

Global Business Innovation Programme USA – Denver, Colorado Clean Growth

Innovate UK's **Global Business Innovation Programme** helps businesses explore and exploit collaborative innovation and growth opportunities that exist in overseas markets.

We are currently accepting applications for up to **15 companies** in the Clean Growth sector to join our programme supported by the **National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)** and **Innosphere Ventures**.

The Programme is focused on helping your business to maximise the opportunities in the USA and will include a visit to the **NREL Industry Growth Forum (IGF)**, a leading clean growth networking conference in Denver that connects innovative businesses to investors and industry experts.

Participants will be provided with pre-visit support from Innovate UK EDGE and also given the opportunity to apply for the Investor Pitch Competition at IGF.

Innovate UK is committed to Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (ED&I) and encourages people from all backgrounds to apply.

CLEAN GROWTH SECTORS

We would welcome applications from innovative companies who could be developing technologies across a broad range of clean growth sectors including:

- **Renewables** (Geothermal, Solar, Water, Wind)
- **Sustainable Transport** (Bioenergy Hydrogen & Fuel Cells, Electric Vehicles)
- **Energy Efficiency** (Advanced Manufacturing, Buildings)
- **Energy Systems Integration** (Energy Security & Resilience, Grid Modernisation, Integrated Energy Solutions)
- **Carbon Capture and Utilisation**
- **AgriTech** (crop analytics)

WHY USA?

The US Government has pledged to cut US greenhouse emissions in half by 2030 and become carbon neutral by 2050. As a result, the US is scaling up the development and deployment of clean energy technologies to build a new clean energy infrastructure and economy.

WHY COLORADO?

Colorado is one of the most centrally located areas of the United States and is a national leader in adopting clean energy technologies.

The state has one of the highest per capita concentrations of federal science, research, and engineering facilities in the US, including NREL.

It was also the first state in the US to pass a voter-approved renewable energy standard, which requires that all investor-owned utilities acquire 30% of their electricity from renewable sources. This major shift towards sustainable energy by both the legislature and the voting public demonstrates Colorado's commitment to clean, renewable energy.

KEY DATES:

Programme
Briefing:
29 September
2022

Applications
Close:
21 October
2022

Pre-Visit
Workshops:
February & March
2023

Market Visit:
30 April –
6 May 2023

Post-Visit
Workshop:
October
2023

WHAT TO EXPECT:

The Global Business Innovation Programme is structured around three main phases and 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 of the Global Business Innovation Programme are:

- **Getting ready for the market:** Preparation workshops to build knowledge and understanding of the market and opportunities, including how to do business, cultural aspects protecting Intellectual Property and training on articulating your value proposition and how to improve your pitch. (1 day workshop)
- **Visiting the market:** Explore the innovation opportunities first-hand through meeting with key companies and research organisations and potential collaborators and partners through pre-arranged meetings and organised matchmaking. The visit will include 2-days at the NREL Industry Growth Forum. (5 days of market related activity)
- **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. (1 day workshop and working with an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist).

Date	Activity
30 April 2023	Depart for Denver
1 May 2023	Visit to NREL
2-3 May 2023	Visit the NREL Industry Growth Forum (www.nrelforum.com)
4-5 May 2023	Arranged visits and meetings with organisations in the Clean Growth ecosystem
6 May 2023	Depart for UK

TO APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAMME, YOU MUST:

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

Be a Clean Growth business with fewer than 500 employees

Be able to attend and complete all activities in person

WHAT IS THE COST?

Innovate UK and Innovate UK EDGE will fund and organise flights, accommodation, in-market transfers for successful applicants. One representative from each company will be funded per visit. On acceptance to the Programme 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.

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](#) and received no later than **5pm on 21st October 2022**

Please note: Successful applicants will be expected to fully comply with any conditions of travel to USA. You may be required to provide proof of vaccination and a negative COVID-19 test ahead of travelling. The safety of our delegation is a priority.

Innovate UK is committed to improving the diversity of who we support. As such we welcome applications from those under-represented in the Clean Growth sector.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

We will be holding a **Briefing Event** on **Thursday 29th September 2022 at 4pm**. Register [here](#). For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact: **Ian Fletcher** at ian.fletcher@innovateukedge.ukri.org or call **+44 (0)7572 385533**.