

European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Invitation to submit a proposal for the European Battery Alliance (EBA) Academy activities

European Social Fund+ (ESF+)
REACT-EU

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Introduction

This is an **invitation to submit a proposal for EU an action grant** under the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and under the REACT-EU Programme under the Next Generation EU support for the recovery after the pandemic.

The regulatory framework for this EU Funding Programme is set out in the:

- Regulation (EU) 2018/1046 (EU Financial Regulation);
- Regulation (EU) 2021/1057[1] (ESF+);
- Regulation (EU) 2020/2221[2] (REACT-EU Regulation);
- Commission Work Programme 2021[3].

The regulatory and contractual framework for the EIT in the 2021-2027 period is set out in the:

- EIT Regulation (recast)[4];
- EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027[5];
- the new EIT Partnership Agreements (PA)[6] which were signed by the EIT and each Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) in 2021.

The Invitation is launched in accordance with the EIT's 2021 Work Programme[7] and will be managed by the EIT.

Please note that **this Invitation is subject to the signature of the Contribution Agreement between the European Commission (DG EMPL) and the EIT.** In case there are substantial changes, we may have to modify the Invitation (or even cancel it).

[1] Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) (OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 21).

[2] Regulation (EU) 2020/2221 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 December 2020 amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards additional resources and implementing arrangements to provide assistance for fostering crisis repair in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its social consequences and for preparing a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy ("REACT-EU Regulation")

[3] Annual work programme for the operational technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission in the framework for the European Social Fund, supported from the REACT-EU resources, for 2021, Commission Decision C(2021)6593 of 13 September 2021.

[4] 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) (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61)

[5] 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 (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 91)

[6] https://eit.europa.eu/sites/default/files/eit_kic_partnership_agreement_v1.0_final_14-03-2021.pdf

[7] Decision 40/2021 of the EIT Governing Board on the amendment of the Final Single Programming Document (2021-2023) of the EIT (ref. Ares(2021)7374356)

This Invitation concerns the **direct award** to the **EIT InnoEnergy KIC Legal Entity** for the **European Battery Alliance Academy** (the topic of the 'action').

We invite you to read the **Invitation documentation** carefully, and in particular this Invitation, the Model Grant Agreement and the EU Grants AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement.

These documents provide clarifications and answers to questions you may have when preparing your application:

- the Invitation outlines the:
  - background, objectives, scope, activities that can be funded and the expected results;
  - timetable and available budget;
  - admissibility and eligibility conditions (including mandatory documents);
  - criteria for financial and operational capacity and exclusion;
  - evaluation and award procedure;
  - award criteria;
  - legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreement;
  - how to submit an application.

- the AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement[8] contains:
  - detailed annotations on all the provisions in the Grant Agreement you will have to sign in order to obtain the grant *(including cost eligibility, payment schedule, accessory obligations, etc)*.

1 Background

In 2017, the Commission launched the European Battery Alliance (EBA) to establish an innovative, sustainable and globally competitive European battery value chain. The industrial part of the EBA, with over 500 industrial members, is managed by EIT InnoEnergy, one of the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)[9]. This cooperation has started to bear fruit; there are now over 70 major battery-related projects, including more than 20 giga factories being built or planned, in the EU. However, the sector reports key skills shortages: an estimated 800,000 workers need to be reskilled by 2025. The need to address this challenge was acknowledged at the 5th high-level ministerial meeting on 12 March 2021[10]. EIT InnoEnergy, as coordinator of the EBA, was entrusted by VP Šefčovič "*to team up with interested Member States to prepare their country-specific project proposals [and to] launch a so-called EBA250 Academy, developing curricula and training content based on the industry's skills needs and in partnership with local training professionals*."

[8] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/aga_en.pdf
[9] EIT InnoEnergy https://www.innoenergy.com/
[10] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_21_1142

Batteries are a strategic sector for Europe. The Green Deal[11], the European Climate Law[12] and the new "Fit for 55" package commit us to ambitious targets on greenhouse gas emissions, as part of our pledge to reach climate neutrality by 2050. To make this a reality, the European Union needs to invest in green mobility and energy storage solutions. According to the industry, new battery-related projects are expected to create 3-4 million jobs (direct and indirect) by 2025 and there will be a need to re- and up-skill around 800.000 workers by 2025.

