Guidelines – Call 2021

DigitalLead collaboration projects 2021-2024
Over the years 2021-2024, DigitalLead aims to complete a number of collaboration projects between industry and knowledge institutions. We expect a budgetary framework of DKK 250,000-800,000 per project, and the funds will cover the knowledge institutions' participation in the projects.
The projects will be initiated at intervals over the years 2021-2024. Applications will be reviewed by our Funding Board and will also be subject to approval by the Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science.

Collaboration projects:
- We will fund both small and large collaboration projects, including pre-project studies (feasibility studies) that may constitute an important step towards the realization of major research and development projects.
- The collaboration projects must focus on strengthening the interaction and knowledge exchange between companies and knowledge institutions, with the purpose of strengthening the innovation and growth potential in the target group within digital technologies.

The projects are subject to the following requirements:
- The projects must include at least two mutually independent private companies (preferably more) and at least one knowledge institution.
- Taking their point of departure in the concrete needs of the participating companies, the projects must facilitate dissemination and utilization of the knowledge and competences of the knowledge institutions as well as the partners' joint development of new knowledge.
- The results of the project must have news value and be of general interest, that is, have relevance for a wider circle of actors than just the participating companies.
- The project partners must enter into a collaboration agreement in which aims, success criteria and expected effects, as well as the rights to the results of the project, are clearly defined. DigitalLead will provide a template for this agreement.
- The results must be made public or communicated to a wider audience.
- Any intellectual property that the project might result in, as well as all associated rights, will be granted to the different partners in such a way that it properly reflects their work packages, contributions and respective interests.
- The knowledge institutions must receive compensation equal to the market price of IPR that is a result of their activities, cf. The EU Commission's notification on framework provisions for state subsidies for research, development and innovation (2014/C 198/01, pt. 28).

The projects may not:
• be in the nature of product development for specific companies.
• be in the nature of commissioned research or delivery of research and development services.
• distort competition.

The activities may include the following:
• Completion of R&D activities (applied research, development and demonstration).
• Identification of needs and potentials, as well as balancing of expectations and confidence-building among the partners prior to the project.
• Planning, preparations, management, reporting, evaluation and dissemination, as well as follow-up on the project.

The projects must live up to the following criteria:
• The project must fit in with DigitalLead's overall strategic focus areas as well as the specific thematic focus of each call *(AI, IoT, Data Science & high-performance computing, cyber security, people & technology, business models & processes, ethics, trust & transparency, green IT, sustainability and the SDGs)*

- The projects must bring research and companies closer together.
- There must be a vision for how to continue the project activities after the end of the project.
- The project must exhibit quality of research and quality of innovation.
- The project must be realistically achievable.