



AT A GLANCE: EIT COMMUNITY BUSINESS CREATION & ACCELERATION ACTIVITIES

WHO WE ARE

The [European Institute of Innovation & Technology \(EIT\)](#) is an independent body of the European Union established in 2008 to deliver innovation across Europe. The EIT brings together leading business, education, and research organisations to form dynamic cross-border partnerships, forming our EIT Knowledge & Innovation Communities (KICs). EIT KICs develop innovative products and services, start new companies, and train new generations of entrepreneurs. Together, we form the EIT Community – powering innovators and entrepreneurs across Europe to turn their best ideas into products, services, jobs, and growth.

EIT KICs bridge the gap between research and business creation in their given sectors. They have the unique advantage of being able to do this at the EU level.

Each EIT KIC focuses on a [specific global challenge](#):



EIT Climate-KIC

Accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy



EIT Digital

Drive Europe's digital transformation



EIT InnoEnergy

Achieve a sustainable energy future for Europe



EIT Health

Give EU citizens greater opportunities for a healthy life



EIT RawMaterials

Develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe



EIT Culture & Creativity

Unite Europe's creatives



EIT Urban Mobility

Smart, green and integrated transport



EIT Manufacturing

Strengthen and increase the competitiveness of Europe's manufacturing industry



EIT Food

Lead a global revolution in food innovation and production



Through the KICs, the EIT offers a wide range of innovation and entrepreneurship activities. This includes education courses that combine technical and entrepreneurial skills, business creation and acceleration services, and innovation-driven research projects. The EIT enables the transition from:



EIT BUSINESS CREATION & ACCELERATION ACTIVITIES

Activities

- Sourcing start-ups & scale-ups
- Acceleration services
- Activities combining Business Creation & Education or Business Creation & Innovation
- Business Creation support from EIT KICs partners

Benefits

- Market orientation
- Shorter time-to-market
- Bridging the gap between academia and business
- Proximity to finance sources: seed funding, VC, Angels etc.

Types of companies being served

Pre-seed start-ups, Seed, Scale-ups, Series-A-B, Spin-offs/Spin-outs

Main Features

The [EIT business creation services for entrepreneurs, start-ups, scale-ups, and corporations](#) – from pre-incubation to business acceleration – are offered in the key fields related to climate change, digitalisation, sustainable energy, food, health, raw materials, manufacturing, urban mobility, and the cultural and creative sectors. The EIT KIC business creation programmes provide entrepreneurs with access to finance, customers, markets, vital business skills, and networks, helping ground-breaking ideas translate into successful, socially impactful ventures.

Key Facts

- 500+ partners from business, industry, education, and research
- Approximately EUR 350 million provided in EIT funding for business creation activities (2017-2022)
- EUR 7.1 billion in investment attracted by EIT KIC supported start-ups and scale-ups (2017-2022)
- 7 860 start-ups and scale-ups supported (2017-2022)
- 900+ supported start-ups in modest to moderate innovation countries (2017-2022)
- Strong links to local, national, regional, and European Union (EU) level investors and partners, including in modest to moderate innovation countries
- International expansion of EIT Community activities to Silicon Valley, South Korea, Japan, and Israel
- Representation in the Forbes 30 under 30 Europe list
- The EIT ranked 10th in CB Insights' top 25 most successful start-up accelerator list for 2023



EIT COMMUNITY BUSINESS CREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The EIT Community provides opportunities and activities for all business development stages of innovators, entrepreneurs, start-ups, and scale-ups through Pre-seed, Seed, Scale-up and Series A-B.



EIT Climate-KIC provides ideation support, business skills, access to networks, finance, and mentorship opportunities, covering the entire pipeline of start-up development. [Climathon](#) helps innovators plant the first seeds of innovating against climate change through citizen activation and ideation. Their incubator, [ClimateLaunchpad](#), then helps innovators turn ideas into eco-friendly businesses. [ClimAccelerator](#) scales and accelerates these start-ups.



