unlock their potential.

Set up in June 2023, the Fund aims to empower women, regardless of their age, occupation or background, to realise their full potential in their respective roles, thereby promoting women's development in Hong Kong.

The Fund is divided into general and thematic projects. The funding cap of each one-year and two-year general project is \$400,000 and \$800,000 respectively.

This year's thematic projects include the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Exchange Programme and the Programme on Women's Participation in Community Services. The exchange programme will enable women to broaden their horizons, deepen their understanding of national affairs, and interact with local residents, thereby promoting women's development. Each exchange project shall be completed within one year, and the funding cap is \$120,000. In addition, the community services programme aims to encourage women to make use of their own strengths to plan and launch community service projects, thereby promoting care and inclusion. Each community services project shall be completed within one year, and the funding cap is \$400,000.

The Fund accepts two rounds of applications each year. The Guide to Application and the application form have been uploaded to the Fund's website (www.wef.gov.hk). Interested eligible women's groups and non-governmental organisations may submit an electronic or paper application.