

INTERCONNECT INNOVATION CATALYST PROGRAM

Interconnect Innovation Catalyst Program is designed to strengthen India's biomedical innovation ecosystem by enabling collaboration, visibility, structured support and unlocking capital for high potential innovators. It is implemented by Bharathiya Vikas Trust (BVT), supported by Blockchain for Impact (BFI).

The Program, built on the interconnect app, is a structured one-year program that supports innovators with strong ideas, prototypes, or research-backed concepts, helping them overcome challenges in scaling, validation, and building viable pathways to impact.

Program Support:

- Funding support up to 30 Lakhs over 12 months, disbursed quarterly based on milestone achievements.
- Mentorship from experts in academia, industry, and healthcare
- Support in finding collaborators via the Interconnect network
- Periodic progress reviews
- Opportunity to showcase work at a national-level final event

WHO SHOULD APPLY

The Program is open to:

- Biomedical and healthcare innovators & entrepreneurs (independent, startup affiliated, or research institution affiliated)
- Postdoctoral researcher/scientists working on translational or applied healthcare problems
- Clinician and physicians from medical colleges and healthcare institutions
- Public health professionals building or implementing solutions at scale

Applicants should demonstrate:

- Clear understanding of the problem they aim to solve
- Scientific or technical depth
- Potential for healthcare impact
- Willingness to collaborate openly within the ecosystem

HOW TO APPLY

All applications to the Interconnect Innovation Catalyst Program must be submitted via the Interconnect App

Download from Google Play (for Android Phones) : https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.blockchainforimpact.interconnect&pcampaignid=web_share

Download from App Store Link (for iPhones) : <https://apps.apple.com/in/app/interconnect-network/id6749044826>

Scan and download



App Store



Play Store

STEP-BY-STEP APPLICATION PROCESS

Step 1 : Download the Interconnect App

Available on Google Play Store and Apple App Store

Step 2 : Register on the App

Create your professional profile with your background, expertise, and interests.

Step 3 : Post Your Project on the Feed

Applicants must first share a brief overview of their project on the Interconnect feed. This post is mandatory and will be considered the official application for initial review.

The post should clearly mention:

- The problem you are trying to solve
- Its relevance in the Indian healthcare context
- Proposed solution or approach
- Current stage (idea / prototype / early validation)
- The type of support or collaboration being sought

Step 4 : Complete the Detailed Program Application

After posting their project on the Interconnect feed, applicants must submit a detailed application. Posting a project on the feed unlocks the Interconnect Innovation Catalyst Program application within the app.

To apply, applicants should select the plus (+) icon, choose Start an Application, and then select Interconnect Innovation Catalyst Program. The application template is available in the Resources section of the app.

All information submitted in the Program application is visible only to the Interconnect admin team and will not be accessible to other users on the platform.

Step 5 : Review & Shortlisting

All submitted projects will be reviewed by the Internal Review Committee. Shortlisted applicants may be contacted for clarifications or follow-up discussions, and domain experts will be involved for subject-specific evaluation.

Step 6 : Expert Pitch & Evaluation (Offline)

Shortlisted teams will be invited to an **in-person pitch before a panel of experts**. This stage assesses problem relevance, innovation, feasibility, team capability, and potential impact. The details of the pitching session will be shared after shortlisting.

Step 7 : Selection & Onboarding

Final innovators are selected based on overall evaluation. Selected applicants receive official confirmation and onboarding details. The 12-month program tenure begins upon formal onboarding.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Projects will be evaluated on:

- Relevance to India's healthcare and biomedical needs
- Strength and clarity of the problem statement
- Scientific or technical merit
- Innovation potential
- Feasibility and scalability
- Potential for real-world impact
- Ability to benefit from collaboration and mentorship

PROGRAM JOURNEY (12 MONTHS)

During the program, Innovators will:

- Identify collaborators across research, clinical, and industry domains through interconnect app
- Develop a clear roadmap toward validation or commercialization
- Participate in periodic review and feedback sessions
- Receive guidance on overcoming technical, regulatory, or market bottlenecks

FINAL SHOWCASE & SCALE-UP SUPPORT

At the end of the program year:

- Innovators will present their work at a national-level showcase event
- Projects will be presented to ecosystem partners, industry leaders, and potential supporters
- Selected innovations may receive further support toward scale-up or next-stage funding

IMPORTANT NOTES

- There is no application fee to apply for the Interconnect Innovation Catalyst Program
- Applying through the Interconnect App is mandatory
- Submission of a project post does not guarantee selection
- BVT and BFI reserves the right to make final decisions regarding program awards

CONTACT INFORMATION

For any questions related to the program, please reach out at:
interconnect@blockchainforimpact.nl or info@bvtmanipal.org.

ABOUT INTERCONNECT APP

A professional networking app, a product of Blockchain For Impact (BFI) (available on Google Play Store and Apple App Store) for the researchers, clinicians, startups, social innovators and industry experts across the healthcare sector.

Through the platform, users can:

- Users can post their **projects, ideas, research problem statements, or collaboration needs** on the Interconnect app.
- Once posted, projects become **visible** to a wide network of researchers, clinicians, startup founders, industry professionals, domain experts, and BFI team.
- Interconnect users can **engage** with projects by liking posts to show interest, commenting to share **feedback** or suggestions, and reaching out directly to the project owner through the platform to explore potential collaboration.
- Users can regularly browse the feed to discover ongoing projects, **identify ideas aligned with their expertise, and engage with or support initiatives** where they can add value, creating two way participation that goes beyond posting to actively contributing to others' work.
- These interactions help build **interdisciplinary research and innovation teams organically** and create a **continuously evolving network of projects, skills, and collaboration needs**.

Over time, the platform becomes a **living map of India's biomedical innovation ecosystem**.