

# Fostering open innovation in HEIs

*the Aalto Innovations & Entrepreneurial Ecosystem*

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**Zoltan Javor**

*Special thanks for Apurva Ganoo for the great inputs!*

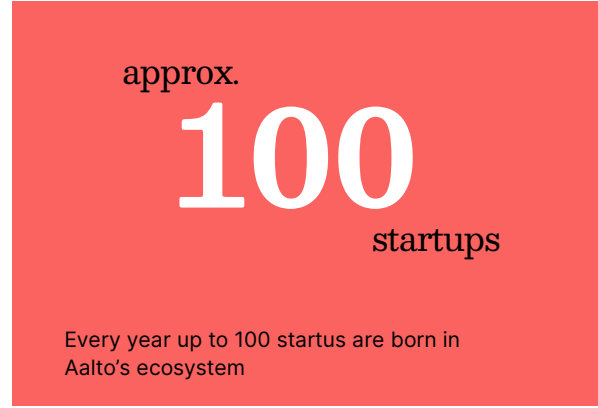
26 JAN 2024

# Aalto Impact: Inspiring ecosystem



**6** schools

6 dynamic schools combining science and art with technology and business



approx.  
**100**  
startups

Every year up to 100 startups are born in Aalto's ecosystem



**50%**

50 % of Finnish startups founded in universities come from the Aalto community



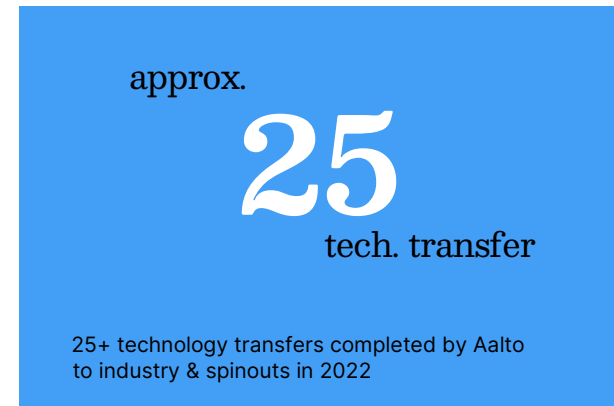
approx.  
**200**  
Industry project

200+ commissioned projects from companies in 2022



approx.  
**50**  
patent

50+ patent applications filed by Aalto in 2022



approx.  
**25**  
tech. transfer

25+ technology transfers completed by Aalto to industry & spinouts in 2022

**A!**  
Aalto University  
School of Business

**A!**  
Aalto University  
School of Science

**A”**  
Aalto University  
EIT Services

Aalto University

G R  
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**A!** Aalto University  
Startup Center

