

# UK – INNOVATION NATION

Guide to Key Players in UK Innovation

October 2009

STANDARDS

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ASSOCIATIONS

INDUSTRY

GOVERNMENT

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*Fast track to the world* <sup>UK</sup>

## About UK Trade & Investment

UK Trade & Investment is the UK Government organisation that helps UK-based companies succeed in international markets, and works to attract high growth investments into the UK.

### If you are exporting from the UK

We can help UK-based companies of all sizes and all levels of experience to succeed in international markets.

- **Advice and support** – we can prepare companies to trade and maximise their chances of sustained success overseas, such as strategic planning and practical guidance, export training, networking opportunities, and overcoming cultural and communications barriers.
- **Information and opportunities** – we can help gather intelligence, assess target markets, and build useful business contacts in a variety of sectors in the UK and overseas.
- **Making it happen** – we can support companies to attend trade shows, with market visits, develop relationships with customers and partners, and provide related press and marketing support.

### If you are considering investing in the UK

We offer free and confidential advice matched to the precise requirements of qualified investors, to help accelerate time to market, reduce costs and minimise risks.

- **Set up in the UK** – we can help assess the UK market potential, find the right location, and offer practical support in getting businesses up and running in the UK.
- **Expand existing UK operation** – we can provide insights to help optimise existing UK operations, find suitable expansion locations, access new markets, and provide access to a multitude of networking and R&D partnership opportunities.
- **Find a UK partner** – we offer a fast and effective partner-matching service to help overseas businesses identify and access suitable innovative, R&D organisations in the UK through our Global Partnership service.

## About this guide

Innovation is key to world competitiveness and the cornerstone of successful businesses. From steam engines to DNA fingerprinting technology, the UK holds an extraordinary record of innovations and scientific discoveries that transform the lives of people and businesses.

At the heart of the innovation process in the UK are 12 key players, identified here, that enable the successful delivery of world-class ideas to the global market.

For specialist innovation expertise and links into UK innovation, contact:

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[www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk](http://www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk)



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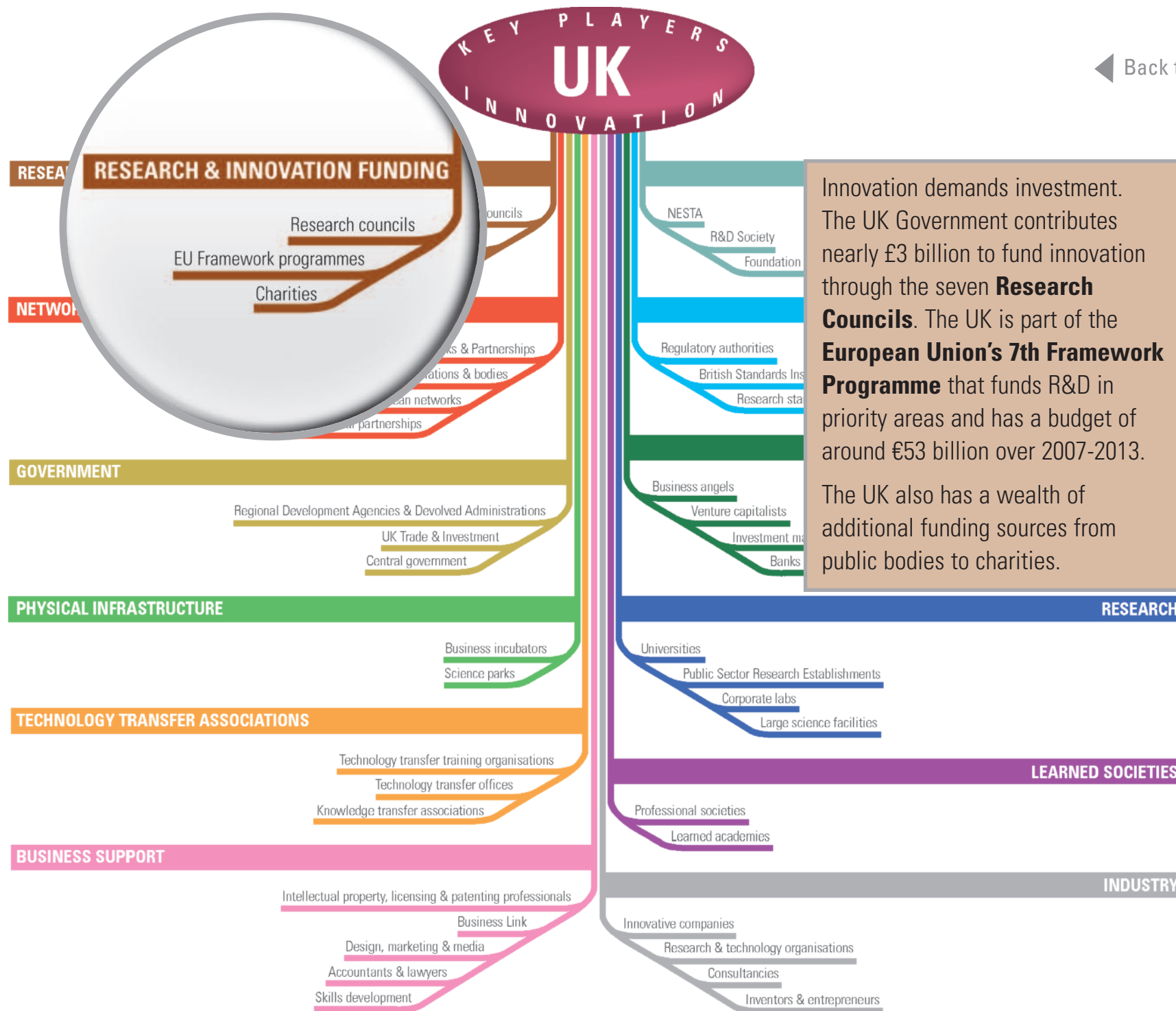
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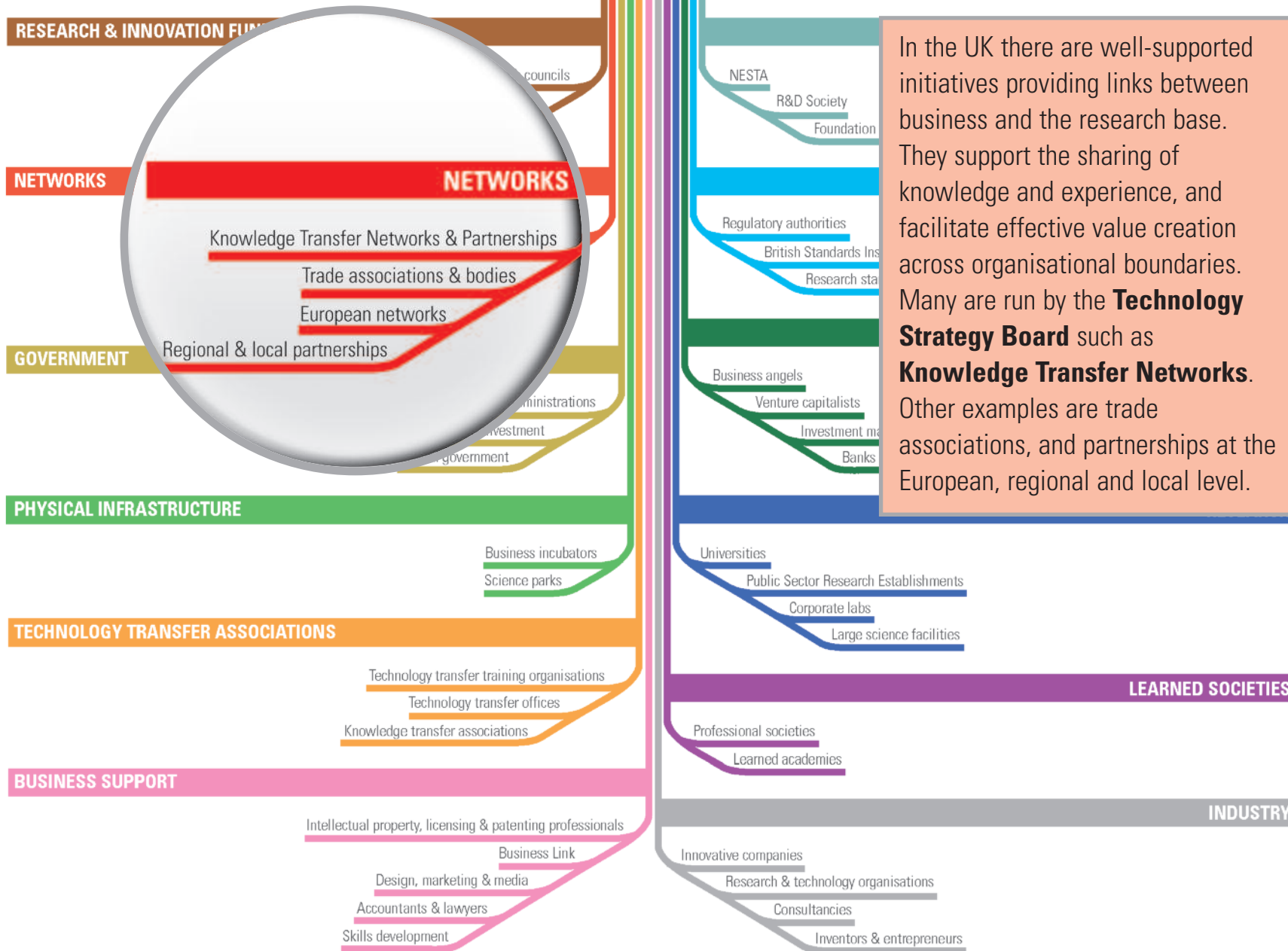


RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Research Councils</b></p>	<p>Research Councils are public bodies charged with investing in science and research in the UK to advance knowledge and generate new ideas to create wealth and drive quality-of-life improvements. Their role is to fund research, and to support postgraduate training and science in society. They also provide access for UK researchers to large research facilities – see Research.</p> <p>There are seven Research Councils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Arts &amp; Humanities</li> <li>● Biotechnology &amp; Biological Sciences</li> <li>● Engineering &amp; Physical Sciences</li> <li>● Economic &amp; Social</li> <li>● Medical</li> <li>● Natural Environment</li> <li>● Science &amp; Technologies Facilities Council</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.rcuk.ac.uk">www.rcuk.ac.uk</a></p>
<p><b>EU-7th Framework programme – FP7</b></p>	<p>The <b>European Union (EU) 7th Framework for Research and Technological Development</b> has a budget of around €53 billion over 2007-2013 to help deliver research, education and innovation to make the EU the most dynamic and competitive knowledge-based economy in the world. It can support public and private companies, research institutes, universities and individuals. Examples of what it funds are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collaborative research in priority areas such as food, agriculture &amp; biotechnology, materials &amp; new production technologies, and security</li> <li>● European Research Council and Joint Research Council</li> <li>● Infrastructure and science in society</li> </ul> <p>The <b>Technology Strategy Board</b> is the UK's national contact point for the framework.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fp7uk.org">www.fp7uk.org</a>  <a href="http://www.innovateuk.org/deliveringinnovation/internationalprogramme.ashx">www.innovateuk.org/deliveringinnovation/internationalprogramme.ashx</a></p>

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Charities</b></p>	<p>There are around 215,000 charities in the UK registered with the <b>Charity Commission for England and Wales</b> and the <b>Office of Scottish Charity Regulator</b> (OSCR). Charities can be key players in research and innovation funding. For example, the 117 members of the <b>Association of Medical Research Charities</b> (AMRC) funded nearly £1 billion of research in 2008, contributing significantly to our knowledge and understanding in the life sciences, medicine and health.</p> <p>The Charity Commission, OSCR and AMRC provide searchable databases of their members.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk">www.charitycommission.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.oscr.org.uk">www.oscr.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.amrc.org.uk">www.amrc.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Other</b></p>	<p>Research and Innovation funding is available through many other sources. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Technology Strategy Board</b> (TSB) – see Networks for information on the networks it funds. The TSB has a collaborative research and development programme that regularly runs competitions and invests in projects involving business and researchers working together to deliver successful new technology-based products and services. Since 2004, over £1 billion has been invested (about half from the TSB and half from the businesses involved).</li> <li>● The <b>Carbon Trust</b> is an independent company set up by the UK Government to accelerate the move to a low carbon economy. It offers two research and innovation funding programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Innovations – helps develop commercially promising low carbon technologies</li> <li>– Enterprises – creates low carbon businesses by identifying opportunities and combining key skills and resources.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Scottish Enterprise</b> has committed to investing £450 million over 2003-2013 in three Intermediate Technology Institutes (Energy, Life Sciences and Techmedia). These Institutes commission R&amp;D programmes and provide funding, project management and commercial acumen.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.innovateuk.org">www.innovateuk.org</a>  <a href="http://www.esf.org">www.esf.org</a>  <a href="http://www.carbontrust.co.uk">www.carbontrust.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.itiscotland.com">www.itiscotland.com</a>  <a href="http://www.nesta.org.uk">www.nesta.org.uk</a></p>

# KEY PLAYERS UK INNOVATION



In the UK there are well-supported initiatives providing links between business and the research base. They support the sharing of knowledge and experience, and facilitate effective value creation across organisational boundaries. Many are run by the **Technology Strategy Board** such as **Knowledge Transfer Networks**. Other examples are trade associations, and partnerships at the European, regional and local level.

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Knowledge Transfer Networks &amp; Partnerships</b></p>	<p>The <b>Technology Strategy Board</b> (TSB) is a business-led executive non-departmental public body and is sponsored and funded by government. It funds networking and partnering programmes aimed at spreading knowledge and bringing people together to solve problems or make new advances. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Knowledge Transfer Networks</b> (KTN) – 24 national networks in a specific field (eg creative industries, resource efficiency and industrial mathematics) that bring together people from businesses, research, and finance to stimulate innovation through the sharing of ideas.</li> <li>● <b>Knowledge Transfer Partnerships</b> (KTPs). KTPs increase business-university knowledge base interaction by placing high-calibre, recently-qualified individuals into businesses to work on innovation projects. There are over 1,000 partnerships running at any one time and over 1,100 associate projects.</li> <li>● <b>Innovation platforms</b> – these pull together policy, business, government procurement and research perspectives and resources to generate innovative solutions. Example platforms include Low Carbon Vehicles and Assisted Living.</li> </ul>	<p>www.innovateuk.org            ktn.globalwatchonline.com            www.ktponline.org.uk</p>
<p><b>Trade associations &amp; bodies</b></p>	<p>Trade associations and bodies provide a network of companies working within a specific industry. Their main purpose is to promote and represent the industry and they may offer networking events and educational materials. They are a useful resource to help share industry-specific knowledge, facilitate inter-industry collaborations and develop industry standards.</p> <p>In the UK, trade associations supported by the Government (Department of Business, Innovation and Skills) and the <b>Confederation of British Industry</b> (CBI) are represented by the <b>Trade Associations Forum</b> (TAF). TAF aims to spread best practice across trade associations and offers information and a directory of members.</p>	<p>www.taforum.org</p>

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>European networks</b></p>	<p>The UK is a member of European networks such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Enterprise Europe Network</b>, launched in 2008 by the European Commission to offer an integrated information network for businesses on issues such as EU legislation, how to benefit from innovation networks in each region, and information on funding opportunities. The Network is made up of 600 local contact points (11 in the UK) with regional consortia co-operating to create a coherent local support structure.</li> <li>● <b>EUREKA</b> is a market-oriented, industrial R&amp;D network that has 700 ongoing projects involving over 2,500 network members from large and small companies, research organisations and governments. The technology areas of focus are IT, medical &amp; biotechnology, laser, new materials, environment, robotics and transport.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu">www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu</a>  <a href="http://www.eureka.be">www.eureka.be</a></p>
<p><b>Regional &amp; local partnerships</b></p>	<p>Regional and local partnerships help to develop centres and networks of excellence by sharing infrastructure and fostering effective collaboration. These exist in several forms and levels in the UK. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In 2005 six English <b>Science Cities</b> – Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and York – were designated to foster innovation in the British economy by creating closer partnerships between academics, researchers, entrepreneurs and business leaders. This status recognises the excellence in science and innovation of these cities.</li> <li>● The <b>White Rose University Consortium</b> is a strategic partnership between the universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York. The Consortium helps ensure that together these universities can secure funding and resources to drive innovation. In addition it works with regional and national bodies to encourage benefits to the universities and promote inward investment in the region.</li> <li>● <b>Cambridge Wireless</b> promotes Cambridge as a centre of excellence in wireless technology and builds a bridge between the scientific and research community and the wireless industry in Cambridge. It offers a forum for identifying technology and engineering innovations with the potential to create significant new market and business opportunities for the city.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.science-city.co.uk">www.science-city.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.sciencecityyork.org.uk">www.sciencecityyork.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.newcastlesciencecity.com">www.newcastlesciencecity.com</a>  <a href="http://www.manchesterknowledge.com">www.manchesterknowledge.com</a>  <a href="http://www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk">www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.sciencecitybristol.com">www.sciencecitybristol.com</a>  <a href="http://www.whiterose.ac.uk">www.whiterose.ac.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.cambridgewireless.co.uk">www.cambridgewireless.co.uk</a></p>

KEY PLAYERS  
**UK**  
INNOVATION

RESEARCH & INNOVATION FUNDING

- Research councils
- EU Framework programmes
- Charities

NETWORKS

- Clusters & Partnerships
- Academies

GOVERNMENT



PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Incubators
- Science parks

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ASSOCIATIONS

- Technology transfer training organisations
- Technology transfer offices
- Knowledge transfer associations

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Intellectual property, licensing & patenting professionals
- Business Link
- Design, marketing & media
- Accountants & lawyers
- Skills development

- NESTA
- R&D Society
- Foundation

- Regulatory authorities
- British Standards Institution
- Research stations

- Business angels
- Venture capitalists
- Investment managers
- Banks

The **UK Government** is committed to providing a business environment in which innovation can thrive. It has a number of departments and organisations that are instrumental in creating the ideal conditions for business innovation and success. They support UK strengths in science and innovation and promote knowledge exchange and investment nationally and internationally.

