

DECISION 41/2021
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

**ON THE ALLOCATION OF THE 2022 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION
TO THE KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION COMMUNITIES (KICs)**

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY,

Having regard to 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)¹ (hereafter referred to as the ‘EIT Regulation (recast)’), and in particular Article 18(7) and Section 2(1)(c) of the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation;

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013²;

Having regard to the 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 (hereafter referred to as the “EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027”)³, in particular Chapter 3.6 thereof;

Having regard to 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 (hereinafter referred to as the “EU Financial Regulation”)⁴;

Having regard to Decision 21/2019 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 25 September 2019 on the Financial Regulation of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (hereinafter referred to as the “EIT Financial Regulation”)⁵, in particular Article 1 thereof;

Having regard to Decision 08/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the adoption of the Draft Single Programming Document (2022-2024) of the EIT⁶;

Having regard to Decision 13/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the principles on the financial sustainability of Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)⁷;

¹ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61.

² OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1.

³ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 91.

⁴ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1–222

⁵ Ares(2019)6810859

⁶ Ref. Ares(2021)1545757

⁷ Ref. Ares(2021)2134807

Having regard to Decision 14/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the principles for financing, monitoring and evaluating Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) activities⁸;

Having regard to Decision 21/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the authorisation of the EIT Director to prepare, negotiate and conclude partnership agreements and grant agreements⁹;

Having regard to Decision 28/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the principles for the determination of the EIT financial allocation to the Knowledge and Innovation Communities' (KICs') Business Plans for 2022, including the Cross-KIC activities and shared services for 2022, and the pilot Higher Education Initiative (HEI) for 2022, and repealing Decision 16/2021 of the EIT Governing Board¹⁰;

Having regard to Decision 40/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the adoption of amended Final Single Programming Document (2021-2023) of the EIT¹¹;

WHEREAS

- (1) The Governing Board of the EIT has designated three Knowledge and Innovation Communities ("KICs") in 2009 ("first wave of KICs"¹²), two KICs in 2014 ("second wave of KICs"¹³), one KIC in 2016 ("third wave of KIC"¹⁴), and two KICs in 2018 ("fourth wave of KICs"¹⁵). The EIT has concluded the Framework Partnership Agreements with the first and second wave of KICs in 2016, with the third wave of KIC in 2018 and with the fourth wave of KICs in 2020.
- (2) As of 2021, the EIT is part of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and the new specific legal framework (i.e. EIT Regulation (recast), EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027) has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 28 May 2021.
- (3) The new Partnership Agreement, aligned with the new legal framework was signed with the eight KICs in 2021, with a retroactive entry into force on 1 January 2021.
- (4) In line with the principles for the determination of the 2021 EIT financial allocation, the exact figures of the maximum 2022 EIT financial contribution for the individual KICs need to be determined.
- (5) At the date of the adoption of the present decision, only Norway and Iceland have associated to Horizon Europe. Several other third countries which were associated to the Horizon 2020 framework programme, are currently in the state of finalising the association process to Horizon Europe. It is foreseen that the Horizon Europe association agreements with these third countries covered by the transitional arrangement laid down in the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 will be concluded with retroactive application from 1 January 2021, and if the third countries will pay their financial contribution to the EU budget, additional funding may be available for the KICs after the adoption of this funding allocation decision.
- (6) By its Decision 28/2021, the EIT Governing Board has already decided to apply more favourable funding conditions (i.e. funding rate up to 100%) for Cross-KIC activities, RIS activities and new action supporting

⁸ Ref. Ares(2021)3111256

⁹ Ref. Ares(2021)3798804

¹⁰ Ref. Ares(2021)4370362

¹¹ Ref. Ares(2021)7374356

¹² EIT Digital, EIT Climate-KIC, EIT InnoEnergy

¹³ EIT Health, EIT RawMaterials

¹⁴ EIT Food

¹⁵ EIT Manufacturing, EIT Urban Mobility

the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of the higher education sector (pilot HEI action) in 2022; with the exception of cross-KIC thematic innovation projects for 2022 which will have a funding rate up to 70%.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Financial allocation for the EIT KIC Fund in 2022

(1) The maximum 2022 EIT financial contribution covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022 to each KIC shall be allocated as follows:

- EIT Climate-KIC:** EUR 21,179,998 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT Digital:** EUR 24,738,315 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT InnoEnergy:** EUR 36,581,687 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT Health:** EUR 59,269,721 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT RawMaterials:** EUR 55,212,762 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT Food:** EUR 50,517,516 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT Manufacturing:** EUR 40,062,741 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)
- EIT Urban Mobility:** EUR 42,437,259 (excluding the EIT financial contribution earmarked for the implementation of Cross-KIC activities and the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions)

(2) Each KIC's Business Plan shall comply with the funding allocation principles laid down in Article 1(1) of Decision 28/2021 of the EIT Governing Board.

Article 2
Financial allocation for the Cross-KIC Fund in 2022

Further to Article 2 of Decision 28/2021 of the EIT Governing Board and based on the proposal submitted by KICs, EUR 30,000,000 shall be available to KICs for Cross-KIC activities, out of which EUR 5,000,000 is for Cross-KIC thematic innovations ('Cross-KIC Fund').

Article 3
Financial allocation for the HEI Fund in 2022

Further to Article 2 of Decision 28/2021 of the EIT Governing Board and based on the proposal submitted by KICs, **EUR 29,000,000** shall be available to KICs for the pilot initiative to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of Higher Education institutions ('HEI Fund').

Article 4
Award and implementation

- (1) Based on the submitted Business Plans 2021-2022 by the KICs, the EIT Director shall award the 2022 grant to each KIC, subject to fulfilment of specific conditions stipulated by the Governing Board.
- (2) The EIT Director shall be responsible for the implementation of this decision, including the communication of the strategic recommendations or any other specific conditions agreed by the Governing Board for each KIC to be addressed and including the signature of the amendment of the Grant Agreements.

Article 5
**Possible additional funding following the accession of further third countries
to the Horizon Europe Framework Programme**

If the Horizon Europe association agreements with the third countries, which have not yet associated to Horizon Europe and which are subject to the transitional arrangement laid down in the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022, will be adopted with retroactive application from 1 January 2021, and the third countries will pay their financial contribution to the EU budget, the Governing Board shall decide on the allocation of additional funding to the KICs in 2022.

Article 6
Conditionality upon the final adoption of the EIT budget

The financial allocation provided for in the present decision is subject to the adoption of the Budget and Establishment Plan 2022 of the EIT, the Annual Work Programme 2022 which is part of the EIT Single Programming Document 2022-2024, as Financing Decision, and the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022, which will determine the amount of EU contribution to the EIT in 2022. In case of a reduction in the financial contribution available for grants in the final EIT Budget, the maximum 2022 EIT financial contribution to each KIC shall be amended proportionally.

Article 7
Entry into force and final provisions

This decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done in Budapest on 25 November 2021

(e-signed)

Gioia Ghezzi

Chairperson of the EIT Governing Board