



European
Commission

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Training tomorrow's
entrepreneurs to make
innovation happen



"The European Institute of Innovation and Technology spans the entire EU, connecting the best talents and innovators, bridging gaps in innovation performance across countries and regions. Our ambition is to use it more widely in the future."

Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Brussels, 5 June 2018

What is the EIT and how does it work?

The EIT is an independent Budapest-based EU body created in 2008 which strengthens Europe's ability to innovate. It is key in supporting the EU's objectives of creating sustainable economic growth and jobs by enabling entrepreneurs and innovators to turn their best ideas into products and services that help to tackle the big societal challenges facing Europe. It brings companies, universities and research centres together to form dynamic, cross-border partnerships called Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs). Funded with more than €2.4 billion, the EIT is currently part of Horizon 2020, the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014 - 2020). For Horizon Europe (2021-2027), the Commission has proposed a budget of €3 billion for the EIT.

How does the EIT promote entrepreneurial education?

The EIT Community offers a wide range of innovation and entrepreneurship activities tailored to the needs of the European economy and society: education courses that combine technical and entrepreneurial skills, tailored business creation and acceleration services and innovation driven research projects.

The KICs offer a range of education opportunities, such as EIT Label Master and Doctoral programmes, summer schools, professional training, on-line courses and pre-incubation services. These activities help young students, advanced professionals or experienced researchers to nurture and transform their innovative ideas into sustainable business models and marketable products or services.

The EIT has eight Knowledge and Innovation Communities:



EIT Climate-KIC (2009): tackling climate change by working on adaptation and mitigation; when each KIC was launched, like a year to show the steady progress, unless it was all at the same time.



EIT Digital (2009): driving Europe's digital transformation;



EIT InnoEnergy (2009): promoting sustainable energy;



EIT Health (2014): improving quality of life for European citizens and sustainability of health and social care systems;



EIT Raw Materials (2014): ensuring the accessibility, availability and sustainable use of raw materials for the economy and citizens;



EIT Food (2016): promoting safe, sustainably produced food and consumer confidence;



EIT Manufacturing (2018): making Europe's manufacturing industry more competitive;



EIT Urban Mobility (2018): providing sustainable solutions for urban mobility.

Each of the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities operates in innovation hubs.

The innovation hubs are spread across Member States and regions to increase the impact of the EIT's activities.

The EIT: working across Europe

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme is an outreach programme to help more organisations across Europe benefit from the EIT Community's work and participate in its activities. It brings companies, universities, research labs and stakeholder organisations into Europe's largest innovation community.

By July 2019, the EIT Community had brought together more than a thousand partners, including:



The EIT's expected results by the end of 2020:

- 4300 graduates completing EIT degree programmes
- 4700 start-ups supported by KICs
- 540 innovative start-ups
- EUR 1.2 billion of investment attracted by EIT-supported start-ups
- 1800 new products and services

What does the Commission propose for the EIT in 2021-2027?

- increased regional impact and better links to Smart Specialisation Strategies;
- greater innovation capacity in the higher education sector;
- a new KIC in the field of Cultural and Creative Industries to be launched in 2022;
- a new, simplified funding model to encourage private and public investments and facilitate the KICs financial sustainability.

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology in the future

With its proposed budget of 3 billion EUR for 2021 to 2027 the Institute will boost innovation by supporting:

- more than **10000 graduates** from KICs' Master and PhDs
- more than **600 new start-ups** and more than 7000 existing ones
- more than **4000 new products and services** introduced to the market
- more than **750 higher education institutions** participating in EIT activities