ESA BIC UK equips businesses with space industry knowledge

Utilising space technology to assist global sustainability goals, Deep Planet applies satellite imagery and data to provide insights to make the world a better place. Deep Planet offers tailored solutions for its customers, enabling value added benefits and the detection of problems in sectors including agriculture, forestry, water and oil and gas.

The challenge

Prior to joining ESA BIC UK, Deep Planet was a small start-up with three founders who met at Oxford University. Although the team was equipped with the latest technical know-how, they lacked the space industry knowledge, finances and employee numbers to successfully access the market. Determined to drive the UN’s sustainability goals - minimising water usage, predicting shortages and enabling better business and government decisions - Deep Planet applied to the ESA BIC UK in the hope of uncovering expert industry knowledge and the funding needed to realise its business dreams.

The solution

- Industry and business expertise
- Office space at a renowned science innovation address
- STFC and ESA networking opportunities
- £41,500 incentive funding used to hire R&D staff

The benefits

Becoming an ESA BIC UK incubatee immediately placed Deep Planet within a thriving space network, allowing the company to connect with key stakeholders and discover crucial space-sector knowledge. Networking across STFC campuses and with other ESA BICs made sourcing information far more efficient for the team and helped deliver new customers and partnerships.

Having dedicated office space has given Deep Planet an ideal location for industry meetings within a renowned science and innovation business address. The financial support of the ESA BIC UK facilitated the expansion of its team from 3 to 5, through the employment of artificial intelligence scientists and agronomists to develop detection and research methods. Being part of the ESA BIC UK has also enabled Deep Planet to win a place on the Copernicus Incubation Programme. The prestigious programme awards start-ups, that are already enrolled in selected incubation initiatives and utilise Copernicus Sentinel satellite data, with €50,000 funding.

About us

The ESA Business Incubation Centre United Kingdom (ESA BIC UK) provides start-ups with technical expertise and facilities, business support, networking, office space and funding needed to overcome innovation challenges and accelerate business growth.

Part of ESAs thriving Europe-wide network of Business Incubation Centres, ESA BIC UK is managed by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and draws on both organisations’ outstanding track record in business incubation – providing a unique environment perfectly engineered to accelerate innovation and unlock commercial potential. Each year we support start-ups working in sectors including healthcare, energy, agriculture and digital technology.

To find out how you can join us:
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