The EIC:
Project selection and expectations to the applicant

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EIC Accelerator in a nutshell

Application

⮡ Evaluation

⮡ Selection

⮡ Preparation

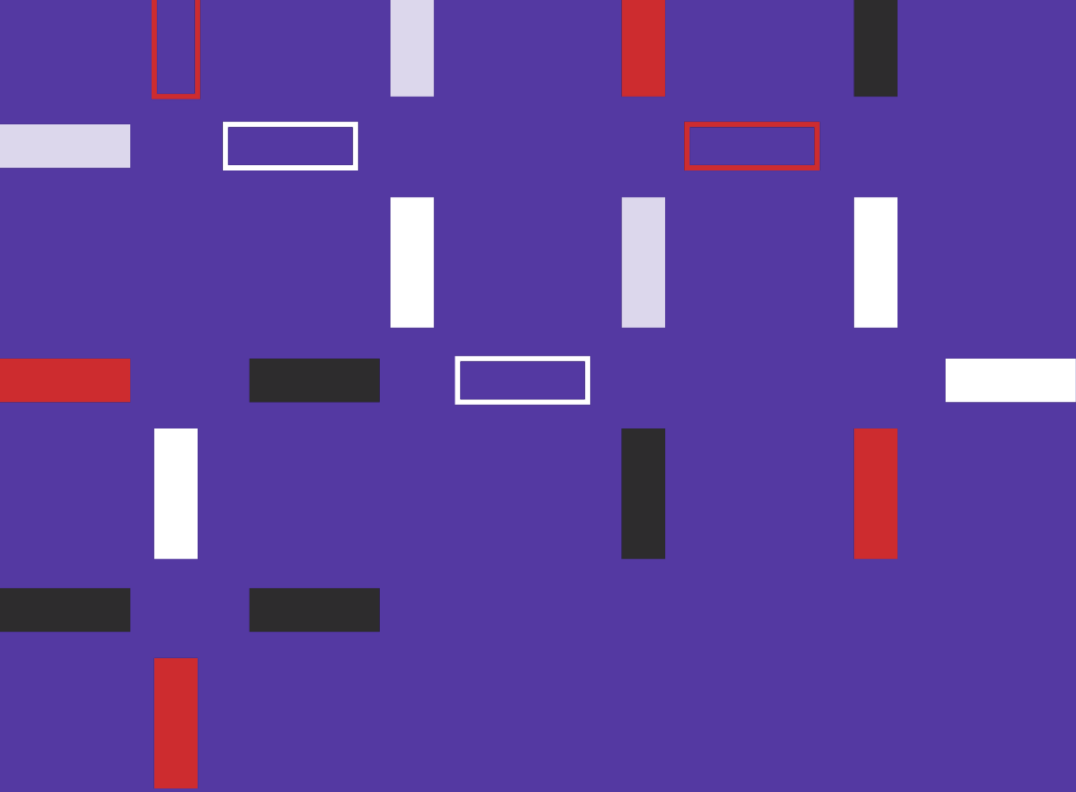⮡ Grant Agreement

⮡ Business Acceleration Services

⮡ Access to equity - Investment

- The **evaluation process** is **managed by EISMEA**.

- All proposals submitted in response to EIC Accelerator calls for proposals are first collected in the **Funding & Tenders Portal** and checked against the admissibility and eligibility criteria (Annexes 2&3, EIC Work Programme 2023).

- If **admissibility** ✔ **eligibility** ✔ ⟶ evaluation.

EIC Accelerator application process

Criteria such as:

- **When:** respect the call deadline

- **How:** electronically via dedicated portal (EU Funding and Tender portal)

- **What:** complete, readable application in provided templates

- **Attention:** concurrent submission/implementation

- **Single company** (i.e. no consortia, but subcontracting and affiliated entities possible).

- **SME** according to EU definition: < 250 employees, < €50 million turnover or < €43 million total balance sheet, data from linked or partner enterprises might need to be taken into account.

- **Small mid-caps** (up to 499 employees) – for rapid scale-up only.

- **Natural person**(s) or **legal entity:**

  - from Member State (MS) or Associated Country (AC) intending to establish an SME or small mid-cap in MS or AC by the time of signing the EIC Accelerator contract.

  - From a non-associated third country intending to establish an SME or to relocate an existing SME to a MS or AC (establishment prior to full proposal!)

