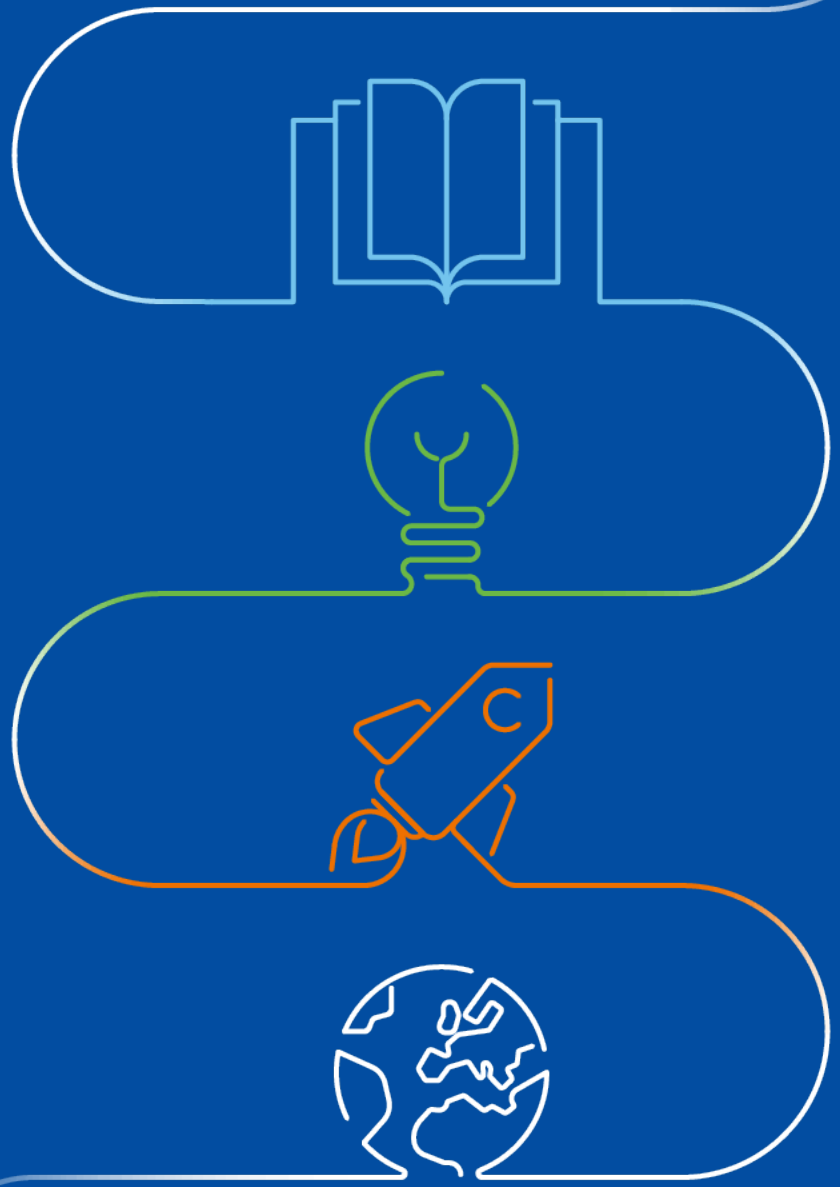
European Institute of Innovation & Technology

EIT Webinar for COST ACTION participants

EIT, MAKING INNOVATION HAPPEN

8 October, 2025



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EIT Speakers – Innovation Ecosystem Unit

Laurent Roux, Head of Section – Innovation Capacity
Innovation Officer – Business Creation, Innovation, Access to Finance, International Cooperation & Internationalization and EIT Community activities

Marian Belko, Head of Section – Entrepreneurial Education
Innovation Officer - Entrepreneurial Education

Vasco de Oliveira Janeiro – Lead on Innovation agenda of the EIT
Innovation Officer - Innovation Capacity

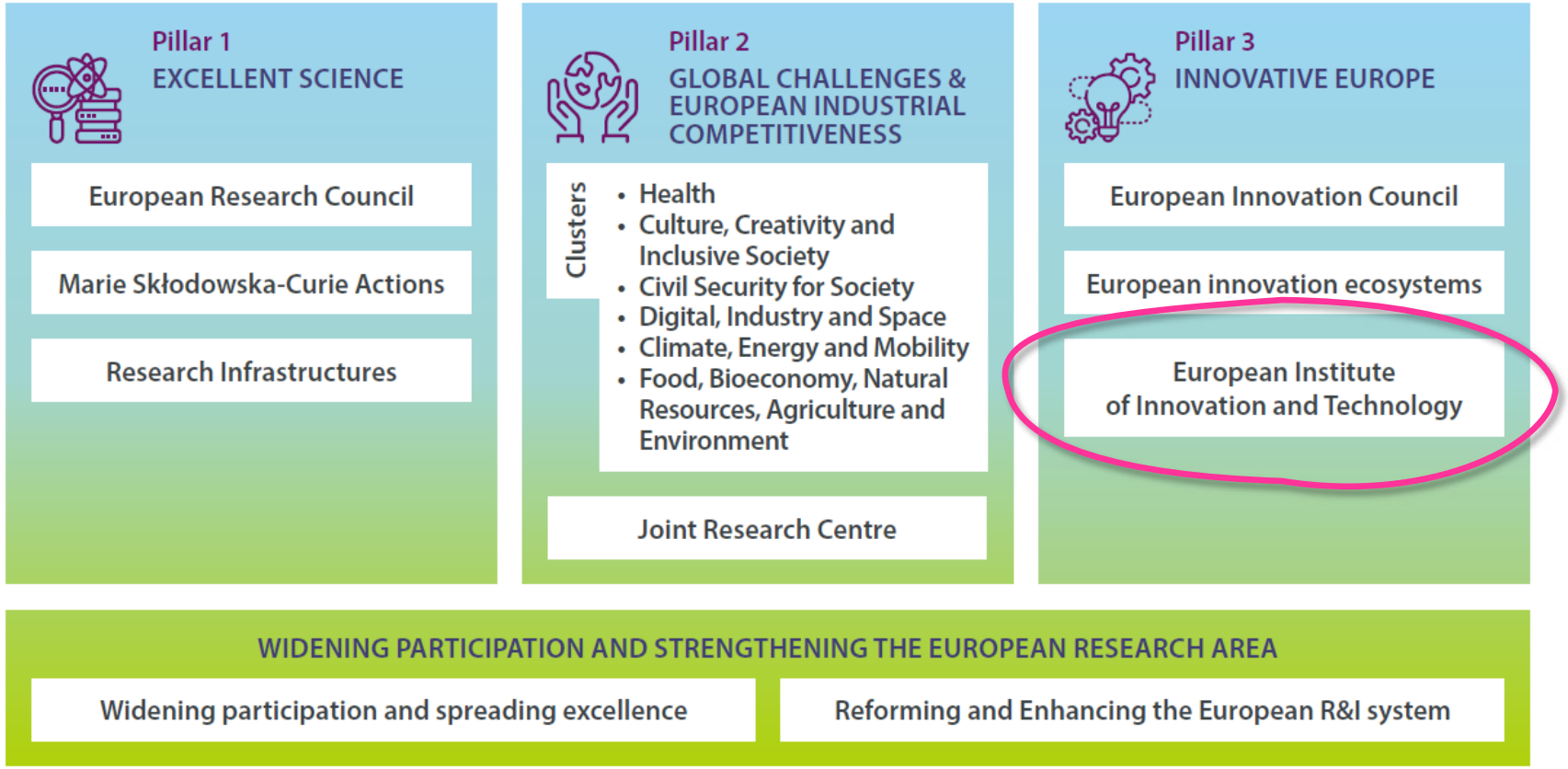
Agnes Molnar – Regional Innovation Scheme, EIT-COST collaboration
Innovation Project Support Officer

