

UKRO Horizon 2020 Condensed

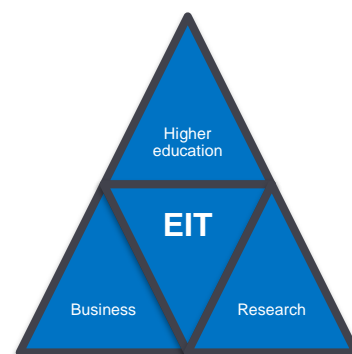
European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

What is the EIT?

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is an EU body based in Budapest, Hungary, which aims to enhance Europe's ability to innovate by nurturing entrepreneurial talent and supporting new ideas. Its mission is to contribute to European competitiveness, sustainable economic growth and job creation by promoting and strengthening synergies and cooperation among businesses, education institutions and research organisations. It also aims to create favourable environments for creative thought to enable world-class innovation and entrepreneurship to thrive in Europe.

In order to achieve its mission, the EIT creates Knowledge Innovation Communities (KICs). These bring together the 'knowledge triangle' of business, education and research to form partnerships, with a view to carrying out activities that cover the entire innovation chain, including training, education and business incubation programmes, promoting the journey from research to market.

Each KIC is formed through a call for proposals, and operates as a separate legal entity from the EIT, operating through co-location centres across Europe. Five KICs have been established so far, each focusing on a different societal challenge:



- EIT Climate-KIC (2010):
Building a zero carbon economy and a climate resilient society. Focus on the four themes of Urban Transitions, Sustainable Production Systems, Decision Metrics & Finance and Sustainable Land Use. Imperial College London is a core partner.
- EIT Digital (2010):
Accelerate the market uptake of digital and information and communication technologies. Focus on the four digital transformations of Digital Wellbeing, Digital Industry, Digital City and Digital Infrastructure. Imperial College London, UCL and the University of Edinburgh are partners.
- EIT InnoEnergy (2010):
Drive innovation and entrepreneurship in sustainable energy. Focus on the seven themes of Clean Coal and Gas Technologies, Energy Storage, Energy Efficiency, Energy from Chemical Fuels, Renewable Energies, Smart and Efficient Building and Cities and Sustainable Nuclear and Renewable Convergence. It has no UK partners.
- EIT Health (2014):
Develop innovations in healthy living and active ageing. Focus on the three themes of Promote Healthy Living, Support Active Ageing and Improve Healthcare. Imperial College London is a partner.
- EIT Raw Materials (2014):
Turn the challenge of raw materials dependence into a strategic strength for Europe, through sustainable exploration, extraction, processing, recycling and substitution. It has no UK partners.
- EIT Food (2016):
Develop sustainable supply chains from resources to consumers. Focus on the six themes of Overcoming Low Consumer Trust, Creating Consumer-Valued Food, Building a Consumer-

Centric Connected Food System, Enhancing Sustainability, Education and Entrepreneurship & Innovation.

- EIT Urban Mobility (2018)

Accelerate solutions that improve our collective use of urban spaces, while ensuring accessible, convenient, safe, efficient, sustainable and affordable multimodal mobility. Reimagine collective and individual mobility, shaping it according to local needs, supporting communities and stimulating the economy.

- EIT Manufacturing (2018)

Bring European manufacturing actors together in innovation ecosystems that add unique value to European products, processes, services – and inspire the creation of globally competitive and sustainable manufacturing.

What will be funded?

The EIT will receive approximately €2.38 billion from the Horizon 2020 budget between 2014 and 2020. It will continue to work closely with the existing KICs to further support their activities. Two new KICs were created in 2018: Urban Mobility and EIT Manufacturing. These KICs will support consortia made up of business, education and research organisations with a long term strategy and a sustainable business model.

Future Thematic Areas

The EIT is developing their Strategic Innovation Agenda for 2021-2027 and the governing board has decided to focus on four broad thematic areas for future KICs:

- **Security and resilience:** prevent threats to citizens, goods and organisations, including physical and cyber infrastructures
- **Inclusion, integration and migration:** foster inclusion and integration in the context of demographic change, inequality and migration
- **Water, marine and maritime:** create sustainable, circular blue economies based on healthy water ecosystems.
- **Cultural and creative industries:** promote cultural diversity, creativity and cohesion and create sustainable economic growth

The EIT are also considering the possibility of having an open call for a Knowledge and Innovation Community.

Call information and timings

The 2018 call for proposals closed in July 2018. The evaluation of the proposals is complete and two new Innovation Communities were designated on 5 December 2018.

Relevant EU policy areas and developments

The EIT contributes to the goals of the Europe 2020 Strategy; it also aims to contribute to the objectives of Horizon 2020 by addressing societal challenges in a complementary way. It is also expected to provide additional opportunities in entrepreneurship and innovation to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and the Erasmus+ programme.

More information:

- EIT website: eit.europa.eu
- EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda: eit.europa.eu/interact/bookshelf/eit-strategic-innovation-agenda-sia-2014-2020
- Potential Future EIT Thematic Areas: eit.europa.eu/sites/default/files/eit_potential_future_thematic_areas.pdf
- EIT Interim Evaluation: ec.europa.eu/education/sites/education/files/swd-2017-351-eit-evaluation_en.pdf
- EIT Climate-KIC: www.climate-kic.org/
- EIT Digital: www.eitdigital.eu/
- KIC InnoEnergy: www.kic-innoenergy.com/
- EIT Health: eithealth.eu/
- EIT Raw Materials: eitrawmaterials.eu/
- EIT Food: <https://www.eitfood.eu/>
- Sign up to the UKRO Portal to stay up to date on the EIT and Horizon 2020 general developments, calls, events and results: ukro.ac.uk
- For specific questions, contact your UKRO European Advisor.