# **Entrepreneurial Ecosystem and University Spinoffs in Singapore**

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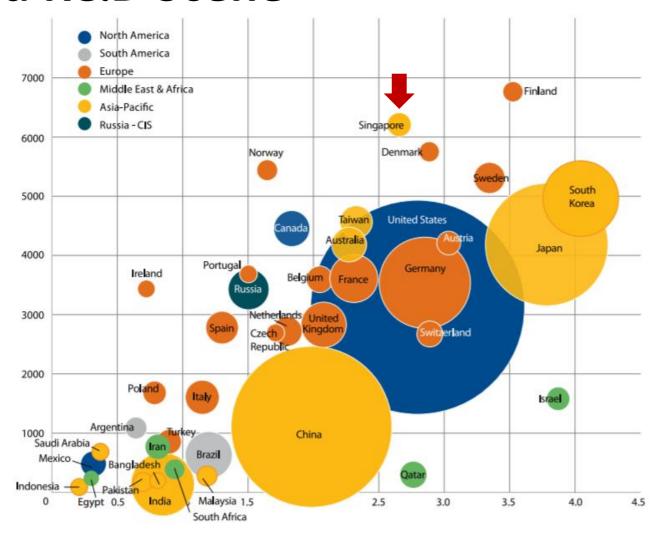


## Index

- Overview on entrepreneurial ecosystem in Singapore
- Current practices within Singaporean universities
  - National University of Singapore
  - Nanyang Technological University
  - Singapore Management University
- Discussion



# World R&D Scene



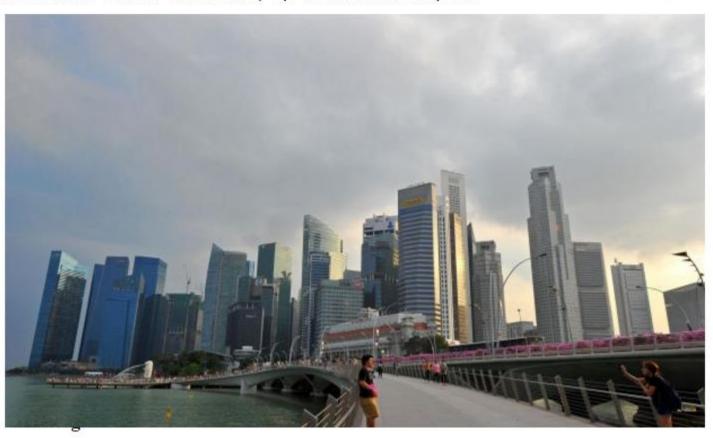
Source: Batelle R&D Magazine, Winter 2016

#### THE BUSINESS TIMES

# Singapore is most innovative economy in Asia

It also ranks 6th in the world, up from 7th last year

AUG 16, 2016 5:50 AM





# **Lead by Singapore Government**

NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION



2008 NFIE S\$350M 2011 Startup Hub "Block 71"

# **Startup Hub: Block 71**



# Startup Hub: Block 71 (and 75, 79..)







# **Lead by Singapore Government**

NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Corporation





2008 NFIE S\$350M 2011 Startup Hub "Block 71"



2014
Zopim exit
with S\$37M

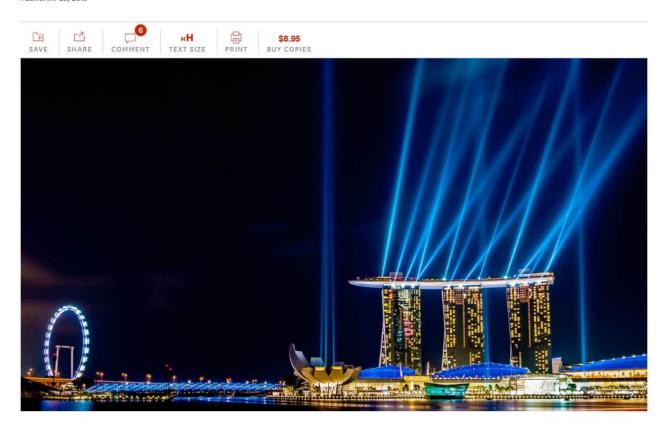
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

# How Singapore Became an Entrepreneurial Hub

Harvard Business Review

by Scott Anthony

FEBRUARY 25, 2015



#### BUSINESS



# Starting up: The rise of the Singaporean entrepreneur



#### **Forbes**

# Three Entrepreneurs Trade The Ivy League For Singapore's Startup Scene



Casey Hynes, CONTRIBUTOR

I write about the intersection of tech and social progress in Asia. FULL BIO ✓

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own.

