

MTC INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT FUNDS – PRE-POSITIONING (IAF-PP)

OGA, A*STAR

OFFICIAL (OPEN) / NON-SENSITIVE

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Overview

- To develop industry-ready capabilities towards deepening the alignment of public sector research
- To develop multidisciplinary and integrated programmes with early industry involvement
- To support new programmes, as well as existing programmes that have demonstrated strong track record of success and industry potential
- Programmes supported should be aligned with the MTC domain themes and strategies



Overview

- The MTC IAF-PP Strategic Oversight Committee (SOC):



- Makes decisions on all MTC IAF-PP policies and programmes
 - Comprises CE A*STAR, MD EDB and CE NRF
- Reporting to the SOC, A*STAR has been tasked as the Implementing Agency (IA) for this funding scheme.

Overview

- Programmes supported by IAF-PP are expected to lead to industry investments within 3-5 years
- Key criteria: potential for industry development and economic impact:
 - Alignment of FI to the MTC Domain strategic outcomes and ability to deliver RIE2025 objects (<https://www.nrf.gov.sg/rie2025-plan/manufacturing-trade-and-connectivity>)
 - Pre-positioning for value creation and value capture in Singapore
 - Potential to attract industry R&D spending (IRS) and investments
 - Differentiation and competitiveness at regional or global level



Eligibility Criteria

A Programme Director should:

- Hold at least a 0.7FTE primary appointment in a Singapore publicly funded research or tertiary institution,
- Run a laboratory or research programme that carries out research in Singapore, and
- Have a track record of leadership ability in coordinating research programmes and providing mentorship to research team, as well as having productive research outcomes.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Indicator	Definition	Data collection methodology
[KPI] Amount of industry spending on R&D	<p>This refers to the investment that a company (in the MTC sector) commits to spend in Singapore on R&D activities as a result of projects funded by MTC in RIE2025. It comprises cash and/or in-kind contributions.</p> <p>Industry R&D spending should be segmented by sector and enterprise segment.</p>	<p>Data reported via company declarations that accompany annual progress reports, mid-term reviews and final reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Company contributions leading up to R&D industry spending should be accounted for via Research Collaboration Agreements (RCAs) and not service agreements/contracts. ▪ Site of R&D spending must be in Singapore. ▪ Public sector contributions (cash/in-kind) are excluded from IRS computations.

*Additional KPIs and TIs may be set at project level for tracking of outcomes



Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Indicator	Definition	Data collection methodology
[KPI] No. of industry projects	<p>This measures the total number of R&D projects (excluding services projects) undertaken with MTC sector companies as a result of projects funded by MTC IAF-PP in RIE2025.</p> <p>Industry projects should be segmented by sector and enterprise segment.</p>	Data reported via annual progress reports, mid-term reviews and final reports.

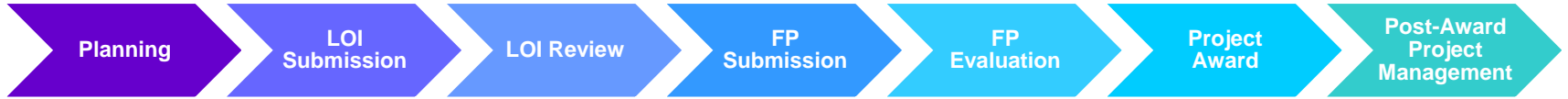
*Additional KPIs and TIs may be set at project level for tracking of outcomes



Application Process

- Announcements will be made periodically to inform or solicit proposals from the R&D community on key focus areas via:
 - Via A*STAR website (<https://www.a-star.edu.sg/Research/Funding-Opportunities/Grants-Sponsorship/IAF-PP>)
 - Thematic workshops and grant calls
 - Through Research Administrative Office (or equivalent) of the institutes of higher learning, academic medical centres, hospitals and A*STAR research institutes
- Applications must be endorsed by the applying Host Institution(s) prior to submission
- All queries must be submitted through A*STAR (as Implementing agency) at IAF_PP_AME@hq.a-star.edu.sg

Application Process



- Lead Institution on Letter of Intent (LOI) proposal to be endorsed by Research Office of Institution. (or A*STAR Council Cluster)
- Lead Institution submits LOI proposal
- IA conducts initial rounds of LOI proposal clarifications, before tabling proposal for review and endorsement.
- Upon successful endorsement of LOI, proposal is invited to submit Full Proposal (FP)
- IA conducts initial rounds of FP proposal and budget clarifications, before tabling proposal for review and endorsement
- IA processes approval for funds drawdown and issues Letter of Award
- Lead Institution administers grant to any Co-Performers and tracks deliverables.
- Lead Institution submits annual & final reports as well as mid-term & final review reports to IA.

Post Award Grant Management

- Per A*STAR Grants T&Cs and Guidelines
- Yearly Progress Report submitted within two (2) months from the end of the Financial Year
- Mid-Term and Final Review conducted approximately at the halfway mark and before the end of Term
- Final Report submitted within three (3) months following the end of the Term
- FSOA completed within six (6) months from the end of the Term



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