European Institute of Innovation & Technology

A body of the European Union

EIT COMMUNITY IN TÜRKİYE

Country Factsheet 2024

INTRODUCTION

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is an EU body created to strengthen Europe's ability to innovate. Today, it is Europe's largest innovation ecosystem.

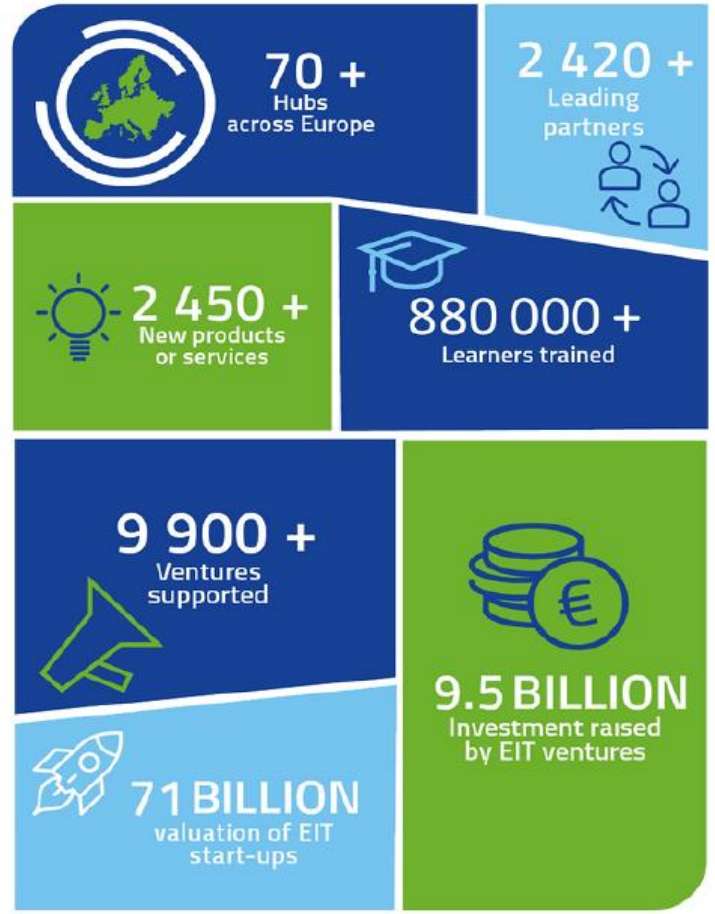
Together with leading partners across Europe, the EIT Community offers a wide range of innovation and entrepreneurship activities from entrepreneurial education courses, to business creation and acceleration services, to innovation-driven research projects.

The EIT

- provides access to a community that powers innovators throughout **the entire innovation journey**, from education to lab to market
- embraces **disruptive innovation** and embeds **entrepreneurial education** in its innovation activities
- is **business-oriented** with a strong focus on **financial sustainability**
- delivers **a pan-European network** strongly anchored in local innovation ecosystems

The EIT Country Factsheets provide a closer look at the EIT's presence, investment, activities and tangible results across EU Member States and beyond.

EIT IMPACT OVER 15 YEARS



EIT KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION COMMUNITIES

THE EIT KICS AND THEIR PARTNERS MAKE UP

THE EIT COMMUNITY

The **EIT** supports the development of dynamic, long-term thematic partnerships, so-called **Knowledge and Innovation Communities** (EIT KICs).

These unique partnerships are formed among companies, research organisations, higher education institutions as well as other key innovation players. They each tackle a specific global challenge.

GLOBAL PICTURE 2023-25

EU Countries (2023-2025)

