Grant Call for
GIC Impact Programme

Application guide for interested applicants to submit their Expression of Interest by 31 Dec 2024.

Updated 22 November 2024

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GIC

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Overview

1a. GIC's Purpose

GIC's mandate

GIC is a leading global investment firm established in 1981 to secure Singapore's financial future.

As the manager of Singapore's foreign reserves, GIC takes a long-term, disciplined approach to investing and is uniquely positioned across a wide range of asset classes and active strategies globally.

These include equities, fixed income, real estate, private equity, venture capital, and infrastructure. Its long-term approach, multi-asset capabilities, and global connectivity enable it to be an investor of choice. GIC seeks to add meaningful value to its investments.

Headquartered in Singapore, GIC has a global talent force of over 2,300 people in 11 key financial cities and has investments in over 40 countries.

1a. GIC's Purpose

GIC's social mission

We recognise that a thriving global environment is necessary for us to deliver on our mandate.

That is why our employees at GIC are empowered to contribute meaningfully to build resilient and liveable communities in the countries where we operate.

We also collaborate with like-minded community partners to deliver impact where it matters.

Our impact areas include supporting the **vulnerable and underserved communities** by:

- **tackling the impact of climate change through sustainability initiatives**,

- **advancing health and well-being** and

- **championing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI)**.

These efforts seek to amplify our impact in these communities and instil a deeper sense of purpose in GICians.

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1b. GIC's Impact Programmes

What is an impact programme?

GIC's Impact Programmes are long-term initiatives co-designed with community partners to create lasting impact where it matters most.

These programmes are characterised by:

- **Collaborative Design**: GIC works hand-in-hand with community partners to ensure that the initiatives are tailored to meet the specific needs and challenges of the communities.

- **Measurable, Long-Term Impact**: Programmes are to deliver outcomes that are not only significant but also sustainable over the long term.

- **Employee Engagement**: The programme design incorporates the involvement of GIC employees, enabling them to meaningfully contribute their time and skills, with the aim of fostering a culture of volunteerism

1c. Strategic Outcomes for GIC's Impact Programmes

This strategic impact outcomes framework was developed based on research on global issues, to provide a common approach to track impact across GIC's Impact Programmes.

Climate-Resilient Communities

- Increased awareness of and access to equitable and inclusive climate solutions

- Empowered individuals and communities driving collective climate action

Equitable and Inclusive Communities

- More inclusive communities that enable all to work, live and contribute

- Enhanced support and resources to gain equitable access to social and economic opportunities

- Increased civic participation across diverse community groups

Good Health & Well-being in the Community

- More equitable and inclusive quality health and mental health services

- Empowered individuals who can make better healthcare and lifestyle choices

- Increased social connectedness to enable better outcomes

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1d. How to use this guide

This guide is designed to provide you with a clear roadmap for responding to GIC's Impact Programme grant call.

- Begin by reviewing the eligibility criteria to ensure your project aligns with GIC's strategic outcomes.

- Follow the process and instructions to complete the two-step process for the application, paying close attention to the required documentation and deadlines.

- Utilise the guidelines provided to enhance the quality of your submission.

Should you have any questions or need further assistance, refer to the contact information and resources listed at the end of this guide.

