

# Global Business Innovation Programme

## Clean Growth

### USA – Denver, Colorado

**Innovate UK's Global Business Innovation Programme** helps businesses explore 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.

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

- **AgriTech** (Aquaculture, Crops, Food & Food Systems)
- **Carbon Capture and Utilisation**
- **Energy Efficiency** (Advanced Manufacturing, Smart Buildings)
- **Energy Storage**
- **Energy Systems Integration** (Energy Security & Resilience, Grid Modernisation, Integrated Energy Solutions)
- **Low Carbon Materials** (steel, aluminum, and concrete)
- **Renewables** (Geothermal, Solar, Water, Wind)
- **Sustainable Transport** (Aviation, Bioenergy, Hydrogen & Fuel Cells, Electric Vehicles & Charging, Freight)
- **Waste** (Packaging, Plastics, Recycling, Waste to Energy)

#### WHY THE US MARKET?

The US Government has pledged to cut US greenhouse emissions in half by 2030 and become carbon neutral by 2050. Most recently, the US passed the historic Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) in August 2022, which commits over \$400 billion to climate and energy-related provisions over the next ten years.

#### 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 Programme dates

Applicant Briefing: 12th September 2023	Applications Close: 29th September 2023	IGF Pitch Competition Briefing: 25th October 2023	Pre Visit Briefings: 20th February & 9th April 2024	Innovation Visit: 29th April to 3rd May 2024
--	--	---	---	--

## 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 prepare your investor 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, a visit to NREL's R&D campus in Golden, Denver and other cleantech centres of excellence. (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).

## Innovation visit - Itinerary:

Date	Activity
28 April 2024	Depart for Denver
29-30 April 2024	Site visits including visit to NREL
1-3 May 2024	Visit the NREL Industry Growth Forum ( <a href="http://www.nrelforum.com">www.nrelforum.com</a> )
4 May 2024	Arrive back in the UK

*Travel will be subject to the entry and exit rules of US 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 company

Be a business with fewer than 500 employees

Have a focus on Clean Growth

## 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 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?

The application form can be found [\[HERE\]](#). To support potential applicants, a briefing will take place at 4pm on 12th September 2023. Register [\[HERE\]](#).

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 and received no later than **5pm on Friday 29th September**. All applicants will be notified by the 11th October.

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 USA as well as any local regulations. The safety of our delegation is our top priority.

For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact: Ian Fletcher at [ian.fletcher@innovateukedge.ukri.org](mailto:ian.fletcher@innovateukedge.ukri.org) or call **+44 (0)7572 385533**