



Announcement

7th Call for Proposals for Joint R&D Projects between German and Singapore Companies

Project applications and national funding applications will be accepted until 8 October 2025

– Evaluation of projects will be done on a rolling basis –

1. Scope

Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) intend to support joint German-Singapore research and development projects (R&D projects) in order to develop innovative products, processes or technical services from all technology and application areas. Funding will be available for R&D projects in which new products, services or processes with a high market potential are developed and subsequently transformed into marketable products.

In Germany, funding is provided through the Central Innovation Programme for SMEs (ZIM). In Singapore funding is provided through EnterpriseSG's Enterprise Development Grant Co-Innovation Programme ("EDG CIP").

EnterpriseSG and AiF Project GmbH, ZIM project management agency on behalf of the BMWK, will assist the project partners with basic information during the submission of project proposals, in the evaluation and in the implementation phase. Results will be announced within approx. 4 to 5 months after the call deadline.

2. Call Structure

The call invites partners to present joint proposals for R&D projects until **8 October 2025** according to the following procedures used by EnterpriseSG and ZIM, specified the EDG CIP (Singapore) and ZIM Guidelines (Germany).

2.1. Financing

Eligible project participants from Germany and Singapore will finance their costs from the funding schemes applicable for this call set by EnterpriseSG and the German funding programme ZIM and complementarily from their own resources. Provision of funding from one funding agency will neither indicate that funding from the other funding agency will be provided, nor bind the other national scheme in its provision of funds to the eligible project participants.

2.2. Minimum requirements

Project results will have to contribute to the development of commercial products, processes and / or technical services, which are based on the international state of the art. The project proposals have to comply with the following guidelines:

- The partners must include at least one Singapore and one German SME, which are independent from each other and provide substantial R&D contributions to the project.
- Research and Technology Organisations (RTO) and other companies are welcome as additional partners or subcontractors according to each country's funding schemes.
- Companies and/or RTOs from other countries may also participate. These partners' participation is neither funded by EnterpriseSG nor ZIM. They have to be included into the Proposal Application Form (please compare chapter "3. Submission").
- The project must focus on the development of new products, technical services or processes which generate solutions with a high market and commercialisation potential.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and differentiated value proposition resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two countries (e.g. increased knowledge base, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- Project duration should in principal not exceed 2 years.
- The project should demonstrate a balanced technological contribution by the participants from both countries and must be equally significant to all participants.
- In a project with two cooperating partners, no partner may contribute more than 70% of total person months to the project.
- In a project with more than two cooperating partners, no partner may contribute more than 50% of total person months.
- All RTOs involved in the consortium may altogether not contribute more than 50% of the total person months.

Any partner whose cooperative R&D project is consistent with the aforesaid criteria may apply to the present announcement in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

3. Submission

Between the opening of the call on 16 April 2025 and the call deadline on **8 October 2025** the project consortium must file one short common proposal in English (Proposal Application Form), legally signed by all organisations participating in the project.

The document has to be submitted electronically to EnterpriseSG (jerrold_chua@enterprisesg.gov.sg) and to ZIM (zim-international@aif-projekt-gmbh.de).

The proposal form and further country specific information is available on EnterpriseSG's [website](#) and www.zim.de/singapur.

In addition to the Proposal Application Form, project partners who want to apply for funding within this call must submit a national application according to the respective national rules (see below).

A Consortium Agreement that regulates the terms of cooperation between all partners (also in English) must be drafted between the German and Singapore stakeholders within the project consortia when applying for the joint project. The existence of such a draft must be confirmed.

The minimum requirements for the Consortium Agreement are:

- Naming of all project partners
- Description of the project aims, scope, role division and differentiation of the subprojects of the partners including their working plans with person months (alternatively the Proposal Application Form can be declared as part of the agreement)
- A clause that provides for all partners to be informed if third parties are involved in the project
- Regulation of intellectual property rights (background and foreground)
- Basic regulation of joint commercialization and apportioning of benefits
- Joint final reporting is to be done according to the regulations set by ZIM and EnterpriseSG
- If research organisations from Germany are involved, a passage has to be included that allows them to publish their own results without duty to obtain consent from the other partners.

The Consortium Agreement shall be consistent with EnterpriseSG's and ZIM's terms and conditions for funding.

3.1 Singapore

Under this programme, Enterprise Singapore will support up to 50% of the Singapore company's total qualifying project costs by default. To be eligible for support, the applicant must fulfil ALL of the following:

- a) Be a business entity that is registered and physically present in Singapore;
- b) $\geq 30\%$ local equity held directly or indirectly by Singaporean(s) / Singapore PR(s), determined by the ultimate individual ownership;
- c) Group annual sales turnover of no more than S\$100 million or employment size of less than 200, and;
- d) Be financially able to see a project through to completion.

Singapore companies are to submit their application documents via the following procedures:

1. Visit the [Business Grants Portal](#) (BGP)
2. Apply for "EDG (Co-Innovation Programme)"
3. Complete the application form and submit accordingly. Please ensure you have selected the correct CIP Programme in your application.

Singapore companies will need to have the following supporting documents ready as part of the application:

- a) Project proposal information (See [attached template](#) for required details)
- b) Latest ACRA business profile (retrieved within six months from application date)
- c) Applicant's latest and previous two years audited financial statements (Company and Group level), or official management account
- d) Relevant key quotations (e.g. equipment and software, materials and consumables, professional services)

Interested Singapore companies who have any enquiries may contact EnterpriseSG through this Prelim Assessment form: <https://go.gov.sg/germany-sgqip>.

3.2 Germany

Each German project partner submits an individual ZIM application to the responsible ZIM project management agency. Every German SME, in accordance with the relevant EU regulations, as well as medium-sized companies with less than 500 employees (full-time equivalents), which carry out R&D for the development of innovative products, processes or technical services, are eligible to apply. Other medium-sized companies with less than 1,000 employees are eligible to apply for funding if they cooperate with at least one German SME (in accordance with EU regulations) whose project is funded. Research and technology organizations are eligible to apply as cooperation partners of eligible companies.

Detailed criteria for submitting applications and the ZIM application form can be found on the ZIM website (www.zim.de); you may also contact AiF Projekt GmbH directly as

described below. The application must be written in German and comply with the regulations of the ZIM guideline.

Current notice:

The federal budget for 2025 has not yet been adopted at the time of publication of this call for proposals. The approval of positively evaluated project applications is therefore subject to the German Bundestag's decision on the 2025 budget.

3.3 Decision

Both Singapore and German partners whose projects have been selected will be informed of the results and the amount of funding for the successful projects by their respective funding agencies 4 to 5 months after project submission.

Call Opens	16 April 2025
Submission Deadline for Proposal	8 October 2025, 23:59 CEST / SGT
Announcement of Approved Projects	4 -5 months after project submission

Contact

The national funding organisations EnterpriseSG in Singapore and AiF Projekt GmbH in Germany will be available to provide all interested parties with all relevant information. All applicants are advised to consult with their respective national funding organization at an early stage.

		
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