EIC Accelerator – Eligibility -> activities

- Eligible activities are the ones described in the call conditions.

- Projects must **focus on civil applications** and must not be involved in sensitive activities, such as human cloning, etc.

- Ethics principles (research integrity standards, but also EU, national and international law): ethics self-assessment.

- Do Not Significant Harm (DNSH) principle.

- Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence.

- Security screening - EU classified and sensitive information.

- Etc.

EIC Accelerator: cut-off dates

Short proposal evaluation

Submit any time during the year
Feedback within 4 weeks

Full proposal -cut off

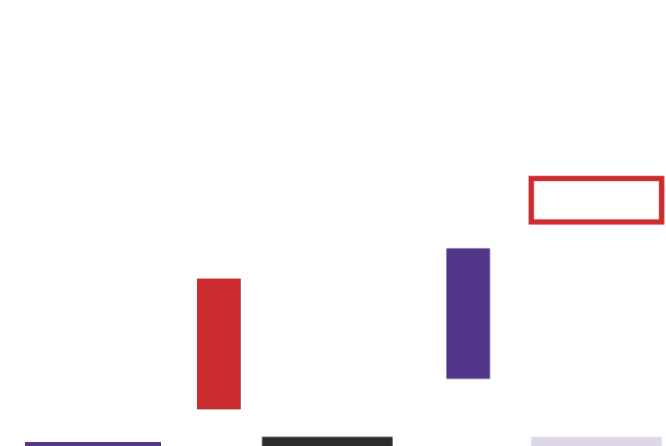date when a round of evaluations of **full proposals** start

Full proposal evaluation

Cut-off	Interview week
8 November 2023	Jan 29 – Feb 5, 2024

*March 2024
*September 2024

*tbc

EIC Accelerator Open ➡️ to support projects in any field of science, technology or application without predefined thematic priorities ('bottom-up')

EIC Accelerator Challenges* ➡️ to support projects within predefined thematic areas with the aim to achieve specific objectives for each Challenge

* Under the WP 2023

- Novel **biomarker**-based assays to guide personalised **cancer treatment**
- **Aerosol** and **surface decontamination** for pandemic management
- **Energy storage**
- New European **Bauhaus/Architecture**, Engineering & Construction digitalisation for decarbonisation
- Emerging **semiconductor** or **quantum** technology components
- Novel technologies for **resilient agriculture**
- Customer-driven, innovative **space technologies** and services
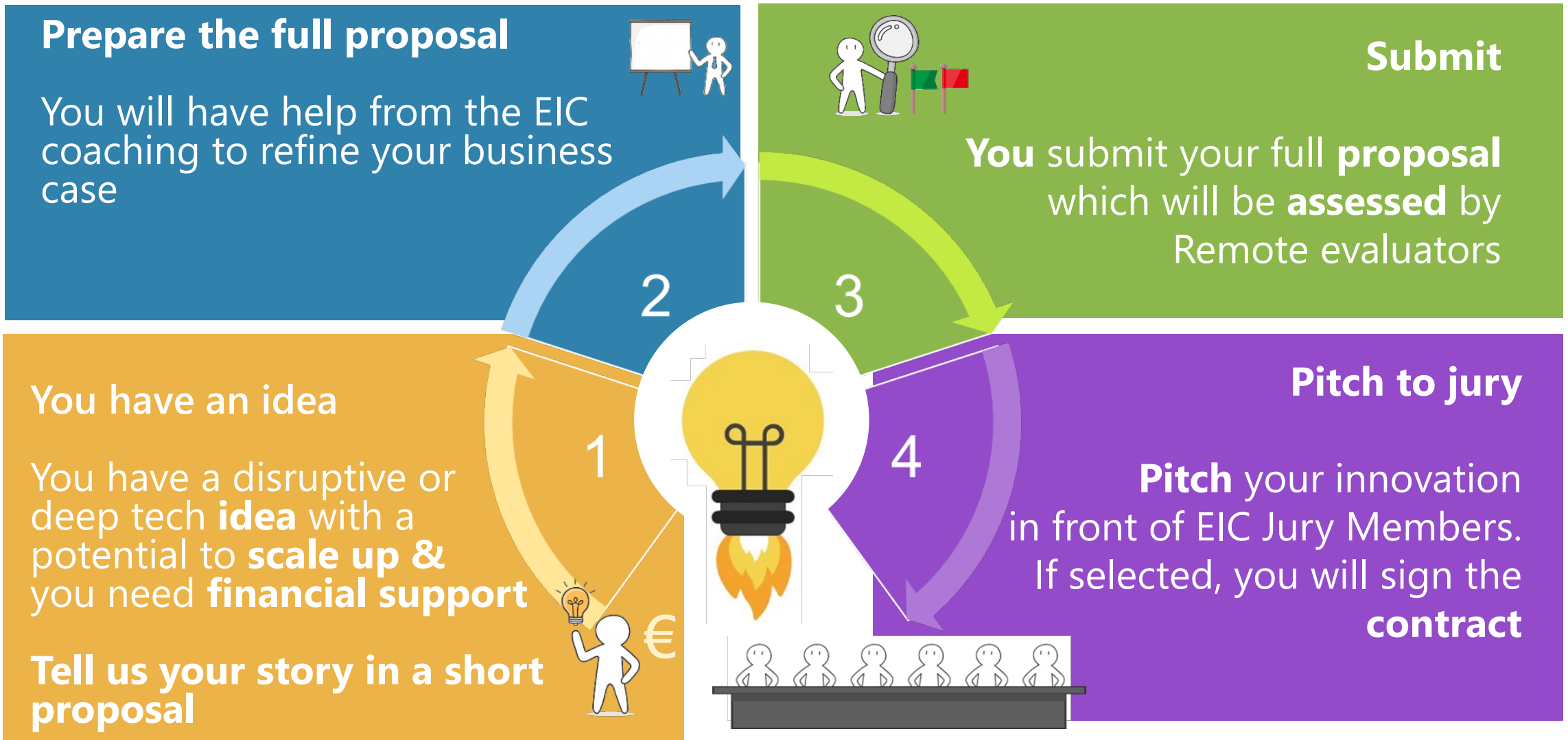
EIC Accelerator evaluation process