EIT: BOOSTING EUROPE'S COMPETITIVENESS

The EIT **creates sustainable innovation ecosystems that enhance Europe's competitiveness**, by:

1. Connecting **Universities**, **Companies** and **Research Centres** across Europe to work together on innovative solutions to **major global challenges**.
2. Providing pioneering programmes on **innovation, business creation & entrepreneurial education**
3. Ensuring that our ecosystems are **financially sustainable** and able to generate private investments

WHERE ARE WE IN HORIZON EUROPE?



WHO DO WE WORK WITH?

More than **2 420 Key players** from across Europe and beyond, including:

- 1 400 + companies (including SMEs)
- 500 + universities and higher education institutions
- 350 + research centres
- 250 cities, regions, and NGOs
- And many more…!

HOW DO WE DO IT?

EIT KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION COMMUNITIES

- Our activities are offered through public and private partnerships called, **EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs).** Each partnership is focused on a global challenge and brings together the key players in the sector

- The role of the EIT as an independent EU body, **orchestrating the partnerships** is crucial for their success

EIT KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION (KICs)

THE EIT KICS AND THEIR PARTNERS MAKE UP THE *EIT COMMUNITY*

*Call text expected early 2025

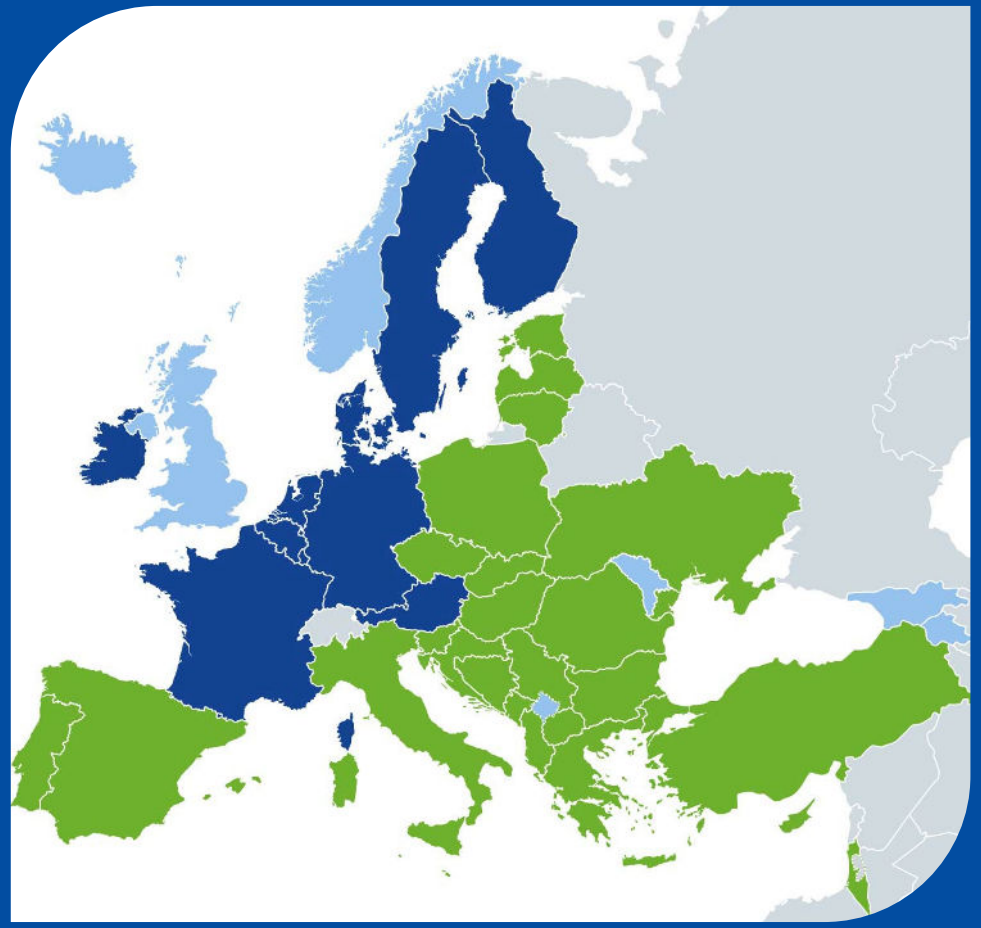
EIT REGIONAL INNOVATION SCHEME (EIT RIS)

