



Innovate
UK

Global Incubator Programme Application Form:

Singapore - Cleantech 2025

Innovate UK seeks innovative Cleantech companies for its Global Incubator Programme with Singapore.

Note: this opportunity is fully funded support and not monetary funding.

Innovate UK's Global Incubator Programme is an acceleration programme for innovative businesses to work with world-leading incubators abroad to speed up their global growth and scaling.

We are currently accepting applications for up to eight innovative companies who are developing technology to advance Cleantech solutions which support environmental sustainability and transform resource efficiency to join SDTA's Global Incubator in Singapore.

The programme is delivered both physically and virtually, and includes a week-long market immersion visit in April 2025, 6-month programme activity delivered virtually, followed by a second week-long market showcase visit in October 2025. We are committed to a policy of equal treatment and opportunity in every aspect of this programme. As such we welcome applications from those under-represented in the Cleantech sector.

Throughout the programme, you will:

- Explore opportunities in Cleantech in Singapore.
- Gain a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities of doing business in Singapore.
- Find potential innovation collaborators and partners and develop your network globally.
- Improve your company value proposition to international partners and investors.

About GIP

We are looking for businesses with the ambition and commitment to scale globally. The programme best suits businesses that already have some traction and sales in the UK that are now looking to innovate their products and services through building global partnerships and collaborations to accelerate their growth and scaling journey. Where the business proposition could grow faster in Singapore than the UK, for example in certain industrial biology applications, we are receptive to applications from earlier stage businesses. We are also open to Cleantech propositions where engagement with the Cleantech ecosystem is critical to global expansion.

The CEO, founder or a senior decision maker from the company needs to commit to being involved in all stages of the programme. To be eligible for the Global Incubator Programme, you must be a small or medium sized company based in the UK.

The three stages of the programme are as follows:

Prepare

Online preparation workshops will be delivered to the entire cohort whilst in the UK. You will be allocated an Innovate UK Business Growth innovation and growth specialist to work with in the UK who will work with you on your strategic action plan for the programme. You will receive an overview of the innovation and sector landscape of the country's market, a full briefing on the programme and working with the incubator, and support to better present and articulate your business and the value proposition. We will provide one-to-one support to help shape your first visit.

Pursue

This 6-month stage of the programme is about working with the incubator. The programme will see a visit to the market in April (7-11), providing the opportunity to consider technology and market fit, preliminary customer validation and an introduction to ecosystem players. This will be followed by regular (weekly or fortnightly) virtual sessions with the incubator team, mentors, and experts, to do a deep dive into understanding what it takes to be successful in accessing the market. The final part is a second visit to the market in October (27 - 31), including a demo day to showcase the achievements of the cohort and attendance of the SWITCH expo (29-31 October), continuing to raise the profile and make connections for the businesses involved.

Exploit

Work with your Innovate UK Business Growth innovation and growth specialist to continue to exploit the programme, building on all the connections, knowledge, and expertise gained. You should now be in a much better position with the necessary understanding and networks to accelerate your global growth and scaling journey. Innovate UK's Global Incubator Programme works with expert partners in-market to enable UK companies to establish international innovation collaborations and to overcome barriers to entering global markets. We are pleased to work in partnership with Singapore Deep-Tech Alliance and Better Earth Ventures to deliver this Cleantech incubator in Singapore.

What to expect:

- Advisory support - Guidance from sector experts and experienced entrepreneurs in Singapore and from an Innovate UK Business Growth innovation and growth specialist.
- Tools and services - Webinars, information sessions, peer-to-peer guidance, and access to marketing and communication expertise.
- Access and introductions - Connections to Singapore-based customers and partners.
- Connections to capital - Introductions to VCs and corporates looking to invest in new ventures.
- Connections to talent - Support with finding and recruiting skilled workers from Singapore and the world.
- Professional network - Participate in a vibrant community of Cleantech entrepreneurs and industry professionals.
- Exploit the opportunity - support to help maximise the opportunity.
- The programme will be delivered through a combination of online sessions and two visits to Singapore.

