

Date: 18 November 2022

Built Environment Research & Innovation Institute
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Circular to Professional Institutes / Associations

Dear Sir / Madam,

GRANT CALL 1 FOR CITIES OF TOMORROW R&D PROGRAMME UNDER RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE 2025

Background

1. The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) and Housing & Development Board (HDB) have jointly launched the first series of grant calls under the Cities of Tomorrow (CoT) R&D Programme on 17 November 2022. The CoT is a multi-agency effort led by the Ministry of National Development (MND), funded under the National Research Foundation (NRF), as part of the Urban Solutions and Sustainability (USS) domain under Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2025 (RIE2025).

Eligibility

2. The grant call is open to all Singapore-based Institute of Higher Learnings (IHLs) and Research Institutes (RIs), companies and company-affiliated research laboratories/institutions and not-for-profit entities.

3. The Lead Principal Investigator (PI) who leads the Research must be based in Singapore. Collaboration with foreign organisations and experts in the capacity of Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI), or as Collaborator is allowed.

4. Grant applicants are strongly encouraged to collaborate with industry partners to develop innovative solutions that can address the grant call objectives and demonstrate strong potential for real-world application.

Scope of Grant Calls

5. The grant call topics launched are as follow. Please refer to the grant call document for more details on the project requirements.

Research Thrust	Project Topic
Vertical 1: Advanced Construction	Development of Technologies to Geo-reference and Detect Underground Services and Assets for New Estates
	On-site Assembly Systems (at construction site): Development of Infrastructure to Enable Robotic Construction On-site
Vertical 2: Resilient Infrastructure	Research and Development of Automated Solutions and AI System for Inspection, Diagnosis and Maintenance on External Building Façades
	Non-invasive and Non-destructive Portable Scanning Devices for Inspection of Engineered Facades
Horizontal 3: Smart and Advanced Facilities Management	Autonomous Individual Refuse Chute Refuse Collector (AIRC)

Funding Levels

6. The CoT will support 100% of the approved qualifying direct costs of a project for Singapore-based IHLs/public RIs. Private sector entities will qualify for up to 70% of the approved qualifying direct costs of a project, depending on the entities involved:

- (a) 30% for all non-Singapore-entities based in Singapore (including non-Singapore not-for-profit);
- (b) 50% for Singapore-based Large Local Enterprises; and
- (c) 70% for Singapore-based Small, Medium Enterprises, start-ups and not-for-profits.

7. R&D proposals that have been funded by other government agencies will not be considered. PIs and supporting agencies will need to declare other funding sources as well as participation in other funding initiatives during application. Proposals with similar scope, that are currently under evaluation by other funding initiatives, will not be considered until the results from the other funding initiatives are finalised.

8. Funding awarded cannot be used to support overseas R&D activities. All funding awarded must be used to carry out the research activities in Singapore unless expressly approved by the grantor.

Application

9. The full details of the grant call and all related documents can be accessed from the Integrated Grant Management System (<https://researchgrant.gov.sg/>) from 17 November 2022 to 11 January 2023.

Enquiries

10. Please direct any enquiries relating to the grant call or project topics to **both** BCA_COT@bca.gov.sg and HDB_COT_Verticals@hdb.gov.sg.

Thank you.

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BUILT ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH & INNOVATION INSTITUTE
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY