**LOW CARBON ENERGY RESEARCH (LCER) PHASE 2 PROGRAMME
HYDROGEN AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FUNDING INITIATIVE (HETFI)
EMERGING TECHNOLOGY GRANT CALL
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. General		
1	What is the overall objective of ETGC?	ETGC aims to develop low-TRL low-carbon technologies that can be commercialised and deployed in Singapore to help decarbonise the power and industry sectors. When the technologies are eventually developed and deployed at-scale, they should reduce significant amounts of direct carbon emissions (i.e. carbon abatement) from those sectors. For perspective, Singapore's carbon emissions for 2020 is 49.7 $MtCO_2e$. Please refer to the LCER Phase 2 ETGC Info Sheet for more information.
2	What are the Singapore's national circumstances that the proposed technology needs to address?	Submitted proposal shall linked its proposed technology towards its value-proposition in addressing our national circumstances of: 1) Limited land space; 2) High-density population; and 3) Alternative Energy Constraints. Please refer to Singapore's Fifth National Communication and Fifth Biennial Update Report section on 'National Circumstances' (see report here: https://www.nccs.gov.sg/files/docs/default-source/publications/singapore-nc5bur5.pdf).
3	What items are required for the submission?	Please send the following items during your submission. Items A to F are mandatory while items G and H are not: a. Full Proposal (**Annex C**) b. Appendix A1. Reference c. Appendix A2. Key Publications d. Appendix B. Compilation of Curriculum Vitae e. Appendix C. Proposed Budget (**Annex D**) f. Appendix D. Other Grant Support (Detailed) (**Annex E**) g. [*Where Applicable*] Appendix E. Letters of Commitment h. [*Where Applicable*] Other Documents determined by Lead PI For items A, E and F, please use the template provided, attached as Annexe C, D and E respectively. For formatting, please use Calibri, font size 12, Single spacing.

4	What should researchers submit proposals under ETGC?	ETGC projects stand a chance to gain follow-on R&D funding immediately after the conclusion of the current project, provided the project passes the Review Panel (RP). More details of the RP can be found in Section 3. Review Panel and Post-Project Phase' while details of the exact mechanism for next-phase projects will be released in future.
5	How will my proposal be evaluated?	There will be two phases. In the first phase, international peer reviewers will review the scientific excellence and team's composition. In the second phase, the Evaluation Committee, with advice from the Advisory Group, will assess the proposals based on their alignment with Singapore's strategic goals for decarbonisation, technical merits and team's capabilities and composition.
6	What is the project duration?	Projects have up to three years or 36 months to complete the project. If an extension is required, it will be considered on a case-by-case basis
2. Eligibility Criteria		
7	What are the eligibility criteria for a Lead PI?	The Lead Principal Investigators (PIs) should have at least 70% primary appointment in a Singapore public sector research institute [(i.e. A*STAR Research Institutes (RIs), Institute of Higher Learnings (IHLs) and other public research institutes], or have joint appointments that accumulate to a 70% level or more. The Lead PI should also maintain the minimum appointment level for the duration of this award.
8	Can there be more than one Lead PI?	No. The other researchers can either join as Co-Is or Collaborators.
9	Can a MD, MBBS or BDS qualifications applicant apply as a Lead PI?	Yes.
10	Do applicants applying as Lead PIs need to be Singaporeans or Singapore PRs?	All nationalities are allowed, so long as applicant comes from a Singapore public sector research institute.
11	Since ETGC is meant to be "individual" grants, why are we allowing more than one Co-Is?	Co-Is are allowed to encourage collaborations across institutes.
12	What are the eligibility criteria for a Co-I?	The Co-I should hold at least 20% primary appointment in a public sector research institute or jointly with other public sector research institute(s) and maintain the