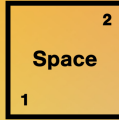
**IDBM**

*Impact  
Studio*

**A!**  
Aalto University  
Innovation Services

**A!**  
Aalto University  
Design Factory

**URBAN  
TECH  
HELSINKI**



**Aalto  
Ventures  
Program**  
[avp.aalto.fi](http://avp.aalto.fi)

For individuals

For startups

*startuplifers*

**JUNCTION**

**DASH**

**Aaltoes**

**KIUIAS**

**KIUIAS**

CO-FOUNDER

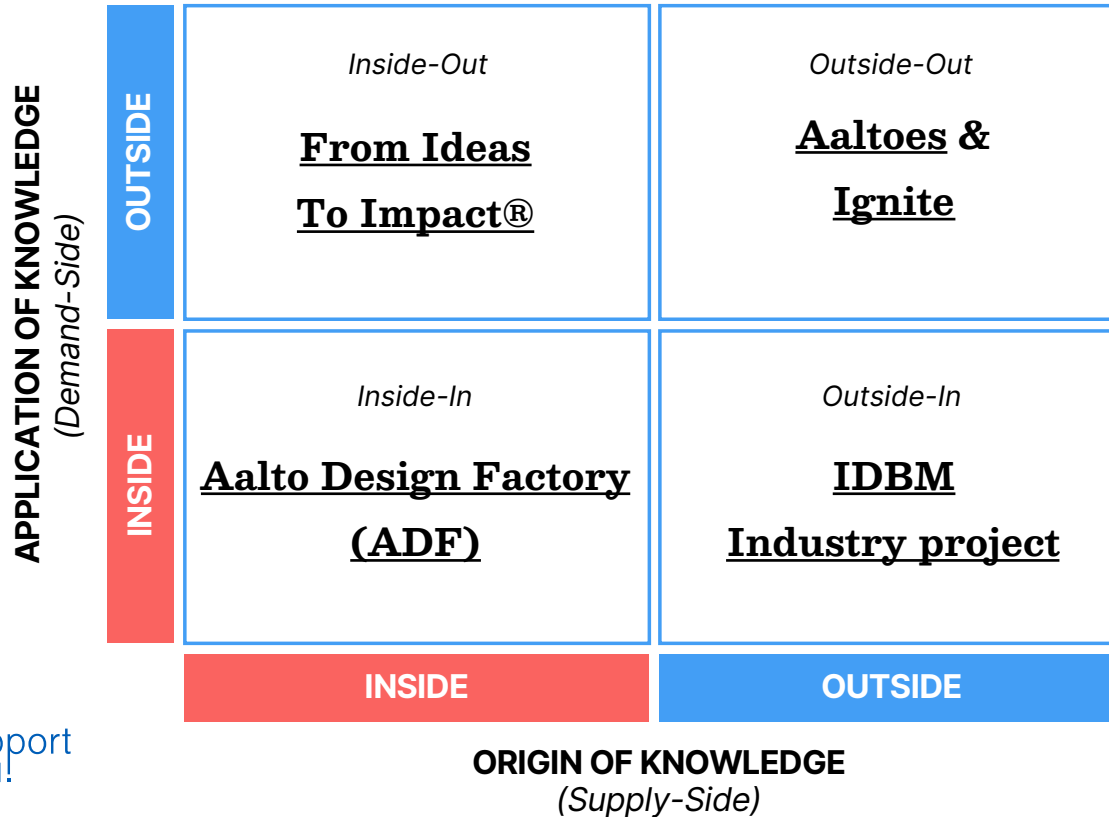
**ignite**

**SLUSH**

Student-driven

# Open Innovation – Knowledge Flow Framework

## Example cases from Aalto's Innovation Ecosystem



# Inside-In

## Aalto Design Factory

Collaboration project on Future lab of product design (2007)

**Aalto Design Factory (ADF)** is an interdisciplinary product design and learning hub uniting students, teachers, researchers, and industry. We aim to build a new kind of passion-based learning culture for Aalto University.

**Design Factory Global Network (DFGN)** is a network of 37 innovation hubs in 25 countries based in universities and research organisations



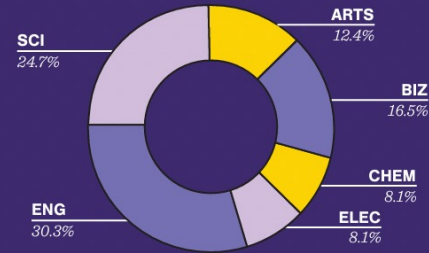
we support you!

# EDUCATION

We welcomed hundreds of students and hosted almost two dozens of courses. Teachers in charge of the courses come from all the schools of Aalto, often joined by externals from other universities or industry partners.

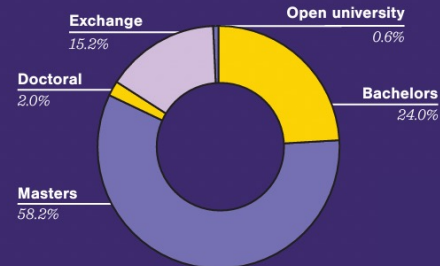
## STUDY BACKGROUNDS

Most of the students coming to ADF this year were from ENG and SCL, however BIZ and ARTS students made up almost one third of all the students.



## STUDY LEVEL

We are trying to accommodate students' needs of all study levels and be as open as possible for all kinds of ideas, even if they seem crazy and too ambitious at first!



# COURSES

At ADF we proudly host a diverse range of dynamic courses that cater to the curious minds of tomorrow. The courses provide a unique blend of theory and practice, empowering participants to explore, experiment, and develop skills that extend beyond the classroom.

**873 students** —————  
————— **credits acquired 5893**  
**19 hosted courses** —————  
————— **teachers' disciplines 5**

