



Call for Proposals (CFP)

Information Deck

V2_17 Sep 2024

About NATi



(Pronounced "Net-eye")

To build Singapore into a regional hub for nucleic acid therapeutics research, clinical translation, and commercialisation.

NATi harnesses the potential of nucleic acids to **treat diseases using RNA molecules**. This initiative bolsters strategic partnerships and propels healthcare innovations, benefiting Singapore and Singaporeans.

Legend: **RNA**: Ribonucleic Acid; **NAT**: Nucleic Acid Therapeutics

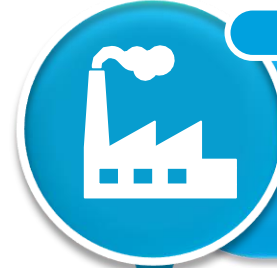
Outlook of SG NAT Activities



2023-2025

Building Capabilities

Expand Pipeline & Establish Capabilities



2026-2030

Grow Local Biotech Ecosystem

Encourage Local NAT Biotech Growth, Attract Labs, Expand Talent, Support National Vaccine Initiatives



2030 and Beyond

Anchor and Strengthen NAT Industry

Catalyse NAT Drug Development, Maintain Capacity to Enable NAT Therapeutics and Vaccines

Focus Areas for NATi to Develop Singapore's NAT Ecosystem



Highlights of NATi Coordinating Office

1. The NATi Coordinating Office will proactively provide guidance for project management
 - a. Projects will be stage-gated with clear milestones and deliverables for continued funding
 - b. Lead Investigators will be supported through monthly update meetings
 - c. Stage-gate meetings will involve NATi Leadership to make go/no-go decisions

2. The NATi Coordinating Office will proactively provide guidance for business development
 - a. Industry engagement will be coordinated with all relevant parties, such as the Institution IEOs, TTOs, economic agencies and investors
 - b. Industry needs will be incorporated into problem statements
 - c. Regular symposia and other events will be organised for networking and insight sharing

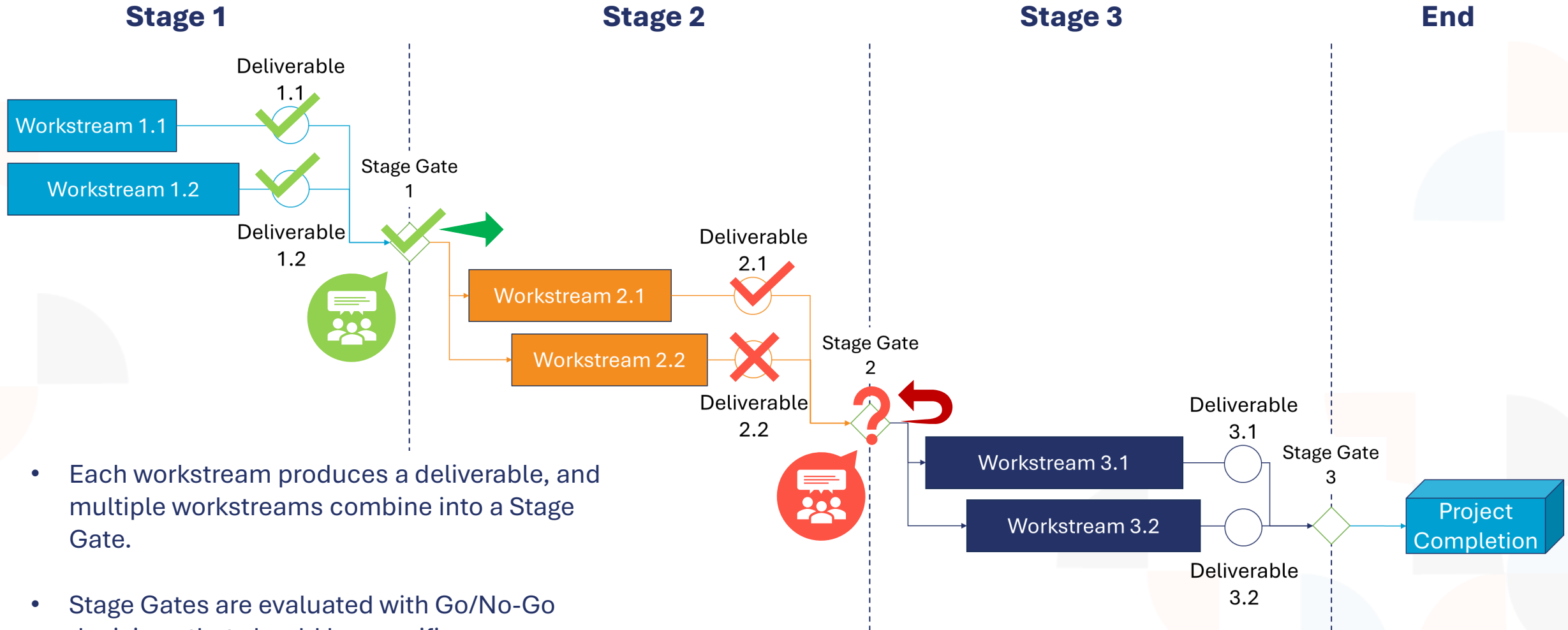
3. The NATi Coordinating Office will proactively coordinate across funded projects to implement a national R&D strategy
 - a. Synergies between researchers and funded projects will be cultivated
 - b. Guidance for follow-on funding will be provided

