

GENERAL

WHAT IS THE YOUNG SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS (YSE) GLOBAL?

The Singapore International Foundation (SIF) believes in equipping, enabling and inspiring young changemakers like you to make your social enterprise idea a reality. The Young Social Entrepreneurs (YSE) Global is an eight-month programme that inspires, equips, and enables youth of different nationalities to start or scale up their social enterprises in Singapore and beyond.

Since 2010, YSE Global has nurtured a network of youth with innovative business ideas focused on social good. Together with established social entrepreneurs, business consultants and investors, we harness the power of ideas, know-how and resources to effect positive change for a better world.

HOW DOES THE YSE GLOBAL WORK?

The YSE Global spans eight months, comprising the following components: online workshop; six-month remote mentorship, regional learning, and *Pitching for Change* where teams can pitch for grants of up to S\$20,000 to develop their social enterprise.

FEB - APR	JUL - AUG	SEP - FEB	MAR 2022	
APPLICATIONS	WORKSHOP	MENTORSHIP	REGIONAL EXPOSURE OPPORTUNITIES	PITCHING FOR CHANGE
YSE Global 2021 opens applications for social entrepreneurs from around the world to apply. Applications are reviewed by a panel of internal and external reviewers.	Selected teams attend a series of online workshops and business clinics, ending with a business presentation. Shortlisted teams join the next phase of the YSE Global 2021 programme	Shortlisted social enterprises are matched with business consultants and seasoned entrepreneurs for a tailored six-month mentorship programme	Shortlisted teams access opportunities to broaden perspectives and learn about social entrepreneurship ecosystems in different Asian countries	Shortlisted social enterprises pitch to win up to S\$20,000 each to scale their enterprise

WHAT DOES THE YSE GLOBAL OFFER?

International Network

Join an international network of changemakers including like-minded individuals, corporates, practitioners and successful entrepreneurs

Mentorship

Gain access to industry experts and professionals for mentorship

Regional Learning

Broaden perspectives on social entrepreneurship through exposure opportunities to connect, network and learn from key players in the regional social enterprise landscape

Grants

Develop your social enterprise with up to S\$20,000 in grants

ELIGIBILITY

AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

If you are between the ages of 18 to 35 years old, you are eligible to apply. The YSE Global is open to participants of all nationalities.

DO I NEED AN IDEA TO APPLY?

Yes! We are looking for young changemakers with great ideas that harness enterprise solutions for social issues. You do not need to have an incorporated/registered social enterprise before applying. If you have a viable idea, we want to hear from you!

CAN INDIVIDUALS APPLY OR DO I NEED TO FORM A TEAM TO APPLY?

Yes, individuals can apply but we highly encourage you to form a team. Having more than one member for your social enterprise allows you to maximise the benefits of teamwork and support as the work grows.

IF MY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE HAS BEEN RUNNING FOR SOME YEARS, AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Yes, you are welcome to apply. Our programme is designed to best suit the needs of seed to early stage enterprises. The selection process will also take into consideration the stage of development of your enterprise, and whether you would be able to fully benefit from what the programme offers.

CAN I RE-APPLY IF MY TEAM OR I HAVE APPLIED TO A YSE PROGRAMME PREVIOUSLY?

Yes, we would still encourage you and/or your team to re-apply as you may have changes to your social enterprise idea since then. We do have cases of YSE alumni who have re-applied and were successfully shortlisted into the YSE Global.

CAN MY TEAM SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE IDEA?

Yes, your team can submit more than one idea. However, in the interest of fairness to other participating individuals/teams, only one of your ideas may be selected.

IS THERE A SPECIFIC INDUSTRY MY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SHOULD ADDRESS FOR THIS PROGRAMME?

No, we welcome ideas aimed at tackling any type of social issue, in any sector or industry.

DOES MY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NEED TO HAVE OPERATIONS IN SINGAPORE?

It is not necessary for your operations to be carried out in Singapore. We welcome ideas from all over the world.

ENGLISH IS NOT MY FIRST LANGUAGE; CAN I ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN MY NATIVE LANGUAGE?

Currently, we only accept applications in English.

APPLICATION

WHEN IS THE APPLICATION PERIOD?

