

**FACT SHEET****IDA MOOC PILOT FOR DATA SCIENCES & ANALYTICS TRAINING****Background**

As Singapore moves to become the world's first Smart Nation, one key driver for progress is the ability to capture and make use of big data. Harnessing real-time data effectively across a wide range of operations and services is changing the way the nation is managed and how people live and work in such an environment. This in turn drives the demand for data sciences and analytics. Data professionals are needed by businesses, government and ICT companies to leverage the exponential data surge for productivity, competitiveness and growth.

IDA has initiated a number of initiatives over the past few years, including encouraging local institutes of higher learning to develop data sciences and analytics programmes at the diploma, undergraduate and post-graduate levels. IDA has also collaborated with the industry to offer on-the-job training and specialist certifications to enable new job entrants and working professionals to develop data sciences and analytics skillsets.

To complement existing initiatives and encourage working professionals to further their learning in data sciences, IDA has partnered with Coursera to launch the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Pilot for Data Sciences & Analytics Training

**Pilot Overview & Objectives**

The pilot will leverage the Coursera MOOC platform's data sciences specialisation provided by Johns Hopkins University, to complement the development of data sciences and analytics manpower in Singapore.

It aims to be a viable means of skills upgrading for organisations and individual working professionals in critical technology skills such as data sciences and analytics.

The training programme is targeted at working professionals from business, IT and other disciplines. The pilot welcomes all Singaporeans who have an interest in learning about and developing new skills in data sciences and analytics.

The MOOC Pilot Programme aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Complement the development of Data Sciences and Analytics professionals through MOOC

- Facilitate and accelerate Data Sciences and Analytics training through MOOC
- Create a Data Sciences community to increase awareness and catalyse a Data Sciences / Analytics culture in Singapore
- Assess Data Sciences / Analytics MOOC training on employability of candidates

Participants will earn a verified certificate upon successful completion of each of the 10 modules. Participants that successfully complete all 10 modules of the specialisation will receive a Specialisation Certificate awarded by the Johns Hopkins University and Coursera.

## Course Format

Courses are scheduled to commence from August 2014 onwards with an initial enrolment of more than 200 Singaporeans. The data sciences specialisation track has 10 modules, including a final capstone project. The project will give participants the chance to apply their newly acquired data knowledge in a real-world problem to test and foster learning.

Weekly meet-up sessions will be arranged to provide participants with the opportunity to meet up with facilitators and other course participants. The meet-up sessions cover course modules and are supported by industry-members-turned-volunteer course facilitators to help teach, answer questions and guide discussions with attendees. With facilitation, participants are expected to be more engaged to follow through and complete the courses.

## Co-funding

IDA will co-fund up to 80% of course registration fees and provide an incentive reward of \$500 for participants who successfully complete the specialisation track.

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## About Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore

The mission of the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) is to develop information technology and telecommunications within Singapore with a view to serve citizens of all ages and companies of all sizes. IDA does this by actively supporting the growth of innovative technology companies and start-ups in Singapore, working with leading global IT companies as well as developing excellent information technology and telecommunications infrastructure, policies and capabilities for Singapore. For more news and information, visit [www.ida.gov.sg](http://www.ida.gov.sg).

## For media clarifications, please contact:

Christopher Koh (Mr)

Manager, Corporate and Marketing Communication

DID: +65 6211 1709

Fax: +65 6659 2427

E-mail: [christopher\\_koh@ida.gov.sg](mailto:christopher_koh@ida.gov.sg)