#### Virtual Roundtable on COVID-19 Mitigation Efforts #2: Lessons from Asia April 2, 2020

#### **Q&A** summary

# 1. Is rapid and online lending for SMEs more challenging in these turbulent times? (e.g. risk, liquidity, etc.)?

**Henry Lam from Simple Credit responded**: Yes, although the process has moved online for client convenience and privacy, but underlying processes of SMEs business is mostly offline (online education and e-merchant are exceptions). One report mentioned cash buffer of small business varies between 13 to 62 days, with median of 27 days.

### 2. Have some clients taken advantage of the relief measures? And if so, how have you handled that?

**Henry Lam from Simple Credit responded**: During the temporary lockdown of cities, relief measures became crucial to the survival of small business, allowing them to manage their cashflow. We keep a close attention to the local government relief or guarantee program and combine with first-hand information of the client to design our policy quickly. The key is to make it accessible and simple, about 10% of clients have taken advantage of the relief measures so far and they are grateful for the help.

# 3. What are you considering as evidence of Covid19 to consider an impacted business for relief measures?

**Henry Lam from Simple Credit responded**: In China, we take into account the isolation notifications by local government, or an individual's health condition QR code that recorded whether someone was isolated and when the isolation will be expire.