The continuation of the strong growth of the European battery sector will depend on the EU's ability to address the skills challenge that is already hampering the current development, and is emerging as one of the bottlenecks for the EBA success. The European labour market is not yet sufficiently aligned to meet the future battery market demand for skilled, qualified and experienced workforce. Specific skills and competences are not readily available in Europe mainly due to the ecosystem still ramping up, and the lack of a directly compatible sector from which to draw on. Additionally, the sheer volume of needs in such a short time is a first for Europe's educational and training ecosystem.

There are skill shortages all along the battery value chain: mining, processing of raw materials, advanced materials, cell manufacturing, packaging, manufacturing of modules, electric vehicle (EV) platforms, EV vehicles, home storage, electricity grid balancing and recycling. And, in addition, there is a strong demand for skilled workers in the areas of: battery design, battery development, battery testing, certification and for various aspects of mass production, logistics and production within a highly sterile environment.

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) has created Europe's largest innovation ecosystem focussed on societal challenges. Its unique model based on Knowledge Triangle Integration between Education, Research and Business allows to deliver innovation and entrepreneurship through sustainable innovation ecosystems. Its unique model focussed on societal challenges ensures fast and efficient delivery of skills and innovations. Therefore, via a Contribution Agreement the European Commission under its REACT-EU programme has entrusted the EIT to mobilise the relevant Knowledge and Innovation Community to deliver the necessary skill set to enhanced Europe's innovation capacity as described above.

With the combined efforts of the European Union and Member States via a concerted effort of the EIT through its Knowledge and Innovation Community EIT InnoEnergy, up to 800,000 people across the EU could be reskilled via a learning platform system. As a result of the project, EIT InnoEnergy would create and maintain the learning modules required for the training/upskilling/reskilling of professionals and workers in the battery industry, train local training providers in Member States, ensure access to the necessary (shared) education technology and infrastructure, as well as provide certification, business intelligence and marketing/communication services.

[11] A European Green Deal | European Commission (europa.eu)
[12] European Climate Law | Climate Action (europa.eu)

2 Objectives — Themes and priorities — Activities that can be funded — Expected impact

2.1 Objectives

The objective of the action is to assist Member States in using REACT EU (and ESF+) to train both employed and unemployed people in the field of batteries to help bridge the gap of 800,000 workers that has been described above. The EIT as Europe' largest innovation ecosystem and its model based on Knowledge Triangle Integration provides for a unique framework and platform to deliver on this objective through the Knowledge and Innovation Community EIT InnoEnergy focussed on the relevant societal challenge.

For this purpose, the action aims at establishing a training service platform that shall develop and provide training content as well as the pedagogical methodologies "fit for purpose". For this, and to ensure consistency with related EU-funded projects, it must demonstrate that, through its governance, it will work closely with the Blueprint Alliances ALBATTS[13] (training development for battery production) and DRIVES[14] (training development for car production). It should also co-operate, where relevant, with the Automotive Skills Alliance established as a Partnership under the Pact for Skills[15].

The training service platform shall set up a network of at least 150 local education & training providers in 15 Member States, and provide training and methodologies to support these providers (training in the 6 fields of the battery value chain as appropriate for provider). This network must be sufficient to provide the training that could be needed in relevant Member States taking account of the size of the local battery sector.

In addition, the training platform will build the capacities of ESF+ Managing Authorities to assist them make best use of the initiatives' outputs and to notably ensure coherence and quality for the content of the trainings related to batteries financed under REACT-EU (see (k) General overview on visibility and communication, further below).

2.2 Activities that can be funded (scope)

The training service platform shall operate the following services directly linked to the training of people at working age:

1. Training content repository services
2. Continuous update and improvement of learning content and pedagogical methodologies
3. Train-the- trainers

[13] https://www.project-albatts.eu/
[14] https://www.project-drives.eu/en/home
[15] https://www.automotive-skills-alliance.eu

4. Providing access to shared common education technology and infrastructure
5. Certification of learning and training programmes
6. Enlarging the network for further roll-out of the training programmes
7. Skills intelligence services
8. Promotion of project results among ESF+ Managing Authorities
9. Promotion & communication support

All these services are intended to secure a comprehensive service package for local education & training multipliers, across Member States, until end-2024.

#1 Training content repository services:

The training service platform shall maintain a learning repository in which it can store all learning resources that are fit for distribution or reuse by the network of education & training providers. This will allow to offer shared learning resources such as; online courses, case studies, training programmes and other learning formats. These shall be offered in the languages of those Member States that are in the process of building battery production capacities. The training service platform shall also integrate the deliverables and results of the Erasmus+ Blueprint Alliances ALBATTS and DRIVES in the repository. The education & training providers using the content shall not charge learners/trainees and make it available as an open educational resource.