AUG 18, 2016 @ 12:58 PM



#### Top countries for launching a start-up



Rank		Entrepreneurship (%)							
	Country	Inflow of entrepreneurs	Outflow of entrepreneurs	Equity	Still operating	Main source of income	Recruited employees		
1	UAE	47	21	59	81	35	94		
2	Singapore	53	20	46	75	39	82		
3	Hong Kong	62	35	34	90	37	78		
4	China	22	18	40	86	49	97		
5	Switzerland	34	23	58	79	37	89		
6	Spain	40	37	74	74	36	89		
7	Brazil	31	19	30	86	38	97		
8	Germany	32	33	70	79	39	81		
9	UK	39	36	48	75	41	78		
10	US	14	10	55	75	38	76		

Source: Global MBA & Executive MBA rankings 2016

#### Top entrepreneurs by citizenship



Rank		ř.					
	Citizenship	Started company	Female entrepreneurs	Equity	Still operating	Main source of income	Recruited employees
1	Mexican	34	26	38	84	36	95
2	Spanish	23	8	76	80	51	94
3	South African	39	41	36	74	31	75
4	Hong Konger	32	27	44	79	40	86
5	Russian	29	23	47	81	41	84
6	Chinese	17	9	38	88	49	98
7	French	23	22	62	71	38	84
8	British	30	21	48	70	34	73
9	Singaporean	22	19	40	74	51	88
10	Swiss	18	19	47	82	28	87

Source: Global MBA & Executive MBA rankings 2016

#### Motivation & support Entrepreneurship (%) (out of 10) Main Female Still source of School Aumni Started entre-Rank Country preneurs Equity operating income Motivation support support company Spain 26 18 61 80 38 9.1 6.8 7.3 Switzerland 19 25 53 83 39 9.0 7.4 7.8 3 US 19 12 54 77 37 8.9 7.4 7.8

71

79

85

80

89

71

69

39

42

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50

53

44

49

9.0

8.9

8.6

8.6

8.4

8.7

8.8

6.8

6.1

6.7

6.0

6.7

6.5

6.0

Source: Global MBA & Executive MBA rankings 2016

France

Hong Kong

Singapore

Australia

Germany

China

UK

4

5

9

10

Top countries of study for entrepreneurship

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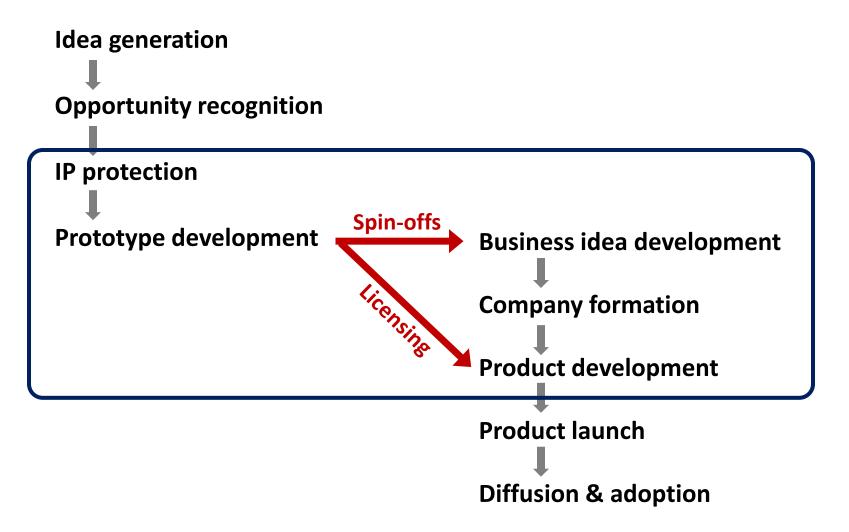
# Singapore Entrepreneurial Ecosystem