Objective

- Enhance the innovation capacity in moderate and modest / emerging innovators* Member States, eligible Horizon Europe Associated Countries and the EU Outermost Regions

Approach

- Capacity building activities and closer KT interactions
- Widen participation, including through RIS Hubs
- Place based approach via EIT Community Hubs Home - EIT Regional Innovation Scheme
- For EIT opportunities in your country you can turn to the EIT Community Officers (where there is EIT Community Hub established)



EIT RIS eligible countries (2025-2027) in green

*According to the European Innovation Scoreboard

OUR IMPACT SO FAR

70+
Hubs across Europe

2 420+
Leading partners

9 900+
Ventures supported

9.5 BILLION
Investment raised by EIT ventures

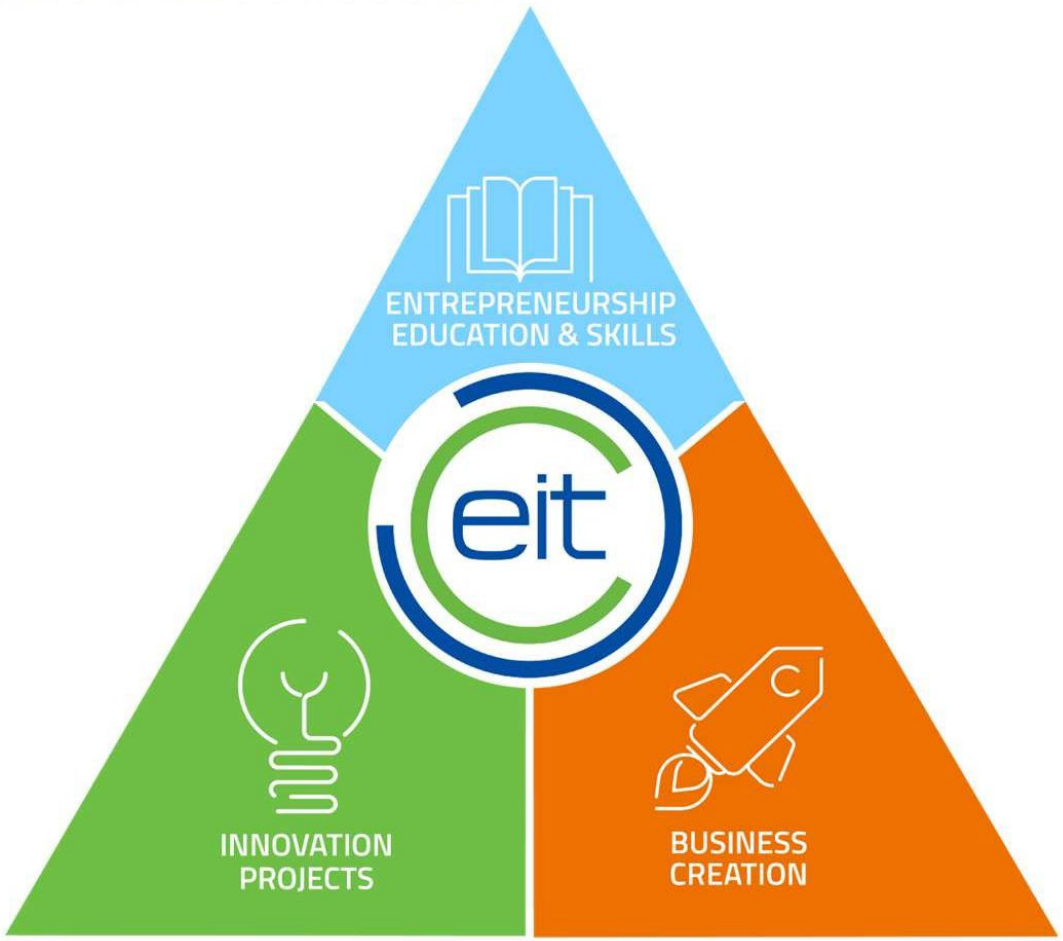
2 400+
New products or services

1.3 MILLION
Learners trained

71 BILLION
valuation of EIT start-ups

WHAT MAKES THE EIT *UNIQUE*?

INTERGATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE



WATCH VIDEO

EDUCATION & SKILLS

Creating future innovators:

Deliver entrepreneurs and provide business and industry with a skilled workforce

WATCH VIDEO

INNOVATION

Breaking down the barriers for collaboration:

Innovation projects between universities, research organisations and business that helps to turn research into commercial products and services

WATCH VIDEO

BUSINESS CREATION

Turning ideas into businesses.

Help start-ups and ventures to start and accelerate the growth of their business.

European Institute of Innovation & Technology

EIT KICs Business Creation

Webinar for COST ACTION participants

Laurent Roux
08 Oct 2025, 14:00-15:00 CET, online

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EIT BUSINESS CREATION (BC) & ACCELERATION

EIT powered activities:

- **Tailored support for entrepreneurs:** business coaching & mentoring, access to market and customers, access to new technologies and testbeds, access to talent, access to finance...
- **Sourcing start-ups and scale-ups:** venture and ideas competitions, referrals
- **Venture support** within thematic specialisations of each KIC

Benefits for start-ups & scale-ups:

- Market orientation
- Shorter time-to-market
- Access to Europe's largest innovation network
- Proximity to finance sources

EIT unicorns & EIT Dealroom: Explore Dealroom here

BC – NUMBERS AND SUCCESS STORIES

- 9900+ EIT supported ventures / 9.5+Bln EUR raised by EIT supported ventures / 71+Bln EUR valuation of EIT supported ventures (Dealroom)
- All kinds of animals in the startup zoo (unicorns, centaurs, gazelles, zebras, camels…)
- In 2024, EIT ranked as best public investor by Sifted (FT) behind Europe's 250 fastest-growing startups
- In 2018-2019, EIT Health and EIT Digital recognized as best public accelerators by UBI Global
- In 2023-2024, EIT Urban Mobility and EIT InnoEnergy recognized as most active sectorial investors by Pitchbook
- In 2023, EIT recognized by CB Insights as top 25 Accelerator
- In 2023, (Mind the Bridge) Startup Ecosystem Stars Award received by EIT Global Outreach
- "EIT journey": often selected / awarded at KIC level, then EIT Awards level and then raising external growth funding + BC success stories from EIT Alumni, EIT RIS / SRI, EIT WEL
- KICs websites / social media, annual reports and communication materials; used by KICs BC and EU Affairs; Country factsheets prepared by EIT; used upon request from CABs