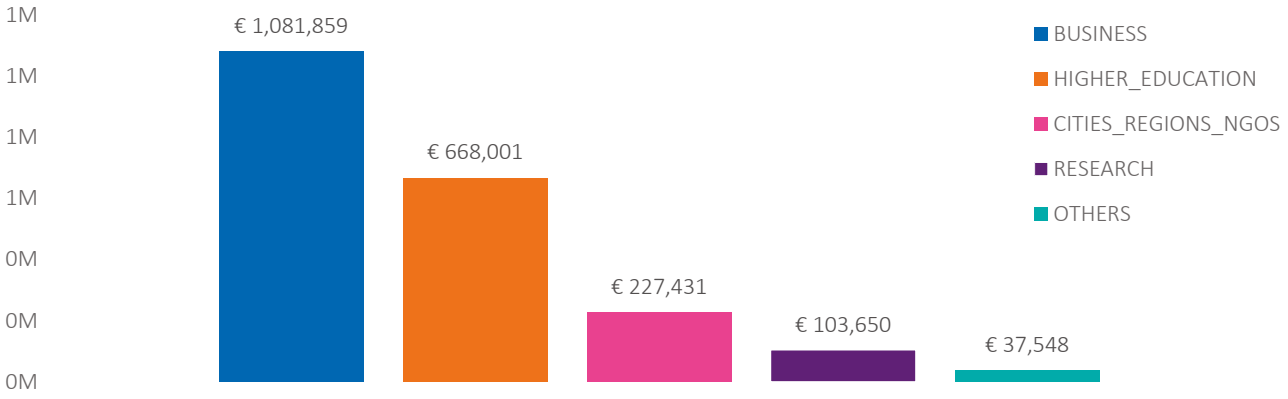
Non-EU Countries (2023-2025)

For the period 2023-2025*, a total EIT funding of **EUR 826.72 million** has been committed towards entities incorporated in EU Member States. Furthermore, the EIT Community has also allocated **EUR 31.54 million** in funding towards entities registered in non-EU countries, both in Europe and beyond.

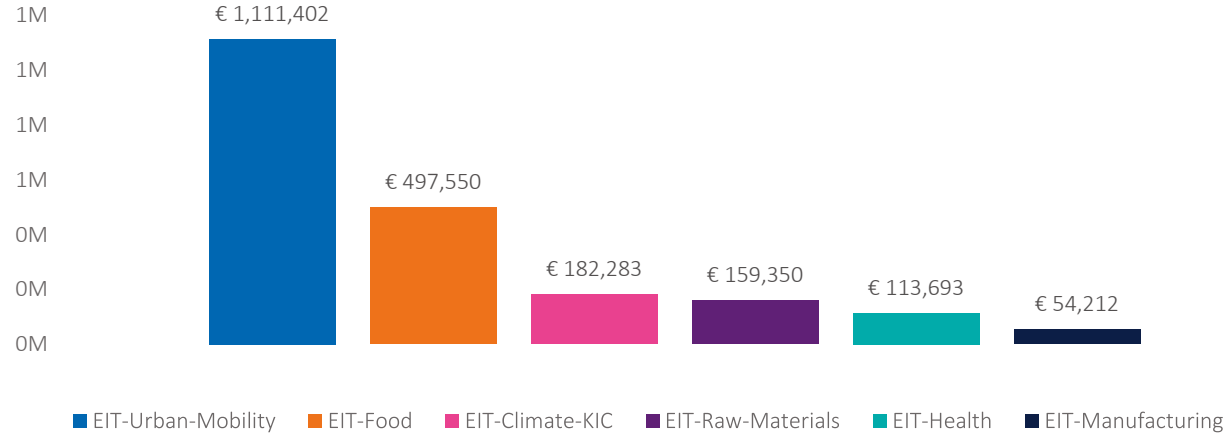
* Figures show the overall EIT Funding per country including all the EIT KICs and all the participating organisations.

EIT GRANTS 2023-2025 OVERVIEW

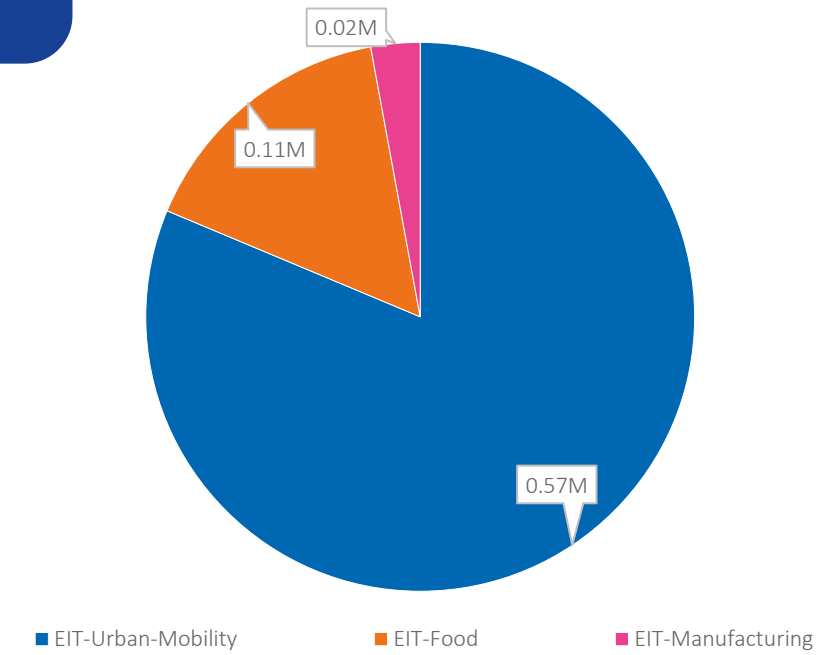
EIT Funding per Participant Area (EUR, 2023-2025)



