

ABOUT ACAI AND OVERVIEW OF THE CALL

1. Introduction of ACAI

The ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI) is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to advancing active ageing through research, innovation, and policy support. ACAI works with ASEAN Member States to develop solutions that promote healthy, inclusive, and productive lives for older adults. The Call for Research and Innovation 2025 aims to foster actionable knowledge, scalable innovations, and collaborative research that address emerging ageing challenges across the region.

2. Scope of the Call

Proposals should align with ACAI's Five-Year Strategic Plan and contribute to one or more of the following areas:

- Active and healthy ageing
- Long-term care and integrated care for older persons (ICOPE)
- Age related policy, advocacy and legal rights
- Financing, demographics, and ageing-related data
- Age-friendly environment, climate adaptation, and community development
- Social engagement, community participation and intergeneration programs
- Social Protection for older persons
- Financial innovation, business models, and employment for older persons
- Innovation and Technologies
- Rights-based approaches and gender-sensitive policies
- Regional engagement and cross-country collaboration

Both research and innovation-based proposals are encouraged. Projects can range from small pilots to scalable solutions, as long as they address the diverse needs of older persons in ASEAN Member States.

3. Objectives of the Call

The ACAI Call seeks to:

- Support interdisciplinary research and innovations focused on ageing in ASEAN
- Provide evidence to inform policy, service delivery, and community action
- Foster regional collaboration and capacity-building among stakeholders
- Promote rights-based, gender-sensitive, and culturally respectful approaches to ageing

4. Eligibility

Principle investigator (PI) or lead applicant must be based in one of the ASEAN Member States (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam) and can include:

- Academic and research institutions
- Government agencies and public policy institutions
- NGOs, civil society, and community-based organizations
- Private sector innovators or social enterprises
- Individual researchers and practitioners with demonstrated expertise

Collaborative and cross-country proposals are strongly encouraged (ASEAN or non-ASEAN countries).

6. Funding and Support

Selected proposals may receive:

- Small Grants (up to \$50,000): For pilot or exploratory projects (1 year project)

ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI)
Call for Ageing Research and Innovation



- Scale-up Grants (up to \$150,000): For regional or multi-country implementation (maximum 3 years project).
- Non-Financial Support: Including technical guidance, access to ASEAN networks, and policy advocacy platforms
- Personal cost is max 10% out of total budget plan.
- Grant size will be based on the project scope, quality, and potential impact (*see the budget template*).

7. Timeline

Activity	Date
Call for Proposals Launch	30 June 2025
Deadline for Proposal Submission	15 August 2025
Review and Evaluation Period	August 2025
Notification of Accepted Proposals	September 2025
Grant Agreement and Orientation	September 2025
Project Implementation Period*	October 2025 – September 2026
Mid-term Reporting	March 2026
Final Report and Knowledge Sharing	September 2026

*The scale-up grants have maximum duration for 3 years.

9. Contact Information

For inquiries and technical support, please contact:

Mrs. Maretalinia

Researcher, ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI)

maretalinia@asean-acai.org