EIT KICs BC guide 2025 and EIT KICs Innovation guide 2025

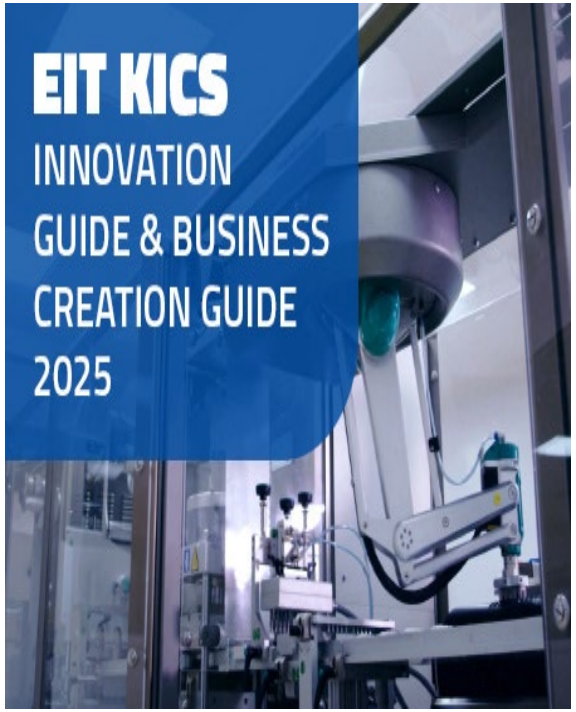
- https://www.eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/eit-launches-two-new-guides-showcase-innovation-and-business-creation-impact

- Available via EIT Knowledge Center:
  - https://www.eit.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-05/EIT%20BC%20Guide_2025.pdf
  - https://www.eit.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2025-05/EIT%20KICs%20Innovation%20Guide_2025.pdf

- **Audience:** potential beneficiaries, EIT partners, DGs, general public…
- BC & Inno main Impact figures
- **2025 BC and Inno programs and opportunities for beneficiaries (links, details)**
- **EIT KICs BC and Inno Success stories**
- BC and Inno related sections on EIT RIS, Cross-KICs, EIT Alumni, WEL, IP, Collaborations with other DGs
- Social Media materials available including on EIT and EIT KICs YouTube channels

- Accompanying BC and Inno Factsheets 2025 in preparation to be published Q4 2025 on EIT website

- EIT KICs Education guide 2025 using same template to be published Q4 2025



EIT BUSINESS CREATION & ACCELERATION (CATALOGUE 2025)

EIT Business Creation & Acceleration

EIT Climate-KIC
- Climathon
- ClimateLaunchpad
- ClimAccelerator

EIT Digital
- Deep Hack
- Open Innovation Factory
- Venture Programme
- Equity Portfolio
- EIT Digital Champions
- Growth Services
- EIC Accelerator Fast Track

EIT Food
- Food Impact Fund
- EIT Food Seedbed Incubator
- Empowering Women in Agrifood
- Sales Booster
- EIT Food Accelerator Network
- RisingFoodStars
- Corporate Venturing Services

EIT Health
- Wildcard
- Bootcamps (some accept Seed)
- Finance Booster
- DIGInnovation
- Catapult
- InnoStars Awards
- Investor Network

EIT InnoEnergy
- Innovators

EIT Manufacturing
- Venture Building
- Accelerate
- Transform
- BoostUp!
- Access2Tech

EIT RawMaterials
- Jumpstarter
- Lab2Market
- Booster Call
- Open Innovation Services
- European Raw Materials Alliance

EIT Urban Mobility
- Strategic Investments
- Growth Lab
- Mobility Corporate Venture Builder
- Market Readiness Accelerators
- Investment Readiness Programme
- Scale-Up Programme

EIT Community
- Jumpstarter
- Supernovas
- Connect & Experie
- Calling2Scale

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EIT BUSINESS CREATION (BC) – USEFUL LINKS

- KICs websites and dedicated BC / Investments / Ecosystems sections.
- KICs SoMe channels and Linkedin of KICs BC Directors and team members.

- EU Funding & Tender, https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home
- EIT Business Creation, https://www.eit.europa.eu/activities/business-creation
- OPPORTUNITIES & OPEN CALL, https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/opportunities

- For success stories, impact: reports by Startup Genome, StartupBlink, State of EU tech, Dealroom, Pitchbook, CrunchBase, KPMG, EY, MindTheBridge…

European Institute of Innovation & Technology

EIT Entrepreneurial Education

Webinar for COST ACTION participants

Marian Belko
08 Oct 2025, 14:00-15:00 CET, online

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EIT EDUCATION: OUR UNIQUE ADDED VALUE

- *The unique aspect of EIT's education lies in the **deep understanding that KICs have of their own respective sectors**, enabling them to **rapidly identify talent needs (skills intelligence)***

- ***Customised training programmes** to meet the specific needs of the sector.*

- ***Entrepreneurship & Innovation** skills focus, embedded in every program*

EIT EDUCATION OVERVIEW

1. SOCIETAL & BUSINESS NEEDS FOCUS
2. LIFELONG LEARNING
3. KICs AND EIT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

UNIVERSITIES

1. INNOVATION CAPACITY BUILDING

- Focus on capability to Innovate and to Empower researchers to build ventures
- HEI Higher Education initiative

STUDENTS & ADULT LEARNERS

2. KICS EDUCATION PROGRAMS (Master , PhD and Non-degree)

- Innovation, entrepreneurial & mind set
- EIT Label
- Tailored to sector and market needs

COMPANIES

3. ACADEMIES

- Upskilling & reskilling programmes to tackle specific skills gaps in specific markets