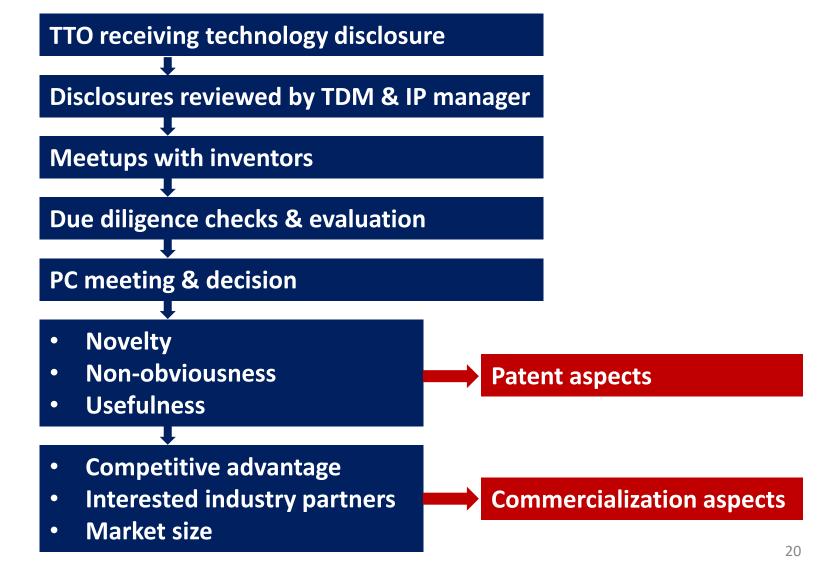
# Singapore Entrepreneurial Ecosystem



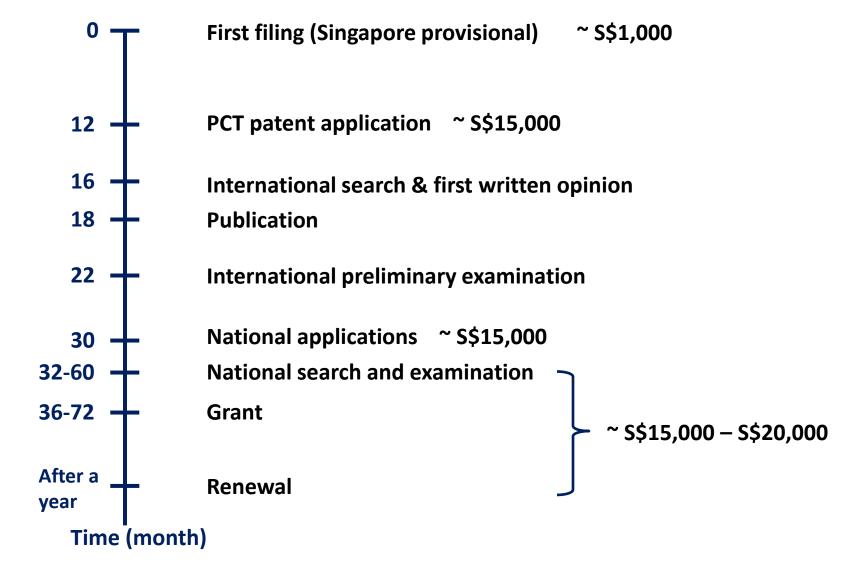
## **Innovation to Commercialization**



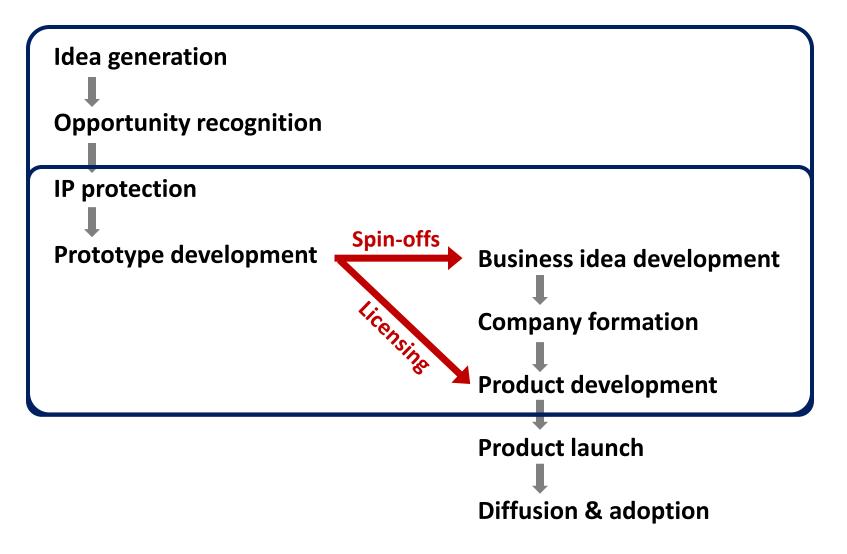
# **IP Filing Process**



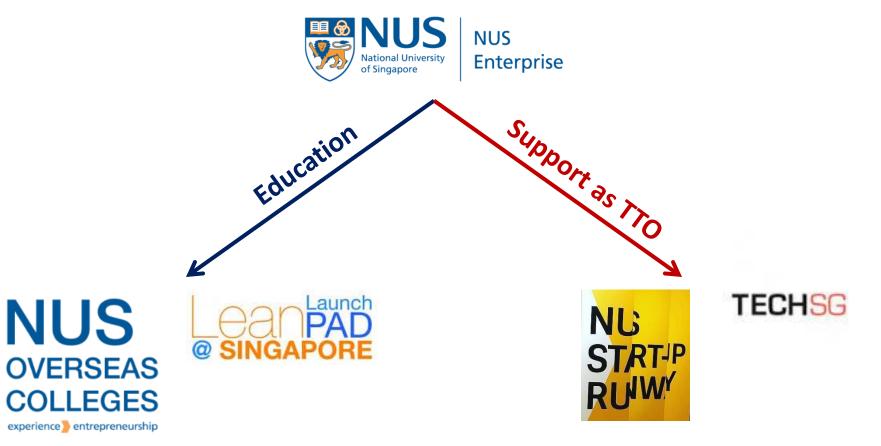
# **IP Filing Process: Timeline & Cost**



# **Innovation to Commercialization**



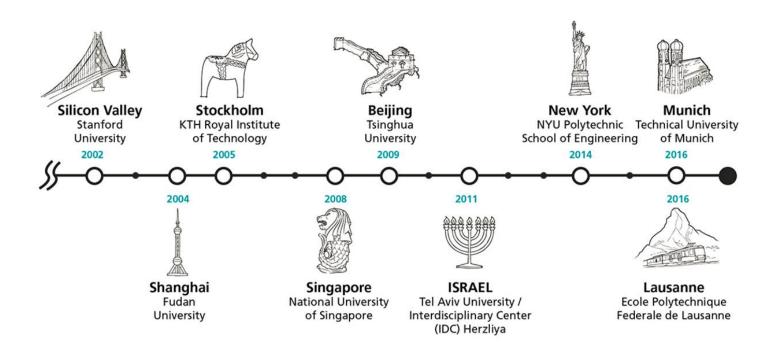
# **National Univ of Singapore**



# **NUS Overseas College**



- 9 entrepreneurial hotspots; 350 students per year
- Half/full-year program working at startups and studying at partner universities



### Lean LaunchPad



- 1st entrepreneurial program for researchers (June 2013)
- Modeled on the U.S. NSF I-Corps program



# **NUS Startup Runway**





- Helping pre-incubation phase: market validation, user testing, gathering customer feedback, market-product fit
- Startup Validation Program, legal consultation, accounting consultation, hotdesking, and co-working space