RESEARCH

- Universities
- Public Sector Research Establishments
- Corporate labs
- Large science facilities

LEARNED SOCIETIES

- Professional societies
- Learned academies

INDUSTRY

- Innovative companies
- Research & technology organisations
- Consultancies
- Inventors & entrepreneurs

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<b>Central government</b>	<p>All central government departments support and encourage innovation in their field and work alongside regional agencies, public sector research establishments and non-departmental public bodies.</p> <p>In particular, the <b>Department for Business, Innovation and Skills</b>, leads on developing the knowledge economy and building an Innovation Nation in which innovation thrives at all levels - individual, community and regional – in all sectors.</p> <p>Other examples where the government creates the environment for innovation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>HM Revenue &amp; Customs</b> – R&amp;D Tax Credits are the biggest single funding mechanism for business R&amp;D provided by the Government. This tax relief helps fund R&amp;D advances to keep companies competitive.</li> <li>● <b>New Industry New Jobs</b> - a strategic plan launched by the Government in April 2009 to invest in Britain's economic and industrial future.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk">www.bis.gov.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/randd">www.hmrc.gov.uk/randd</a></p>
<b>Regional Development Agencies &amp; Devolved Administrations</b>	<p>There are nine <b>Regional Development Agencies</b> in England, and dedicated agencies in the <b>Devolved Administrations of Scotland (Scottish Enterprise), Wales (Welsh Assembly Government Department of Economy &amp; Transport) and Northern Ireland (Department of Enterprise, Trade &amp; Investment)</b>. These agencies work with partners to build on their region's natural assets, develop the knowledge-based economy, foster regeneration and meet the needs of regional businesses. They do this by supporting business development and competitiveness through encouraging public and private investment, and by connecting people to economic opportunity. They also work to improve levels of education, learning and skills, and do all that they can to enhance their region's environment and infrastructure.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.englandsrdas.com">www.englandsrdas.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.scottish-enterprise.com">www.scottish-enterprise.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.wales.gov.uk">www.wales.gov.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.detini.gov.uk">www.detini.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>UK Trade &amp; Investment</b>	<p><b>UK Trade &amp; Investment</b> (UKTI) is the government organisation that helps UK-based companies to succeed in an increasingly global economy. It provides companies with knowledge, advice and practical support services tailored to the needs of individual businesses to maximise their international success. UKTI has 2,300 staff across the overseas UK government network, in the nine English Development Agencies, and in the Devolved Administrations of Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk">www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk</a></p>

# KEY PLAYERS UK INNOVATION

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION FUNDING

- Research councils
- EU Framework programmes
- Charities

## NETWORKS

- Knowledge Transfer Networks & Partnerships
- Trade associations & bodies
- European networks
- Partnerships

## GOVERNMENT

- Administrations

## PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Business incubators
- Science parks

## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

- Organisations
- Transfer offices
- Associations

## BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Intellectual property, licensing & patenting professionals
- Business Link
- Design, marketing & media
- Accountants & lawyers
- Skills development

- NESTA
- R&D Society
- Foundation

- Regulatory authorities
- British Standards Institute
- Research standards

- Business angels
- Venture capitalists
- Investment managers
- Banks

- Universities
- Public Sector Research Establishments
- Corporate labs
- Large science facilities

- Professional societies
- Learned academies

- Innovative companies
- Research & technology organisations
- Consultancies
- Inventors & entrepreneurs

The UK has a well-established network of more than 100 science parks and 300 business incubators, providing dedicated physical premises that foster the right environment, culture, and access to resources to enable leading-edge innovation to flourish. These include the members of the **UK Science Parks Association** and **UK Business Incubation**.

## RESEARCH

## LEARNED SOCIETIES

## INDUSTRY

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Business incubators</b></p>	<p>Business incubators are facilities devoted to the assistance of businesses in becoming established and sustainable during their start-up phase. Example services offered are: seminars/workshops and mentoring providing financial, legal and business advice. UK business incubators have an average success rate of 98 per cent of businesses succeeding whilst in the incubator (compared to a national average of less than 50 per cent of all small and medium sized companies registered) and 87 per cent surviving after five years of starting (UKBI, 2009). In the UK there are approximately 300 incubators supporting more than 12,000 innovative businesses.</p> <p><b>UK Business Incubation</b> (UKBI) is the UK's authority on the development and support of incubation environments and has over 1,000 members. It provides a directory of relevant contacts.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ukbi.co.uk">www.ukbi.co.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Science parks</b></p>	<p>Science Parks are planned and organised collections of scientific research businesses. Their purpose is to facilitate the sharing of ideas, encourage and support the start-up and incubation of knowledge-based businesses, and provide links with centres of knowledge creation such as universities, higher education institutes and research organisations. The UK has 70 science parks and the first <b>Science Park Association</b> (UKSPA) with a wide membership base of relevant organisations.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ukspa.org.uk">www.ukspa.org.uk</a></p>

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- European networks
- Regional & local partnerships

GOVERNMENT

- Regional Development Agencies & Devolved Administrations
- UK Trade & Investment
- Central government

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Incubators

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ASSOCIATIONS

- Technology transfer training organisations
- Technology transfer offices
- Knowledge transfer associations

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Business Link
- Business media
- Business lawyers
- Skills development

- NESTA
- R&D Society
- Foundation

- Regulatory authorities
- British Standards Institution
- Research standards

- Business angels
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INDUSTRY

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- Consultancies
- Inventors & entrepreneurs

Technology Transfer Associations provide a way for researchers and businesses to develop ideas and interactions, broadening and accelerating knowledge transfer into the commercial arena. The UK has developed a body of knowledge transfer professionals in these areas across the public sector and private industry. They are backed up by training organisations such as **PRAXIS** and represented through associations such as **UNICO** and **AURIL**.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ASSOCIATIONS

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Technology transfer training organisations</b></p>	<p>Training and educating researchers and technology transfer professionals increases the effectiveness and awareness of this important role in the innovation. The UK offers an increasing number of technology transfer training opportunities.</p> <p><b>PRAXIS</b> is a not-for-profit organisation providing knowledge-based training on technology transfer issues aimed at technology transfer professionals working in universities, research institutions and industry. It offers a range of courses led by experts from universities, industry and government, featuring a mix of seminars, interactive workshops and case studies.</p> <p>Other organisations also offer training. For example, universities with a <b>Science Enterprise Centre (SEC)</b> offer courses in business issues for scientists.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.praxiscourses.org.uk">www.praxiscourses.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.enterprise.ac.uk">www.enterprise.ac.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Technology transfer offices</b></p>	<p>Most universities and also some companies and governmental organisations have technology transfer offices. These exist to encourage and manage commercial collaborations, bridging the gap between research and commercialisation. Activities include offering advice on intellectual property management and helping to establish spin-out companies.</p> <p>The UK has one of the most impressive research bases in the world, so effective technology transfer offices are crucial. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Imperial Innovations</b> – an independent company linked to Imperial College London, which combines the activities of technology transfer, company incubation and investment.</li> <li>● <b>Coventry University Enterprises Ltd</b> – a company running the commercial, income-generating and business-partnership work for Coventry University.</li> <li>● <b>Isis Innovation</b> – a subsidiary of the University of Oxford to exploit know-how arising out of research at one of the world's premier research institutions.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.imperialinnovations.co.uk">www.imperialinnovations.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.coventry.ac.uk/cutp">www.coventry.ac.uk/cutp</a>  <a href="http://www.isis-innovation.com">www.isis-innovation.com</a></p>