EIT Digital helps build the next generation of digital ventures, products, and services for start-ups and corporations through its pre-seed stage [Venture Program](#), early-seed stage [Open Innovation Factory](#), and the [SpeedMaster](#) training series. It helps European scale-ups on their journey to becoming unicorns with its [Growth Services](#) and [US Landing Program](#).



EIT Food helps entrepreneurs launch, accelerate, and scale agri-food businesses across Europe. It drives innovation to meet big food-related challenges and create a healthier, more trusted, and sustainable food system. EIT Food's services include the [Seedbed Incubator](#), [EIT Food Accelerator Network](#), [RisingFoodStars](#), and [TeamUp](#).



EIT Health sparks, shapes, and moulds cutting-edge health innovations, transforming the way healthcare is delivered. They run several activities that support entrepreneurs. [Bridgehead](#) supports scale-ups that want to grow beyond their home market (they can choose between Europe, Global, and Inbound). EIT Health's [Bootcamps](#) give start-ups a chance to explore their full market potential in areas like patient innovation and med-tech. It also offers investment programmes, such as the [Venture Centre of Excellence](#) and the [EIT Health Investor Network](#).



EIT InnoEnergy is the leading sustainable energy innovation engine that follows the principles of open and collaborative innovation. They [help innovators](#) through tailored product development support, value chain analysis, commercialisation strategies, finding their first customer, and more.



EIT Manufacturing offers business creation activities that are channelled through the following programmes: [Venture building](#) and [Accelerate programmes](#), [BoostUp!](#), and the [Access2Tech Europe](#) and [Transform](#) programmes.



EIT RawMaterials offers services to SMEs and start-ups in the raw materials sector. [Booster Call](#) provides support to start-ups and SMEs. [Lab2Market](#) equips scientists and researchers with new



knowledge to help them turn their ideas into new products and services. It also offers [Open Innovation Services](#). The Access to finance service helps companies to obtain investment, credits, or other relevant financial support.



EIT Urban Mobility business creation activities aim to become the reference in the market for supporting and funding positive impact and gender-balanced start-ups within urban mobility. Their [Strategic Investments](#) financially support the most promising start-ups. Early-stage start-ups receive support via the five [Market Readiness Accelerator Programmes](#) and one [Investment Readiness Programme](#). The [Scale-Up programme](#) supports more mature companies aiming to foster commercialisation and internalisation. Besides, Urban Mobility has built the [Growth Lab](#): the largest community of mobility entrepreneurs focused on providing opportunities for start-ups.



EIT Culture and Creativity is the EIT's newest KIC, dedicated to strengthening and transforming Europe's Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries (CCSI) sector. They are building an [Investment Network](#) to support business creation in the sector.

EIT REGIONAL INNOVATION SCHEME (RIS) BUSINESS CREATION PROGRAMMES

These programmes are available for all residing in or registered in [RIS-eligible countries](#).

- The [EIT Digital Venture Programme](#) provides international growth support for RIS-based entrepreneurs. In the last five years, the programme has supported the creation of 164 digital and digital deep tech start-ups and over 250 entrepreneurs in their early-stage business development.
- [EIT Food Challenge Labs](#) are pan-European workshops designed to find solutions to current and future challenges facing food and agriculture. They bring together students, technologists, scientists, professionals, companies, and consumers. The [EIT Food Sales Booster](#) helps innovative start-ups from EIT RIS eligible countries explore and enter new agrifood markets in Europe. The programme provides start-ups with customised training, coaching, expert advice, and networks to develop and grow in new markets.
- [EIT Health Attract to Invest](#) programme prepares companies for successful investment rounds. During the programme, teams receive smart money, learn practical fundraising skills, gain funding for improving their products or services, and extend their professional network.
- [EIT Health InnoStars Awards](#) is an acceleration programme for early-stage start-ups from Central, Eastern and Southern Europe. It's transforming prototypes and MVPs into health solutions or products and helps bring them to the market.
- [EIT Manufacturing EVO-R program](#) helps bring small scale manufacturing-related solutions to the EU and international markets by providing business mentoring and dedicated support for project facilitation, conceptualization, and implementation.
- [EIT Jumpstarter](#) is an EIT Community pre-accelerator programme supporting early-stage idea holders from across the EIT RIS-geographic area, as well as the Western Balkan region. It turns research results



into commercially viable products and services. It also helps idea holders start their deep-tech venture in cutting-edge fields. Ventures are offered tailored training and mentoring, helping them validate their business model and prepare them for the next steps in their entrepreneurial journey.

