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# EIT Jumpstarter Next

(former EIT Post-Jumpstarter)

Terms & Conditions



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1. The description and structure of the EIT Jumpstarter Next ..... 3
  - 1.1 Description of the EIT Jumpstarter Next..... 3
  - 1.2 Structure of EIT Jumpstarter Next ..... 4
- 2. Eligibility criteria ..... 6
- 3. Funding terms..... 8
- 4. EIT Community’s Representation ..... 9
- 5. IP rights and confidentiality ..... 9
- 6. Key dates ..... 10
- 7. Final Provisions ..... 10
- 8. Overview of organising EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities..... 10
- 9. Appeals Procedure..... 13
- 10. Audit Rights..... 14
- 11. How to get in touch..... 14
- 12. Annexe 1- EIT Jumpstarter Next \_Code of Conduct..... 15

## 1. THE DESCRIPTION AND STRUCTURE OF THE EIT JUMPSTARTER NEXT

The EIT Community offers a multidisciplinary programme for startup companies with a minimum Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Business Readiness Level (BRL) of 5, regardless of industry. Leveraging the expertise and network of the EIT Community, selected startups will receive tailored guidance to enhance their business development strategies. The programme will also pre-screen high-potential startups, which could be invited to the new EIT Regional Innovation Booster Accelerator in 2026.

The EIT Jumpstarter Next programme is free of charge for participants from EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) countries and territories, where the overall pace of innovation is moderate or emerging, according to the European Innovation Scoreboard, and who **are alumni of one of the 18 programmes offered by the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities**.

Building on the success of the EIT Post-Jumpstarter, which was previously exclusive to EIT Jumpstarter alumni, the programme now expands its eligibility criteria to include ambitious startups from Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe.

### 1.2 Description of the EIT Jumpstarter Next

EIT Jumpstarter Next is the acceleration training for startups who participated earlier in any edition of one of the following programmes:

- [EIT Digital: Venture Incubation Program](#);
- EIT Food: [TeamUp](#), [Test Farms](#), [Sales Booster](#), [EWA](#);
- EIT Health [InnoStars Connect](#);
- EIT InnoEnergy [Hello CleanTech](#);
- EIT Climate-KIC [ClimateLaunchPad](#);
- EIT Manufacturing [EVO-R](#) and Leaders programmes, Inno2Market;
- EIT RawMaterials: [Lab2Market](#), [Open Innovation Challenge](#);
- EIT Urban Mobility: [Corporate Venture Builder](#), [Investment Readiness programme](#), [Student Entrepreneur Grant Scheme](#), Start for Future.
- [EIT Jumpstarter 2017-2024](#)

The programme is funded by the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology](#) and powered by the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities.

#### Who are the participants?

EIT Jumpstarter Next creates a new cohort of European entrepreneurs eager to drive their business development and navigate the innovation ecosystem, with the aim of securing external financing and acquiring customers. The startup's product or solution must address global intersectional challenges, such as climate change, the energy crisis, access to raw materials, health, well-being and active ageing, sustainable manufacturing, or smart and liveable cities.

The founders or co-founders of the startups participated in earlier editions of selected EIT Community programmes (listed above) and often possess a solid scientific background, research experience, and an initial entrepreneurial track record. However, they often lack advanced business skills and a robust business development strategy needed to generate sales, gain further traction, and secure external investment more

swiftly.

Throughout the programme, selected startups will receive tailored consultations and mentorship to enhance their sales, marketing, and business development strategies, thereby increasing their chances of successful fundraising in the European innovation market. Additionally, they will benefit from industry-specific guidance. The EIT Community will carefully select and collaborate with the most motivated teams, who are committed to building strong business cases in partnership with the EIT Community.

## **1.2. Structure of the EIT Jumpstarter Next**

In 2025 the Organiser will run two intakes, admitting 16 startups in total. Only three teams in total from two batches will proceed to the final stage of the programme – the Grand Final.

This competition is divided into several phases:

### ***Phase 1: Application period and selection to the programme***

First batch of 2025: The application deadline for the Call for Proposals #1 is 11th of April 2025, 23:59 CET. The Call will be opened on 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 and published on the eit-ris.eu website.

Second batch of 2025: The application deadline for the Call for Proposals #2 is 30th of June 2025, 23:59 CET. The Call will be opened on 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 and published on the eit-ris.eu website.

