

Introduzione a EIT e KICs, iniziative Covid-19 ed prospettive future in Horizon Europe'

Salvatore Amico Roxas DG EAC, unit C1 - Innovation and EIT

EIT | What is it?



- > From student to entrepreneur
- From lab to customers
- From idea to product

What is the EIT?

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) drives innovation in Europe by supporting entrepreneurs, innovators and students across Europe to turn their best ideas into reality.

How does the EIT work?



Trains a new generation of entrepreneurs



Develops innovative products and services



Supports start-ups & scale-ups



- Contribute to the competitiveness of Europe, its sustainable economic growth and job creation by promoting and strengthening synergies and cooperation among businesses, education institutions and research organisations.
- Create favourable environments for creative thoughts, to enable worldclass innovation and entrepreneurship to thrive in Europe.



EIT in HORIZON 2020



The EIT contributes to H2020 by addressing societal challenges via the integration of the knowledge triangle



H2020 has a budget of approx. € 78,6 billion for 2014 to 2020, out of which the EIT has been allocated € 2.4 billion



The EIT nurtures synergies and complementarities across H2020 and its different initiatives

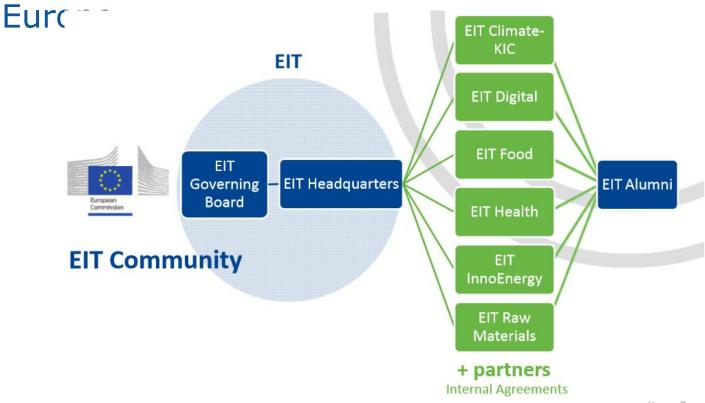




EIT: what and how

a dedicated Institute based in Budapest (EIT)

KICs (Knowledge and Innovation Communities),
 with Co-Location Centres spread throughout





EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities



The KIC model: A business logic

- ✓ High degree of integration: each KIC is an independent legal entity, gathering partners from across the knowledge triangle (Higher Education, Business, Research) based on a contractual partnership with the EIT.
- ✓ Long-term strategic approach: each KIC is set up for a minimum of 7 years to eventually become sustainable.
- Autonomy and flexibility: to determine organisational structure and activities governed by a Board of KIC partner organisations.

- ✓ The co-location model: each KIC consists of a number of innovation hotspots building and leveraging on local capacities (5-9 per KIC).
- ✓ Results & high impact oriented activities: 7 year Strategy and Annual Business Plan

✓ Financial sustainability



Education and Training Activities



Key Characteristics:

- Linking education, research and business
- Learning by doing curricula and robust entrepreneurship education
- International, inter-organisational and cross-sectorial mobility

Educating the next generation of entrepreneurs, innovators & change-makers

EIT Education Portfolio:



Master programmes

- International cooperation and industry involvement
- Mobility, internships and scholarships/ fellowships

Doctoral programmes and schools

- Training on specific skills and competences
- Mobility, internships and scholarships/ fellowships

Executive training & post-doctoral courses

- Continuous professional development courses (e.g. Climate-KIC Pioneers, Catalyst, Spotlight; EIT Health Campus Training for Professionals)
- Learning modules and MOOCs







Innovation Activities

- ✓ Support for finalising and commercialising technological innovations
- ✓ Aim is to develop products/services that address a specific business opportunity.
- ✓ Support is offered to **consortia**, as well as to **individual innovators**.
- ✓ Funding to demonstrators, pilots, proofs of concept, etc.

Calls in Climate KIC Innovation Framework



Pathfinder

Exploratory and a pre-stage to the exploitation of innovation opportunities

- Pathfinder awards

 Up to €50k, but most
 from €15k to €30k
- The duration should not be more than 6 months.