SPECIFIC TARGETS

4. SPECIAL INITIATIVES

- Initiatives focused on policy priorities
- EIT Girls Go Circular (Youth)
- EIT Deep Tech Talent Initiative

eit Campus

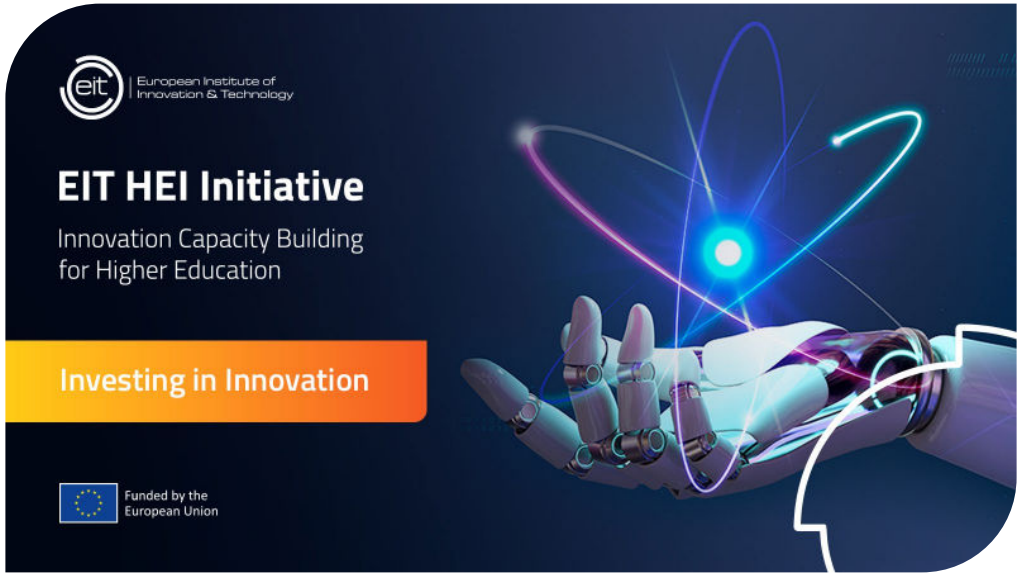
eit Alumni

EIT LABEL-FLASHIP EDUCATION INITIATIVE

- The EIT Label is **a quality seal awarded to excellent KIC education activities** (Masters, Doctoral, Fellowships, professional, lifelong learning) with strong focus on innovation and entrepreneurial education
- EIT educational programmes are **carried out by universities & their faculties** aligned with EIT specific learning outcomes and other quality criteria required for the EIT Label
- Graduates are awarded an **EIT Label certificate**

EIT HIGHER EDUCATION INITIATIVE

- By supporting such activities, the Initiative will create a **systemic impact**, empowering HEIs to become regional engines of innovation and foster sustainable growth and jobs across Europe.
- The EIT Higher Education Initiative organises **calls for proposals**, inviting European higher education institutions to design institution-wide action plans to help improve entrepreneurial and innovation capacity across all institutional levels.
- **New focus** introduced on the development of Deep Tech talent at HEIs, connecting with the new flagship initiative launched under the New European Innovation Agenda, the Deep Tech Talent Initiative.



DEEP TECH TALENT INITIATIVE

As part of the New European Innovation Agenda, the EIT **is skilling 1 million Europeans in deep tech** (robotics, AI, cleantech, quantum computing, and more).

Why? To fill critical labour gaps to fight climate change and digitalise our society, develop better ways to create and use energy and critical resources and keep the EU at the forefront of global innovation

What we do: Create trainings and courses with direct industry input and built-in pipelines for learners to join our ecosystem.

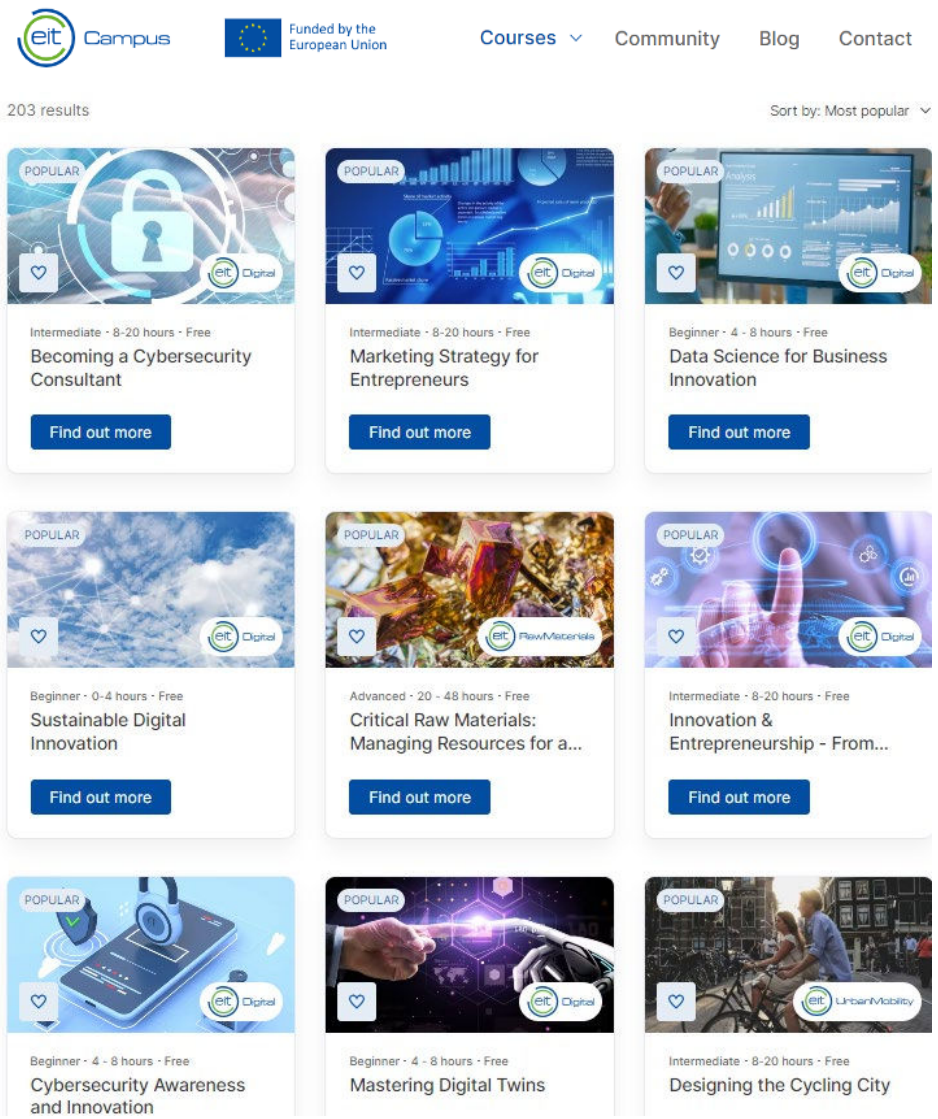
How? Interested organisations can **take the Pledge** to help develop the courses and trainings for our deep tech learners

