

# HHP INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT FUNDS PRE-POSITIONING (IAF-PP)

OFFICIAL (OPEN) / NON-SENSITIVE



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# RIE2025: KEY STRATEGIES AND FRAMEWORK



Manufacturing,  
Trade and  
Connectivity (MTC)



Human Health  
and Potential  
(HHP)



Urban Solutions  
and Sustainability  
(USS)



Smart Nation and  
Digital Economy  
(SNDE)



Academic  
Research



Manpower



Innovation and  
Enterprise (I&E)



# HUMAN HEALTH AND POTENTIAL (HHP)

Pharmbio & Biotech	Medical Technologies
Population Health	Health Tech
Health Services Research	Precision Medicine
Longevity	Learning Capacity

## STRATEGIC GOALS IN RIE2025

- Transform health system to deliver better health and healthcare outcomes
- Harness bio-accelerators to strengthen local ecosystem
- Advance Human Potential to support improvements in health, productivity, and learning capacity across an individual's life course

\* Non-exhaustive



# HHP IAF-PP Overview

- Develop industry-ready capabilities towards deepening the alignment of public sector research
- Develop multidisciplinary and integrated programmes with early industry involvement
- Supports new programmes, and existing programmes that have demonstrated strong track record of success and industry potential
- Supported programmes should be aligned with RIE2025 domain themes and strategies
- The maximum duration of IAF-PP projects should not exceed 5 years
- Programmes requesting funding of  $\geq \$10\text{M}$  (incl. overheads) are required to set up a Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). Applicants to include list of proposed SAB members and credentials in Full Proposal.



# Governance

- **Strategic Oversight Committee (SOC)**
  - Makes decisions on all IAF-PP policies and programmes
  - Comprises CE A\*STAR, MD EDB and CE NRF



- A\*STAR has been tasked as the **Implementing Agency** and reports to the SOC

# Key Differences between IAF-PP and IAF-ICP

Characteristic	IAF-PP	IAF-ICP
Funding Initiative Goals	IAF-PP projects are expected to lead to <b><u>industry investments within 3-5 years.</u></b>	IAF-ICP projects aim to foster industry-relevant public sector R&D efforts and encourage public research performers to collaborate with industry, with a <b>line of sight to potential economic outcome.</b>
Alignment to RIE2025	Must be aligned either to <b><u>MTC (for MTC IAF-PP)</u></b> or <b><u>HHP (for HHP IAF-PP)</u></b> domain objectives.	<b><u>Pan domain</u></b> , can be aligned to MTC, HHP, SNDE or USS domains. Projects can also be cross-domain.
Nature of awarded Projects	IAF-PP projects are awarded to develop platform technologies, applicable to a particular industry ecosystem. This can include consortiums.	IAF-ICP projects are awarded to research performers to co-develop new capabilities and technologies with a specific company.
Industry commitment	The research performer is required to secure industry commitment <b><u>during the IAF-PP project</u></b>	<b><u>Upfront industry commitment</u></b> is required as a condition of the fund award.





# Eligibility Criteria

Programme directors (PD) / lead Principal Investigator (PI) should:

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





# General Assessment Criteria

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
  - Programme with Technological Readiness Level (TRL) between two and five
  - Alignment to HHP Domain strategic objectives and ability to deliver RIE2025 outcomes (<https://www.nrf.gov.sg/rie2025-plan>)
  - Pre-positioning for value creation and value capture in Singapore
  - Potential to attract industry R&D spending (IRS) and investments (e.g. joint lab, co-development of project, creation of high-quality jobs)
  - Differentiation and competitiveness at regional or global level

# Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)<sup>1</sup>

KPI	Definition	Data Collection Methodology
Amount of industry spending on R&D (IRS)	This refers to the investment that a company commits to spend in Singapore on R&D activities as a result of projects funded by HHP IAF-PP in RIE2025. It comprises cash and/or in-kind contributions.	<p>Data to be reported via company declarations that accompany annual progress reports, mid-term reviews and final reports.</p> <p>Company contributions leading up to R&amp;D industry spending should be accounted for via Research Collaboration Agreements (RCAs) and not service agreement (SAs)/ contracts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ RCAs must be submitted for verification of the declared IRS commitment.</li><li>▪ Admissibility of IRS contributions found in Clinical Trial Agreements (CTAs) would be considered on a case-by-case basis.</li><li>▪ Site of R&amp;D spending must be in Singapore.</li><li>▪ Public sector contributions (cash/in-kind) are excluded from IRS computations.</li></ul>

<sup>1</sup> Additional KPIs and TIs may be set at project level for tracking of outcomes.



# Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)<sup>1</sup>

<b>KPI</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Data Collection Methodology</b>
No. of industry projects	<p>This measures the total number of R&amp;D projects (excluding services projects) undertaken by companies as a result of projects funded by HHP IAF-PP in RIE2025.</p> <p>Industry projects should be segmented by sector and enterprise.</p>	Data to be reported via annual progress reports, mid-term reviews and final reports.

<sup>1</sup> Additional KPIs and TIs may be set at project level for tracking of outcomes.



# Tracking Indicators (TIs)<sup>1</sup>

TI	Definition	Data Collection Methodology
No. of successful spin-offs	No. of spinoffs that meet one or more of the following criteria, within 5 years of launch: a. Received subsequent 3rd party financing, equal or greater than \$250K; or b. Increased enterprise valuation by at least 20%; or c. Crossed \$250K annual revenue.	Data to be reported via annual progress reports, mid-term reviews and final reports.

<sup>1</sup> Additional KPIs and TIs may be set at project level for tracking of outcomes.



# Tracking Indicators (TIs)<sup>1</sup>

TI	Definition	Data Collection Methodology
Follow on Funding	Amount of third-party funding (both private and public) raised by spinoffs	Data to be reported via annual progress reports, mid-term reviews and final reports.
Additional/ Subsequent industry investment that leveraged IAF- PP platforms/ programmes	Amount of additional/ subsequent funds invested from industry/ companies into other projects (e.g. IAF-ICP) due to the initial IAF-PP platform/ programme developed.	

<sup>1</sup> Additional KPIs and TIs may be set at project level for tracking of outcomes.



# Industry R&D Spending (IRS)

Admissible in-kind contributions:

- Manpower
- Equipment
- Technical Software (purchased from 3<sup>rd</sup> party)
- Consumables

Non-admissible in-kind contributions:

- Overhead costs
- Operational costs like rental, outfitting fees, utilities, admin costs, cleaning fees, post-project deployment work
- Products like company manufactured software and products, generic non-technical computer software (e.g. Microsoft Office)
- Others like travel costs, relocation costs, equipment depreciation costs, R&D contribution from other statutory boards or ministries



## EXAMPLES OF ADMISSIBLE AND NON-ADMISSIBLE IN-KIND IRS



<b>Admissible in-kind</b> (direct R&D related spending)	<b>Non-admissible in-kind</b> (indirect R&D related spending)
<b>Manpower</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>persons with scientific contributions to the project, or project management</li> </ul>	<b>Indirect costs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-R&amp;D headcounts</li> <li>Non-R&amp;D equipment or consumables</li> <li>Infrastructure costs e.g. construction costs, rental</li> <li>Non-R&amp;D operating costs e.g. utilities, admin costs, cleaning fees, post-project deployment work</li> </ul>
<b>Equipment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>purchased from third party or manufactured by Industry Partner in collaboration (<u>pro-rated</u> for the period of project)</li> </ul>	<b>Manpower costs</b> of research personnel based outside of Singapore
<b>Technical Software</b> from third party	<b>Company-manufactured technical software</b> and <b>non-technical software</b> e.g. Microsoft Office
<b>Consumables</b>	<b>Others</b> e.g. overseas travel, relocation costs

# Application Process

Applications to IAF-PP are evaluated on a quarterly basis.