Accelerator

Validate the business model of an innovation

- Demonstrate a coherent business model and/or market validation of the business model
- . Grant award up to €50k.

Demonstrator

Must prove the Innovation works and demonstrate the idea and the context.

- · Needs a business model
- International CKIC engagement required
- · Typically lasts 2-3 years
- Funding typically ranges from 200-800k€/year.

Transdisciplinary & multicultural teams working together on global challenges

New products, services, processes & business models for Europe

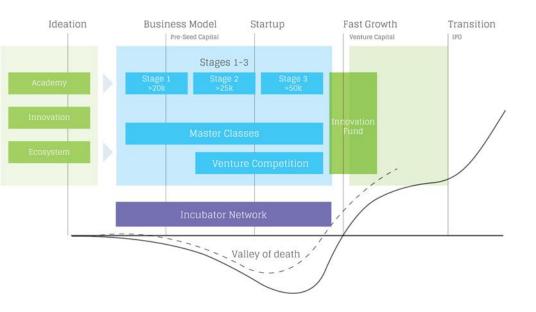
Support to entrepreneurship and business development

- ✓ Range of business support services to help entrepreneurs translate their ideas into successful businesses.
- ✓ Services focus on areas such as support for technology, market assessment, access to human resources, seed and venture capital.



✓ Activities include business plan competitions, pre-incubation and incubation services, access to trainings, scale-up services









EIT Regional Innovation Scheme

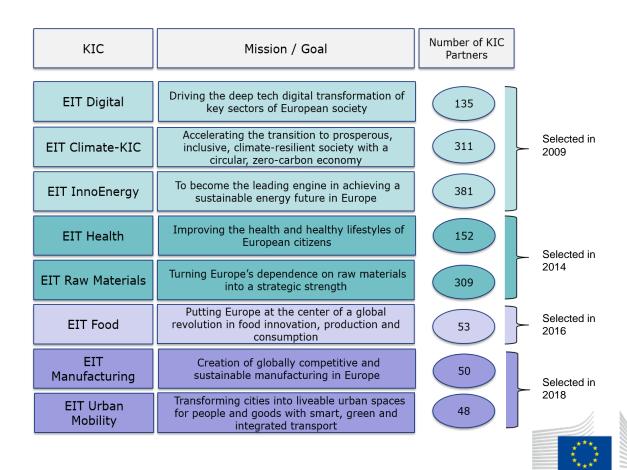
- Widening participation in Horizon 2020 and EIT
- Outreach scheme aimed at increasing innovation capacity in <u>MS and regions not yet</u> benefitting from the EIT and its KICs
- Recently, a new approach for 2018-2020 was launched
- Synergies with ESIF (in collaboration with JRC) are expected





EIT | RESULTS





European Commission







COVID-related measures



HORIZON 2020

EIT in Horizon Europe | SYNERGIES

- Each KIC is putting in place measures, solutions and actions to tackle the pandemic and its consequences
- Section on <u>EIT Community COVID-19 Response</u>
 https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/covid-19-response#ACTIVITIES
- Yesterday EIT issued a call for KICs, to mobilise 60 MEUR to support innovators and innovative start-ups, scale-ups and SMEs:
 - 1) Pandemic Response Projects
 - 2) Venture Support Instrument

https://eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/eit-announceseur-60-million-crisis-response-initiative

