

Stimulating Entrepreneurship & Business Growth in Asia Pacific
Frequently Asked Questions

General	
1.	<p>What is the programme about?</p> <p>The goal of the nine-month programme is to stimulate entrepreneurship and business growth by identifying challenges to growth and increasing the distribution of resources to high-impact social entrepreneurs and SMEs, particularly those owned/led by women in the Asia Pacific region.</p>
2.	<p>Why should I participate?</p> <p>Organisations who have successfully registered will be invited to join five capacity building masterclasses on topics related to Digital Transformation, Market Access, Business Strategy and Marketing and Communications. Each session will invite unique perspectives from AVPN's diverse member community ranging from intergovernmental organisations, corporates and private funders.</p> <p>Participating organisations will also be invited to take part in an Investment Readiness workshop and join peer learning sessions facilitated by local partners and corporate employee volunteers from Moody's. Each of these sessions will be designed to support you in your impact entrepreneurship journey.</p>
3.	<p>How do I register my interest to join?</p> <p>Each organisation may register a main representative as well as a second representative as potential substitute.</p> <p>Please register your interest to join here by 31 March 2023 23:59 (GMT+8 Singapore). Due to limited places, please note that your submission of this form does not confirm your participation. Your participation is confirmed only upon receiving a confirmation email from AVPN.</p>
4.	<p>Will there be a conflict if we are participating in another program or raise investment via other channels while in this program?</p> <p>No, the aim of this programme is to build the capacity of organisations through non-financial support that can help them in securing financial capital for their growth. So participating in other programmes or investment channels while in this programme would tie in with that very well.</p>

Eligibility

5. **Am I eligible to join?**

You are eligible to register your interest if your organisation meets the following criteria:

- Open to for-profit; revenue-generating organisations
- In early to growth stages of development
- Active in the Asia Pacific region* (*Applicants may be registered outside these markets, but will be eligible to apply as long as they are operating in these countries*)
- Preferably led by women in leadership positions
- Have a committed team, including advisors

We are also looking for applicants who are committed to attending all scheduled sessions from April 2023 to September 2023.

**Particular focus on markets such as Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, China, Indonesia, India, Thailand, Philippines in the Asia Pacific region.*

6. **Regarding eligibility – in addition to women, is there a particular focus on impact businesses led/staffed by other groups who are disadvantaged (i.e. LGBTQ community members)?**

This program only has a focus on women in leadership (note that this is not a mandatory criteria). We may have capacity building programs in the future with a focus on other disadvantaged groups, but that is not the case with this current iteration of the Stimulating Entrepreneurship and Business Growth Programme.

7. **Does the requirement of revenue-generation mean that not-for-profit organisations are not eligible to apply?**

All organisations should conduct revenue-generating activities integrated into its activities. This may include, membership dues, sales of publications and products, and consulting services.

8. **My organisation operates in a country outside of APAC markets. Can I apply?**

Unfortunately, this programme is restricted to organisations operating in at least one of the markets in APAC. You can be registered outside of these markets, but you need to demonstrate that you operate and are active in at least one of these three markets.

9.	<p>To be eligible, does my organisation need to have been founded/co-founded by women?</p> <p>No, that is not mandatory, but if you have women in leadership roles please let us know in the application form.</p>
10.	<p>What stage of maturity do you expect impact organisations to be in? Would organisations that are not yet at the stage of roll-out or in an early-maturing phase be eligible?</p> <p>Organisations should be in the early to growth stage defined by having a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) i.e. a product or service that is ready for customer validation and testing; and it would be a bonus to have secured your first customer.</p>
<p>Participation</p>	
11.	<p>What is the time commitment? How long would an average session be?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Five Masterclass (60 to 90 minutes each) ● An Investment Readiness Workshop (about 120 minutes) ● Up to 2 Collaborative Marketplaces (90 minutes each) <p>All successfully registered organisations should aim to join all sessions. A full calendar of all session dates and times will be available upon confirmation.</p>
12.	<p>If we are not able to attend the session due to emergency or unavoidable circumstances how do we go about this?</p> <p>If you are unable to attend a session due to unavoidable circumstances, the second representative registered (See Item 3) should attend instead. If not possible, there is still some flexibility in attendance in case of emergencies. To be decided on a case-by-case basis.</p>
13.	<p>Is participation in this series free of charge?</p> <p>Yes, there is no fee for participating organisations to join.</p>
14.	<p>Can only female members from my organisation participate in the programme?</p> <p>No, male members from your organisation can also participate in the programme.</p>
15.	<p>Can multiple members from my organisation join the programme?</p> <p>A maximum of two members from your organisation can join the programme.</p>

Programme Offerings

16.	<p>Who will be conducting the different learning sessions?</p> <p>The sessions will be conducted by experts from the AVPN network who bring knowledge and practical expertise in the areas of the topics of discussion. They will be able to share relevant information and experiences with the participants.</p>
17.	<p>Who are the partners and impact investors who will be involved with the programme?</p> <p>Partners and impact investors involved in the programme will primarily include members of the AVPN network as well as different country partners for the programme. The exact list has not been confirmed yet and can be shared at a later date.</p>
18.	<p>Would you be able to share more information about the investment-readiness workshop?</p> <p>The investment-readiness workshop will be conducted with our local partners from the APAC region, and will tap on the expertise and knowledge of AVPN members who will be invited as speakers. The duration of the workshop will be around 2.5h. The programme of the workshop will likely include segments on evaluating your own organisation, preparing for due diligence, perspectives of impact investors, and a Q and A. There will likely also be a component of engagement and mentorship from Moody's employees.</p>
19.	<p>What is the Collaborative Marketplace sessions about?</p> <p>These sessions will facilitate exchange and enhance peer-to-peer collaboration opportunities. Participants will engage using a mix of digital collaboration tools to map their strengths (offers) and key asks via framework, with interactions facilitated through speed pitching/rotations.</p>
20.	<p>Does this programme offer any financial support such as grant funding?</p> <p>No, there is no grant funding that is provided from this programme. The aim of this programme is to leverage on human and intellectual capital to help impact organisations become ready to engage with financial capital providers. However, it is interesting to note that we will have employees from Moody's Corporation who will be joining the programme to share their learnings and experiences. They will come in as knowledge experts, mentors, and bring a thought leadership angle to the learning journey.</p>

21.

Will there be any networking opportunities available as part of this programme, to be connected with potential funders?

Each session, you will be engaging with resource providers. That could be funders and investors. The live showcase itself is also a great opportunity to network and engage with relevant stakeholders.

For Further Queries drop us an email at capital@avpn.asia