Please apply through our [online application form](#). The applicants should emphasise the innovativeness and uniqueness of their products/solutions, the market potential, the achievements up to date (incl. amount of sales generated, or external investment obtained, awards or other forms of recognition obtained), the development stage of their startup, the team description, fundraising plans, and the team's current challenges. Applicants should specify in which programme of the EIT Community they participated in.

Independent external experts will carefully assess the submitted applications. They will score innovativeness of a product/solution, amount of external financing obtained up to date, number of sales generated and scalability. Additional points in the evaluation will be given to teams co-founded by at least one woman.

Eight teams in the first batch and eight teams in the second batch will be selected to join the programme. Applications shall be evaluated on a rolling basis; therefore, applicants are encouraged to complete their application form earlier than the expiration of the application deadline.

- A reserve list of eligible startups will be prepared. If a selected applicant resigns from the Competition, the applicant with the highest score from the reserve list shall be invited to participate. Please note that teams from the reserved list can only be invited during the first 2 weeks of the training programme's commencement.
- If the number of eligible applications (fulfilling the selection criteria and submitted before the deadline) is lower than the number of available places, the application deadline may be extended. In such a case, additional recruitment of participants will be launched and announced via eit-ris.eu page and carried on until all places are filled out. The selection for the remaining vacant places will be held separately upon the same criteria as the initial one. The additional recruitment might be terminated earlier without any prior notice.

The invitations to the selected participants will be sent directly by the EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead.

### ***Phase 2: Training on Business Development and Sales Plan preparations***

After selection for the EIT Jumpstarter Next, the teams will join a series of introductory online training sessions and be matched with industry experts. This phase will also provide participants with more targeted guidance on raising capital, acquiring customers, understanding the investment process, mastering sales fundamentals, and staying informed on global trends. The goal of this phase is to refine and optimise the

business development strategy.

The training sprint for the first batch will take place from April to June (Call #1), and for the second batch, from July to August (Call #2).

To qualify for Phase 3, startups must submit a Business Development Strategy and a Pitch Deck to the EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead. Only five teams from each batch will be selected to join Phase 3. The Programme Lead will send invitations directly to participants. Selection of the top five teams from each batch will be conducted by independent external evaluators, who will assess scalability and growth potential. Evaluation criteria will include aspects such as the revenue model, market size, technology and infrastructure capacity, and the ability to scale to pan-European and global operations.

### ***Phase 3: Upgrade visibility, branding and the Matchmaking***

Up to 10 teams in total from two batches will be selected to join Phase 3, which includes the Matchmaking Meet-Up with investors and industry leaders, scheduled to take place in September-October. During this phase, both batches will merge, providing an opportunity for teams to meet and interact with one another.

Phase 3 will focus on enhancing the startups' marketing and communications strategies. Teams will receive guidance on branding, improving their online visibility, and refining their investment decks. Additionally, participants may receive support in preparing applications for European acceleration programmes or receive invitations to at least one investor meeting.

In September-October, teams from each batch will have the opportunity to attend the Matchmaking Meet-Up with investors and industry leaders. As part of the programme, teams will meet their trainers in person and network with other teams, as well as members of the EIT Community. Participants will also receive a travel and accommodation grant to attend the event. If a selected team is unable to attend in person, they will have the option to join parts of the Matchmaking Meet-Up online. Please note that travel is not mandatory.

Please note that the organiser reserves the right to convert the Matchmaking Meet-Up into an online workshop, and participants will be informed in advance of the format of the meeting.

During the Meet-Up, teams will be encouraged to seek investor and industry interest. The aim is to incentivise product or service development efforts that focus on raising funds or acquiring corporate clients. Only teams that have made the most progress will be eligible to proceed to the next phase. Following the Meet-Up, an evaluation committee will select three teams for the next phase of the programme. Teams will be evaluated based on whether they secured new external funding, generated income, acquired new customers, or gained traction in new markets in 2025. Additionally, visibility parameters such as social media presence, website, visibility in the industry-specific platforms, and media coverage to date will be assessed based on the information provided by the startups. The Programme Lead will send invitations to the selected participants directly.