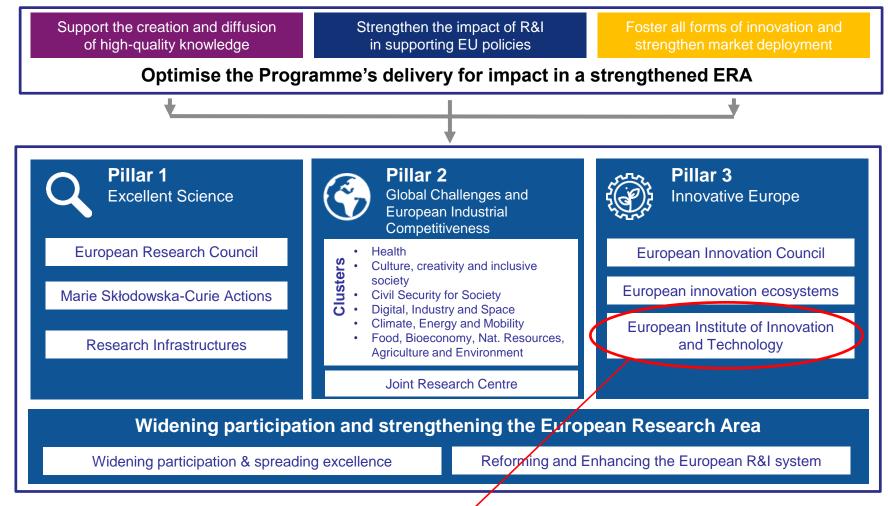
> European Commission



Outlook to the future



HORIZON EUROPE | Evolution, not Revolution



Proposed budget: 3 billion EUR



EIT in Horizon Europe | SYNERGIES

Synergies within Horizon Europe

Innovative Europe Pillar (Pillar III)

EIC – support most promising KICs'-backed companies for scaling up

EIT – help create and support ecosystems by enhancing companies' talent, partners, innovation know-how, new market opportunities

EIT KICs provide start-up and scale-up support

- **Pillar II** (clusters, missions, partnerships)
- **Pillar I** (MSCA, ERC, Research Infrastructures)
- Widening participation and strengthening the ERA

Synergies with other EU programmes

Erasmus

InvestEU

- - Digital Europe Creative Europe
- Cohesion Policy Funds Single Market Programme





New EIT Regulation and EIT SIA



- EIT Regulation:
 Last revision in 2013
 Recast
 Principle-based approach



EIT SIA:

- Article 17 of (present) EIT Regulation
 Coverage: 2021 2027
 Strategic direction | Key Activities | Priority fields | Financial needs



Key changes in EIT Regulation and SIA

(in line with the ex-ante Impact Assessment)



KICs' openness and transparency



KICs' funding model and post 15-years EIT-KIC relations



KICs' Regional dimension



Supporting the innovation capacity of higher education



Governance



New KICs



KICs' Regional Dimension

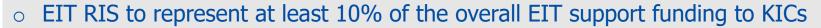
BACKGROUND

KICs not well integrated into the local innovation ecosystems

Ensure consistency of KICs' strategies with local priorities

Ensure support countries and regions that lag behind in innovation performance

- Each KIC required to develop and implement a strategy built on KIC's CLCs and RIS - to strengthen the relationship with regional and local innovation actors
- Enhanced impact through links to the relevant Smart Specialisation Strategies
- EIT RIS will become an integral part of the KIC' multi-annual strategy



EIT to actively monitor the KICs' strategy implementation



Supporting the Innovation Capacity of Higher Education

BACKGROUND

Limited impact of the EIT education activities | low awareness of the EIT education brand

Links between education and innovation-support activities are not fully exploited

Improve the role and involvement of HEIs in local innovation ecosystems

- EIT SP intervention area: "Innovation and entrepreneurial skills in a lifelong learning perspective, including increasing capacities of higher education institutions across Europe"
- New action to develop HEIs into more innovative and entrepreneurial organisations
- Built on ongoing policy initiatives (like HEInnovate), in complementarity with relevant Horizon Europe activities (Pillar IV)
- use of the EIT Label by the participating HEIs
- EIT to play a steering and coordination role in the implementation and monitoring of the activities by the KICs
- Support to HEIs in low innovation performing regions

Launch of New KICs

2022

A first new KIC to be launched

- Field: Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI)
- Call for proposals to be published in 2021

2025

A second new KIC to be launched

- Priority Field: to be selected considering the proposals of the EIT Governing Board, taking into account the priorities identified in the Horizon Europe Strategic R&I Plan
- Call for proposals to be published in 2024



Other new KICs could be selected in case additional budget would become available





Thank you

https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/innovation-in-education/the-european-institute-of-innovation-and-technology-eit_en

https://www.facebook.com/EITnews

https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-institute-of-innovation-and-technology---eit

eit.europa.eu

#EITeu