

**Enhancements to Local Enterprise and Association Development (LEAD)**

**Programme**

**本地企业与协会发展计划**

**What is it?**

The Local Enterprise and Association Development (LEAD) programme supports efforts by Trade Associations and Chambers (TACs) to drive industry initiatives, focusing on areas like technology and infrastructure, business collaborations, as well as intelligence and research. The programme was launched by SPRING Singapore and IE Singapore in 2005.

2 In Budget 2016, LEAD+ was introduced to support TACs' internal upgrading needs to build up their capabilities in driving industry transformation. These include strengthening of their leadership and secretariat teams, improving processes and creating new services that bring about higher value.

3 LEAD was further expanded in 2017 to help more TACs embark on industry upgrading projects to benefit more SMEs. In addition, the maximum level of support was increased from 70% to 90% to encourage high impact projects through collaboration amongst multiple TACs. To support this, the budget allocated for LEAD for 2016-2020 was increased to \$100 million.

4 With the merger of SPRING and IE to form Enterprise Singapore in Apr 2018, LEAD will be enhanced to enable more coordinated and comprehensive efforts for projects led by TACs.

**How does it work?**

5 Grant programmes administered by different agencies for TAC initiatives will be combined into a single LEAD programme, to simplify access by TACs to funding support to drive comprehensive industry upgrading and internationalisation initiatives. These are:

- SPRING and IE's LEAD
- SPRING's LEAD+
- SPRING's TAC-Collaborative Industry Projects (TAC-CIP), and
- Singapore Tourism Board (STB)'s Association Development Fund (ADF)

6 This means that high impact, multi TAC-led projects which significantly uplift the tourism industry can be supported at up to 90%, compared to up to 70% today under the ADF.

7 In addition, Enterprise Singapore will work with the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) to fund and support TAC-led projects through LEAD, under URA's Pilot Business Improvement Districts (BID) programme. With Enterprise Singapore's LEAD

support, TACs will be able to spearhead holistic BID upgrading projects that combine place management with capability development of their member enterprises, without having to apply for multiple grants.

8 The LEAD programme will be overseen by Enterprise Singapore in partnership with agencies such as STB. This will enable consistent support for TACS across agencies that administer LEAD.

9 The combined LEAD programme budget for 2016-2020 will be about \$115 million. LEAD's scope will be expanded to support a wider range of TAC-led projects beyond those that SPRING and IE cover today. Enhanced LEAD programme parameters are as follows:

Applicant Eligibility	Open to all TACs or similar groupings
Supportable Scope	<p><b>Developmental areas include (but are not limited to):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of scalable solutions</li> <li>• Industry certification and standards adoption</li> <li>• Shared Infrastructure and services</li> <li>• Business collaboration, branding and development (e.g. market/channel development)</li> <li>• Sector know-how and competency building</li> <li>• TAC internal capability upgrading (i.e. leadership, management, processes, and services, as well as secondment of public officers)</li> <li>• Place management (only applicable to Pilot BIDs)</li> </ul>
Funding Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 70% of the qualifying costs (Up to 90% for high-impact, multi-TACs transformational projects)</li> <li>• For Pilot BIDs only: Dollar-for-dollar matching for collected membership fees, up to a cap of \$500,000 per year for 4 years</li> </ul>

**When will it be implemented?**

The above enhancements will take effect from April 2018.

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