



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

# Call for Project Proposals under the Go-Green Co-Innovation Programme (GGCIP)

## A Key Initiative of the Singapore Australia Green Economy Agreement (GEA)

### **Go-Green Co-Innovation Programme**

Australia and Singapore are committed to ambitious action on climate change to keep the Paris Agreement temperature goal within reach. As close partners, we are cooperating under our Green Economy Agreement (GEA) to deliver practical and scalable solutions that enable our countries to decarbonise towards net zero emissions.

Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) are inviting businesses in Singapore and Australia to support the GEA objectives by collaborating on joint projects that develop innovative green products, services, and technology solutions. Conducted under the auspice of the GEA's Go-Green Co-Innovation Programme (GGCIP), projects will focus on Research and Development (R&D), commercialisation, and business expansion.

Grants made available under the GGCIP will seek to support the design, development and delivery of the projects jointly executed by business partners from Australia and Singapore.

The grant projects will contribute to the GGCIP objective: by 2026, more Australian and Singapore enterprises are collaborating on commercially viable, innovative green products and services to increase trade and commerce between Singapore and Australia in green sectors.

## **1. Call Timeline**

Call Opens	25 July 2024
Submission Deadline	14 November 2024
Notification of Approved Projects	March – April 2025

## 2. Project Scope

Projects must be jointly designed and focussed on innovative solutions, either in the development of green products, services, or technologies. Projects that prioritise the following sectors would be particularly welcomed:

- Renewable and clean energy
- Sustainable agribusiness and food
- Built environment and infrastructure.
- Advanced manufacturing and sustainable materials
- Waste management and the circular economy
- Green transportation and logistics
- Energy efficient technology and products
- Environmental monitoring analysis and assessment.
- Emerging green sector innovative products or services that align with the broader GEA initiatives and priorities.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and may include co-innovating on:

- product / service strategy validation; supporting a company ascertain if its proposed new green product/service/technology solution has sufficient market viability.
- technology and novel product / service development; or
- small volume production / prototyping / minimum viable product (MVP).

Projects we will not fund:

- 1. Minor modifications to an existing product / service that would not be considered substantial enough for a co-innovation project.
- 2. Pilot testing an already commercialised solution i.e. there is no co-innovation.
- 3. Distribution only projects, with no co-innovation.

### **3.** Partnership Requirements

The project must be led by one eligible Australia Small-Medium Enterprise (SME) and one eligible Singapore enterprise which are separate, non-linked entities.

The support parameters and requirements are as follows:

Grant Funding	<b>For Australian applicants</b> The value of grant funding available per project is from AU\$150,000 to AU\$500,000, provided to the successful lead applicant.
	Applicants must be able to demonstrate at least 50% co-contribution of total Australian project costs, which may be through direct cash funding or a combination of cash and in-kind contributions. For example, if an applicant requests \$200,000 and the total cost of the project is \$400,000, the applicant will need to contribute \$200,000 from their own funding sources.

	For Singapore applicants
	Eligible Singapore SMEs may receive up to 70% reimbursement of eligible costs while non-SMEs may receive up to 50% reimbursement. There is no cap on the maximum total funding amount.
Consortium composition requirements	A project consortium must minimally comprise of at least one SME company from Australia, and at least one Singapore registered business, which must be separate, non-linked entities.
	Although not mandatory, projects can have multiple partners, including business or research performers including from countries other than Singapore and Australia, but they cannot be the lead partner.
	Regardless of the number of partners in the consortium, the budget allocated to research performers must not exceed 30% of the proposed total cost of the project.
	Business or research performers who wish to participate in the project can do so as subcontractors / consultants to lead applicant. They will not qualify as direct recipients of funding, and funding will be disbursed through the lead applicant.

## 4. Project Requirements

The project proposals must comply with the following requirements:

- project should focus on achieving net positive environmental impacts and the development of new products, services or technology solutions leading to commercialisation in domestic and/or Singapore and global markets
- project should have an obvious advantage and differentiated value proposition resulting from the cooperation between participants from Australia and Singapore (e.g., increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application etc.)
- clear description of the product or solution your project will deliver, its competitive advantage to other competing products or solutions, specify technological development envisaged (level of innovation and level of risk)
- projects should demonstrate a balanced contribution between the partners from both countries (one partner should contribute no more than 70% of total project contribution, in terms of person months and total budget of the project)
- project partners should agree in advance on the intellectual property rights and on the commercialisation strategy of the product and process
- collaboration period following commencement of projects should be no less than 12 months and typically no more than 24 months

Prospective applicants who meet the above requirements, eligibility criteria and conditions are invited to apply for grants under the GGCIP in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations, and procedures in effect.

## 4. Eligibility Criteria

We can only accept applications that meet all the eligibility requirements outlined in the grant guidelines.

#### 4.1 For Australian applicants

Australian applicants should refer to the GGCIP Guidelines accessed through <u>GrantConnect</u> for detailed information on eligibility and assessment criteria. The Australian Bureau of Statistics definition of an SME can be found at <u>1321.0 - Small Business in Australia, 2001 (abs.gov.au)</u>

DFAT can assist with specific questions on GGCIP by emailing GGCIP@dfat.gov.au. In joint applications, only the lead SME can submit the application form and enter into the grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

#### 4.2 For Singapore applicants

Grants to the Singapore companies will be funded through the Enterprise Development Grant (EDG), managed by Enterprise Singapore. Singapore companies will be granted up to 70% of total qualifying costs and may wish to refer to <u>this link</u> for more information.

The Singapore company must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be a business entity that is registered and physically present in Singapore;
- ≥ 30% local equity held directly or indirectly by Singaporean(s) / Singapore PR(s), determined by the ultimate individual ownership and;
- 3. Be financially able to see the project through to completion.

### **5. Submission Guidelines**

Singapore and Australia have separate application processes and both lead partners must apply.

#### 5.1 For Australian applicants

Refer to <u>GrantConnect</u> to access the Australian GGCIP Guidelines. To apply, Australian applicants must complete a SmartyGrants online application form, in consultation with their Singapore business partner.

#### 5.2 For Singapore applicants

Interested Singapore companies must complete a **preliminary interest form** by 1 November 2024.

Thereafter, EnterpriseSG will be in touch to inform on the application process. Singapore companies should also provide the following supporting documents via the Business Grant Portal as advised by EnterpriseSG by 14 November 2024, 23:59 (SGT, GMT +8) to be considered for funding:

- Supplementary Project Proposal Form (please find the template here)
- Latest ACRA business profile (retrieved within six months from application date)
- Latest and previous two years audited financial statements or official management accounts.
- Relevant key quotations (e.g. equipment & software, materials & consumables, professional services)
- Any Letter of Intent

## 6. Evaluation of Project Proposals

EnterpriseSG and DFAT will carry out independent eligibility checks and assessments and will select the eligible projects to be financially supported in accordance with their national laws and regulations. Only projects that are approved by both EnterpriseSG and DFAT will receive funding support under this call.

DFAT and EnterpriseSG will typically aim to jointly fund projects under GGCIP. DFAT and EnterpriseSG may consider unilaterally funding a project in some circumstances. This will be subject to availability of funds and agreement by both DFAT and EnterpriseSG.

### 7. Announcement of Approved Projects

Successful applicants will be notified of the results and the amount of funding by their respective funding agencies around March-April 2025.

### 8. Main Contact Points

For further queries regarding this joint call, please contact the country representatives below:

- Singapore, EnterpriseSG: celia\_zheng@enterprisesg.gov.sg
- Australia, DFAT: GGCIP@dfat.gov.au