立法會 CB(1)684/17-18(08)號文件 (只備英文本) LC Paper No. CB(1)684/17-18(08) (English version only)

We are the Hong Kong Apparel Machinery Association representing most of the companies supplying apparel and sewing machines to clothing manufacturers.

Hong Kong has always been a very important clothing machinery market since World War II. At its peak, we handled about one third to one half of the world apparel machinery market. However, as China has become expensive, clothing production has shifted to other lower cost areas in Asia.

We have successfully applied your BUD 16 2 009 Project title: A promotional campaign to boost Mainland market on intelligent apparel manufacturing machinery and automation system in 2016.

We suggested that the Government should be more flexible in considering the applications. For example, we can participate in other industries such as furniture, toy, car, health which may also utilize our products. Small companies will be difficult to cover the whole of China but can concentrate in southern areas.

Although our industry is very traditional, we believe there is tremendous potential for automation with more technology support from Government - 傳統+科技=成果.

We also propose that Government needs to support repeated BUD/SDF project, say for 2 to 3 times, rather than one-off project. Image building of a local industry sector as capable supplier in new national and international markets needs several years of promotion and repeated group/cluster participation in important exhibitions in order to penetrate a new market before SMEs can get enough business in the new market and self-finance to survive.

We also feel that creating a web site is fantastic idea as the public can see the result of the project. This is also a good way to make us accountable for what we did.

The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) announced in January 9, 2018 that they will launch a design and fashion project with coworking space to enable design start-ups to realise and commercialise their designs. The Design Center is located in Kowloon Tong and we will for sure support the designer to operate our sewing and apparel machines in Sham Shui Po. Creativity must be backed by practicality.

We hope the new project and funding proposed will be implemented as soon as possible so that we can carry on our Branding, Upgrading and more sales but not limited to Domestic!

Rgds, Peter KAM 7 February 2018