Call
Grand Solutions 2024

Green research, technology and innovation

Application deadline Phase 1: 24th April 2024 12:00 CET
Project duration: 1-5 years
Total budget for the call: Minimum 139.9 MDKK
Innovation Fund Denmark investment per project: From 5 MDKK to 40 MDKK
Maximum Innovation Fund Denmark investment level: 75.0% of the total project budget

1. About the Grand Solutions programme
The Grand Solutions programme invests in ambitious and preferably interdisciplinary research and innovation projects that can create new, specific solutions to important, politically prioritized societal challenges and create value throughout Denmark. To the extent possible, the Grand Solutions programme invests in projects carried out in close collaboration between research institutions and the business community or public customers of solutions, for instance municipalities and regions. Innovation Fund Denmark encourages cross-disciplinary projects in all parts of the value chain – from foundational research (in Danish: grundlagsskabende forskning) to industrial research and experimental development.

Within the Grand Solutions programme, a two-phase application model will be adopted. Phase 1 is a request for a letter of interest and open to all interested applicants, whereas phase 2 is a request for a full application and only open by invitation.

Applicants for phase 1 will be invited to phase 2 if two conditions are met:
   a) Innovation Fund Denmark evaluates their letter of interest from phase 1 as an interesting and relevant proposal.
   b) The number of invited applications will result in an approximate success rate of 30-50% within phase 2

Innovation Fund Denmark distributes the available funds in open competition between projects that demonstrate the greatest positive effect while at the same time contributing to growth and employment in Denmark.

The distribution of the funds for this call originates from the current Finance Act and the agreement on the disposition of the Research Reserve (see links under section 5: Guidelines and inspiration).

Read more about the Grand Solutions programme [here](#).

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1 The Innovation Fund Denmark may at its discretion decide to increase the overall budget for this call, particularly in case of excess funds when faced with a substantial list of qualified applications in this call that cannot be funded within the original budget.
2. Aim of the call

Denmark must be a frontrunner in green research and innovation, which contribute to maintaining and creating green jobs. Innovation Fund Denmark’s investments within green research, technology and innovation shall contribute to creating knowledge and technology that can ensure the course of the green transition towards a more sustainable society.

As a follow-up to Denmark’s green research strategy, Innovation Fund Denmark invests in projects within green research, technology and innovation. The purpose of the investments within this area is to ensure the greatest effect on climate, nature and the environment and contribute to growth and employment within the following seven themes (for further details on the seven themes, please see section 5: Guidelines and inspiration):

1) Energy production, etcetera
2) Energy efficiency improvement
3) Agriculture and food production
4) Transport
5) Environment and circular economy
6) Nature and biodiversity
7) Sustainable behavior and societal consequences (cross-cutting)

The projects are furthermore encouraged to support the development of local Business Lighthouses (in Danish: erhvervsfyrtårne) (see link in section 5: Guidelines and inspiration).

The funds are distributed in open competition within the seven themes and projects can, for instance, contribute to:

- Research into the development of smart integrated energy systems and the potential of sector coupling within the overall energy and supply area, including digital technologies and solutions.
- Interdisciplinary projects and projects within humanities and social science research that combine natural science and technological research with humanities and social science research in order to contribute with valuable knowledge, for instance related to behaviour, incentives, regulation and market conditions.

Note: For projects with a strong focus on digitalization, new technology or artificial intelligence, please see the Grand Solutions call on Digitalization, technology and innovation (TECH) and the Grand Solutions call on Artificial intelligence (AI).

Projects that focus on topics within the Innomissions’ strategic roadmaps may possibly be suited for the Innomissions calls. Please consult the four Innomissions’ websites for further information.

Projects that mainly focus on development and demonstration within this call’s subjects may possibly be more suited for EUDP, GUDP or MUDP, please see the publication ‘Fundinglandskab – energi, miljø og grøn udvikling’ (in Danish only).

3. Decision criteria

The three overall decision criteria are:

- Quality of idea – the quality of the research and innovation
- Impact – value creation during and after the project
- Quality of execution – efficiency in the project execution and the implementation of results
Further information about the decision criteria can be found in the Guidelines for Grand Solutions Phase 1 and Guidelines for Grand Solutions Phase 2. Please note that the evaluation criteria differ in the two phases (see link in section 5: Guidelines and inspiration).

4. Evaluation process
IFD has introduced a new application and evaluation model from 2024, involving a two-phase application model and a new governance model for evaluating the received applications.

**Phase 1:** Letters of interest to Grand Solutions must be submitted via www.e-grant.dk, which is the application portal of Innovation Fund Denmark. The call opens in e-grant on 28th February 2024.

**Phase 2:** Invited applicants for phase 2 must submit an application via www.e-grant.dk. The call opens in e-grant on 9th July 2024.

The evaluation process is described in detail in the Guidelines for Grand Solution Phase 1 and Guidelines for Grand Solutions Phase 2.

**Timeline:**
- Deadline for letter of interest for phase 1: 24th April 2024
- Response to the applicants applying for phase 1: no later than 9th July 2024
- Deadline for full applications for phase 2: 18th September 2024
- Response to the invited applicants applying for phase 2: no later than 12th December 2024

Applicants are notified of the decision via www.e-grant.dk. E-grant has prepared a FAQ that can be accessed [here](#).

5. Guidelines and inspiration
Applicants within this Grand Solutions call must take into account the following:
- [Guidelines for Grand Solutions Phase 1](#)
- [Guidelines for Grand Solutions Phase 2](#)

The following can be used as inspiration to the application within the present Grand Solutions call:
- [Finance Act 2024](#)
- [Disposition of the Research Reserve 2024 (in Danish only)](#)
6. Contact
Innovation Fund Denmark hosts regular webinars and Q&As on Grand Solutions where everyone is welcome to participate. Registration for upcoming webinars and Q&A sessions takes place via Innovation Fund Denmark's website.

Frequently asked questions to Grand Solutions and related answers can be found on Innovation Fund Denmark's website here.

6.1. Contact Information
For questions regarding formalities, Innovation Fund Denmark's Investment Officers may be contacted. In connection to this, please note that Investment Officers or other employees of Innovation Fund Denmark are not allowed to answer specific questions regarding project content or ideas.

The following Investment Officers may be contacted regarding questions to this Grand Solutions call:

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7. About Innovation Fund Denmark
Innovation Fund Denmark accelerates Danish research and innovation to solutions that strengthen Danish society's competitiveness and sustainability. We do this by investing in researchers, companies and entrepreneurs who create value, jobs and solve societal challenges — and by realizing potentials in the innovation system.

Innovation Fund Denmark wants to promote diversity in all its aspects. Therefore, all interested applicants, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender identity, disability status, age or professional areas, etcetera, are encouraged to apply for the fund's programmes.