



MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
SINGAPORE

NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
SINGAPORE



# Healthy Longevity Catalyst Awards

Healthy Longevity Global Grand Challenge

*Public Briefing*  
*22 February 2023*

# House Rules

Please take note of the following house rules:

1. Please note that your microphones are muted by default.
2. During the briefing, participants can post their questions on the Q&A box and these will be answered by NICPO. There will be a short Q&A session allocated after the end of the briefing. For attendees who would like raise their queries verbally, please click on the 'Raise Hand' button. The moderator will unmute your microphone when it is your turn to raise your query.

# Outline

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- **Overview of Healthy Longevity Catalyst Awards**
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# Overview of the Healthy Longevity Global Grand Challenge

- Launched by US National Academy of Medicine (NAM)
- A worldwide movement to improve physical, mental, and social well-being for people as they age
- The initiative has two components:

A

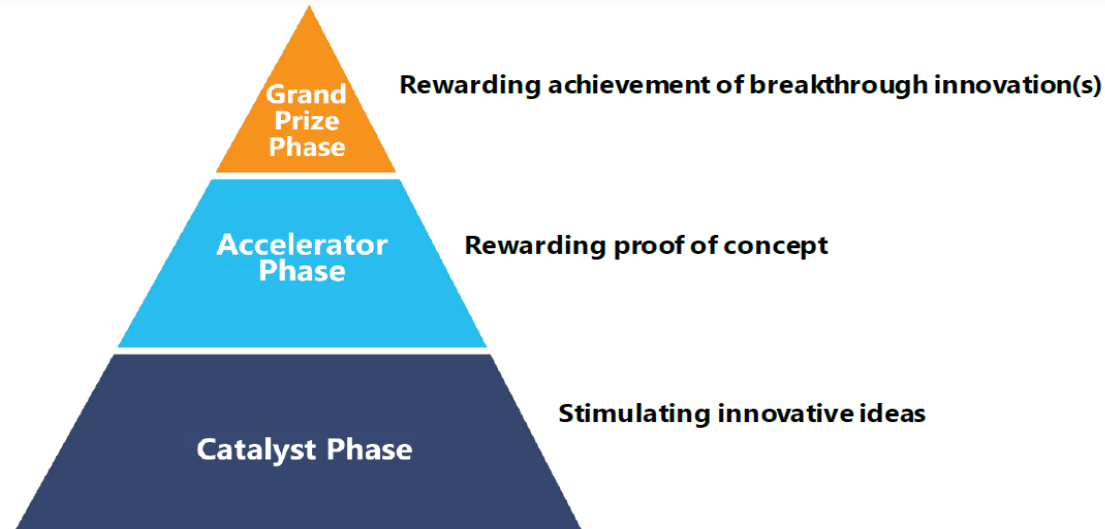
**[Completed] Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity**, an evidence-based report on the challenges and opportunities presented by global ageing

Report can be viewed [here](#).

B

**[Ongoing] Healthy Longevity Global Competition**, a series of awards and prizes to catalyse breakthrough innovations to extend the human healthspan

# Healthy Longevity Global Competition



## Our focus today:

- 1. Catalyst Phase\*** (originally 2020-2022; **now extending to 2025**) – *administered by MOH*
  - Supports bold, innovative ideas to extend the human healthspan.
- 2. Accelerator Phase** (2021-2025+) – *administered by NAM*
  - Follow-on funding (ranging from \$185,000 to \$1 million USD) for selected Catalyst Awardees and Finalists to bring their ideas forward.
- 3. Grand Prize Phase** (Beyond 2025) – *administered by NAM*
  - One or more grand prizes of up to **\$5 million USD** each will be awarded for achievement of a breakthrough innovation(s)

# Healthy Longevity Catalyst Awards (HLCA)

- The Healthy Longevity Catalyst Awards will reward **bold, new, potentially transformative ideas to improve the physical, mental, or social well-being for people as they age**, and in a measurable and equitable way.
- In particular, we are looking **for ideas that will extend the human health span** through innovations in disease prevention, functionality, social connectedness, active ageing and more.
- Ideas could focus on early-, mid-, or late-life, as long as it ultimately **extends the human health span**.
- HLCA is meant as a seed fund to support new ideas, rather than extensions of existing projects\*. Applicants will be required to declare if their HLCA proposal is a part of a larger project, and explain if there are any overlaps with existing funded project(s).