#2 Continuous updates and improvement of learning resources:

The training service platform shall systematically collect feedback from trainers, who in turn shall collect it from learners/trainees in order to adapt the training contents of the repository. The repository shall be further extended with new input.

#3 Train-the- trainer services:

The training service platform shall offer train-the-trainer services. It shall train trainers in education & training organisations that are members of the network in the 6 fields of the battery value chain as these organisations see fit. This will create a critical mass of trainers that will allow the network to scale-up training quickly and to shorten the learning curve to become operational. Furthermore, the training service platform shall promote the train-the-trainer services offered by partners that are already experienced and highly specialized in specific areas.

#4 Access to shared common education technology and infrastructure:

Many training formats require significant investments in education technology - EdTech- such as a learning repository, a digital learning platform, VR/AR solutions, virtual hybrid classrooms, remote labs, serious gaming platforms and digital certificates. It is often not efficient or even possible for small education & training providers to invest in state-of-the-art EdTech solutions. The training service platform shall offer a number of shared EdTech solutions as a service to those in the network that might need these. This should also include access (remote or on site) to lab equipment and pilot lines.

#5 Certification of learning and training programmes:

The training service platform shall provide and manage certification for its learning activities and programmes. This means that any programme should meet a number of quality criteria as well as learning objectives required to achieve a specific level of knowledge and skills in designated areas, which is fundamental for compliance with the industry standards. The certification service shall cover the full life cycle of certification such as application, assignment, evaluations and renewal of certificates. In addition, the training service platform shall offer a secure digital way to store certificates of both programmes and individuals. The Europass certificate supplement and the Europass digital credentials shall be integrated in the process.

#6 Enlarging the network for further roll-out of the training programmes

In the second half of the implementation period the training service platform will roll-out the training programmes by further enlarging the network. The train-the-trainer services will make those programmes accessible to those education & training providers in new EV hotspot areas in other EU member states that are ramping up the transition to EV's. Therefore, these services shall be made available in the languages of these Member States. The training service platform shall support them to make a quick and efficient start by combining the skills intelligence services, learning repository services and the train-the-trainer offering.

#7 Skills intelligence services:

These services shall combine market research, innovation trends and industry insights related to skills, skill gaps, new job profiles and talent needs for the battery value chain. Skills intelligence shall be gathered in permanent contact with the key players and projects in the industry in order to aggregate data and findings from national and European initiatives in this field, such as ALBATTS, LiPlanet, Batteries Europe, DRIVES and Battery2030. The results shall allow to anticipate the needs of the industry and translate roadmaps, business plans and jobs into skills and training needed. The results of the skills intelligence services should be fed into CEDEFOP's Skills Panorama.

#8 Promotion of project results among ESF+ Managing Authorities:

REACT EU supports operations contributing to preparing a **green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy.** The training service platform supports in particular the green transition through skills development in the battery value chain. The project results shall be promoted among ESF+ Managing Authorities in order to enable them to use the outcomes of the initiative in the implementation of REACT EU in the area upskilling and re-skilling of employed and unemployed people in the batteries field.

#9 Promotion & communication support:

The training service platform shall provide promotion and communication support for all education & training organisations in the network, which then will customize and adapt it to local needs. Widely spread information on the new training programmes should help to fill the trainings with learners quickly.

2.3 Expected impact

The expected impact and result shall be in line with the EIT's Impact Framework 2021-2027 and the EIT's Key Performance Indicators:

On the level of the EBA Academy activities, the overall and specific objectives, the expected results and activities are described in Annex I – Logical Framework.

3 Available budget

The available budget for this action is **EUR 10 000 000**.

We reserve the right not to award (all of) the available funds, depending on the proposal received and the results of the evaluation.

The 2022 budget of the EIT has been adopted by the EIT Governing Board on 13 December 2021[16].

4 Timetable and deadlines

The indicative timeline of the submission and evaluation procedure is the following:

Key dates	Date and time or indicative period
Launch of Invitation to submit the proposal	December 2021
Deadline for submission of the proposal	**31 January 2022**
Evaluation period	February 2022
Grant award decision by EIT Director	March 2022
Information on evaluation result to the applicant	March 2022
Grant Agreement signature	**March 2022**

5 Admissibility and documents

The proposal must be submitted by EIT InnoEnergy Legal Entity, invited for this Invitation.

The proposal must be submitted before the Invitation deadline (see Section 5.)