### ***Phase 4: Preparation for the Grand Final***

In October the top three teams will be prepared by their personal trainers for the final pitching which will take place as a side event during the 2025 EIT Jumpstarter Grand Final. This phase will include intensive preparation for the Grand Final, feedback sessions after the in-person Meet-Up and at least one meeting with the investors or potential clients per team. All three startups will qualify for the Grand Final.

### ***Phase 5: The Grand Final***

This is the final pitching stage of the EIT Jumpstarter Next cohort, organized in November 2025 as part of

the EIT Jumpstarter Grand Final event. The teams will pitch their ideas in person at a public event in front of a jury panel composed of EIT community experts and potential clients or investors. The teams will pitch independently to the EIT Jumpstarter core programme. They will have a chance to receive an exclusive letter of intent from an investor, a corporate client, a European accelerator, or the EIT community. This will enable further collaboration on their product/solution. The teams will receive travel and accommodation grants to attend the Grand Final. If a team cannot participate in the event in person, they will be offered the option to join the event online.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The competition is open to:

- companies<sup>1</sup>, whose Management Board, Founders/Co-Founders are alumni of the following EIT Community programmes: EIT Jumpstarter editions 2017-2024, EIT Digital: Venture Incubation Program; EIT Food: TeamUp, Test Farms, Sales Booster, EWA; EIT Health InnoStars Connect; EIT InnoEnergy Hello CleanTech; EIT Climate-KIC ClimateLaunchPad; EIT Manufacturing EVO-R and Leaders programmes, Inno2Market; EIT RawMaterials: Lab2Market, Open Innovation Challenge; EIT Urban Mobility: Corporate Venture Builder, Investment Readiness programme, Student Entrepreneur Grant Scheme, Start for Future; .
- and companies registered<sup>2</sup> in one of the following EIT RIS countries and territories and Moldova: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, \*Kosovo<sup>3</sup>, Ukraine<sup>4</sup>, Türkiye, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Réunion, Martinique, Mayotte and Saint-Martin (France), the Azores and Madeira (Portugal), the Canary Islands (Spain).

The applications can be submitted by a single co-founder or a team represented by a contact person. The participation of a team is welcome and appreciated in the evaluation, mainly when the team is covering different competencies required in running a startup. However, a maximum number of two (2) co-founding members per team is eligible to participate in the EIT Jumpstarter NEXT programme to ensure the training activities' high quality and comfort conditions. In justified cases, the EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead, or trainer/mentor may allow the participation of more team members in specific activities. Please note that at least one co-founding member has to have a citizenship of one of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme eligible countries and territories.

Additional eligibility criteria are:

- a. Proposals must be in English. Proposals in other languages will not be accepted.
- b. Incomplete submissions or submissions via any other routes (e.g. email) will be rejected.
- c. Proposals must be submitted before the deadline; all late applications will be rejected.
- d. The company must operate within the scope of one of the main challenges which the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities tackle:
  - *In EIT Climate-KIC: supporting cities, regions, countries and industries to meet their climate ambitions through systems innovation and place-based transformations. More details:*

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<sup>1</sup> The company has to have one of the legal forms: Private Limited Company / Public Limited Company / Limited Liability Partnership / Cooperative / C-Corp.

<sup>2</sup> The company has to have one of the legal forms: Private Limited Company / Public Limited Company / Limited Liability Partnership / Cooperative / C-Corp.

<sup>3</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

<sup>4</sup> Must operate in territories under the control of the Government of Ukraine