*\*Unless the current proposal is to translate findings from an earlier project that has already achieved proof of concept and proof of value.*

# Progress from the first phase of HLCA

- At the end of three rounds (2020-2022), the NAM and its global collaborators have issued a total of 429 **Catalyst Awards** worth over **\$21 million USD**.
- Singapore has been part of this global collaboration since 2020. In the first phase of HLCA, MOH awarded a total of 42 Catalyst Awards at a total budget of SGD 2.89M over 3 rounds.

Round	Year	Applications received	Projects awarded
1	2020	103	15
2	2021	49	15
3	2022	27	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>179</b>	<b>42</b>

The full list of projects awarded globally can be found on NAM's website:  
<https://healthylongevitychallenge.org/winners/>



# Priority Topic Areas

For 2023, while the Catalyst Awards is open to all applications relating to the broad topic of healthy longevity, **applications that are focused on Cognition will be prioritized for funding**. Examples include projects related, but not limited to, topics on preventing or managing cognitive decline and impairment, encouraging or optimizing senior learning.

Applicants are also **encouraged to consider proposals with multi-disciplinary themes**. For instance, twinning of Cognition as the main topic/focus area with other disciplines or subjects such as:

- **Technology**, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, medical technology, assistive devices, and information technology;
- **Social sciences**, such as social determinants of health and psycho-social well-being, including mental health;
- **Productive longevity**, such as technology or job redesign solutions which enable older workers to continue in employment to a later age, and solutions which promote senior learning;
- **Housing and the built environment**, such as assisted living models, smart-enabled homes and intergenerational housing models; and
- **Financing**, such as preventive health financing models involving behavioural economics.



# Eligibility

- Open to **teams representing public and/or private sector institutions across all disciplines. Individuals are not eligible to apply.** While there is no restriction on the nationality of members in the project team, the entity represented must be legally registered in Singapore. Consortiums with Singapore-registered entities are also eligible to apply.
- Project teams are to identify a 'Host Institution' for the administration of the Research including the receipt of funding.
- A PI can submit **only one application.** However, he/she may be part of the Project Team of other Catalyst Award proposal applications.

# Project Team Composition

- Interested applicants may form a Project Team comprising members from multi-disciplinary (e.g. pairing medical and technology / engineering) backgrounds.
- **No restriction** on the number of Institutions, Investigators and Collaborators in each Project Team, but a host institution must be identified.
- Applicants are expected to **form their own partnerships**.

# Project Funding

- Funding support of **up to S\$200,000 per project**, inclusive of 30% indirect costs, will be provided for a period of **up to two years**.
- **Only Singapore-registered Institutions that are institutes of higher learning (IHLs) or non-profit entities, including public healthcare providers, may qualify for support for indirect costs.**

	<b>Direct Costs (capped)</b>	<b>30% Indirect Costs</b>	<b>Total funding (capped)</b>
Public Institutions	\$ 153,846.15	\$ 46,153.85	\$ 200,000.00
Private Organisations	\$ 153,846.15	<i>&lt;Not entitled to Indirect Costs&gt;</i>	\$ 153,846.15
Non-profit organisations	\$ 153,846.15	\$ 46,153.85	\$ 200,000.00

- Funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis, to be claimed via the Integrated Grant Management System (IGMS).

# Explanation of Costs

Type of Costs	Description
<u>Direct Costs</u>	<p>In general, qualifying costs are <b>direct costs</b> that are required to <b>execute or implement the project and</b> are held <b>accountable to the performance</b> of the particular Research. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Expenditure of Manpower (EOM);</li><li>○ Equipment (EQP);</li><li>○ Overseas Travel (OT) and</li><li>○ Other Operating Expenses (OOE)</li></ul>
<u>Indirect Costs</u>	<p><b>Indirect costs</b> are those that are <b>incurred for common or joint objectives</b> and therefore cannot be identified readily and specifically with a particular Research but contribute to the ability of the Host Institution to support the Research. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ General administration and general expenses (eg. provision of research space)</li><li>○ Operation, maintenance, utilities, rental and departmental administration expenses</li></ul>

# Project Proposal

Interested applicants are to **submit a research proposal<sup>#</sup> (six pages limit)** covering the following areas:

## 1. Objectives and Impact

- Applicants are required to **explain the research idea** and illustrate how the **idea is innovative and potentially transformative**

## 2. Methodology and Implementation Plan

- Applicants are required to explain **how the idea would be implemented and tested**

## 3. Evaluation Framework and KPIs

- Applicants are required to **quantify the key deliverables** of the research project and **describe the next steps** if project is successful

*<sup>#</sup> Application templates will be available on the NMRC website and IGMS once the application window opens from **27<sup>th</sup> February 2023**.*

# Additional Guidance

## Ethics Consideration

- Project teams are accountable for the safety and well-being of human subjects during the course of the Research and be responsible for the submission of any applications required for ethics approval before the commencement of human/animal research activities, if necessary.
- PI is required to make Ethics Declarations via IGMS, by selecting the relevant ethics categories that are applicable for the research/study. While Ethics approval(s) is not mandatory at the point of application, these will be required if awarded, before the commencement of project.