Singapore Deep-Tech Alliance

Singapore Deep-Tech Alliance (SDTA) is Singapore's leading innovation platform and venture builder that empowers founders to rapidly build, validate and scale Industry 4.0 startups. Through their innovation and venture builder programmes, SDTA works with businesses to tackle large-scale environmental and social problems with advanced technologies to create a positive impact today. SDTA's portfolio of companies represent industry-leading solutions across the Advanced Manufacturing, Cleantech, Medical and Energy Verticals. SDTA is supported by Enterprise Singapore, HighTechXL, XNode, A*StartCentral and National Health Innovation Centre (NHIC). Visit sdta.org.sg for more information.

Better Earth Ventures

Better Earth Ventures is dedicated to accelerating the development and deployment of transformative technologies and initiatives that mitigate climate change and promote sustainable living. Located strategically in Singapore, Better Earth Ventures serves as a pivotal gateway to Asia-Pacific, with a strong regional network of commercial partners, investors and mentors to help growth-stage businesses scale sustainably across borders. Through collaboration, mentorship, and strategic partnerships, Better Earth Ventures empowers visionary entrepreneurs to drive tangible impact and pave the way for a resilient and thriving planet.

Who can apply?

To apply for this initiative, you must:

- To apply for this initiative, you must:
- Be a business focused on the Cleantech sector
- Be a UK-based innovation-led company with ambitions to grow and scale globally.
- Be a company with fewer than 250 employees.
- Be the CEO, founder or a senior decision maker in the business who can attend and complete all activities.

Desirable:

- Companies with market-ready products or technologies prepared for international deployment.
- Demonstrated traction through pilots, early sales, or partnerships, suitable for case studies to attract international partners.
- Clear value propositions aligned with Singapore's Cleantech priorities: resource efficiency, carbon reduction, or sustainable urban development.

Why Singapore?

An advanced digital economy and consistently ranked as one of the world's most innovative cities, Singapore can serve as a gateway to Asia due to its high GDP per capita, healthcare, transport, infrastructure quality and technology adoption, plus an attractive tax system, a familiar legal framework, and the ease of doing business in English. Launched in February 2021, the Singapore Green Plan 2030 seeks to galvanise a whole-of-nation movement and advance Singapore's national agenda on sustainable development. With ambitious and concrete targets over the next 10 years to achieve its long-term net zero emission aspiration by 2050, Singapore is taking firm actions to do its part to build a sustainable future.

What is the cost?

Innovate UK will fund and organise flights, accommodation and any conference fees for successful applicants. Innovate UK will also pay for any reasonable adjustments throughout the initiative.

Only one representative from each company will be funded.

On acceptance of the offer, a commitment fee of £2,000 will be obtained from each delegate. It will be refunded on completion of the full activities and agreed work plan.

Non-completion after formal acceptance may result in forfeiting some or all the commitment fees.

Focus areas:

We are inviting applications from innovative companies who are developing technology to advance Cleantech solutions, promoting environmental sustainability and transforming resource efficiency. Cleantech spans many industry verticals, the scope of which is listed in the following segments:

Smart City -Resource-productive and equitable solutions for urban development

Smart Grid - Utility solutions for digital, de-carbonised grid

New Energy Solutions/Resource-Efficient Energy Solutions – Geothermal, wind, hydrogen, solar

Advanced Buildings - Energy efficiency, smart controls

Waste Management & Circular Economy - Longer in Use, reuse, and waste valorisation

Carbon Capture & Utilisation -Net-zero and carbon negative products, chemicals, and materials

Water - Efficiency and reuse

Environment - Data capture, monitoring, and management

Transport and Mobility – Mobility solutions, maritime and alternative fuels

Sustainable Materials – Composites, nanomaterials and smart materials

Dates, briefing and support

To learn more about the programme, including hearing how this has worked for previous delegates, register for the applicant briefing event on the 15th January 2025 09:00 (UTC)

Register here: <https://bit.ly/ApplicantBriefingCleantech>

Key Dates

Applicant briefing: Wednesday 15 January 2025 09:00 (UTC)

Closing date for applications: Sunday 9 February 2025 23:30 (UTC)

Shortlist Interviews: 27 and 28 February 2025

Successful Applicants notified: week commencing 3 March 2025

Bootcamp (Online): 17 March 2025

Market Visit - Immersion Week: 7 - 11 April 2025 (5 – 13 April with travel)

Incubation programme (Online): – 14 April – 24 October 2025

Market Visit - Showcase Week: - 27 – 31 October 2025 (25 Oct – 2 Nov with travel)

For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact Gail Cherry: gail.cherry@iukbg.ukri.org Or Jens Boehm: jens.boehm@iukbg.ukri.org

Section 1: Applicant Information

* 1. Applicant Name

This should be a senior person from the business who will be involved in all stages of the Programme.

