

見証初步成果 帶動社區轉變

Extending the social capital impact



衛生福利及食物局局長
周一嶽醫生, SBS, JP

Dr. York Chow Yat-ngok, SBS, JP



去年社區投資共享基金舉行的第二年周年論壇時，剛好是我上任的第一天及首個出席的公開場合，距今雖已超過半年多，但記憶猶新。還記得當日出席分享人士在量與質上跟首年論壇比較有突破性的進展，分享內容亦多元化，鋪排盡顯心思。由不同人士從不同角度對基金不同層面作出演繹，他們的分享引証基金短短兩年所取得的成果，尤如基金工作的一張成績表。成果雖屬初步，對社福界卻有著深層意義及產生長遠的影響。

展望未來工作，我們會把握機會，進一步深化基金目前的成效，鼓勵申請機構將一些行之有效的計劃模式進一步向不同社區拓展，並按其獨特性加以適當修訂。而2005年的施政報告在扶貧工作上也提到要「結合基金的成功經驗，繼續推動社區，做好扶助貧窮家庭青少年的工作」。基金的運作由2005年起延續多三年，以發展社會資本的角度回應扶貧施政重點將成為基金未來數年的另一個策略重點。要進一步深化成效，基金將致力推動不同團體及不同界別以互惠互利的協作模式，於不同地區共同推展行之有效的模式或其他創新計劃。

除上述新猷，基金亦將繼續貫徹基本信念及策略，重點仍然是以社區為本，著重提升社區能力、鼓勵夥伴協作、實踐守望相助的鄰里關顧精神、以及促進和諧社區的建立。基金將繼續鼓勵及支持以共同承擔和以創新模式有效回應社區需要的計劃。我們期望執行機構能帶頭發揮領導角色，推動各界別合作，營造一個有利的環境，讓所有人包括被標籤的弱勢社群也獲得平等參與和平衡發展的機會。基金亦會盡量作出配合，在可接受的風險範圍內給予執行機構更大的自主空間多作嘗試，並鼓勵採取從實踐中學習的態度，推展新計劃。

局方承諾將不遺餘力發展社會資本。基金最終的表現一方面通過每個資助計劃的最終成果反映（包括參加者的轉變、建立的互助網絡等），另一方面則通過五間本地大學聯手為基金整體表現進行的獨立及客觀研究及評估反映，單是這合作本身已是珍貴的社會資本。在此再次感謝當日出席論壇的聯隊學者及成員，為出席的人士清晰講解評估工作的重點。憑著聯隊與執行機構、基金以及局方的四方合作關係，以及聯隊成員對研究工作的熱誠、投入及堅持，我相信研究結果應該能夠為日後有關發展社會資本政策方向提供啟示。

在此感謝基金委員會、各執行機構、協作的政府部門及各界別一直為推動基金工作所付出的努力。你們的積極參與將有助把基金的成功經驗逐漸帶動社區的轉變，有助建立一個仁愛、和諧共融的社會。



周一嶽, SBS, JP

衛生福利及食物局局長





Extending the social capital impact

I can still recall the Second CIIF Annual Sharing Forum which took place on 12 October 2004 as it was my first working day as the Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food. I made my first public address there, and I was duly impressed. Though it was only the second sharing forum after the CIIF was formally launched in 2003, over 100 people made contributions and shared their experience from their differing perspectives as participants, project coordinators, agency heads, business partners and academic researchers. What the CIIF has accomplished in so little time is impressive, but it is made possible only through the untiring commitment and unselfish contributions of the many parties concerned.

The CIIF was set up as a public fund with a difference. It is charged with a challenging mission of promoting a relatively new and abstract concept of building social capital to tackle some of our social issues. Instead of simply increasing the volume of existing services, social capital strategies focus on changing values, establishing support networks and linking groups from different social background with complementary strengths for mutual help. Many of the CIIF projects also involve collaborative partnerships across sectors to create opportunities. It is encouraging to see that different sectors are working together, community resources are being mobilized and joint solutions are being developed. As a result, even the most marginalized groups are beginning to benefit from the social participation and work opportunities being generated.

As stated in the 2005 Policy Address on policy priorities to reduce inter-generational poverty, "*we will also draw on the successful experience of the CIIF to continue to promote community involvement in assisting young people from poor families.*" While the CIIF is not set up specifically to address poverty, some of the social capital development strategies have found to be effective in building up the confidence and capacities of individuals to re-engage with mainstream society, connect them to information, resources, support and opportunities; and hence help break the cycles of disadvantages.





The CIIF operation has been extended for another three years from 2005 to extend the successful capacity building strategies and increase its impact.

Looking ahead, as more and more agencies, community groups and business partners have gained experience in implementing the CIIF strategies, we expect the CIIF to exercise even greater flexibility to encourage innovation, foster creativity in project designs, and cultivate greater maturity in managing a certain level of risks brought about by innovation. The approach of learning by doing will be further promoted.

We will also encourage effective project leadership that is result-orientated. The most effective projects are those that combine creative thinking, robust strategies and practical implementation; and build clear pathways to cultivate equal opportunities that facilitate the social mobility of those from deprived families.

The outcomes of social capital building are certainly challenging to achieve, assess and measure. We are delighted that a Consortium involving seven research teams with 16 academics from five local universities has been formed to work jointly to evaluate the impact of the CIIF. We look forward to their report in early 2006. Indeed, the formation of the Consortium for the evaluation work is in itself an example of linking social capital in action.

The community investment made by all the parties is beginning to bear fruits. I am confident that, with your continual support, the early impact of the CIIF will generate further positive changes in the community and help nurture a more harmonious society.

Dr York Chow Yat-ngok, SBS, JP
Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