## Resubmission

- **Resubmission attempts are capped at one time. Funding is not guaranteed for resubmitted proposal.**
- Resubmission refers to proposals resubmitted based on Reviewers' comments. It is not a re-written proposal from a new perspective. If more than 50% of the proposal is to be revised, it should be submitted as a new application.

# Broad Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria – *in order of descending importance*

Component	Evaluation Criteria
Innovativeness	The extent to which the proposed idea challenges existing paradigms and employs new methodologies or concepts.
Potential for Impact	The extent to which the proposed idea may have a significant impact on the physical, mental, or social well-being of people as they age.
Quality	The extent to which the proposed idea and the research methodology are clearly explained and includes a compelling or well-defined outcome metric.
Scope	The extent to which the proposed idea represents a challenge impacting the entire field, and not solely the interests of the applicant.



# Timeline

Activity	Date
Announcement of Round 4 of the Healthy Longevity Catalyst Awards	February 2023
Public Briefing	22 February 2023
Applications Open	27 February 2023
Deadline for Project Proposal Submission	3 April 2023, 5.00pm
Announcement of Results	September 2023

# Review Process for Catalyst Awards

- The Catalyst Awards applications will be evaluated by the Evaluation Panel (EP).

**Apr 2023**

Receive Application



Completeness Checks by NICPO



Preliminary Review and shortlist of applications



EP discussion and recommendation



Endorsement for funding



**Sep 2023**

Announcement of results

# Applying via Integrated Grant Management System (IGMS)

- The following files will be available for download from the NMRC ([www.nmrc.gov.sg](http://www.nmrc.gov.sg)) and IGMS (<https://researchgrant.gov.sg>) websites:
  - IGMS Application Guide
  - Public Document and Application Guide
  - README document
  - (i) Proposal, (ii) CV and (iii) Other Attachments Templates (these must be completed and attached in your IGMS application)
  - Prevailing Terms and Conditions
- To submit an application on IGMS, PIs are required to obtain a CorpPass from your institution and this will be used to access/log in IGMS. For more information on how to register your institution's representative as a CorpPass admin or obtain a CorpPass, please visit [www.corppass.gov.sg](http://www.corppass.gov.sg).
- If this is the first time your institution/organisation is creating an institutional account with IGMS, please email the Grant Manager ([Tricia Teo@moh.gov.sg](mailto:Tricia_Teo@moh.gov.sg)) **at least two weeks before the submission deadline** with the following details:
  - Full Name of Company:
  - Local Company / Foreign Company:
  - Public Company / Private Company:
  - UEN (for Local Company) / Unique Identifier (for Foreign Company):

The Grant Manager will inform you of the next steps. **NICPO will not be responsible for any late submission if the request for new institution account is not sent in at least two weeks before the submission deadline.**

# Applying via Integrated Grant Management System (IGMS) – cont'd

- For the submitted application to route to NICPO by the deadline of submission, Project Team must identify a Host Institution Office of Research (HI ORE) with the following roles set up on IGMS:
  - Host Institutional Director of Research (HI DOR)
  - Host Institution Office of Research (HI ORE)
- The PI should submit only one application on behalf of the Project team **using the templates available on the IGMS** and upload these documents to the relevant sections in IGMS:
  - Research proposal
  - CV template (PI, Co-I/Collab)
  - Other Attachments Template (Signatories and Other Support)
- It is **mandatory** for all applications to be submitted *online via* IGMS by **3 April 2023, 5pm**. Please ensure that all online submissions are **endorsed by the corresponding host institution's Research Director by the closing date.** **No late submissions will be allowed.**

# Q&A Session

# Questions?

For enquiries, please email  
[NIC Ageing@moh.gov.sg](mailto:NIC_Ageing@moh.gov.sg)

We look forward to receive your applications!