

**ANNEX****FACTSHEET: SILVER INFOCOMM INITIATIVE**

The Silver Infocomm Initiative (SII) aims to bridge the digital divide among seniors aged 50 and above by addressing differences in educational background, language and infocomm competencies. Launched in November 2007, the SII aims to promote IT awareness and literacy among seniors aged 50 and above so that they can be actively engaged in the digital age. The initiative also aims to bridge the digital divide regardless of education backgrounds, language competencies or IT awareness levels.

To date, about 160,000 seniors have benefitted through activities organised under the initiative which includes the Silver IT Fest, Mass IT Training classes, classes at Silver Infocomm Junctions (SIJs) and Intergen IT Bootcamps.

For more details on the various activities under the SII, please refer to the table below:

A	Silver IT Fest
B	Silver Infocomm Junctions (SIJs)
C	Intergen IT Bootcamps
D	Silver Infocomm Wellness Ambassadors (SIWAs)
E	Friends of Silver Infocomm (FSI)

**A: Silver IT Fest**

The Silver IT Fest is an annual event organised by IMDA, in partnership with Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs), industry partners and the community. It has multiple components such as hands-on training workshops, exhibition and seminars to allow seniors to experience technology in different ways. The Silver IT Fest comprises a series of events held in heartland areas including roving roadshows as well as Mass IT Training sessions.

**B: Silver Infocomm Junctions (SIJs)**

The Silver Infocomm Junctions (SIJs) are senior-friendly infocomm learning hubs appointed by IMDA. SIJs are operated by Voluntary Welfare Organisations, PA's Grassroots' Organisations and/or Non-profit Organisations. As at April 2017, about 80,000 seniors have been trained at the workshops conducted at these SIJs.

These SIJs offer affordable infocomm training and a customised curriculum for seniors. Tutorials are also available for them to enjoy an in-depth learning experience. Classes are divided into two tracks, iBEGIN and iLIVE, for seniors to learn basic infocomm usage and digital lifestyle skills respectively.

The iBEGIN curriculum imparts basic infocomm skills such as how to use a computer, surf the Internet, create an email or instant messaging account, make video calls, as well as how to be safe online.

The iLIVE curriculum, comprising intermediate and digital lifestyle topics, is aimed at users who already have basic infocomm skills. Participants will learn how to transact online, edit digital photos and share large files online.

The senior-friendly course modules are structured in a step-by-step, comprehensive format, and available in both English and Chinese. Currently, the Silver Infocomm Curriculum covers 23 topics.

For details on the course outline and locations of SIJs, please visit [www.imda.gov.sg/SII](http://www.imda.gov.sg/SII)

### **C: Intergen IT Bootcamps**

To foster closer ties between the seniors and their grandchildren, various schools from primary to tertiary levels have been collaborating with IMDA for the Intergen IT Bootcamps. Started in 2010, the Intergen IT Bootcamps help seniors cross the digital divide while bonding with the younger generation.

Since 2015, IMDA partnered North East Community Development Council (NE CDC) and POSB for the North East Eldersurf Intergen Bootcamp to benefit about seniors and students in the North East District.

To date, 86 schools have co-organised 279 bootcamps with IMDA and trained over 5,000 seniors to pick up IT skills from their grandchildren or students. Topics covered include “Basic Computer and Internet Skills”, “Getting Started on Facebook” and “Introduction to iPad”.

### **D: Silver Infocomm Wellness Ambassadors**

The Silver Infocomm Wellness Ambassadors (SIWAs) are jointly appointed by the IMDA and the People’s Association Active Ageing Council (PA AAC).

SIWAs are seniors, aged 50 years old and above, recognised for their active IT lifestyle and their efforts in inspiring and encouraging their peers to use infocomm to enhance their lifestyle, e.g. social networking, blogging and e-banking. The SIWAs come from different backgrounds and nominations can be done online by the individual himself/herself or by another individual.

This year, we received a good response from the community with over 80 quality nominations, of which 31 active advocates were selected as SIWAs.

Into its sixth year, there is now a total of 163 SIWAs who are active in helping their peers go digital. Together with PA AAC, IMDA will be grooming 29 SIWAs through a new Tech Silver Project. The aim is to promote a culture of volunteerism where these SIWAs are equipped with soft skills and technical skills which will build their competencies to help their peers pick up IT skills.



## **E: Friends of Silver Infocomm (FSI)**

Friends of Silver Infocomm (FSI) is a programme piloted in August 2016 under the Silver Infocomm Initiative to promote active volunteerism to those who have a passion to help seniors hop onto the digital bandwagon. Volunteers play important roles in ensuring seniors keep up with the trainers during IT workshops and tutorials.

Every year, about 300 to 400 adult and student volunteers come forward to support the Silver Infocomm Initiative outreach efforts. IMDA welcomes organisations from both the private and public sectors to join as Corporate FSI. As a Corporate FSI, these organisations will facilitate as a conduit to encourage their staff to be a volunteer.

A range of volunteer opportunities will be made available on a regular basis for each FSI to choose from. While there is no minimum volunteer hours required, each volunteer session is about 3 to 4 hours and each FSI is encouraged to sign up for 2 to 4 sessions a year. FSI will be updated regularly on volunteering opportunities throughout the year.

To qualify for FSI, the individual / corporate staff should possess the following skills and interests:

- Familiar with using a computer, tablet and smart phone;
- Passion working with seniors; and
- Advocates who promote use of technology to seniors.