

Call Grand Solutions 2025

Green research, technology and innovation

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

Project duration: 1-5 years

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

Part A: Green research, technology development and innovation – seven green themes

Total budget for the part A call: Minimum 109.0 mill. DKK.1

Part B: Research in energy systems

Total budget for the part B call: 30.0 mill. DKK.

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 the following conditions are met:

- a) Innovation Fund Denmark evaluates their letter of interest from phase 1 as an interesting and relevant proposal that sufficiently meets the assessment criteria.
- 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

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

This call consists of the following two parts:

•	Budget for each part
A. Green research, technology development and innovation – seven green themes	Minimum 109 mill. DKK. ¹
B. Research in energy systems	30 mill. DKK.

Applicants must submit their application under part A (Green Research, technology development and innovation - seven green themes) or part B (Research in energy systems).

In phase 2, the following applies: If the applicant on the basis of the submitted letter of interest has obtained an invitation from Innovation Fund Denmark to submit a full application under part B, and the application meets the formal requirements, as specified in the guidelines for Grand Solutions, but nevertheless is not recommended by the Grand Solutions Committee for Green research, technology and innovation to receive an investment, then the application will subsequently automatically be considered under part A and will be processed here in the same way as other applications. This is because part A is the general part of the call, while part B is a specific part of the call, which is thematically contained in part A. If the applicant submits the application under part A, and the Innovation Fund Denmark assesses that the application also falls within the framework of part B, the Innovation Fund Denmark may choose to process the application under part B first.

A. Green research, technology development and innovation – seven green themes

As a follow-up to Denmark's green research strategy from 2020 and the Danish government's new proposal "Speed on the green solutions of the future - A strengthened effort for green research, innovation and climate solutions (in Danish)" from 2024, 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, climatic resilience, nature, biodiversity, environment including the aquatic 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, etc.
- 2) Energy efficiency improvement
- 3) Agriculture and food production
- 4) Transport
- 5) Environment and circular economy
- 6) Nature and biodiversity
- 7) Sustainable behaviour and societal consequences (cross-cutting)

The projects are furthermore strongly 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 example,



contribute to:

- Research and innovation in sustainable construction, including building materials and design, and renovation of existing buildings.
- Research and innovation in nature-based solutions that contribute to achieving the goals for nature and biodiversity, preferably in collaborations between e.g. research institutions, municipalities and private stakeholders.
- Interdisciplinary projects and projects within humanities and social science research that
 combine natural science and technological research with humanities and social science,
 which can contribute with valuable knowledge related to e.g. behaviour, incentives, regulation and market conditions.
- Solutions targeting climate-efficient, sustainable and robust agricultural and food systems.
- Research and innovation that can increase food safety and extend the shelf life of food with the aim to minimize food waste.

Please note: For projects with a strong focus on research and technological development within biotechnology and biosolutions, please see the Grand Solutions call on Biotechnology and biosolutions.

Projects that focus on topics within the four 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 also consider applying to EUDP, GUDP or MUDP, please see the publication 'Fundinglandskab – energi, miljø og grøn udvikling' (in Danish only).

B. Research in energy systems

The Innovation Fund also specifically invests DKK 30 million DKK in research into energy systems, including sector coupling and the interaction between the different parts of energy systems, and hybrid projects (e.g. energy islands). The purpose is to strengthen Denmark's position in the area of expanding renewable energy and increase the opportunities for sales via new cross-border energy systems.

Projects within research in energy systems can for example focus on:

- Sector coupling and grid balancing to mitigate large fluctuations in the overall cross-border energy-supply -and demand while phasing out use of fossil fuels.
- Increased export of green fuels produced in Denmark.
- Integration of multiple types of energy generation, such as wind and solar, wind and Power-to-X or biogas and Power-to-X.

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 Green research, technology and

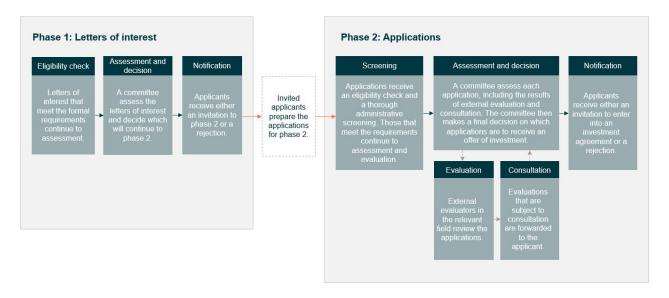


innovation.

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 in 23rd May, 2025.

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



5. Timeline:

- Deadline for letter of interest for phase 1:
 19th March 2025
- Response to the applicants applying for phase 1 no later than: 23rd May 2025
- Deadline for full applications for phase 2:
 19th August 2025
- Applicants invited for phase 2 receive response no later than: Ultimo November 2025

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

6. 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
- Disposition of the Research Reserve 2025 (in Danish only)
- Speeding up the green solutions of the future A strengthened effort for green research, innovation and climate solutions (In Danish only)
- UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)
- Link to local business lighthouses (in Danish: erhvervsfyrtårne) (in Danish only)
- IFD Innomissions (INNO-CCUS, MissionGreenFuels, AgriFoodTure and TRACE.



7. 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 Inno- vation Fund Denmark's website.

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

7.1. Contact Information

For questions regarding formalities, Innovation Fund Denmark's Investment Officers may be contacted.

Martin Søndergaard (responsible for this call)

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8. 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, et- cetera, are encouraged to apply for the fund's programmes.