

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR HONG KONG FINTECH WEEK 2024 - 2026 EVENT SPONSORSHIP

Posted on: 9 January 2024

1. Project Background

Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK), a department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (the "Government"), intends to sponsor a company or companies (the "Company") in order to cover **partially** the event sponsorship for creating, curating and producing Hong Kong Fintech Week 2024 - 2026 (the "Project") organised by the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB) and InvestHK, which will run in every October / November for 2024 to 2026.

The brand position of the Hong Kong Fintech Week (the Week) will be to demonstrate Hong Kong as an unique gateway for connecting and scaling fintech businesses to and from Mainland China (in particular the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA)), Asia, and the world. The Week should generate interest from entrepreneurs, corporate decision makers, and investors from overseas and Mainland China to consider setting up or expanding via Hong Kong by showcasing the strengths of policy support and business opportunities in Hong Kong. The Government wishes to ensure a diverse spectrum of initiatives which include but are not limited to connecting worldwide stakeholders to do business, demonstrating Hong Kong's leadership in international fintech development, and accelerating fintech adoptions for transforming the real economy, etc.

Hong Kong Fintech Week was in its eighth edition in November 2023. With the theme of "Fintech Redefined.", it was held in hybrid format with:

- 35,000+ physical and online visitors from over 100 economies
- 5.5 million+ online views

- 700+ sponsors and exhibitors
- 800+ speakers
- 400+ media attended with 1,300+ coverages
- Thousands of business contacts made
- 30+ international delegations
- 500+ applications and 90+ corporate, investor and service champions of the Global Fast Track Programme

Please visit fintechweek.hk for more information.

2. Project Requirement

The selected Company shall plan and deliver the Project by following the direction and instructions provided by the Government and aligning its mission to foster the fintech ecosystem and the real economy in the 3-year service period (year 2024 - 2026), including but not limited to the following scope of services for each year:

- i. A 2-day main conference and exhibition programme with fintech topics such as:
 - Tech stream: Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Blockchain, Cybersecurity;
 - Use case stream: Green Fintech, Fintech in China going global, InsurTech, Payment, RegTech, Supply Chain and Trade Finance, Virtual Assets, WealthTech, Web3;
 - Investment stream led by fintech investors and their invested project leaders;

(Note: At least 50% of the overall speaking slots shall be reserved for industry thought leaders per agreement with the Government (i.e., handled independently from speakers from the commercial sponsors);

- ii. The Global Fast Track programme;
- iii. A Mainland / GBA themed exhibition in Hong Kong;
- iv. A 1-day GBA company tour programme;
- v. Speaker invitations and content management;
- vi. Sponsors acquisition and management;
- vii. Exhibition recruitment and management;
- viii. Event production and management;
- ix. Ticketing management;
- x. Marketing and promotions for attracting quality international and Mainland participants;
- xi. Side and networking events planning and management;
- xii. Collaborations with other anchor event(s) curated by other organiser(s) for the Project.

The target audiences of the Project are overseas and the Mainland fintech related, such as:

- Organisations / groups: academia, accelerators, associations, chambers of commerce, consulates, family offices, governments, incubators, innovation labs, investment firms, media, regulators, research institutions, scale-ups, sponsors, start-ups, strategic companies, technology companies, etc.
- Individuals: angel investors, entrepreneurs, high net-worth individuals, key opinion leaders, political officials, industry thought leaders, etc.

3. Timeline of the Sponsorship Exercise

Task	Date
Posting of Expression of Interest (EOI) invitation	9 January 2024
Deadline for submission of EOI	23 January 2024
Invitation to Submit Event Sponsorship Proposal sent out to qualified event organizers	Within January 2024
Deadline for submission of Event Sponsorship Proposals	End of February 2024
Evaluation and Selection of Event Sponsorship Proposals	Early March 2024
Appointment of the Company	March - April 2024

4. Requirements of the Company

Companies which fulfill ALL requirements below are welcome to submit the EOI:

- i. Organisations shall be legal business entities in Hong Kong;
- ii. Minimum 3 years of experience in curating, producing, managing, and promoting international events in:
 - a. both physical and virtual format;
 - b. a scale of over 10,000 attendees;
 - c. industry(ies) of fintech / financial services / innovation / technology;
- iii. A dedicated project team with sufficient and existing full-time core staff with a minimum of 3 years of event management work experience directly relevant to the functional areas below:
 - i. overall project and stakeholders' relationship management;
 - ii. content curation and speaker invitation and management;
 - iii. sponsorship and exhibition management;
 - iv. event production and management;
 - v. audience recruitment, ticketing and RSVP; and
 - vi. marketing and promotion, including website and digital marketing management.

5. Submission of EOI

Eligible and interested companies are invited to submit their **EOI** (note: this is NOT the submission of Event Sponsorship Proposal) by making a written submission by email to fintech@investhk.gov.hk, with subject line “**Expression of Interest – Application of Hong Kong Fintech Week 2024 - 2026 Event Sponsorship**”, **on or before 4:00pm (HKT) on 23 January 2024**. Late submission will not be considered.