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Knowledge transfer associations</b></p>	<p>The UK has many university, research and industry associations facilitating networking and knowledge transfer between their members. Their aim is to influence and nurture the industrial, academic and governmental infrastructure to drive forward UK competitiveness and economic performance. Key players include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>University Companies Association (UNICO)</b> – members are primarily universities but also public sector research organisations, patent agents and venture capitalists etc. It is partnered with PRAXIS, jointly running best practice-sharing events.</li> <li>● <b>Association for University, Research and Industry Links (AURIL)</b> is the largest knowledge transfer association in Europe, with more than 1,600 members from universities, NHS Trusts and public sector research bodies, as well as some industrial partners.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.unico.org.uk">www.unico.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.auril.org.uk">www.auril.org.uk</a></p>

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- Central government

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- Business incubators
- Business parks

**TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

**BUSINESS SUPPORT**

- Intellectual property, licensing & patenting professionals
- Business Link
- Design, marketing & media
- Accountants & lawyers
- Skills development

**BUSINESS SUPPORT**

- Professional societies
- Business Link

- NESTA
- R&D Society
- Foundation

- Regulatory authorities
- British Standards Institution
- Research standards

- Business angels
- Venture capitalists
- Investment market
- Banks

- Universities
- Public Sector Research Establishments
- Corporate labs
- Large science facilities

- Professional societies
- Learned academies

- Innovative companies
- Research & technology organisations
- Consultancies
- Inventors & entrepreneurs

Experienced designers, lawyers, IP professionals and skills development bodies help innovative businesses develop, market, and maximise their commercial opportunities. The UK has a comprehensive network of business support professionals with world-class skills in taking innovation to market successfully.

**RESEARCH**

**LEARNED SOCIETIES**

**INDUSTRY**

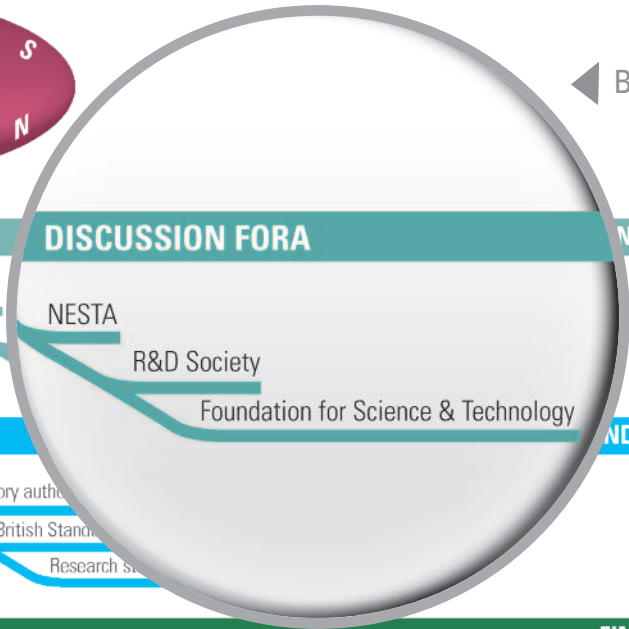
KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<b>Design, marketing &amp; media</b>	<p>Appropriate design, marketing and use of media is crucial in transforming an innovative idea into a commercial success. The UK has extensive strength in these areas.</p> <p>Designers take into consideration each step in a product's development, including how it will be used and made. Directories of relevant organisations in the UK are available from <b>The Design Council</b>, the national strategic body for design, and <b>The British Design Innovation</b>, a professional membership organisation facilitating collaborative innovation by designers, industry, universities and deal-makers.</p> <p>Marketing and media is crucial for sustainable commercialisation. Relevant organisations can be found through various bodies including: The <b>Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)</b>, which supports marketers to provide the knowledge and tools they need in the profession, and the <b>Institute of Practitioners in Advertising</b> – the professional body for advertising, media and marketing communications agencies.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.design-council.org.uk">www.design-council.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.britishdesigninnovation.org">www.britishdesigninnovation.org</a>  <a href="http://www.cim.co.uk/home.aspx">www.cim.co.uk/home.aspx</a>  <a href="http://www.ipa.co.uk">www.ipa.co.uk</a></p>
<b>Accountants &amp; lawyers</b>	<p>Proper accountancy and legal guidance is essential to assist the journey from research to market. Examples of useful organisations providing directories and advice are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAEW)</b></li> <li>● <b>The Law Society</b> represent solicitors</li> <li>● <b>The Bar Council</b>, representing barristers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.icaew.co.uk">www.icaew.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.lawsociety.org.uk">www.lawsociety.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.barcouncil.org.uk">www.barcouncil.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Intellectual property, licensing &amp; patenting professionals</b>	<p>Management of intellectual property, patents and licenses is paramount to protect innovation. Useful organisations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Intellectual Property Office</b> – the official government body responsible for granting IP rights in the UK</li> <li>● <b>The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA)</b></li> <li>● The <b>Licensing Executives Society</b></li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.ipo.gov.uk">www.ipo.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.cipa.org.uk">www.cipa.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.les-bi.org">www.les-bi.org</a></p>

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Business Link</b></p>	<p><b>Business Link</b> is a government funded business support service offering practical help, advice and support online and through local business advisers in England. It covers issues from managing finances to complying with environmental legislation and finding and keeping national and international customers. Business Link also works in partnership with <b>Business Gateway</b> and <b>Highlands &amp; Islands Enterprise</b> in Scotland, and <b>Invest Northern Ireland</b>.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.businesslink.gov.uk">www.businesslink.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.bgateway.com">www.bgateway.com</a>  <a href="http://www.hie.co.uk">www.hie.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.investni.com">www.investni.com</a></p>
<p><b>Skills development</b></p>	<p>An appropriately skilled workforce is a competitive workforce, fundamental to maintaining the UK's innovative capability. There are several key organisations working to ensure this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There are 25 <b>Sector Skills Councils</b> (SSCs). These are employer-led, independent organisations that engage with government to reduce skills gaps and improve productivity in their sector. The <b>Alliance of Sector Skills Councils</b> represents and helps co-ordinate the SSCs.</li> <li>● The <b>Learning and Skills Council</b> (replaced by <b>Skills Funding Agency and a Young People's Funding Agency</b> in 2010) aims to improve the skills of England's young people and adults. It is responsible for planning and funding high quality education and training for all by supporting schemes such as apprenticeships and <b>'Train to Gain.'</b></li> <li>● The <b>Association of Learning Providers</b> engages with policy-makers to represent its members and to secure an integrated employment and skills strategy that meets employer and individual needs.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.sscalliance.org">www.sscalliance.org</a>  <a href="http://www.lsc.gov.uk">www.lsc.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.learningproviders.org.uk">www.learningproviders.org.uk</a></p>

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Open debate and analysis are essential to allow businesses to develop the policies and structures to support a fluid and successful innovation-based economy. The UK is home to organisations such as **NESTA** and the **R&D Society** that promote sharing and development of best practice across a range of topics in order to foster an environment that encourages innovation.



**PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Research councils
- work programmes
- Charities
- enter Networks & Partnerships
- associations & bodies
- lean networks
- ships
- s & Devolved Administrations
- UK Trade & Investment
- al government

**TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ASSOCIATIONS**

- Technology transfer training organisations
- Technology transfer offices
- Knowledge transfer associations

**BUSINESS SUPPORT**

- Intellectual property, licensing & patenting professionals
- Business Link
- Design, marketing & media
- Accountants & lawyers
- Skills development

- DISCUSSION FORA
- NESTA
- R&D Society
- Foundation for Science & Technology
- STANDARDS
- Regulatory authorities
- British Standards
- Research societies

- FINANCE
- Business angels
- Venture capitalists
- Investment market
- Banks

- RESEARCH
- Universities
- Public Sector Research Establishments
- Corporate labs
- Large science facilities

