

## **News Release**

## Startup Weekend Singapore (SWSG) Mega 2017 - Winners Announced

**SINGAPORE, 1 October 2017** – Startup Weekend Singapore (SWSG) Mega 2017, organised by Startup Weekend in partnership with GIC, concluded on 1 October. Over 54 hours, 250 participants came together at NUS University Town, delivered over 100 initial pitches, formed 36 teams around the top ideas and built their ideas with guidance from close to 40 mentors. On 1 October, the final day, the top 12 teams pitched to a panel of experienced judges. The teams were evaluated on their business model, execution and validation. A GIC Prize was also awarded to the idea with the greatest imagination, feasibility and disruptive potential.

A total of five winners were announced.

	Winning Team	Prizes (Per Team Member)
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	<b>Kecap</b> A localised travel chatbot	<ul> <li>DJI Spark Drone</li> <li>Level3   6-month Hot Desk membership</li> <li>PALO IT   Certified Agile Fundamentals Workshop and Design Thinking Workshop</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Boogie Board</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Trophy Award</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	MediWhere A telemedicine solution for the elderly	<ul> <li>Microsoft Xbox</li> <li>Level3   6-month Hot Desk membership</li> <li>Agile Fundamentals Workshop and Design Thinking Workshop</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Boogie Board</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Trophy Award</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Keep A self-storage solution that connects storage keeper and storage provider	<ul> <li>Kindle Fire</li> <li>Tinkertanker   Micro:bit Tinker Kit</li> <li>Level3   6-month Hot Desk membership</li> <li>PALO IT   Certified Agile Fundamentals Workshop and Design Thinking Workshop</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Boogie Board</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Trophy Award</li> </ul>
GIC Prize	Kecap A localised travel chatbot	■ iPhone X
Most Creative Prize	Photonify An Al-powered photography assistant	<ul> <li>Tinkertanker   Droid Inventor Kit</li> <li>12Geeks   Micro:bits Starter Kit</li> <li>Level3   6-month Hot Desk membership</li> <li>PALO IT   Certified Agile Fundamentals Workshop and Design Thinking Workshop</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Boogie Board</li> <li>SWSG Personalised Trophy Award</li> </ul>

Member of Parliament Teo Ser Luck delivered opening remarks before judging. His advice to the participants – "Every single idea is a good idea. The key is how you cross that gap between having an idea and making it commercially viable." He added, "At the end of the day, the whole entrepreneurial journey is an asset on your balance sheet. You get stronger and learn from it. There are no liabilities."



Abhilash Murthy, Team Leader of Kecap, said, "Winning both the 1st Prize and GIC Prize at SWSG Mega is the best form of validation for us. We believe we now have credibility to reach out to investors, develop contacts and grow our project."

Lim Chow Kiat, Chief Executive Officer of GIC, delivered the closing address. He said, "As a Singapore institution, GIC is inspired by the spirit of courage and enterprise exhibited over the last 54 hours."

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## **About GIC**

GIC is a leading global investment firm with well over US\$100 billion in assets under management. Established in 1981 to secure the financial future of Singapore, the firm manages Singapore's foreign reserves. A disciplined long-term value investor, GIC is uniquely positioned for investments across a wide range of asset classes, including real estate, private equity, equities and fixed income. GIC has investments in over 40 countries and has been investing in emerging markets for more than two decades. Headquartered in Singapore, GIC employs over 1,400 people across 10 offices in key financial cities worldwide. For more information about GIC, please visit <a href="https://www.gic.com.sg">www.gic.com.sg</a>.