

Backing visionary entrepreneurs

Main novelties of the European Innovation Council

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EIC Applicants day 19/03/2021

European
Innovation
Council



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**
1. **Steered by EIC Board** of leading innovators (entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, ecosystem)
 2. **Business Acceleration Services** (coaches/ mentors, corporates, investors, ecosystem)
 3. **Pro-active management** (roadmaps, reviews, re-orientations, etc) with EIC Programme Managers
 4. **Follow up funding for results from Horizon** (ERC, EIT, collaborative) & national programmes



1. Steered by EIC Board

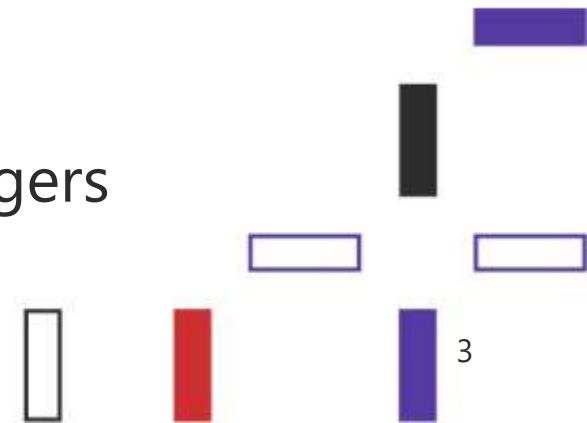
Established by Horizon Europe legislation (Specific Programme)

- **15-20 independent members** from the innovation ecosystem, appointed following open call
- **EIC Board president** appointed following transparent recruitment process

Calls for Members expected to be launched in April

Advises Commission on:

- **Overall strategy** for EIC
- **Work Programme** and implementation
- **Strategic portfolios** of projects & profile of programme managers
- **Other innovation matters** on request





2. Business Acceleration Services: Objectives



Accelerate EIC innovations and growth of EIC companies



Tailor-made service to meet needs of our clients



All EIC beneficiaries: Accelerator, Pathfinder, Seal of excellence, applicants



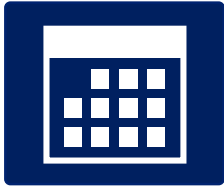
Activate partners all around Europe



Business Acceleration Services



Access to Advice: Coaching, Mentoring, Expertise & Training
Support for: **Women Innovators, Reducing GHG** emissions



Access to business partners: Corporates, Investors, Procurers, etc



Access to innovation ecosystem & peers: EIT, EEN, Incubators, Accelerators, Agencies, IPR Helpdesk

Who has access to what?

	Coaching	Activities open for application through Community	Services triggered by proactive project management
2nd stage Accelerator applicants	√		
Seal of Excellence	√	√	
All EIC funded projects (Accelerator, transition, Pathfinder)	√	√	√

Access to events/ services through the [EIC Community](#)



3. Proactive management

- **Project reviews** against milestones, with flexibility:
 - Milestones to be proposed in applications
 - Reviews to decide on whether to continue, reorient, suspend, stop
 - Reviews may also lead to amendments to future milestones
- Projects **allocated to Portfolios**:
 - Especially (but not only) for projects selected following Pathfinder Challenge calls
 - Overseen by EIC Programme Managers
 - Portfolio objectives and roadmap prepared by Programme Manager in consultation with projects/ beneficiaries
 - Portfolio activities supported (events, data sharing, etc) to strengthen overall portfolio and prepare transition to innovation





Specific provisions for IPRs (Pathfinder, Transition)

- Provisions in Work Programme (Annex 7) and in Model Grant Agreement (pending).
- Main elements (in addition to normal Horizon Europe rules) concern:
 - 1. Exchange of information on preliminary findings** and results
(on request, relates to information not disclosure, via EIC Market Place with in-built confidentiality/ protection)
 - 2. Priority to exploitation**
(in Plan for Exploitation and Dissemination with best efforts to exploit)
 - 3. Rights of EIC inventors**
(access rights for exploitation by individual inventors in not-for-profit beneficiaries)

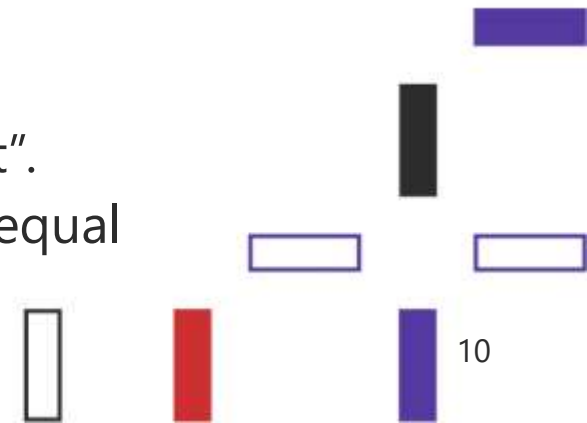
Adhoc grants (Pathfinder, Transition)

- Additional **grants of €50K** to existing Pathfinder & Transition projects
(including FET Open, FET Proactive)
- Supports:
 1. **Assessment of Innovation Potential**/ Commercial Feasibility (Pathfinder only)
 2. **Portfolio Activities** (Pathfinder, Transition)
- By Project Partners (also individual Partners, 3rd parties)
- Applications following exchange with Programme Manager and/or Project Review
(not subject to a call)



4. Follow up funding for results from Horizon and national programmes

- Fast Track scheme for projects funded by Horizon:
 - Starting with ERC, EIT/ KICs, EIC, Eurostars
- Plug-In scheme for projects funded by eligible national programmes
 - Pilot/ design phase in 2021
 - Expert Group to advise on eligible programmes
- Implemented by funding body of existing project:
 - Project review to assess EIC Accelerator criteria on "excellence" and "impact".
 - If successful, can apply directly to full application stage of EIC Accelerator (equal treatment with other applicants)





Thank you!

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