EIT CAMPUS

- A unique entry point to all EIT entrepreneurship education and skill development activities offered by the EIT Community

- 204 courses from 173 partners in 24 languages are now live focusing in the areas of climate, food, urban mobility, raw materials, digitalisation, manufacturing and energy

eit-campus.eu



EU SKILLS ACADEMIES *- mobilising stakeholders to provide sector-specific skills*

- Growing demand from the EC services to implement new education initiatives.

- Addressing skills shortages is imperative for the EU to foster supply chains in strategic industries, such as energy, clean technologies, advanced technologies, and defense.

- The EIT Community as a reliable partner in implementing EU policy to provide sector-specific skills in alignment with industry needs.

- The EIT Community has developed a valuable know-how in skills intelligence and mapping, and in the deployment of large training programs combining tech skills with innovation and entrepreneurial skills.

EU SKILLS ACADEMIES - *ongoing*

BATTERY ACADEMY

Implementation since 2022 -

- TARGET: **100 000 direct learners** trained in 3 years, and 700 000 benefitting indirectly from the instrument.
- FUNDING: DG EMPL (Employment)
- BUDGET*: EUR 10,000,000

SOLAR ACADEMY

Implementation since 2024

- TARGET: **100 000 direct learners** across the EU solar photovoltaic and related industry, within 3 years from the launch.
- FUNDING: DG GROW (Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs)
- BUDGET*: EUR 9,000,000

RAW MATERIALS ACADEMY

Implementation since 2025

- TARGET: **100 000 direct learners** for exploration, extraction, processing, and recycling of raw materials, including SMEs, within 3 years from the launch.
- FUNDING: DG GROW (Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs)
- BUDGET*: EUR 10,000,000

ADVANCED MATERIALS ACADEMY

Implementation since 2025

- TARGET: **200 000 direct learners** to be trained in design, development and application of advanced materials, within 4 years from the launch.
- FUNDING: DG RTD (Research and Innovation)
- BUDGET*: EUR 10,000,000

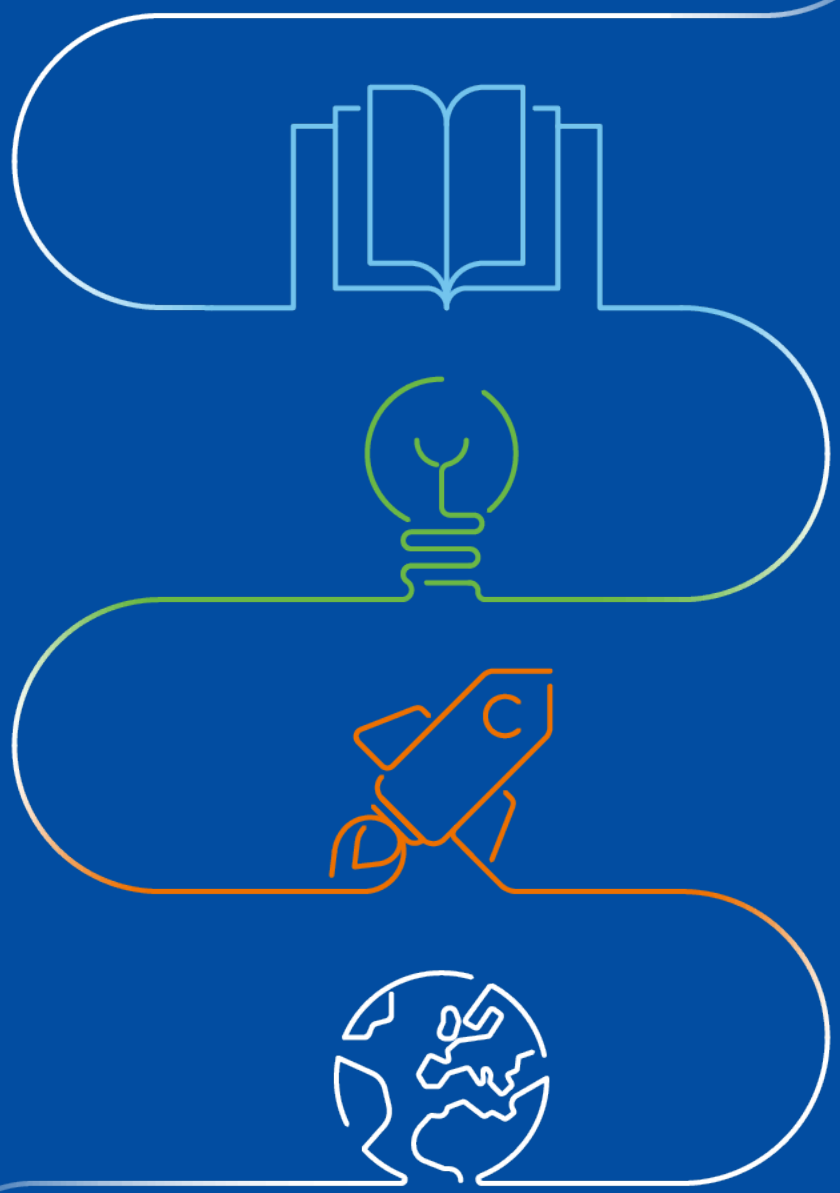
** Including EIT remuneration*

European Institute of Innovation & Technology

EIT KICs Innovation

Webinar for COST ACTION participants

Vasco de Oliveira Janeiro
08 Oct 2025, 14:00-15:00 CET, online



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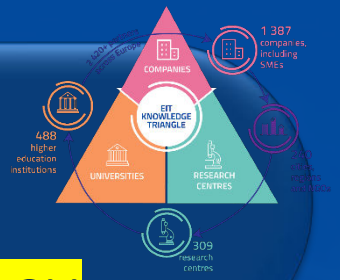
EIT INNOVATION MODEL

ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION & SKILLS

BUSINESS CREATION & ACCELERATION

SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION-DRIVEN RESEARCH



- ✓ Solving global societal challenges
- ✓ World-class and diverse partnership
- ✓ Connecting innovators
- ✓ Accelerating the transition from lab-to-market
- ✓ Delivering breakthrough innovations & start-ups
- ✓ Major focus on commercialisation

EUROPE'S LARGEST INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

OVERVIEW OF EIT INNOVATION FRAMEWORK

GENERAL	HE Reg.; EIT Reg.; EIT SIA 2021-2027; KICs Calls; EIT-KICs Partnership Agreements; Grant Agreements
SPECIFIC	Calls KICs BPs; KICs Inno Calls; EIT Principles for Financing, M&E; EIT Impact Fwk; EIT Innovation Principles; EIT Awds
PEOPLE & PLACES	EIT GB/HQ; KICs; Innovation Panel; IP WG; Financial Sustainability SPOCs; CLCs & Innovation Hubs
SYNERGIES	MoU with EPO/EUIPO; Linkages with EU programmes/initiatives – DG EAC, DG RTD, EIC, ERC, JRC

A COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL, STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT KICS' INNOVATION

EIT KICS INNOVATION PANEL

- Platform for coordination of innovation activities with **EIT KICs Innovation Directors** - meeting every Quarter
- Present **impactful activities,** innovation calls, **good practices**, FS, and post-funding monitoring
- Contribute to the **dissemination & exploitation** of results
- Dialogue with European Commission - DG EAC to identify **synergies** (e.g. DG RTD, EIC, ERC, EUIPO, EPO, JRC)

EIT INNOVATION PRINCIPLES

- Mandatory KIC **co-funding level** (min 30% for the pillar)

- **For each innovation project:**
  - ✓ **Commercialisation strategy**
  - ✓ **Clear outputs** (new products/ services/processes)
  - ✓ **Post-funding monitoring** of minimum five years
  - ✓ **Dissemination and communication** plan

EIT INNOVATION PRINCIPLES IN PLACE SINCE 2019

EIT INNOVATION-POWERED ACTIVITIES

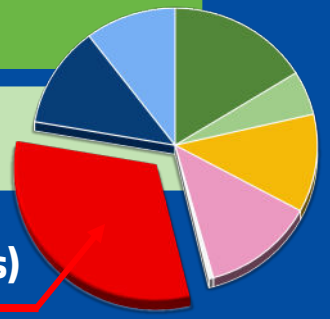
KIC Innovation Project [example]

- ✓ Close-to-market; Funding >500 kEUR
- ✓ 3-4 countries; 2-3 sides KT
- ✓ Participants: start-ups/RTOs/SMEs/HEIs
- ✓ Fin. Sust.: Equity returns; revenue sharing

EUR 1.5 billion > 2379 projects (2014-2025)

+2450 New products & services

276 IPR App. (2021-2023)



Innovation (> 1/3 EIT grants)

EIT KICS INNOVATION GUIDE 2025

1	**CONTEXT**	• Executive Summary; EIT Innovation Model; EU Strategic Priorities
2	**KICS INNOVATION PROFILES**	• Key Impacts of Innovation Activities; Innovation Outlook; Success Stories; Featured Innovation Project
3	**CATALYSING & EMPOWERING INNOVATION**	• RIS; Education & Alumni; Women E'ship; EIT Community; IPR

ANNEXES: LIST OF INNOVATION PROGRAMMES; SOURCES FOR MORE INFO

EIT KICS INNOVATION PROGRAMMES 2025

EIT CLIMATE KIC	Open Innovation Framework; Pathfinder; Demonstrate your innovation; Transitions Hub; Copernicus Programme
EIT INNOENERGY	Innovation Portfolio
EIT DIGITAL	Venture Program; Open Innovation Factory; SpeedMaster; Growth Services; EIT Digital Champions; DeepHack; US Landing Program; EIT Digital – EIC Fast Track
EIT HEALTH	Open Innovation; Service & Technology development; Mentoring and coaching network; User Labs (ULabs); Wild Card; SCIFI From Scientists to Innovators; Creating ValEU Innovation Training Course
EIT RAW MATERIALS	Corporate Challenges; Hackathons; Startup Scouting
EIT FOOD	Landscape of Innovation Projects; Impact Funding Framework; Fast Track to Market; Prize Based Challenge
EIT MANUFACTURING	Innovation Funding Catalyst; AGORA; Technology Radar, Inno2Market
EIT URBAN MOBILITY	Raptor; Sales Enablement; Marketplace; Horizon Lab
EIT CULTURE	Innovation initiatives
EIT COMMUNITY	Jumpstarter; Supernovas; New European Bauhaus; DTTI; EIT Campus; AI

SUCCESS STORIES

LIST OF SUCCESS STORIES EIT KICS INNOVATION GUIDE 2025

EIT CLIMATE-KIC	Bound4Blue ; Investing for 1.5°C ; RepAir D.A.C.
EIT INNOENERGY	NexWafe ; Elestor ; EBA
EIT DIGITAL	Ariadne ; Sidekick Health ; Wsense
EIT HEALTH	SAVE-COR ; AMR DetecTool ; EDIT-B
EIT RAW MATERIALS	E-Magy ; PASSENGER ; RELIFE
EIT FOOD	Ullmanna ; Mimica ; Salus Optima
EIT MANUFACTURING	CRYO-MQL ; ROBOTWIN ; STILFOLD
EIT URBAN MOBILITY	Bout ; EVOSS ; Karos Mobility

SUCCESS STORY

EOLOS Floating LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging)
eolos.com IREC (ES)

Development and deployment of a cutting-edge floating LiDAR system to measure wind speeds and other met data offshore - a cost-effective (10x less), environmentally friendly, and accurate alternative to traditional fixed met masts.

