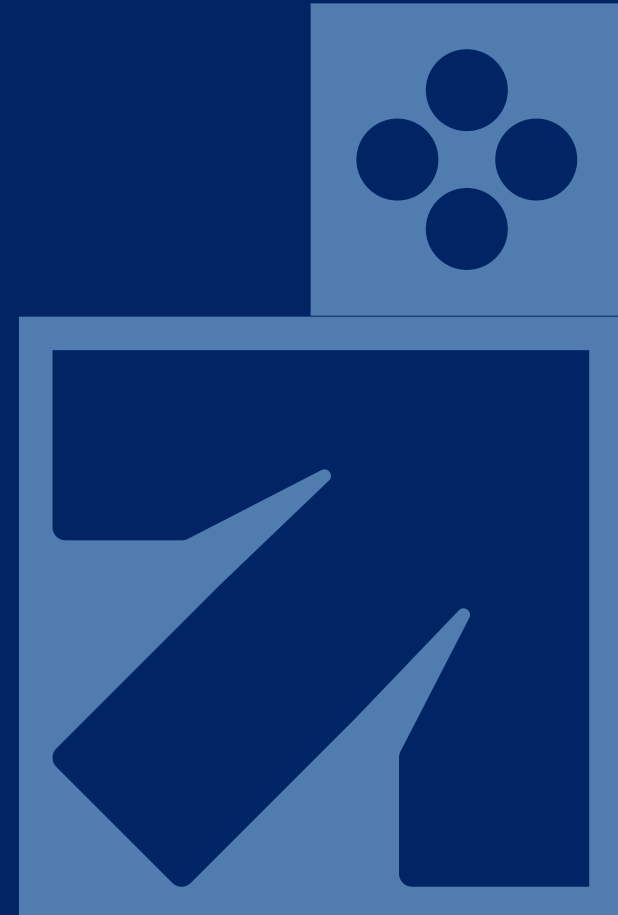


BUSINESS FINLAND – Enabling growth with funding and Invest in Finland support



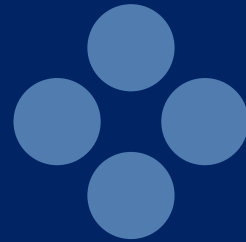
Timo Sorsa, Kimmo Aura



Business Finland



Business Finland is a public organization employing **450 experts** in Finland and in **14 countries** globally.



We create prosperity for Finland by promoting **the renewal and sustainable growth of companies** and diffusion of knowledge in society



We offer **RDI funding** for ambitious companies and research organizations and promote Finland as an attractive destination for **investment, travel, and international talent**.



In **2026** Business Finland's RDI funding allocation is **790 M€**.

WHAT IS NEW IN BUSINESS FINLAND



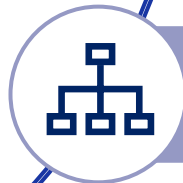
New Business Finland strategy starting 2026.



Security theme has high priority in the new strategy. Collaboration with public and private stakeholders following Finnish comprehensive security model.



Finnish government will substantially increase national R&D investments in coming years.



Organizational change: international network to be transferred to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

STRATEGIC THEMATIC CHOICES



DIGITAL PIONEERING

Artificial intelligence
Immersive technologies
Robotics and automation
High performance computing
Data center ecosystems
Photonics
Radio and network technologies
Quantum technology



SECURITY

Space technology
Cybersecurity
Defense industry
Semiconductor Industry
Maritime industry and arctic expertise
Critical raw materials and minerals



