

The Global Business Innovation Programme

Smart Manufacturing - Singapore



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The Global Business Innovation Programme, provided by Innovate UK and delivered by Innovate UK EDGE, consists of a preparation phase, 5-day innovation visit to focus on Singapore, a post-visit exploitation workshop and support of approximately 12 months from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist, helping your business maximise the opportunities identified, including developing innovation projects with partners in the country.

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

Focus Areas:

We are inviting applications from scale-up and high growth companies enabling innovation in the following areas outlined in the Innovate UK materials and manufacturing vision 2050 www.ukri.org/reimagine-manufacturing:

- Materials for the future economy – discovery, scaling, accelerating adoption of advanced, bio-based and sustainable materials, and the associated processing
- Smart design – through-life and multidisciplinary design engineering with support of digital tools to de-risk and prototype new ideas
- Resilient supply chains – procurement of raw materials and components, and the repurposing of emissions, solid waste and industrial water back into manufacturing
- World-class production – automated and adaptive manufacturing, productivity enhancement, predictive maintenance, biomanufacture and resource efficiency
- Longer in use and reuse – sustainable consumption of resources and reuse, repair, recycling, remanufacture, and ultimate disposal products and materials

We are keen to support organisations in materials and manufacturing embracing innovation to be:

- Net zero and resource efficient,
- Resilient and responsive
- Technologically advanced and digital

Why Singapore?

Singapore has an advanced digital economy and is consistently ranked as one of the world's most innovative cities. Singapore can serve as a gateway to Asia due to its high GDP per capita, healthcare, transport, infrastructure quality and technology adoption, plus an attractive tax system, a familiar legal framework, and the ease of doing business in English. The Singapore Economy 2030 vision, establishes manufacturing as a key pillar. The Manufacturing 2030 plan is to increase manufacturing value-add by 50% by 2030.

Technological advancements such as big data, robotics, artificial intelligence and additive manufacturing are redefining manufacturing processes, design and production facilities, distribution systems and global supply chains. Manufacturers and businesses, from multinational corporations to small and medium enterprises in Asia-Pacific recognise that current business models are no longer sustainable; they must change and adapt. Innovators from the UK can tap into this time of change to address the needs of the market and grow through Singapore and into the Asia Pacific region. This GBIP is anchored at the prestigious Industrial Transformation Asia Pacific show (more detail below).

Key Dates:

Applicant Briefing:
19 Jul
2023

Application Deadline:
13 Aug
2023

Pre Visit Briefing:
12 & 13 Sept
2023

Innovation visit:
16 - 20 Oct
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: In person pre-visit briefing workshop to build knowledge and understanding of the market and potential opportunities, including how to do business, cultural aspects, how to protect your IP and training on how to improve your pitch and articulate your value proposition.

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.

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 - Itinerary:

Date	Activity
14 Oct 2023	Outward Travel to Singapore
16 - 17 Oct 2023	Activities for the week in Singapore likely to include: pitching sessions, meetings with government, key industry players, NGOs and academia, Site visits and B2B opportunities.
18 - 20 Oct 2023	Innovate UK Stand at ITAP. The Industrial Transformation ASIA-PACIFIC event is an organised by HANNOVER MESSE (industrial-transformation.com) and offers you a strategic platform that evolves with the industry and is shaped by the leaders and experts in support of their transformative initiatives; a journey that is necessary and made possible by the process of digitalisation in manufacturing and materials.
21 Oct 2023	Return Travel
22 Oct 2023	Arrive back in UK

*Travel will be subject to the entry and exit rules of Singapore and the UK. Should travel not be permitted the programme will be delivered virtually or cancelled.

To apply for this initiative, you must:

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

Be a business with fewer than 500 employees

Be able to attend and complete all activities

What is 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. One representative from each company will be funded. On acceptance to the initiative 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 application form can be found [here](#). 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 13 August. All applicants will be notified from week commencing 21 August. 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 Singapore as well as any local regulations. The safety of our delegation is our top priority.

If unforeseen circumstance do 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](#). For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact Kevin Hallas. E: Kevin.Hallas@innovateukedge.ukri.org