

## Innovation is Our Natural Resource

Innovation is by far the most valuable resource for the State of Israel, serving as a national asset crucial to economic prosperity. Strengthening the innovation ecosystem is the mission of the Israel Innovation Authority, which seeks to further develop and support technological innovation in Israel through various support programs.

The Israel Innovation Authority provides a variety of practical tools and funding platforms aimed at addressing the dynamic and changing needs of the local and international innovation ecosystems.

With deep knowledge and understanding of the unique challenges facing Israeli companies and entrepreneurs, these tools and programs are based on the specific stage and needs of a company. This includes programs for early stage entrepreneurs, mature companies developing new products or manufacturing processes, academic groups seeking to transfer their ideas to the market, multinational corporations interested in Israeli technology, Israeli companies seeking new markets abroad, and traditional factories and plants seeking to incorporate innovative and advanced manufacturing into their businesses.

Due to the wide range of clients and their varying needs, diverse support tools have been developed over the years. The Authority is working to enhance and adapt these tools to its clients needs, making them more accessible via a new internal structure focused on targeted innovation divisions. Each division offers a unique "toolbox" of customized and comprehensive incentive programs designed to address the changing and dynamic needs of the division's primary clients. These divisions likewise serve as a launch pad for successful technology projects, providing entrepreneurs and companies with the most relevant program for them to realize and implement their innovative ideas, develop their products, and mobilize private investment.

This brochure is designed to serve as a guide to help you understand and navigate the new structure of the Israel Innovation Authority. By getting familiar with the Authority's six divisions and various incentive programs, you can find the right program and tools tailored just for you, helping to get your innovative ideas to the market.



## Israel Innovation Authority

The Israel Innovation Authority, which is responsible for the country's innovation policy, is an independent and impartial public entity that operates for the benefit of the Israeli innovation ecosystem and Israeli economy as a whole.

Its role is to nurture and develop Israeli innovation resources, while creating and strengthening the infrastructure and framework needed to support the entire knowledge industry.

As such, the Israel Innovation Authority advises the government and Parliament ("Knesset") committees regarding innovation policy in Israel and furthermore monitors and analyzes the dynamic changes taking place throughout the innovation environments in Israel and abroad. The Authority creates cooperation with counterpart agencies to promote technological innovation in the Israeli industry and economy.

An innovation ecosystem is a complex economic system that changes very rapidly. In order to serve our clients in the best possible way, we constantly strive to adapt our support tools to the changing demands and challenges of the hi-tech industry in Israel. Accordingly, we design and operate a variety of dedicated programs for private sector companies, promoting unique initiatives that translate policy into practical tools for the industry. This ensures the continuous development of the Authority's operational scope, along with the expansion and strengthening of technological research and development in Israel.

### **The Authority's vision is to create economic prosperity through innovation.**

This vision is divided into two complementary goals: maintaining Israel's position at the forefront of global innovation and elevating the entire economy through technological innovation. This vision is the only business plan relevant to the Israeli economy, which is relatively small and far from major markets. Despite these drawbacks, Israel enjoys a vibrant entrepreneurial culture, strong technological infrastructure and highly skilled human capital, allowing it to grow on the basis of innovation.



### Objectives and functions:

- **Responsibility for developing the innovation infrastructure in Israel:** Developing the hi-tech industry, while utilizing and expanding the existing technological and scientific infrastructure and human resources in Israel.
- **Maintaining Israel's international status as the “Startup Nation”:** Creating jobs in the industry and incorporating scientific and technological personnel, as well as creating returns for the economy and encouraging growth.
- **Distribution of grants and financial support for innovative-technological R&D:** Increasing productivity and promoting technological innovation across all of Israel's industrial sectors, as well as improving Israel's economic status through production and export of R&D intensive hi-tech products
- **Connecting the Israeli economy with the global innovation industry:** Initiating and establishing international agreements with countries and multinational corporations to advance the goals of the R&D Law relating to international cooperation in R&D and innovation.
- **Promoting and encouraging programs, policies, laws and government reforms,** as well as promoting major moves with public and private collaboration.

### The Israel Innovation Authority's structure:

In order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, the Israel Innovation Authority has adopted an internal structure designed to enable: task and client orientation, concentration of knowledge and tools under a single entity, enlargement of the offered toolbox, and expansion of the scope of activities beyond R&D. This strategic approach is advanced through a number of innovation divisions each focused on a specific target audience, for the purpose of developing and delivering dedicated solutions to their associated challenges.

### The innovation divisions include:

Startup Division, Growth Division, Technological Infrastructure Division, Advanced Manufacturing Division, International Collaboration Division, and Societal Challenges Division. These divisions pave a variety of customized paths for entrepreneurs and companies to promote, implement and realize their innovative R&D ideas at various stages.