<https://www.climate-kic.org/who-we-are/about-eit-climate-kic/>

- *In EIT Digital*: investing in strategic areas to accelerate the market uptake and scaling of research-based digital technologies (deep tech) focusing on Europe's key societal challenges: DigitalTech, Digital Cities, Digital Industry, Digital Wellbeing, and Digital Finance. More details: <https://www.eitdigital.eu/our-community/purpose/>
- *in EIT Health*: New models to deliver healthcare; Facilitating the uptake of digital medical devices in Europe; Harnessing the full potential of health data for innovation; Supporting the deployment of Important Project of Common European Interest in Health (IPCEI) to address market failures. More details: <https://eithealth.eu/who-we-are/our-focus-areas/>
- *In EIT RawMaterials*: Thematical focus on Metals, Minerals, Advanced Materials & Industrial Side Streams; Technologies and solutions for improved and new mineral exploration; Digital solutions for remote monitoring, analytics, sensing, modelling, digital twins, etc.; Advanced and fully integrated exploration – smart targeting of ore deposits; Technologies and solutions for more efficient, safer and sustainable modern mining; Technologies and solutions for mineral and metal processing and for improved materials production; Improving processing efficiency by reducing resource use and/or emissions and CO2-footprint; Technology that address equipment-damage problems such as wall thinning, creep or corrosion; Technologies and solutions for materials supply from secondary sources and recycling; Cost-efficient and clever collection, dismantling and sorting of waste; Turning waste resources into a valuable raw materials feedstock for EU industries; New technologies, materials or services that make it possible to substitute or use lower quantities of critical or toxic materials in key industries; Advanced materials' processing, incl. additive manufacturing; Solutions and business models implementing circular economy concepts; Design of products for recycling and lifetime extension; Resource efficient design of materials; Innovation to improve traceability, sustainability, and transparency across raw materials value chains. More details are accessible here: <https://eitrawmaterials.eu/>
- *in EIT Food*: optimising resource efficiency and environmental sustainability of agriculture supply, primary production, processing, storing, packaging, logistics/distribution, retail, consumer research, nutrition monitoring, and food service; developing nutritionally customised food products, addressing unmet needs and generating consumer relevant functionalities; building trust in the food system, securing traceability and auditability of food quality, safety, and authenticity, combining digital and sensor technologies to acquire and transmit information through the food value chain. In general – developing solutions that will put new products on the market, introduce new and improved commercial processes and services, and achieve Healthier Lives Through Food, A Net Zero Food System, A Fully Transparent, Fair, and Resilient Food System. More details: <https://eitfood.eu>
- *in EIT InnoEnergy*: energy costs reduction, system performance increase and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions decrease, circular economy (particularly in the context of energy usage), green hydrogen, energy management systems, and energy storage. It doesn't exclude any other innovative approaches based on sustainable energy generation, storage, or usage.
- *in EIT Manufacturing*: Flexible Production Systems for Competitive Manufacturing, Low Environmental Footprint Systems & Circular Economy for Green Manufacturing, Digital & Collaborative Solutions for Innovative Manufacturing Ecosystems, and Human-machine coworking for socially sustainable manufacturing. More details here: <https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/what-we-do/focus-areas-flagships/>
- *in EIT Urban Mobility*: Active Mobility, Sustainable City Logistics, Future Mobility, Mobility

and Energy, and Public Realm are the main focus areas. This is not a closed list; any idea/solution to solving city challenges is welcome. More details: [About us - EIT Urban mobility](#)

- *New European Bauhaus powered by EIT Culture & Creativity*: Selected ideas should propose innovative solutions that contribute to developing beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive places, products, and ways of living. The New European Bauhaus (NEB) is a crossroad between art/culture and science/technology. Eligible projects may include accessible living spaces, alternative building methods that respect the environment and/or integrate cultural heritage, innovative solutions in architecture, materials and structures, design and production methods, smart infrastructure solutions, and circular and sustainable design and architecture. Proposals should focus on at least one of the three NEB dimensions: sustainability, aesthetics, or inclusion. For more details, please visit: [About the initiative - European Union](#)
- e. Additional information, such as a weblink to the project, can be uploaded to support your application. These additional documents are not mandatory, and please be aware that if you do not explicitly refer to such documents in your application, the reviewers may not consider these attachments as the basis for their evaluation.
- f. The required documents include: a certificate of completion of one of the programmes of EIT (listed above), an extract from the national registry indicating the company's setup date and location, confirmation of citizenship in one of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme countries and territories.
- g. In the evaluation additional points will be given to the startups having at least one female co-founder.
- h. The submitted project must be exclusively concentrated on civil applications, with no intention of military use or serving military purposes, in adherence to ethical considerations, to be eligible for participation. If a product/service/model involves dual-use items as defined by [Regulation 2021/821](#) or other items requiring authorisation, participation, and support can still be considered, but we will add a specific note to make sure the Project complies with the relevant regulatory framework.
- i. Multiple submissions are not accepted. Each applicant must use a unique email address for submission.
- j. Individuals, co-founders, and project team members are not eligible to be part of more than one submitted project at the same time and/or submit more than one project at the same time.

### 3. FUNDING TERMS

Financing is based on teams, no matter if 1 or 2 members represent the team. Team members share their costs and will be reimbursed based on invoices submitted using eligibility criteria and reporting documents.