CLEAN TRANSITION

Energy systems and technologies

- hydrogen
- modular reactors
- battery value chains
- renewable energy

Mobile machinery



GOOD LIFE

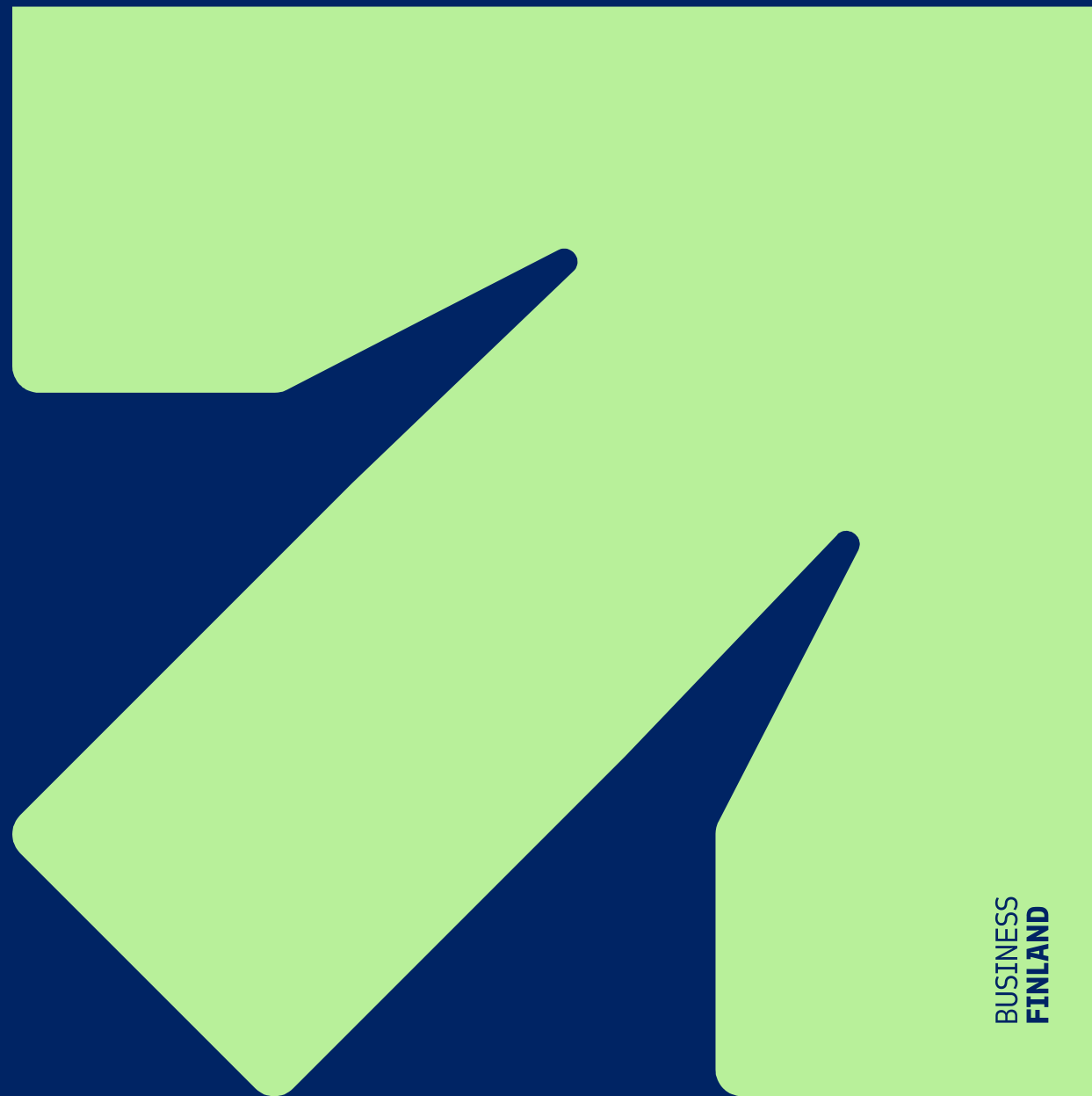
Creative industry
Travel
Health technologies
Food technology
Biomaterials
Biochemicals



BUSINESS COMPETENCE

Customer understanding and intangible value creation
Commercialization and international growth

DEFENCE AND DIGITAL RESILIENCE PROGRAM



DEFENSE AND DIGITAL RESILIENCE PROGRAM GOALS

Globally pioneering solutions for comprehensive security in societies and businesses

