

**BUSINESS
FINLAND**

Nuclear innovation ecosystems and national funding

Nuclear Energy Ecosystems –
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What is Business Finland

- Business Finland is a Finnish public-sector organization offering innovation funding and internationalization services as well as promoting tourism and investments in Finland
- We generate prosperity for Finland by accelerating our customers' sustainable growth globally

National climate and energy strategy*

- Finland to be carbon neutral by 2035 and carbon negative soon after
- Technology neutrality as a guiding principle
- Focus on new energy technologies and innovations
- Emphasis on international co-operation and projects
- Solutions with large carbon handprint are needed

National climate and energy strategy

- Nuclear energy has an important role as an emission free energy source
- Lifetime extensions of the current fleet is seen in a positive light
- Nuclear energy act will be renewed (plan 2027)
- Separate regulation more suitable for SMR:s is considered
- Participation into significant international development projects and utilization of international research infrastructure is encouraged

Opportunities in Nuclear industry

- SMR development
- Decommissioning and waste management
- O&M development
- Safety development
- Sector Coupling

Special characteristics – a reminder

- Politics
- Regulation
- Slow processes & capital intensity

Nuclear ecosystems

- There is demand for new innovation projects with export focus
- True co-operation between members is crucial
- Synergies and support from domestic operations
- International networks are important – building networks should be part of a co-innovation project

Nuclear ecosystems

- Current innovation projects serve as examples of what can be funded by Business Finland
 - EcoSMR
 - deComm
 - EcoFusion
 - FINUELS
- New ecosystems can be independent or build on the existing ones
- The aim is to create sustainable high value ecosystems

Services of Business Finland

- SME Funding
- Invest in Finland services
- Guidance and support in export markets
- **RDI funding** (esp. co-innovation projects)

Co-innovation

- Companies and research organizations develop jointly new knowledge and innovations for business needs
- A common, ambitious goal
- Companies can have various roles, e.g.:
 - an own R&D project
 - participating in another organisation's project
 - a subcontractor
- Funding up to 40 % (large companies), 50 % (SMEs) or 70 % research organizations
- Grant (research) or loan (development)



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Co-Innovation Funding Summary



Customer Value – why this service?

Customers gain a joint action network to reach common goals. Through joint action companies renew businesses, create new knowledge and capabilities and fasten innovation and internationalization process. Research organizations develop new knowledge and solution models for new business purposes.



What is it?

Funding for research organizations and companies for their joint actions. Research organizations and companies jointly develop new knowledge and innovations for business needs.



Who is it for?

For research organizations and companies of all sizes for their joint actions. A joint action may involve several Finnish research organizations or groups and several Finnish companies of all sizes.



When should it be used?

When companies and research organizations want to conduct research in close co-operation. Also, when companies want to accelerate the utilization of research know-how and solutions in their innovation activities while progressing with their own R&D goals.



Why Business Finland?

Grants for innovative and risky projects to create new knowledge, products or services. For developing and piloting an unsecured loan with an advance payment, low interest and relatively long loan period with amortization-free years. If the risks are realized, the loan may be converted to a grant.

Business Finland brings knowledge of potential networks, partners and market information to joint action participants through coaching.



What does it deliver?

Customers can boost and renew their business competencies. Collaboration with other companies and research organizations helps the development of products and services to be faster and may open novel strategic business areas as well.



What is not included in the service?

Operative costs, like marketing and selling, and basic non-innovative investment costs are not included or approved. Incremental every-day improvements of the products, processes and services.