* 3. Email

5. ext.

Company Information

* 6. Company Name

* 8. Company Registration No.

* 9. Website

* 10. Number of Employees

* 11. Annual Turnover

*12. or, pre-revenue income (from other; grants, loans, investors etc)

* 2. Position

* 4. Phone

*7. Company Address
Address

Address 2

City/Town

State/Province

ZIP/Postal Code

Country

* 13. Company Stage

Pre-Seed Seed Early Stage

Growth Scale

Section 2: Business Information and suitability with scope and objectives

All questions in this section are mandatory. An incomplete application will not be considered.

This section is your opportunity to provide information that will be assessed against the scope and objectives for the programme.

Strong applications make a clear case for the business' interest in Singapore. The incubator programme is geared towards tangible impacts (any or all of: collaboration, raising investment, meeting future customers, establishing an operation, conducting R&D) so we would like you to show us that you know Singapore is the right place for your international expansion.

*** 14. International Cooperation** - Please use this field to indicate if you are already involved in international activities. If yes, please provide a brief description and also mention if you have previously participated in a Global Business Innovation Programme (GBIP)

*** 15. Please give a short description of the new product(s) and/or service(s) your business is developing. what is innovative about them and why do you think they fit the Cleantech scope?** (It may help to refer to the "Focus areas" guidance) Also state at what stage the new product or service you are developing is at (i.e. pre- R&D, in early R&D phase, prototyping/testing or full product in the market) (1000 characters max)

*** 16. Does your business own the IP in your technology/product?**

*** 17. Have you formed any partnerships to support the production and/or distribution of your products?**

*** 18. What is your understanding of the competitive landscape?** (identify where possible the UK market conditions vs Singapore and the Asian market conditions) **Also, explain how working with Asian collaboration partners will help further develop or/and further exploit your innovation are there any specific companies, universities, or other organisations you would be keen to meet with as part of the Programme?** If so, please state why. (1500 characters max)

*** 19. Why are you specifically interested in working with Singapore and the Asian market and which Asian markets are you looking to expand into in the next 12-18 months?** (Indonesia/ Thailand / Vietnam / etc. 1000 characters max)

*** 20. Describe your team and why they are well positioned to tackle this market opportunity and explain how are you going to embed the knowledge gained from this Programme into your business?** E.g. Resources, strategies, budgets, etc. (1000 characters max)

*** 21. What do you see are your main barriers to innovation and/or internationalisation?** (1000 characters max)

*** 22. What do you think your company could achieve from participating in the programme?** i.e. how will this support your growth strategy in terms of increasing turnover, employee numbers, increase profits, etc. (1000 characters max)

23. Pitch Deck Upload

5-minute pitch deck should focus on the company, your proposition and why Singapore.

Please attach this to the email and send to gail.cherry@iukbg.ukri.org

Section 3: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We are committed to ensuring that there are no barriers to enabling diverse participation in the programme.

* 24. What is your age?

- Under 19 20-29 30-39 40-49
 50-59 60+ Prefer not to say

* 25. Please can you tell us your gender?

- Male Prefer not to say
 Female Prefer to self-describe

* 26. Are your activities ever affected by a disability, impairment or long-term illness which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?

- Prefer not to say Yes (please specify)
 No

* 27. **Do you have any caring responsibilities?** If yes, please tick all that apply

- None/Prefer not to say Primary carer of disabled adult (18 and over)
 Primary carer of a child/children under 18 Primary carer of older person
 Primary carer of disabled child/children Secondary carer (another person carries out the main caring role)

* 28. What is your religion or belief?

- No religion or belief Christian Sikh Jewish Prefer not to say
 Buddhist Hindu Muslim Other

* 29. Please can you tell us your ethnicity?