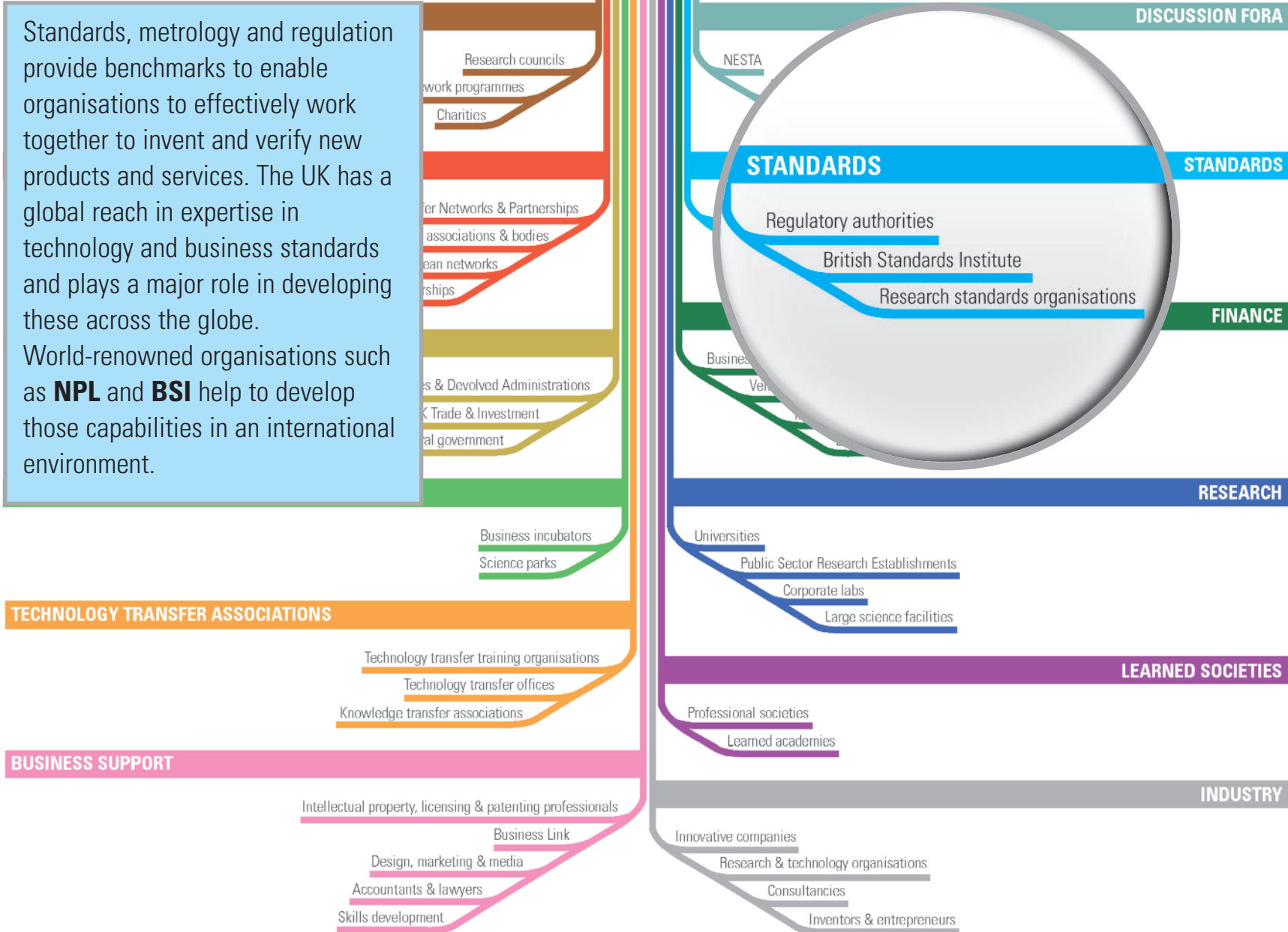
- LEARNED SOCIETIES
- Professional societies
- Learned academies

- INDUSTRY
- Innovative companies
- Research & technology organisations
- Consultancies
- Inventors & entrepreneurs

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<b>The National Endowment for Science, Technology &amp; The Arts (NESTA)</b>	<b>The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA)</b> has the mission to make the UK more innovative. It invests in early-stage companies, informs and shapes policy, and delivers practical programmes. NESTA has a substantial policy and research unit promoting an increase in the quality and quantity of research in innovation and developing a national network of leading thinkers in innovation.	<a href="http://www.nesta.org.uk">www.nesta.org.uk</a>
<b>The Foundation for Science &amp; Technology</b>	<b>The Foundation for Science &amp; Technology</b> provides a neutral platform to debate policy issues with a science, engineering or technology element. It provides dinner/discussions and workshops on relevant issues and prepares publicly-available summary notes. It also provides a support service to learned and professional societies with around 180 societies subscribing to its bi-monthly Newsletter.	<a href="http://www.foundation.org.uk">www.foundation.org.uk</a>
<b>The Research and Development Society</b>	<b>The Research and Development Society</b> is a UK-based organisation formed to promote the better understanding of R&D in all its forms. Members receive newsletters and discounted meeting fees. It holds regular afternoon and evening meetings at The Royal Society in London. The programme includes high-profile speakers from many sectors of the R&D community.	<a href="http://www.rdsoc.org">www.rdsoc.org</a>

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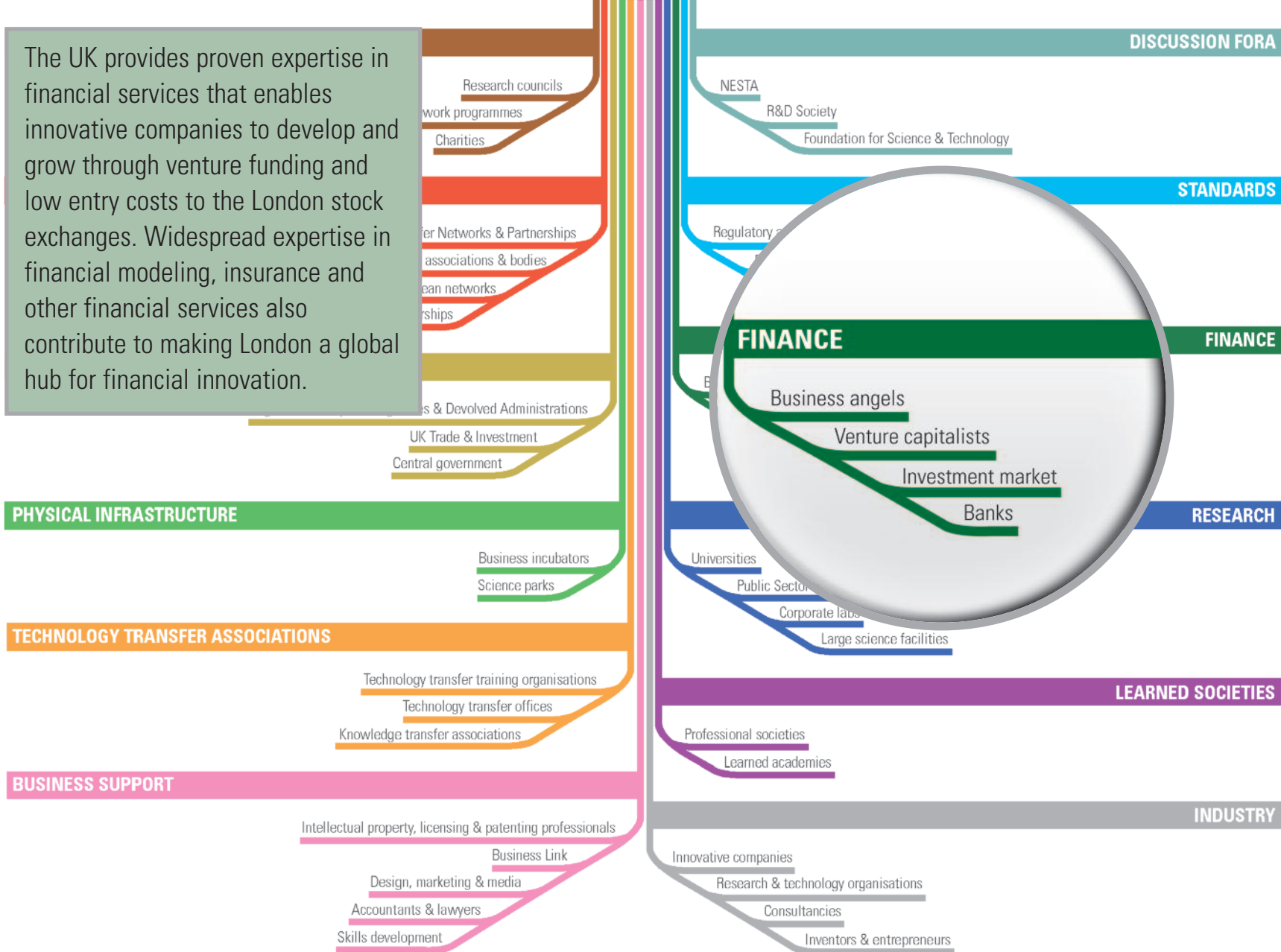
Standards, metrology and regulation provide benchmarks to enable organisations to effectively work together to invent and verify new products and services. The UK has a global reach in expertise in technology and business standards and plays a major role in developing these across the globe. World-renowned organisations such as **NPL** and **BSI** help to develop those capabilities in an international environment.



KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<b>Regulatory authorities</b>	<p>Regulatory authorities are public bodies regulating a sector for the benefit of the public. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Financial Services Authority</b></li> <li>● <b>The Health and Safety Executive</b></li> <li>● <b>Medical &amp; Healthcare Products Regulatory Authority</b></li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.fsa.gov.uk">www.fsa.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.hse.gov.uk">www.hse.gov.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.mhra.gov.uk">www.mhra.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>British Standards Institute</b>	<p>The <b>British Standards Institute</b> is a world-leading organisation in developing standards, certifying and testing, and provides training in over 120 countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>BSI British Standards</b> is the National Standards Body of the UK.</li> <li>● <b>BSI Product Services</b> and <b>BSI Management Services</b> provide assessment and certification of a huge variety of consumer products and management services.</li> <li>● <b>BSI Group</b> provides training and knowledge on standards, management systems, business improvement, regulatory approval and international trade.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.bsi-global.com">www.bsi-global.com</a></p>
<b>Research standards organisations</b>	<p>Standards in research and development are critical to enable innovation. Examples include:</p> <p>The <b>National Physical Laboratory (NPL)</b> is an independent centre of excellence for R&amp;D, and knowledge transfer in measurement and materials science. It develops and maintains Britain's primary measurement standards to ensure accuracy, consistency and innovation in physical measurement.</p> <p><b>Laboratory of the Government Chemistry (LGC)</b> is a leader in the laboratory services, measurement standards, reference materials and proficiency testing marketplaces. It is the UK's designated National Measurement Institute for chemical and biochemical analysis and is also the host organisation for the UK's Government Chemist function.</p> <p>The <b>National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC)</b> provides independent testing of biological medicines for the UK market and operates as an Official Medicines Control Laboratory (OMCL) of the European Union for release of medicines onto the EU market.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.npl.co.uk">www.npl.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.lgc.co.uk">www.lgc.co.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.nibsc.ac.uk">www.nibsc.ac.uk</a></p>

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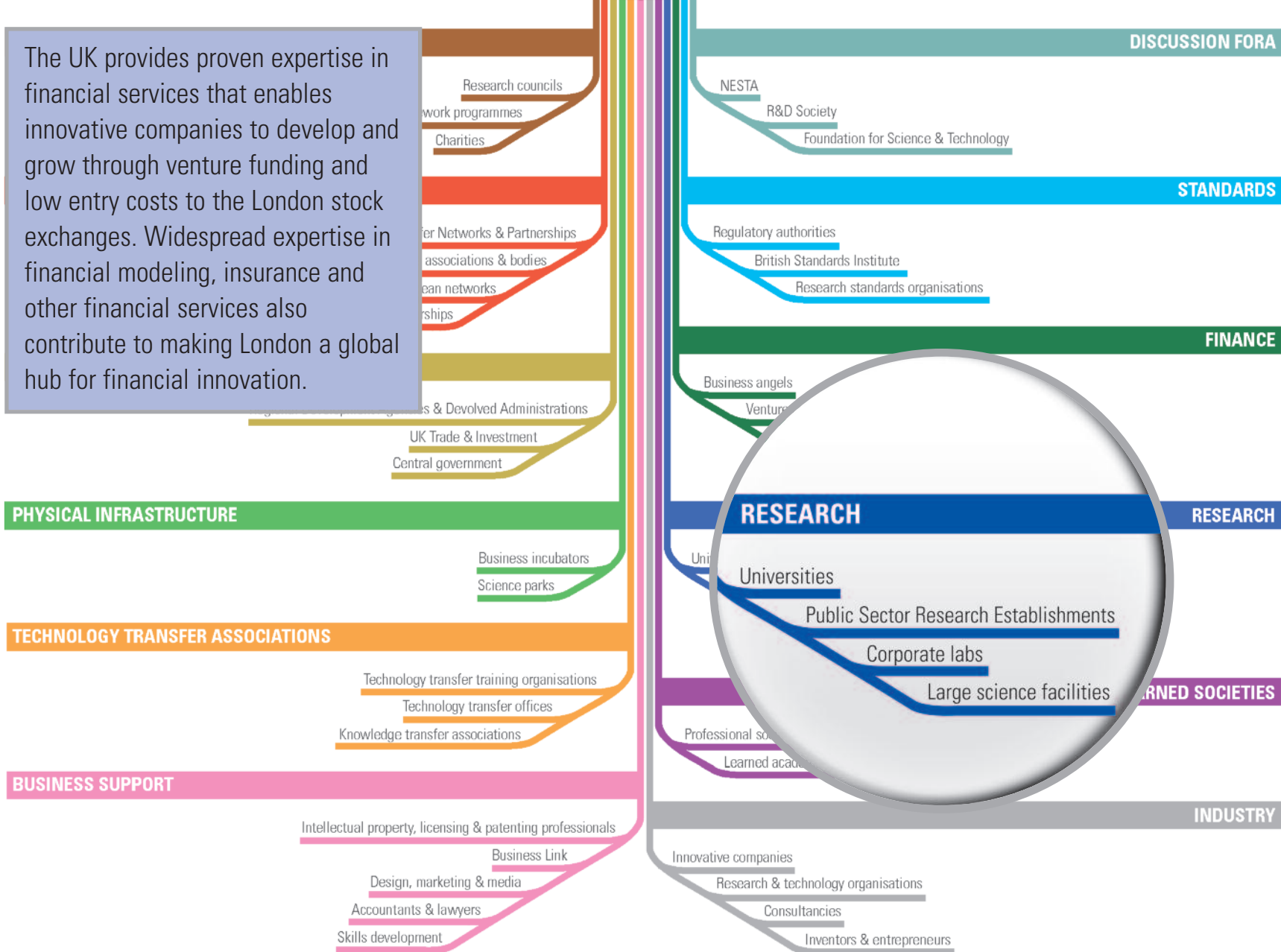
The UK provides proven expertise in financial services that enables innovative companies to develop and grow through venture funding and low entry costs to the London stock exchanges. Widespread expertise in financial modeling, insurance and other financial services also contribute to making London a global hub for financial innovation.



KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<b>Business Angels</b>	<p>Private investors account for around £1 billion of early stage investment each year in the UK. Business Angels are high net worth individuals who invest in high growth businesses. The <b>British Business Angels Association</b> (BBAA) is the National Trade Association for the UK's Business Angel Networks and the early stage investment market. The BBAA website is a primary portal for entrepreneurs and companies seeking funding, and for investors looking to invest in early-stage businesses.</p>	<a href="http://www.bbba.org.uk">www.bbba.org.uk</a>
<b>Venture capital and private equity</b>	<p>The venture capital and private equity community invests across all sectors of the economy, all regions of the country and at all stages in a company's development from start-up to management buy-out. Private equity-backed companies help to grow the British economy and make it more competitive globally. The UK private equity industry is the largest and most dynamic in Europe.</p> <p>The <b>British Venture Capital Association</b> is the industry body for the UK private equity and venture capital industry. It promotes the industry to entrepreneurs and investors, as well as providing services and best practice standards to its members.</p>	<a href="http://www.bvca.co.uk">www.bvca.co.uk</a>
<b>Investment markets</b>	<p>Investment markets can help provide capital to enable a company to grow and develop. A stock market brings together buyers and sellers to enable the trading of company stocks (collective shares), other securities and derivatives.</p> <p>The <b>London Stock Exchange's</b> (LSE) Main Market is one of the world's most international and diverse stock markets offering the low-cost capital. It is primarily for large and/or established companies.</p> <p>The <b>Alternative Investment Market</b> (AIM) is the most successful growth market in the world. It is a sub-market of the LSE designed to offer greater flexibility through less regulation in order to help smaller and growing companies raise the capital they need for expansion.</p>	<a href="http://www.londonstockexchange.com">www.londonstockexchange.com</a>
<b>Banks</b>	<p>Banks often provide financial services to small businesses to enable their start-up and development. The <b>British Bankers' Association</b> is the voice of the banking industry for all banks that operate in the UK. They provide a directory of their members and associates.</p>	<a href="http://www.bba.org.uk">www.bba.org.uk</a>

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The UK provides proven expertise in financial services that enables innovative companies to develop and grow through venture funding and low entry costs to the London stock exchanges. Widespread expertise in financial modeling, insurance and other financial services also contribute to making London a global hub for financial innovation.