1. Excellence through research, development and innovations in defense, cybersecurity and critical communications including dual-use solutions
2. Enhanced innovation and business collaboration with likeminded countries and international frameworks such as NATO
3. Significant revenue growth through export of compelling offerings and business ecosystems

Program runtime
April 2024 – end 2028

Funding target 120 M€ in
total



Innovations and strong synergies in
civil and military solutions

BF FUNDING SERVICES FOR DEFENSE AND DUAL-USE

▪ FUNDING FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- For companies to develop products or services, production methods, and business models (grant). The company can also test and demonstrate the operation of a new, innovative solution and evaluate the benefits together with its customers (risk loan).
- **New: SPRINT funding piloted during 2.3.-31.8.2026**
<https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/services/funding/calls/2026/sprint-grant-funding-call/>

▪ CO-INNOVATION

- Funding for collaborative projects between companies and research organizations, aimed at developing new expertise and solutions to be commercialised. The aim is to accelerate business-led ecosystem development and creation of new business.

▪ CO-RESEARCH

- Typically linked to Business Finland's leading companies' initiatives. Funding for research organizations to create new scientific and technological expertise for companies' future needs.
- Continuous call for veturi partnership model projects from 1.4.onward

BF FUNDING SERVICES FOR DEFENSE AND DUAL-USE

- **European Defense Fund**
 - EDF projects open doors to funding and networks, providing opportunities to develop European and Finnish capabilities
 - Co-funding Up to 20% national top-up funding for projects accepted or with pending approval from European Commission.
- **Bilateral (or multilateral) innovation calls with like-minded countries**
- **Rise to Challenge for research organizations**
 - For bold, high-impact research initiatives that aim to radically expand Finland's future capabilities and knowledge base, laying the groundwork for new growth sectors and long-term societal benefit.
- **Innovation cluster funding**
 - For facilitation of international collaborative innovation ecosystems.
- **Innovative Public Procurement**
 - Funding designed for public procurement units. Suitable for innovative procurements where the solution under development is nationally new and has broad business potential.



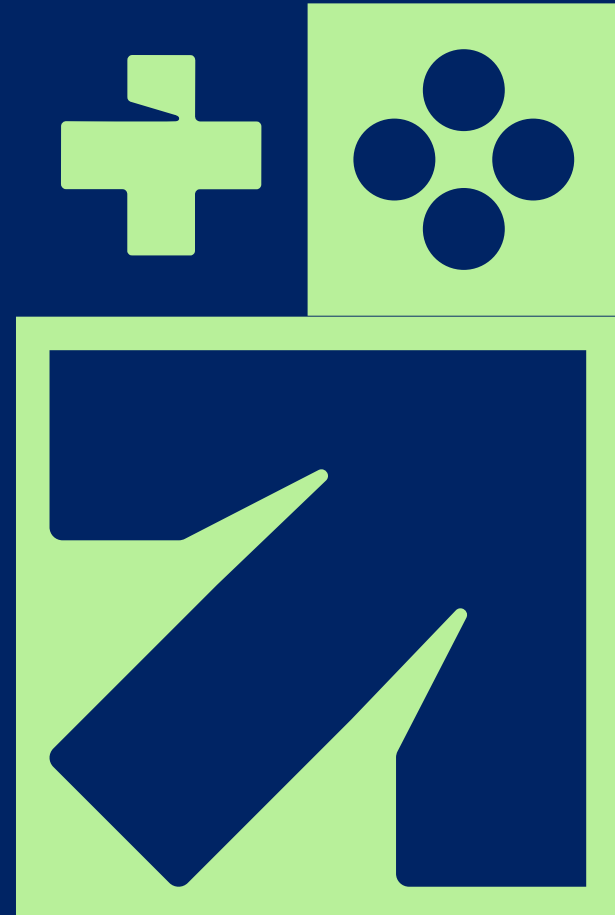
BOOSTING THE GROWTH OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

