

Another 100 million for innovation: Technology Incubation expands support for Czech startups

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"Technology Incubation is an important project for the future of Czech industry. It focuses on promising technology sectors and helps companies in the early, pre-seed phase, when access to capital is difficult and commercial financing is often unavailable. Thanks to subsequent connections with investors, more than CZK 577.9 million from private sources has already been directed to incubated startups in the first few years. Based on these positive results, we are therefore extending the project by one year and increasing the original allocation of CZK 680 million by another CZK 100 million to further strengthen the development of the Czech business environment," confirms Martin Švolba, Director of the Research, Development and Innovation Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic.

CzechInvest, as the national innovation, investment, and development agency, has been consistently supporting startups, beginning entrepreneurs, and entrepreneurship since 2010. Technological incubation is its most ambitious initiative to date. Its original goal was to support 250 domestic companies through financial and non-financial instruments between 2022 and 2027, thereby accelerating their development and market entry. With the addition of the new call, it expects up to 280 projects and their possible incubation until 2028.

The project focuses on seven key areas: artificial intelligence, advanced materials, mobility, creative industries, space technologies, ecology and the circular economy, as well as solutions for preserving and protecting life or improving its quality (including medicine, biotechnology, and security technologies).

"Since its launch, 1,726 young companies have expressed interest in participating in Technology Incubation, which, according to current estimates by Smart Market Report 2025, represents almost half of all Czech startups. Regularly monitored feedback also confirms that more than 70% of participating companies consider the support of Technology Incubation to be a key factor in starting their business. On average, the project contributed to the financing of every third crown invested in the development of incubated projects. The first participants in the project not only receive key investments, but also significant awards at home and abroad and are successfully preparing to enter global markets. These include, for example, the startups E-CAFE BIKE, Robotwin, Lightly Technologies, Myco, and Zaitra, along with a number of other promising companies," adds Tereza Kubicová, Deputy Director for Technology Development at CzechInvest.

The planned project call will be open from November 24, 2025, to January 9, 2026 (until 12:00 p.m.). However, interested parties can already participate in pre-incubation. As part of this, founders can consult on all the necessary requirements for a successful application. The new call will only offer the Incubation PLUS option, with a total amount of CZK 5 million and a duration of 18 or 24 months. Details will be published in due course on the website www.technologickainkubace.org.

Startups that have previously participated in the program may also apply if they meet the de minimis condition and submit a new innovative idea or present a significant extension of the original project. Those interested in participating in the ESA BIC Czech Republic space incubator submit applications

individually as part of its separate calls.

More details can be found on the Technology Incubation website. The project is funded from the state budget through the Ministry of Industry and Trade as part of The Country for the Future program.

Contact for the media:

Zdeněk Vesecký

PR Manager and spokesperson

+420 724 591 667

zdenek.vesecky@czechinvest.gov.cz

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