- Asian / Asian British Other ethnic group
 Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British White
 Mixed/ multiple ethnic groups Prefer not to say

Section 4: Eligibility & Selection

Recruitment of businesses into the Global Incubator Programme will be in three stages: -

First Stage Selection - application and suitability criteria

This application form will be used for the recruitment of businesses onto the programme. To participate in this Global Incubator Programme your business must be established in the UK. If your business is not registered in the UK, your application will be rejected.

The Global Incubator Programme is designed to support businesses to grow and scale. Businesses with up to 250 employees (in Northern Ireland with fewer than 250 employees, a turnover of less than €50 million, or a balance sheet total of less than €43 million) are eligible to apply through this could include early-stage, micro and mature businesses. There are no firm guidelines on turnover requirements.

The following criteria will be used to shortlist the applicants at the first stage:

1. Programme fit: Must be a highly innovative company and fit with the Global Incubation Programme focus
2. Ambition: Must show ambition for growth and how participating in the programme can help them to achieve this.
3. Product market fit: The product has the potential to fit with the ecosystem and market of the partner country.
4. Capability: Must have sufficient expertise and resources to exploit the opportunities from the programme
5. Level of innovation impact: Given the competitive markets of the Global Incubation Programme, the company should offer a strong product or service which has a positive impact on climate change.

Second Stage Selection - panel interviews

A panel comprising a Lead Specialist from the Innovate UK Business Growth Partner team, the relevant Innovate UK Innovation Lead(s) and the Global Incubator Programme Manager and a representative from the partner incubator (SDTA) will shortlist the applicants and conduct short interviews with businesses. Further details will be provided after first stage process completed.

Third Stage - financial checks

Innovate UK will undertake financial background checks on the businesses (or directors if company is less than 3 years old) to ensure the business is viable and does not have any outstanding CCJs.

There are a limited number of places available on each Global Incubator Programme and only businesses that have passed these three stages, and have scored highly, will be offered a place on the programme.

Businesses that have taken part in previous Global Incubator Programmes

Companies who have taken part in a previous Global Incubator Programme are not eligible to participate in any new programmes unless by exception where clear additional benefit and impact can be demonstrated through the application process. These applications should be treated as exceptional.

Only one participant per company will be eligible for a funded place on a programme

- second and subsequent delegates are able to apply to attend once the company has secured a place on the incubator, but they would need to pay their own expenses.

Subsidy Control

Businesses less than 250 FTE can receive up to a maximum amount of £344,600 (€200,00 in Northern Ireland) of innovation advisory and support services provided through Innovate UK Business Growth over a rolling 3-year period. The limit of £344,600 relates purely to the support that a business receives through Innovate UK Business Growth and is not related to what was previously de minimis support or similar types of support provided by others.

*** 30. Please Provide:**

Funding body | Purpose | Amount(€) | Year

Funding body	Purpose	Amount(€)	Year

*** 31. Existing Innovate UK support**

Please list any grants that you have previously received from Innovate UK. Please provide Year, Amount of grant received, Programme

Year	Amount of grant received	Programme

Section 5: Terms and Conditions

Each participant in the programme is expected to complete the formal contract with Innovate UK. The contract also details our expectations if the company should leave the programme without adequate reason.

Innovate UK has the following expectations of participants:

- Be committed - be involved in all parts of the programme and play an active role.
- Maximise your chances - work closely with the advisors.
- Demonstrate sufficient investment - ensure that you have the resources to participate effectively.
- Develop and implement an impact focused strategic development plan - working closely with your adviser.
- Engage an appropriate representative in the programme - discuss this with your adviser.
- Support and challenge each other.

On acceptance to the initiative a commitment fee of £2000 will be obtained from each business, which will be refunded on completion of the full activities and agreed action plan. Non-completion after formal acceptance may result in forfeiting some or all the commitment fee.

We take your data very seriously and are committed to the privacy and security of it. Our Privacy Statement explains the types of personal data we may collect about you and how we'll store and handle that data, and keep it safe. This is a joint programme and your data will be shared with Innovate UK and our partner incubator for the purposes of administering & following up this programme. Their privacy policy is available at <https://www.gov.uk/help/terms-conditions>.

By submitting this application you are agreeing to the above.