



THE GLOBAL BUSINESS INNOVATION PROGRAMME

Tokyo, Japan – Battery Technologies

The Global Business Innovation Programme – Battery Technologies

Technologies is organised by Innovate UK and delivered by Innovate UK EDGE. It consists of a **five-day innovation visit** focussed on Japan's thriving science and technology system, including a visit to the Battery Japan Expo and a **post-visit exploitation workshop**, along with **support for approximately 12 months** from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist. The programme is designed to help your business maximise the opportunities identified, including developing innovation projects with partners in the territory.

Innovate UK is committed to ensuring that anyone from any background, has an equal opportunity to be successful.

Focus Areas

Batteries will play an important role in helping to achieve the net-zero target by 2050. Although this area is a key strength for Japan, there are many unique opportunities for international business partnerships to help tackle some of the key challenges faced in the market.

This initiative is particularly relevant for businesses that focus on propulsion battery development, new and emerging battery technologies (automotive battery and sub-components) and businesses that provide stationary storage solutions for both grid and home.

The key considerations for this initiative will be on:

- High performance batteries
- Routes to low cost, critical material free batteries
- Next generation technologies
- Recycling and second life

Why Japan?

Japan is a powerhouse of battery innovation, with major companies applying for more than a third of international patents in this field. It is the world's 3rd largest research & development investor and the 5th largest producer of high-quality science.

The Green Innovation Fund will invest approximately £1bn for research & development on the next-generation of automotive batteries and motors, following an announcement to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Japan aims to produce automotive batteries with higher energy density by 2030, with the goal of Electric Vehicles accounting for 100% of car sales by 2035.

Benefits:

- Explore future battery technology opportunities
- Gain a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities of doing business in Japan
- Find potential innovation collaborators and partners to develop your network in the UK and globally
- Improve your company value proposition to international partners

KEY DATES:

Applications:

Open: Monday 8
November 2021

Close: Sunday 5
December 2021

Pre-Visit Workshop:

Tuesday 22
February 2022

Innovation Visit:

12-19 March
2022

Exploitation Workshop:

May 2022

WHAT TO EXPECT:

The Global Business Innovation Programme is structured around three main phases. Each business will have a designated Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to support them for the duration of the offering, including developing an action plan to capitalise on the opportunities identified. The three main phases are:

- **Getting ready for the market:** Pre-activity briefing workshop and sessions to build knowledge and understanding of the Japanese market and potential opportunities, including how to do business, cultural aspects, how to protect your IP and improve your pitch.
- **Visiting the market:** Explore the innovation opportunities in Japan through meetings with key companies and potential collaborators and partners (five-day visit).
- **Exploiting the opportunity:** An exploitation workshop and one-to-one support from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to follow up and take advantage of the opportunities identified.

INNOVATION VISIT – EXAMPLE ITINERARY (subject to change):

Date	Activity
Saturday 12 March 2022	Depart the UK and arrive in Japan
Monday 14 - Friday 18 March 2022	Programme in market, visiting the Battery Japan Expo in Tokyo with opportunities for B2B meetings
Saturday 19 March 2022	Depart Japan to return to the UK

TO APPLY FOR THIS INITIATIVE, YOU MUST:

Be a UK-based innovation-led company with ambitions to grow and internationalise.

Be a company with fewer than 500 employees.

Be able to attend and complete all activities.

WHAT IS THE COST?

Innovate UK and Innovate UK EDGE will fund and organise flights, accommodation 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, a **commitment fee of £500** will be obtained from each delegate, 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.

HOW TO APPLY?

The Global Business Innovation Programme has a competitive application process where only the best applications will be successful following an evaluation process. All applications must be made online through the Innovate UK EDGE website and received no later than **Sunday 5 December 2021**.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE:

Please note: Successful applicants will be expected to fully comply with any conditions of travel to Japan as well as any local regulations on face covering and social distancing. As such, you might be required to provide proof of vaccination, valid travel medical insurance and/or a negative COVID-19 test ahead of travelling to Japan.

The safety of our delegation is our top priority. COVID-19 mitigation measures are still being finalised. If the COVID-19 situation does not allow us to travel to the market, a virtual visit may be considered.

To fill in the online application form, please visit the [Innovate UK EDGE website here](#).

For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact Innovate UK EDGE London at event.enquiries1@innovateukedge.ukri.org.