

## Global Open Research Program on Sustainable Social Value (SSV Open Program)

### Application Guide

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#### Program Overview

The **Global Open Research Program on Sustainable Social Value (SSV Open Program)** is initiated and hosted by the **Institute for Sustainable Social Value (SSV), Tsinghua University**. This program aims to promote international academic collaboration and research in the field of sustainable social value. It invites scholars worldwide to submit research proposals related to the fundamental concepts and practical applications of sustainable social value, and offers funding to selected projects.

Through global academic exchange and cooperation, the program seeks to facilitate interdisciplinary research, advance the dissemination of the SSV concept, and provide innovative solutions to real-world challenges.

The program is scheduled to organize one application and review cycle per year.

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#### Eligible Applicants

The SSV Open Program is open to **individual researchers, research institutions, and nonprofit organizations worldwide**. It supports original and forward-thinking research projects with interdisciplinary and application potential in the field of sustainable social value. Projects that explore co-creation pathways and demonstrate the development and application of SSV practices in China and beyond are especially encouraged.

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#### Key Research Areas

Applicants are encouraged to conduct research under the following **11 priority topics**:

1. Fundamental Theories of Sustainable Social Value
2. Corporate Social Value in Specific Domains
3. Technology for Good and Digital Ethics
4. AI Applications for Inclusive Society
5. Digital Technology Empowering Sustainable Economic Growth
6. Intelligent Technology and Environmental Sustainability

7. Intelligent Technology for Education Equity and Lifelong Learning
  8. Digital Health and Smart Healthcare
  9. Sustainable Integration of Cultural Heritage and Technological Innovation
  10. Smart City Development and Sustainable Urban Models
  11. Global Digital Collaboration and Cross-border Governance
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## Evaluation Criteria

All applications will be comprehensively evaluated based on the following core criteria:

### 1. Academic Innovation and Feasibility

- **Originality and Foresight:** Does the project propose new theoretical frameworks, methods, or perspectives? Will it fill gaps in current literature and contribute to the advancement of the SSV field?

- **Scientific Rigor and Practical Feasibility:** Are the research methods rigorous and well-designed? Are there adequate data, theoretical foundations, and methodological support?

### 2. Social Value and Impact

- **Potential Impact:** Will the project directly or indirectly contribute to sustainable social development? Could it generate long-term positive social effects?

### 3. Practicality and Implementation Plan

- **Operational Feasibility:** Is there a clear implementation roadmap? Are risks anticipated and addressed?

- **Team Capacity:** Does the team possess the necessary expertise, track record, and technical qualifications?

### 4. Interdisciplinary Collaboration

- **Cross-disciplinary Synergy:** Does the project facilitate collaboration across fields (e.g., technology, sociology, economics, environmental studies)? Will it foster new intersections of knowledge?

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## Funding Scope

- **Annual Quota:** Up to 20 projects per year.

- **Funding Amount:**

- 1-year projects: up to **RMB 150,000**
- 2-year projects: up to **RMB 300,000**
- 3-year projects: up to **RMB 450,000**

- For multi-year projects ( $\geq 2$  years), funding will be disbursed annually based on approved budgets.

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## **Application Procedure**

1. **Call for Applications**

The SSV Institute will publish the annual application guide outlining goals, eligibility, focus areas, funding levels, and requirements.

2. **Submission of Application**

Applicants must complete the bilingual application form and submit both Chinese and English versions by the stated deadline.

3. **Preliminary Screening (Eligibility Check)**

The SSV Institute will review submissions to ensure completeness, eligibility, and alignment with key research areas.

4. **External Peer Review (Blind Evaluation)**

Qualified applications will be sent to external experts in relevant fields for blind peer review based on evaluation criteria.

5. **Final Review and Selection**

A review committee will synthesize expert feedback to finalize selected projects and determine funding levels. Selection will consider academic quality, impact potential, and team capacity.

6. **Announcement of Results**

The SSV Institute will publish the list of selected projects and issue funding agreements outlining project start dates, payment schedules, and responsibilities.

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## **Application Requirements**

- The application must be authored by the project's principal investigator (PI).
- CVs for all key members should be complete and accurate. Students/postdocs must indicate their supervisors.

- The application content must comply with academic integrity and not include any legally prohibited or confidential content.
- Applicants are responsible for the authenticity and legality of all materials submitted.
- If research involves ethical, biological, or information security concerns, applicants must adhere to national regulations and submit relevant documentation.
- Budgets must follow the principles of **relevance, compliance, and cost-effectiveness**.
- All core team members must be informed and consent to their participation. Signed hard copies of consent forms are required.

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### Contact and Statement

The SSV Open Program provides a unique platform for global scholars to contribute to the advancement of sustainable social value through interdisciplinary and cross-border collaboration.

**Institute for Sustainable Social Value of Tsinghua University** looks forward to working with scholars and institutions worldwide to shape the future of sustainable social development and global green transformation.

*This guide is effective from the date of release. Final interpretation rights reside with the Institute for Sustainable Social Value, Tsinghua University.*