

Grand Solutions call:

Technology and Innovation that develops production and creates jobs and opportunities in Denmark

Application deadline: April 8th, 2021

Grand Solutions project duration: Typically 2-5 years

The total budget for the call is DKK 78 mill. (and potentially exceeding amounts)

Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD) invest in ambitious innovation projects with excellent science and strategic research that contributes to create improved or new tangible solutions to politically prioritized societal challenges and creates value for Denmark.

IFD share a risk with the project partners, when the knowledge level, value creation, project efficiency and implementation of results is correspondingly high.

Objective

The overall objective for investments in this call is to invest in projects that develop knowledge-based and cross-disciplinary solutions to tangible challenges in Danish Society and which – short or long term – will create growth and employment in Denmark.

In other words: IFD seek the good idea that secure production and jobs in Denmark and create new opportunities.

Note: For projects related to the green transition and health, please refer to the appropriate calls.

Investment strategy

IFD invest in projects that support challenge-driven research, technological opportunities and innovation that can help to maintain production and jobs in Denmark or create new opportunities.

The projects can, among other things, support robotics and drone technology and other automated production technologies, as well as research into artificial intelligence and digitization, space, and ICT/IoT which also has great potential in the private as well as in the public sector.

The projects should support the development of the digital field and contribute to, among other things, cross-disciplinary research in artificial intelligence and the digital transformation. The outcome of the projects can also create new knowledge about the importance of digitization for people and society, just as results can incorporate ethical and moral aspects of new technological development, and the use of artificial intelligence in a Danish context.

The research should pave the road for Danish companies to develop products and new technological solutions and increase their growth and productivity for the benefit of the whole of Denmark.

The projects could for instance contribute to maintaining production and to creating more and even better and gentle jobs in Denmark for the benefit of employees and the companies' bottom line. The funds can thus also be spent on research into physical, mental, and chemical working environment, as well as on research into new forms of organizations and enterprises, such as democratic and/or employee-owned enterprises, etc., as well as research into the socio-economic importance of civil society and volunteerism.

IFD invests in projects at all stages of the research and innovation value chain that fulfil the objective of the call. IFD invests in the early strategic research project where targeted efforts and cooperation with the most competent international and/or Danish partners from relevant professional disciplines are crucial as well as the good project that lacks the final steps to make it ready for successful introduction to the market or for implementation.

IFD's investments often do not take a project all the way through the value chain. Therefore, it is crucial that the project partners themselves can lift the result onto the market or ensure implementation - or have investors who can invest in or take over the project after IFD's investment period.

Projects within this call should – whenever relevant – include security, ethical and moral aspects of projects using data as the driver for value creation in a Danish context, e.g., in the use of artificial intelligence and Big Data.

For further information, please refer to the IFD in-depth strategies and analyses in the areas of Artificial Intelligence, Industry 4.0, ICT and Digitalisation, Energy, Health, Environment, Bioresources, Tourism and Future Society.

Assessment criteria

The overall assessment criteria are (please refer to the IFD guidelines):

- Excellence - Quality of research and innovation
- Value creation
- Efficiency of project execution
- Implementation of results

In connection with applications for this call, value creation is to be understood in broad terms as targeted activities that lead to increased growth and employment through e.g., development of new products and services, creation of more and more intelligent jobs, increased productivity, improved earnings/bottom-line, fewer societal costs, reduced resource consumption or environmental impact as well as to solutions to major societal problems.

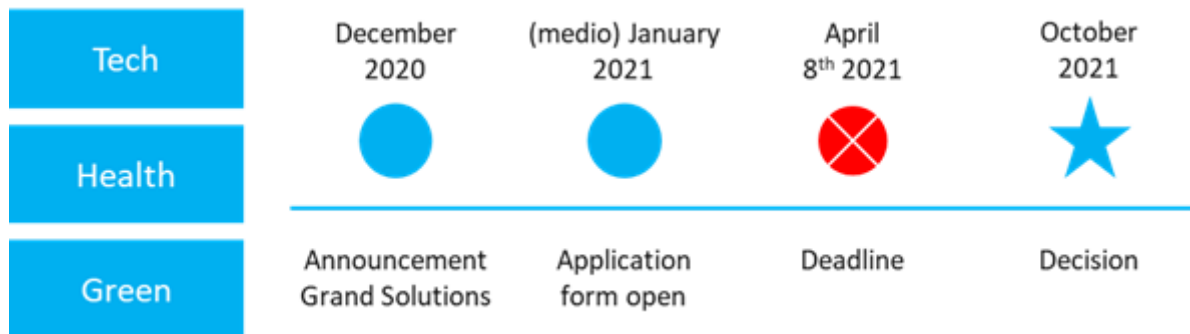
The partners must account for the specific value creation of the project in relation to the overall objective of the call.

Likewise, it will be emphasised that the project's beneficiaries/end-users and core stakeholders contribute to the formation of the project, participate in the project, or are otherwise directly involved in the project, e.g., through investments.

In addition to the above assessment criteria, reference is made to “Guidelines for Grand Solutions” and the Allocation of the Research Reserve. Allocation of funds will be made based on the 2021 Finance Act.

Assessment Process

Applications for Grand Solutions must be submitted via e-grant, IFD’s application system. The assessment process is shown below. It is a single-phase application process with potential interview:



The IFD Board of Directors decides which applications are sent for peer review and invited to interview at IFD. Prior to the interview the peer reviews are sent to the applicant in a consultation procedure in e-grant.

Final decision on the application is expected in October 2021 with project start in Q3 2021.

Applicants are notified via e-grant of the decision by the IFD Board of Directors to reject or invite projects to negotiations for an investment agreement.

Instructions - links

- [Guidelines for Grand Solutions](#)
- [Guidelines for e-grant](#)
- [Investment strategies and reports](#)
- [Finance Act 2021](#)
- [FORSK2025, including the listed indicators for the allocation of funds](#)
- [2021 Agreement on Allocation of the Research Reserve as well as other research priorities](#)
- [UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)

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