Legend:

NAT: Nucleic acid therapeutics; **IEO:** Innovation and Enterprise Office; **TTO:** Technology Transfer Office

Application Requirements

Stage-Gated Project Management (an example)



- Each workstream produces a deliverable, and multiple workstreams combine into a Stage Gate.
- Stage Gates are evaluated with Go/No-Go decisions that should be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely.

Eligibility

1. The Lead Investigator and Co-Investigators as defined in Grant Terms and Conditions should:
 - a. Hold a primary appointment in a Singapore publicly funded research institution or an Institute of Higher Learning (IHL). The Lead Investigator must hold a primary appointment of at least 0.7 FTE in Singapore.
 - b. Lead a laboratory or research programme which carries out research in Singapore
 - c. Possess track record of leadership ability in coordinating research programmes and providing mentorship to research teams as well as having productive research outcomes. A track record in securing IRS will be advantageous.
2. Collaborators as defined in Grant Terms and Conditions are not eligible to receive NATi funding
 - a. Companies can participate in NATi projects only as collaborators
3. Exceptions to the above eligibility criteria will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please submit a request to the NATi Coordinating Office at least 7 calendar days before the submission deadline.

Important Notes

1. Applicants must use the latest version of the proposal template which can be downloaded from the website
2. Submissions should clearly state milestones and deliverables. Industry collaborations are strongly encouraged to demonstrate research alignment with industry needs.
3. Applicants shall comply with grant terms and conditions, including prevailing regulations
4. All researchers and research institutions shall follow and apply the National IP Protocol principles and framework

Industry Alignment

Collaboration with industry is strongly encouraged to demonstrate research alignment with industry needs

This should be supported with documentation, including but not limited to:

1. A ready-to-sign research collaboration agreement (RCA) with an industry partner
2. Letter(s) of support from industry partner(s) ideally with clearly defined conditions for cash commitment
3. A practical industry engagement plan to generate industry R&D spending

Applicants may propose and provide other forms of documentation for review by the NATi Coordinating Office

The NATi Coordinating Office can provide business development support. Please consult the NATi Coordinating Office early when engaging companies.

Evaluation Criteria

1	Relevance to NATi
2	Potential for commercial adoption
3	Scientific quality and innovativeness
4	Experience and expertise of the team
5	Effectiveness of project management
6	Appropriateness of the requested budget
7	Strength of intellectual property (IP) strategy
8	International competitiveness

Application and Evaluation Process



- Lead Investigator submits proposal to enquiry@nati.sg by deadline
- Deadline will be communicated in every thematic Call for Proposals
- Lead Investigator may be invited to present
- Outcome of review will be communicated to the Lead Investigator within 3 – 4 months of proposal submission
- After final budget review, successful applicants will be issued In-Principle Approval and subsequently a Letter of Award

Contact Us

For general enquiries, please contact:

enquiry@nati.sg