

**CELTIC-NEXT SPRING Call 2023
Launch Event 9/12/2022**

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Business Finland

BUSINESS FINLAND

- Merger of Finpro and Tekes (2018):
 - Promoting Innovation
 - Promoting Exports
 - Attracting Investments and Travellers
- Broad Toolset:
 - 40 Offices around the Globe
 - 600 Staff
 - Advice and Coaching
 - Networking, Contacts & Information
 - Innovation Funding
 - Thematic Programmes
 - International Programmes including CelticNext
 - ...



- From Business Finland's side good outlook for funding good quality CelticNext projects matching the national criteria
- Proposals compete with other (national) proposals
- Funding is possible for SMEs, mid-caps and large companies; and for universities /RTOs in collaboration with companies (Co-Innovation Funding Model)
- Funding micro size companies in long, extensive projects is an exception (subcontractor role is usually better than partner role)
- Adaptions to Co-Innovation Funding Rules in 2023 (esp. for public research partners). The new rules will be communicated in DEC/JAN. More focus for international cooperation

- Thematic focus
 - Digitalisation and connectivity very much remain in the national policy focus
 - *Digital Native Finland Mission*, targeting productivity development through digitalisation
 - *6G Bridge programme*, ecosystem support to value generation from 5GA and 6G
- Funding criteria
 - The eligibility criteria of Finnish applicants same as in national calls. Start-ups, SMEs, midcaps (<300M€ turnover), large companies, universities, research organisations each have their specificities. The criteria regards the composition of the consortium (the Finnish part) is crucial. Strong medium and midcap size company involvement is highly recommendable.
 - Proposals are evaluated by Business Finland's experts on growth impact, novelty value, management, and financing.
- Other considerations
 - No specific euro limit, Project lengths usually up to 3 years.
 - Concrete business outlook is expected to be generated in return for the RDI investment.

6G BRIDGE

Scope

- 5G Advanced & 6G
- Funding budget 130M€
- Timeframe 2022-2026, followed by next program

Stakeholders & customers

- 190 organizations, main industry ICT incl. heavyweights such as Nokia and Ericsson
- 6G Finland, 6G Flagship, 5G Momentum, Allied ICT Finland, Academy of Finland, Technology Industries of Finland

Business landscape

- ICT market forecasted to \$4.4 trillion 2022 expected annual growth of 5.5% (Gartner)
- Finland has a well-established and recognized market: strong company pool, active research & innovation community
- Strong link to national & EU-wide policies

Key Outcomes

- ✓ Finnish intellectual property generated in 6G exceeds the amount generated with 5G
- ✓ Finland is a recognized thought leader globally in 6G with an impact on the market
- ✓ Finnish stakeholders have concrete partnerships with EU, US, JP, Nordics, UK, CA with essential role
- ✓ Finland is a leading country in international ICT talent and investment attraction
- ✓ Finland has established the world's 1st 6G test network which is widely recognized

6G Bridge program aims for Finland to be **the global leader in unlocking new value with 5GA and 6G for sustainable industries and societies**, by

Increasing ecosystem-driven collaboration in research and innovation for 5GA/6G

Building future business ecosystems in 5GA/6G and attracting international investments

Cultivating key capabilities in 5GA/6G

Fostering testing and experimentation on facilities in 6G



Economic growth



Competitiveness

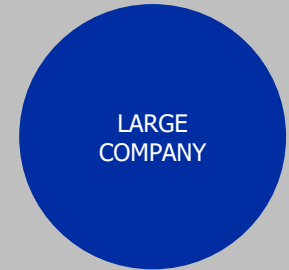
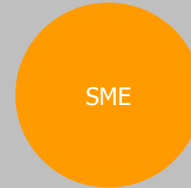


Sustainability

The Finnish Sub-Consortium Funding Using BF's Co-Innovation Funding Model

Companies participate in research targetting new knowledge and innovations for business needs, **together with research organizations**

- Common goal + plan
- Need to collaborate on projects
- The projects are implemented in parallel



How Does Co-Innovation Funding Work

The consortium forms an entity which is able to solve the research problem

- The joint action must include at least one research organization and three companies, of which at least two have applied for funding for their R&D projects from Business Finland.
- Priority is given to high-quality projects and ecosystems supporting the growth and internationalization of SMEs.

Company funding is granted in accordance with the regular funding options or levels offered to companies

- Normal business project evaluation criteria
- The company must have sufficient resources and self-financing to carry out the project.

All companies make a participation notice to a public research project.

- A duration for the research project is typically 2-3 years.
- The funding level for research projects is 70% (in 2022!)
- Continuous application process, adapted to international calls.

What are the criteria for the Co-Innovation funding?

- Proved relevance and demand (problem-solution fit)
 - The credibility of the joint action
 - Are the parties to the action the right ones to achieve results
 - Is the work distributed in such a way that it makes sense in terms of the results
 - Is the company's investment reasonable in relation to the expected results and the exploitation paths ([KPI calculation changes 2023](#))
 - How does the joint action affect the development of SMEs and midcap businesses
 - The novelty value and competitive advantage of the solution model, market potential, societal influence as well as the joint action's [international collaboration](#)
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**BUSINESS
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Thank you !