

Global Incubator Programme

Clean Growth

New York

Cohort 5, 2024-2025

Innovate UK's Global Incubator Programme is an acceleration programme for innovative companies to work with world-leading incubators abroad.

We are currently accepting applications for up to 8 innovative companies in the Clean Growth sector to join our programme delivered in partnership with Greentown Labs and Urban Future Lab, two leading US climatetech incubators. We would welcome applications from innovative companies who could be developing technologies across a broad range of clean growth sectors including (but not limited to):

- **Smart City** (resource-productive and equitable solutions for urban development)
- **Smart Grid** (utility solutions for digital, de-carbonised grid)
- **Renewable Energy** (geothermal, offshore wind, hydrogen, solar)
- **Clean Transportation** (electric and low emission vehicles, EV charging)
- **Advanced Buildings** (energy efficiency, smart controls)
- **Waste Management** (circular economy, organic waste solutions)
- **Agritech** (crop analytics, urban sustainable farming)
- **Carbon Capture and Utilisation** (net-zero and carbon negative products, chemicals and materials)
- **Climate Finance** (climatetech enabling finance solutions, insurance innovation, carbon pricing and carbon markets solutions)

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

This Programme is aimed at innovative clean growth companies that have:

- **A novel / innovative solution** with some traction (such as climate impact data or reference customers).
- **A strong leadership team** ready to dedicate time in New York at Urban Future Lab to build relationships with advisors, stakeholders, investors, decision makers.
- **A willingness to adapt** and openness to incorporating the feedback and guidance provided by experts in our network.
- **An initial US value proposition** and hypotheses about how to enter in the US market.

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 NEW YORK?

New York has ambitious goals to address challenges in energy, water, waste, infrastructure, transportation, and resiliency, including a goal of 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040. To meet such goals of 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040, the state is targeting offshore wind, increased energy storage, and greater energy efficiency. This supplements New York's ongoing efforts to develop and deploy solar, wind, geothermal, and other renewable products and systems via established university-industry collaborations and state initiatives supported by the state's Clean Energy Fund and Green Bank.

Key Programme dates

Applicant Briefing:
7th May 2024
(4pm)

Applications Close:
7th June 2024

Shortlist Interviews:
WC 15th July 2024

Cohort Confirmed:
23rd July 2024

Programme
Commences:
September 2024

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- **Getting ready for the market:** Work with an Innovate UK Innovation & Growth Specialist to develop a Strategic Development Plan for the Programme.
- **A focus on customers discovery:** To understand customers' situations, needs and pain points so that you can start to build your entry plan for the US market.
- **Desk space:** Establish a presence in New York with desk space and back-office services available throughout the 6-month incubation period.
- **Masterclasses, workshops and panel speakers:** Online group learning insight sessions to assist in all aspects of US business formation and scaleup.
- **Connections:** Gain access and introductions to US-based customers and partners.
- **Mentoring:** Receive country-specific mentoring from trusted experts in the clean growth sector.
- **Innovation community:** Participate in a vibrant community of cleantech entrepreneurs and industry professionals.
- **Pitching opportunities:** Access to investor, corporate and strategic partner networks in the US during the Programme and at a Final Showcase event in New York in June 2024.
- **Market visits:** Two intensive market visits to New York are planned as part of this initiative in September 2024 and March 2025.
- **Maximising the opportunity:** Work with your Innovate UK Innovation & Growth Specialist to agree further support required to help you exploit the opportunity.

TO APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAMME, YOU MUST:

Be a UK based company

Be a clean growth business
with fewer than 250 employees.

WHAT IS THE COST?

Innovate UK will fund and organise flights, accommodation, in-market transfers for successful applicants for two group market visits in September 2024 and March 2025. One representative from each company will be funded per visit. On acceptance to the Programme, a commitment fee of £2000 will be obtained from each company, which will be refunded on completion of the full activities and agreed strategic development plan. Non-completion after formal acceptance may result in forfeiting some or all of 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 7th May 2024. Register [\[HERE\]](#)

The Global Incubator Programme has a competitive application process where only the strongest applicants will be invited to interview following an evaluation process.

All applications must be received no later than 5pm on the 7th June 2024.

All applicants will be notified on the 23rd July 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

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