

DECISION 35/2022
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE INITIAL ALLOCATION OF THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION
TO THE KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION COMMUNITIES' (KICS') BUSINESS PLANS
FOR 2023-2025 (BUSINESS PLANS 2023-2024 FOR THE FIRST WAVE KICS),
TO CROSS-KIC ACTIVITIES AND SHARED SERVICES
(INCLUDING THE THEMATIC INNOVATIONS) FOR 2023-2025, AND
TO THE PILOT HIGHER EDUCATION INITIATIVE (HEI) FOR 2023

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (recast)¹ (hereafter referred to as the 'EIT Regulation (recast)'), and in particular Article 18(7), and Section 2(1)(c) of the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation;

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013²;

Having regard to the Decision (EU) 2021/820 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe and repealing decision No 1312/2013/EU (hereafter referred to as the "EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027")³, in particular Chapter 3.6 thereof;

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (hereinafter referred to as the "EU Financial Regulation")⁴;

Having regard to Decision 21/2019 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 25 September 2019 on the Financial Regulation of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (hereinafter referred to as the "EIT Financial Regulation")⁵, in particular Article 1 thereof;

¹ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61.

² OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1.

³ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 91.

⁴ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1–222

⁵ Ares(2019)6810859

Having regard to Decision 14/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the principles for financing, monitoring and evaluating Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) activities⁶;

Having regard to Decision 21/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the authorisation of the EIT Director to prepare, negotiate and conclude partnership agreements and grant agreements⁷;

Having regard to Decision 06/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 16 March 2022 on the amendment of the principles on the financial sustainability on the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) and repealing Decision 13/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT⁸;

Having regard to Decision 11/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the principles for the determination of the EIT financial allocation to the Knowledge and Innovation Communities' (KICs') Business Plans for 2023-2025 (Business Plans 2023-2024) for the first wave KICs), to Cross-KIC activities and shared services for 2023-2025, and to the Higher Education Initiative (HEI) 2023⁹;

Having regard to Decision 22/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 24 June 2022 on the adoption of the revised final Single Programming Document (2022-2024) of the EIT¹⁰;

Having regard to the Invitation to submit proposals for KIC Business Plans 2023-2025 (2023-2024 in case of first wave KICs), for the Cross-KIC activities 2023-2025 (2023-2024 in case of first wave KICs), and for the Higher Education Institutions (HEI) Initiative 2023 (hereafter referred to as the 'Invitation')¹¹;

WHEREAS

- (1) The Governing Board of the EIT has designated three Knowledge and Innovation Communities in 2009 ("first wave of KICs": EIT Digital, EIT Climate-KIC, EIT InnoEnergy), two KICs in 2014 ("second wave of KICs": EIT Health, EIT RawMaterials), one KIC in 2016 ("third wave of KIC": EIT Food), and two KICs in 2018 ("fourth wave of KICs": EIT Manufacturing, EIT Urban Mobility)¹². The EIT has concluded the Framework Partnership Agreements with the first and second wave of KICs in 2016, with the third wave of KIC in 2018 and with the fourth wave of KICs in 2020. The new Partnership Agreement, aligned with the Horizon Europe and EIT legal framework was signed with the eight KICs in 2021, with a retroactive entry into force on 1 January 2021.
- (2) In line with Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board on the principles for the determination of the EIT financial allocation to the KIC Business Plans for 2023-2025 (2023-2024 for the first wave KICs), to Cross-KIC activities and shared services for 2023-2025 (2023-2024 in case of first wave KICs), and to the Higher Education Initiative (HEI) 2023, the maximum EIT financial contribution for 2023-2025 / 2023-2024 need to be determined.
- (3) By Article 1(2) of its Decision 11/2022, the EIT Governing Board has already decided to apply more favourable funding conditions (i.e. funding rate up to 100%) for RIS activities in 2023-2025, for Cross-KIC activities and shared services, and for the action supporting the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of the higher education sector (HEI action) in 2023. In accordance with the exception laid down in Chapter 16.3 of the Invitation, the Cross-KIC Thematic Innovation projects for 2023-2025 will have a funding rate up to 70%.

⁶ Ref. Ares(2021)3111256

⁷ Ref. Ares(2021)3798804

⁸ Ref. Ares(2022)2098580

⁹ Ref. Ares(2022)2218730

¹⁰ Ref. Ares(2022)4786916

¹¹ Ref. Ares(2022)6548792

¹² EIT Culture & Creativity was designated in June 2022, therefore it is not covered by this funding allocation decision.

