



# Horizon Europe: opportunities for Lithuania

Decoding Horizon Europe: Opportunities for the Applicants

## **Pillar 3 - Innovative Europe**

*EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL - EIC*

*EUROPEAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS - EIE*

*EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY - EIT*

**Vygandas JANKŪNAS**

**Unit 'Governance & Coordination'**

**EIC Task Force - DG RTD**

**Horizon Europe Launching Event in Lithuania**

**31 March 2021**

# Graphical representation of Horizon Europe



## European Innovation Council

- Support to innovations with breakthrough and market creating potential

The budget: **€10.6 billion**, incl. up to **€527 million** for ecosystems (including NGEU – Recovery Fund parts dedicated to EIC)

## European innovation ecosystems

- Connecting with regional and national innovation actors

## European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

- Bringing key actors (research, education and business) together around a common goal for nurturing innovation

**€ 3 billion**

## Pillar 3 – Innovative Europe

**Stimulating market-creating breakthroughs and ecosystems conducive to innovation**

The European Innovation Council

**Backing visionary  
entrepreneurs**

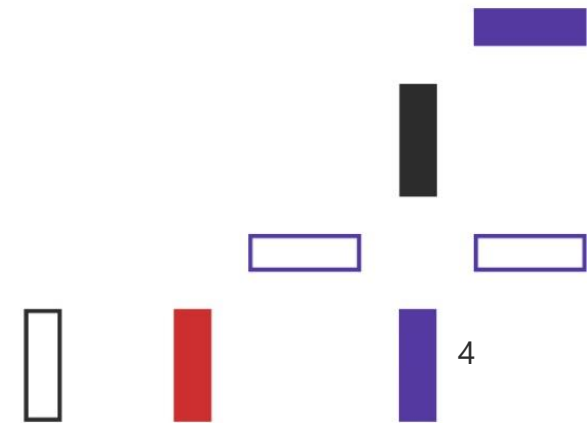
European  
Innovation  
Council





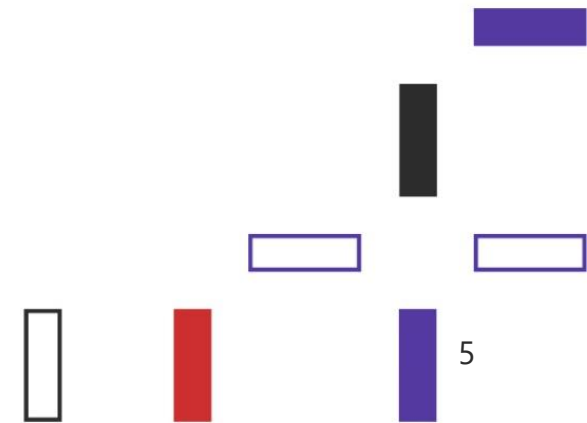
# Europe's most ambitious innovation initiative

- ✓ **Budget of €10.1 billion** (2021-27)
- ✓ Mission to **identify, develop and scaleup high risk innovations**, with particular focus on disruptive, deeptech and market creating
- ✓ **“One stop shop” for high potential innovators**: advanced research programme + accelerator, providing grants & equity
- ✓ **Pro-active management with EIC “Programme Managers”** to develop visions for breakthroughs and steer portfolios





# Experience from the EIC pilot phase (2018-20)





# EIC pilot Accelerator (including SME instrument)

## Unique offer of funding & support



- Up to €2.5 million grant
- EIC Fund providing equity investments up to €15 million
- Coaching, mentoring, links to corporates, investors, etc.

## Growing demand from Startups & SMEs



- 14.000 applied in 2020
- 5.700 startups & SMEs supported since 2014 (including previous SME instrument)
- Increase in startups with female founders

## Addressing Sustainable Development



### Goals

Main thematic in:

- 30% in Green Deal
- 30% in Digital
- 30% in Health (*including COVID solutions*)

