

Application Guide for 2014-2015 Social Investment Platform of Skills for Social Entrepreneurs

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I Social investment statement of social investment platform

Organization	Special Focus Areas	Capital Injection & Number of Award Winners (Unit: RMB)	Way of Capital Injection	Recruitment in Hong Kong
More Love Foundation	None	One to three social enterprises, no more than RMB 600,000	Interest free loan	Yes
Narada Foundation	None	One social enterprise, no more than RMB 500,000	Interest free loan	No
Innovate99 Investment Management and Consultancy Co., Ltd	None	Two social enterprises, RMB 2 million, with 1million for each enterprise	Equity investment	Yes
Social Enterprise Research Centre	Internet, big consumption, community building	One social enterprise, RMB 2 million	Equity investment	No
Yu Venture Philanthropy Fund	None	One social enterprise, RMB 1.5 million	Equity investment or low- interest loan	Yes
Dunhe Foundation	None	Five organizations, RMB 1 million in total	Grants	No
LGT Venture Philanthropy Fund	Agriculture, health care, education, renewable energy, information technology platform, etc.	One to two social enterprises, RMB 1 million	Debt or equity investment	Yes
Shenzhen Innovation Corporate Social Responsibility Development Center	Education	Two social enterprises, RMB 1.5 million in total	RMB 750,000 cash funding for one organization; RMB 750,000 equity investment for another	Yes
Institute for Environment and Development	Renewable energy, energy conservation, water resource administration, pollution prevention and waste management, sustainable land use, eco-friendly new materials and processes, biodiversity preservation	One to four organizations, one year expert consultancy (worth RMB 300,000) for each organization	None	No

Click to review the details of investor introduction and investment statement of 2014-2015 Social Investment Platform.

II Application guide

- 1. Any social enterprises and charity organizations with a business model and capital needs and any commercial organizations with clear social objectives are welcome.
- 2. Online registration & application time: September 1st to October 28th 2014. The application system will be automatically closed after **24:00**, **October 28th 2014**.
- 3. Different investors have different forms and amounts of investment, exit methods and review criteria. Please refer to the investor introduction and investment statement for further information.
- 4. During the application submission phase, each applicant may choose one to three investment organizations. Based on the principle of two-way selection, the applicant will be connected with the investor(s) in the following rounds of selection. Please refer to FAQ 3 for details.
- 5. The organizer doesn't require that all applicants should have finished business or private non-business registration before the application. But it is suggested that any applicants who haven't finished the registration should complete it during the selection. The investment and awards will be made only after the applicants have completed official registration.
- 6. The application form shall be filled in Chinese. As there are five investment organizations recruiting applicants from Hong Kong at the same time, applicants from Hong Kong may choose either Chinese or English forms to complete.
- 7. Please read the **FAQ** before filling in the application form.
- 8. For the result of each round of selection, please refer to the official website of Skills for Social Entrepreneurs, the Microblog or Wechat platform of Social Entrepreneurs. The project team will not issue a separate email for each applicant.

III Flow of selection

Skills for Social Entrepreneurs – Social Investment Platform

Online Registration System to be launched on

Sept. 1st 2014

Applicants Filling in Online Application Form

Sept. 1st - Oct. 28th 2014

(During this period, eight salons will be held to promote the competition in Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Chengdu etc., and investors will introduce their awards on site. Please pay attention to the official website of Skills for Social Entrepreneurs, and the information released through Microblog and Wechat platform of Social Entrepreneurs.)

First Round Selection

Investors Reviewing Business Plans

Oct. 30th - Nov. 10th 2014

Releasing the list of applicants for the 2nd round phone interview

Nov. 12th 2014

Second Round Selection

Investment Organizations Arranging and Organizing Phone Interviews

Nov. 12th – Nov. 24th 2014

Releasing the list of applicants for the 3rd round Social Investment Meeting

Nov. 26th 2014

Third Round Selection

Each chosen applicant sends two core team members to attend the Fair for Social Investment.

The Fair will last for three days, covering training, negotiation, and presentation of business plans. The participants shall pay certain fees.

