

Global Business Innovation Programme

Hydrogen - USA

Innovate UK's Global Business Innovation Programme helps businesses explore collaborative innovation and understand the landscape that exist in overseas markets.

We are currently accepting applications for up to 15 companies in the Hydrogen sector to join our programme supported by various research centres and businesses in Washington DC/ California - USA.

Participants will be provided with pre-visit support from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist.

The aim is to foster and support collaborative research and development through UK and US partnerships. We welcome applications from businesses developing innovative hydrogen solutions that can be exploited in small-medium industrial clusters or non-industrial clusters of any size.

Areas of focus include:

Hydrogen use solutions:*

- HGVs, marine and public transport and the associated infrastructure.
- Small-medium scale industrial hydrogen applications. (particularly those that can be scaled)
- Any other use-case that can justifiably support a small-medium and/or non-industrial cluster. (including those that may not have been explored thus far)

Hydrogen production solutions:*

- Renewable hydrogen.
- Hydrogen with CCS
- Hydrogen from nuclear.
- Hydrogen from BECCS

Storage and distribution solutions:*

- Technologies that can integrate with others as more are deployed in the local vicinity.
- Approaches to repurposing hydrogen infrastructure in a modular way.

Enablers:*

- Manufacturing processes.
- Upskilling and reskilling.

* *in the context of a small-medium scale cluster and/or a non-industrial cluster.*

WHY WASHINGTON DC?

The Hydrogen Americas 2024 Summit & Exhibition in Washington DC will likely include announcements about the distribution of the Department of Energy's hydrogen hub funding and offer networking opportunities with prominent US stakeholders.

WHY CALIFORNIA?

California is home to the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES), a hydrogen hub with federal funding, which pioneers a non-industrial hydrogen market, focusing on renewable hydrogen, biomass conversion, and decarbonising public transport and port operations. The California Hydrogen Leadership Summit is held in California. The California Hydrogen Leadership Summit discusses policies and incentives to boost hydrogen production, usage, and storage, crucial for California's emission targets and goals in climate protection, air quality, energy resilience, and sustainable growth.

Key programme dates

Applicant Briefing:
6th February 2024

Applications Close:
1st March 2024

Pre Visit Briefings:
23rd - 24th April 2024

Innovation Visit:
9th - 18th June 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, 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 opportunities, including how to do business, cultural aspects, protecting Intellectual Property and training on articulating your value proposition. (2 day workshop)
- **Visiting the market:** Explore the innovation opportunities first-hand through meeting with key companies, research organisations, potential collaborators and partners through pre-arranged meetings and organised matchmaking. (7 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.

Innovation visit - Itinerary:

Date	Activity
23rd - 24th April 2024	Pre-Visit workshop
9th - 18th June 2024	Market Visit
11th - 12th June 2024	Hydrogen Americas 2024 Summit & Exhibition
13th - 14th - 15th June 2024	Visit a hydrogen hub in the States
16th - 17th June 2024	The California Hydrogen Leadership Summit
18th June 2024	Arrive back in the UK.

*Travel will be subject to the entry and exit rules of USA 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 Hydrogen

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 6th February 2024. 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 **Midnight on Friday 1st March 2024**. All applicants will be notified by the 14th March 2024.

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 the 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: Dr Dilruk Yahathugoda at dilruk.yahathugoda@innovateukedge.ukri.org