

Global Business Innovation Programme

Agri-Tech - Australia

The Global Business Innovation Programme

organised by Innovate UK, consists of a preparation phase, a 13-day innovation visit focused on Agri-Tech and a post-visit exploitation workshop. Each business is supported by an Innovate UK EDGE innovation and growth specialist to help maximise the potential of being part of the programme and beyond. This initiative will be delivered physically and could include virtual activities.

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

Focus Areas:

We would welcome applications from innovative companies who are involved in driving resource use efficiency and productivity through the development of innovative solutions and new production systems in (but not limited) to the following areas:

Sustainable Food Production Systems, Alternative Proteins, Climate Smart Agri-Tech Solutions, Robotics Automation and AI, Application of Satellite Technology, Controlled Environment Agriculture, Carbon Measuring and Reporting Technology, Advanced Breeding Technology, Regenerative Agriculture, Integrated Pest Management, Livestock Management Technology, Data Interoperability, and Food Traceability and Provenance.

Why Australia?

The adoption of technology presents a significant opportunity for Australian agriculture to improve profitability, with digital technologies alone predicted to increase gross value of agricultural production by 25% to over \$20billion.

Australia's agriculture industry is on track to be a \$100 billion industry by 2030, creating a perfect launchpad for UK businesses to connect, collaborate and scale in a diverse and rapidly growing market. The Australian Agri-Tech and Food-Tech sectors are booming, with more than 2,500 enterprises, including 488 Agri-Tech start-ups.

The industry has an incredible culture of partnerships and collaboration, with 15 Agri-Tech incubators or accelerators to support innovation and investment.

The evokeAG Conference will provide excellent opportunities to meet organisations from Australia, the Asia Pacific region and beyond, covering farmers, start-ups, innovators, accelerators, researchers, universities, businesses, Government and investors.

Companies can access R&D and commercialisation expertise through rural research and development corporations, universities, Cooperative Research Centres, the national science agency CSIRO and dedicated agriculture and food innovation hubs. We anticipate leveraging this expertise during the market visit and hope this leads to bilateral funding opportunities between Australia and the UK in the near future.

Benefits:

- Explore joint opportunities with doing business with Australia
- Find potential innovation collaborators and partners
- Improve company value proposition

KEY DATES:

Programme briefing:
13 October
2023

Applications close:
16 November
2023

Pre-visit workshop:
10 - 11
January 2024

Market visit:
16 February -
1 March
2024

Post-visit workshop:
17 April
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 & 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:** Pre-activity 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. (2-day workshop)
- **Market activities:** 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. (13 days of market related activity)
- **Exploiting the opportunity:** An exploitation workshop and one-to-one support from a Innovate UK EDGE Innovation & Growth Specialist to follow up and take advantage of the opportunities identified. (1 day workshop and as a guide, around 5 days working with an Innovate UK EDGE Specialist over a 12-month period)

INNOVATION ACTIVITIES - EXAMPLE (subject to change):

Date	Activity	Date	Activity
10-11 January 2024	Pre-visit GBIP Workshop	20 - 21 February 2024	Participation at evokeAG
15 February - 01 March 2024	Market visit to Australia including site visits and meetings	17 April 2024	Post-visit GBIP Workshop
		February – July 2024	Work with an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation & Growth Specialist

TO APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAMME, 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 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 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 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 **5pm on 16 November 2023**. To support potential applicants, a **briefing** will take place between **09:00 - 10:00 on 13 October 2023**.

Please note: successful applicants will be expected to fully comply with any conditions of travel to Australia. The safety of our delegation is a priority.

Innovate UK recognises that the innovation sector is not as diverse as the UK demographic and is committed to improving the diversity of who we support. As such, we welcome applications from those under-represented across the Agri-Tech sector.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

To fill in the online application form or to register for the briefing event, please visit the [Innovate UK EDGE website](#). For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact the global team at global1@innovateukedge.ukri.org.