YSE Global 2021 is accepting applications from 1 February to 25 April 2021. Early submissions are highly encouraged because we can still assist you if you have any questions and that gives you more time to work on your application details before the final cut-off. Early submissions will ensure that you complete your application in good time.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

You can apply by completing the online application form [here](#). Only completed submissions through the online application form will be accepted.

IS THERE AN APPLICATION FEE?

Yes, there is an application fee of **S\$10** that you would have to pay through the online application form to successfully submit your application. Only applications with complete payments will be considered as eligible submissions.

IF I AM APPLYING AS A TEAM, DOES EVERY MEMBER OF MY TEAM NEED TO SUBMIT AN INDIVIDUAL APPLICATION FORM?

No, if you are applying as a team, only one representative from your team will need to apply by completing the online application form. In your application form, you will be asked to include information of all team members.

DO I NEED TO PREPARE ANYTHING FOR THE APPLICATION?

Yes, each team will have to submit a **Business Plan Overview** for each application. You can download the Business Plan Overview template [here](#).

DOES SIF OR THE PARTICIPATING PARTNERS HAVE RIGHTS TO MY BUSINESS PLAN?

No, participants and applicants retain the intellectual property rights to their business plans. Business plans are solely shown to judges and mentors for evaluation and mentorship purposes. The SIF will not disclose it to any other parties.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM / MY TEAM IS SELECTED TO JOIN YSE GLOBAL 2021?

You will receive an email notification on the outcome of your application by early June 2021. Both successful and non-successful applicants will be notified of their application outcome respectively.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM / MY TEAM IS SELECTED TO JOIN YSE GLOBAL 2021?

Once selected, applicant(s) are expected to attend the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop which includes a series of online workshops, business clinic mentorship and a business presentation pitch to a panel of judges. The top 15 shortlisted teams from the business presentation pitch will move on to the next phase of the YSE Global 2021 programme. Participants are expected to be committed to all components of the programme, in order to derive maximum gains and a chance to pitch successfully for funding.

CAN THERE BE A CHANGE IN TEAM MEMBER DURING THE PROGRAMME?

Teams are not allowed to change members once they embark on the programme.

WHO EVALUATES THE APPLICATIONS?

Applications will be reviewed by an external panel of judges consisting of business professionals and practitioners, so that both the business and social impact of your social enterprise idea will be assessed. Your application is assessed based on:

A. Social Impact

The benefits that the community receives, and potential impact to the community/issue

B. Innovativeness

Creative and enterprising ideas, as well as unique aspects of the business models

C. Feasibility and Sustainability of Business Idea

Viability of business idea

D. Commitment

Capacity and dedication towards being a changemaker

WORKSHOP

WHO GETS TO ATTEND THE YSE GLOBAL 2021 – WORKSHOP?

Selected applicants who receive an invitation for YSE Global 2021 will get to attend the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop, which will take place from **mid-July to August 2021**.

WHAT IS THE YSE GLOBAL 2021 – WORKSHOP ABOUT?

The YSE Global 2021 – Workshop is put together with the intention of allowing participants to learn from and interact with leading social entrepreneurs, business professionals and other youth who are keen on social innovation, while expanding their network of contacts for collaborations and partnerships. Throughout the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop, you will participate in dialogues and business clinics to enable you to learn from the experience of different social entrepreneurs and gain feedback from professionals and practitioners on your business plans, so that you can refine your ideas and improve on your business presentations. On the last day of the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop, you will present your business idea to a panel of judges. The presentation will determine the top teams that will be shortlisted to progress to the next eight months of the YSE Global, including **regional learning, a six-month mentorship, and *Pitching for Change***.

DO I NEED TO PAY FOR THE YSE GLOBAL 2021 – WORKSHOP?

The SIF does not charge for the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop, which will be held online. Participants are required to have online access and are recommended to have stable internet connectivity to participate fully in all components of the Workshop.

DO I NEED TO ATTEND THE YSE GLOBAL 2021 – WORKSHOP IF I AM SELECTED?

Successful applicants must attend all sessions of the YSE Global 2021. Prior to the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop, you can let us know if you require a letter of admittance from us to apply for leave from work or school.

WHAT IF I CANNOT ATTEND THE YSE GLOBAL 2021 – WORKSHOP?

You are required to inform the SIF in writing with valid reasons and documentation for not being able to attend the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop. You must find a replacement for each member who is unable to attend the Workshop, subject to the SIF 's approval.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE YSE GLOBAL 2021 – WORKSHOP?

