



## MEDIA FACTSHEET

08 February 2023

### **Youths and Public invited to allocate prize money for Youth Action Challenge (Season 4) teams**

*Successful teams can increase their maximum grant quantum to \$70,000 with Participatory Budgeting*

For the first time the National Youth Council (NYC) is inviting youths<sup>1</sup> and the public to allocate \$30,000 to 52 Youth Action Challenge<sup>2</sup> (YAC) teams that have so far received grants from \$5,000 to \$50,000<sup>3</sup>. The teams, which ideated and developed solutions to challenge statements along the themes of Environment and Sustainability, Mental Well-being, Support for Vulnerable Groups and Inclusivity, will have their project descriptions and proposed solutions deliberated and assessed by close to 100 youths<sup>4</sup> on 11 February 2023 in a physical session, and the public through <https://voting.youthactionplan.sg/> from 11 February to 25 February 2023. Through the Participatory Budgeting exercise, the 52 teams may be able to have their grants topped up to the \$70,000 cap after the exercise ends.

*For media to note: The online voting site will be officially LIVED on 11 February 2023. The public will be able to watch a video (available from 9 February 2023) about Participatory Budgeting to understand how the exercise works before taking part.*

#### **Participatory Budgeting and the Youth Action Challenge Season 4**

2 At Season 4 of the YAC, more than 200 youths participated in a structured programme from October 2022 to January 2023, where they were guided by industry experts and mentors to refine their ideas to challenges statements. The four-month programme culminated in a Final Open Mic session on 28 and 29 January 2023, where they pitched their ideas to a panel of judges. 61 teams received grants from \$5,000 to \$50,000 to develop their project ideas, which will be disbursed through a milestone or reimbursement basis after project completion.

3 52 of the 61 teams are now vying to top up their grant quantum through a public Participatory Budgeting exercise. During the two-week Participatory Budgeting exercise, each youth participant will receive a virtual budget of \$30,000, which they can allocate funds to a minimum of three teams, in denominations of \$1,000. They need not utilise the full budget given if they do not wish to. The additional grant quantum for the teams will be decided through a 70:30 aggregated ratio of votes from the 11 February physical session and online platform respectively.

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<sup>1</sup> In 2022, NYC conducted a pilot participatory budgeting session for YAC Season 3. 27 nominated youth leaders were invited to take part.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to [youthactionplan.sg/YACSeason4/](https://youthactionplan.sg/YACSeason4/) for more details about the Youth Action Challenge

<sup>3</sup> The maximum grant quantum is \$70,000. For teams that have already received \$50,000 grant in the Final Open Mic session in January 2023, the maximum Participatory Budget Grant top-up they can receive is \$20,000.

<sup>4</sup> Youths from Institutes of Technical Education, Polytechnics and Universities will be attending the session on 11 February 2023.



4 “The Participatory Budgeting exercise coincides with the Budget season so that youths can experience for themselves the challenges of allocating resource to various public needs as equitably as possible,” said Mr David Chua, Chief Executive of the National Youth Council.

Please refer to **Annex A** for selected team projects which will be participating in the Participatory Budgeting Exercise and **Annex B** attached separately for a step-by-step guide on the Participatory Budgeting Exercise.

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### **About The National Youth Council**

At NYC, we believe in a world where young people are respected and heard and have agency to make a difference. Together with our partners, we develop future-ready youth who are committed to Singapore by instilling in them a heart for service, resilience, and an enterprising spirit. We acknowledge the diverse needs and aspirations of young Singaporeans and ensure our youth have opportunities to develop self-awareness, deepen community spirit, and be future-ready. We hear youth, we empower youth and are **HERE FOR YOUTH.**

### **About the Youth Action Challenge**

The Youth Action Challenge (YAC) is a key thrust of the SG Youth Action Plan (SG YAP). It is a platform that empowers youth to recommend policy changes or champion ground-up initiatives in partnership with Government, businesses and community organisations. During the YAC journey, participating youth will deepen their understanding of key issues, generate ideas and develop effective solutions as a team. More information at [youthactionplan.sg/yacseason4](http://youthactionplan.sg/yacseason4)

## Annex A

### Selected Youth Action Challenge Season 4 Team Projects featured in the Participatory Budgeting exercise

Theme	Project name	Project description	Grant <sup>5</sup> awarded from Youth Action Challenge Final Open Mic
Environment & Sustainability	Flint Paper Battery	Team Flint Paper Battery aims to launch an eco-friendly battery made of cellulose paper, magnesium, and zinc. The rechargeable paper battery is wholly compostable at the end of its life cycle, making it eco-friendly and almost half the cost of what it takes to manufacture regular lithium batteries. The prototype has been made, and extensive R&D is underway to increase the efficiency of this battery – to either meet the same standard of lithium batteries or surpass it.	\$50,000
Environment & Sustainability	Kapaw&co	Kapaw&co aims to upcycle food for paws by collecting misfit food trimmings from restaurants, markets and manufacturers. The team not only wants to promote circular economy but also create a community where people are driven to reduce food waste and ensure healthier living among pets together. Kapaw&co also aims to raise awareness of the business's sustainable beliefs by taking part in various pet events and forge greater partnerships.	\$20,000
Mental Well-being	Team Hosehbo	Team Hosehbo aims to empower students from the Institute of Technical Education with the ability to self-regulate their mental states and help each other within their circle. These will be done through games and heart to heart talks.	\$20,000

<sup>5</sup> Grants will be disbursed through a milestone or reimbursement basis after completion of the project, depending on the grant tier.

Mental Well-being	Project Integration	<p>Independently, both mindfulness and animal-assisted interventions have shown to have positive effects on the aforementioned problems.</p> <p>By marrying both interventions together, Project Integration is able to incorporate a new framework to improve the mental well-being of beneficiaries, resulting in a better quality of life.</p> <p>Participants will undergo a 1-hour activity that involves interacting with animals in an assisted environment over the course of 5 to 8 weeks. A questionnaire will be done before and after the programme to determine (but not limited to) anxiety and depression markers.</p>	\$20,000
Support for Vulnerable Groups	Dream Artisans	<p>Dream Artisans aims to empower seniors (including those in the vulnerable community) to pursue their dreams and aspirations. Through a 4-step process, the team assists seniors to identify their dreams and milestones and co-create meaningful and personalised immersion experiences. By showcasing success stories on social media and building community networks of support, Dream Artisans hopes to promote active ageing and reduce ageism in Singapore.</p>	\$20,000
Support for Vulnerable Groups	SpedGrow	<p>SpedGrow aims to make independent living possible and safe for individuals with special needs. With the financial wallet, these individuals can make purchases independently, grow savings for the things they like, and basically learn to be savvy with their money while being protected. Its smart protection system, embedded within a digital wallet, helps those with special needs and persons with disabilities carry out autonomous financial transactions such as topping up their EZ-Link cards while providing caregivers a level of control to protect them.</p>	\$50,000



Inclusivity	Own Your Court	OwnYourCourt aims to build a welcoming basketball community of locals and foreigners to help integrate newcomers to the local culture, using basketball as their common language. Basketball leagues and games will be organised to encourage interactions in the community.	\$20,000
Inclusivity	Clarity	<p>Team Clarity's Kampung Spirits aim to promote a culture of inclusivity and collaboration at the workplace in three areas.</p> <p>The team proposes to work with businesses to develop a set of core organisational values, support businesses in putting these values to practice through corporate activities and organisational decisions, and help permeate an inclusive culture by raising employee awareness and an openness to adopt these values in their day to day routines.</p>	\$20,000