#EITinAction: Success Stories

Verkor, supported by EIT InnoEnergy: Launched in 2020, Verkor aims to ramp up low-carbon battery manufacturing in Europe to meet growing demand for electric vehicles and stationary storage. With a Series C, the industrial start-up secured more than EUR 2 billion to launch the construction of their first gigafactory in Dunkirk, France. Verkor became the fifth unicorn in InnoEnergy's portfolio, alongside Northvolt, Freyr, Vulcan, and H2GreenSteel.



Boldr, supported by EIT Climate-KIC: Boldr is making the home a vital component of the distributed energy landscape by retrofitting home heating and cooling, accelerating the green energy transition. Boldr participated in the EIT Climate-KIC's ClimAccelerator programme in 2022 and later joined their portfolio of nearly 100 climate start-ups. In 2023, Boldr secured USD 1.2 million in a seed round.

Owkin, supported by EIT Health: Owkin, a French company, harnesses AI to boost the quality and reduce the time it takes to identify treatments for patients, run clinical trials, and develop new diagnostics in clinical practice. Owkin received individualised and tailored mentoring by industry giants in EIT Health's network. Later Owkin secured a USD 180 million equity investment from healthcare giant Sanofi which pushed Owkin over the USD 1 billion valuation threshold to become a 'unicorn'.

ReCatalyst, supported by EIT RawMaterials: Slovenian start-up ReCatalyst was able to convince an outstanding international group consisting of HTGF, xista science ventures, and OCCIDENT, along with Slovenian investors, to invest EUR 1.7 million. The funding will enhance market readiness and accelerate process development for ReCatalyst's next-generation proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cell catalysts, which are expected to grow to a USD 45 billion market by 2030.

Sensoneo, supported by EIT Digital: Sensoneo, a pioneering provider of smart waste management solutions, headquartered in Slovakia, and an alumnus of the EIC-EIT Digital Venture Acceleration Programme, announced in 2023 the successful attainment of EUR 6.2 million in series A funding. Sensoneo is commercialising enterprise-grade SaaS solutions to affordably manage end-to-end waste lifecycles, including recycling of plastic bottles in several European countries.

Kheoos, supported by EIT Manufacturing: Across Europe, dormant stocks and surpluses currently hold an estimated value of EUR 3 billion. 90% of these stocks are destroyed due to the lack of a simple and automated solution for identification and qualification. By reintegrating these resources into the economy, Kheoos offers substantial economic and environmental benefits, including saving 3.5 million tons of raw materials and avoiding 450 thousand tons of CO2 emissions. Kheoos technology can rapidly scan maintenance parts stocks, identifying each reference. What would take months to accomplish manually,



Kheoos achieves in seconds. The solution has undergone extensive testing and is currently in use by over 400 customers, including industrial giants such as Michelin and EDF. Kheoos has been supported by EIT Manufacturing since March 2023.

Elonroad, supported by EIT Urban Mobility: The Swedish start-up Elonroad develops a 100% automated high-tech electric road system, auto charging all types of electric vehicles when parked as well as when driving, just like if vehicles had infinite autonomy. Elonroad, an EIC Accelerator awardee in 2023, is testing their solution on a 2.5km motorway trail in Paris, France and, if successful, plans to build up to 4 000m by 2030.