- **Advise** about internationalization strategies and readiness, including understanding the value chains and dynamics of the defence industry.
- Market and technology **studies** (Sweden, Germany, France, UK, Australia and NZ etc)
- **Inbound visits** to Finland - a platform for international engagement
- **Invest-in** activities enrich the Finnish defence industry – partners from like-minded countries are sought to strengthen the Finnish ecosystem and to build networks for international markets – e.g.Ukraine
- **Marketing and communication** highlighting Finnish expertise – the latest is the Comprehensive Defense and Security from Finland video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpU6q_xLVFO



Comprehensive Defence and Resilience from Finland

VETURI - LEADING COMPANY CONCEPT



LEADING COMPANY (“VETURI”) & ECOSYSTEM FUNDING

Leading company

- Takes up the challenge by significantly increasing its R&D investments in Finland
- Uses R&D as a tool to tackle a bold and inspirational mission
- Tackles the mission together with its ecosystem partners

Business Finland

- Grant for a leading company **20M€ per company (10 for challengers)**, 40 %, 3-5 years
- Payments and continuation of the project according to the goals achieved

Ecosystem

- Research organizations, companies and other partners developing partial solutions for the mission
- Broad impact on R&D investments, new knowledge and growth of the ecosystem partners

Business Finland

- BF regular funding criteria apply for the projects of the ecosystem partners
- Max **50 M€/5 years (20 M€ for challengers)**

Fortum & Metsä Group
ExpandFibre

TietoEvy
Trusted Digital Societies

Konecranes
ZERO4

Sumitomo SHI FW
Net Zero Energy Ecosystem

Nokian Renkaat
Futureproof

Borealis Polymers
Sustainable Plastic Industry Transformation

Nokia
Unlock Industrial 5G

Bittium
Seamless and Secure connectivity

Mirka
SHAPE

Wärtsilä
Wide and Intelligent Sustainable Energy

Canatu
Carbon Age

Wärtsilä
Zero Emission Marine

Neste
Novel Sustainable Solutions for Transportation and chemicals

Patria
eAlliance

Picosun
Chip Zero

Ponsse & Epec
Forward'27

Kalmar
Move2Green

Valmet
Beyond circularity

KONE
Flow of Urban Life

AMD Silo AI
Compute to Impact

Danfoss
Fossil Free Future

Kempower
Heavy Electric Traffic Ecosystem

ANDRITZ
BioCircleToZero

Nokia
Competitive EDGE

ABB
Green Electrification

Valio
Food 2.0

ABB
H2 Springboard

Nokia
LEAD

Kone
Renaissance

Meyer
NEcOLEAP Climate Neutral Cruise Ship

Sandvik
SHIFT'25

LEADING COMPANIES 2020-2025



THANK YOU !

Newsletter of Defense and Digital Resilience program /



INVEST IN FINLAND

We strengthen the Finnish business ecosystem and support Finland's economic growth and sustainable development by attracting foreign direct investments to Finland.