The proposal must be submitted by email to the following email address: EIT-EBA@eit.europa.eu.

[16] Decision 45/2021 of the EIT Governing Board on adopting the EIT Budget and Establishment Plan for the financial year 2022 (ref. Ares(2021)7694323)

The proposal (including the annexes and supporting documents) must be submitted using the forms provided with this Invitation (see the Annexes).

Proposals must be **complete** and contain all the requested information and all required annexes and supporting documents:

Annex 1 of the proposal: Application form[17]

- Administrative Form (Part A) — contains administrative information about the beneficiary
- Technical Description (Part B) — contains the technical description of the project, including a task allocation of the project team

Annex 2 of the proposal: Estimated budget table[18]

Mandatory supporting documents: as described in the Invitation.

By submitting the proposal you confirm that the information in the application is correct and complete and that the participants comply with the conditions for receiving EU funding (especially eligibility, exclusion, etc).

Your application must be **readable**, **accessible and printable**.

Proposal is limited to maximum **50 pages**. Evaluators will not consider any additional pages.

You may be asked at a later stage for further documents.

Language: You can submit your proposal in any official EU language (project abstract/summary should however always be in English). For reasons of efficiency, we strongly advise you to use English for the entire application.

6 Eligibility

6.1 Eligible participants

In accordance with the Work Programme 2021 of the European Commission and the Annual Work Programme 2021 of the EIT, **this Invitation is addressed to EIT InnoEnergy KIC Legal Entity (KIC InnoEnergy SE)**.

[17] The template is provided for in Annex 2 of this Invitation.
[18] The template is provided for in Annex 3 of this Invitation.

Other entities such as co-beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, subcontractors, third parties giving in-kind contributions, etc *(see Model Grant Agreement provisions)* may participate in the action.

6.2 Eligible activities

Eligible activities are the ones set out in Section 2 above.

7 Exclusion criteria

Criteria: Entities shall be excluded from participation in the invitation and from award if they are in one of the situations referred to in Article 136(1) and 141 of the EU Financial Regulation[19].

Evidence:

- Entities acceding to the grant agreement shall provide a **Declaration of Honour** (DoH) at the time of the accession, except when such declarations have already been submitted for the purposes of another award procedure, provided that the situation has not changed and that the time that has elapsed since the issuing date of the declarations does not exceed one year[20].

- Before the time of the signature of the Grant Agreement, the EIT will request **appropriate evidence that the beneficiary is not in one of the exclusion situations referred to in Article 136(1) of the EU Financial Regulation:** e.g. a recent extract from the judicial record for the KIC CEO and recent certificates issued by the competent authority/ies of the country of establishment of the KIC Legal Entity (KIC LE) (e.g. certificate from the registry in which the KIC LE is registered, tax certificate, social security certificate)[21]. (This obligation can be waived only in the cases indicated in Article 137(4) of the EU Financial Regulation).

8 Financial and operational capacity

Article 195(f) of the EU Financial Regulation allows that a grant may be awarded without a call for proposals for activities with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative powers (on condition that the activities concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals).

[19] 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 (1) (OJ-L 193/30.07.2018, p.1)

[20] Article 137(1) of the EU Financial Regulation

[21] Article 137(2) of the EU Financial Regulation

In line with the justification provided for in the EIT's 2021 Work Programme, this invitation is addressed to EIT InnoEnergy KIC Legal Entity, a specific type of body being in the position to implement the action, compliant with the conditions of Article 195(f).

By submitting the application, the applicant confirms that

- it has **stable and sufficient financial resources** to successfully implement the project, and
- it has **experience, know-how, qualifications and operational resources** (human, technical and other) to successfully implement the project.

If the applicant is participating in several projects, it must have sufficient capacity to implement them parallel.

9 Award criteria

The award criteria for this Invitation are as follows:

	Criteria	Maximum score	Minimum pass score
1. Relevance	- Adequacy, clarity and consistency of the proposal; - General objectives and the extent to which they address the objectives of the Invitation and the EIT; - Needs analysis and specific objectives; - Complementarity with other actions and innovation, synergies with other EU and Member States programmes, European added value	40	28
2. Quality	**Project design and implementation:** - technical quality of the proposal; - methodology for implementing the project (concept and methodology; project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation; risk management); - feasibility of the project within the proposed time frame; cost effectiveness and financial management (value for money) - Quality of the work plan, work packages	20	14
	Project teams, staff and experts and cooperation arrangements: - quality of the project team; - quality of the outside resources; - appropriate procedures and problem-solving mechanisms	20	14

3. Impact	- Ambition and expected long-term impact of results; - Impact for EU Member States and non-EU countries; - Appropriate communication and dissemination strategy for ensuring visibility, sustainability and long-term impact after EIT funding ends; - Coherence with the EIT Impact Framework	20	14
Total		100	70

The proposal must reach the minimum pass score per criterion and the total pass score.