- (4) In accordance with Article 3 of Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board, the Governing Board is hereby deciding on the initial multiannual funding allocation for the 2023-2024 (first wave KICs) / 2023-2025 (second, third and fourth wave KICs) period for the KIC Fund, and for the 2023-2025 period for the Cross-KIC Fund. When the final EIT budget is known for 2024 and 2025, the EIT Governing Board may take additional funding allocation decisions for 2024 and 2025, taking into account the available EIT budget, the ongoing multiannual legal commitments between the EIT and the KICs, the performance of the KICs and the estimated financial needs.
- (5) Additionally, the EIT Governing Board hereby takes a decision for the initial funding allocation for the HEI Fund for 2023. Any funding allocation decision for the HEI Fund beyond the three-year pilot is conditional upon decision of the EIT Governing Board, depending on the outcome of the assessment of the pilot phase.
- (6) The KIC Fund shall be distributed between the four waves of KICs in accordance with the split indicated in Article 5 of Decision 11/2022 and further performance-based funding criteria apply. To this end, the independent external experts and the Governing Board have made a detailed assessment of each KICs' performance and their proposals on the basis of criteria encompassing excellence, impact, and implementation in line with Article 6 of Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board and the Invitation. The outcome of this assessment serves as a basis for this funding allocation decision.
- (7) As laid down in the Invitation, separate grant agreements will be signed for each action under the different funds and they shall comply with the funding allocation principles laid down in Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board.
- (8) In line with point 5 of Section 3 of the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation (recast), the agreement of the European Commission, expressed by its Representative in the Governing Board, is necessary for the adoption by the EIT Governing Board of Article 1, Article 2(1) and Article 3 of the present decision. The Commission Representative's observations and opinion were shared before the voting by the EIT Governing Board at its meeting. Following the voting, the Commission, by way of its Representative, gave its agreement with the adoption of the aforementioned provisions of the present decision.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Initial financial allocation for the EIT KIC Fund in 2023-2025
(2023-2024 for the first wave KICs)

The maximum EIT financial contribution for the KIC Business Plans covering the period of 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 (1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024 for the first wave KICs) shall be allocated as follows:

EIT Climate-KIC:	EUR 20,194,083 (including the RIS activities)
EIT Digital:	EUR 30,571,598 (including the RIS activities)
EIT InnoEnergy:	EUR 44,034,320 (including the RIS activities)
EIT Health:	EUR 142,850,588 (including the RIS activities)
EIT RawMaterials:	EUR 136,112,353 (including the RIS activities)
EIT Food:	EUR 179,237,059 (including the RIS activities)



EIT Manufacturing: EUR 107,320,755 (including the RIS activities)

EIT Urban Mobility: EUR 129,679,245 (including the RIS activities)

Article 2

Initial financial allocation for the Cross-KIC Fund in 2023-2025, including the Thematic Innovations 2023-2025 (2023-2024 for the first wave KICs)

- (1) Further to Article 2 of Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board and based on the proposals submitted by the KICs, maximum **EUR 67,378,245** shall be available for the Cross-KIC Fund (i.e. Cross-KIC strategic activities, shared services and thematic innovations) in 2023-2025 (1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024 for the first wave KICs).
- (2) Further to Article 2 of Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board and based on the proposals submitted by the KICs, maximum **EUR 62,300,000** shall be available to KICs for Cross-KIC activities (without the Thematic Innovations) for the period of 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 (1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024 for the first wave KICs).
- (3) Further to Article 2 of Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board and based on the proposals submitted by the KICs and other partners for the Thematic Innovation topic, maximum **EUR 5,078,245** shall be available for the period of 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 (1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024 for the first wave KICs).

The following project proposal, assessed as part of the Thematic Innovation topic, should be retained for funding with the following maximum EIT financial contribution: **EIT Hydrogen Cities: EUR 5,078,245**.

- (4) Funding for Cross-KIC activities under any Memorandum of Cooperation with the first-wave KICs that might be concluded and enter into force as from 2025, shall be decided upon by the Governing Board in the context of the additional financial allocation decision in 2024.

Article 3

Initial financial allocation for the HEI Fund in 2023

Further to Article 2 of Decision 11/2022 of the EIT Governing Board and based on the proposal submitted by KICs, **EUR 32,854,000** shall be available to KICs for the pilot initiative from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 to support the development of the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions.

Article 4

Award and implementation

- (1) Based on the submitted proposals for the different topics indicated in the Invitation, the EIT Director shall award the 2023-2025 / 2023-2024 / 2023 grants, subject to fulfilment of specific conditions stipulated by the Governing Board.
- (2) The EIT Director shall be responsible for the implementation of this decision, including the communication of the strategic recommendations or any other specific conditions agreed by the Governing Board for each proposal to be addressed, and including the signature of the grant agreements.

Article 5

Conditionality upon the final adoption of the EIT budget

The financial allocation provided for in the present decision is subject to the adoption of the Budget and Establishment Plan 2023 of the EIT, the Annual Work Programme 2023 which is part of the EIT Single Programming Document 2023-2025, as Financing Decision, and the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2023, which will determine the amount of EU contribution to the EIT in 2023. In case of a reduction in the financial contribution available for grants in the final EIT Budget, the maximum EIT financial contribution to the proposals shall be amended proportionally.

Article 6

Entry into force and final provisions

This decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done in Budapest on 24 November 2022

(e-signed)

Nektarios Tavernarakis

Chairperson of the EIT Governing Board