

Date: 27 November 2024

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

Dear Sir / Madam,

GRANT CALL 5 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 fifth series of grant calls under the Cities of Tomorrow (CoT) R&D Programme on 27 November 2024. The CoT is a multi-agency effort led by the Ministry of National Development (MND), funded under the Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2025 (RIE2025) Urban Solutions and Sustainability (USS) domain.

Eligibility

2. The grant call is open to all Singapore-based Institutes of Higher Learning (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 follows:

Research Thrust	Project Topic
Vertical 1: Advanced Construction	Improving the quality and durability of Mass Engineered Timber (MET) structures using regional materials for safe and long-term adoption in tropical climate
Vertical 4: Greater Sustainability	Understanding the Potential UHI Effects of PV Deployment in Singapore and Exploring Mitigation Solutions, including Integrated PV-Greenery Systems
	Development of Emerging Low-Embodied Carbon Concrete Materials/Technologies, including Limestone Calcine Clay Cement (LC3)
	Develop Optimization Tool for Next-Generation UrbanWater Harvesting System

Please refer to the grant call document for details on the project requirements for each topic.

Funding Levels

6. The CoT R&D Programme 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-sized 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://www.researchgrant.gov.sg/>) from 27 November 2024 to 21 January 2025.

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.

JONATHAN CHENG
GROUP DIRECTOR
BUILT ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH & INNOVATION INSTITUTE
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