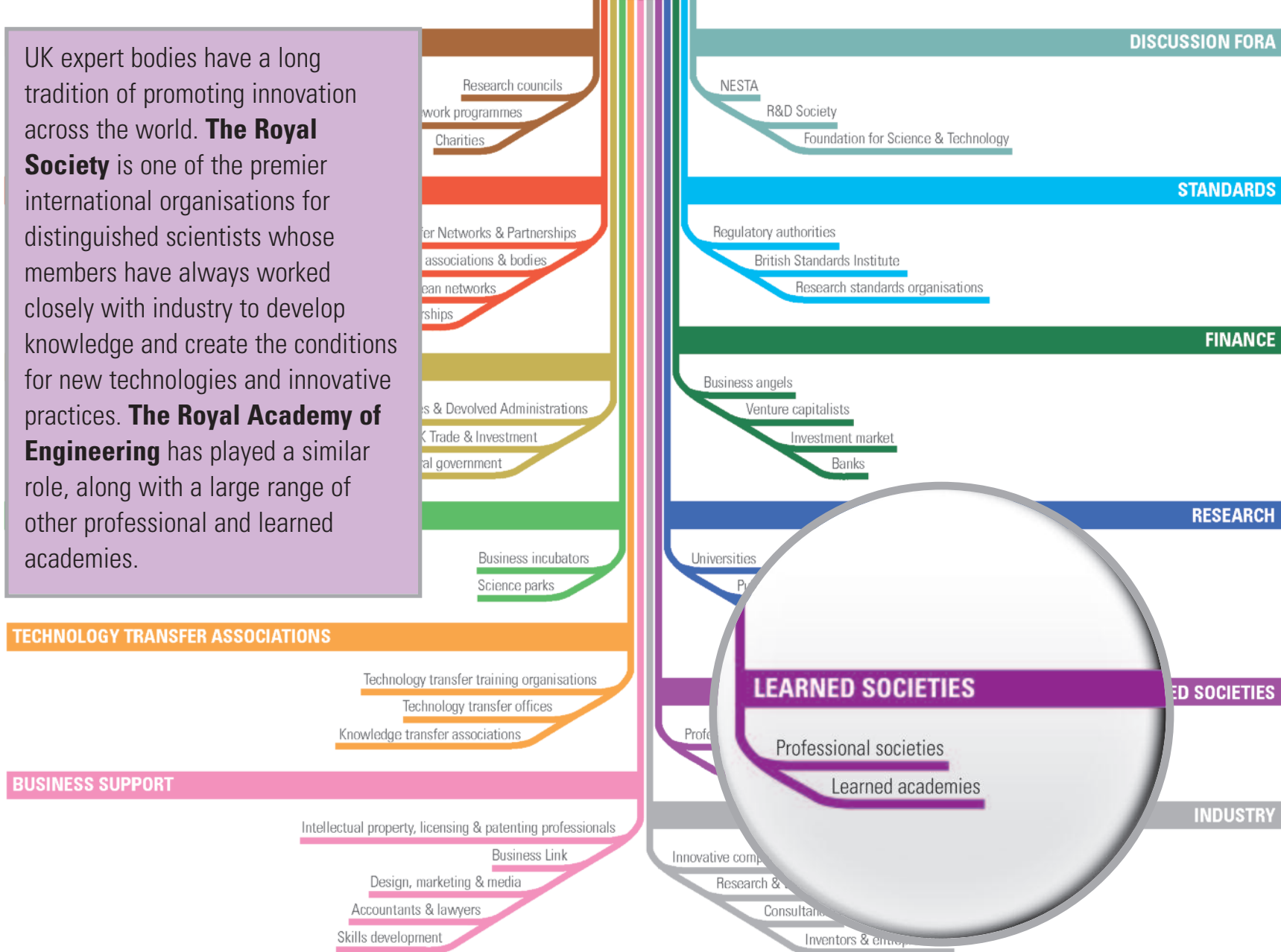


KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Universities</b></p>	<p>The UK has many universities and business schools producing world-class research ranging from oceanography to neurology and innovation models. Key organisations include:</p> <p><b>Universities UK</b> – the major representative body and membership organisation for the higher education sector. It works to advance the interests of universities and to spread good practice.</p> <p><b>The Russell Group</b> is an association of 20 leading UK research-intensive universities committed to maintaining the highest standards of research, education and knowledge transfer.</p> <p><b>The Association for Business Schools (ABS)</b> is the authoritative voice of business and management education in and for the UK. It works broadly in the areas of policy development, promotion and representation, and training and development programmes.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk">www.universitiesuk.ac.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk">www.russellgroup.ac.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.the-abs.org.uk">www.the-abs.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Public Sector Research Establishments</b></p>	<p>Public Sector Research Establishments (PSREs) are a diverse collection of public bodies carrying out research in pursuit of various Government objectives. They collectively represent a world-class resource for UK science. Many PSREs are engaged in commercialising their research and expertise by collaborating with industry and direct selling services, data and software. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Research Councils that operate and own many institutes and centres, such as the British Antarctic Survey and the Joint Astronomy Centre in Hawaii.</li> <li>● Government departments research centres such as NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement and DEFRA Food and Environment Research Agency.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.antarctica.ac.uk">www.antarctica.ac.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.jach.hawaii.edu">www.jach.hawaii.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.institute.nhs.uk">www.institute.nhs.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.fera.defra.gov.uk">www.fera.defra.gov.uk</a></p>

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Corporate laboratories</b></p>	<p>Corporate laboratories are important producers of research, development and innovation. Examples include:</p> <p>Unilever’s <b>Colworth laboratory</b>, which provides scientific excellence in many fields including agribusiness, speciality chemicals, food technology, product safety and environmental impact.</p> <p><b>Adastral Park</b> is a hi-tech park owned and managed by BT. There are several resident companies on the park that focus on ICT providing a regional Centre of Excellence.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.unilever.co.uk/ourvalues/sciandtech/how_where/colworth.asp">www.unilever.co.uk/ourvalues/sciandtech/how_where/colworth.asp</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.atastral.co.uk">www.atastral.co.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Large science facilities</b></p>	<p>Large science facilities allow researchers to use equipment that would be economically unviable for one organisation to maintain. They typically involve investment of £25 million. The <b>Research Council UK</b> maintains access to large facilities for UK companies through subscription and ownership. Science facilities are typically organised, managed and funded on a national, European, or international scale. Examples in the UK are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Diamond Light Source</b> is a scientific facility on the Harwell Science and Innovation Campus. It specialises in diamond synchrotron which generates brilliant beams of light, from infra-red to X-rays, that are used in a wide range of applications from structural biology through fundamental physics and chemistry to cultural heritage.</li> <li>● <b>Institute for Animal Health Compton and Pirbright Laboratories</b> are world-leading Centres of Excellence for research into infectious diseases of farm animals.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.rcuk.ac.uk">www.rcuk.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.diamond.ac.uk">www.diamond.ac.uk</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.iah.ac.uk">www.iah.ac.uk</a></p>