## Proven impact:



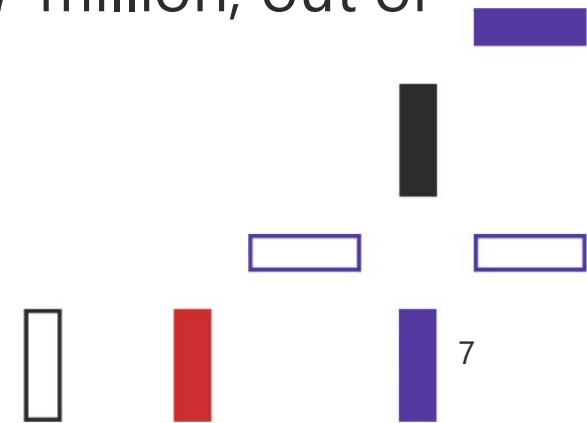
- €5.3 billion follow up investments attracted to EIC supported companies
- 1 unicorn (value €1billion+); 43 centaurs (value €100m+)



## Lithuanian participation to the EIC pilot - Pathfinder (1/2)

### ➤ Under the EIC Pathfinder pilot:

- ✓ Lithuanian participants were part of 101 proposals submissions with 110 participations (3 as Coordinator and 107 as Partner);
- ✓ They took part of 3 out of all 549 funded projects, as Partner in the consortium;
- ✓ The success rate for the participation in the funded grants is 2.97% (average success rate: 7.98%);
- ✓ The total received budget for Lithuania amounts to € 0.717 million, out of the total of € 1.5 billion (0.05%).





## Lithuanian participation in the EIC Pilot - Accelerator/ SME instrument (2/2)

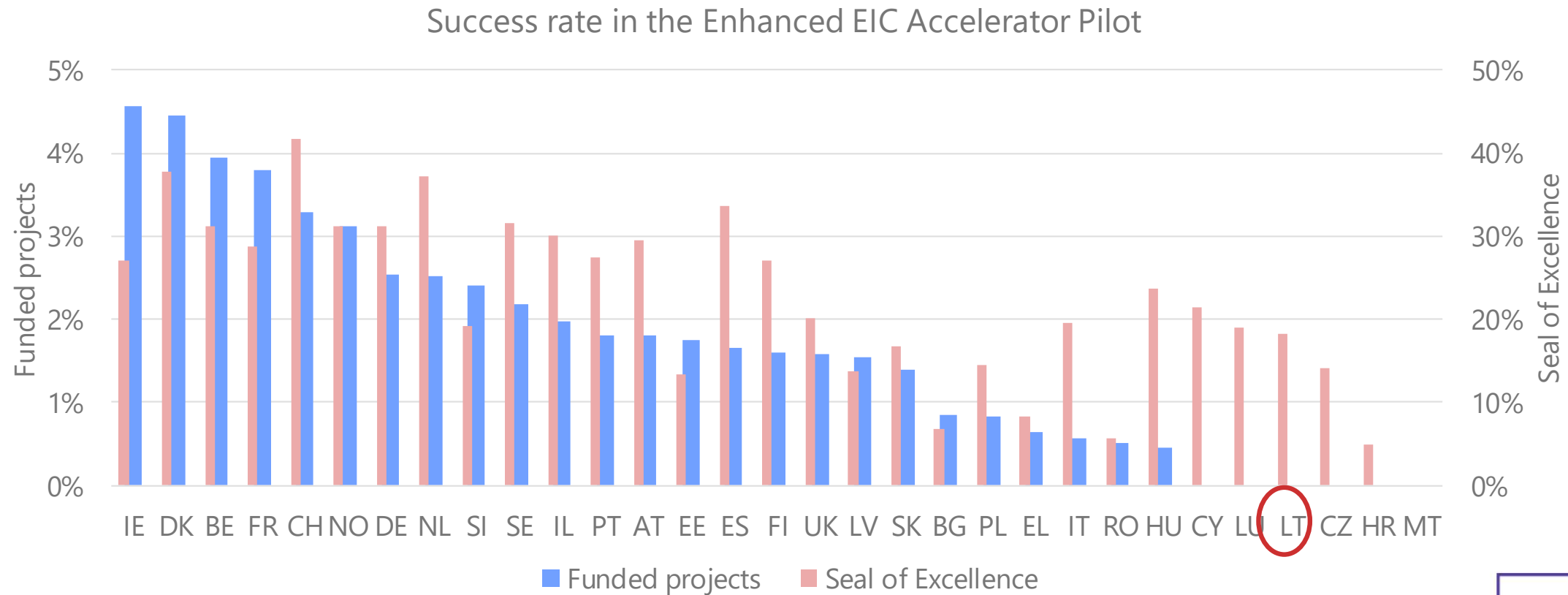
- **27 Lithuanian start-ups & SMEs** awarded funding worth € 5.46 million in the SME instrument / EIC Accelerator pilot under Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)
- Over last year of EIC pilot Accelerator (enhanced pilot: October 2019 – December 2020), **6 Lithuanian startups/ SMEs awarded Seals of Excellence** as performing high quality projects, but not funded directly.