10 Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreement

During the evaluation procedure, the EIT may request you to submit an updated proposal. If you pass the evaluation, the EIT Director will take the award decision and the Grant Agreement will be prepared.

The Grant Agreement will set the framework for your grant and its terms and conditions, in particular concerning deliverables, reporting and payments.

The Model Grant Agreement that will be used can be found on the Funding and Tenders Portal: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/agr-contr/general-mga_esf-socpl_en.pdf.

10.1 Starting date, eligibility period and project duration

The project starting date and duration will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (Data Sheet, point 1).

In accordance with Article 193(2) of the EU Financial Regulation, a grant may be awarded for an action which has already begun, provided that the applicant can demonstrate the need for starting the action prior to the signature of the grant agreement. In such cases, costs incurred prior to the date of submission of the grant application shall not be eligible.

Therefore, the **eligibility start date of this action** shall be:
- 1 January 2022, if the proposal is submitted still in 2021, or
- the deadline for submission (see Section 5 above).

Project duration: 36 months

10.2 Form of grant, funding rate and maximum grant amount

The grant parameters (maximum grant amount, funding rate, total eligible costs, etc) will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (Data Sheet, point 3 and Article 5).

Project budget (maximum grant amount): see Section 3 above. The grant awarded may be lower than the amount requested.

The grant will be a budget-based mixed actual cost grant (actual costs, with unit cost and flat-rate elements). This means that it will reimburse ONLY certain types of costs (eligible costs) and costs that were *actually* incurred for your project (NOT the *budgeted* costs). For unit costs and flat-rates, you can charge the amounts calculated as explained in the Grant Agreement *(see Article 6 and Annex 2 and 2a)*.

The costs will be reimbursed at the funding rate fixed in the Grant Agreement (up to 100%).

Grants may NOT produce a profit (i.e. surplus of revenues + EU grant over costs). For-profit organisations must declare their revenues and, if there is a profit, we will deduct it from the final grant amount *(see Article 22.3)*.

Moreover, please be aware that the final grant amount may be reduced in case of non-compliance with the Grant Agreement *(e.g. improper implementation, breach of obligations, etc)*.

The final grant amount will be calculated in line with ESF+ and REACT-EU rules.

10.3 Budget categories and cost eligibility rules

The budget categories and cost eligibility rules are fixed in the Grant Agreement *(Data Sheet, point 3, Article 6 and Annex 2)*.

Budget categories for this Invitation:

- A. Personnel costs
  - A.1 Employees, A.2 Natural persons under direct contract, A.3 Seconded persons
  - A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries
  - A.5 Volunteers
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Purchase costs
  - C.1 Travel and subsistence
  - C.2 Equipment
  - C.3 Other goods, works and services
- D. Other cost categories
  - D.1 Financial support to third parties
- E. Indirect costs

Specific cost eligibility conditions for this Invitation:

- personnel costs:

  - SME owner/natural person unit cost[22]: Yes
  - volunteers unit cost[23]: No
- travel and subsistence unit cost[24]: Yes
- equipment costs: depreciation
- other cost categories:
  - costs for financial support to third parties: allowed for grants and prizes; maximum amount per third party is EUR 60 000, unless a higher amount is required because the objective of the action would otherwise be impossible or overly difficult to achieve and this is duly justified in the Application Form.
- indirect cost flat-rate: **7%** of the eligible direct costs (categories A-D, except volunteers costs and exempted specific cost categories, if any)
- VAT: non-deductible VAT is eligible (but please note that since 2013 VAT paid by beneficiaries that are public bodies acting as public authority is NOT eligible)
- other:
  - in-kind contributions for free are allowed, but cost-neutral, i.e. they cannot be declared as cost
  - kick off meeting: costs for kick-off meeting organised by the granting authority are eligible (travel costs for maximum 2 persons, return ticket and accommodation for one night) only if the meeting takes place after the project starting date set out in the Grant Agreement; the starting date can be changed through an amendment, if needed
  - project websites: communication costs for presenting the project on the participants' websites or social media accounts are eligible; costs for *separate* project websites are not eligible
  - other ineligible costs: No

10.4 No double funding

There is a strict prohibition of double funding from the EU budget. In accordance with Article 191 of the EU Financial Regulation concerning the principle of non-cumulative award and prohibition of double funding, **each action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the EU budget to any one beneficiary. In no circumstances shall the same costs be financed twice by the EU budget.**

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22 Commission Decision of 20 October 2020 authorising the use of unit costs for the personnel costs of the owners of small and medium-sized enterprises and beneficiaries that are natural persons not receiving a salary for the work carried out by themselves under an action or work programme (C(2020)7715).

