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Dear Officer in-Charge,

**Beat Drugs Fund Invites Applications for
2021 Funding Exercise of the Regular Funding Scheme and
Invitation to Enrolment in Briefing cum Experience Sharing Sessions**

The Beat Drugs Fund (BDF) is inviting applications for the 2021 Funding Exercise of the BDF Regular Funding Exercise (RFS) between 22 July 2021 and 15 September 2021. To enhance public's understanding of the details of 2021 RFS and the priority areas, as well as its application procedures and assessment criteria, four sessions of Briefing cum Experience Sharing will be organised between late July and early August. At the same time, four grantees will be invited to share their experience in project implementation with the participants after the briefings.

The BDF was established in 1996 to support various types of projects organised by different sectors of the community to combat the problem of drug abuse. Under the RFS, organisations can apply for funding to **organise preventive education and publicity programmes targeting the general public and/or specific groups, provide drug treatment and rehabilitation services to people with drug problems, conduct researches on drug abuse problem, or a combination of the above components.** We encourage different sectors in the society to propose more anti-drug projects which meet the objectives and assessment criteria of BDF, in order to promote anti-drug works through supporting more worthwhile anti-drug programmes.

To ensure that projects funded by the BDF could respond to the latest drug situation, a set of priority areas have been set by the BDF Association (BDFA) (details on the priority areas are at Annex A) for the 2021 Funding Exercise of RFS. The Guide to the 2021 Funding Exercise and application form are available on the website of the Narcotics Division, Security Bureau (https://www.nd.gov.hk/en/beat_drug_fund_2021.htm).

The coming four briefing cum experience sharing sessions will be delivered online using Zoom Meeting **on July 28 (Wednesday), July 30 (Friday), August 3 (Tuesday) and August 5 (Thursday), between 2:30pm and 6pm.** Details can be found at Annex B. The four briefing sessions will be conducted mainly in Cantonese. Organisations which require information in English may approach the Secretariat of BDFA direct.

Representatives of interested organisations may complete the online enrolment form (link: <https://forms.gle/MQ7RaBPmbW16zuTY7>). The participants will be provided with the link and password of the online briefing via email nearer the time.

Details about the application for 2021 RFS have also been announced via the following means –

- Webpage of the Narcotics Division (<http://www.nd.gov.hk/en/beat.htm>)
- Safeguard HK, Security Bureau Mobile App (Google Play : <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hk.gov.sb.app.v2&hl=EN> / Apple App Store : <https://apps.apple.com/hk/app/id1067703245?l=en>)
- The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Press Releases (<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/today.htm>)

Information about the funding schemes administered under the BDF can be found on the webpage of the Narcotics Division (<http://www.nd.gov.hk/en/beat.htm>). You may also search the details of the approved BDF RFS projects on the website of Hong Kong Jockey Club Drug Infocentre (<https://www.druginfocentre.hk/bdf/en/Searching.php>). In addition, all reports of research projects funded by the BDF have already been uploaded to the webpage of the Narcotics Division (https://www.nd.gov.hk/en/research_reports.htm).

For enquiries, please contact Mr Ryan PO (Email: rwppo@sb.gov.hk) or Ms Angie WONG (Email: askwong@sb.gov.hk).

Yours sincerely,



(Ryan PO)
for Secretary
Beat Drugs Fund Association

**2021 Funding Exercise of
the Beat Drugs Fund (BDF) Regular Funding Scheme (RFS)**

Priority Areas

For 2021 Funding Exercise of the BDF RFS, the Beat Drugs Fund Association will accord priority to projects that address the prevalent drug situation. Projects meeting one or more of the following areas will be accorded priority:

Treatment and Rehabilitation (T&R)

- (a) Projects that comprise targeted treatment and outreaching programmes which take into account the latest demographic characteristics of drug abusers and cater for their varying needs in quitting drugs. They may include young cannabis abusers; young adult drug abusers (aged 21 – 35) who could be tertiary students, working adults, professionals or the non-engaged; ethnic minority drug abusers; pregnant drug abusers/drug-abusing parents; men who have sex with men with drug abuse problem, etc.
- (b) Projects that promote the involvement of family members of drug abusers in the T&R process. Relationship between drug abusers/rehabilitees and their family members could be fragile and challenging. On the other hand, family support is pivotal throughout the T&R process. Involvement of family members of drug abusers could help engage hidden drug abusers, strengthen the motivation of drug abusers to quit drugs and maintain abstinence, rebuild family relationship, render emotional support to drug abusers/rehabilitees in the T&R process, as well as prevent inter-generational drug abuse patterns.

- (c) Projects that involve and strengthen collaboration among various sectors and disciplines as well as at various levels to help identify and engage drug abusers and help them quit drugs, especially those involving “Ice”, cocaine, cannabis and/or ketamine abuse. Drug abusers of various backgrounds encounter multi-faceted needs straddling health and emotion, employment and family, etc. Strengthened collaboration involving different key players such as community-based service units, residential drug treatment and rehabilitation centres, medical service units, law enforcement agencies, other welfare service units as well as non-drug social service and community units are encouraged to facilitate concerted efforts for effective delivery of drug treatment.
- (d) Projects that facilitate early identification of drug abusers and intervention through adoption of innovative means and wider use of technology. Amid the evolving social environment and changing lifestyles, there is a need for adoption of innovative means and wider use of technology for identifying, engaging and reaching out to hidden drug abusers, and also providing T&R services and support for drug abusers.
- (e) Projects that strengthen or provide early medical intervention and support to drug abusers, especially those with drug-induced psychiatric and/or severe emotional problems, to manage their withdrawal symptoms and stabilise their mental condition which is essential and complementary to more effective drug treatment. Such medical intervention and support could involve treatment in a hospital setting or in an outreaching mode.
- (f) Projects that strengthen aftercare services for those who have successfully quitted drugs so as to minimise relapse, facilitate reintegration into society and enhance their employability. Examples include counselling and life planning at post-treatment stage, occupational therapies, vocational training, provision of job placement opportunities, job counselling, mentorship programmes, etc., with a view to helping them settle in stable employment, enhance their self-recognition and self-esteem, thus empowering them to resist the temptation of drugs and stay abstinence to live a responsible life.