Dec. 19th to 21st 2014 (to be determined)

Releasing the list of applicants entering the phase of in-depth communication and resource matching

Dec. 26th 2014

Investors and chosen applicants will carry out in-depth communication and resource pitching.

Some applicants shall have the final interview according to the different situations.

Jan. - Feb. 2015

Skills for Social Entrepreneurs – Social Investment Platform
2015 Award Ceremony

Mid-March 2015

IV Frequently asked questions about social investment platform application

Q1: Do investors of Social Investment Platform only choose social enterprises? Can NGO and commercial organizations take part in the selection?

A: "Social investment platform" doesn't only target social enterprises; it is a diversified platform welcoming the participation of any **social enterprises** and **charity organizations** with business model and capital needs and any **commercial organizations with clear social objectives**. As the investors differ in their focus areas, investment forms and focuses, it is suggested that applicants may refer to related parts of investor introduction and investment statements for details.

Q2: Our organization hasn't attended the previous Skills for Social Entrepreneurs (SfSE) training. Can we apply for the "Social Enterprise Platform"?

A: "Social Enterprise Platform" opens up the recruitment to all organizations in mainland China and Hong Kong. Those who have never attended any previous SfSE trainings may also apply for it and the result will not be affected.

Q3: Shall we identify which investor we are targeting during the application period?

A: During the online application period (Sept. 1st - Oct. 15th), the applicant may choose one to three investors. Then, the expert team of investors will review the applications and pick those fitting their investment intentions for the second round selection, namely, phone

interview. If an organization applies to several investors in the first phase, it may have to attend several phone interviews in the second round, and discuss with several investors one by one at the meeting during the third round.

After the Fair (the third round), if several investors choose the same applicant, the organizer of the Platform will communicate and coordinate with related parties. Based on the principle of two-way selection, the applicant shall decide with which investor it will continue the indepth communication and pitching.

Q4: I have attended the SfSE training and our organization has obtained funds from SfSE Award Scheme. Can we apply for the funds through Social Investment Platform? Shall we need to fill in the registration forms of Social Investment Platform? If we have won the awards of the Social Investment Platform last year, can we apply for it this year?

A: Yes. Social Investment Platform welcomes the trainees of SfSE training program and the Award Scheme winners. They shall still fill in the registration forms according to the requirements. If an organization won the awards from the Social Investment Platform last year, it may apply for funds from the platform with a different project this year.

Q 5: We are a grassroots organization. The organization has existed for many years but hasn't been registered officially. Can we apply to join the platform?

A: To guarantee the professionalism and efficiency of Social Investment Platform, we hope that most applicants have finished their business or private non-business registration, and possess legal entity qualifications. Those that haven't completed the registration should finish the business or private non-business registration during the competition. The investment and awards will be made only after the applicant has completed official registration.

Q6: Our organization was established in 2005 and completed the registration with Civil Affair Bureau less than a year ago. Can we apply for the funds through Social Investment Platform?

Q: Yes. Social Investment Platform has no restriction about the term of registration. According to their own investment philosophy, investors of the platform are interested in enterprises of different stages (infant stage, start-up stage, growing stage, etc.). For detailed information, please refer to the investment statement and selection criteria of each investor.

Q7: If an organization completes the application and wins the awards, can it obtain all the funds from the investor one off?

A: As the ways of capital injection are different, different investors have different procedures of capital injection. Please refer to the investment statement of each investor for details.

Q8: If the investor I apply to doesn't choose me, do I have any chance to continue the selection?

A: There is a step called "revival" in the Platform. After each round of selection, if the applicant is not chosen by any investors it applies to, but another investor who is interested in the applicant, it may get the chance of revival after further communication with the investor through the coordination of the organizer.

Q9: If the investor of this year's Social Investment Platform fails to make any investment, what can you do?

A: If this year's fund cannot be invested successfully, the investor will put the fund into next year's funding pool for a new round of investment.

Q10: What is the British Council's role in Social Investment Platform?

A: British Council serves as a bridging organization in the Social Investment Platform. It helps the investors match their resources with the selected applicants, and it bears no legal liability for any conflicts arising from entering into or fulfilling any agreements/contracts or arrangements between any two parties or with any third party. Thank you for your understanding.