There are two forms of funding:

Successful applicants are eligible to receive support for covering their travel and accommodation in two stages:

1. Phase 3 – Upgrade visibility, branding and the Matchmaking Meet Up with investors: Selected teams will have a budget of up to EUR 1,700 to cover their own travel and accommodation costs to attend the matchmaking for a maximum of two people. But only, if this part will take place in-person events, otherwise, not applicable.
2. Phase 5 - Grand Final: Each finalist team will have a budget of up to EUR 1,000 to cover their own



travel and accommodation costs to attend the Grand Final in person for a maximum of two people.

The essential eligibility criteria for funding are:

- Signing the financial support agreement (all participating team members).
- Providing the company registration documents.
- Submitting the required deliverables.
- Submitting supporting document in regard to travel costs (if they will exceed 1700 for phase 1 or 1000 for phase 2, only 1700 and 1000 respectively will be paid out).

Additional information and guidance on how to obtain and utilize this support will be provided during the program. Participants will be able to review the Financial Support Agreement template on the EIT Jumpstarter Next webpage.

Please note that if it turns out that the application form was filled out with false information and, as a result, a selected team does not meet the eligibility criteria listed above, it can be excluded from the competition with immediate effect, and any financial support paid up to that point **must be returned**.

#### 4. EIT COMMUNITY'S REPRESENTATION

Participants who receive funding **must** display the EIT Community logo on their website in a visible place. EIT Jumpstarter Next organisers will share the relevant guidelines with the teams during the programme.

By signing the consent form or Financial support agreement the applicants commit to taking part in the follow-up questionnaire, including statistical questions about the company registered and the Project. Finalists are eligible to be interviewed, and they shall participate in any interview the organisers request from them during the Grand Final. After the Grand Final, some participants might receive an interview request from a medium through the organisers. The Finalists should take part in interviews and surveys up to three years after finishing the programme and should always mention that they were supported by the EIT Community.

When participants announce that they became a member of the EIT Community, they shall make sure to have the EIT Community logo displayed somewhere on the image they are using or should mention the EIT account and the EIT KICs accounts if it is available on that platform (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, others).

It is recommended to promote the programme as the ambassador among local networks, by sharing information about being accepted and completing each step of a programme in the professional network and social media.

All images and assets where an EIT KIC, the EIT Community, or the EIT itself is displayed shall be approved by the organizers of the programme. EIT visual guidelines must be respected in this case. Guidelines will be provided to the teams during the programme and upon request.

Applicants must accept the rules and regulations outlined in this Terms and Conditions document to be eligible for this open call.

#### 5. IP RIGHTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The applications submitted to the EIT Jumpstarter Next are handled under confidentiality. Everybody who comes in contact with the applications and deliverables during the review process is bound by confidentiality agreements. By applying for the Competition, applicants consent to access, keep, and use their data by the EIT Communities for the Competition.

Submitted projects must be based on original ideas and creations. If incorporating intellectual property (IP) not originally owned, clear permissions, such as a license agreement or formal transfer of IP rights from the

creator, are essential. All activities related to the project's implementation, as outlined in the application, must ensure no infringement on third-party intellectual property rights. Furthermore, the IP associated with the project application must be free from any ongoing disputes or legal actions related to intellectual property rights violations.

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. The organiser and their authorised representatives in the programme undertake to ensure the confidentiality of the ideas and project details developed throughout the Competition, which are not revealed by the participants in the publicly available parts of the programme.

The intellectual property rights of all materials, curriculum, and methodology used during the EIT Jumpstarter Next are wholly owned by the EIT Health InnoStars. Participants cannot share them with externals or use them for other purposes unrelated to the programme.

## 6. KEY DATES

### Call for Proposals #1 – 1<sup>st</sup> batch

- Deadline for the Call for Proposals #1 is the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2025, 23:59 CET.
- Selection of participants and an invitation to phase 2: End of April 2025
- Phase 2 *Training on Business Development Plan preparations*: May-June 2025
- Phase 3 *Upgrade visibility and branding and the Matchmaking Meet Up*: September-October 2025
- Phase 4 *Preparation for the Grand Final*: October - November 2025
- Phase 5 *Grand Final*: November 2025

### Call for Proposals #2 – 2<sup>nd</sup> batch

- Deadline for the Call for Proposals #2 is 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025, 23:59 CET
- Selection of participants and an invitation to phase 2: 15 July 2025
- Phase 2 *Training on Business Development Plan preparations*: July-August 2025
- Phase 3 *Upgrade visibility and branding and the Matchmaking Meet Up*: September-October 2025
- Phase 4 *Preparation for the Grand Final*: November 2025
- Phase 5 *Grand Final*: November 2025

Dates could change, but the project management team will report them appropriately.