23 Commission Decision of 10 April 2019 authorising the use of unit costs for declaring personnel costs for the work carried out by volunteers under an action or a work programme (C(2019)2646).

24 Commission Decision of 12 January 2021 authorising the use of unit costs for travel, accommodation and subsistence costs under an action or work programme under the 2021-2027 multi-annual financial framework (C(2021)35).

10.5 Reporting and payment arrangements

The reporting and payment arrangements will be fixed in the Grant Agreement (Data Sheet, point 4 and Article 21 and 22).

Payment of the grant will be made in **two pre-financing instalments** and a **final payment (the balance)**. The aim of the pre-financing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float. The pre-financing remains the property of the EU until the payment of the balance.

There will be no interim payments.

The following payment and reporting scheme is foreseen under this grant:

	When	Requirements	Reporting period
First pre-financing payment (70%)	Within 30 days from entry into force / financial guarantee (whichever is the latest)	No contribution to the Mutual Insurance Mechanism will be retained from the first prefinancing payment, a pre-financing guarantee is required from the beneficiary.	
First Progress Report	Within 30 days after the end of the reporting period	The **progress report** shall include a technical part only (template will be provided).	1-6 months
Second Progress Report	Within 30 days after the end of the reporting period	The **progress report** shall include a technical part only (template will be provided).	7-12 months
Third Progress Report	Within 30 days after the end of the reporting period	The **progress report** shall include a technical part only.	13-18 months
Additional prefinancing report	Within 60 days following the end of the reporting period.	The **additional pre-financing report** shall include a technical part and a financial part (i.e. statement on the use of the previous pre-financing payment). If the statement on the use of the previous pre-financing payment shows that less than 70% was used, the amount set out in the Data Sheet will be reduced by the difference between the 70% threshold and the amount used.	1-18 months
Second pre-financing payment (20%)	Within 60 days from receiving the additional pre-financing report /	No contribution to the Mutual Insurance Mechanism will be retained from the second prefinancing payment, a pre-financing guarantee is required from the beneficiary.	

	financial guarantee (whichever is the latest).		
Fourth Progress Report	Within 30 days after the end of the reporting period	The **progress report** shall include a technical part only.	19-24 months
Fifth Progress Report	Within 30 days after the end of the reporting period	The **progress report** shall include a technical part only.	25-30 months
Sixth Progress Report	Within 30 days after the end of the reporting period	The **progress report** shall include a technical part only.	31-36 months
Final report	Within 60 days following the end of the reporting period.	**Final report** shall include a technical part and a financial part (i.e. individual and consolidated financial statements, explanation on the use of resources, certificates on the financial statements (CFS) if required, etc). The final report shall be submitted 60 days after the end of the reporting period.	1-36 months
Final payment (10%)	Within 90 days from receiving the final report.	The EIT will calculate the final EIT grant amount. If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, EIT will ask the beneficiary/ies to pay back the difference (recovery).	

All payments will be made to the beneficiary.

The pre-fnancing guarantee is required for 5 % of the pre-financing amount.

Please be aware that payments will be automatically lowered if the beneficiary/ies has/have outstanding debts towards the EU (granting authority or other EU bodies). Such debts will be offset — in line with the conditions set out in the Grant Agreement (see Article 22).

Please also note that you are responsible for keeping records on all the work done and the costs declared.

10.6 Certificates

The types, schedules and thresholds for each certificate will be fixed in the Grant Agreement *(Data Sheet, point 4 and Article 24)*.

10.7 Liability regime for recoveries

The liability regime for recoveries will be fixed in the Grant Agreement *(Data Sheet point 4.4 and Article 22)*.

For **beneficiaries**, it is limited joint and several liability with individual ceilings — *each beneficiary (if any) up* to their maximum grant amount.

