

GOALS FOR THE YEAR 2025

Doubling the **exports of SMEs**

Doubling **R&D investments**





Let's make Finland the most attractive place for

Investors,Companies,Talents,Visitors.

BUSINESS FINLAND IS

RISK SHARER

COACH

NETWORKER

R

MARKET KNOWLEDGE **EXPERT**

SUPPORTER

FINANCIER

DOOROPENER

FUTURE WATCH EXPERT

INNOVATION EXPERT



BUSINESS FINLAND'S CLIENTS IN FINLAND AND ABROAD

COMPANIES

THAT SEEK
INTERNATIONAL
GROWTH

RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS IN COOPERATION WITH COMPANIES

INTERNATIONAL TALENTS

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS AND TOUR OPERATORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES AND INVESTORS





BUSINESS FINLAND'S INNOVATION FUNDING

- Innovation funding is granted for research, product, and business development.
- Intended to organisations registered in Finland only.
- Our target group are SMEs and midcap companies seeking growth and internationalization. We fund large companies, universities and research institutes also.
- Funding can be a grant or a loan.
- Typically an SME gets a 50% grant for research or a 70% soft loan for development work.



BUSINESS FINLAND FUNDINGFOR DIFFERENT STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

Examples of funding

| INNOVATION VOUCHER Buy innovation expertise | EXPLORER PRODUCTS Funding to support companies' internationalization | TEMPO For companies aiming for international growth | INTO Innovation expertise in support of international growth | RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS Commercialization of research findings and joint projects with companies | growing start-ups) Scale globally. Develop the strategy, team, business model in a comprehensive | R&D Develop a service, product, process, or a business model. Prove that your product works. |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Grant 100% | Grant 50 % | Grant 75 % | Grant 50 % | Grant | manner. Grant and loan gradually | Loan 50% / 70% Grant max. 50% |

Funding outlook for BF

- Funding may be granted to all areas of technology and there is a continuous call.
 Business Finland meets SMART's timeline well.
- BF's funding is intended for challenging and innovative research and development projects in SME companies, large companies, universities and research institutes. The main target group are SMEs seeking growth in internationalization. International cooperation and its impact should be visible. Companies should have a credible internationalization plan and real business goals including export targets.
- Funding may be a low-interest loan or a grant, depending on the stage of the innovation and the nature of the proposed project. A project may also involve researcher mobility.
- Business Finland is the main public funding body for Finnish participants. Good SMART consortia can be funded with no specific Euro limit, with project lengths usually under 3 years.



Eligibility & national priorities in SMART

National priorities

- BF's SMART call focuses on digital innovation in manufacturing, on intelligent & adaptive manufacturing systems, and on person-machine collaboration and IoT.
- In 2020, the two BF programs **Connected Intelligent Industries Finland CIIF** and **Manufacturing from Finland SAMPO** are the key programs.

Eligibility criteria

- The eligibility of a Finnish applicant is close to eligibility in national calls. Start-ups, SMEs, midcaps, big companies, universities, research organisations each have their specificities. The composition of the consortium (those from Finland) is crucial, and the applicants will be advised in the PO phase. Strong medium and midcap size company involvement is a must.
- National funding applications of SMART EUREKA projects are evaluated by Business Finland's experts on technology, growth impact, management and financing.



Procedures, selection and lifecycle

BF Focus: enable SME and Midcap companies to do international collaboration and in long term export business



Important aspects in selection

- Requirements to the national consortium (Finnish organisations)
 - Benefits and depth of the international cooperation
 - Expected impact to the SME and Midcap companies from Finland compared to price of the project
 - Ecosystem building
- Requirements to the individual Finnish company
 - Economical capacity
 - Growth ambition and plans to do international business
 - Ability to utilise results and network in export business
 - Role in the consortium
- Linkage to Business Finland thematic focus areas and programs
- Quality and novelty value

