



HUNGARY JOINS THE EIT REGIONAL INNOVATION BOOSTER TO HELP ITS BEST VENTURES GROW

Budapest, 2 December 2025 – The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and the Hungarian Ministry of Culture and Innovation today renewed their cooperation by signing an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and announcing that Hungary will join the EIT's Regional Innovation Booster pilot from 2026.

The EIT Regional Innovation Booster is a new initiative that provides targeted support to startups and scaleups in modest and moderate innovator countries, helping them grow, reach new markets, and attract investment. The model was first [piloted in Poland](#), [followed by Malta](#) and most recently Hungary. These new cooperations mark an important step in strengthening innovation capacity across the EU, helping reduce regional disparities and support high-potential startups in emerging ecosystems.

Balázs Hankó, Minister of Culture and Innovation, said *"Science and innovation play a major role in supporting competitive growth. It is important for us to renew the cooperation agreement signed in 2019, because this serves both European and Hungarian competitiveness. The government is committed to ensuring that by 2030 Hungary becomes one of Europe's ten most innovative countries."*

Martin Kern, Director of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, said *"With this agreement, we open the opportunity for Hungarian startups to join the EIT Regional Innovation Booster. This initiative will identify startups in Hungary with high innovation potential. These ventures will then be supported jointly by both national programmes and the EIT Community, in order to accelerate their growth and to deliver concrete solutions to citizens. Hungary has many entrepreneurial talents - we will help them to realise their potential."*

A stronger partnership for Hungary's innovation ecosystem

Hungary already hosts the EIT since 2010. Moreover, an EIT Community hub provides access to its Knowledge and Innovation Communities. Between 2021 and 2024, 183 Hungarian startups received support from the EIT, attracting at least €24 million in investment and bringing 23 new innovations to market. The launch of the EIT Regional Innovation Booster will strengthen support for Hungarian start-ups, researchers, and students and will also be the basis for Hungary's increased participation in the activities of Europe's largest innovation ecosystem.



Example of EIT-Backed Success: Turbine AI

[Turbine AI \(Hungary\)](#) uses machine-learning simulations to predict how cancer cells respond to treatments, helping drug developers find better therapies faster and with less risk. Turbine AI was selected for EIT Health's Gold Track programme, where it received tailored coaching on value creation, growth planning and financial strategy. This support helped the company boost its visibility as a high-potential European health-tech player.

EIT- MAKING INNOVATION HAPPEN!

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (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](#), [EIT Culture & Creativity](#) and EIT Water. Together with their 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.