EIT WOMEN IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP & LEADERSHIP



Women are Europe's largest untapped innovation and entrepreneurship talent pool. One of the key objectives of the EIT is to empower women entrepreneurs and nurture women leaders. Explore the EIT Community's dedicated women entrepreneurship and leadership programmes:

SUPERNOVAS - dedicated to bringing more women into the entrepreneurship ecosystem, empowering women-led start-ups, enabling women to join the early-stage funding

industry, and inspiring role models across the sector.

EIT Food Empowering Women in Agrifood (EWA) empowers hundreds of talented women entrepreneurs from the EIT RIS countries at an early stage of business development. Participants go through a six-months entrepreneurial programme tailored to create business solutions for specific challenges in agrifood.

WE Lead Food - a network of women leaders from across the entire food value chain, enabling the participants to draw on knowledge and insights from other parts of the sector they might not currently have access to, helping them successfully tackle new challenges.

EIT Health Women Entrepreneurship Bootcamp connects early-stage, women-led or co-led healthcare start-ups to an unparalleled network of mentors to nurture and support their rapid growth.

EIT Manufacturing Strada – Empowering Women in Manufacturing focuses on supporting women MSc and Ph.D. students in engineering and women in the manufacturing industry, equipping them with skills to start and grow their own business or develop their professional careers in academia or industry. The programme guides women rising to management and leadership positions.

Check out EIT Community publications on women entrepreneurship and leadership:



- EIT Climate-KIC WeClim Equally: A step-by-step guide for a more gender-smart entrepreneurship support organisation..
- EIT Digital European Women in VC 2023 Report: a strong business case for gender diversity. Did you know that management teams mostly composed of women exceeded the performance of men-only teams by 9.3 percentage points average, with each 10% increase in the representation of women associated with a 1.3 percentage point increase in IRR of a VC fund?
- The Dealroom & SUPERNOVAS: The Landscape of Women Founded Scaleups Study: this report found that women-founded tech scale-ups in Europe increased their value 6.5x, growing 1.2x faster than competing scale-ups over the past five years. Check out the report to learn more about women founded European scale-ups.

EIT YOUTUBE CHANNELS

Explore the EIT's business creation activities and impact on the EIT's YouTube channel:

- [EIT - Business Creation - YouTube](#)
- [EIT: Making innovation happen! - YouTube](#)
- [EIT - Innovation Projects - YouTube](#)
- [New EIT Strategy to power Europe's largest innovation network - YouTube](#)
- [EIT Culture & Creativity: Webinar on new innovation opportunities - YouTube](#)



ANNEX I. TABLE: EIT KIC BUSINESS CREATION PROGRAMMES

Who	What	Programme name	Link
EIT Climate-KIC	Pre-Seed	Climathon	https://climathon.climate-kic.org/
	Pre-Seed	ClimateLaunchpad	https://climatelaunchpad.org/
	Scale-Ups	ClimAccelerator	https://climaccelerator.climate-kic.org/
EIT Digital	Pre-Seed	Deep Hack	https://www.eitdigital.eu/deephack/
	Pre-Seed/Seed	Open Innovation Factory	https://www.eitdigital.eu/open-innovation-factory/
	Pre-Seed	Venture Programme	https://www.eitdigital.eu/venture-program/
	Pre-Seed/Seed	Equity Portfolio	https://www.eitdigital.eu/equity-portfolio/
	Scale-Ups	EIT Digital Champions	https://www.eitdigital.eu/champions/
	Scale-Ups	Growth Services	https://www.eitdigital.eu/growth-services/
	Scale-Ups	EIC Accelerator Fast Track	https://www.eitdigital.eu/fast-track/
EIT Food	All stages	Food Impact Fund	https://www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship/investment-opportunities
	Pre-Seed	EIT Food Seedbed Incubator	https://www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship/launch-seedbed-incubator
	Pre-Seed	Empowering Women in Agrifood	https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/ewa-empowering-women-in-agrifood-2022
	Seed	Sales Booster	https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/sales-booster
	Seed	EIT Food Accelerator Network	https://www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship/accelerate-food-accelerator-network
	Scale-Ups	RisingFoodStars	https://www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship/scale-risingfoodstars
	Scale-Ups	Corporate Venturing Services	https://www.eitfood.eu/entrepreneurship/corporate-venturing
EIT Health	Pre-Seed	Wildcard	https://wildcard.eithealth.eu
		Bootcamps (<i>some accept Seed</i>)	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/bootcamps/
		Finance Booster	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/finance-booster/
		User Validation Labs (<i>also Seed</i>)	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/ulabs/
		DIGInnovation	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/diginnovation/
		Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEF)	https://tefhealth.eu