INVEST IN FINLAND – SERVICES FOR FOREIGN COMPANIES



Opportunity
analysis



Exploring entry
alternatives



Data collection
& analysis



Facilitate
Corporate
Networking

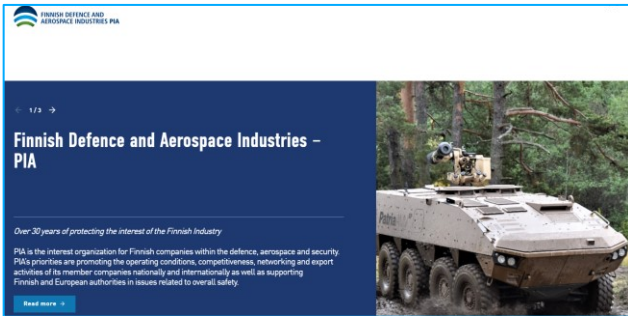


Location
management



Setting up
a business

Some defence related ecosystems and stakeholders in Finland

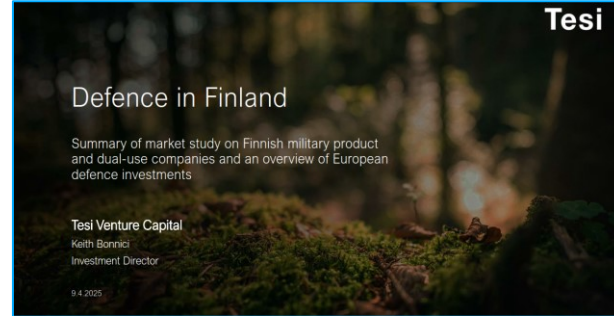


Finnish Defence and Aerospace Industries – PIA

Over 30 years of protecting the interest of the Finnish industry

PIA is the interest organization for Finnish companies within the defence, aerospace and security. PIA's priorities are promoting the operating conditions, competitiveness, networking and export activities of its member companies nationally and internationally as well as supporting Finnish and European authorities in issues related to overall safety.

[Read more](#)



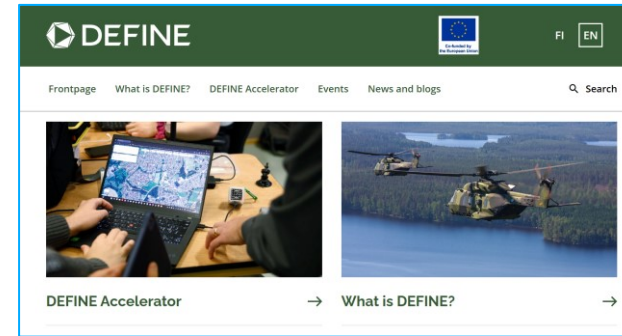
Tesi

Defence in Finland

Summary of market study on Finnish military product and dual-use companies and an overview of European defence investments

Tesi Venture Capital
Keith Bonnicci
Investment Director

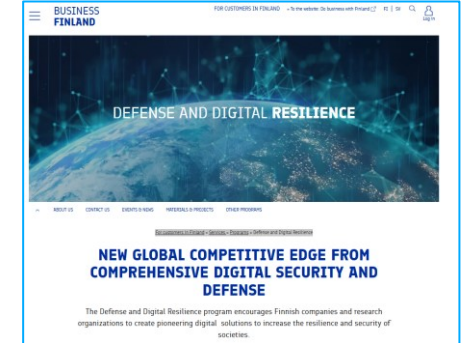
9.4.2025



DEFINE

Frontpage | What is DEFINE? | DEFINE Accelerator | Events | News and blogs

DEFINE Accelerator → What is DEFINE? →

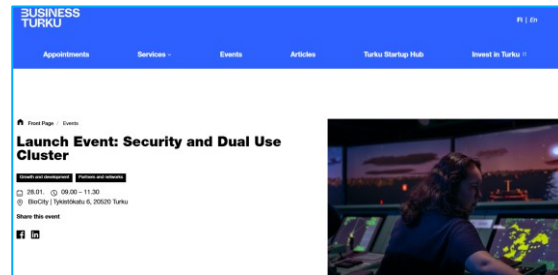


BUSINESS FINLAND

DEFENSE AND DIGITAL RESILIENCE

NEW GLOBAL COMPETITIVE EDGE FROM COMPREHENSIVE DIGITAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE

The Defense and Digital Resilience program encourages Finnish companies and research organizations to create pioneering digital solutions to increase the resilience and security of societies.



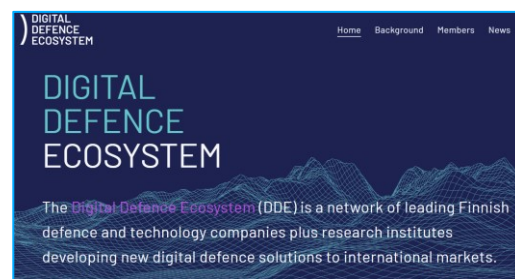
BUSINESS TURKU

Appointments | Services | Events | Articles | Turku Startup Hub | Invest in Turku