# **Tech SG**













## **InnovFest Unbound**





# **Financial Support**



#### NUS Alumni Startup Catalyst

- Pre-seed funding up to \$\$10,000
- Validation package: 6-mo coworking space, mentorship, and legal consultation



# **Corporate Partnerships**







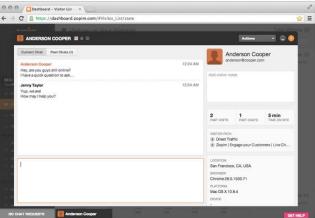
### **Current Scores**

Total no of startups incorporated through NOC: 200

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- Total no of startups incorporated through NOC: 200
- NUS Startup Hall of Fame: Zopim by zendesk
  - Founded in 2008 by 4 NUS undergraduates on NOC at Stanford
  - Acquired by Zendesk in 2014 for S\$37M





# Nanyang Technological Univ

















# Nanyang Technopreneurship Center

#### Degree Program (for students)



- Undergraduate program
  - Minor in entrepreneurship
  - Courses: Bioentrepreneurship, E-startups & social medial strategies, and Intro to entrepreneurship
- Graduate program
  - MS in Technopreneurship & Innovation
- Development Program (open to public)



### **NTUitive**



#### Overseas Entrepreneurship Program

- 1-year internship at startups and studying at partner universities
- London, Beijing, and Shanghai



#### Innovation Centre

- Open Innovation Lab for quick-and-dirty prototyping
- Monthly workshop and meet-ups



### **NTUitive**



#### Tech Development & IP Management (TTO)

- Grant facilitation: NRF POC, MOE TIF, NMRC B&B
- IP management: disclosures and evaluation
- Licensing or collaborating with industry partners

#### Incubation Support

- Incubation manager and mentors
- Coworking space @Blk 71
- Legal support

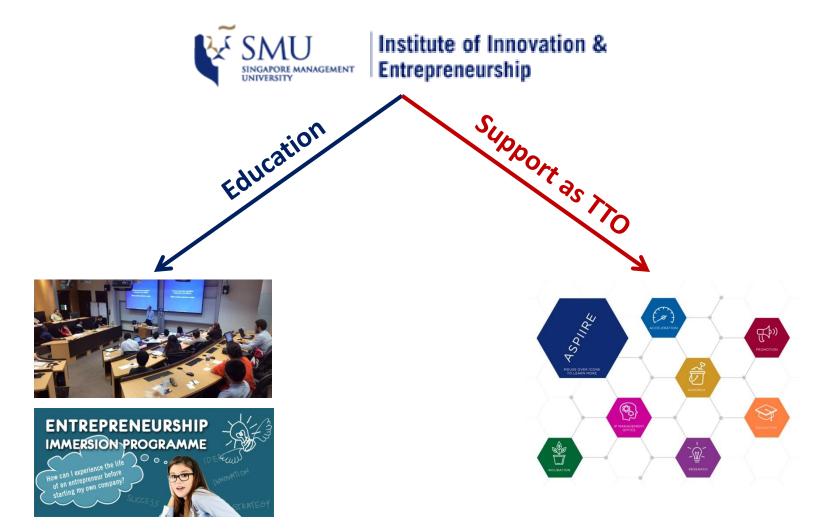
### **Financial Support**

- No monetary support for student startups except ad-hoc business plan competition
- NTUitive Gap Fund for faculty members up to S\$250K
- ideasinc by NTC
  - Cash awards up to S\$10K
  - Grant access to ACE, S\$50K
  - Equity funding by VCs up to \$\$300K

#### **Current Score**

- Total no. of startups incorporated since 2011: 163
- No. of startups incorporated in 2015: 48

### Singapore Mgt Univ



### **Entrepreneurial Education**

- Undergraduate Degree Program (Aug. 2016)
  - Innovation
  - Design thinking
  - Social entrepreneurship
  - Technological entrepreneurship

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#### Educational Program

- Full day workshops for founders or entrepreneurs
- Startup 101
- Entrepreneurship Immersion Program
- Study Mission: Technopreneurship (School of Info Systems), Business (School of Business)