By adhering to this guide, you will streamline your application process with the GIC Impact & Partnerships team under the Corporate Affairs and Communications department.
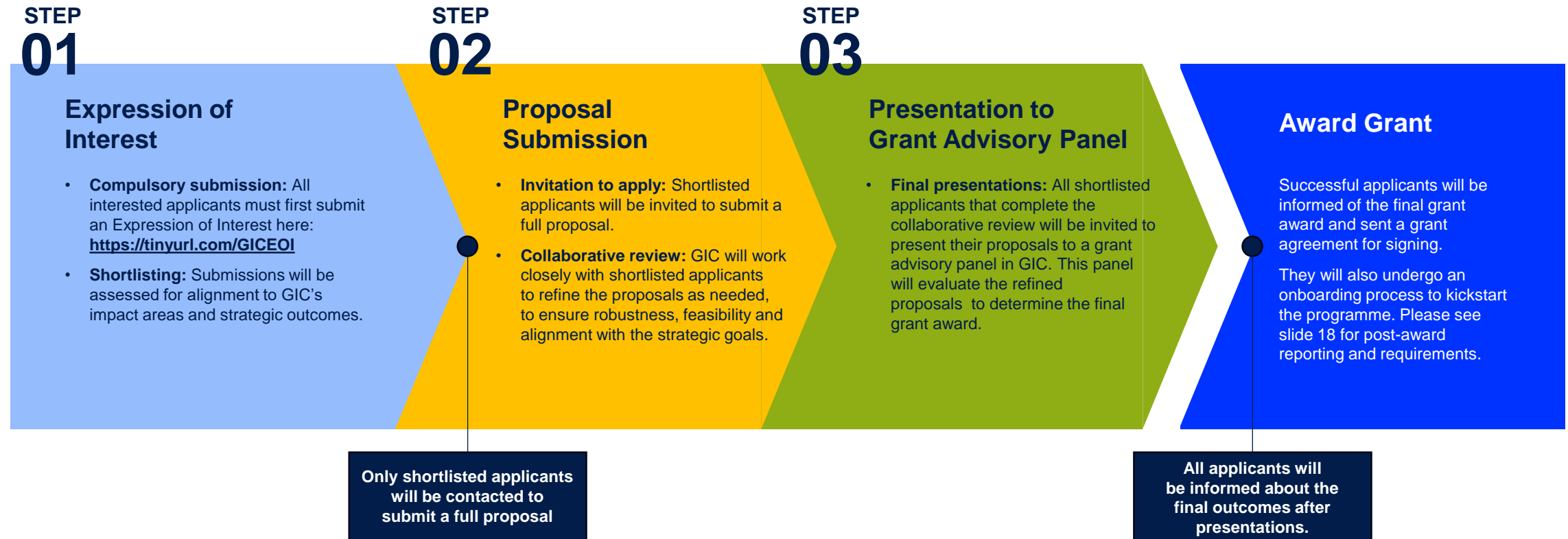
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Grant Call for Impact Programmes

2a. Grant application process

We have established a three-step process to ensure that we find partners that align with our social mission and can deliver meaningful and sustainable impact.

STEP 01

Expression of Interest

- **Compulsory submission:** All interested applicants must first submit an Expression of Interest here: **https://tinyurl.com/GICEOI**
- **Shortlisting:** Submissions will be assessed for alignment to GIC's impact areas and strategic outcomes.

STEP 02

Proposal Submission

- **Invitation to apply:** Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal.
- **Collaborative review:** GIC will work closely with shortlisted applicants to refine the proposals as needed, to ensure robustness, feasibility and alignment with the strategic goals.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted to submit a full proposal

STEP 03

Presentation to Grant Advisory Panel

- **Final presentations:** All shortlisted applicants that complete the collaborative review will be invited to present their proposals to a grant advisory panel in GIC. This panel will evaluate the refined proposals to determine the final grant award.

Award Grant

Successful applicants will be informed of the final grant award and sent a grant agreement for signing.

They will also undergo an onboarding process to kickstart the programme. Please see slide 18 for post-award reporting and requirements.

All applicants will be informed about the final outcomes after presentations.

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2b. Eligibility criteria

Before submitting an Expression of Interest, please ensure that your organisation and programme meet the following eligibility criteria.

Grantee criteria

1. **Registered charity in Singapore**: Applicant must be an organisation that is registered as a charity in Singapore.

Programme criteria

1. **Alignment with GIC's Impact Areas:** The programme must fall under one of GIC's impact areas (refer to slide 5)

2. **Contribution to Strategic Outcomes:** The programme must contribute to at least one of GIC's strategic impact outcomes (refer to slide 7)

3. **Volunteer involvement:** There must be opportunities for GIC volunteers to be meaningfully involved in the programme.

