

IPUR SEED GRANT CALL 2026

Request for Proposals

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Based in the National University of Singapore, the Lloyd's Register Foundation Institute for the Public Understanding of Risk (IPUR) is a research institute which conducts research, outreach and education to enable people to make better decisions in the face of uncertainty. IPUR conducts research on risk perceptions and risk communications relating to a spectrum of risks, covering health and lifestyle, climate and environment and emerging and established technologies, with a focus on Asia.
- 1.2. IPUR's research covers three domains of risk, with details on the IPUR [website](#):
 - **Data and Technology**
 - **Environment and Climate**
 - **Health and Lifestyle**
- 1.3. Apart from promoting research that focuses on translational impact, the seed grant aims to encourage high-quality submissions for future grant calls.
- 1.4. In conjunction with its research efforts, the Institute also has an outreach and education mandate. In all projects, IPUR seeks to create translational impact to build a more risk-informed society.
- 1.5. The IPUR Seed Grant Call 2026 provides seed funding of up to S\$20,000 for novel projects on topics of interest to the Institute.
- 1.6. On completion, outstanding projects will be eligible to be considered for additional IPUR funding to conduct outreach and community engagement activities.
- 1.7. Past examples of events include:
 - (a) [Communicating risk through music](#)
 - (b) [Understanding public perceptions of Diabetes awareness](#)
 - (c) [Singapore's road to Net Zero](#)
 - (d) [Data science visualised in batik art](#)
- 1.8. Apart from promoting research that focuses on translational impact, the seed grant aims to encourage high-quality submissions for future grant calls.

2. Themes

2.1. Seed grant proposals are invited on the evaluation of risk communication and in the three areas articulated in paragraph 1.2, including (but not limited to) the following themes:

- (a) Novel/advanced evaluation methods for risk communication interventions
- (b) Rigorous application of evaluation methods to communications interventions in focus risk domains
- (c) Risk perception and communication in the Asian context
- (d) Dimensions and drivers of risk perception and risk perception gaps between publics and experts
- (e) Tools, metrics, and methodologies for assessing public risk perception and enhancing public communication of risk by policymakers or firms
- (f) Understanding and communicating risks in focal domains, including (but not limited to): emerging technologies (e.g., generative AI) aging and well-being, energy transition, medical risks, coastal protection, scams
- (g) Intersecting risks across domains

2.2. Note that macroeconomic, geopolitical, investment and enterprise risks are outside the scope of this grant call.

2.3. Proposals that include one or more partners from Asia, particularly those from developing countries, will be considered favourably.

2.4. Proposals should include a brief summary of the plans for an outreach and engagement initiative.

2.5. As the award is meant to provide seed funding which would lead to other grants, the proposal should identify potential grantor and/or collaborating agency to further the research.

2.6. Where appropriate, applicants should incorporate the following in the proposals:

- (a) Explain how the research questions are adequately addressed through data collection and analysis by integrating established methods in the social sciences and humanities with recent advances in information technology, big data, data analytics, and computational social sciences.
- (b) Proposals with strong strategies for the communication of results.
- (c) Consideration of how research findings can be effectively translated into an outreach and community engagement event.

3. Eligibility

3.1. Applicants for the IPUR Seed Grant Call 2026 must meet all of the following

requirements:

- Principal Investigator (PI) must be full-time NUS academic staff.
- Research teams should be social-science based and cross-interdisciplinary.
- Project must be supported by respective Heads of Departments (or nominee) and Deans (or nominee) of each Faculty/School using the [Grant Endorsement Form \(GEF\)](#).

4. Award Information

- 4.1. Maximum grant amount is S\$20,000 per project.
- 4.2. Duration of each project should be up to 12 months.
- 4.3. Awarded grant cannot be used for travel or conference expenses unless essential to the aims of the project.

5. Terms and Conditions of Award

- 5.1. Before starting research, approved proposals must clear the respective Research Compliances and obtain approval from the appropriate Board/Office (where applicable). Funds will not be supplied without such approval. For further information on Terms and Conditions of Award (Research Compliance) please refer to [here](#).
- 5.2. Within 18 months of receiving the seed grant, the PI must apply for external funding that provides at least 30% indirect cost to the University, with total project value of not less than \$100,000. *Note: The external funding organisation need not be based in Singapore.*

6. Application

- 6.1. Research proposal should not exceed [5] pages and should be submitted using the template provided on [IPUR website](#), together with the Budget form.
- 6.2. The proposal should include the following:
 - Executive summary of not more than 250 words
 - Project objectives
 - Contribution to IPUR goals
 - Team and expertise
 - Methodology
 - Data sources
 - Timeline
 - Budget

- Links to relevant projects, grants
- Strategy for the development of the research at the end of the grant period

6.3. Only proposals properly completed and with relevant supporting documents attached will be accepted for evaluation and assessment for awarding of grants.

6.4. Proposals should be submitted through all PIs' respective Heads of Departments and Deans, to the IPUR Seed Grant Call 2026 Evaluation Panel (c/o Ms Mengxi Xu, IPUR – mengxi@nus.edu.sg) by **27 February 2026, 4pm.**

7. Project Execution and Report

7.1. A final report on the achievements of the grant must be submitted to IPUR no later than **3 months** after the end of the project period. The template will be conveyed by IPUR staff closer to the project deadline.

7.2. Publication in reputable scientific journal. The IPUR grant should be acknowledged in all publications (journal articles, conference papers, book chapters, etc.). An example is as follows: “The authors gratefully acknowledge the research grant (A-727-xxx-xxx-xxx) provided by the Lloyd’s Register Foundation Institute for the Public Understanding of Risk, National University of Singapore.”

7.3. Dissemination Report for stakeholders must be submitted to IPUR no later than **6 months** after the end of the project period. Applicants may also propose alternative deliverable appropriate to their intervention for consideration by the IPUR reviewers.

8. Timeline

- **Call for proposal:** 29 January 2026 (Thursday)
- **Submission to Department:** 20 February 2026 (Friday)
- **Proposal submission by Faculty/School to reach IPUR:** 27 February 2026 (Friday), 4 pm
- **Outcome of award:** by 20 March 2026 (Friday)
- **Commencement of Project:** 01 April 2026