### **Incubation Service**

#### Sandbox



- Pre-intake and intake process of incubation program
- Training founders in the knowledge of pitch and proposal development

#### Business Innovations Generator (BIG)



- 1-year incubation program for students and alumni
- Business model validation, innovation development, go-tomarket strategy, and business plan and financial modeling stages

# INNOVATIVE IDEAS TAKE FLIGHT AT INAUGURAL P.A.K. ENTREPRENEURS' CHALLENGE

22 Jun 2016



#### **Current Scores**

- Total no of startups incorporated through IIE since 2009: 145
- Total amount of seed investments raised: \$\$12.8M

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SMU Startup Hall of Fame: DingGo





### **Entrepreneurship Education & Spinoffs**



## How do they do it?

- By starting with identifying a problem
  - NRF's initiative, "National Framework for Innovation and Enterprise" since 2008

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- By mobilizing resources "Nurturing 'grantpreneurs'?"



- By creating a strong nation-wide ecosystem
  - Hospitable environment for startups "Nurturing 'expatpreneurs'?"
  - Consistent government supports
  - Use of soft power to address hidden barriers to entrepreneurship



Economy	Ease of Doing Business Rank ▲	Starting a Business	Dealing with Construction Permits	Getting Electricity	Registering Property	Getting Credit	Protecting Minority Investors	Paying Taxes	Trading Across Borders	Enforcing Contracts	Resolving Insolvency
Singapore	1	10	1	6	17	19	1	5	41	1	27
New Zealand	2	1	3	31	1	1	1	22	55	15	31
Denmark	3	29	5	12	9	28	20	12	1	37	9
Korea, Rep.	4	23	28	1	40	42	8	29	31	2	4
Hong Kong SAR, China	5	4	7	9	59	19	1	4	47	22	26
United Kingdom	6	17	23	15	45	19	4	15	38	33	13
United States	7	49	33	44	34	2	35	53	34	21	5
Sweden	8	16	19	7	11	70	14	37	17	24	19
Norway	9	24	26	18	13	70	14	14	45	8	6
Finland	10	33	27	16	20	42	66	17	32	30	1

### How do universities do it?

- By NOT providing financial supports directly
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- By creating strong ties to domestic entrepreneurial ecosystem
  - Focusing on consultation service on government fundings
  - Designated coworking space and offices at Block 71

### How do universities do it?

- By NOT providing financial supports directly
  - Universities lacking expertise in picking out good ideas
- By creating strong ties to domestic entrepreneurial ecosystem
  - Focusing on consultation service on government fundings
  - Designated coworking space and offices at Block 71
- By creating weak ties to international entrepreneurial ecosystems
  - Launching exchange internship/student program with partner startup hubs and universities

### Can we do it?

# Q&A



## **Extra Slides**



## **Startup Hub**

#### **COMPASS**

Ranking		Performance	Funding	Market Reach	Talent	Startup Exp.	Growth Index	
Silicon Valley	1	4	1	1	4	1	1	2.1
New York City	2	<b>^</b> 3	2	2	1	9	4	1.8
Los Angeles	3	4	4	4	2	10	5	1.8
Boston	4	<b>^</b> 2	3	3	7	12	7	2.7
Tel Aviv	5	<b>▼</b> 3	6	5	13	3	6	2.9
London	6	<b>-</b> 1	5	10	3	7	13	3.3
Chicago	7	<b>^</b> 3	8	12	5	11	14	2.8
Seattle	8	<b>▼</b> 4	12	11	12	4	3	2.1
Berlin	9	<b>^</b> 6	7	8	19	8	8	10
Singapore	10	<b>~</b> 7	11	9	9	20	9	1.9
Paris	11	4	13	13	6	16	15	1.3
Sao Paulo	12	<b>-</b> 1	9	7	11	19	19	3.5
Moscow	13	<b>-</b> 1	17	15	8	2	20	1.0
Austin	14	NEW	16	14	18	5	2	1.9
Bangalore	15	<b>4</b>	10	6	20	17	12	4.9