The EOI submission shall include:

- Company information including business registration in Hong Kong, year of establishment, location, industry, number of full-time staff located in Hong

Kong, the profiles of existing core staff in Hong Kong which demonstrate a minimum of 3 years of direct work experience, and contact details;

- Company credentials including relevant work experience which fulfill all requirements specified in Clause 4; track records of curating, producing, managing, and promoting similar projects; the results/performance; and feedback/reputation from the industries;
- Examples to illustrate the business connections and knowledge of the fintech industry, such as VIP speaker connections.

This invitation for EOI does not constitute an invitation to offer nor does this document or any document made available pursuant to this invitation constitute any contract or agreement of any kind whatsoever with Government. Government reserves the right to postpone or terminate the process of EOI at any time without prior notice and shall not be liable to any party for any loss or damage, costs or expenses as a result of such action.

InvestHK reserves the right to sponsor more than one company(s) if necessary. In such case, the selected Company should collaborate together to meet the overall objectives of the Project.

Government may collaborate with public bodies such as Cyberport, the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTP), Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), research institutes (such as ASTRI, LSCM), and/or sponsor universities and other private companies, etc. on other relevant fintech events during the Project.

6. Selection Criteria

- i. Companies shall submit the EOI by completely following the instruction of clause 5 - Submission of EOI;
- ii. The submission shall illustrate the eligibility of companies for clause 4 - Requirements of the Company;

- iii. Only eligible companies will receive an e-mail invitation to submit an Event Sponsorship Proposal with further guidelines.

7. Probity

Companies acknowledge they have been reminded that:

(a) dishonesty, theft, and corruption on its part or that of its employees, agents, or sub-contractors are criminal offences and may lead to prosecution under section 9 of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Chapter 201 of the Laws of Hong Kong), sections 17, 18D and 19 of the Theft Ordinance (Chapter 210 of the Laws of Hong Kong) and section 161 of the Crimes Ordinance (Chapter 200 of the Laws of Hong Kong); and

(b) the offering, soliciting, or accepting of advantages, as defined in the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance is not permitted.

Companies shall inform their officers, employees (whether permanent or temporary), agents, and sub-contractors that the offering, soliciting, or accepting of advantages (as defined in the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance) is not permitted. Companies shall also caution their officers, employees and agents, and sub-contractors against offering, soliciting, or accepting any excessive hospitality, entertainment, or inducement which may impair their impartiality in relation to the selection of its sub-contractors, if any, or the supervision of the work of the sub-contractors.

Government may terminate the Sponsorship immediately if the Company or any of its employees, agents, and sub-contractors is convicted of an offence under the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance, the Theft Ordinance, or the Crimes Ordinance.

8. Conflict of Interest

Companies shall during the term of the Sponsorship Agreement:

- (a) ensure that their officers, employees (whether permanent or temporary), agents, and sub-contractors shall not undertake any service, task, or job or do anything whatsoever for or on behalf of the companies or any third party (other than in the performance of this Sponsorship) which conflicts, or which may be seen to conflict, with the companies' duties to the Government under this Sponsorship, without the prior written approval of the Government; and

- (b) forthwith notify and declare to the Government in writing of all or any facts which may reasonably be considered to give rise to a situation where the financial, professional, commercial, personal, or other interests of the companies or any of their officers, employees (whether permanent or temporary), agent and sub-contractors, conflict or compete, or may conflict or compete, with the companies' duties to the Government under this Sponsorship.

9. National Security

The Government reserves the right to disqualify the Company on the grounds that the Company has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security or otherwise the exclusion is necessary in the interest of national security, or is necessary to protect the public interest of Hong Kong, public morals, public order or public safety.

The Government may immediately terminate the Sponsorship upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- (a) the Company has engaged or is engaging in acts or activities that are likely to constitute or cause the occurrence of offences endangering national security or which would otherwise be contrary to the interest of national security;

- (b) the continued engagement of the Company or the continued performance of the Sponsorship is contrary to the interest of national security; or
- (c) the Government reasonably believes that any of the events mentioned above is about to occur.

10. Enquiries

For any enquires concerning this EOI invitation, please contact:

Fintech team, InvestHK

Email: fintech@investhk.gov.hk

About Hong Kong Fintech Week

With the theme “Fintech Redefined.”, the Hong Kong FinTech Week 2023 attracted 35,000+ visitors of fintech entrepreneurs, companies, start-ups, investors, regulators and visionaries from over 100 economies. The week-long event featured multi-track conferences with prominent speakers, the Global Fast Track Programme, exhibitions, a deal floor, networking events, demo shows, cross-boundary events and more. For details, please visit www.fintechweek.hk.

About InvestHK and Fintech Team

Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK) is the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government Department responsible for Foreign Direct Investment. Its mission is to promote and strengthen Hong Kong as Asia’s leading international business and financial centre by attracting economically and strategically important overseas and Mainland companies to invest in Hong Kong.

InvestHK has set up a dedicated Fintech Team. It aims at attracting the world's top innovative fintech enterprises, start-up entrepreneurs, investors and other

stakeholders to fast-track and scale their business via Hong Kong to Mainland China, Asia and beyond. For details, please visit www.hongkong-fintech.hk.