

**MEDIA RELEASE -- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Eight MOUs signed at the Third Singapore-China (Shenzhen) Smart City Initiative  
Joint Implementation Committee Meeting**

*The meeting also saw the launch of 14 new joint projects to  
bolster cooperation and innovation between the two cities in digital economy.*

**SINGAPORE, 25 November 2022** – The Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) and Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) announced the inking of eight Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and unveiled 14 new joint projects under the Singapore-China (Shenzhen) Smart City Initiative (SCI), at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) meeting today.

The JIC is co-chaired by Permanent Secretary for Communications and Information Mr Joseph Leong, and Mayor of Shenzhen Municipal People’s Government Mr Qin Weizhong. The meeting reported a doubling of the number of new joint projects compared to the previous year, as the SCI enters its third year of implementation. These new projects will deepen the ongoing collaboration between Singapore and Shenzhen in enabling digital transformation and policy innovation, and create new opportunities for our businesses and people in research and innovation, trade, sustainability, and talent development.

**Singapore and Shenzhen strengthen digital ties for more integrated trade and business networks**

Mr Leong said, “The Singapore-China (Shenzhen) Smart City Initiative, launched in 2019, has built stronger digital and business linkages between Singapore and Shenzhen. Despite challenges of the pandemic over the past three years, both sides have worked hard to enhance SCI as an effective platform for digital innovation, smart city cooperation, and business and people exchanges. Singapore and Shenzhen will actively promote a conducive business

environment for companies to innovate and conduct cross-border transactions safely and smoothly, as we strengthen our economic recovery and resilience.”

One of the key areas of cooperation in the past year has been the facilitation of digital trade through the use of electronic Bills of Lading (eBLs). IMDA and Shenzhen’s Bureau of Commerce have assessed the results of successful technical trials on trade in the past year, and both sides are now poised to expand IMDA’s **TradeTrust**<sup>1</sup> pilot with live commercial transactions involving banks, shippers, and other partners. This would pave the way for full digitalisation of the trade supply chain and bring the benefits of faster and more secured digital trade transactions to the ecosystem.

IMDA has also been deepening collaboration with **TusStar**, a leading technology incubator in China with an innovation network of more than 10,000 companies. In this next phase, TusStar will increase its regional presence in Southeast Asia by establishing hub operations in Singapore and expand its network in the areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality, and sensor technology. This partnership will connect technology start-ups from Singapore, Shenzhen, and other cities in China to new markets in the region.

### **New collaborations bring greater benefits through digitalisation**

The 14 new joint projects reflect the transformative role of digital technologies across the SCI’s focus areas of digital connectivity, talent exchange and development, innovation and entrepreneurship. Notable projects feature the use of advanced technologies and AI for the green economy and sustainability, such as reducing carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere, and enhancing battery management for electric vehicles.

To date, a total of 29 projects have been initiated and 21 MOUs have been signed under SCI. This strong momentum in SCI collaboration is a testament to Singapore’s and Shenzhen’s

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<sup>1</sup> TradeTrust is a digital utility, a framework that comprises globally accepted standards and enables trusted interoperability through a public blockchain and support the exchange of electronic trade documents across digital platforms.

leading role in digital economy development, and the potential for SCI's innovative projects to be scaled to more cities in Southeast Asia and the Greater Bay Area.

Please refer to [Annex A](#) for the list of MOUs signed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> SCI JIC Meeting and [Annex B](#) for the list of Phase 3 projects.

## Resources

**Annex A:** List of MOUs signed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> SCI JIC Meeting

**Annex B:** List of Phase 3 new projects launched at the 3<sup>rd</sup> SCI JIC Meeting

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## About the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA)

The Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) leads Singapore's digital transformation by developing a vibrant digital economy and an inclusive digital society. As Architects of Singapore's Digital Future, we foster growth in Infocomm Technology and Media sectors in concert with progressive regulations, harness frontier technologies, and develop local talent and digital infrastructure ecosystems to establish Singapore as a digital metropolis.

For more news and information, visit [www.imda.gov.sg](http://www.imda.gov.sg) or follow IMDA on Facebook (IMDAsg) and Twitter (@IMDAsg).