- (g) Projects that provide structured training or platforms for experience sharing on drug-quitting therapeutic approaches among anti-drug social workers, peer counsellors who are drug rehabilitees, medical professionals and related personnel to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge for helping cannabis abusers and also complex cases involving other psychotropic substances to quit drugs and remain drug free. These projects may also involve other relevant streams of social or medical services to help foster a better understanding of the needs of drug abusers, and share good practice or techniques in helping them quit drugs.

Preventive Education and Publicity

- (h) Projects that mobilise the community to stand against cannabis, particularly through raising awareness, providing correct information and rectifying mistaken concepts about the drug, helping identify illegal cannabis products, and countering the legalisation advocacy, among members of the general public, especially young people and specific target groups (such as young adults, young people who fall outside the school network, high-risk youth, post-secondary/tertiary students, ethnic minorities and sexual minorities).
- (i) Projects that enhance awareness of the harms of other popular drugs, such as ketamine, “Ice” and cocaine, among members of the general public, especially young people and specific target groups (such as young adults, young people who fall outside the school network, high-risk youth, post-secondary/tertiary students, ethnic minorities and sexual minorities), particularly through promoting attitudinal change towards drugs, building a drug-free culture, encouraging early help-seeking and facilitating identification of hidden drug abusers.
- (j) Projects that enhance the awareness of families, especially at-risk families (e.g. teenage mothers, parents or family members being ex-drug abusers, and family members being high-risk youth), of drug harms, and strengthen the role and abilities of family members in preventing drug abuse, identifying and seeking help early for drug-abusing family members.

- (k) Projects that promote community acceptance of T&R services and facilities and reintegration of rehabilitees into society.
- (l) Projects that enhance the awareness of the dire consequences of engaging in drug trafficking activities among members of general public, especially young people.

Research

- (m) Researches on the characteristics of psychotropic substance abuse, particularly on psychotropic substances which have gained prevalence in Hong Kong such as “Ice”, cocaine, cannabis and other emerging drugs to provide more information about the drug harms and to identify suitable treatment methods for application in the Hong Kong’s context.
- (n) Researches on the behavioural patterns (e.g. reasons for hidden drug abuse, drug-taking subculture, relapse and its prevention, and impacts of inter-generational drug abuse) of different groups of drug abusers (e.g. female drug abusers, pregnant drug abusers, working drug abusers, and drug abusers of diverse race).
- (o) Studies on identifying and collating good practices or protocols based on the findings of the completed BDF RFS research-type projects.

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**Beat Drugs Fund Regular Funding Scheme
2021 Funding Exercise**

Online Briefing cum Experience Sharing Sessions

Date and Time of Briefing	Deadline of Enrolment
28 July 2021 (Wednesday) 2:30pm - 6:00pm	26 July 2021 (Monday)
30 July 2021 (Friday) 2:30pm - 6:00pm	28 July 2021 (Wednesday)
3 August 2021 (Tuesday) 2:30pm - 6:00pm	1 August 2021 (Sunday)
5 August 2021 (Thursday) 2:30pm - 6:00pm	3 August 2021 (Tuesday)

(The four sessions are mainly conducted in Cantonese. Except the different grantees to be invited for experience sharing, contents are identical for the four sessions. Organisations which require materials in English may approach the Beat Drugs Fund Association Secretariat separately.)

Content

- Introduction to Regular Funding Scheme¹, including:
 - Background of the Beat Drugs Fund
 - Drug Situation in Hong Kong in 2020

- Introduction to the Application Procedures of the 2021 Funding Exercise², including:
 - Priority areas
 - Assessment criteria and application procedures
 - Methods to assess the effectiveness of projects
 - Practical tips on submission of applications

¹ This is Module 1 of the Beat Drugs Fund Regular Funding Scheme training sessions. More information on the training modules are at <http://www.nd.gov.hk/eng/beat.htm>.

² This is Module 2 of the Beat Drugs Fund Regular Funding Scheme training sessions.

- Experience sharing session by grantees³
 - “「 Check Point! – One Step Ahead 」 - Ethnic Minority Teenage Beat Drugs Project (2)” by Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong (28 Jul)
 - “Drug Free Family – A Preventive Education Programme for Parents” by Life Education Activity Programme (30 Jul)
 - “Certified Addiction Counsellor Training and Clinical Supervision” by Tung Wah Group of Hospitals (3 Aug)
 - “ “You got chance” – Multidisciplinary Holistic Outreaching Service for Drug Abusers” by The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (5 Aug)

³ This is Module 8 of the Beat Drugs Fund Regular Funding Scheme training sessions.