

## **Social Enterprise Community Urban Farm Grant**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. Who can qualify for the Social Enterprise Community Urban Farm (SECUF) Grant?**

- Social Enterprises (SEs) that are registered with Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise (raiSE).
- For the Infrastructure Support Grant, the SE applicant must have successfully bid for a site pre-identified for SECUF usage.
- For the Programming Support Grant, the SE applicant must be prepared to conduct gardening and horticulture-related workshops and programmes for seniors and the less privileged communities.

#### **2. What are the outcomes NParks hopes to achieve through the grant?**

- NParks aims to partner with the SE sector to establish Social Enterprise Community Urban Farms (SECUFs) across the island to strengthen community stewardship and social resilience under Singapore's City in Nature vision.
- SECUF aims to encourage more active gardening and horticulture-related activities within the community by serving as regional programming hubs that provide communal spaces to bring the community together through curated City in Nature-related programmes.

#### **3. Who are the intended beneficiaries of the grant?**

The grant aims to benefit the community especially seniors, persons with special needs, at risk youths, low-income individuals/families and more.

#### **4. What are the key components of the SECUF Grant Scheme?**

There are 2 main components for the SECUF Grant Scheme: Infrastructure Support Grant and Programming Support Grant

	<b>Infrastructure Support Grant</b>	<b>Programming Support Grant</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To promote the establishment of more SECUFs by providing SEs support for infrastructure costs	To promote more horticulture-related activities and community engagement by providing support for programming costs
<b>Funding cap</b>	25% of set up cost, subject to fundable items and capped at \$500,000 per site	50% of costs incurred to conduct gardening and horticulture-related programmes, subject to fundable items and capped at \$50,000 per SE

Mechanism	Reimbursement mode (once-off upon project completion)	
<b>Example of fundable items (non-exhaustive)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pulling of essential services (e.g., water, electricity, waste discharge)</li> <li>• Preliminaries</li> <li>• Required landscape works (creation of planting areas or purchase of immovable planters)</li> <li>• Creation of allotment gardening plots, storage spaces, soil works, professional fees, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up of light-mode, temporary raised planters (if required) to conduct edible growing workshops</li> <li>• Procurement of plant materials, teaching and outreach materials (hardcopy notes/brochures etc),</li> <li>• Trainer fees</li> <li>• Rental of space etc.</li> </ul>

## 5. How can SEs apply for the grant?

Interested SEs may fill up the query form [here](#) and we will get back to you within 3 working days to guide you on the application process accordingly.

## 6. Can a SE apply for the grant multiple times?

- For the Infrastructure Support Grant, the SE will not be able to apply for the grant if it is currently serving its 5 years undertaking period.
- SEs who have applied for the Infrastructure Support Grant cannot tap on the Programming Support Grant for the same site.
- For the Programming Support Grant, each SE can only submit one application every 12 months and/or 6 months upon fulfilling the targets of the previous application. The maximum amount of funds any SE can tap on is \$50,000.

## 7. What are the criteria that a SE must fulfil to apply for the grant?

- All applicants must be raiSE-registered.
- Applicants are not allowed to double-dip from other government grants of similar nature, and all corporate/private sponsorships have to be declared at application stage.

## 8. Is there any undertaking if a SE is successful for the grant?

- For the Infrastructure Support Grant, there is an undertaking period of 5 years for SEs that are successful in their application for the Infrastructure Support Grant. During this undertaking period, the funded SECUF must be functional and must outreach to 500 people per year.
- For the Programming Support Grant, there is no undertaking period.

**9. If a SE is unable to complete installation works in time, can the SE apply for an extension?**

A SE is able to request for extension if there is a valid reason. However, this will be subjected to approval.

**10. What is the application process like?**

There are 2 stages to the SECUF Grant Scheme – the application stage and reimbursement stage.

- During the application stage, the SE will submit an application for SECUF Grant Scheme. Once it is approved, a letter of offer will be issued, and it will be valid for 1 year. After which, the SE may begin infrastructure set-up and/or conducting of programmes.
- Under the Infrastructure Support Grant, the SE can proceed to the reimbursement stage and apply for reimbursement upon completion of the full set-up and payment, and once the outreach and allotment garden programming are functional. Once the application for the reimbursement is approved, the grants will be disbursed to the SE. The SE will be required to maintain the infrastructure and conduct outreach activities for 5 years and annual checks will be conducted to ensure that the funded set-up is maintained at a satisfactory level.
- Under the Programming Support Grant, the SE can proceed to the reimbursement stage and apply for reimbursement upon full completion of the programming target. Once the application for reimbursement is approved, the grants will be disbursed to the SE.

**11. Do applicants need to submit audited Statement of Accounts?**

For all Infrastructure Support Grant projects, applicants must engage an external auditor and submit the audited Statement of Accounts, with the stated Terms of References. The cost of engaging the auditor can be funded and should be included in the project budget during application.

**12. Are there any restrictions/criteria to be met for the sale of produce?**

The community urban farms can sell their edible produce as long as they remain small-scale, producing less than 200kg of vegetables per month with no application of pesticides or usage of human, raw animal/bird excreta for manuring in the cultivation process. Should the community urban farms wish to expand production and/or use pesticides or human, raw animal/bird excreta in the cultivation process of food crops, they will be required to obtain a [farm licence](#) from SFA. This is to ensure that the food crops are produced safely (e.g. appropriate use of pesticides) and are safe for consumption.

**13. Is the creation of micro-employment necessary to apply for the grant?**

- Micro-employment for residents in the community, especially seniors and the less privileged, will be encouraged but not mandated by the grant. This includes basic gardening work such as landscape maintenance (e.g., seeding, weeding and harvesting) and conducting of outreach programmes.
- In addition, SE is allowed to tap into other complementary financial support for employment opportunities such as Open Door Programme (by Ministry of Social and Family Development and Workforce Singapore) and Employment Support for Persons with Disabilities (by Workforce Singapore and SkillsFuture Singapore).

**14. Is there a minimum land area criterion to apply for the Infrastructure Support Grant?**

There is no minimum land area criteria. However, SEs have to be successful tenders of land identified for SECUF usage.

**15. How much produce is NParks expecting the programme to generate?**

The programme is primarily aimed at bringing the benefits of nature through gardening and horticulture-related activities to the heartlands, with emphasis on social wellbeing. All of the produce generated through the community's efforts will go towards supporting food resilience in Singapore.