The action may include **affiliated entities**. In that case, as a rule, declarations on joint and several liability will be requested by the EIT, if the budget of the affiliated entity is higher than the budget of the beneficiary concerned, with the following exceptions:
a. If the total budget of the affiliated entity is lower than EUR 100,000,
b. If the affiliated entity is a public body.
The beneficiary shall collect the Declaration on joint and several liability from the affiliated entities falling into the above situation and submit these to the EIT for the deadline indicated by the EIT.

10.8 Provisions concerning the project implementation

IPR rules: *see Model Grant Agreement (Article 16 and Annex 5):*

- rights of use on results: Yes

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding: *see Model Grant Agreement (Article 17 and Annex 5):*

- additional communication and dissemination activities: Yes

Specific rules for carrying out the action: *see Model Grant Agreement (Article 18 and Annex 5):*

- Annex 5 specific rules for ESF+ actions: Yes
- Annex 5 specific rules for financial support to third parties: No

10.9 Non-compliance and breach of contract

The Grant Agreement (*Chapter 5*) provides for the measures we may take in case of breach of contract (and other non-compliance issues).

For more information, *see AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement*.

11 Transparency

In accordance with Article 38 of the EU Financial Regulation, information about EU grants awarded is published each year on the EIT website.

This includes:

- beneficiary names

- beneficiary addresses
- the purpose for which the grant was awarded
- the maximum amount awarded.

The publication can exceptionally be waived (on reasoned and duly substantiated request), if there is a risk that the disclosure could jeopardise your rights and freedoms under the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights or harm your commercial interests.

12 Processing of personal data

The reply to the Invitation involves the recording and processing of personal data (such as name, address and CV). Such data will be processed by the EIT pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data[25]. Any personal data requested in accordance with the Invitation will be processed solely for that purpose by the EIT. The EIT privacy statement for the management of grants is available at:

https://eit.europa.eu/data-protection

Personal data may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System by the Commission, should the beneficiary be in one of the situations mentioned in Article 136 and 141 of the Financial Regulation 2018/1046 (for more information see the Privacy Statement on: https://ec.europa.eu/info/data-protection-public-procurement-procedures_en.

Annexes:

Annex 1: Logical Framework
Annex 2: Proposal template

[25] Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC

Annex 1 – Logical Framework

	Intervention Logic	Indicators	Evaluation Source	Assumptions
Overall Objective	Sufficient and Highly qualified workforce for Europe's batteries emerging ecosystem	Upskilling and Reskilling 800.000 workers across EU needed for the uptake of the Battery Value Chain by 2025	DG EMPL and MS reports will be analysed prior and after the action implementation.	
Specific Objectives	A relevant curriculum developed and deployed to a high number of learning training providers in MS that have an industrial footprint or ambition to develop one for the batteries ecosystem and value chain	15 MSs have highly skilled work force relevant for the batteries value chain by 2025 A min 100 LTP fully certified to train workers across the batteries value chain by 2025	DG EMPL and MS reports, as well as EIT InnoEnergy proposal targets will be analysed prior and after the action implementation. Certification database data analysed each six months.	
Expected Results	1. Improved EBA Academy content management 2. Timely and effective rolled out of the EBA Academy content to the LTP in the relevant MS for the batteries value chain 3. Improved access to VRS and remote labs to accelerate the training process for the learners 4. Certification Strategy for Learners set up	* 30 existing courses fully operational for upscaling in volume * 10 develop new courses * Quality control: Security, pedagogic methodology, continuous improvement, * Repository of teachers and F2F training concepts	EIT InnoEnergy proposed plan will be regularly checked and progress vs plan confirmed at each reporting milestone. Quarterly Project Management meetings with DG EMPL and EIT.	The Action will be complemented with similar industry and MS initiatives.