4. **Implementation in Singapore:** The programme must be implemented in Singapore.

5. **Programme duration:** While we are looking for programmes that can deliver long-term impact, the initial grant term is up to 3 years. This term is subject to review and potential extension based on the successful execution and demonstrated impact of the programme after receiving the grant.

Only submissions that meet the above eligibility criteria should proceed to <u>submit an Expression of Interest</u> (Step 1).

2c. Assessment criteria for Impact Programmes

1. Alignment & Significance

- **Alignment with GIC's impact areas and strategic impact outcomes**

  The programme must align with one or more of GIC's impact areas and contribute to our strategic impact outcomes.

- **Magnitude of impact**

  We assess the potential change against a baseline, the number of people affected relative to the size of the target population, and the degree of transformative impact on the target group(s). This includes evaluating the significance of the impact in terms of scope and depth.

2. Outcomes and Impact Measurement Plan

- **Use of metrics**

  The programme must include a robust plan for measuring outcomes and impact. This involves a clear definition of metrices to be used, regularity of tracking these metrics, and how they will be used to drive accountability and continuous improvement.

- **Impact assessment & learning**

  The ability to demonstrate how the metrices will be used to assess the programme's impact over time, ensuring that the programme remains aligned with its goals and objectives.

  The ability to also iteratively share insights and learnings transparently with GIC and the ecosystem to collectively advance and improve the sector and ecosystem.

3. Feasibility and Sustainability

- **Evidence review**

  A thorough review of existing evidence supporting the programme's approach and expected outcomes.

- **Workplan and Risk Assessment**

  A detailed workplan outlining the steps to be taken, along with a risk assessment and mitigation plan to address potential challenges.

- **Long-term impact potential**

  The potential for the programme to drive long-term impact for the target population.

- **Financial viability**

  The programme costs are justified and efficient in relation to expected outcomes and impact.
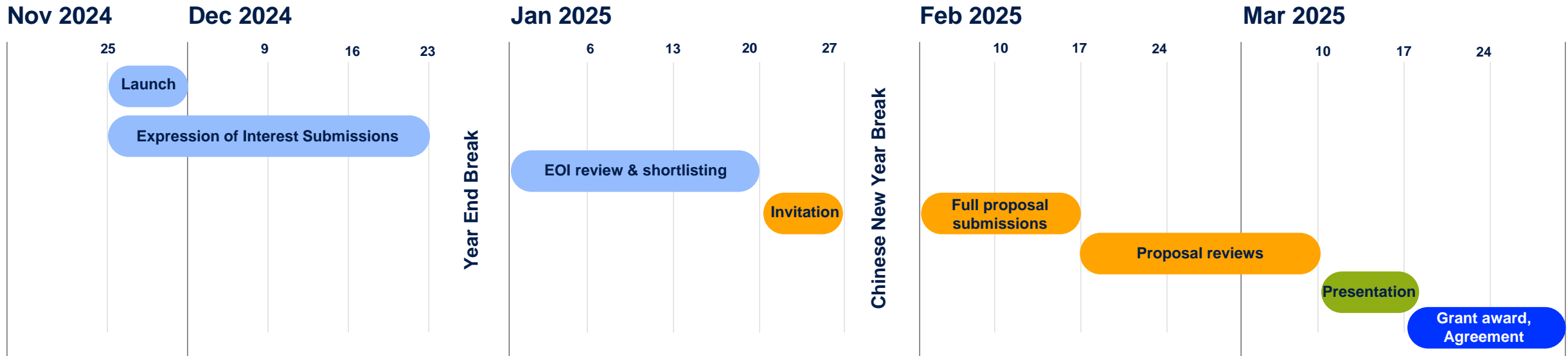
4. Scalability

- **Future impact potential**

  The potential for the programme to expand its impact within or beyond the initial target group. This includes the both the ability to scale up and reach a larger population, as well as the capacity to go deeper within the community they serve, enhancing the quality and depth of impact.