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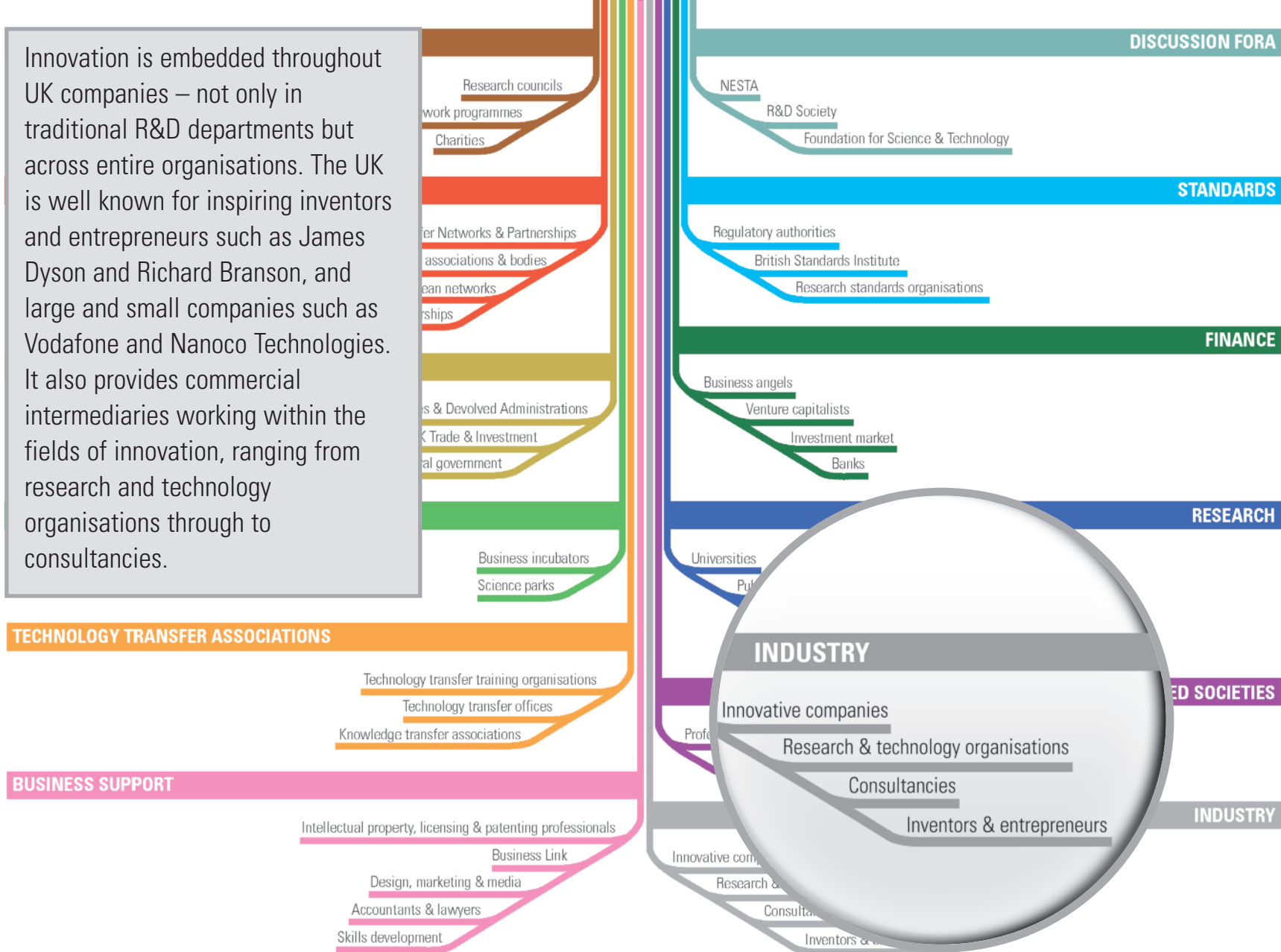
UK expert bodies have a long tradition of promoting innovation across the world. **The Royal Society** is one of the premier international organisations for distinguished scientists whose members have always worked closely with industry to develop knowledge and create the conditions for new technologies and innovative practices. **The Royal Academy of Engineering** has played a similar role, along with a large range of other professional and learned academies.



KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Learned academies</b></p>	<p>There are five learned academies in the UK ranging in age from decades to centuries. They are independent charitable bodies supporting researchers, influencing policy and engaging with the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Royal Society</b> – Science</li> <li>● <b>The Royal Society of Edinburgh</b> – Scotland’s academy for science and letters</li> <li>● <b>The Royal Academy of Engineering</b></li> <li>● <b>British Academy</b> – Humanities and social sciences</li> <li>● <b>The Academy of Medical Sciences</b></li> </ul>	<p> <a href="http://www.royalsociety.org">www.royalsociety.org</a>  <a href="http://www.rse.org.uk">www.rse.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.raeng.org.uk">www.raeng.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.britac.ac.uk">www.britac.ac.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk">www.acmedsci.ac.uk</a> </p>
<p><b>Professional societies</b></p>	<p>Professional societies promote a discipline for the benefit of their members and the public. Their activities commonly involve education, conferences, science policy and public promotion. UK-based examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Royal Society of Chemistry</b></li> <li>● <b>Institute of Physics</b></li> <li>● <b>Institute of Biology</b></li> <li>● <b>British Computer Society</b></li> <li>● <b>The Institution of Engineering and Technology</b></li> </ul>	<p> <a href="http://www.rsc.org">www.rsc.org</a>  <a href="http://www.iop.org">www.iop.org</a>  <a href="http://www.iob.org">www.iob.org</a>  <a href="http://www.bcs.org">www.bcs.org</a>  <a href="http://www.theiet.org">www.theiet.org</a> </p>

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Innovation is embedded throughout UK companies – not only in traditional R&D departments but across entire organisations. The UK is well known for inspiring inventors and entrepreneurs such as James Dyson and Richard Branson, and large and small companies such as Vodafone and Nanoco Technologies. It also provides commercial intermediaries working within the fields of innovation, ranging from research and technology organisations through to consultancies.



KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Innovative companies</b></p>	<p>The UK is home to many companies that are recognised as leaders in innovation. Examples include <b>Rolls-Royce</b> (civil aerospace, defence aerospace, marine and energy), <b>GSK</b> (pharmaceuticals), and <b>Virgin</b> (ranging from media to transport and financial services).</p> <p>The <b>Confederation of British Industry</b> (CBI) lobbies on national and international issues in order to create and sustain the conditions in which businesses in the UK can compete, prosper and continue to produce innovation leaders.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.rolls-royce.com">www.rolls-royce.com</a>  <a href="http://www.gsk.com">www.gsk.com</a>  <a href="http://www.virgin.com">www.virgin.com</a>  <a href="http://www.cbi.org.uk">www.cbi.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Consultancies</b></p>	<p>Consultancies can help organisations to produce innovate services, products and solutions. The UK has a broad range of consultancies in many sectors. Examples include:</p> <p><b>Pera</b> is a leading European innovation and business support network, inspiring and enabling clients to transform their products, business processes and people. An example of its work is the UKTI Global Partnerships programme supporting the development of R&amp;D collaborations in the UK.</p> <p><b>AEA</b> is an award-winning consultancy helping the public and private sectors to respond to environmental challenges and opportunities such as climate reduction, sustainability, energy and climate change, air and water quality, resource efficiency, sustainable transport, innovation and knowledge transfer, risk management and due diligence. Example projects include running the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships programme – see Networks.</p> <p>The UK management consulting market is the largest outside the US with a current value of around £8 billion and is helping to deliver some of the most innovative and ambitious organisational change projects in the world. The <b>Management Consultancies Association</b> provides a directory of its members, who represent over 70 per cent of the UK industry.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.pera.com">www.pera.com</a>  <a href="http://www.aeat.co.uk/cms/ip-innovation-kt/">www.aeat.co.uk/cms/ip-innovation-kt/</a>  <a href="http://www.mca.org.uk">www.mca.org.uk</a></p>

KEY PLAYER	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
<p><b>Research &amp; technology organisations</b></p>	<p>Research and technology organisations can build, maintain and supply professional resources, networks and capability for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Application and commercialisation of research</li> <li>● Advice and training</li> <li>● Knowledge transfer</li> <li>● Product and process validation</li> </ul> <p>The <b>Association of Independent Research and Technology Organisations (AIRTO)</b> is the largest community of techno-business consultants and contract research organisations in Europe. Its members are private and public companies of all sizes ranging from blue-chip multinationals to small start-ups, from the UK and Europe to the US and China.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.airto.co.uk">www.airto.co.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Inventors &amp; entrepreneurs</b></p>	<p>Around 20 per cent of patent applications each year in the UK are by individuals, rather than companies or academic institutions. Just 2 per cent of patented ideas reach the market, so several support organisations in the UK provide much-needed assistance. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Institute of Patentees and Inventors</b> – members are inventors, patent attorneys, marketeers and others who can provide expert advice on ideas, from conception to development.</li> <li>● <b>SETsquared</b> assists inventors and entrepreneurs by bringing together the research strengths of leading universities with private sector commercial expertise and a network of experienced entrepreneurs, potential investors and business professionals across Southern England.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.invent.org.uk">www.invent.org.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.setsquared.co.uk">www.setsquared.co.uk</a></p>

UK Trade & Investment is the government organisation that helps UK-based companies succeed in the global economy.

We also help overseas companies bring their high quality investment to the UK's dynamic economy – acknowledged as Europe's best place from which to succeed in global business.

UK Trade & Investment offers expertise and contacts through its extensive network of specialists in the UK, and in British embassies and other diplomatic offices around the world. We provide companies with the tools they require to be competitive on the world stage.

For specialist innovation expertise and links into UK innovation, contact:

UKTI Science & Innovation team

Tel: +44 (0)20 7215 8514

Email: [innovation@ukti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:innovation@ukti.gsi.gov.uk)

[www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk](http://www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk)

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