AWARD CRITERIA

- **Excellence - Breakthrough and market creating nature**

- **Impact - Scale up potential**

- **Level of risk, implementation, and need for Union support - Team**

  - Risk level of the investment: Does the nature and level of risk of the investment in your innovation mean that European market actors are unwilling to commit the full amount alone? Is there evidence that market actors would be willing to invest, either alongside the EIC or at a later stage?

More details in the EIC Work Programme 2023

Evaluation in 4 steps:

European Innovation Council

Prepare the full proposal

You will have help from the EIC coaching to refine your business case

2

Submit

You submit your full **proposal** which will be **assessed** by Remote evaluators

3

You have an idea

You have a disruptive or deep tech **idea** with a potential to **scale up &** you need **financial support**

Tell us your story in a short proposal

1

Pitch to jury

Pitch your innovation in front of EIC Jury Members. If selected, you will sign the **contract**

4

Short application: your idea

Short Proposal

- Respond to a set of questions - 5 pages

- Submit a 10-slides presentation

- Submit a 3-minute video pitch (motivation)

- To be assessed by 4 EIC expert evaluators (min 2 GOs)

Full proposal: your business plan

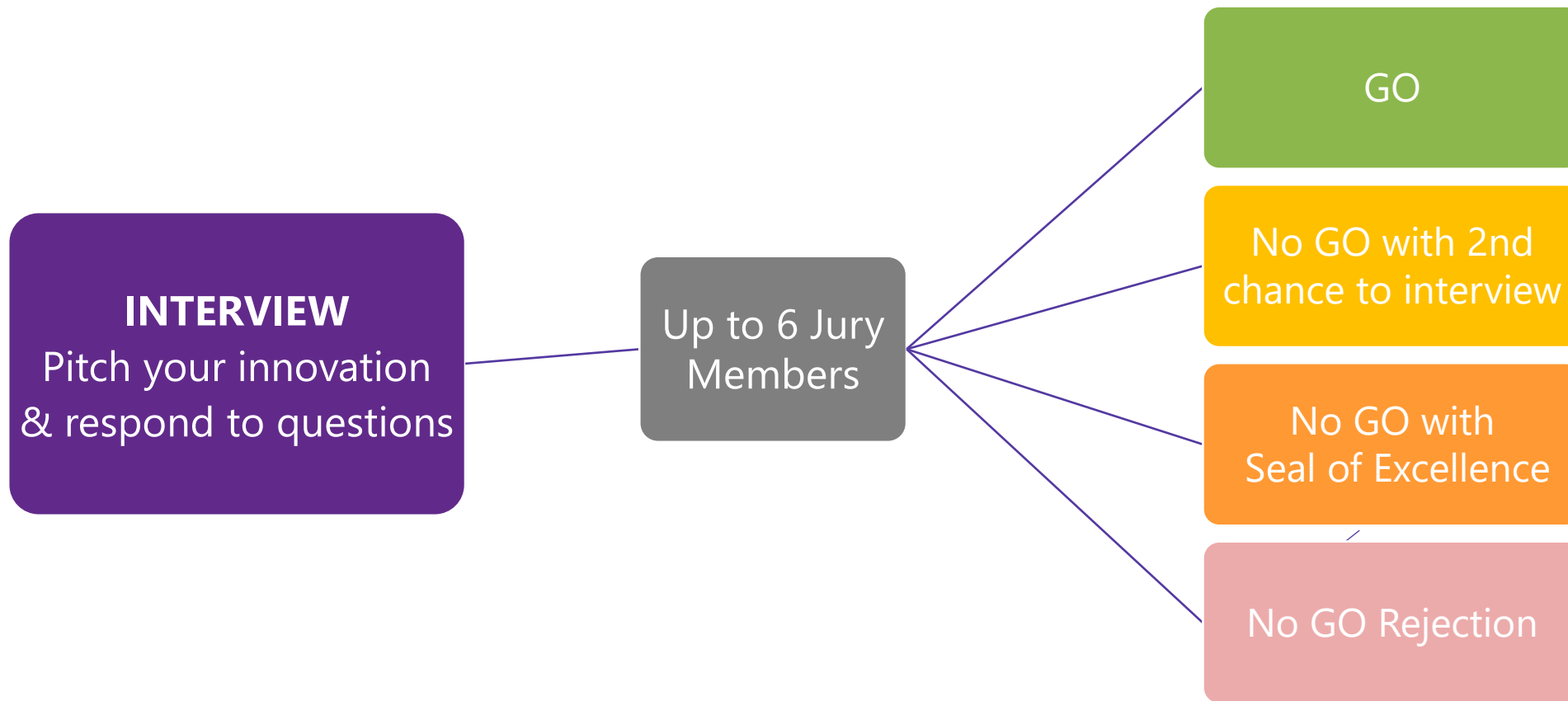12 months within receiving outcome
of short proposal evaluation

- Prepare a business plan, incl. information on your company's finances and structure *(*help of an EIC business coach to refine your business case)*

- Submit your full proposal

- To be assessed by 3 EIC experts:

  - 3 GOs (i.e. 9 GOs for each award criteria)-> EIC jury

  - 2 GOs -> no EIC jury, but you may resubmit improved proposal

