

CEBE International Mobility Grant 2026 for Researchers and PhD students

1. Background

CEBE (Civil Engineering and the green transition in the Built Environment) is a Danish cross-university research programme focusing on the sustainable development of the built environment. CEBE's vision is to promote science-based circular, low-carbon and resilient built environment within planetary boundaries. CEBE brings together leading researchers, industry partners, and international collaborators and stakeholders to advance excellent research, education, and innovation across the full value chain of the built environment. CEBE is supported by the Villum Foundation for a period of 10 years (2026 – 2035).

Through the International Mobility Programme, CEBE provides financial support for researchers at the four Danish partner universities to visit an international research environment, to encourage continuous learning, professional development of staff and to strengthen international academic collaboration.

CEBE is structured with 7 research fields:

1. Assessing and measuring environmental sustainability
2. Design for regeneration, circularity and longevity
3. Low carbon and robust construction materials
4. Digitalisation and automation
5. Climate resilient and adaptive infrastructure
6. Sufficiency, well-being and energy efficiency
7. Extending the life of the built environment

More information about the CEBE programme and the seven research fields can be found in the research roadmap (<https://www.cebe.dk/research/>)

2. Scope of the Call

CEBE is now inviting applications for support under the *International Mobility Programme*. It is expected that about 10-15 applications will be awarded each year for researchers and PhD students. A similar call will be announced in 2027 and the following years.

The programme can support expenses for research visits of minimum one month at an international university, research institution or a company in exceptional cases. It is the expectation that the researcher works within research areas relevant to CEBE's research fields and contribute to CEBE's overall vision.

The programme can cover living, housing, travel and relocation expenses according to the travel and expense policy of the Danish CEBE partner university.

The research visit should take its beginning in 2027.

3. Who can apply

The call is open for researchers and PhD students from all departments and research groups at CEBE's four Danish partner universities, respectively AAU (Aalborg University), AU (Aarhus University), SDU (South Denmark University) and DTU (Danish Technical University).

The application must have **one applicant** from a Danish CEBE Partner University and one **recipient host researcher** at an international university with research aligned with CEBE research fields.

4. Evaluation process

Applications will be evaluated by the CEBE coordination unit taking into account that a reasonable balance between researchers and PhD students across the CEBE partner universities and program research fields is achieved.

For researchers, the evaluation criteria will include:

- Relevance to CEBE's overarching programme objectives as well as specific research field objectives
- Synergies in the planned collaboration
- Merits of the applicant

For PhD students, the evaluation criteria will include:

- Relevance and benefit for the student's education
- Relevance to CEBE's overarching programme objectives as well as specific research field objectives

5. Application guidelines

For researchers the application should include:

- 1) Cover page – find the template for the cover page on our website www.cebe.dk
- 2) Motivation for the research visit (max 2 pages)
 - Short description of the purpose and plan for the research visit
 - Description of hosting research environment
 - Explanation of how the collaboration benefits the researcher and CEBE
- 3) Short CV from the applicant and the recipient host researcher (max. one page each)

- 4) Commitment letter for the recipient department, signed by the recipient host researcher and the Head of the host department
- 5) Estimated budget (amount requested divided into key budget items)

For PhD students the application should include:

- 1) Cover page – find the template for the cover page www.cebe.dk
- 2) Motivation for the study abroad (max 1 page)
 - Short description of the purpose and plan for the study abroad and how it will benefit the student and the CEBE programme
- 3) Short CV from the applicant (max. one page)
- 4) Statement from the main supervisor must be submitted as documentation that the trip is relevant to your study
- 5) Estimated budget (amount requested divided into key budget items)

6. Responsibilities

After the research visit a brief report should be handed in to the CEBE coordinating unit no later than two months after return. The researcher is expected to share experiences with the CEBE research community.

7. Funding

Researchers can receive funding up to **DKK 150.000**.

PhD students can receive funding up to **DKK 50.000**.

Expenses must be incurred by the partner university. Reimbursement will be made to the partner university by CEBE up to the granted funding upon request, subject to the submission of an invoice and a financial statement documenting the expenses incurred. Templates will be provided for this at a later stage.

Reimbursement can be submitted until **31 March 2028**.

8. Submission

Submit your grant application by email to **calls@cebe.dk** no later than **15 December 2026** at midnight.

Only applications received as a single PDF file will be taken into consideration.

9. Timeline

15 September 2026: Call opens

15 December 2026: Call closes

17 September 2026



January 2027: Decision on accepted applications

10. Questions

In case of questions, please contact calls@cebe.dk