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## Annex A: List of MOUs signed at the 3rd SCI JIC Meeting

### Digital Trade

Title of MOU	Description of MOU
Protocol to the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) and the Commerce Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality Concerning Cooperation in the Paperless Cross-Border Trade and Trade Financing	<p>Building on the MOU signed in June 2020, IMDA and the Commerce Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality have agreed to continue partnering to facilitate the recognition of electronic Bills of Lading (eBLs) that are enabled by the TradeTrust framework.</p> <p>With the agreement, participating commercial entities will aim to implement pilots with commercial live use cases to facilitate cross-border trade between Singapore and China.</p>

### Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Title of MOU	Description of MOU
Memorandum of Intent between Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) and TusStar (Beijing) Science and Technology Enterprise Incubator Co., Ltd.	<p>The IMDA-TusStar collaboration seeks to support the development of Singapore's and China's technology start-up ecosystem through bilateral facilitation to aid companies landing in each other's countries.</p> <p>Technology start-ups in the field of infocomm and media from both countries will be able to tap on initial market sensing advisory support, and networking opportunities when setting up in-country operations in each other's technology ecosystems.</p>
Memorandum of Understanding for Technology & Innovation Cooperation between Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) and Science, Technology and Innovation Commission of Shenzhen Municipality (SZSTIC)	<p>EnterpriseSG and STIC will establish a Singapore-Shenzhen joint project funding programme that will catalyse and support greater collaboration in innovation projects between Singapore and Shenzhen enterprises.</p>
Memorandum of Understanding between Strides Digital Pte. Ltd and DST Electric	<p>Strides Digital Pte. Ltd and DST Electric Vehicle Rental (Shenzhen) Co., Limited (DST) formed a joint venture electric mobility service company, EVCo, in 2022. This collaboration</p>

Vehicle Rental (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd.	focuses on the development of deep learning models for electric vehicle management platform.
Memorandum of Understanding between NUS-Advanced Membrane Lab (NUS) and CIMC Offshore Co., Ltd	The NUS and CIMC Offshore Co., Ltd. will jointly develop a means of capturing carbon dioxide emissions from ships based on membrane technology. This will involve designing and manufacturing a modularised Carbon Dioxide capture and storage (CCS) facility, with shipment decarbonisation as a goal.
Memorandum of Understanding between National University of Singapore (NUS) and Tsinghua Shenzhen International Graduate School	The NUS and Shenzhen International Graduate School of Tsinghua University will advance research in the field of hydrate-based Carbon Dioxide capture and storage (CCS) in the offshore marine environment. Both parties aim to incorporate AI methods and advance neural networks models to develop and validate state-of-the-art Carbon Dioxide capture and sequestration technology based on gas hydrates for decarbonisation.
Memorandum of Strategic Cooperation between Yanlord Shenzhen Investment Industry Co. (Yanlord Group, Singapore) and Shenzhen HopeRun Information Technology Co. (belongs to Jiangsu HopeRun Technology Investment Group Co., Ltd)	Yanlord Group, Singapore and Shenzhen HopeRun Information Technology Co. will embark on the joint development of a smart park business cooperation project of Yanlord Eco-Tech City, a project in Longgang Huilongpu, Shenzhen.

### Cross-border Dispute Resolution

Title of MOU	Description of MOU
Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC) – Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA) Mediation-Arbitration Protocol	This agreement extends the collaboration between SIMC and SCIA to provide businesses with ease of access to market opportunities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Southeast Asia, through the establishment of a joint mediation-arbitration approach.

Annex B List of Phase 3 new projects launched at the 3<sup>rd</sup> SCI JIC Meeting

1. **IMDA-TusStar Xchange** on aiding technology start-up ecosystem landing in both countries.
2. **Shenzhen-Singapore Joint Innovation Call** to promote and provide funding support for R&D and innovation projects between Shenzhen and Singapore enterprises, particularly in key areas such as Smart Cities, Green Technology, and Digital Economy.
3. **Cross-border eCommerce Cooperation** to establish an eCommerce ecosystem with platform partners, trade associations and chambers, and ancillary services providers.
4. **Cross-border Trade Big Data Platform** to explore the exchange of trade data to improve the efficiency of cross-border trade.
5. **Demonstration Zone** to explore opportunities in an experimental business zone to facilitate financial, logistics and IT services.
6. **Singapore-Qianhai Talent Cooperation** to promote international talent development and entrepreneurship opportunities in Qianhai, Shenzhen.
7. **AEO Mutual Recognition Cooperation** to facilitate customs clearance of goods traded between Singapore and Shenzhen.
8. **Shenzhen-Singapore New Energy Vehicle Smart Platform** to develop an AI deep learning model on battery health for electric vehicles.
9. **A\*STAR Collaborative Commerce Marketplace (ACCM) Collaboration** to enrich the innovation ecosystem amongst Shenzhen-Singapore enterprises.
10. **NUS - CIMC CCUS (Carbon Dioxide Capture, Utilization and Storage) Research** to develop a means of capturing carbon dioxide emissions from a ship's engines
11. **NUS-STIC CO2 Subsea Carbon Sequestration** to develop AI-enabled carbon dioxide capture and sequestration technology in an offshore marine environment.
12. **National Library Board, Singapore-Shenzhen Library Smart Library Cooperation** to exchange best practices and innovation in library development and technology.
13. **Yanlord Development Cooperation** to develop a smart business park, Yanlord Eco-Tech City, in Shenzhen.
14. **Fintech Cooperation** to explore digital services and ecosystem networking for financial institutions.