EIT Funding per KIC (EUR, 2023-2025)



EIT Grants to Business SMEs (EUR, 2023-2025)



A total of **EUR 2.12 million** has been committed in EIT grants towards Turkish entities for the period 2023-2025.* This amount has been committed via six EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities, with EIT Urban Mobility being the largest contributor. This funding includes **EUR 0.7 million** to support Turkish SMEs.

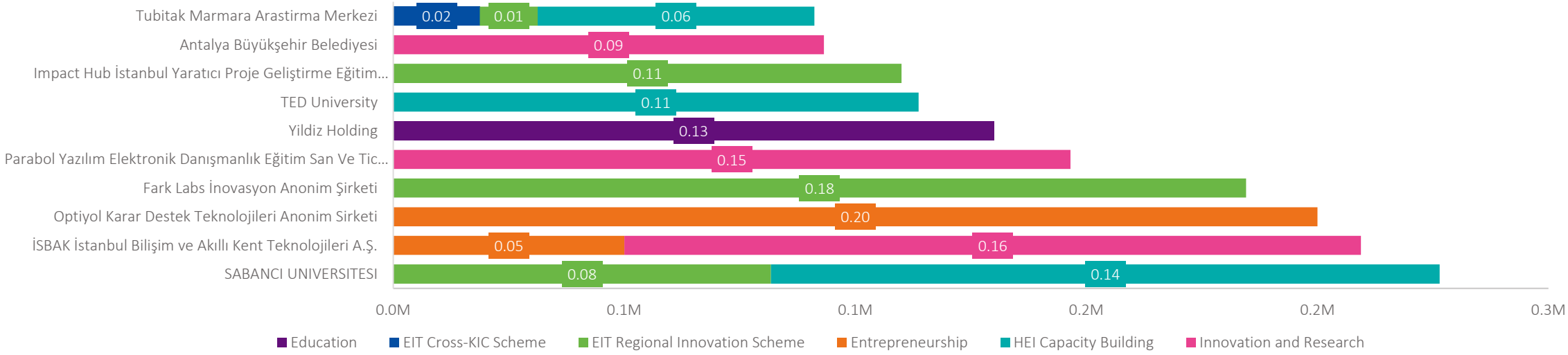
*Grants awarded to EIT KIC Legal Entities and Co-Location Centers include funding towards activities which are implemented centrally but benefit the whole partnership (multiple countries). Furthermore, they may include funding which is further sub-granted to third party beneficiaries.

EIT COMMUNITY IN TÜRKIYE

Key results under Horizon Europe (2021-2024)

- 239 **start-ups** supported or created by the EIT Community.[1]
- EUR 8.42 million **investment** attracted by EIT-supported ventures.
- 17 EIT-supported **innovations** were launched on the market.
- 4,311 **participants** in EIT education programmes.[2]

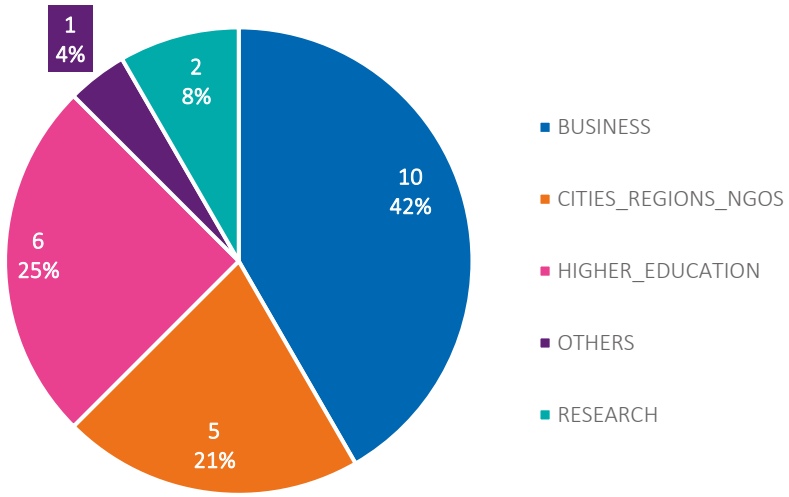
Top National Organisations per EIT Funding (EUR million, 2023-2025)