Launch Event: Security and Dual Use Cluster

28.01. 09:00 – 11:30
City of Turku / Yhteiskatu 6, 20520 Turku

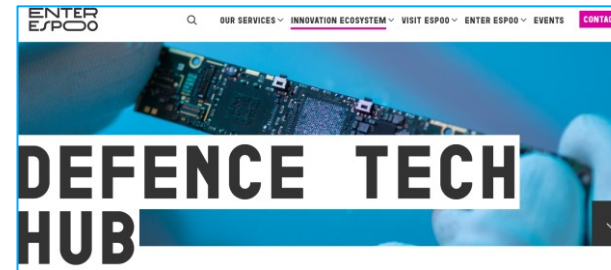
[Share this event](#)



DIGITAL DEFENCE ECOSYSTEM

DIGITAL DEFENCE ECOSYSTEM

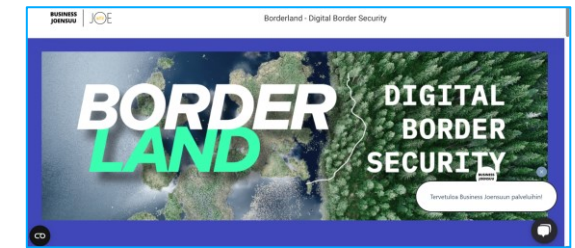
The Digital Defence Ecosystem (DDE) is a network of leading Finnish defence and technology companies plus research institutes developing new digital defence solutions to international markets.



ENTER E/PCOO

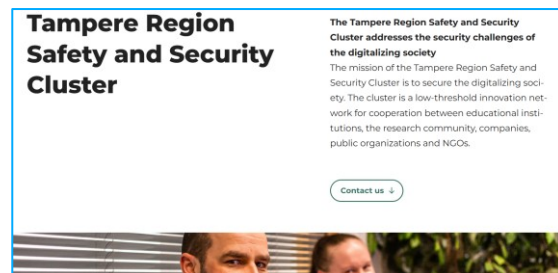
OUR SERVICES | INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM | VISIT ESPDO | ENTER ESPDO | EVENTS | CONTACT

DEFENCE TECH HUB



BORDERLAND DIGITAL BORDER SECURITY

Terveystieteiden tutkimuskeskus

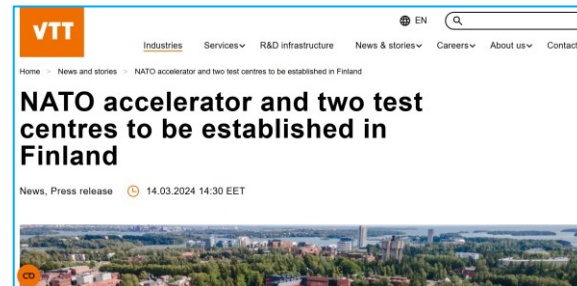


Tampere Region Safety and Security Cluster

The Tampere Region Safety and Security Cluster addresses the security challenges of the digitalizing society

The mission of the Tampere Region Safety and Security Cluster is to secure the digitalizing society. The cluster is a low-threshold innovation network for cooperation between educational institutions, the research community, companies, public organizations and NCOs.

[Contact us](#)

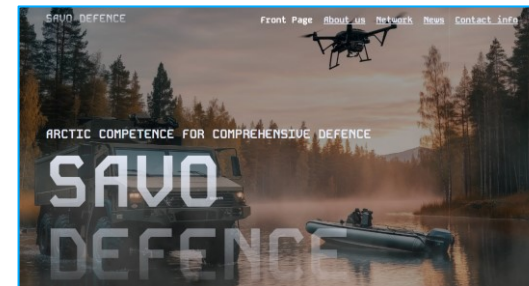


VTT

Industries | Services | R&D infrastructure | News & stories | Careers | About us | Contact

