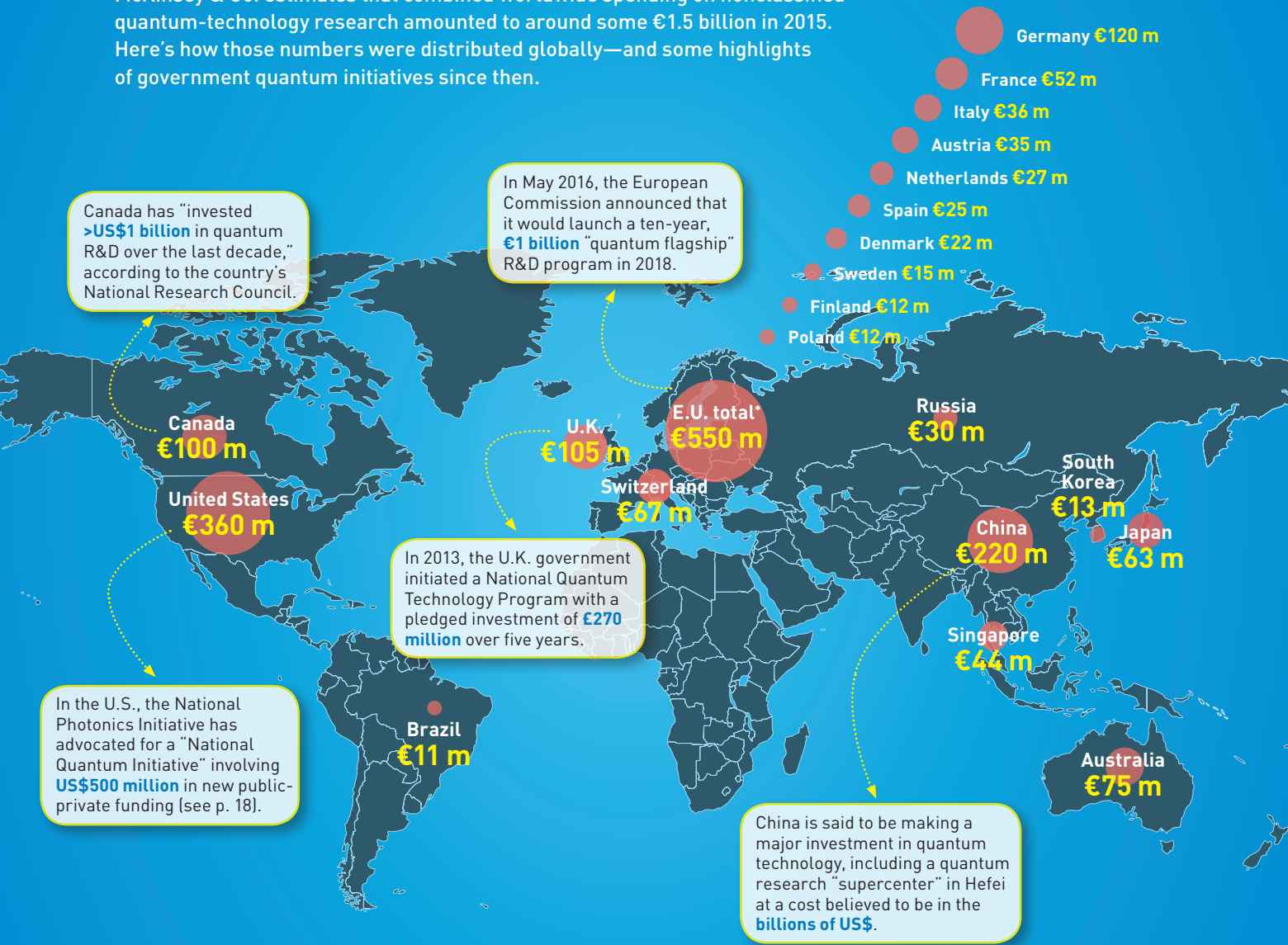


Quantum Technology

Funding the Future

McKinsey & Co. estimates that combined worldwide spending on nonclassified quantum-technology research amounted to around some €1.5 billion in 2015. Here's how those numbers were distributed globally—and some highlights of government quantum initiatives since then.



QUANTUM APPLICATIONS

SECURITY

Quantum communications can increase data security on networks—reducing theft of sensitive information and promoting trust

COMMUNICATIONS

Tiny ultra-precise quantum clocks will allow denser communications traffic, and could reduce risk of transmission failures

INFORMATION

It's believed that quantum computers could ultimately tackle problems out of reach of classical computing algorithms

ENVIRONMENT

Quantum sensors for measuring gravity could aid flood prevention by providing more accurate monitoring of the water table

FINANCE

Financial markets that depend on split-second decisions could benefit from the increase in accuracy of the new generation of atomic clocks

*Sum for all E.U. countries including the U.K. as of 2015.

Sources: European Union; U.K. Government Office for Science; National Research Council Canada; National Photonics Initiative, USA. Infographic by Stewart Wills and Alessia Kirkland