

MEDIA RELEASE

Inaugural Artificial Intelligence (AI) Open Innovation Challenge launched to catalyse new AI solutions

*Sustainability OIC returns as more corporates seek solutions to address decarbonisation
and energy needs, new Nordic OIC to support market entry*

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Singapore, Monday, 28 October 2024

1. Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) today launched the inaugural **Artificial Intelligence Open Innovation Challenge (AIOIC)** to catalyse the development of AI-powered solutions that can address industry needs. This was announced by Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat in his opening address at the **Singapore Week of Innovation and Technology (SWITCH) 2024**. Organised by Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) and MP Singapore, SWITCH is the flagship startup event with a focus on deep tech and frontier technologies. It is taking place from 28 to 30 October at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre.
2. Five leading global corporates across the infrastructure, hospitality, security, marine and transport sectors – AECOM, PARKROYAL COLLECTION, Safran, Seatrium and Toyota Tsusho – are participating in the AIOIC. They have issued six challenge statements to source for AI solutions to raise efficiency, effectiveness, and build safety into their operations. Refer to **Annex A** for more details on the AIOIC 2024.
3. According to [Bain & Co](#), the global market for AI is expected to grow between 40% and 55% annually for the next three years and reach a record S\$1.27 trillion in 2027. This is fuelled by companies' increasing adoption of AI technologies to boost efficiency and enable growth. Singapore has also launched its second National AI Strategy (NAIS 2.0) to drive innovation through AI, and equip people and businesses with the capabilities and resources to adopt such technologies.
4. "AI holds immense potential to transform businesses and catapult their growth. But as companies put this at the forefront of their growth strategies, they must be deliberate to identify specific use-cases in order to develop or deploy effective solutions," said **Mr Tan**

Boon Kim, Executive Director, Global Innovation Network & Innovation Ecosystem Development, EnterpriseSG. "Through our inaugural AI Open Innovation Challenge, we can accelerate the development of targeted solutions that truly meet industry needs, while also fostering win-win partnerships between corporates, and startups and innovative SMEs."

Decarbonisation, renewable energies and green buildings top of mind for corporates seeking sustainability solutions

5. The **Sustainability Open Innovation Challenge (SOIC)** by EnterpriseSG returns for its sixth edition to crowdsource innovative solutions that can help companies meet their sustainability ambitions (refer to **Annex B** for more details on the SOIC 2024).
6. More than S\$2.5 million has been committed to the SOIC, including by 14 corporates including ACWA Power, GlobalFoundries, Goodyear Orient Company, Seatrion, Sentosa Development Corporation, and the Singapore Fashion Council in the Demand-led category. They have issued 16 challenge statements to catalyse the development of solutions in areas like Sustainable Materials, Green Buildings and Agri-Food and help meet their sustainability goals.
7. The Open Category sees a closer collaboration with **Temasek Foundation** and **Temasek Trust** this year, where greater opportunities will be available for promising sustainability innovators to scale across the region.
 - a) Selected solution providers will continue to be granted direct entry to Temasek Foundation's **The Liveability Challenge (TLC)**, a global crowdsourcing platform for innovative sustainable solutions, without the need for a separate application. This year, TLC features two themes: '*Decarbonisation*', which focuses on uncovering disruptive deep tech solutions that significantly reduce carbon emissions, and '*Cool Earth*', which centres on finding innovations that address the challenges posed by climate-induced extreme weather conditions, especially heat.
 - b) Temasek Trust will also consider them for **Catalytic Capital for Climate & Health (C3H)**, an impact-first vehicle that provides early-stage funding for solutions in areas such as Novel Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS), Built Environment, Agri-Tech and Med-Tech for climate exacerbated conditions.

- c) For the first time, EnterpriseSG will bring in corporates to participate directly in the Open Category. Eight corporates, including Kuok Maritime Group, Lenovo and Micron Technology are seeking new and novel solutions in areas like leveraging AI for sustainability, climate adaptation, green energies and CCUS, to future-proof their operations.

Nordic Open Innovation Challenge unveiled to help Singapore companies partner with global corporations and expand into new markets

- 8. EnterpriseSG has also launched the first-ever **Nordic Open Innovation Challenge (NOIC)** to help Singapore companies partner with renowned multinational corporations to address challenges in areas like sustainability and advanced manufacturing. Through the NOIC, Singapore firms will have the opportunity to co-innovate and launch pilot projects with global companies **ABB and Electrolux** via their Singapore or Nordic headquarters – and gain access to new markets. Refer to **Annex C** for more details on the NOIC.
- 9. The Nordic region¹ is home to internationally renowned companies, and serves as a gateway to the larger European market. As part of the Nordic Vision 2030, the region aims to be the most sustainable and integrated region in the world and actively promotes international collaboration in key areas like green growth and innovation. The NOIC serves as an effective platform for Singapore and Nordic companies to jointly capture such cross-border opportunities.
- 10. More information on Open Innovation Challenges can be found at www.openinnovationnetwork.gov.sg

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¹ The Nordic region comprises countries including Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, as well as the autonomous territories of the Faroe Islands and Greenland and the autonomous region of Åland.

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About Enterprise Singapore

Enterprise Singapore is the government agency championing enterprise development. We work with committed companies to build capabilities, innovate and internationalise.

