Danish Innovation Policy – an overview
Innovation Policy in the Ministry of Higher Education and Science

The Minister

Ministerial Department

Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI)

Danish Agency for Higher Education
Innovation in the Ministry of Higher Education and Science

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Innovation Policy

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Innovation and Entrepreneurial Initiatives

The Minister

Ministerial Department

Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI)

Danish Agency for Higher Education
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Division for Global Cooperation
Division for R&D Analysis

Division for EU Policy
Agency for Higher Education
Innovation in Division for Innovation Policy

Division for Innovation Policy

Innovation Infrastructure

- Innovation Incubators
- Clusters and Networks
- GTS-institutes (RTO’s)

Consultancy Service for Inventors, IBIZ-centre, Innovation Agents, Technology Transfer Offices, Young Enterprise
Innovation incubators

Annual grant: EURO 25-30 million

4 incubators offering:
• Pre-seed funding for start-ups
• Counselling for entrepreneurs
• Network to seed- and venture funds
• Access to science park facilities
CASE: Bioplastic prevents amputations

- Company: Reapplix established in 2008
- Product: LeucoPatch
  A bio-plaster designed by the patients’ own blood to heal chronic wounds caused by poor circulation.
- Capital injection from DTU Symbion Innovation
CASE:
Drone micro-helicopters for inspection

- Company: Sky-Watch established in 2009
- Product: HUGINN X1
  A Computer controlled micro-helicopter for environmental and other surveillance.
- Capital injection from NOVI Innovation
Innovation Network Denmark

Annual grants: EURO 8 million

Objective:
• Development of excellent network structures (22 in total) between knowledge institutions and enterprises, and concrete matchmaking and collaboration activities between the actors.
The 22 Innovation Networks 2014-2018

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Identified opportunity for addressing the market potential for biomass technologies in China
INBIOM (the Danish Innovation Network for Biomass) applied for so-called Innovation Express funding for a project aimed at helping Danish companies enter the Chinese market.
Innovation Express funding was used to host a delegation of Chinese companies in Denmark – where they toured and initiated relationships with a number of Danish SMEs.
Contact established with 30-40 potential customers or cooperation partners in China
INBIOM and the local Enterprise Europe Network office worked together to offer advanced screening of Chinese companies and advisory support throughout negotiation processes.

One of the participating companies later stated:
“INBIOM has helped me sort through new contacts and direct my efforts at the right companies, saving time and money. For a little company like mine – without the time for networking – this has been very valuable.” (Arne Madsen, AEM Engineering)
Research & Technology Organisations (GTS)

Performance contracts: EURO 43 million annually

Objectives:
- Better and more effective use of technology in Danish businesses
- Special responsibility to make Danish SMEs more innovative and globally competitive
Example: Dynamic Gastric Model (DGM)

• “State of the art" *in vitro* system simulating the human stomach
• Based on physiological parameters collected from human studies.
• Provides full data readout on the digestive process; residence time, emptying profiles, pH gradients; gastric additions/flow rates, etc.
• DGM is a business unit of Bioneer:FARMA who manages and invests in the protection and development of emerging technology across the life sciences and particularly in the plant, food and microbial sciences.
Innovation Fund Denmark programmes

Grant: Appr. EURO 200 million annually

Large Scale Projects / Grand Solutions
Investments in excess of EURO 0,65 mio. Comprise projects along the entire value chain from basic research to the market. For these projects, there are three types of calls:

• Thematic calls – based on political allocations and long-term strategic prioritizations by the board
• Open calls – not tied to a specific theme, but open to all bright ideas
• Societal Innovation partnerships – targeting specific societal challenges

InnoBooster
Investments of up to EURO 0,65 mio. in SMEs with a viable proposition which have high development potential and require venture capital and sparring to nurture their innovation capacity

Talents
Investments to support research and entrepreneurial talents. There are two types of investment:

• Industrial PhD/Postdoc - supports the development of research capacities in promising individuals through their performance of specific R&D projects run jointly by enterprises and research institutions
• Entrepreneurial Pilot - offers financial support and sparring for recent graduates with innovative entrepreneurial propositions