## VISITING TEACHING

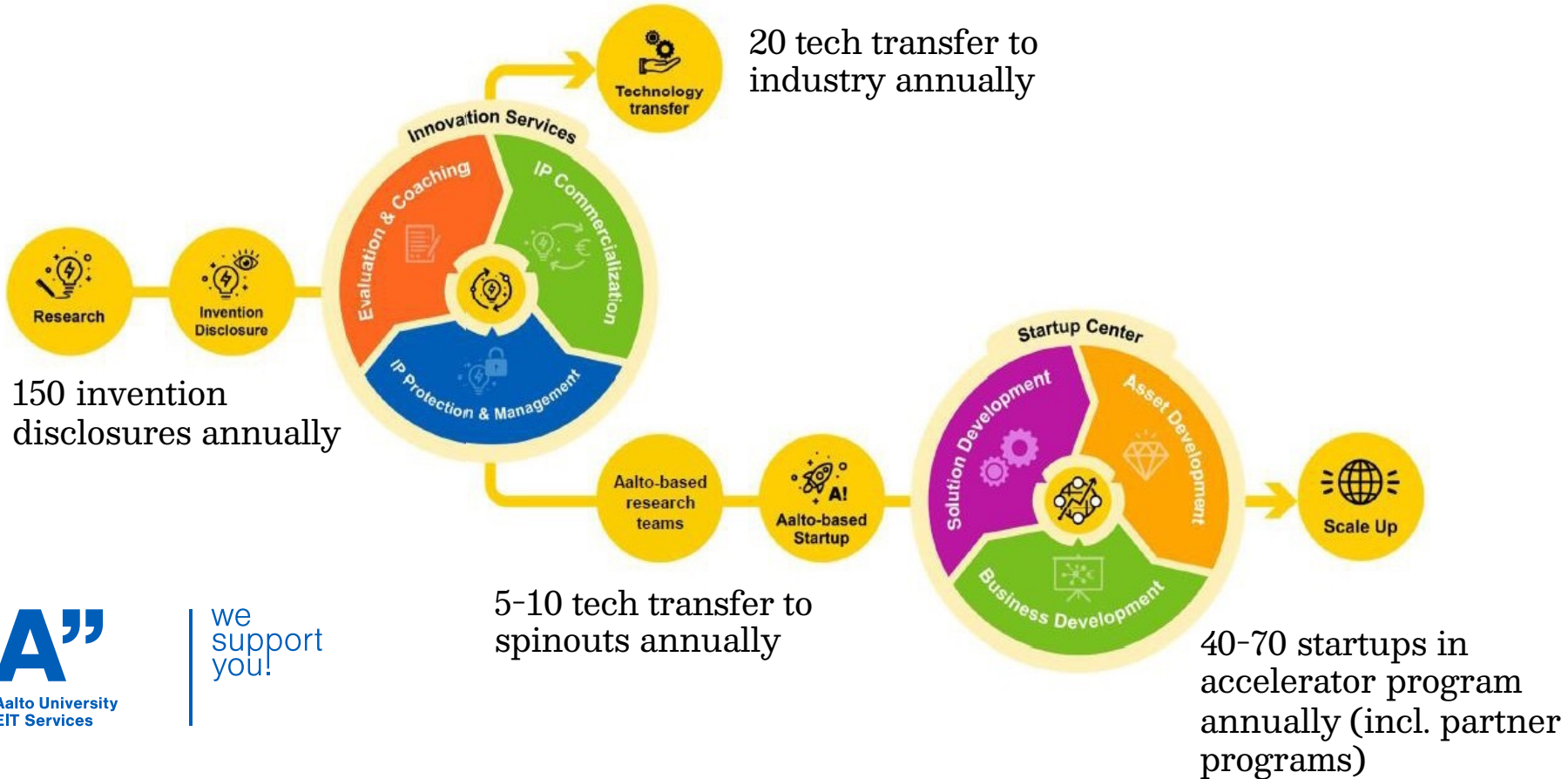
This year the members of the ADF research team has taught over **800 degree students** and professionals in more than **200 hours of visiting lectures and workshops**, enriching the Aalto community with interdisciplinary approach.

In **Cataly(c)st project** we wrapped up the Nordic Innovation funded joint project on supporting young change makers in advancing transitions to circular economy, a joint project with Aalto, with DTU (Denmark), KTH (Sweden), NTNU (Norway) and EFLA (Iceland).

## TET STUDENTS

As every year, we welcomed more than **30 students** from TET (Työelämään tutustuminen) program who enriched our community with new approaches and ideas. We had students from around **13 different schools** and in total they spent **1200 hours** working on projects.

# Inside-Out From Ideas To Impact<sup>®</sup>



# Outside-In IDBM Industry Project

One of Aalto University's flagship courses, the industry project provides a key learning platform of **interdisciplinary teamwork** and design thinking **in real-life industry projects**.

Lasting approximately **7 months**, the projects combine **multidisciplinary student teams with industrial/business partners** where students apply their skills on real-life business cases and problems.

Students receive travelling & prototyping budget.



# Outside-Out

## Aaltoes & Ignite

### Aaltoes

**Aaltoes is a student-run volunteer organization**, providing real-life entrepreneurial opportunities for curious individuals who want to challenge themselves and solve relevant challenges in an atmosphere where people default to action. Aaltoes has been pushing the cruciality of solving world-changing problems through entrepreneurship in multiple programs and projects organised by driven students.

**Ignite is a 10-week accelerator** where first-time founders find their first customers and launch their businesses (if they haven't done it prior to the programme).

Participants receive:

- 1.5-5 k€ to launch your business over the summer
- Exclusive network with access to mentors, advisors and investors.
- 10 Credits (ECTS) –this programme is NOT only for Aalto students!
- Accommodation for the needing







# EIT HEI Initiative

## Knowledge Transfer inside the Consortium



**C-ACCELERATE** is focusing on innovation and entrepreneurial education in the field of the Cultural and Creative industries, with added focus on the Film and Media Arts.