Shortlisted teams will be announced on the last day of the YSE Global 2021 – Workshop and will progress to the **next phase** of the programme which comprises **mentorship, regional learning, and *Pitching for Change*** where teams can pitch for grants of up to S\$20,000 each to develop their social enterprise. Shortlisted teams are expected to stay committed to all key components. Teams' commitment demonstrated during the programme will be considered towards their evaluation at *Pitching for Change*.

All YSE Global 2021 – Workshop participants will become part of our YSE alumni network. We will continue to support you through other resources and activities such as networking events, information-sharing, and opportunities for funding and publicity where possible.

IF MY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IS SHORTLISTED, ARE THERE ADDITIONAL COSTS I NEED TO PAY FOR?

There will be no additional participation costs for shortlisted teams. Participants are required to have online access and are recommended to have stable internet connectivity to participate fully in the programme components, namely the six-month mentorship, regional learning and *Pitching for Change*. For any postage of programme collaterals or items to shortlisted teams, while the SIF will cover the international delivery costs, any local customs or import duties in countries outside of Singapore is expected to be borne by the receiving party.

MENTORSHIP

WHAT IS THE MENTORSHIP ABOUT?

Mentorship is one of the most well-received and valuable components of the programme. Shortlisted teams will be matched with volunteer mentors who are leading business consultants and entrepreneurs from relevant fields to work on strengthening business strategies.

WHAT IS THE FORMAT OF THE MENTORSHIP?

Each team will be matched with 3 *Business Model Mentors* and/or *Entrepreneur Mentors* for a duration of six months. Mentoring will be conducted remotely, and teams are to commit two to four hours per month to check in with their mentors on their progress. Each team and their mentors will also conduct a mock-pitching session in preparation for *Pitching for Change*, where mentors will provide their respective teams with practical pitching advice.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS OF SHORTLISTED TEAMS?

Teams are expected to be proactive in consulting with their mentors. As the YSE mentors are industry leaders with vast experiences, teams are highly encouraged to define clear objectives and goals to work on with their mentors to maximize learnings and results from the mentorship experience. Teams are also required to submit to the SIF a monthly update on their mentorship progress.

WHAT HAPPENS IF SHORTLISTED TEAMS DO NOT ADHERE TO THE REQUIREMENTS DURING THE MENTORSHIP DURATION?

The conduct and commitment of the team during the mentorship will be assessed by the mentors and SIF team, which will count towards their team commitment score at *Pitching for Change*.

REGIONAL LEARNING

WHEN IS THIS?

Shortlisted teams will get exclusive opportunities to expand their perspectives on social entrepreneurship through regional learning and insights from key players in the social enterprise landscape. The series of three to four online sessions of about two hours each will take place from Dec 2020 to Feb 2021 and offer a chance for shortlisted teams to engage with the international YSE network and community.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THESE SESSIONS?

Shortlisted teams are required to join all the online learning sessions which include opportunities to connect, network, collaborate and learn from key eco-system experts, social entrepreneurs, and impact leaders.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?

Participants are expected to attend and participate actively in all the sessions. Participants are encouraged to utilise this platform to expand their networks, learn from the exchange of ideas and foster collaboration through these regional learning.

PITCHING FOR CHANGE

WHAT IS *PITCHING FOR CHANGE*?

Pitching for Change will take place in March 2022, when all shortlisted teams will pitch to a panel of judges online. Up to six teams will emerge as winners to receive up to S\$20,000 in grant funding to launch or scale up their social enterprise ideas.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER *PITCHING FOR CHANGE*?

Winning teams are required to submit a grant proposal to the SIF with their planned use of the S\$20,000 grants over a period of one and a half years. The SIF will work together with the winning teams on their planned objective, outcomes and effective utilisation of their funds. The grant funding will be disbursed to winning teams in tranches upon achievement of their intended outcomes and expenditure utilisation. Teams may also be assigned a mentor to guide them in the utilisation of funding and to support their enterprise development.

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

If your questions have not been answered in this FAQ, drop us an email at yse@sif.org.sg. As we will be facing a high volume of emails during this period, please specify in the subject your name and the enquiry pertaining to the workshop e.g. *SE Name_YSEGlobal2021_ [your enquiry]*.