

# UK CELTIC-NEXT Focus

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# Benefiting everyone through knowledge, talent and ideas

UK Research and Innovation brings together the 7 Research Councils, Innovate UK and Research England.

As part of UK Research and Innovation, Innovate UK drives productivity and economic growth by supporting businesses to develop and realise the potential of new ideas including those from the UK's world-class research base.



**UK Research  
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# UK Funding Situation

- Funding **this round 5m**
  - Projects up to 700k grant contribution
- Innovate UK to administer the UK competition
  - **Usual IUK funding rates** i.e.
    - 70% SME Rate
    - 100% Research
- More info please get in touch  
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# Competition Process

1. Initial **submission to CELTIC-NEXT** as part of **wider project**
  - Projects **ranked** and successful projects notified
2. Projects with OK from CELTIC-NEXT UK **apply via InnovateUK**
  - Using **IFS portal** (to go live after results announced)
  - Deadline to be nearer end of year
3. IUK support to **live projects**
  - Help in forming collaboration agreements and project management
  - Assigned **monitoring officer** to help with reporting

# Areas of Interest: Future Telecoms

## Push toward 6G and innovation from SMEs

**1.6G technology:** Examples include, Photonics and Non-Terrestrial based networking, using Dark Fibre Testbeds i.e. JOINER

**2.SME innovation:** Exploitation of IP from research institutions, innovation within dis-aggregated open networks i.e Open RAN, use of AI on networks within telco Cloud etc

**3.Standards-based compliance,** Solutions embracing open standards and development of neutral environments.

**4.Energy Efficient Networks,** novel uses of hardware to reduce energy (i.e Compound Semiconductors) and other green telecoms innovation.

# Areas of Interest: Use Cases

- **Projects must be business focused**
- **Wide ranging application areas** to align with wider CELTIC call  
Including by not limited to:
  - Smart City application of technology
  - eHeath Application
  - Industry 4.0 Manufacturing
- **Innovations around RAN**
  - Energy efficiency, beam forming etc
  - Sat / non terrestrial applications of mobile connectivity.
- **Public and private** deployments are valid
  - Preference to use open standards beyond ORAN such as OCF

# Thank you

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