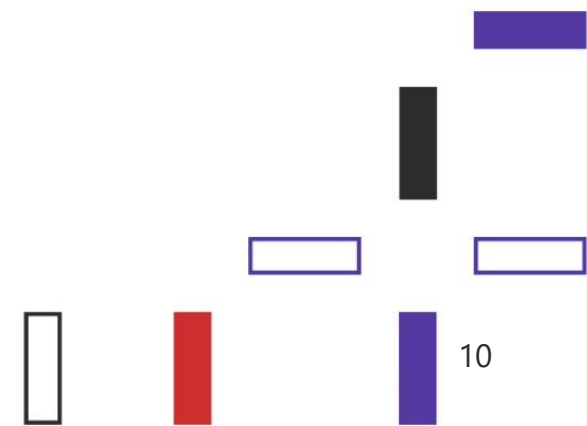


# Success rates in the EIC Pilot Accelerator (Oct 2019-Oct 2020)





# The EIC in Horizon Europe





# EIC main instruments and characteristics

## Pathfinder

- **Early stage research** on breakthrough technologies
- Grants up to €3/4 million
- Successor of FET (Open & Proactive)

## Transition

- **Technology maturation** from proof of concept to validation
- **Business & market readiness**
- Grants up to €2.5 million

## Accelerator

- **Development & scale up** of deep-tech/ disruptive innovations by startups/ SMEs
- Blended finance (grants up to €2.5 million; equity investment up to €15 million)
- Successor of SME instrument

- Mission to **identify, develop and deploy high risk innovations** of all kinds
- Focus on **breakthrough, market-creating, deep-tech**
- Steered by **EIC Board** of leading innovators (entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, ecosystem)
- **Business Acceleration Services** (coaches/ mentors, corporates, investors, ecosystem)
- **Pro-active management** (roadmaps, reviews, re-orientations, etc) with EIC Programme Managers
- **Follow up funding for results from Horizon** (ERC, EIT, collaborative) & national programmes



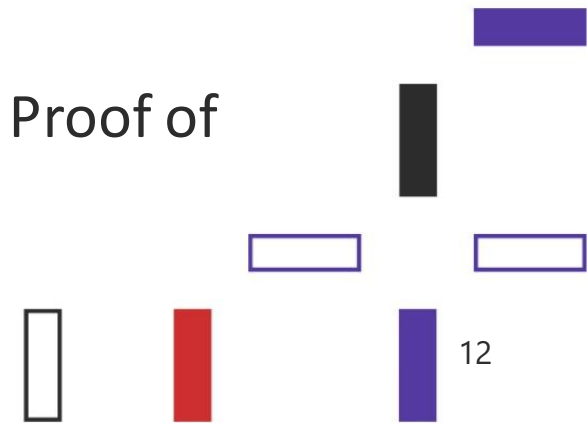
# EIC Work Programme for 2021 – Key novelties

- **EIC Pathfinder**

- Programme managers to steer portfolios of projects
- Additional 50k follow up grants to test feasibility and interact across portfolios

- **EIC Transition**

- New funding scheme to bridge gap between research phase (proof of concept) and pre-commercial
- In first phase, for follow up to results from EIC Pathfinder and ERC Proof of Concept





# EIC Work Programme for 2021 – Key novelties

- **EIC Accelerator - funding options**
  - Mainly blended finance (grant + investment), but options for “grant only” and “grant first” (with investment follow up)
  - Faster investment decisions by EIC Fund with clearer terms (investment guidelines)
- **Innovator friendly application process**
  - Apply at any time with short (5 page) form, video pitch and slide-deck => feedback within 4 weeks
  - If successful, support from AI platform and coaching to prepare full application/ business plan
  - Second chance to apply if unsuccessful
- **Reinforced “Seal of Excellence”**
  - To receive Seal of Excellence, applicant assessed for excellence & impact by remote evaluators & juries
  - Seal of Excellence companies to benefit from EIC coaching, events, support to find other funding



