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

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Unit ‘Governance & Coordination’
EIC Task Force - DG RTD

Horizon Europe Launching Event in Lithuania
31 March 2021
Pillar 3 – Innovative Europe

Stimulating market-creating breakthroughs and ecosystems conducive to innovation

- Support to innovations with breakthrough and market creating potential
- Connecting with regional and national innovation actors

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

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
- Bringing key actors (research, education and business) together around a common goal for nurturing innovation

€ 3 billion
The European Innovation Council

Backing visionary entrepreneurs
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 thematics 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 €1 billion+); 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)

Success rate in the Enhanced EIC Accelerator Pilot

- IE
- DK
- BE
- FR
- CH
- NO
- DE
- NL
- SI
- SE
- IL
- PT
- AT
- EE
- ES
- FI
- UK
- LV
- SK
- BG
- PL
- EL
- IT
- RO
- HU
- CY
- LU
- LT
- CZ
- HR
- MT

Funded projects
Seal of Excellence
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accelerator - Open</th>
<th>Apply any time (early stage screening)</th>
<th>~€593m (~50:50 grant/equity)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accelerator – Challenges</strong></td>
<td>• Green Deal innovations for the economic recovery</td>
<td>Cutoffs for full applications in 9 June, 6 October</td>
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<td>• Strategic technologies: digital &amp; health</td>
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<td>Pathfinder - Open</td>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>~€168m</td>
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<td><strong>Pathfinder – Challenges</strong></td>
<td>• Awareness inside</td>
<td>27 October</td>
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<td>• Measure &amp; stimulate brain</td>
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<td>• Cell &amp; gene therapies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Green Hydrogen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Engineered Living Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transition – Open</td>
<td>22 September</td>
<td>~€60m</td>
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<td><strong>Transition – Challenges</strong></td>
<td>• Medtech &amp; devices</td>
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<td>• Energy harvesting &amp; storage</td>
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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**.
Innovation Ecosystems
Public Consultation Process

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

Groups of Workshops’ Participants

New!!! Final report published

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

A Robust Innovation Ecosystem for the Future of Europe
Report on the Results of the Stakeholder Consultation
February 2018 - February 2020

European Innovation Council
**EIC Forum**  
Policy coordination & dialogue  
National innovation authorities/agencies (MS/AC)  
+  
EIC & EIT Boards  
+  
EIE stakeholders

**European Innovation Ecosystems**

**CO-FUNDING Joint innovation programmes**

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

**TRANSNATIONAL – EU ADDED VALUE - COMPLEMENTARY**

- Interconnection of open innovation infrastructures (*pi 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** (Startup 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:

- **EIT Health**: Giving EU citizens greater opportunities to enjoy a healthy life.
- **EIT Food**: Leading a global revolution in food innovation and production.
- **EIT Digital**: Driving Europe’s digital transformation.
- **EIT Climate-KIC**: Working to accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy.
- **EIT InnoEnergy**: Achieving a sustainable energy future for Europe.
- **EIT Manufacturing**: Leading manufacturing innovation is Made By Europe.
- **EIT RawMaterials**: Developing raw materials into a major strength for Europe.
- **EIT Urban Mobility**: Mobility for liveable urban spaces.
Thank You!