



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT

Research and Innovation Indicator 2025

(goals for 2026)

Materials and Production

Agreement on the realisation of department strategies on
Collaboration, Visibility, and Openness (Part B)

Prioritised Goals for 2026

At a meeting on 5 January 2023, the Strategic Council for Research and Innovation approved the following three priority areas for realisation of the department's open science parameters. This prioritisation is in line with the goals presented in the [Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment](#) signed by Aalborg University:

AAU Research and Innovation Indicator (Part B):

- Collaboration
- Visibility
- Openness



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

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Date: [Date of letter]
Case No.: [Case No.]

Agreement on realisation of goals pertaining to the AAU Research and Innovation Indicator in 2026

DEPARTMENT

Materials and Production

GOAL REALISATION

*GUIDE TO COMPLETING
THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INDICATOR PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT
(the section can be deleted when you submit the draft agreement)*

In this performance agreement, you must briefly describe the status of the area and how you expect the goals to be implemented at your department.

For AAU Research and Innovation Indicator (Part B), please provide a brief status of how far you have come within collaboration, visibility and openness in 2025. In addition, please describe how you will work with the three areas in the coming year, including which type of documentation you will use for the areas you choose to prioritize.

It is a requirement that all three areas are taken into consideration, however it is possible to choose to focus on one, two, or all three areas. You must, however, state the reasons for selecting/deselecting each of the three areas. At the same time, it is possible to focus on the same area for a period longer than one year to make allowance for the fact that research processes within publishing take time.

MONITORING OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INDICATOR GOALS

Heads of departments are responsible for the monitoring and reporting on status of progress and results that are presented to the dean's office annually. Likewise, approval of performance agreements for the AAU Research and Innovation Indicator (Part B) takes place in the dean's office. Deadline for approval is the end of December 2025.

Every year in June, the VBN-team in collaboration with AAU Innovation issues a report to the department management on the department's overall performance within the indicator's three areas: Collaboration, Visibility and Openness. The department report format contains overall figures for the department as well as more group-specific data.



PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INDICATOR

See this guide for examples of a completed performance agreement for the research and innovation indicator (Part B):

<https://doi.org/10.54337/aau524581597>

Collaboration

Current status:

Goals for 2025 included strengthening the foundation for increased external acquisition of research funding, as well as enhancing national and international collaboration in this area.

In 2025, efforts have focused on the positive development of research groups through reorganization, strengthening of research group leaders, and the development of research strategies. This work is progressing according to plan and is expected to continue in 2026.

A clear leadership structure has been established in all research groups, along with the creation of a research leadership forum. The process of developing research strategies is underway in all groups, with the first versions expected to be ready by January 2026. These strategies are expected to result in a more strategic approach to research collaboration both with academia and with companies, nationally and internationally.

As shown below, the department's external funding varies from year to year, but shows an overall increasing trend.

External funding MP (DKK):

Year	Amount
2022	24,443,259
2023	81,912,064
2024	35,661,270
Until Oct 14, 2025	67,348,843

Goals for 2026:

We will continue the work on strategic research and funding plans in all research groups. In 2026, this work will be expanded to include innovation, with a focus on the commercialization of our research.

Furthermore, we will strengthen the coordination of funding efforts to ensure that resources are used effectively and to increase the impact of funding and collaboration across the department. We will also leverage the visibility of our cross-cutting focus areas to create new and more partnerships with companies.

Specifically, we will work towards the following goals:

- The upward trend in external funding continues, while acknowledging that annual figures may fluctuate and that the long-term trajectory is what matters.
- At least **three research groups** actively engage in the commercialization of their research, either through **proof-of-concept (POC) applications** or by establishing **spin-out companies** initiated by researchers or students.

Visibility

Current status:



In 2025, we have worked on increasing the visibility of our research activities through our three cross-cutting focus areas: **Sustainable production and use of materials**, **Technology as workforce**, and **Improved green energy production**.

We have made the most progress in highlighting sustainable production, thanks to a targeted effort in collaboration with AAU Communication to showcase a younger researcher in the field: **Associate Professor Anne Louise Andersen**. This initiative has exceeded expectations in generating both attention and collaboration around the topic. We are now beginning the next visibility initiative.

We are experiencing that, in certain areas, we are a preferred collaboration partner for industry for example, through projects aimed at disseminating new research to a broader group of companies (SIFA).

We have worked systematically to ensure ORCID profiles and their connection to VBN. With a current total of **122 ORCID profiles**, this is very satisfactory. However, the number of **Google Scholar links** has not kept pace, and further effort is needed in this area.

The department report shows a **decline in the number of affiliated researchers**, which is due to a more restrictive policy for affiliating researchers to our research groups, implemented for security reasons.

From the VBN annual report of MP department:

3. Below is an overview of how many persons with a relation to the departments have an ORCID, Google Scholar link and a profile description on their VBN profile.

Persons affiliated with research group/section at the department	2024	2025
Number of persons	205	135

ORCID	2024	2025
Number of ORCID's	115	122

Google Scholar	2024	2025
Number of Google Scholar links	35	41

VBN profile descriptions	2024	2025
Number of persons with VBN profile descriptions	12	16

NB: The report is regularly updated, which means that data might have changed. The data above is registered June 24, 2024, and June 13, 2025.

Goals for 2026:

We will continue to increase the visibility of our cross-cutting focus areas. The strategic collaboration with AAU Communication will continue, shifting the spotlight from sustainable production to the materials area, with a focus on Associate Professor Brian Bak.

We will build on the positive results from 2025 to raise awareness among researchers that visibility in networks and on social media can pave the way for increased collaboration and greater impact. We aim to strengthen our position as a key collaboration partner for industry both locally and nationally.

Finally, we will work to increase the number of Google Scholar links and encourage more researchers to create profile descriptions on VBN.



We will be measured by the following goals:

- Continuous establishment of new industry collaborations, including at least xx partnerships with sectoral or other interest organizations focused on innovation in companies.
- An increase in the number of Google Scholar links.
- That associate professors and professors create VBN profile descriptions.

Openness

Current status:

The MP report from VBN shows a positive development in Open Access (OA). Our unused OA potential has decreased from being above the average for the ENG faculty to now being below, which we find very satisfactory.

STATUS 2025

1. Below is an overview of the department's Open Access status for publications that count in the national Open Access indicator.

	Open Access		Unused OA potential		Blocked	
	2024 (2022)	2025 (2023)	2024 (2022)	2025 (2023)	2024 (2022)	2025 (2023)
ENG faculty	67%	65%	14%	14%	19%	21%
Department of Materials and Pro- duction	62%	70%	16%	11%	22%	20%

Goals for 2026:

In 2026, we will continue our efforts to increase Open Access (OA). Specifically, we plan to organize a workshop with VBN to raise researchers' awareness of OA.

Additionally, we will work towards establishing a more systematic registration of research projects in VBN.



APPENDICES

Overview of any appendices/attachments

1. *Name of appendix*
2. *Name of appendix*

APPROVAL

The section of the agreement concerning the performance agreement for the AAU Research and Innovation Indicator was approved at a meeting between the department management and the dean's office
Click or tap to enter a date.