# EIC main funding opportunities in 2021

<b>Accelerator - Open</b>	Apply any time (early stage screening)	<b>~€593m</b> (~50:50 grant/equity)
<b>Accelerator – Challenges</b>	Cutoffs for full applications in 9 June, 6 October	<b>~€495m</b> (~50:50 grant/equity)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Deal innovations for the economic recovery</li> <li>• Strategic technologies: digital &amp; health</li> </ul>		
<b>Pathfinder - Open</b>	19 May	<b>~€168m</b>
<b>Pathfinder - Challenges</b>	27 October	<b>~€132m</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness inside</li> <li>• Measure &amp; stimulate brain</li> <li>• Cell &amp; gene therapies</li> <li>• Green Hydrogen</li> <li>• Engineered Living Materials</li> </ul>		
<b>Transition – Open</b>	22 September	<b>~€60m</b>
<b>Transition – Challenges</b>		<b>~€40m</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medtech &amp; devices</li> <li>• Energy harvesting &amp; storage</li> </ul>		



# European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)

# European Innovation Ecosystems

- **Innovation Ecosystem** means an **ecosystem** that brings **together** at **EU level actors** or **entities** whose functional **goal is to enable technology development and innovation**.
  - They encompass relations between:
    - **material resources** (such as funds, equipment, and facilities),
    - **institutional entities** (such as higher education institutions and support services, RTOs, companies, venture capitalists and financial intermediaries) and
    - **national, regional and local policy-making and funding entities**.



# European Innovation Ecosystems

## Innovation Ecosystems Public Consultation Process

- 8 workshops
- 350 + participants
- Questionnaire
- Final conference

**New !!!  
Final report  
published**



### Groups of Workshops' Participants



## RESULTS (challenges):

### CONNECTEDNESS

Increased connectedness between actors  
Need for European Forum  
Increased citizens engagement

### COMPETENCE

Fostering entrepreneurial culture  
Need for better actionable information  
Lack of innovation capabilities within public stakeholders

### CAPITAL

Partnerships between startups and corporates  
Support for early stage accelerators  
Scaling-up and exit assistance

And:

European regulatory sandboxes  
Stimulating public procurement for innovation

# European Innovation Ecosystems

## EIC Forum

**Policy  
coordination &  
dialogue**

**National innovation  
authorities/agencies  
(MS/AC)**

+

**EIC & EIT Boards**

+

**EIE stakeholders**

## CO-FUNDING Joint innovation programmes

**Demand-driven (+ *private entities, e.g. foundations, EU Partnerships*)**

**TRANSNATIONAL – EU ADDED VALUE - COMPLEMENTARY**

- Interconnection of open innovation infrastructures (*pilots, demos...*)
- Cooperation academia – enterprise
- High-tech SMEs: collaborative R&I, technology & knowledge transfer, early stage and feasibility study support, market analysis & development internationalisation + Low-tech SME's: digitalisation
- Joint public procurement initiatives (PPI)
- Social & public innovation, Financial instruments

**Joint programmes for  
mentoring, coaching, technical assistance,**  
delivered by:

- **networks** (NCPs, EEN, EIT/KICs), clusters ..
- **pan-European platforms** (Starup Europe)
- **regional or local innovation actors**, public & private, *e.g. incubators, innovation hubs...*

**Data and  
knowledge** on  
innovation support  
(funding schemes,  
data sharing  
platforms, etc.)

# European Institute of Innovation and Technology

## EIT

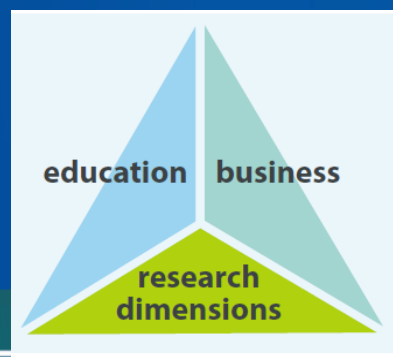


# EIT distinctive role in fostering innovation

## Bringing together:

- Business
- Education and
- Research dimensions

So-called '**Knowledge Triangle**', also involving public authorities and civil society





# EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021 – 2027

Three main objectives:

1. Boost the innovation capacity of higher **education** in Europe
2. Strengthen the EIT's **regional outreach** to bridge innovation gaps
3. Increase the **impact** of the EIT KICs

Two New EIT KICs by 2027 ?

Proposed budget of €3 billion

# As of 2020, the EIT has established **8** KICs operating in the following areas/EIT Innovation Communities:



# Thank You!