We also support the growth of Singapore as a hub for global trading and startups, and build trust in Singapore's products and services through quality and standards.

Visit www.enterprisesg.gov.sg for more information.

About SWITCH

The SWITCH flagship event returns to Singapore at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre from 28 – 30 October 2024. Join an international delegation of innovators, investors, and industry leaders who meet at this annual innovation festival where mutual collaboration and cross-market opportunities take place.

With Singapore being a hub for the Global-Asia innovation community, startups, entrepreneurs, investors, innovation teams, community multipliers, MNCs, and government representatives all meet at SWITCH to create positive change in our respective industries and markets.

Through the power of collaboration that drives this spirit of innovation, the connections made at SWITCH will further technology and innovation development, bring them to market, as well as establish relationships with like-minded colleagues to create a sustainable future through innovation and technology.

Visit www.switchsg.org for more information.

Artificial Intelligence Open Innovation Challenge (2024)**(a) Challenge Statements**

S/N	Demand Drivers	Challenge Statement
1	AECOM	Preserve and enhance biodiversity through AI-driven solutions in urban planning, development, and maintenance
2		Leverage AI-driven solutions to create, measure, and optimize the social value generated by infrastructure projects
3	PARKROYAL COLLECTION	Implement an integrated end-to-end Guest Recognition AI solution at critical guest touch points to improve guest experiences
4	Safran	Discover novel AI-based solutions to automate and improve current sea surveillance process
5	Seatrium	Develop an intelligent AI-powered detection and analytics system to identify key yard performance parameters to track and improve productivity, safety and efficiency
6	Toyota Tsusho	Utilise AI and computer vision technologies to understand human patterns and use these to improve safety and productivity in warehouse operations

Please note that the challenge statements are accurate as of 28 October 2024 and are subject to further changes.

Sustainability Open Innovation Challenge (2024)

S/N	Track	Demand Drivers	Challenge Statement
-	Open Category	Temasek Foundation's The Liveability Challenge (TLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decarbonisation • Cool Earth
		Temasek Trust's Catalytic Capital for Climate & Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) • Built Environment • Agri-Tech • Med-Tech (for climate exacerbated conditions)
		<p>The following corporates are also participating directly in the Open Category as potential pilot partners. They are interested in seeking novel innovations in areas like Decarbonisation and Cool Earth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADNOC Global Trading Asia • Kuok Maritime Group • Lenovo • Marquis Energy Global • Micron Technology • Renault Group • Stellantis Ventures • Wilmar Trading 	
1	Climate	Housing Development Board	Develop innovative solutions to improve indoor thermal comfort within existing HDB flats without significantly increasing energy consumption or relying on air-conditioning
2		Seatrium	Boost clean energy production at shipyards by tackling solar panel dust problems and exploring novel power generation technologies
3			Significantly reduce scope 1 carbon emissions from metal-to-metal welding, through innovative processes or carbon capture solutions
4		Sentosa Development Corporation	Discover novel solutions to mitigate heat and cool down the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect on Sentosa's outdoor environment
5	Agri-Food	AAStar Trading	Develop a precise, automated and scalable pest control solution for palm oil plantations, minimising pesticide waste and labour
6		ADNOC Global Trading Asia	Repurpose unwanted filtered wastewater for greenhouse irrigation, to transform an industrial byproduct into a sustainable asset

7		CNH Industrial	Empower smallholder farmers in APAC with an affordable digital tool that observes and diagnoses soil and crop health for increased yields, bringing precision agriculture within reach
8		Tastech by Sigma	Reimagine last-mile cold chain logistics with cutting-edge, sustainable solutions that significantly reduce carbon footprint while ensuring optimal food safety and quality
9	Green buildings	ACWA Power	Harness cutting-edge AI technologies to optimise energy efficiency at a large-scale desalination plant, while maintaining production excellence
10		GlobalFoundries	Produce significantly more clean or renewable energy from an urban industrial setting in a natural resource poor area, other than from traditional solar PV panels
11		Saint-Gobain	Reduce the environmental impact of paper packaging used for heavy cement-based products
12	Sustainable materials	Global Mind Agriculture	Transform sugarcane bagasse and coconut fibres into cutting-edge bioplastics that revolutionise single-use packaging
13		Goodyear Orient Company	Develop novel solutions and technologies to convert biomass residual waste into base chemicals for tyres
14		Maha Chemicals	Pioneer a next-generation emulsifier that transforms upcycled materials into high-performance ingredients, enhancing sustainability in food and personal care products
15		Saint-Gobain	Replace virgin sand and limestone filler with processed concrete demolition waste (CDW) in pre-mixed building materials
16		Singapore Fashion Council	Reimagine and pioneer sustainable retail packaging, to minimise waste and carbon footprint while maintaining brand allure and visual appeal

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Nordic Open Innovation Challenge (2024)

S/N	Demand Drivers	Challenge Statement
1	ABB	Track the sustainability footprint of its moto and leverage the solution to improve its internal design process for novel motors (with key sustainability considerations)
2	Electrolux	Test and check whether its appliances are able to withstand variance (pulses and surges) in the electricity grid and current
3		Decrease bubble formation that occurs during the door foaming process of our freezers and fridges
4		Deploy non-destructive quality control testing methods to reduce time and human intervention

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