NATO accelerator and two test centres to be established in Finland

News, Press release | 14.03.2024 14:30 EET



SAVO DEFENCE

SAVO DEFENCE

ARCTIC COMPETENCE FOR COMPREHENSIVE DEFENCE



CRITICAL COMMUNICATIONS FINLAND

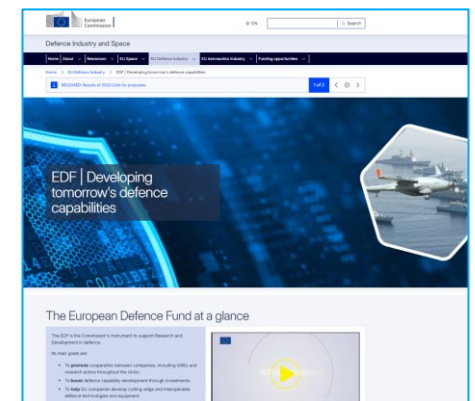
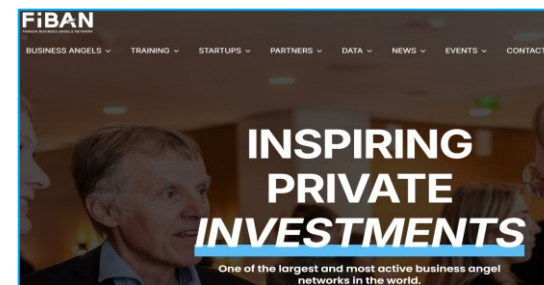
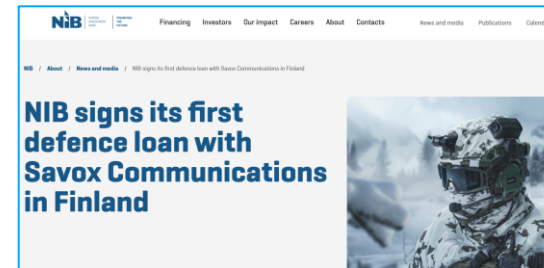
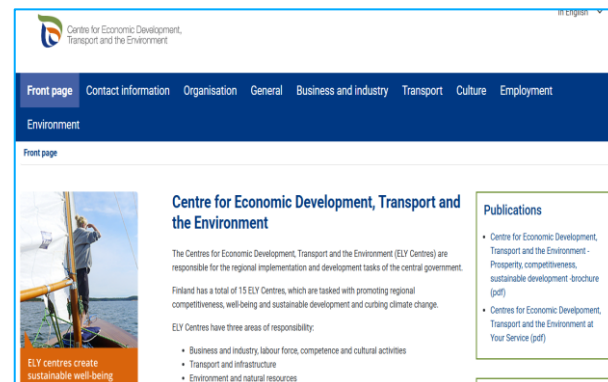
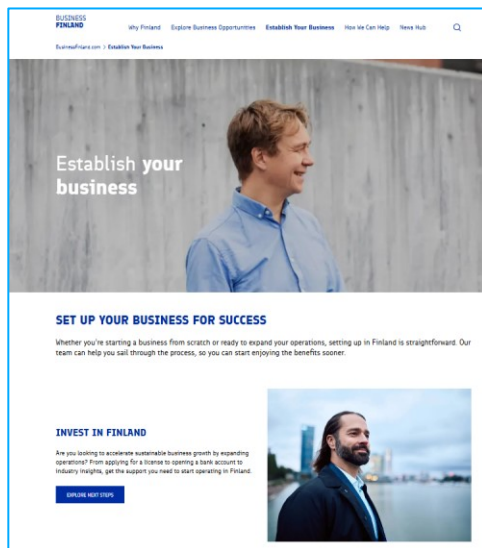
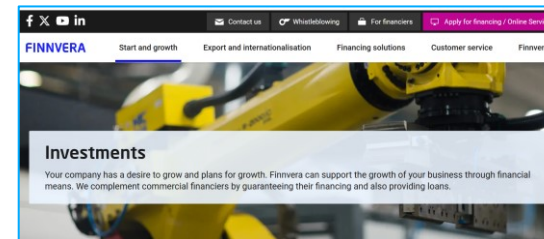
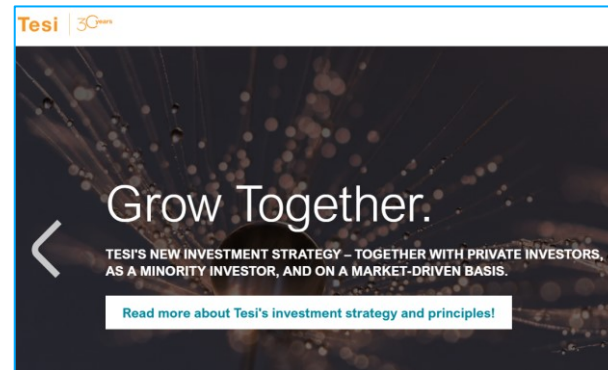
Success in co-operation

