

Project Summary for IAL Website

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Project Title:	Digital Capacity Building of Own-Account Workers in Singapore
Project Number:	GA20-06
Year of Approval:	2021
Funding Source:	WDARF
Objectives and intended outcomes of the project:	To assess the digital needs of own-account workers in Singapore and inform policy and programme development to build their digital competency.
Project Team	
Principal Investigator:	Dr Carol Soon
Summary of Project (up to 300 words)	
<p>Digitalisation has increased the prevalence of remote and contractual work, the rise of digital intermediaries, and the use of advanced digital technology, all of which affect both traditional and self-employment. As self-employed persons without employees, own-account workers do not have the same upskilling support and opportunities as traditional employees. As they make up a substantial and increasing proportion of the local workforce, there is a pressing need to help them acquire jobs and skills to stay relevant in the digital economy.</p> <p>Through focus group discussions and interviews with own-account workers, as well as employers and trainers who work with them, and analysis of secondary data, this study will identify how to advance the digital skills and competency of own-account workers in Singapore. It will also develop a framework for digital skills development. To do this, the study will examine the digital readiness of Singapore's own-account workers, the digital skills requirements of own-account work in Singapore, and digital skills training available to own-account workers in Singapore. Given the diversity of own-account work, both in the local and global contexts, this study addresses the required skills, concerns, and challenges faced by own-account workers from different sectors.</p>	