## 7. FINAL PROVISIONS

Any matters not covered by these Terms and Conditions will be governed by rules related to the Horizon Europe and the European Union grants.

The combined support of different support programmes that one company may receive from the EIT Community cannot exceed EUR 60 000.

Applicants' IPR will remain their property.

## 8. OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANISING EIT KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION COMMUNITIES

The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) is dedicated to enhancing Europe's ability to innovate by nurturing entrepreneurial talent and supporting groundbreaking ideas. Through its "knowledge triangle" model, the EIT connects leading companies, universities, and research centres to form dynamic cross-border partnerships called **EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)**. These communities

work collaboratively to address pressing societal challenges and drive innovation.

Currently, there are nine thematic KICs under the EIT umbrella:

- **EIT Climate-KIC:** Tackling climate change through innovation.
- **EIT Digital:** Fostering digital transformation.
- **EIT Food:** Driving innovation in the agri-food sector.
- **EIT Health:** Advancing health and well-being.
- **EIT InnoEnergy:** Leading the transition to sustainable energy.
- **EIT Manufacturing:** Innovating manufacturing ecosystems.
- **EIT RawMaterials:** Securing sustainable supply chains for raw materials.
- **EIT Urban Mobility:** Improving mobility and urban living.
- **EIT Culture & Creativity:** Strengthening Europe's cultural and creative sectors.

The [EIT Community Strategic Regional Innovations Cluster \(EIT RIS\)](#) is a horizontal initiative providing a platform for KICs to collaborate, share best practices, and launch joint activities. It focuses on fostering innovation in Emerging European regions, including countries eligible for the [EIT Regional Innovation Scheme](#). The EIT RIS aims to bridge the innovation gap, particularly in countries where innovation performance is considered modest or moderate, as defined by the European Innovation Scoreboard.

## 8.1 Overview of EIT Climate-KIC

EIT Climate-KIC is Europe's leading climate innovation agency and community. It supports cities, regions, countries, and industries in meeting their climate ambitions through systems innovation and place-based transformations. EIT Climate-KIC works on various projects, including:

- Circular Economy: Helping regions transition to a circular, regenerative, and low-carbon economy.
- Sustainable Food Systems: Partnering to create climate-neutral agri-food sectors.
- NetZeroCities: Supporting over 100 European cities to achieve climate neutrality by 2030.
- Pathways Resilience: Assisting 100 European regions and communities in their climate resilience journey.

Their approach involves mobilizing finance, testing business models, and fostering institutional and behavioral changes to drive large-scale climate solutions.

<https://www.climate-kic.org/>

## 8.2 Overview of EIT Digital

EIT Digital is a leading European organization focused on driving digital innovation and entrepreneurship. It aims to foster a strong digital Europe by supporting digital skills, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Here are some key aspects of EIT Digital:

- Innovation and Entrepreneurship: EIT Digital supports startups and scaleups through its Accelerator program, helping them grow and succeed in the market.
- Education: The EIT Digital Master School offers double degree programs in various fields of digital innovation, combining technical expertise with entrepreneurial skills.
- Community and Ecosystem: EIT Digital brings together a diverse network of partners, including universities, research centers, and businesses, to collaborate on digital transformation projects.

EIT Digital also focuses on areas like AI, cybersecurity, fintech, and more, aiming to address Europe's digital challenges and opportunities.

<https://www.eitdigital.eu/>

## 8.3. Overview of EIT Health and InnoStars

[EIT Health](#) is one of Europe's largest public-private partnerships in healthcare innovation, comprising approximately 150 partners, including leading companies, universities, research and development centres, hospitals, and institutes. Its mission is to build an ecosystem that fosters the development of future healthcare solutions, enabling European citizens to live longer and healthier lives.

Key contributions of EIT Health include:

- Upgrading the skills of healthcare professionals across Europe.
- Investing in Europe's best talent and entrepreneurial projects.
- Facilitating the commercialization of innovative health products and solutions.