	Seed, Series A	Catapult	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/catapult/
		Mentoring and Coaching Network (all)	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/mentoring-and-coaching-network/
		Drive	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/drive/
		Attract to Invest	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/attract-to-invest/
		InnoStars Awards	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/innostars-awards/
		Investor Network	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/investor-network/
		Gold Track	https://eithealth.eu/goldtrack/
	Scale-Ups	Bridgehead	https://eithealth.eu/programmes/bridgehead/
VCoE		https://eithealth.eu/programmes/venture-centre-of-excellence/	
EIT InnoEnergy	Seed/Scale-Ups	Innovators	https://www.innoenergy.com/for-innovators/
EIT Manufacturing	Pre-Seed/Seed	Venture Building	https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/what-we-do/business-creation/opportunities/venture-building/
	Start-ups	Accelerate	https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/calls/accelerate-2023/
	Start-Ups/Scale-Up	Transform	https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/calls/transform-2023/
	Scale-Up	BoostUp!	https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/calls/boostup-europe-2023-call/
	Start-ups/Scale-ups	Access2Tech	https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/what-we-do/business-creation/services/access2tech/
EIT RawMaterials	Idea-holders/ Teams	Jumpstarter	https://eitrawmaterials.eu/eit-jumpstarter/
	Idea-holders/ Teams	Lab2Market	https://eitrawmaterials.eu/lab2market/
	Seed/Scale-Up	Booster Call	https://eitrawmaterials.eu/booster-call/
	Start-ups	Open Innovation Services	https://open-innovation.eitrawmaterials.eu/
	Start-ups	European Raw Materials Alliance	https://erma.eu/



EIT Urban Mobility	Pre-seed / Seed	Strategic Investments	https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/eit-urban-mobility-startup-investments/
	All stages	Growth Lab	https://growthlab.eitum.eu/
	Idea-holders/ Teams	Mobility Corporate Venture Builder	https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/request-for-proposals-mobility-corporate-venture-builder/
	Pre-Seed / Seed	Market Readiness Accelerators	Sustainable Cities and Clean Mobility: https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/accelerator/city-logistics/
			Future mobility: https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/accelerator/future-mobility/
			Inclusive mobility https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/accelerator/inclusive-mobility/
			Smart Mobility: https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/accelerator/smart-mobility/
		Urban Air Mobility: https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/accelerator/urban-air-mobility/	
Seed	Investment Readiness Programme	https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/investment-readiness-programme/	
Scale-Ups / Series A	Scale-Up Programme	https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/impact-ventures/scale-up-programme/	
EIT Culture & Creativity	All stages	Investment Network	https://eit-culture-creativity.eu/investmentclub/
EIT Community	Pre-Seed	Jumpstarter	https://eitjumpstarter.eu/
	All stages, Innovation	Supernovas	Rocket up: https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/supernovas/rocket-up Women2Invest: https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/supernovas/women2invest Mentoring for women leaders: https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/supernovas/mentoring-for-women-leaders Women Investment Network: https://www.eitfood.eu/projects/supernovas/investors-network



	Innovation Ecosystem	Connect & Experience	Global Outreach Israel https://go-eit.eu/eit-israel-hub/connect_experience/ Global Outreach Silicon Valley https://go-eit.eu/eit-silicon-valley-hub/connect_experience/
	Scale-up	Calling2Scale	https://go-eit.eu/eit-israel-hub/calling2scale/

ANNEX II. PUBLIC DATABASES OF EIT KIC-SUPPORTED START-UPS PORTFOLIO