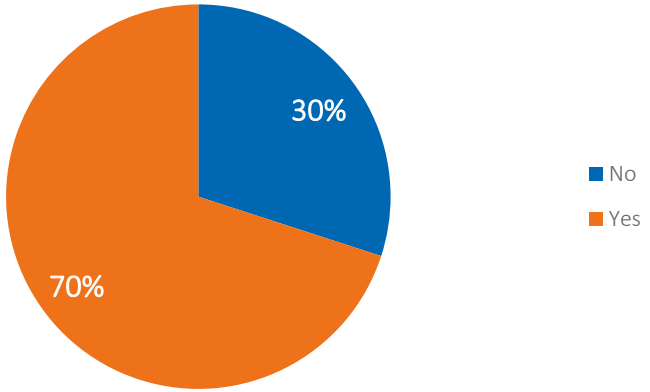
[1] See the *Data Principles* section. [2] Figure includes graduates of EIT Labelled programmes as well as participants in non-EIT Labelled programmes.

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

Participating organisations per Area (2023-2025)

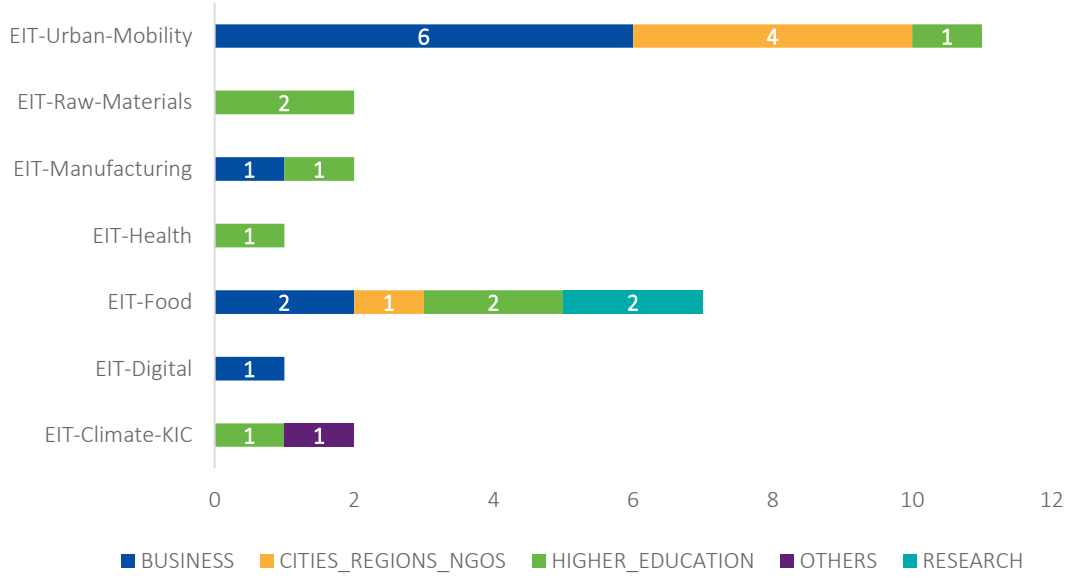


Share of SMEs (2023-2025)



Overall, **24 organisations** from Türkiye are participating in the activities of the 2023-2025 EIT KIC Business Plans.* The largest number of participating entities is business organisations, out of which, 70% are SMEs. Some organisations take part in more than one EIT KIC.

Participating organisations per KIC (2023-2025)

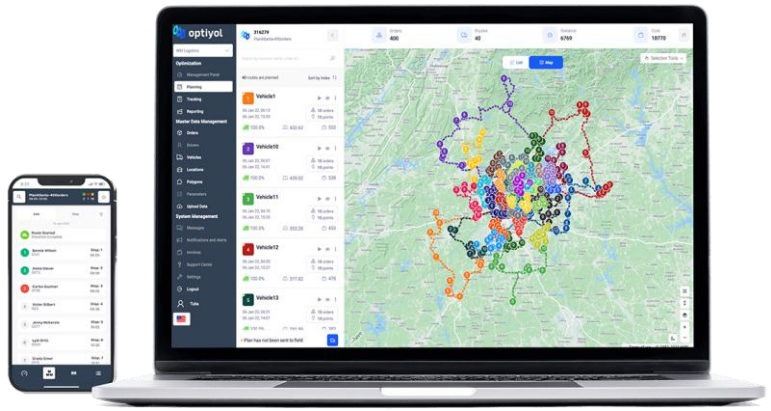


*Some organisations may fall under different areas and participate in multiple Knowledge and Innovation Communities, therefore, the charts "Participating organisations per KIC" and "Participating organisations per Area" may include duplications.