EIT Health is co-funded by the EIT, a body of the European Union. For more information, visit their official website: [www.eithealth.eu](http://www.eithealth.eu).

**EIT Health InnoStars**, one of the eight geographical areas within EIT Health, focuses on modest and

moderate/emerging innovator countries in Europe, as identified by the European Innovation Scoreboard. It plays a critical role in supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in regions with significant potential for growth. For more information, visit their InnoStars section: [InnoStars](#).

## 8.4. Overview of EIT RawMaterials

Minerals, metals and advanced materials are key enablers of the green and digital transition. Raw materials are critical to preserving the global competitiveness of the EU's most strategic economic sectors. Today, only a fraction of the most relevant raw materials is produced in Europe. This can be changed through a circular economy approach, through innovation in recycling, substitution, processing, mining, and exploration. EIT RawMaterials overarching mandate is to support securing the supply of critical raw materials to the European industry by driving innovation along the raw materials value chain, focused on *metals, minerals, advanced materials, exploration, mining and industrial side streams*.

EIT RawMaterials builds on the world's largest network of partners in raw materials and advanced materials. EIT RawMaterials mission is to develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe by boosting competitiveness, growth and attractiveness of the European raw materials sector via radical innovation, new education approaches and guided entrepreneurship.

For more information visit: <https://eitrawmaterials.eu/>

## 8.5. Overview of EIT Food

EIT Food is the world's largest and most dynamic food innovation community. We accelerate innovation to build a future-fit food system that produces healthy and sustainable food for all.

Supported by the EIT, we invest in projects, organizations, and individuals that share our goals for a healthy and sustainable food system. We unlock innovation potential in businesses and universities and create and scale agrifood startups to bring new technologies and products to market. We equip entrepreneurs and professionals with the skills needed to transform the food system and put consumers at the heart of our work, helping build trust by reconnecting them to the origins of their food. For more information please visit: <https://www.eitfood.eu/>

## 8.6. Overview of EIT InnoEnergy

[EIT InnoEnergy](#) operates at the centre of the energy transition and is the leading innovation engine in sustainable energy. It brings the technology, business model innovation and skills required to accelerate the green deal, progress towards Europe's decarbonisation and re-industrialisation goals, whilst also improving energy security.

[Ranked as the most active investor in the energy sector in 2022 by Pitchbook, named in 2023 as one of Europe's top 10 most active deeptech investors by Sifted,](#) and [recognised in 2022 as Europe's leading impact investor in cleantech by Startup Genome,](#) InnoEnergy backs innovations across a range of areas. These include energy storage, transport and mobility, renewables, energy efficiency, hard to abate industries, smart grids and sustainable buildings and cities.

InnoEnergy has a portfolio of more than 200 companies, which are estimated to generate €110 billion in revenue and save 2.1G tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e accumulatively by 2030. Collectively, these companies have raised more than €9.7 billion in investment to date.

InnoEnergy is the driving force behind three strategic European initiatives which include the [European Battery Alliance](#) (EBA), [the European Green Hydrogen Acceleration Center](#) (EGHAC) and the [European Solar Photovoltaic Industry Alliance](#) (ESIA).

## 8.7. Overview of EIT Manufacturing

EIT Manufacturing is an Innovation Community within the EIT – that connects the leading manufacturing

actors in Europe. Fuelled by a strong interdisciplinary and trusted community, we will add unique value to European products, processes, and services – and inspire the creation of globally competitive and sustainable manufacturing.

EIT Manufacturing will establish an innovation community and build a network of ecosystems where people can acquire skills and find opportunities; and where innovators can attract investors and accede venture capital. For that purpose, the EIT Manufacturing community boasts more than 130 members and network partners, including leading industry players, universities, and research institutes. For more information visit: [www.eitmanufacturing.eu](http://www.eitmanufacturing.eu)

## 8.8. Overview of EIT Urban Mobility

EIT Urban Mobility is an initiative of the EIT that has been working to encourage positive changes in the way people move around cities to make them more liveable places since January 2019. EIT Urban Mobility engages people, connects communities, accelerates market opportunities, and re-imagines public spaces. An innovation community to educate and inspire mobility solutions for 21<sup>st</sup>-century cities.

