The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
Innovation in the EU: What is the EIT?

- EU body

Created in 2008:

To increase European sustainable growth and competitiveness by
- Reinforcing the innovation capacity of the EU
- Creating the entrepreneurs of tomorrow
How does the EIT work?

- Full integration of all three sides of the Knowledge Triangle through Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)

Boost the innovation process from:

- idea to product
- lab to market
- student to entrepreneur
What is a KIC?

- A KIC is a highly autonomous partnership of top-class higher education institutions, research organisations, companies and other stakeholders in the innovation process that tackles societal challenges through the development of products, services and processes and also by nurturing innovative entrepreneurial people.
The existing KICs

- Three KICs were launched in 2010:

  - Climate change mitigation and adaptation
  - Information and Communication Technologies
  - Sustainable energies
KICs offer a new way of addressing Societal Challenges

Main characteristics

- **long-term strategic** approach – at least 7 years!
- **high degree of integration** – the KIC Legal Entity
- **effective governance and management**: leadership by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and an executive management team
- clear targets and deliverables - each KIC sets up **business plans with measurable deliverables**
- **smart funding & high degree of commitment from partners** (EIT funding to KICs is max. 25% of their total budget on average, with 75% to be attracted from other sources – public and private)
- the **co-location** model
The co-location centres: bringing people together in new ways

- Each of the KICs operates across 5 or 6 innovation hubs called co-location centres
- KICs give EU dimension to the hubs
- There are currently 19 co-location centres spread across Europe

EIT ICT Labs
KIC InnoEnergy
Climate KIC
The EIT in figures – 352 KIC Partners

Climate-KIC
- Business: 68
- Higher Education: 32
- Research: 30
- Cities & Regions: 30

EIT ICT Labs
- Business: 25
- Higher Education: 35
- Research: 17
- Cities & Regions: 9

KIC InnoEnergy
- Business: 60
- Higher Education: 24
- Research: 19
- Cities & Regions: 3
Some of the KIC partners
The EIT in figures – Promising results

- More than 1000 students
- 108 start-ups created
- 404 business ideas incubated
- 89 new products, services and processes launched
The EIT in 2014-2020 – Horizon 2020

- **Why?**
  - Alignment of priorities
  - Promoting synergies
  - Bringing a clear added value

- **Funding**
  - H2020: EUR 70,2bn
  - EIT: EUR 2,7bn
The EIT in 2014-2020 – Strategic Innovation Agenda

- Priorities for 2014-2020
- Main principles
  - Consolidation of existing KICs
  - Creation of new KICs
  - The EIT as an institute (outreach and dissemination; simplification)
The future KICs – 5 new KICs; 3 waves

2014
- Raw materials
- Healthy living and active ageing

2016
- Food4future
- Added value manufacturing

2018
- Urban mobility
2014 Call for KICs proposals – Roadmap

14 February 2014
• Publication of the 2014 Call for KICs

14 March 2014
• Information Day for applicants in Budapest

10 September 2014
• Close of the 2014 call for KICs (at least 6 months after launch of the call)

09 December 2014
• Designation of new KICs by EIT GB
2014 Call for KICs proposals – General information

- Call package published
  - Call text
  - Selection Criteria
  - Framework of Guidance
  - Principles for financing, monitoring and evaluating KIC activities
  - EIT Financial Regulation

- **One single call** in 2014 for Healthy living and active ageing and Raw materials
  - Same eligibility and selection criteria for all thematic fields

- **One proposal** from each of the thematic fields will be designated by EIT GB
2014 Call for KICs proposals – Why is it special?

• Call for selection and designation
  – Funding comes after!
  – Implementation comes after!

• Selection of an integrated **partnership**

• No list of activities

• Indicative nature by design
  – Broad thematic factsheets
  – Flexibility and creativity
2014 Call for KICs proposals – What has changed?

Compared to the 2009 Call, there is a particular focus on:

- Economic and social impact
- The business model and financial plan
- Demonstrating commitment, including financial commitment
- Strong and diverse partnership
2014 Call for KICs proposals – Selection Criteria

**Strategy**
- Strategic approach
- Added-value, innovativeness and synergies
- KIC partnership

**Operations**
- KIC governance
- Leadership and operations
- KIC business model and financial plan

**Impact**
- Impact and Competitiveness
- Outputs (KPIs) and KIC scoreboard
- Communication, outreach and dissemination
2014 Call for KICs proposals – Evaluation process

- Eligibility check
- Panel of Experts
- Final Recommendation Panel
- EIT GB Hearings with top three proposals
2014 Call for KICs proposals – Evaluation process

Panel of Experts

- Five experts per thematic area (three thematic and two horizontal experts)
- Experts will evaluate proposals against the selection criteria

Final Recommendation Panel

- **Report** to the EIT Governing Board containing an overview, including strengths and weaknesses, of the three highest-ranked proposals per thematic area
- **Recommendations** on the way in which these proposals may need to be improved and/or strengthened
2014 Call for KICs proposals – Evaluation process

EIT GB Hearings

• Hearings with representatives from the three highest-ranked proposals from each thematic area
• Hearings will take place at the EIT premises in Budapest on 9 December 2014
• Designation of one KIC per thematic area
What happens if you win the KIC bid?

- The modalities of the Start-Up Grant will be communicated to the new KICs shortly after the designation decision of the EIT Governing Board in December 2014

- These modalities will be included in a Start-Up package, comprising a Roadmap for the first year of operations
The EIT may award a grant up to **EUR 4 million** to each of the two new KICs.

The grant may cover, for example, the following activities:

- Establishment of legal structures, including the set-up of the **KIC Legal Entity (LE)**
- Recruitment and appointment of a **CEO** and other core staff
- Coordination and signature of the **Internal Agreements**
- Preparation of the first **2016 KIC Business Plan**
2014 Call for KICs proposals

For up-to-date information please visit