

# Innovation Call on Pollution Monitoring Solutions

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**1. Who is eligible to participate?**

The innovation call is targeted at Singapore-registered companies, institutes of higher learning and research institutes.

**2. What is the timeline for key activities under NEA/SPRING Singapore's Innovation Call for Pollution Monitoring Solutions?**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Launch of Innovation Call for Pollution Monitoring Solutions	4 Oct 2017, Wednesday
Technical Briefing	19 Oct 2017, Thursday
Submission of enquires, if any	Before 5 Jan 2018, Friday
Closing date of call. Submission of softcopy application and all supporting documents	12 Feb 2018 (12 noon), Monday
Submission of signed hardcopy application form <sup>1</sup> and all supporting documents  To: National Environment Agency Industry Development and Promotion Office <b>Attention:</b> Amirul 40 Scotts Road #11-00 Environment Building Singapore 228231	23 Feb 2018 (12 noon), Friday
Evaluation and clarification of proposals	Mar 2018 – May 2018
Award of projects	Jun 2018

**3. Do I qualify for funding under the Innovation Call if my technologies and solutions are already commercially available?**

The purpose of this Call is to invite applicants to develop and test-bed new technologies and solutions that are currently not commercially available in the market. Solutions and technologies which are commercially available will not be admissible for the Call.

For this Call, NEA and SPRING Singapore are looking for technologies/solutions which fall within the range of Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 6 to 9. Please

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<sup>1</sup> Hardcopy application form would not be accepted for applicants who did not submit their softcopy applications by 12 Feb 2018.

refer to Annex A on TRLs, which are commonly used to depict the maturity scale of R&D solutions.

**4. I am based overseas without a presence in Singapore. Do I qualify?**

Overseas companies that are not currently registered in Singapore cannot apply directly. However, they can work with a company, local institute of higher learning or research institute that is Singapore-based, to submit an application as a partner. The development/test-bedding of solutions must also be conducted in Singapore.

**5. What is the definition of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)?**

An SME is defined as an enterprise with an annual sales turnover of not more than S\$100 million or employs not more than 200 workers.

**6. Is there a fixed number of projects being awarded and what is the maximum grant quantum allocated for each successful proposal?**

There is no pre-determined number of projects to be awarded for this Innovation Call. The allocation of grant quantum would be determined based on each project's merits.

**7. What is the funding support level?**

Type of Applicant	Funding Support
Institutes of Higher Learning/Research Institutes	Up to 100% of Qualifying Project Cost
Local <sup>2</sup> Small and Medium Enterprises	Up to 70% of Qualifying Project Cost
Large Local Enterprises	Up to 30% of Qualifying Project Cost
Multi-National Companies	Up to 30% of Qualifying Project Cost

Only institutes of higher learning and research institutes would be considered for funding support on Indirect Costs. The Indirect Costs items include Overheads (up to 20% of approved qualifying costs).

**8. What are the steps required to submit proposals?**

**Step 1:** Visit NEA Innovation Call website <http://www.nea.gov.sg/grants-awards/innovation-call-pollution-monitoringsolutions> for more information on the challenge statements, evaluation criteria, funding mechanism and submission details.

**Step 2:** Submit your proposal using the application form template available on the NEA Innovation Call website, together with all supporting documents to [pollutioncontrol\\_innovation@nea.gov.sg](mailto:pollutioncontrol_innovation@nea.gov.sg) with the following email title:  
**“Application for NEA/SPRING Singapore’s Innovation Call on Pollution Monitoring Solution – [Problem Statement A or B].”**

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<sup>2</sup> Local enterprises are defined as companies registered in Singapore with no less than 30% local shareholding.

Each proposal submitted must clearly state how it addresses the requirements of the problem statement. Applicants should also provide thorough and accurate breakdown of the cost components in their proposals.

The deadline for submission is **12 February 2018 at 12 noon** (Singapore time, GMT+8).

**Step 3:** Submit the signed hardcopy application form with all supporting documents to:

National Environment Agency  
Industry Development and Promotion Office  
Attention: Amirul  
40 Scotts Road  
#11-00 Environment Building  
Singapore 228231

The deadline for submission is **23 February 2018 at 12 noon** (Singapore time, GMT+8).

**9. Can I submit proposals for more than one problem statement?**

Applicants are welcome to submit proposals for multiple problem statements (but not more than 1 proposal for each problem statement). Each proposal must be submitted separately (i.e. the proposal for each problem statement must be submitted in accordance with the application form template with accompanying relevant supporting documents).

**10. What will happen upon successful completion of test-bedding?**

Upon the successful completion of the development/test-bedding of solution, NEA and SPRING Singapore may consider deploying and rolling out the technology for operations.

**11. What will happen to the Intellectual Property (IP) of the new technology/solution developed?**

All IP arising from the Research ("Research IP") shall be the property of the applicant. The Government and public sector agencies shall reserve a non-exclusive, non-transferable, perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free right and licence to use, modify, reproduce and distribute the Research IP for non-commercial, R&D and/or educational purposes only.

**12. Will additional funding be granted when variations arise during the development or test-bedding phase?**

Any additional funding will be subject to NEA's and SPRING Singapore's approval. There must be strong justification from the company or Institute of Higher Learning/Research Institute to seek additional funding.

**13. Will the project scope/outcome change?**

NEA and SPRING Singapore may require proposals to be revised or combined to enhance development outcomes, facilitate integration of approaches and optimise funding resources.

**14. If the project does not yield satisfactory results/outcomes, will funding be disbursed for the expenses incurred?**

Funding will be disbursed based on the completed milestones of the project. Documentation proof on the costs incurred and work completed must be submitted for NEA's and SPRING Singapore's evaluation. NEA and SPRING Singapore reserve the right not to proceed further with the project if the milestones are not met satisfactorily.

**15. Who can I contact should I have further enquiries?**

For further enquiries, please email [pollutioncontrol\\_innovation@nea.gov.sg](mailto:pollutioncontrol_innovation@nea.gov.sg). Please submit your enquiries by **2 February 2018**.

## **Innovation Call on Pollution Monitoring Solutions Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs)**

<b>TRLs</b>	<b>Description</b>
TRL 1	Basic principles observed and reported
TRL 2	Technology concept and/or application formulated
TRL 3	Analytical and experimental critical function and/or characteristic proof of concept
TRL 4	Component and/or breadboard validation in laboratory environment
TRL 5	Component and/or breadboard validation in relevant environment
TRL 6	System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a relevant environment
TRL 7	System prototype demonstration in an operational environment
TRL 8	Actual system completed and qualified through test and demonstration
TRL 9	Actual system proven through successful mission operations