2d. Grant Call Timeline

Key Milestones and Durations

Nov 2024 **Dec 2024** 25 9 16 23

Launch

Expression of Interest Submissions

Year End Break

Jan 2025 6 13 20 27

EOI review & shortlisting

Invitation

Chinese New Year Break

Feb 2025 10 17 24

Full proposal submissions

Proposal reviews

Mar 2025 10 17 24

Presentation

Grant award, Agreement

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1. **Launch:** Official announcement of grant call and application guide.

2. **Expression of Interest (EOI) submission period:** Interested charities prepare and submit their initial Expressions of Interest to apply for the grant via the official portal.

3. **EOI review and shortlisting**: GIC will review all EOIs and shortlist applications that meet the eligibility criteria and demonstrate potential based on assessment criteria (refer to slide 12).

4. **Invitation to submit proposals:** Shortlisted applicants are informed and invited to submit detailed full proposals.

5. **Full proposals submission period:** Shortlisted applicants prepare and submit their full proposals, based on the guidelines shared in the invitation.

6. **Proposal reviews:** GIC will review all proposals closely with all shortlisted applicants, to refine their proposals as needed.

7. **Presentation to Grant Advisory Panel:** Shortlisted applicants present their final proposals to GIC's Grant Advisory Panel.

8. **Grant Award, Agreement signing:** Successful applicants are notified of their grant awards and complete their grant agreements.

2e. Post-Award Reporting and Requirements

Successful grantees will enter into a partnership with GIC that extends beyond the grant award.

To ensure transparency, accountability and the successful execution of programmes, we have established post-award requirements that are designed to support grantees in achieving their goals and maximising their long-term impact.

1. **Grant Agreement:** All successful grantees will be required to sign a formal grant agreement which will outline the terms and conditions of the grant, including funding amounts, timelines, and reporting obligations. Grant agreements will be provided to grantees via email and should be signed electronically.

2. **Theory of Change:** Grantees will be required to draw up their programme's own Theory of Change. This document should outline the programme's goals, the steps needed to achieve those goals, and the expected outcomes. It serves as a roadmap for the programme and establishes alignment with GIC's Impact Programme outcomes, while providing a foundation for tracking progress and impact.

3. **Programme Execution and Follow-Up Meetings:** Grantees will initiate regular meetings with the GIC team to follow up on the execution of their programmes. These meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss progress, address challenges, and ensure alignment with the programme's objectives.

4. **Employee Volunteering and Engagement:** Grantees are expected to proactively follow up on employee volunteering and engagement opportunities with the GIC team. This includes coordinating volunteer activities and ensuring meaningful involvement of GIC employees in the programme.

5. **Regular Reporting of Outcomes and Impact:** Grantees must report their outcomes and impact regularly. The reporting cadence will be set after discussions between the grantee and the GIC team, ensuring it aligns with the programme's timeline and objectives.

   Reports should include:

   o Progress against defined metrics
   o Challenges encountered and how they were addressed
   o Success stories and key achievements
   o Financial updates and budget utilisation

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Appendix

Application forms

Round 1: Expression of Interest

Fixed Field

- Name, Email, Org Name, Contact number

- Website (if any)

- Are you a registered charity in Singapore >> Yes/No

- Team size (no. of full-time equivalents) dedicated to the programme / submitted for this grant

- I am seeking funding to:
  - Launch a new/pilot project
  - Continue, expand or adapt an existing programme or initiative

- What is the duration of funding you are seeking? >> 1 / 2 / 3 years

- What is the range of funding you are applying for?
  - Less than S$50k
  - S$50k – S$100k
  - S$100k – S$200k
  - More than S$200k

Open Ended (100 words or less for each question)

GIC's Impact Programmes focus on supporting outcomes in three key impact areas: sustainability, health & well-being and DEI. Across these areas, we will prioritise proposals that address the needs of the vulnerable and underserved communities.

1. Which of the impact outcome(s) does your programme contribute to? Select all that apply. (based on outcomes listed on slide 7).

2. Describe the problem your proposal addresses, including how it relates to one or more impact areas, as well as the target population.