Using cities as living labs, the EIT Urban Mobility industry and university partners demonstrate how new technologies can work to solve real problems in real cities by transporting people, freight, and waste in smarter ways. By fostering innovation and transformation, we can improve people's quality of life, decarbonize mobility, and make Europe's economy more competitive. EIT Urban Mobility aims to become the largest European initiative transforming urban mobility. The help of EIT, a body of the European Union co-funding up to EUR 400 million (2020-2026), will help make this happen. For more information visit: [www.eiturbanmobility.eu](http://www.eiturbanmobility.eu)

## 8.9. Overview of EIT Culture & Creativity

EIT Culture & Creativity is the ninth Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) established by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). [This initiative aims to strengthen and transform Europe's cultural and creative sectors and industries \(CCSI\) by enhancing their innovation capacity and competitiveness.](#)

The main goals of EIT Culture & Creativity include:

- Fostering Innovation: Encouraging new ideas and technologies within the cultural and creative sectors.
- Supporting Collaboration: Bringing together education, research, business, and cultural players to create long-term partnerships.
- Enhancing Competitiveness: Helping cultural and creative industries become more competitive on a global scale.
- [Promoting Sustainability: Integrating green and digital transitions into the cultural and creative sectors.](#)

[www.eit-culture-creativity.eu](http://www.eit-culture-creativity.eu)

## 9. APPEALS PROCEDURE

Applicants to EIT Jumpstarter Next programme may appeal the process for the selection. Similarly, the participants of the programme may appeal for the errors in the programme execution, following the EIT Jumpstarter Next Appeals Procedure. The only grounds for appeal are: process errors, technical problems beyond the control of applicants (e.g. the technical failure of the electronic submission system), Human/technical errors made by EIT KICs staff.

Scores awarded in the process of evaluation, regardless of the phase of the programme, do not constitute the grounds for an appeal.

Applicants should send their appeals in writing to [yevhen.kurulenko@eithealth.eu](mailto:yevhen.kurulenko@eithealth.eu) as soon as they identify an error, but no later than 21 days after the error occurred.

EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead assesses the claim and delivers a first response. If there are grounds for appeal, EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead will attempt to remedy the consequences (e.g. if a technical error of EIT Jumpstarter Next prevented the submission of a proposal or application, a late submission may still be accepted as eligible).

The Steering Committee of the EIT Community Strategic Regional Innovations Cluster is notified about the matter if:

- the applicant does not accept a rejection of the appeal, or the remediation suggested by the EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead,
- there are grounds for appeal, but the problem cannot be remedied any more without disrupting the process.

The final decision regarding the appeal and the suggested remedies shall be brought by the Steering Committee of the EIT Community Strategic Regional Innovations Cluster.

## **10. AUDIT RIGHTS**

Participants are aware that EIT Jumpstarter Next Programme Lead, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities, the European Commission, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) can carry out checks, reviews, audits, investigations on the participants and evaluations related to the Call.

## **11. HOW TO GET IN TOUCH**

For specific questions, please get in touch with the Programme contact point: [Piotr Boulangé](#)

## Annexe 1 - EIT Jumpstarter Next \_Code of Conduct

### EIT JUMPSTARTER NEXT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARTICIPANTS

#### EXCLUSION CRITERIA – CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Applicants shall be excluded from participation if they:

- are subject to personal bankruptcy;
- have been banned from taking part in public procurement processes, performing executive duties or shareholder status, completing professional work;
- are guilty of grave professional misconduct (professional misconduct includes: violation of ethical standards of the profession, wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility, false declarations/misrepresentation of information, participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition, violation of IPR, attempting to influence decision-making processes or obtain confidential information to gain advantage);
- have committed fraud, corruption, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labor or human trafficking;
- have shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under an EU procurement contract, grant agreement, prize, expert contract, or similar;
- are guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95 on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests;
- have created an entity under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social, or other legal obligations in the country of origin;
- have a conflict of interest at the commencement or at any time during the entire duration of the application or the completion process; a conflict of interest could arise in particular as a result of economic interests, political or national affinities, family or emotional ties, or any other relevant connection or shared interest related to the call.

I \_\_\_\_\_, hereby provide my declaration, stating that I am not in one of the situations of exclusion listed above. In case of doubt, I hereby approve that I may be requested to provide supporting evidence of non-exclusion.

Date and place:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature