

SMARTInnovation

Project Description

SMARTInnovation forms part of an integrated ERDF funded suite of programmes, the operations provide expert advice and support for Welsh businesses seeking to undertake Innovation and Research & Development (R&D), removing barriers to innovation and ensuring that universities, public and private sectors work together to collaboratively deliver innovative solutions for R&D.

SMARTInnovation aims to increase the innovation capability of Welsh businesses by assisting them to invest in sustainable Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) through:

- access to impartial innovation advice & diagnostic through dedicated pan Wales network of Innovation Specialists
- Intellectual Property advice & support and access to subsidised UK-Intellectual Property Office 'IP Audits'
- specialist manufacturing & design consultancy from an approved framework of private sector advisors
- non-financial support for the acquisition and implementation of new technologies, processes and equipment
- support to facilitate technical collaborations, including technology transfer activities between businesses and research institutions
- support with commercialisation, licensing and open innovation opportunities
- support to access appropriate RD&I funding sources and advice to develop funding applications e.g. SMARTCymru Structured R&D and Innovation Voucher grants in Wales,

Innovate UK and EU Horizon2020 calls plus specific business led competitions.

Delivery Model

The SMART Innovation operation is delivered by a team with significant experience of innovation and technology gained in industry, the public sector and academia, and has experience in delivering multi-million pound innovation programmes as well as knowledge and experience of delivering EU funded projects.

The SMART Innovation team will add value by working in close alignment with SMARTCymru, SMART Expertise and other ES&T operations as well as UK and EU RD&I programmes.

This operation will deliver support for new product, process and service development, R&D, collaborative R&D, manufacturing & design, Intellectual Property and open innovation. It will also integrate closely with Innovate UK and deliver Horizon 2020 activity in Wales.

Geographical Coverage

The project will benefit local authorities across the whole of Wales.

Specific Targets

- Enterprises receiving non-financial support - 700
- Businesses receiving specialist advice for new innovation/process/product - 150
- Patents registered for products - 60
- enterprises supported to introduce new to the firm products/processes - 25

Essential eligibility criteria

The operation will foster a positive climate for enterprise and business development across Wales, and in particular encourage small and medium size businesses to thrive and become technically innovative.

The SMART Innovation will be the entry level deliverer of innovation awareness and activity for Welsh businesses and will help to identify companies and projects which can then be considered against smart specialisation criteria for high level investment.

SMARTInnovation prioritises support for companies with more than 10 employees but can also support those with fewer than 10 employees providing they have high growth potential. Growth potential may be demonstrated in a number of different ways including being part of the WG Accelerated Growth Programme or evidence of support from

other growth programmes such as Business Wales Level 4.

Contact Details

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Disgrifiad o'r Prosiect

Mae SMARTInnovation yn rhan o gyfres o raglenni integredig a ariennir gan Gronfa Datblygu Rhanbarthol Ewrop (ERDF). Mae'r gweithrediadau yn darparu cyngor arbenigol a chymorth i fusnesau yng Nghymru sy'n bwriadu ymgymryd ag Arloesi, Ymchwil a Datblygu, gan gael gwared ar y rhwystrau i arloesedd a sicrhau bod prifysgolion a'r sectorau cyhoeddus a phreifat yn gweithio gyda'i gilydd i gyflawni datrysiau arloesi ar gyfer Ymchwil a Datblygu ar y cyd.

Nod SMARTInnovation yw cynyddu galluedd busnesau Cymru ar gyfer arloesi gan eu cynorthwyo i fuddsoddi mewn Ymchwil, Datblygu ac Arloesi (YD&A) cynaliadwy:

- Y gallu i gael cyngor a diagnosteg ddidueddu ar arloesi drwy rwydwaith pwrpasol o Arbenigwyr Arloesi ar gyfer Cymru gyfan
- Cyngor a chymorth ar gyfer Eiddo Deallusol a'r gallu i ddefnyddio 'IP Audits' Swyddfa Eiddo Deallusol y DG
- Cyngor arbenigol ar Weithgynhyrchu a Dylunio gan rwydwaith o gynghorwyr sector preifat a gymeradwywyd
- Cymorth nad yw'n gymorth ariannol ar gaffael a gweithredu ar dechnolegau, prosesau a chyfarpar newydd
- Cymorth i hwyluso Cydweithrediadau Technegol, gan gynnwys Trosglwyddo Technoleg rhwng busnesau a sefydliadau ymchwil
- Cymorth gyda masnacheiddio, trwyddedu a chyfleoedd am Arloesi Agored
- Cymorth i gael gafael ar ffynonellau cyllido a chyngor priodol ar gyfer YD&A er mwyn creu ceisiadau am gyllid e.e. grantiau

SMARTCymru ar gyfer Ymchwil a Datblygu Strwythuredig a Thalebau Arloesi yng Nghymru, Innovate UK a galwadau ar gyfer Horizon2020 yr UE ynghyd â chystadlaethau penodol a arweinir gan fusnes ac ati.

Model Cyflawni

Darperir y gweithrediad SMARTInnovation gan dîm profiadol ym maes arloesi a thechnoleg, sydd wedi gweithio yn y maes diwydiant, y sector cyhoeddus ac academia, ac mae ganddo brofiad o ddarparu rhaglenni arloesi gwerth miliynau o bunnoedd yn ogystal â gwybodaeth a phrofiad o ddarparu prosiectau a ariennir gan yr UE.

Bydd tîm SMARTInnovation yn ychwanegu gwerth drwy weithio yn agos gyda SMARTCymru, SMART Expertise a gweithrediadau Gwyddoniaeth Amgylcheddol a Thechnoleg eraill, a hefyd raglenni YD&A y DU a'r UE.

Bydd y gweithrediad hwn yn darparu cymorth ar gyfer datblygu cynhyrchion, prosesau a gwasanaethau newydd, Ymchwil a Datblygu, Ymchwil a Datblygu Cydweithredol, Gweithgynhyrchu a Dylunio, Eiddo Deallusol ac arloesi Agored. Bydd hefyd yn cydweithio'n agos ag Innovate UK ac yn cyflawni gweithgaredd Horizon 2020 yng Nghymru.

Cwmpas Daearyddol

Bydd y prosiect o fudd i bob ardal awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru.

Targedau Penodol

- Mentrau sy'n cael cymorth nad yw'n ariannol - 700

- Busnesau sy'n cael cyngor arbenigol ar gyfer arloesi/prosesau/cynnyrch newydd - 150
- Patentau cofrestredig ar gyfer cynhyrchion - 60
- Mentrau a gefnogir i gyflwyno cynhyrchion newydd i'r cwmni - 25

Meini Prawf Cymhwyster Hanfodol

Bydd y gweithrediad yn creu hinsawdd gadarnhaol ar gyfer datblygu entrepreneuriaeth a busnes ar draws Cymru, ac yn benodol bydd yn annog busnesau bach a chanolig i ffynnu a bod yn arloesol yn dechnegol.

SMARTInnovation fydd y darparwr llawr gwlad ar gyfer ymwybyddiaeth a gweithgaredd arloesi i fusnesau Cymru. Bydd yn helpu i nodi cwmnïau a phrojectau y gellir eu hystyried yn erbyn meini prawf arbenigo clyfar ar gyfer buddsoddiad ar lefel uchel.

Mae SMARTInnovation yn blaenoriaethu cefnogaeth i gwmnïau sydd â mwy na 10 o gyflogigion ond gall hefyd gefnogi'r rhai sydd â

llai na 10 cyflogai ar yr amod bod ganddynt botensial o ran twf uchel. Gellir dangos potensial o ran twf uchel mewn sawl ffordd wahanol gan gynnwys bod yn rhan o Raglen Cyflymu Twf Llywodraeth Cymru neu drwy dystiolaeth am gefnogaeth gan raglenni twf eraill megis Busnes Cymru Lefel 4.

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