

# SME creates sustainable cities thanks to ESA BIC UK funding and expertise

By applying machine learning and artificial intelligence to geospatial, satellite Earth observation and non-spatial data, Energeo can determine the energy performance of towns and cities down to the level of individual properties. The data highlights opportunities for sustainability through use of renewable energy sources, providing an evidence base for public and private sector organisations for low carbon, low emission initiatives.

## The challenge

Founded in 2015, Energeo was set up by former Airbus Defence and Space colleagues who shared the goal of accelerating the transition to a low carbon economy, with a focus on urban areas. Despite the team's wealth of industry expertise and clear identification of the end-user market, as an early-stage SME Energeo faced a number of constraints, such as the resources and finance needed to develop, trial and pilot its products and services.

## The solution

- £41,500 incentive funding towards product technical development
- Industry and business expertise, with continued support as an alumnus

- Networking opportunities within STFC, ESA and the wider Harwell Campus community
- Office at renowned innovation location in Oxfordshire

## The benefits

The financial and business support received at ESA BIC UK, along with sector knowledge and inspiration gained from networking opportunities within the flourishing space and energy clusters at Harwell Campus, enabled the Energeo team to develop their early stage offerings to a viable commercial proposition. In addition, being based within the well-regarded Oxfordshire innovation hub resulted in successful working relationships with several regional local authorities.

Since graduating from ESA BIC in 2016, Energeo has: secured two Innovate UK project grants, plus funding from the EU-funded Data Pitch open innovation programme; won a Western Power Distribution competition, with a prize of access to a closed proprietary dataset; been a finalist in both Ordnance Survey and Copernicus Masters competitions; and, in 2019, forecasted revenue to be 10 times that of its incubation period.

*"The facilitation of our product development was the key benefit of our time as an incubatee at ESA BIC UK, but we also found that being in such a creative environment and having access to the business and industry expertise really helped us."*

*Ian Dee, CEO, Energeo*


**energeo**

Image credit: Energeo

## 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 ESA's 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:

Tel: +44 (0)1235 446075 Email: [enquiries@esa-bic.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@esa-bic.org.uk) Twitter: @ESABICUK #ESABICUK



Managed by

**Science & Technology  
Facilities Council**