

BFI VK CONNECT

(BFI Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Connect)

About the Program

Blockchain for Impact (**BFI**), in collaboration with **Chasing Science** (Barcelona, Spain), is pleased to announce the **BFI VK Connect**. It is a unique **international accelerator** designed to help India's most promising healthcare startups expand into the **European healthcare market**.

The program aims to strengthen the India-Europe health innovation pathway by providing Indian startups with deep insights into the European healthcare market, mentorship from domain experts, and opportunities to build partnerships with investors, corporates, hospitals, and accelerators.

Program Overview

The **BFI VK Connect** offers a **three-phase structure** over a **three-month period**, combining virtual learning and a curated European immersion.

Phase 1 – Foundations (Virtual, 4 weeks)

Orientation, masterclasses, and mentoring on EU healthcare systems, regulations (MDR/IVDR), and market access.

Phase 2 – Deep Dive (Virtual, 4 weeks)

Tailored mentoring on EU go-to-market strategies, IP and investment readiness, and partnership development.

Phase 3 – Immersion in Barcelona (3 weeks)

In-person immersion aligned with a major European health innovation event. Includes hospital and accelerator visits, B2B meetings, and a Demo Day with investors and partners.

All program-related costs, including masterclasses, mentor compensation, travel and stay during the Barcelona immersion, will be **covered by BFI**. Participants are expected to bear only the **visa and travel insurance costs** if selected for Phase 3.

Key Features

- **Equity-free program**
- **Dedicated European mentor** for each startup
- **Masterclasses by global experts** in market access, fundraising, IP, and clinical validation
- **Networking with European investors and corporates**
- **Demo Day in Barcelona** to showcase before EU stakeholders, **an opportunity to raise funds**
- **Opportunity for pilots, investments/ funds, partnerships, and soft-landing in Europe**

Eligibility Criteria

To apply, startups must:

- Be legally **incorporated in India**
- Operate in **diagnostics, medtech, digital health, or healthcare** domains
- Have technologies at **TRL 4 or above** (early stage validation or beyond)
- Demonstrate readiness for **international expansion**
- Have two **key team members** who are able to commit 10-15 hours per week for 2 months (one team member shall be part of the 3-week immersion in Barcelona)
- Have a working level of **spoken and written English**

Selection and Participation

- **Cohort Size:** 12 startups selected for Phases 1; **top 5** proceed to Phase 2 and Phase 3 (Barcelona Immersion)
- **Duration:** February–May 2026
- **Time Commitment:** Approx. 10–15 hours per week (virtual for 2 months); 3 weeks in-person (Barcelona)
- **Program Fee:** None (equity free participation)
- **Mode:** Hybrid (Virtual & Onsite in Barcelona)

Timeline

Milestone	Tentative Date	Description
Applications Open	20 November 2025	Call for applications launched
Applications Close	01 January 2026	Deadline for submission
Selection Announcement	February 2026	12 startups announced
Program Commencement	February 2026	Phase 1 begins
Mid-term evaluation	March 2026	Top 5 startups announced
Phase 2 with top 5	March-April 2026	Phase 2 begins
Barcelona Immersion	May 2026	Phase 3 and Demo Day
Program Closure	June 2026	Follow-up and feedback

Application Process

Interested startups should submit their applications online using the prescribed form: [click here](#)

Application deadline: **01 January 2025**

Application form requirements:

- Company profile and team overview
- Technology summary and TRL status
- Brief on value proposition and European market relevance
- Details of traction, pilots, or partnerships
- Pitch deck
- Short video pitch (optional)

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Selection Process

Applications will undergo a **three stage review**:

1. **Eligibility Screening** -Verification of basic criteria
2. **Expert Evaluation** -Assessment on innovation, scalability, and EU readiness
3. **Panel Review** -Interaction with shortlisted teams and final selection

Selection outcomes will be announced by **January 2026**.

Expected Outcomes

- Understanding of **European regulatory landscape** and **go-to-market strategy**
- Strengthening **Indo-EU partnerships**
- Enhanced **investment and regulatory readiness**
- Opportunities for **investments/ funds, collaborations, or soft landings** in **Europe**

Contact Information

For queries or clarifications, write to: info@blockchainforimpact.nl