## <u>Innovation and Technology Commission</u> <u>launches Innovation and Technology</u> <u>Support Programme (Mid-stream, themebased)</u>

The Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) today (February 11) launched the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) (Mid-stream, theme-based). The programme invites mid-stream project proposals conducted by universities funded by the University Grants Committee (UGC) under two specific themes, "Green Engineering Technologies" and "Therapeutics for the treatment of metabolic diseases". Applications will be accepted from today until April 29.

The ITSP and the Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP) were previously two separate schemes which provided funding support to applied research and development (R&D) projects in various technology areas. The former supports up-stream/mid-stream/down-stream R&D projects conducted by local R&D centres, universities and other designated local public research institutes, while the latter supported theme-based mid-stream R&D projects conducted by UGC-funded universities. To improve the flexibility in utilising the funding, the MRP has been subsumed under the ITSP.

The ITC will also continue to invite funding applications for platform and seed projects under the ITSP. The 2022 round of applications will tentatively be launched in July.

Further information is available on the ITF website (<u>www.itf.gov.hk/en/itsp-mstb</u>). For enquiries, please contact the ITF Secretariat (Tel: 3655 5678; email: <u>enquiry@itf.gov.hk</u>).