



200 000 LEARNERS TO DRIVE EUROPE'S ADVANCED MATERIALS LEADERSHIP

Brussels, 15 October 2025 – Launched today at the EIT Education and Skills Days 2025, the **European Advanced Materials Academy** is a new flagship EU initiative designed to equip people with the skills to drive innovation, sustainability, and competitiveness across Europe's advanced materials sector.

The newly launched Academy will train a future-ready workforce to boost Europe's leadership in advanced materials, innovation and sustainability. The Academy will tackle Europe's urgent need for skilled talent in high-tech sectors such as energy, mobility, electronics, and construction.

As advanced materials form the backbone of sustainable industries and resilient value chains, the initiative will train 200 000 learners by 2029 to foster new talent, support lifelong learning, and close the skills gap in this field. The Academy is led by [EIT RawMaterials](#), Europe's leading innovation community in raw and advanced materials.

Martin Kern, Director of the EIT, said: 'With the launch of the European Advanced Materials Academy, the EIT is once again mobilising its unique ecosystem to meet Europe's skills needs. As the EU's only innovation body with a strong local presence in every Member State, we connect business and education on the ground, ensuring training that matches real industry demand. This Academy will equip learners with advanced materials skills for today's jobs while preparing Europe for global leadership in this strategic field.'

Bernd Schäfer, CEO and Managing Director of EIT RawMaterials, said: 'The race for Europe's industrial leadership will be won by those who innovate faster, design sustainably, and scale talent. With the launch of the European Advanced Materials Academy, we are not only preparing for the future, we are shaping it. From AI-driven design to circular manufacturing, this Academy will equip Europe's workforce to lead the next generation of materials innovation.' He added: 'By engaging 200 000 learners across the EU, we are building the skills and sovereignty Europe needs. EIT RawMaterials is proud to play a pivotal role in connecting the value chain, from raw materials to the most advanced applications, and in developing the critical talent for Europe's green and digital transitions.'

The Academy offers a comprehensive portfolio of multilingual, modular, and accredited learning solutions across the advanced materials value chain. Key features include:

- skills-first learning pathways for students and professionals;
- industry-aligned training in areas such as digital materials modelling, additive manufacturing, AI applications, and sustainable-by-design innovation;
- train-the-trainer programmes and micro-credentials to ensure scale and transferability.



The European Advanced Materials Academy was formally launched during the [EIT Education and Skills Days](#) in Brussels on 15 October 2025 by Maria Cristina Russo, Director of Prosperity, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission, and Bernd Schäfer, CEO, Managing Director, EIT RawMaterials.

The initiative directly supports the EU's [Advanced Materials for Industrial Leadership strategy](#), announced in 2024, and the upcoming Advanced Materials Act, planned for 2026. It also aligns with major policy priorities such as the [Union of Skills](#) – the European Commission's cross-sectoral effort to upskill Europe's workforce for a sustainable and technologically advanced future.

ABOUT EIT RAWMATERIALS

EIT RawMaterials is the world's largest raw materials innovation network, bringing together more than 300 partners across the entire value chain. Established in 2015 and supported by the EIT, EIT RawMaterials drives innovation, skills, and entrepreneurship to secure a sustainable supply of raw materials for Europe. Mandated by the European Commission, EIT RawMaterials leads the European Raw Materials Alliance (ERMA), a network of around 800 members with a project pipeline exceeding €25 billion in investment potential. Since its inception, EIT RawMaterials has deployed over €700 million in direct strategic funding, leveraging approximately €8.3 billion in additional investment for critical raw materials projects and technologies across Europe and beyond. EIT RawMaterials was created to advance Europe's transition to a sustainable economy. Its mission is to secure a sustainable supply of raw materials for Europe, close material loops, and design innovative product solutions, with the goal of positioning raw materials as a strategic strength for Europe through innovation, education, and entrepreneurship. Learn more [here](#).

ABOUT THE EIT

The EIT strengthens Europe's ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe. The EIT is an EU body and an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU framework programme for research and innovation. The Institute supports dynamic pan-European partnerships, EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities, among leading companies, research labs and universities. Currently nine EIT Knowledge & Innovation Communities are supported: [Climate KIC](#) (formerly EIT Climate-KIC), [28DIGITAL](#) (formerly EIT Digital), [InnoEnergy](#) (formerly EIT InnoEnergy), [EIT Health](#), [EIT RawMaterials](#), [EIT Food](#), [EIT Manufacturing](#), [EIT Urban Mobility](#) and [EIT Culture & Creativity](#). Together with its leading partners, the EIT Community offers a wide range of innovation and entrepreneurship activities across Europe: entrepreneurial education courses, business creation and acceleration services and innovation driven research projects.

