




**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**  
SINGAPORE

# **Ageless Workplaces Innovation Grant**

National Innovation Challenge on Active and Confident Ageing

# Programme

- National Innovation Challenge on Active and Confident Ageing
  - Ageless Workplaces Innovation Grant
    - Eligibility
    - Application Process
    - Project Phases
    - Funding
    - Broad Evaluation Criteria
    - Timeline
  - Q&A
- 

# National Innovation Challenge on Active and Confident Ageing

- The National Innovation Challenge (NIC) on Active and Confident Ageing was announced by Minister for Health and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Ageing as part of the Action Plan for Successful Ageing on 26 August 2015
- This NIC seeks to **catalyse innovative ideas and research** in Singapore that can **transform the experience of ageing** in Singapore, tomorrow.

## More research into ageing issues:

- Up to \$200 million set aside for a **National Innovation Challenge** to catalyse research related to ageing.



# National Innovation Challenge on Active and Confident Ageing

The NIC comprises three key research thrusts:


## ***Lengthening of health span***

*We want to find ways to delay onset of disease and disability so that our seniors can continue to lead active and productive lives.*

# National Innovation Challenge on Active and Confident Ageing

## *Productive longevity*

*We want to help our seniors continue to lead economically and socially active lives through research in work and education.*



# National Innovation Challenge on Active and Confident Ageing

## *Ageing in place*

*We are looking at research in science and technology to help seniors live independent lives despite physical frailty.*



# Care at Home Innovation Grant

Launched August 2015

- Aims to **improve productivity of home care**, while ensuring **good quality care** that is responsive to the needs of the clients.
- We want to foster **partnerships** between health or social care providers and technological solutions providers spanning operations research, data analytics, technologies and/or business process redesign to co-create solutions to improve the delivery of home care services.
- Worked closely with IDA, MOHH and AIC

**Invent a new model of care that can enhance the productivity of home care staff by at least 50%\*, while ensuring good quality, client-centric and responsive care.**

Productivity measured in terms of:

- Average number of client-facing hours per care staff per day
- Number of clients that each care staff can provide direct care to per day

# Grant Call on Cognition

- Launched November 2015
- Aim to (i) encourage translational research and innovations that could **improve cognitive functioning and delay the onset of dementia** in older adults and (ii) invent **new models of care** that will provide quality and cost effective care for seniors with **dementia in the community**.
- Complements our research efforts and investments in biomedical sciences

**Projects should look into formulating a scaleable preventive intervention programme that can be used safely to improve cognitive functioning or delay the onset of cognitive decline in seniors.**

**Projects should look into innovating a new model of care in caring for seniors with high cognitive impairment or dementia effectively in the community as an alternative to institutionalization in a nursing home.**



# Ageless Workplaces Innovation Grant

- We will launch our third grant call under the NIC thrust on “Productive Longevity” later this year.
- This grant call is organised by **MOH** and **supported by the Tripartite Committee on the Employability of Older Workers**
- **Objectives**
  - Improve the productivity of older workers
  - Older workers to be employable at 65 years old and beyond
- This grant call seeks innovative solutions that are novel, practical and impactful. **We are looking for game-changing solutions** that may include (a) new inventions in automation or labour-augmenting devices that can improve the productivity of older workers or (b) significant trial of age management systems that have never been trialed at scale locally before.

# General Eligibility

- Open to **all public and private entities, research institutes and institutes of higher learning (IHLs)**
- Project teams must **partner an implementation partner** which are Singapore-registered enterprises (of at least 200 staff size) to test-bed the proposed solutions.
- Project teams can address the challenge statement by looking at ideas (i) **across sectors** or (ii) focus on a **sector specific** solution, e.g. retail, hospitality, food & beverage (F&B), healthcare.
- We want to encourage **multi-disciplinary and/or cross-institutional** innovation ideas.
- Project teams are to identify a 'Host Organisation' for the administration of the project

# Application Process

- We will launch the challenge statement for this grant call later this year. Project teams can only submit an application in response to the challenge statement.
- The **public documents** will be available for download on NMRC's website
- [http://www.nmrc.gov.sg/content/nmrc\\_internet/home/grant-navigation/competitive-research-grants/national-innovation-challenge-on-active-and-confident-ageing.html](http://www.nmrc.gov.sg/content/nmrc_internet/home/grant-navigation/competitive-research-grants/national-innovation-challenge-on-active-and-confident-ageing.html)
- Proposals will be evaluated through a **two-stage process**
  - We will first request interested participants to submit a short 5-page **proposal with a summary** of their proposed solutions, including a comprehensive literature review that show the reasons for choosing a particular solution
  - Shortlisted proposals will then be invited to submit a **detailed proposal**. This will be evaluated by an evaluation panel.

# Project Phases

Project teams will have the **flexibility to decide the time allocated** to the phases as follows,

**Design phase (Proof-of-concept).** Project teams are to articulate the concept of the programme / service / prototype and the process by which to achieve stated outcomes. Project teams should also provide studies and analyses that support the concept's viability for further development.

**Development phase (Proof-of-value).** Project teams are to develop and validate the programme / service / prototype so that it takes on a clearer form to achieve the intended outcomes.

**Implementation phase (Test-bedding) - At least one year.** In this phase, project teams are to test and validate the programme / service / prototype in the field (a relevant environment). This phase may also include initial production or roll out.

# Funding

- Funding support will be provided for a period of up to **three years**, with the possibility of an extension for another year.
- Funding will be provided at **80% of approved qualifying costs**. Approved qualifying costs include both developmental costs and operating costs.
- Funding for each phase is **subjected** to the successful attainment of milestones and KPIs tied to each phase.

# Funding

- Project Teams must include plans to scale the proposed solution with **at least 5 Singapore-based companies** within the targeted sector so that there is scalability from the onset. However, deployment to these companies will not be funded under this grant.
- Project teams are to **demonstrate clear outcomes** for the proof of concept and value stages before proceeding to the test-bedding stage. Failing which, project teams will not receive funding support for the implementation phase (or test-bedding) of the project.

# Broad Evaluation Criteria

Component	Evaluation Criteria	Weightage
Grant Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposal Submission</li> <li>● Locally-Based Project &amp; Team Lead</li> <li>● Team Composition</li> <li>● Address Challenge Statement</li> </ul>	Pass/Fail
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Background of Team Lead</li> <li>● Track record</li> </ul>	10%
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scalability of proposed solution</li> <li>● Sustainability of proposed solution</li> <li>● Innovativeness of proposed solution</li> </ul>	30%
Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposed model/prototype/programme</li> <li>● Proposed outcomes</li> </ul>	30%
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Project feasibility in the local context</li> <li>● Clear implementation plans with demonstrable outcomes in field pilot stage</li> <li>● Reasonableness of funding request and charges</li> </ul>	30%
Total		100%



# Timeline

Date	Activity
Call for Proposals	Tentative May 2016 <i>(Please look out for info on NMRC's website)</i>
Public Briefing	
Industry Networking Session	
Deadline for Proposal Summary Submission	July 2016
Deadline for Submission of Detailed Proposal	September 2016
Evaluation and Moderation Process	September 2016 – November 2016
Announcement of Results	By December 2016



# Questions?

For enquiries, please email  
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