THE MAIN FINNISH CLUSTERS in DEFENCE AND DUAL-USE

- Capital area – emerging technologies e.g. in New Space, AI, quantum. NATO Diana Accelerator (VTT)
- Turku – maritime, ports, hybrid threats
- Riihimäki – defence innovation network, R&D test center (Millog & FDF) and start-up accelerator program DEFINE
- Pirkanmaa cluster (Tampere) – ICT and manufacturing (e.g. Saab's factory)
- Central Finland Jyväskylä – cybersecurity and health tech
- Eastern Finland – Borderland & Savo Defence, e.g. arctic and border security
- Northern Finland, Oulu – 5G/6G, NATO Diana test center
- Vaasa region – energy cluster
- Activities in several other areas in Finland
- About 400 defence sector companies, research organizations cross Finland



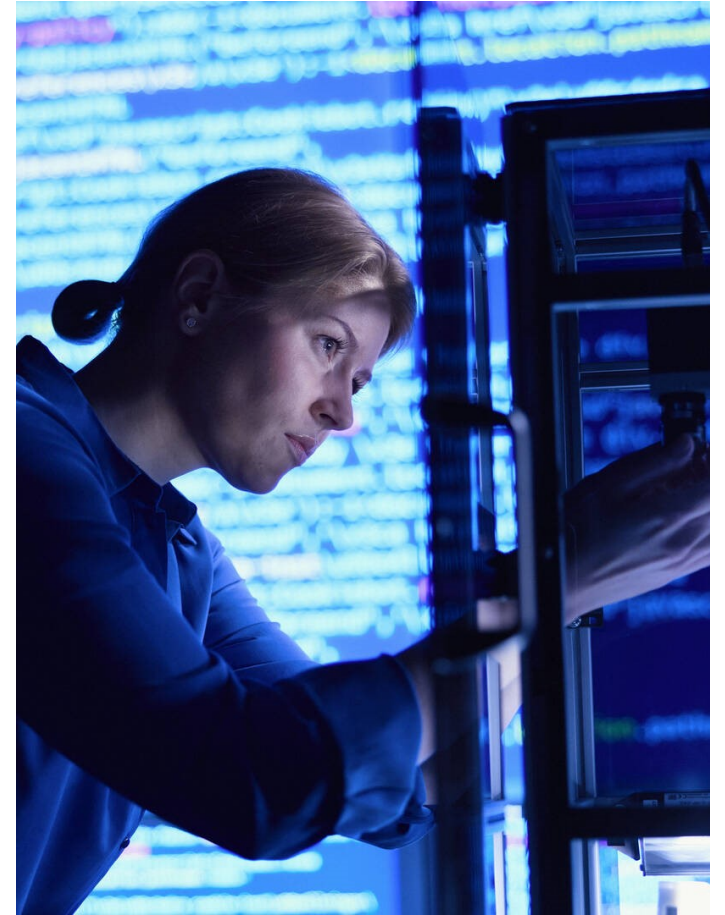
Some stakeholders for support, funding and investments



Summary

- Finland is excellent location for developing and testing your products and services
- Finland is your gateway to EU and NATO markets
- Natural environment for arctic conditions testing
- Many vivid defence ecosystems, for benchmark and talent attraction for a foreign investor

Welcome to Finland for your next big thing!



BUSINESS FINLAND

Thank you!
Questions or comments?

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kimmo.aura@businessfinland.fi

Invest in Finland

Business Finland

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Funding:

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Defence and Digital Resilience Program

Kirsi Kokko, kirsi.kokko@businessfinland.fi