3. Describe your proposed solution and implementation plan, including the scope of the overall programme.

4. Describe the potential impact of the programme for the target population (and beyond, if applicable).

5. How does the involvement of GIC volunteers contribute meaningfully to your programme?

6. Any other comments / remarks / questions?

Application forms

Round 2: Submission of Grant Proposal (for shortlisted applicants only)

Sections to include in the grant proposal

1. **Executive summary** – Summary of proposal information requested in the sections below

2. **Rationale and context** - Provide an outline of the issues you are aiming to address by providing detailed responses to the following questions:
   a) What is the main issue or problem you hope to address with your project?
   b) What is the project's relevance to your organisation's mission and how does it fit within your organisation's suite of programmes for the target audience you serve?
   c) What other major related work is being conducted in this field, and how does your work differ from, contribute to, or complement that work.
   d) If collaborating with other institutions, provide their names and describe their roles and responsibilities in the project.

3. **Project vision, impact, activities –** Please describe how you aim to address the issue described above by providing detailed responses to the following questions, including supporting data/other evidence where available:

   a) Describe the proposed solution in detail, including, the overall impact or result this grant, if successful, will deliver (i.e. on people, markets, systems) and how it aligns to GICs impact areas.

   b) Provide details of the intended beneficiaries, including the specific changes you aim to achieve for them and explain how your proposed solution will lead to these changes. Explain how the solution targets or otherwise addresses the needs of the vulnerable or underserved,. If available, provide a theory of change for the programme/organisation as an Appendix

   c) Describe proposed project activities, including the status of the work and accomplishments to date, if applicable. Articulate how your activities include GIC volunteers. If your project does not currently include GIC volunteers, include a plan for how these volunteers will be identified and managed in relation to the project.

   d) List the specific project deliverables, by deliverable date. If applicable, provide a detailed work plan as an Appendix.

   e) What (if any) significant challenges exist in your capacity to achieve your intended outcomes?

Application forms

Round 2: Submission of Grant Proposal (for shortlisted applicants only)

Sections to include in the grant proposal

4. **Impact measurement and learning** – Please describe how you plan to measure and learn about your progress towards the desired impact, including successes and challenges along the way.

   Please also include an impact measurement plan, if possible, that includes the following information:

   i. Subset of 3-5 key data points (i.e. qualitative or quantitative indicators) that you plan to use to track progress towards programme milestones and outcomes.

   ii. How will they be shared with GIC, and with what frequency?

   iii. What is your charity's capacity to carry out this measurement and evaluation plan (i.e. staffing, data management or measurement systems and approaches)

   If there is no plan for this, please note in your grant proposal, along with a brief description of how you intend to formulate such a plan if awarded.

5. **Risk management** – Please share how you plan to sustain this programme:

   i. in anticipation of the challenges articulated in section 3?

   ii. if you are planning to run a longer-term project (>3years) after funding from GIC ends?

6. **Project budget** – Please include a separate project budget in Excel, if possible, with a description of each major category in the budget.

7. **Appendices** – Please include the following information in the appendices:

   i. A profile for key project personnel and a description of their roles in their project, including their relevant experience and expertise.

   ii. A project workplan and/or timeline, if applicable.

   iii. A list of past projects or achievements that illustrate your organisations' ability to successfully carry out this grant, if awarded.

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FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

