



THE GLOBAL BUSINESS INNOVATION PROGRAMME

FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE AVIATION

Innovate UK is inviting ambitious companies to participate in the Global Business Innovation Programme.

Delivered by Innovate UK EDGE, the programme consists of a preparation phase followed by a 5-day tailored programme of activities in Sweden with the opportunity to visit Sweden's top aerospace companies and meet with leading academic and research Institutes. The programme will provide a unique opportunity for delegates to find partners and identify opportunities for technology collaboration.

Delegates will benefit from a follow-up workshop and bespoke support from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to exploit the contacts, opportunities and knowledge gained during the visit and develop cross border innovation projects.

WHY SWEDEN?

The Swedish aerospace sector employs over 14,000 people and has a turnover of more than €2.6 billion per year with international sales accounting for 70% of all revenues.

Traditionally dominated by two large companies Saab AB and GKN Aerospace Sweden AB the Swedish government's aviation strategy is placing greater emphasis on developing a strong SME aerospace community. Brought together by the Aerospace Cluster Sweden, Swedish government has established a wide range of funding mechanisms to strengthen and grow the sector.

Sweden has identified itself as an international role model of sustainability. In 2020, state owned Swedavia, which operates ten of Sweden's airports, became the world's first airport operator

to achieve completely fossil-free operations.

With the announcement of the introduction of a greenhouse gas reduction for aviation fuel in 2021, the Swedish Government has ventured further in keeping with its 2015 initiative 'Fossil-Free Sweden' and will continue by aiming to make all domestic flights fossil-free by 2030 and all flights originating from Sweden fossil-free by 2045.

With a clear national research and innovation agenda set out in NRIA Flyg 2020, which prioritises international collaboration, this market offers significant opportunity for UK companies developing sustainable aviation solutions.

FOCUS THEMES AND KEY TECHNOLOGIES:

- Propulsion Systems
- All electric and hybrid engines
- Structures and design
- Lightweighting
- Composites, coatings, alloys

KEY DATES:

Application
Deadline
12 January 2022

Pre-Visit
Workshop
6 April 2022

Innovation
Visit
15-21 May 2022

Exploitation
Workshop
14 July 2022

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Successful applicants will benefit from an intensive 9 to 12 months three phased programme and bespoke support from an Innovation and Growth Specialist throughout.

- **Getting ready for the market:** Preparation workshops to build knowledge and understanding of the market and opportunities, consideration of cultural differences and how to do business in Sweden protecting Intellectual Property and training on articulating your value proposition and how to pitch.
- **Visiting the market:** Exclusive access to the Swedish aerospace market and the opportunity to meet with key contacts, research organisations and companies. Meet potential collaborators and partners through pre-arranged meetings and matchmaking events.
- **Exploiting the opportunity:** A follow-up workshop and bespoke support from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to exploit contacts and knowledge gained during the visit and develop cross border innovation projects.

ITINERARY (subject to change):

Participants will need to comply with [Swedish](#) and [UK](#) travel requirements. Should travel not be permitted the programme will be delivered virtually.

Date	Activity
16 May 2022	Briefing by British Embassy & Tour Skellefteå Airport
17 May 2022	Gothenburg- Visit GKN & B2B meetings
18 May 2022	Gothenburg – Visit Heart Aerospace
19 May 2022	Linköping –Visit SARC & B2B Swedish Aerospace Cluster
20 May 2022	Linköping – Visit Saab

TO APPLY FOR THIS INITIATIVE YOU MUST BE:

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

A company with fewer than 500 employees.

Able to attend and complete all activities.

THE COST

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 programme 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

[Apply here](#) using the online application form. The Global Business Innovation Programme is a competitive process and successful applicants will be notified by 19 January 2022.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

[Watch the briefing event](#) and contact the Programme Lead, Louise Hooker at louise.hooker@innovateukedge.ukri.org or call 07850 300575.