**GLOBAL BUSINESS INNOVATION PROGRAMME**

**APPLICATION FORM**

**About the Global Business Innovation Programme:** The Global Business Innovation Programme (GBIP) brings together cohorts of up to 15 innovative UK businesses (up to 500 employees) looking to grow and scale globally. Each focuses on a specific country and technology or sector area and enables the businesses to build collaborations and partnerships and explore innovation opportunities.

The Global Business Innovation Programmes are not about trade and export, but on helping innovative UK businesses tap into complementary knowledge, skills, and facilities in the chosen country and building understanding, insight, collaborations, partnerships and networks to enable the business to grow and scale globally.

This Global Business Innovation Programme lasts up to 12 months and is structured around three stages:

• **Prepare for the market:** Briefing by sector and market experts on Atlantic Canada’s marine technology, innovation and research ecosystem and key players, market dynamics and cultural aspects of conducting business in Canada. Delegates also receive help to find partners and arrange meetings.

• **Visiting the market:** Providing opportunities to attend pre-arranged meetings and activities with key organisations and to meet potential partners and collaborators and build relationships. This will include participation at Canada’s Premier Conference, Exhibition and Ocean Industry Showcase the [H2O: Home to Overseas Conference and Exhibition](https://h2oconference.ca/) and site visits. (5 days of market related activity)

• **Exploiting the opportunity:** Participating companies will benefit from an Exploitation Workshop and bespoke one-to-one support from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to maximise the opportunity.

By applying for a place on this initiative, businesses commit to participating in all three stages to maximise the opportunities for the business and public investment. An individual senior person from the business will be expected to participate in all activities and should be the named applicant.

Successful businesses will have a designated Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to support them for the duration of the Global Business Innovation Programme, including developing an action plan to capitalise on the opportunities identified. You will be expected to work with the Innovate UK EDGE Specialist throughout the length of the initiative.

Innovate UK will fund and organise flights, accommodation, in-market travel, and conference fees for successful applicants. Innovate UK will also pay for any reasonable adjustments throughout the initiative. Only one representative from each company will be funded. On acceptance to the initiative a commitment fee of £500 will be obtained from each company, which will be refunded on completion of the full activities and agreed action plan. Non-completion after formal acceptance may result in forfeiting some or all the commitment fee.

Innovate UK is committed to improving the diversity of who we support. As such, we welcome applications from under-represented groups.

**Subsidy Control and Eligibility**

The innovation growth and scaling advisory and support services delivered as part of Innovate UK EDGE, including the Global Business Innovation Programme, are deemed to be a subsidy. Businesses selected to participate in a Global Business Innovation Programme will be in receipt of a subsidy (below £10,000) and details of this will be held centrally by Innovate UK EDGE.

To qualify an enterprise must have less than 500 employees (in Northern Ireland fewer than 250 employees, a turnover of less than €50 million, or a balance sheet total of less than €43 million) and cannot have received more than £344,600 of subsidy within any rolling three-year period (€200,000 for Northern Ireland). A company must also comply with the following:

* Be a UK registered and trading company
* Be a going concern and filed accounts on time
* Have no more than 2 county court judgements (CCJ) over £10,000
* Have no disqualified Directors

**I am eligible to apply for this programme**

[ ]  Yes

**Section 1: Programme Information**

**Programme Information**

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| **Title** | **Global Business Innovation Programme** |
| **Country** | **Canada** | **Technology/Sector Area**  | **Ocean Technology** |

**Section 2: Applicant Information**

**Contact Information**

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| **Applicant Name\*** |  | **Title** |  |
| **Applicant Position** |  |
| **Email** |  | **Telephone (Office)** |  | **Mobile Number** |  |

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| \*This should be a senior person from the business who will be involved in all stages of the programme. |  |

**Company Information**

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| **Company Name** |  |
| **Company trading address including post code** |  |
| **Company registered address (if different)** |  |
| **Company registration number** |  |
| **Year of incorporation** |  |
| **Please provide an overview of your company and business including its technology, R&D activities, history of innovation and experience in the market and sector** |  |
| **Website** |  |
| **Sector and Focus Areas** |  |

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| **Number of Employees** |  |
| **Annual Turnover** |  |
| **What has been your growth in turnover in the past 3 years?** |  |
| **How is your company funded? (e.g. investment, sales, grants)** |  |
| **Do you have international offices or partners? If yes, where?** |  |
| **Company Stage** | **Pre-Seed**[ ]  | **Seed**[ ]  | **Early Stage**[ ]  | **Growth**[ ]  | **Scale**[ ]  |

**Section 3: Applicant Questions**

**All questions are mandatory, if unanswered your application is considered incomplete and will not be considered**

1. How does your application fit with the scope of this Global Business Innovation Programme?

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1. Please give a short description of the new product(s) and/or service(s) your business is developing. What is innovative about it?