## Singapore Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

#### **NRF Approved Incubators**

- Clearbridge Accelerator
- I2G Tech Accelerator
- Neoteny Labs
- Plug & Play
- Social Singshot
- Small World Group
- Stream Global
- Get2Volume
- Golden Gate Venture
- Incuvest
- Jungle Ventures
- Red Dot Ventures
- The Biofactory
- The Network Fund
- WaveMaker Labs

#### **SEED Investors**

- BioVeda Capital
- Nanostar Asia
- Raffles Venture Partners
- Tamarix Ccapital
- Upstream-Expara
- Walden International

Funding Scheme	Amount (K)	Duration (yr)	Eligibility	Remarks
NRF POC	250	1	All staff, researchers, & students of IHLs	<ul> <li>2 calls per year</li> <li>Development of fully functioning prototype</li> <li>Validity for commercialization</li> <li>Industry participation</li> </ul>
NRF TIF	500	2	All full time polytechnic & IHL researchers	<ul> <li>Development of commercial products using IP from IHLs &amp; RIs</li> <li>2 calls per year</li> <li>Proposals to polytechnics, evaluate technical feasibility &amp; novelty, then TRD panel, and selected products going translational work</li> </ul>

Funding Scheme	Amount (K)	Duration (yr)	Eligibility	Remarks
SMART Innovation Grant	250	2	SMART, MIT, NUS, NTU, faculty & researchers	<ul> <li>De-risk technology &amp; develop go-to-market strategy</li> <li>Early projects: ignition grant of up to \$\$50K</li> <li>POC in 18 months</li> <li>Medical device, biotech, environment, transportation, energy, IT, and nanotech</li> </ul>
SMART Explorer Grant	50		Full-time under/gradu ate students at MIT, NUS, NTU, SIM, SMU, SUTD, and polytechnics	<ul> <li>Development &amp; commercialization of innovative work originated by students</li> <li>Development of commercial prototypes, go-to-market strategies, &amp; de-risking project</li> <li>Electronic games, web applications</li> </ul>

Funding Scheme	Amount (K)	Duration (yr)	Eligibility	Remarks
SPRING POC	250	1	Conceptualization stage	<ul> <li>Scientific/technical ideas</li> <li>Ability to successfully finish project</li> <li>Commercial viability &amp; economic impact</li> <li>Scope: ICD, electronics, photonics, biomedical, chemical, advanced materials, micro/nano tech</li> <li>Stage 1: eligibility screening</li> <li>Stage 2: focus on technical &amp; commercial aspects</li> <li>Stage 3: presentation to panel</li> </ul>
SPRING POV	500	2	R&D on a technology project	<ul> <li>Scope same as SMART POC</li> <li>No RSE working in public sector</li> <li>Stage 1: eligibility screening</li> <li>Stage 2: evaluation</li> </ul>

Funding Scheme	Amount (K)	Duration (yr)	Eligibility	Remarks
SPRING YES! (Young Ent'ers Scheme for Startups)	50		<ul> <li>Singaporean/PR &lt; 26 yrs</li> <li>First-time ent'er</li> <li>Incorporated &amp; in Singapore &lt; 6 months</li> <li>Applicant holding min. 50% equity</li> <li>Not received funding from iJAM</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Youths to set up their innovative startups</li> <li>Criteria: innovativeness, feasibility, market opportunity, management team, etc</li> </ul>
IDM iJAM (Jumpstart & Mentor)	50		<ul> <li>Individuals or companies</li> <li>Registered legal entity &amp; incorporated in Singapore</li> <li>Min. 1 full-time local founder with min. 20% of project stake</li> <li>Not received YES!</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Projects must be rooted in innovative R&amp;D and technology</li> <li>Must exhibit IDM R&amp;D in either technology, creativity, social or business model</li> </ul>

### **Entrepreneurship Education & Spinoffs**

#### Interconnectedness













Internally Focused



**Structured** 

Laissez-faire

**Ecosystem Architecture**