		minimum appointment level for the duration of this award.
13	Can a researcher be a Co-I for multiple projects?	Yes, but researchers will have to commit reasonable time and effort to each project towards fulfilling these projects' outcome and goals.
14	Is a collaborator necessary for this grant call?	You do not need to have a collaborator, who is defined as researchers in private companies, in overseas universities, or other Singapore public sector research institute. However, we do not discourage applicants to find a collaborator. However, collaborators cannot receive any funding, whether directly or indirectly, from the award.
15	Can Lead PI or Co-I(s) request for a change in host institution?	Yes, subject to grantor's approval and Lead PI is transferring to another Singapore public sector research institute.
16	Can the funding be transferred to another researcher (i.e. Lead PI, Co-Is)?	Yes, subject to grantor's approval.
17	Do we need to partner A*STAR Research Institutes (RIs) in our projects or ensure that the research areas are in line with the RIs' interest?	No, as this grant call is a research grant to benefit the Singapore research ecosystem.
18	Who is the endorsement authority from the Host Institute's side before the proposal is submitted in iGrants?	We require the Host Institute's Director of Research (DOR) or equivalent to endorse the proposal before submission in iGrants. Please factor additional time and work with your institute's Research Office counterparts to get the necessary endorsement(s).
3. Review Panel and Next-Phase		
19	What is a Review Panel (RP) and why is it conducted?	An RP is a review session held to gauge the grant call success and direction, while also critiquing the funded projects' current and future progress, especially on its potential to succeed and scale post-project.
20	When is the RP held?	The RP will be held on the project's 30th month.
21	Who will be chairing the RP and how do we ensure the process is fair?	The RP's composition will likely consist of a mix of technical experts and Government Agency representatives to ensure that proposals are selected based on merits and alignment with Singapore's decarbonisation interest. More details on the composition and the review process will be shared soon.

22	What preparation is required for the RP?	The requirement is a work-in-progress, but certain documents to be submitted will include: 1) Report (template to be circulated at a later date); and 2) Letter of Interest (LOI) from Industry, if applicable
23	What happens if a project is selected for next-phase scaling?	Results will be out by the project's 31st month and successful project teams will be invited to participate in a directed grant call shortly after. In it, the project team will detail the steps to scale project with industry partners, industry contributions provided and how the team plans to work with their Industry Development Office (IDO) or its equivalent to register and protect their intellectual properties. More details will be shared closer to date.
24	What is the grant call type for the next-phase scaling?	It will be a directed grant call.

4. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)		
25	Are there any other KPIs aside from number of publications in the top 10% of most highly cited journals and number of technology disclosures?	Additional KPIs and tracking indicators (TIs) may be set for specific projects to enable proper tracking of outcomes and deliverables of the projects.
26	CiteScore is not adjusted by field, which means fields that tend to have lower citation numbers will be penalised. Will the top 10% criterion KPI adjust for this?	Publications in the Top Journal Percentiles in SciVal indicates the extent to which an entity's publications are present in the most-cited journals in the data universe, calculated using CiteScore Percentile metric. CiteScore Percentile compares the CiteScore of a serial title to that of others in the same subject field and indicates the relative position of the serial title. CiteScore is not a field-normalised metric, but the CiteScore Percentile is. Hence, it will inherently account for differences in the behaviour of academics between fields.

5. Budget		
27	What is the rate of Overheads (Indirect Costs) to be factored in?	Projects funded shall budget for 30% of Direct Costs as Overheads. Overheads goes to the institution to support for items such as rental, utilities, support staff costs.
28	What is the maximum budget allocated?	The maximum allocated budget is S$1.2 mil and it is inclusive of 30% Overheads.
29	Are overseas/visiting investigators or experts fundable?	No, funding is strictly for Singapore public sector research institute's researcher performers only.
30	Is Research Scholarship budget provided for in this grant call?	No, as budget catered is strictly for usage in conducting research. Allowed budget votes for this grant call includes Expenditure of Manpower (EOM), Equipment

		(EQP), Other Operating Expenses (OOE) and Overseas Travel (OT).
6. iGrants		
31	Where should the proposal be submitted?	It should be submitted on iGrants. You may access iGrants at this link: https://igrants-app.a-star.edu.sg/. We do not accept submissions in other format/methods.
32	What are the requirements before submitting on iGrants?	You have to create an account first. For Singaporeans / Permanent Residents, your Singpass account is required for registration. For foreigners without Singpass, please contact Entity Admins/OGA for assessment on eligibility at A-STAR_OGA@hq.a-star.edu.sg.
33	How do I find out more about iGrants and its application interface?	Please do the following steps: 1) Visit iGrants website: https://igrants-app.a-star.edu.sg/ 2) Under 'Login' tab, click on the 'User Guides' link. 3) Click on file title 'iGrants Grant Application User Guide (External) Ver3.2.doc'.
7. Others		
34	How do I get an ORCID iD?	Your ORCID iD is a unique, open digital identifier that distinguishes one from other researchers with the same or a similar name. Anyone who participates in research, scholarship, or innovation can register for a free ORCID iD, and the same iD can be used throughout one's career -- even if there is a change to the person's name, organisation, discipline, or country. To register for an ORCID iD, please visit https://orcid.org/about/membership/new.