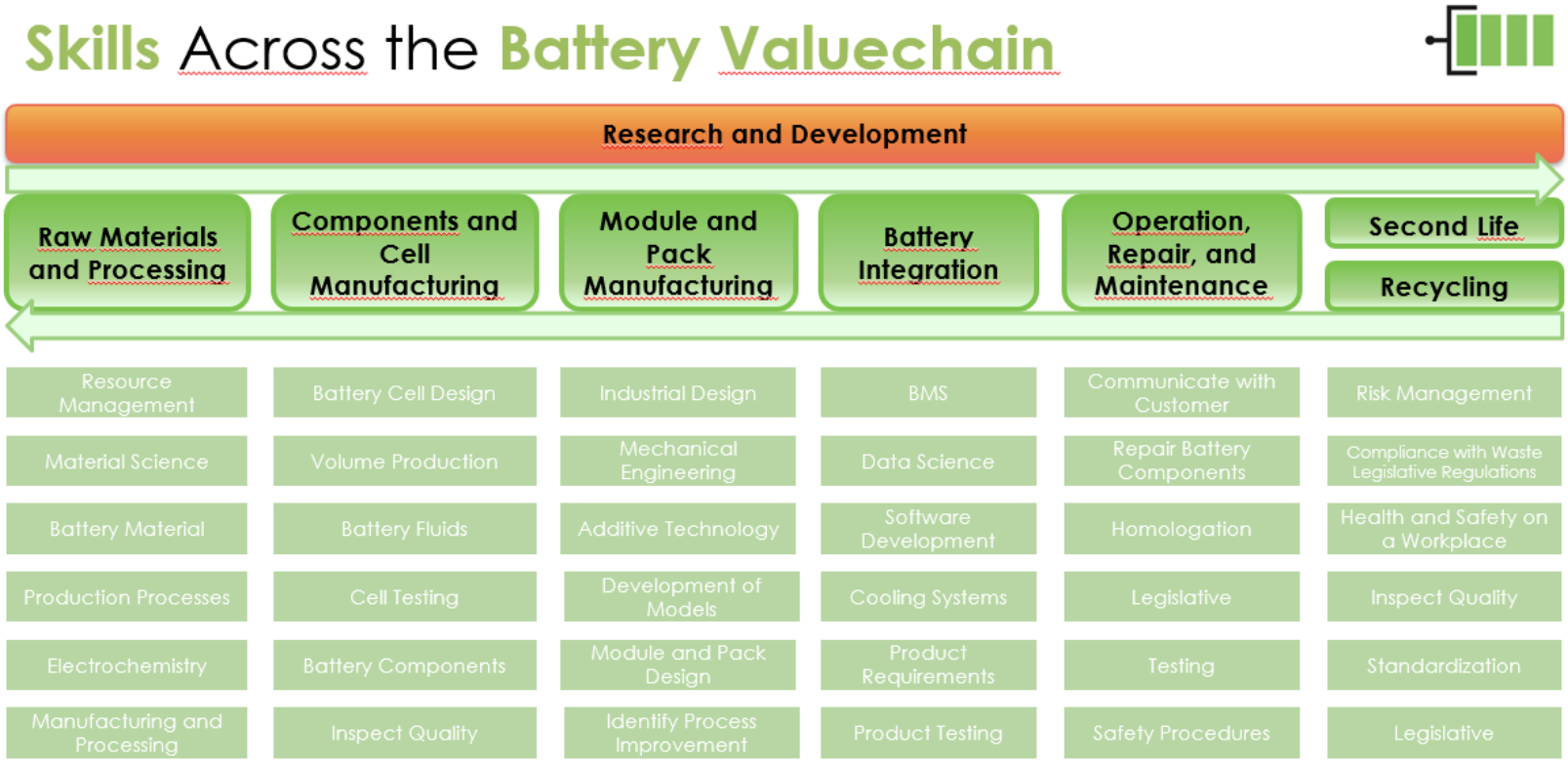
	5. Reliable ICT infrastructure and systems to allow program roll out 6. Enhance collaboration with similar programs and initiatives in the labour market 7. Functional website and marketing strategy for the EBA Academy 8. Smooth implementation of the action	* Fully equipped trainers to rolled out the program to the targeted learners * Certified workers ready to (re)enter the labour market * A reliable highly replicable ICT platform and systems that can be scaled up to meet the increase demand for these skills * New emerging industries identified for which the program can be replicated (i.e., hydrogen, PV, zero carbon housing) * Website and marketing strategy in place * Reporting requirements timely met		

Activities	1. EBA Academy content mgmt 2. Train of Trainers and Certification Packages 3. Common Education Technology and access to existing infrastructure 4. Certification of learners and training programs 5. IT&Systems Platform 6. Business Intelligence Services 7. Marketing and support for the local training providers 8. Project Management and Operation of the EBA Battery Academy			The demand for skills is directly and geographically correlated with the batteries value chain, as indicated by the industry projections and reports. The activities will be synergetic with MS level reskilling strategies and complement the respective MS Reskilling Action Plans. There will be focus on areas phasing out brown industries and match these areas revitalisation strategies for green transition supported through the Just Transition Funds in selected MS and Recovery and Resilience Facility.

European Institute of Innovation & Technology

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Battery Value Chain



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Electronically signed on 17/12/2021 19:56 (UTC+01) in accordance with article 11 of Commission Decision C(2020) 4482