

Process for Investment in Pool 3.3

Governance and Decision-Making Process

Unless otherwise specified, actions by the four InnoMission Partnerships will be carried out by the **Administrative Evaluation Team**, utilizing available resources. The process then moves to the **Recommendation Group** and finally to the **TRACE Board of Directors** for approval.

Key Groups Supporting the Pool 3.3 Process

- **Administrative Evaluation Team:** Selected secretariat employees from the four InnoMissions.
- **Recommendation Group:** Two non-conflicted board members from each InnoMission.

Call Text and Application Process

The InnoMission Partnerships operate under the [Guidelines for InnoMission 2023](#). Applications must be submitted through the electronic system **Filkassen**.

Applicants must in their application for example demonstrate that:

- The team is excellent in terms of necessary expertise, competencies, and capacity.
- The project aligns with two or more InnoMission Partnerships.
- The proposed work is innovative and groundbreaking.
- The expected outcomes will have significant potential impact.
- The project is efficient (achievements align with requested resources).
- The project is effective (objectives are realistically achievable).

Assessment Criteria

1. Strategic Fit to InnoMission Partnerships

Applicants must describe how their project aligns with and contributes to the relevant **InnoMission roadmaps and goals**. Additionally, projects must demonstrate synergies across at least two InnoMission partnerships, ensuring interdisciplinary impact and scalability of knowledge, methods, or technologies at national and international levels. (Section 1 of the application template).

2. Quality, Impact, and Execution (External Evaluation)

Applicants must outline:

- **Quality of the idea**
- **Impact**
- **Quality of execution**

International external evaluators will assess these aspects based on Sections 2-4 of the application template.

Evaluation and Selection Process

Mission Partnerships Recommendation Group

- The **Recommendation Group** (two board members per relevant InnoMission) assesses proposals based on **Strategic fit to the Mission Partnerships (criteria 1)**.
- They review external evaluations of **criteria 2-4** (quality, impact, execution) with input from the **Administrative Evaluation Team**.
- Based on this, they submit **funding recommendations** to the **TRACE Board of Directors**.
- Neither the **Recommendation Group** nor the **TRACE Board** can evaluate projects where they have conflicts of interest.

If conflicts of interest prevent a proper evaluation, the four **Mission Directors** will determine the next steps.

Consultation procedure

Applicants will receive evaluations via email and will be invited to reply to the evaluation of **criteria 2-4** before final decisions.

Shortlisting and Final Decision

- The **Administrative Evaluation Team** and **Recommendation Group** will consult the external scores, considering outliers and applicant responses.
- Proposals with **reasonable objections** to external assessments may still be shortlisted.
- The **TRACE Board of Directors** makes the final funding decisions.
- To ensure a balanced distribution of funding across the themes, the final project portfolio will be constructed with consideration for thematic representation. While projects will be ranked based on their evaluation scores, the final selection will also ensure that no single theme dominates the entire funding pool. The Recommendation Group and TRACE Board of Directors will prioritize building a well-rounded portfolio that reflects the strategic ambitions of the InnoMission Partnerships, and the diversity of innovation needed across all themes.
- **Recommendation Group and Board members must declare conflicts of interest.** A separate document will regulate conflict of interest.

- **The selected projects** are submitted to **Innovation Fund Denmark** to control for compliance with state aid regulation and project relevance before final decision is given to the applicant.

Oversight by Innovation Fund Denmark

Innovation Fund Denmark will oversee the processes and selection procedures and attend Board meetings as an observer. The **Board of Directors** will provide written justifications for all funding decisions. **Innovation Fund Denmark** will oversee compliance with the **GEBR** rules.

Call Announcement and Support

- The call will be published on InnoMission Partnership **websites and LinkedIn**.
- The **TRACE Secretariat** will answer general questions but **cannot** advise on specific applications. Similarly, the Board of Directors is not able to offer advice. For further information, please contact: contact@trace.dk.

Project Budget and Funding Allocation

- Projects will be funded **from the top of the priority list**, contingent on acceptance of the **Mission Partnership articles of association** (as a non-paying member) and project agreements regarding the project execution, including but not limited to compliance to state aid rules, governance, timeline, and budget.
- If a project defaults before signing, the **Board of Directors** may select the next project on the list.

Rejections and Appeals

- **Rejection letters** will be sent via email, citing the relevant assessment criteria.
- **Objections** regarding the submission or rejection can be directed to **Innovation Fund Denmark** (IFD-Missioner@innofond.dk). Innovation Fund Denmark is the governing body for the funding used in this call and will take any objections into account for the audit and control of fulfillment of the Investment Agreement between TRACE and Innovation Fund Denmark.
- **Innovation Fund Denmark** will consider objections during audits and compliance reviews.