Journey 2011: Innovation Project > **2014**: Start-up EOLOS; **2014 >** KIC value-added services; **2015**: EIT Innovation Award; **2022:** EIT InnoEnergy exit

Partnerships with EDF, Iberdrola, Shell, BP, Total, etc.

Operations in Europe, America and Asia, with a turnover of EUR 10 million > leading world company.

*"The support we have received from **EIT InnoEnergy** has enabled us to turn an idea with market potential into a successful company with global operations."*
***Rajaj Aghabi**, Founder & CEO of EOLOS*

EIT KICs AI & ROBOTICS

Community
Artificial Intelligence

Funded by the
European Union

EIT AI Community

Boosting AI made in Europe

ai.eitcommunity.eu

800 EIT AI SUPPORTED START-UPS EUR 25bn VALUATION

OPPORTUNITIES

EIT KICs INNOVATION ACTIVITIES

- ✓ **EIT KICS INNOVATION GUIDE 2025** on EIT website
- ✓ 2025 EIT opportunities: https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/opportunities
- ✓ **KICs Innovation Calls** published on **F&T portal**
- ✓ Engage with the EIT KICs!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

BUSINESS

Access Europe's largest network to find new investors, customers, exceptional talent, and an opportunity to grow at an unprecedented pace

ENTREPRENEURS

Start a new business, get funding for your start-up, improve your competitiveness and gain commercial success

PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

Leverage Europe's investment in innovation and shape Europe's future towards more sustainable, inclusive and smart growth

UNIVERSITIES

Be part of a movement that enables innovation, accessing an ecosystem that helps increase your technology transfer with universities in the driving seat.

STUDENTS

We give you the skills and training to take your education to the next level with industry-led curricula combining technical studies with entrepreneurial skills. Find a job among an innovative company or create your own!

RESEARCHERS

Get your ideas off the ground, bring great ideas to life, and take your innovation to the market

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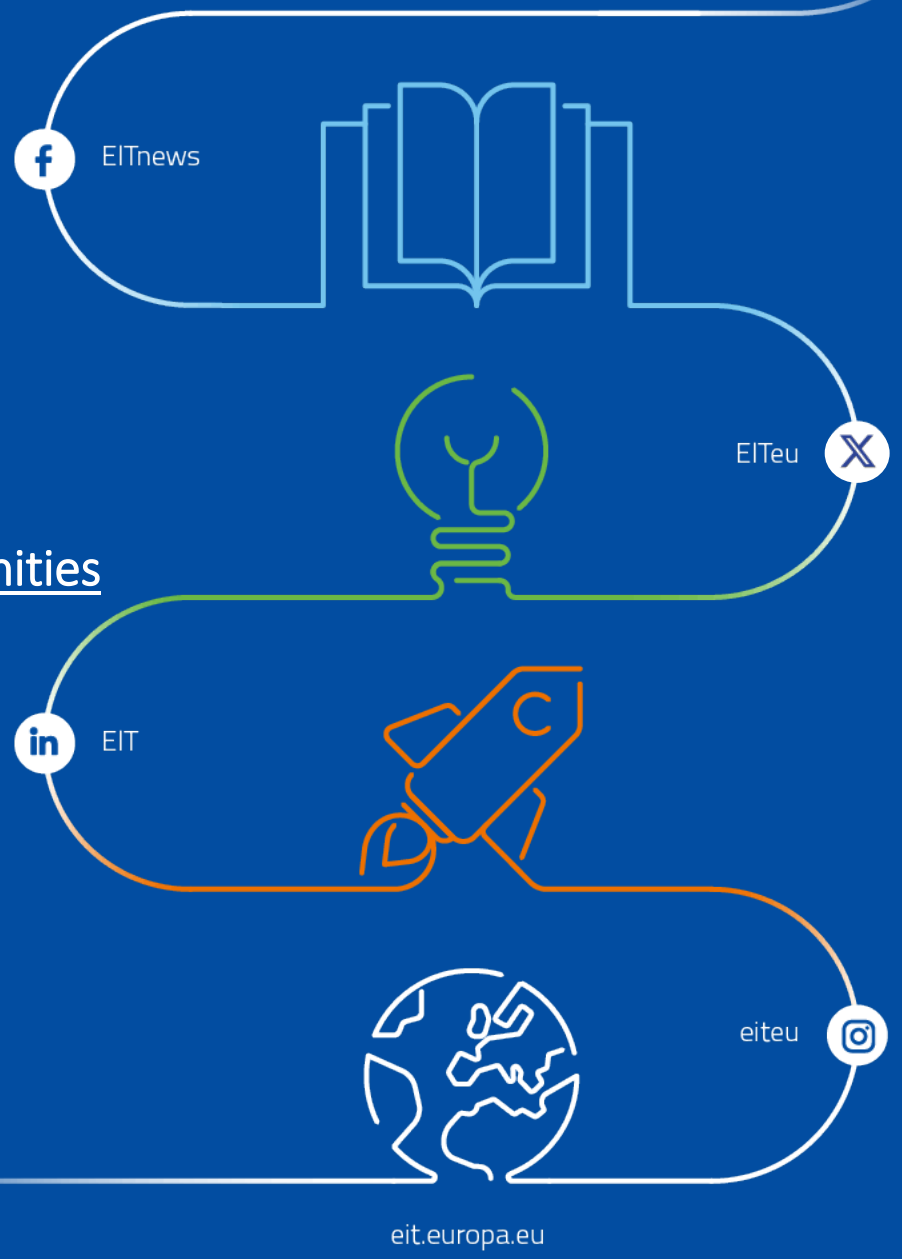
OPPORTUNITIES & OPEN CALL | eit.europa.eu/our-activities/opportunities

EIT CORE ACTIVITIES | eit.europa.eu/activities

ECOSYSTEM MAP | eit.europa.eu/eit-ecosystem-map

EIT CAMPUS | eit-campus.eu

EIT RIS | Home - EIT Regional Innovation Scheme



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