  - If already a resubmission ->8 Gos -> 4th expert

Interview: pitch your innovation

- ¬8-9 weeks after the cut-off date.
- Pitch your innovation to the EIC Jury Members composed of serial entrepreneurs, innovation specialists and senior investors.
- Answer the questions from the EIC Jury Members.
- EIC PMs and EIB as Investment Advisor to the EIC Fund may participate.
- If selected, preparation process is launched before signing the Grant Agreement.

Full proposal: interview evaluation outcomes

European Innovation Council

INTERVIEW
Pitch your innovation
& respond to questions

Up to 6 Jury Members

GO

No GO with 2nd chance to interview

No GO with Seal of Excellence

No GO Rejection

Award criteria - EIC Accelerator Open and Challenges

1.EXELLENCE

- High degree of novelty with potential to create or transform the markets
- Timing of innovation -> market, user, societal or scientific trends
- Technological feasibility – your tech has been tested in relevant env. (at lest TRL5/6)
- IP – do you have rights to operate?

2. IMPACT

- Scale up potential
- Broader societal, economic, environmental or climate impacts?
- Market fit and competitor analysis
- Commercialisation strategy
- Key partners

3. Level of risk, implementation, and need for Union support

- Team
- Clear implementation plan
- Risk level of the investment
- Risk mitigation plan

EIC Accelerator
Preparation of the Grant Agreement

Steps after the selection

- Kick off meeting with the respective officers from EISMEA (Grant component) and EIB (Investment Component).

- Fine tunning of the Business Plan (Milestones, Work Packages, Deliverables etc.) for integrating jury recommendations (if any).

- Providing the requested documentation to the Validation Services.

- KYC and Tech DD initiation.