a. Application / Expression of Interest

1. When is the closing date for application?	Charities interested to participate in the grant call should submit an Expression of Interest by 31 December 2024, 2359h SGT.
2. How will I know that my submission has been received?	Successful submissions will receive an auto-generated acknowledgement of receipt of your Expression of Interest via email.
3. Can I submit my Expression of Interest via email?	No, all applications need to be submitted through the online form. Submissions via email or other means will not be accepted.
4. Will I be able to submit multiple entries for different initiatives?	No, we will only accept one application per charity. If multiple applications are submitted under the same charity, only the latest application received before the closing date will be considered.
5. When will I know if I am shortlisted to submit a full grant proposal?	All applicants will be notified of their application outcome by 20 January 2025. Actual dates to submit and present the grant proposal will be communicated later. Please refer to the full application timeline on slide 13.
6. If I missed the deadline to submit an Expression of Interest, can I still submit a grant proposal via email?	No, only shortlisted applicants that have submitted an Expression of Interest before the 31 December 2024 2359h will be invited to submit a full grant proposal. Proposals from non-shortlisted applicants will not be considered.
7. I would like to meet with the team from GIC before submitting an Expression of Interest.	Due to the volume of applications expected, and to ensure fairness among applicants, the GIC team will not be accepting meetings with applicants. Only Expressions of Interest submitted online will be assessed by GIC.
8. How do I know that the information that I have submitted to GIC is safe?	GIC is committed to protecting your personal data as an interested applicant for the GIC Impact Programme grant call. GIC will collect, use and disclose personal data submitted to us for the purposes of operating the GIC Impact Programme grant call, including to communicate with you, administer, and facilitate the implementation of the grant call and subsequent impact programme if selected.

Frequently Asked Questions

b. Eligibility and evaluation

1. My charity is based outside of Singapore but intends to deliver an initiative in Singapore. Can I apply?	No, only charities registered in Singapore are eligible to apply.
2. My charity is registered in Singapore but the initiative is targeted at a community based overseas. Can I apply?	No, only programmes / initiatives that are focused on delivering impact locally, within Singapore, are eligible to apply.
3. I am currently applying to become a registered charity in Singapore. Can I apply?	No, only charities registered at the point of application are eligible to apply.
4. I have already obtained a grant from another organisation for the programme / initiative. Will it impact my chances of being shortlisted?	No, having other sources of funding will not impact your chances of being shortlisted. Each application will be evaluated based on its own merits.
5. My programme / initiative does not currently require any volunteer involvement. Can I apply?	Only programmes / initiatives that incorporate GIC volunteers are eligible for funding. If your programme / initiative doesn't currently incorporate GIC volunteers, please ensure that your proposal specifies how you intend to incorporate GIC volunteers within the first year of funding.
6. How will applications be assessed?	All Expression of Interest submissions will be assessed by the GIC Impact & Partnerships team against a set of criteria that can be found on slide 12. The final grant proposals submitted by shortlisted applicants will be assessed by GIC's Grant Advisory Panel. More details will be shared with shortlisted applicants.
7. I was not shortlisted to submit a full grant proposal. Can I get feedback from the GIC team or appeal to have my application reviewed?	No, all decisions made are considered final and no appeals will be considered. Please write to socialimpact@gic.com.sg to request for feedback. The GIC team will respond only to emails from applicants after the conclusion of the grant call in March 2025.

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Frequently Asked Questions

c. Grant award and milestones

1. How many grants will GIC award in this grant call?	There is no fixed number of grants that GIC will award. All grants will be awarded based on the eligibility and quality of the applications received.
2. How much funding is GIC providing for this grant award?	The funding amount for the grant award will be determined based on the specific needs and merits of each application.
3. What cost items are eligible for funding under the grant award?	Eligible expenses typically include all necessary costs required to implement the proposed programme, such as personnel, equipment, materials, and operational costs. However, past expenses and any costs deemed unreasonable or unrelated to the programme will not be covered.
4. Can I change the use of the grant after my application and proposal has been approved?	No, the grant will need to be utilised based on the approved initiative and plan detailed in the grant proposal submitted. GIC reserves the right to withdraw the grant in its entirety should the intent and details of the grant proposal change after its award.
5. Can the grant be used to fund past activities or expenses?	The grant cannot be used to fund past activities or expenses. It can only be used for expenses incurred after the signing of the grant agreement.
6. How will the grant be disbursed?	Grant amounts will be disbursed according to the disbursement milestones set out and approved in the grant agreement.
7. Do I need to provide any reports to GIC after receiving the grant?	Yes, please refer to the post-award reporting requirements that can be found on slide 14.

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For more information

Please email socialimpact@gic.com.sg