INNOVATION JOURNEY

optiyol

Supported by EIT Urban Mobility



Optiyol
Optimising transportation planning

Optiyol is a cloud-based delivery management solution that helps retailers and carriers optimise logistics with a route optimisation engine and a driver app. Compared to traditional methods, Optiyol reduces last-mile transportation costs by 20% and improves on-time delivery rates by 30%.

In 2022, EIT Urban Mobility selected the start-up for the Sustainable City Logistics Accelerator, which provided Optiyol with one-on-one business coaching and mentoring. By participating in the programme, the company attended vital industry events. The start-up could thus gain visibility in different European countries, expanding its network with key partners, including industry experts, research institutes and potential customers.

EIT Urban Mobility's strategic follow-on investment further supported Optiyol's growth and expansion, empowering the start-up to partner with numerous influential clients. Overall funding provided by the EIT amounted to €102 500. By 2023, the team has raised €1 106 000 from VCs. With eyes set on new international markets, Optiyol is becoming a truly global player in logistics.

In December 2024, Optiyol secured €1.5 million in funding to expand its services, bringing its total funding to approximately €2.6 million. The company has grown to a team of 15 employees and established offices in Ankara, Istanbul, and San Francisco. Optiyol's technology now optimises over 200 million deliveries annually, achieving a 15% reduction in transportation costs for businesses and saving mid-sized companies over $1 million per year.

Learn More

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In the absence of an EIT Community location in the country, the location responsible for the country is presented.

DATA PRINCIPLES

DATA PROVIDED IN THE 2024 FACTSHEETS

- The funding and participation data were retrieved from the European Commission tool **'eGrants Data Warehouse' as of 05/12/2024**. The factsheets provide a snapshot of data available at the date of retrieval.
- The funding figures show EIT grants committed to organisations participating in the activities of the **EIT KIC Business Plans 2023-2025**.
- The funding and participation data is subject to change until the end of the funding cycle 2023-2025. The final figures will be available in 2026.
- Data on **key results under Horizon Europe** is derived from the **2021-2024 EIT KIC reporting cycles**.
- **Start-ups supported or created by the EIT Community** include those supported by EIT KICs, founded by EIT Alumni, or resulting from EIT innovation projects.
- The 2024 factsheets cover activities of all the EIT KICs except for EIT Culture & Creativity.

DATA ON PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

- The funding and participation figures do not include organisations that participated in specific sub-calls launched by EIT KICs, such as acceleration programs managed by EIT KIC Co-location Centers.
- Participating in an EIT KIC does not automatically lead to receiving EIT funding.

GLOSSARY

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATION

An entity participating in the implementation of one or multiple actions, projects or activities under an EIT KIC Business Plan. Participating organisations are not necessarily EIT KIC partner organisations. Not all the participating organisations receive EIT Funding. They can also benefit from other, non-financial support.

CO-LOCATION CENTRE

Also known as CLC, is a location where one or more EIT KICs share resources to create a physical presence together in a country. CLCs act as focal points for knowledge exchange, through which partners access the facilities, and the expertise needed. This leads to efficiency through shared costs and allows EIT KICs to work together more easily to provide joint opportunities in the country and the region that the CLC covers.

EIT REGIONAL INNOVATION SCHEME

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme helps build up innovation capacity in countries where the innovation ecosystem requires an additional level of support. The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme grants support education programmes, business acceleration services and Knowledge Triangle Integration activities, implemented in the countries that have modest or moderate innovation capacity (according to the European innovation scoreboard).*

EIT RIS HUB

EIT RIS Hubs are local entities in an EIT Regional Innovation Scheme eligible country selected by EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities via an open competitive process. RIS Hubs are key to delivering the place-based activities and services which help boost the local innovation ecosystem, as they create an entry point for local innovators to access the whole EIT community.

*For the list of RIS-eligible countries , please visit the EIT website.

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