GRANT AGREEMENT

EIC Accelerator
Business Acceleration Services (BAS)

EIC Business Acceleration Services (EIC BAS): EIC Support beyond funding

European Innovation Council

WHY?
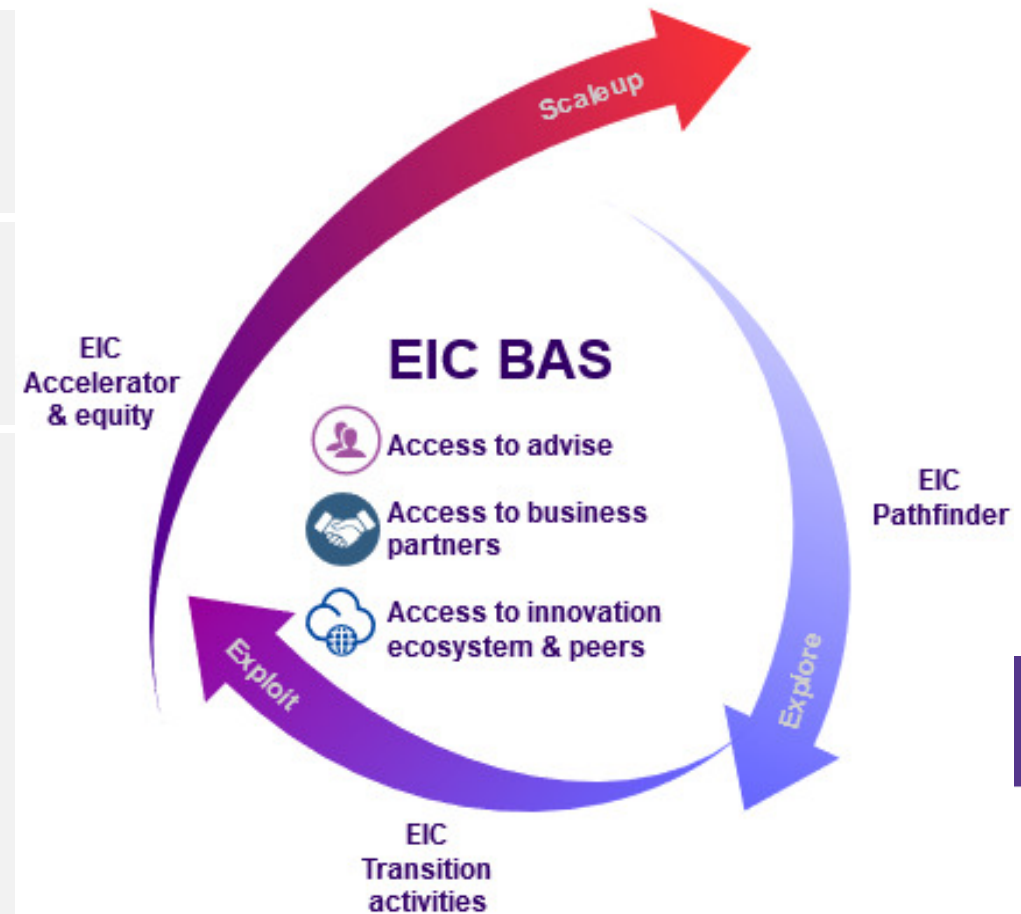Accelerate EIC innovations and growth of EIC companies

WHAT?
Access to tailor-made services worth up to **€50k+**

WHO?
- **EIC Awardees : Pathfinder, Transition, Accelerator** (H2020 legacy projects included)
- **Applicants** to EIC Accelerator 2nd stage (3 days coaching)
- **Horizon Europe Seal of excellence**
- **Women Tech EU**

Scaleup

EIC Accelerator & equity

EIC BAS

Access to advise

Access to business partners

Access to innovation ecosystem & peers

Exploit

EIC Pathfinder

Explore

EIC Transition activities

EIC Business Acceleration Services (BAS)

European Innovation Council

Access to Advice and skills

Coaching

Women Leadership

CO_2 Reducing GHG emissions

Access to Business Partners

Corporates

Soft Landing & trade fairs

Innovation procurers

Investors

EIC Scale Up 100

Connection to Innovation Ecosystem Partners' services

Incubators

Accelerators

Innovation Agencies

R&I Infrastructure

Venture builders

EIT KICs

EIC Community & Marketplace & Innospace

Thank you !

European
Innovation
Council

@EUeic

#Eueic