**Full partners**

 <b>Aalto-Korkeakoulu</b> (Aalto University) (Lead partner) Finland	 <b>Tallinn University Foundation</b> Estonia
 <b>LUCA School of Arts</b> Belgium	 <b>Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT)</b> Ireland
 <b>COFAC / Lusófona University</b> Portugal	 <b>Aalto Entrepreneurship Society ry</b> Finland

**Full partners**

 <b>Aalto University (Lead Partner)</b> Finland	 <b>Svenska Handelshögskolan (Hanken School of Economics)</b> Finland
 <b>Umeå universitet (Umeå university)</b> Sweden	 <b>Universidad Internacional de La Rioja</b> Spain
 <b>Vaasan ammattikorkeakoulu (Vaasa University of Applied Sciences VAMK)</b> Finland	

## INCREDIT

**INCREDIT** aims to make the deep-tech industry more approachable, not just for technical students, but also for design and business students, and focusing upon the interdisciplinary collaboration amongst them to create novel solutions.

# EIT HEI Initiative

## Boosting knowledge flow inside Aalto's Innovation Ecosystem

**IDBM** International  
Design Business  
Management

**A!**

Aalto University  
Design Factory

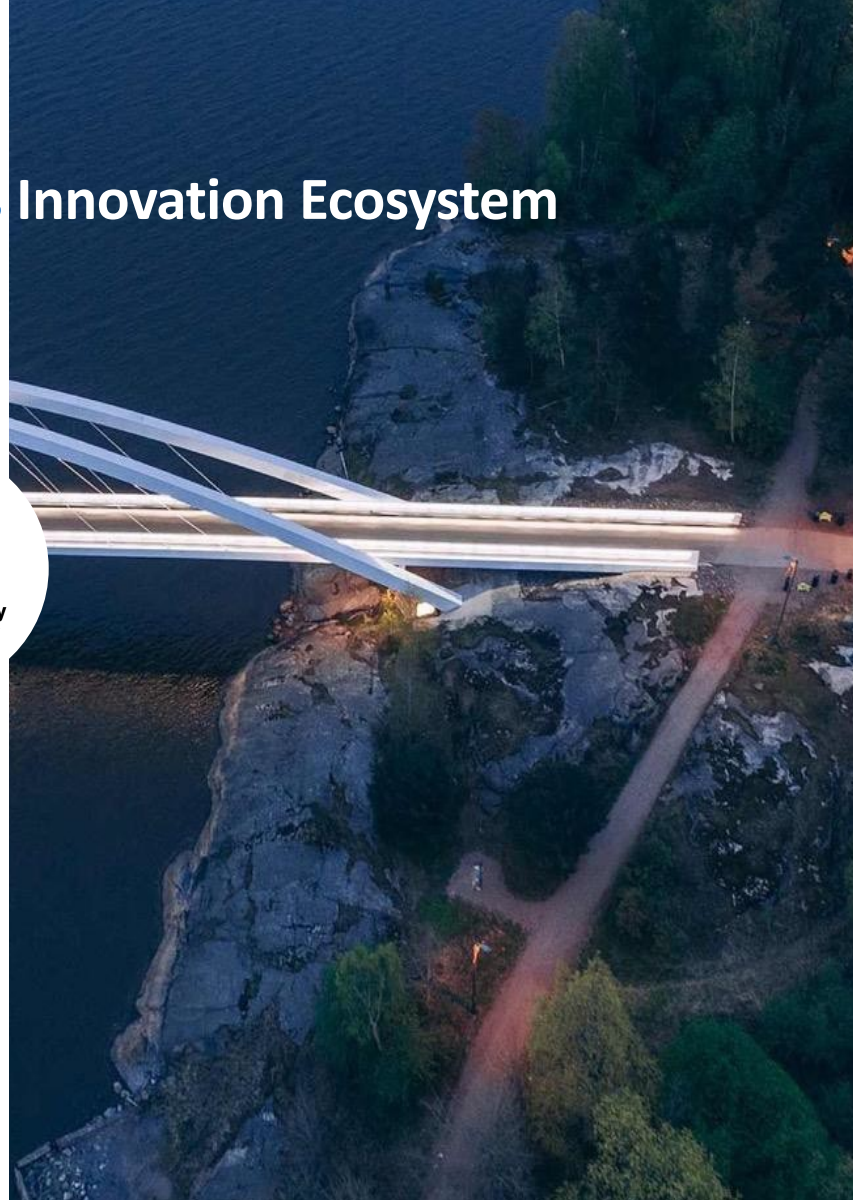
**A"**

Aalto University  
EIT Services

we  
support  
you!



**IGNITE**



THANK YOU!