

Call Grand Solutions 2025

Critical and digital technologies

Application deadline, phase 1: 19th March 2025 12:00 CET

Project duration: 1-5 years

Total budget for the call: Minimum 121.2 MDKK¹

Innovation Fund Denmark investment per project: From 5 MDKK to 40 MDKK

Maximum Innovation Fund Denmark investment level: 75.0 percent 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.

The Grand Solutions programme application model consists of two phases. 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.

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

The purpose of the Innovation Fund for Denmark's investments in critical and digital technologies is to support strategic research and innovation in critical and digital technologies, which are crucial for strengthening Denmark's position in the international technological race for the benefit of national security and competitiveness as well as the functioning and cohesion of the welfare society.

The call is intended to ensure the strengthening of foundational and application-oriented research and innovation within production technology as well as within the areas that the EU considers to be of particularly critical importance and which can be used to a large extent for both civilian and military purposes, including

- Semiconductors
- Robot and drone technology
- · Materials technology
- Particle research
- · Artificial intelligence and big data
- Cyber and information security

Projects that support the development of methods for citizen involvement and digital inclusion, including intensified data use with the aim of supporting the development of the digital welfare society, where citizens' trust and citizenship are at the center, are also supported.

Finally, projects that promote technological research by Danish universities and companies, etc., through collaborations in the international communities of which Denmark is a member (CERN, ESO, EMBL, ESRF, EU-XFEL, ESS, etc.) are supported, so that Danish knowledge has impact internationally and is promoted through active participation in the development of tomorrow's technologies.

Where relevant, the research carried out must take into account data ethics principles, including responsible use of data and transparency.

Please note that applicants with projects with a strong focus on research and technology development within biotechnology and biosolutions should also read the Grand Solutions call for proposals for Biotechnology and Biosolutions.

Applicants with projects with a strong focus on research and technology development within energy production, etc., energy efficiency, agriculture and food production, transport, environment and circular economy, nature and biodiversity, sustainable behaviour and societal consequences should also read the Grand Solutions call for proposals for Green research, technology development and innovation.

In addition, applicants with projects with a strong focus on research and technology development within Life science, health and wellness technology should also read the Grand Solutions announcement for Life science, health and wellness technology.

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).

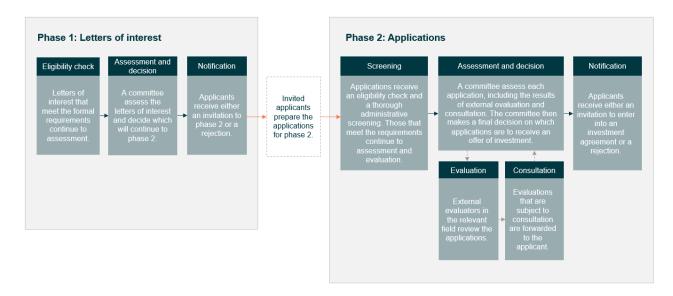
4. Evaluation process

Applications under this call will be assessed by the Committee for New technologies and artificial intelligence.

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 in mid-January 2025.

Phase 2: Invited applicants for phase 2 must submit an application via www.e-grant.dk. The call opens in e-grant on 23rd May 2025.

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:

19th March 2025

• Response to the applicants applying for phase 1:

23rd May 2025

Deadline for full applications for phase 2:

19th August 2025

• Applicants invited for phase 2 receive response no later than: end of November 2025

Applicants are notified of the decision via www.e-grant.dk. E-grant has prepared a FAQ that can be accessed <u>here</u>.

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 2025
- <u>Disposition of the Research Reserve 2025 (in Danish)</u>



- List of 10 critical technology areas for the EU's economic security
- UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

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.

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.