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1. What stage is your product and/or service? (e.g. pre – R&D, early R&D, prototyping/testing or full product in market)

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1. Please describe your target market and the likely fit of your product/service? Who will buy the product/service? How large is the (global) market? What is your route to market?

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1. How globally active is your business currently? Please indicate which international market or markets your business is currently active in.

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1. Why are you specifically interested in working with the Canadian market, the country that is the focus for this Global Business Innovation Programme?

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1. Given that this programme is looking to help companies build collaborations and partnerships, are there any specific companies, universities or other organisations you would be keen to meet with as part of the programme? If so, please state who and what is your specific interest?

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1. What does your business want to gain by participating in this Global Business Innovation Programme e.g. identify strategic partners, identify customers or suppliers, R&D collaboration etc? How are you going to grow and scale your business as a result of participating in the programme?

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1. What do you see are your main barriers to innovation and/or internationalisation?

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1. How are you going to embed the knowledge gained from this programme into your business? e.g. resources, strategies, budgets, etc.

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1. Please highlight if you have previously participated in a Global Business Innovation Programme or benefited from other Innovate UK programmes or funding or support through Innovate UK EDGE (previously known as Enterprise Europe Network). If you have, please indicate how you have exploited the involvement.

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**Section 4: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

Are your activities ever affected by a disability, impairment or long-term illness which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

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| **Yes** [ ]  | **No** [ ]  | **Prefer not to say** [ ]  |

If yes, please specify below

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What is the applicant’s age?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **<19** [ ]  | **20 - 29** [ ]  | **30 - 39** [ ]  | **40 - 49** [ ]  |
| **50 - 59** [ ]  | **60+** [ ]  | **Prefer not to say** [ ]  |  |

Which gender do you identify as?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Female** [ ]  | **Male** [ ]  | **Prefer not to say** [ ]  | **Prefer to self describe** [ ]  |

If you answered prefer to self describe then please specify

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Please can you tell us your ethnicity?

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| **Asian / Asian British**[ ]  | **Black / African / Caribbean / Black British** [ ]  | **Mixed / multiple ethnic groups**[ ]  |
| **Other ethnic group**[ ]  | **White**[ ]  | **Prefer not to say**[ ]  |

**Section 5: Personal Data and Privacy**

We take your data very seriously and are committed to the privacy and security of it. [Our Privacy Statement](https://www.innovateukedge.ukri.org/privacy-notice) explains the types of personal data we may collect about you and how we will store and handle that data, and keep it safe.

Transfer of personal data within the UK and Canada: to expedite your visit, we will have to share your personal data (e.g. your name, email address, passport details) with our travel management company and other partners.

To enable you to undertake the visit, our service provider support network will take appropriate steps to ensure that there are adequate safeguards in place to protect your personal data.

**I consent for my personal data to be shared with the travel management company and other partners in Canada and the UK.**

[ ]  **Yes**

[ ]  **No**

**Section 6: Withdrawal of Support**

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) reserve the right to withdraw support at any time even after you have been accepted onto the programme. If your company is deemed to be ineligible for support due to any information that may become available to UKRI after the date of acceptance, you will be notified immediately and the commitment fee refunded to your company.

**Section 7: Terms and Conditions**

**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

If your application is successful, on acceptance to the programme a commitment fee payment of £500 will be required, which will be refunded on completion of the full activities of the programme and agreed action plan. Non-completion after formal acceptance may result in forfeiting some or all the commitment fee.

*As the applicant, I support the statements as described above and acknowledge I have read all supporting documentation related to the Global Business Innovation Programme Application Form.*

By submitting this application you are agreeing to the above.

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| **Applicant Name and Title** | **Date** |

**Complete and submit application form to email:** **Julie.Coles@innovateukedge.ukri.org**

**Closing date for full application: Sunday 27 March 2022 midnight.**

**It is a competitive process and successful applicants will be notified of selection by 8 April 2022.**