Applicants are invited to submit their IAF-PP Letter of Intent (LOI) to the **HHP IAF-PP Secretariat** ([IAF-PP\\_HBMS@hq.a-star.edu.sg](mailto:IAF-PP_HBMS@hq.a-star.edu.sg)) by the quarterly submission deadlines indicated on our website [IAF-PP \(a-star.edu.sg\)](http://IAF-PP(a-star.edu.sg)).

## Important Note:

- Applicants must use the latest version of the LOI template that can be downloaded from the website [IAF-PP \(a-star.edu.sg\)](http://IAF-PP(a-star.edu.sg)).
- All applications must be endorsed by the Research Office of the Programme Lead's Institution.
- Incomplete applications may result in the application being rolled over to the next quarter for evaluation. Please ensure that all applications are complete before submitting, and that all the necessary supporting documentation (e.g. Letters of Support) are included.





# Industry Engagement

- Applicants are encouraged to contact Enterprise/BMS IPO or their institute's Tech Transfer Office during the scoping stage to understand key industry trends, market landscape, and identify potential industry partners/users of their technology. Early discussions with EDB (proposals involving MNCs/LLEs) and/or ESG (proposals involving SMEs) are also encouraged.
- **Full proposal should be accompanied by letters of support from potential industry partners** that address the following:
  - How the proposed work scope is differentiated from and compares with international efforts
  - How the company may use outcomes from the project
  - What forms of formal collaboration will the company enter with the programme, if successful
  - What milestones the company would like to see next
  - Company's potential cash/in-kind contribution to the programme

# Evaluation Process for IAF-PP LOIs < \$25M

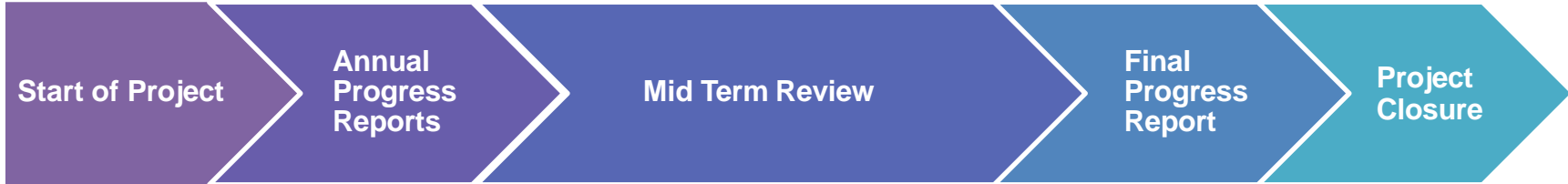
- **Transition from 2-stage to 1-stage LOI Review:** If supported by LOI Review Panel, LOIs can proceed to full proposal review stage without seeking SOC endorsement.



- LOIs are submitted directly to Secretariat mailbox.
- LOIs are reviewed by the **LOI Review Panel** via circulation or PI presentation.
- LOIs supported by the LOI Review Panel will proceed to the full proposal (FP) stage.  
*\*SOC endorsement of LOI no longer required.*
- PI has up to 3 months to prepare FP.  
*\*Not part of evaluation timeline.*
- PI to present FP to the **IAF-PP Review Panel**.  
*\*FPs may be sent for expert review prior to panel review.*
- FPs recommended for funding by IAF-PP Review Panel are **endorsed by SOC** via circulation.
- IA will obtain budget approval from appropriate authority before issuing **Letter of Award**.



# Post-Award Project Management



- Follow the A\*STAR Grants T&Cs and Guidelines
- All projects are required to **submit annual progress reports** within 2 months from the end of each FY.
- Projects that **do not demonstrate adequate progress** may be required to present to the respective review panel.
- All projects are required to undergo at least **one mid-term review**. Final review is conducted before the end of term. Projects with awarded budgets  $\geq$ \$10M are required to submit an SAB report with their mid-term and final reviews.
- Projects will be reviewed by the **IAF-PP Review Panel**.
- **Projects that are not on track** will be required to provide recovery plans, which can include downsizing and re-scoping. Projects that are unable to provide convincing recovery plans may be closed early.
- Final report is due within 3 months following end of term, and Final Statement of Accounts is due 6 months after end of term.



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# THANK YOU

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