

NEW EIT STRATEGY TO POWER EUROPE'S LARGEST INNOVATION NETWORK



Join the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) on June 14th for a **Launch Event for the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027**. The Agenda lays out the EIT's plans for the coming years, which include boosting innovation in higher education, closing Europe's regional innovation gaps, increasing the impact of the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (EIT KICs), and launching two new EIT KICs. Organised under the auspices of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of EU, the launch event will consist of two parts: a high-level policy session and four thematic sessions.

High-Level Policy Session (10:00-12:50)

The launch event will begin with a high-level session focused on the EU's policy priorities for boosting research and innovation in Europe and the EIT's role in realizing those priorities through its Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027. It will consist of welcome messages and the four discussion segments outlined below. Each segment will carve out space for participant engagement and Q&A.

EIT for a strong & resilient Europe (10:20-10:40)

A panel of EU leaders will discuss the future of European research and innovation and the role of the EIT. Speakers will include Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education, and Youth, and Manuel Heitor, Portuguese Minister of Science, Technology, and Higher Education.

Strong basis & reinforced mandate (10:40-10:55)

Gioia Ghezzi, Chairwoman of the EIT Governing Board, will present the key pillars of the EIT strategy for 2021-2027. She will then speak with innovators about how the EIT Community has accelerated their work and helped translate their ideas and plans into innovative ventures, products, and services.

A vision for the future – stepping up (10:55-11:10)

Martin Kern, Director of the EIT, will outline the EIT's ambitious plans for 2021-2027. He will then speak with members of the EIT Community and external speakers about the EIT's added value and opportunities.

EIT's contribution to a green and digital European economy (11:55-12:50)

EIT KICs will lead a discussion on how the EIT Community, as Europe's largest innovation ecosystem, is leading alliances of research, business, and education to enable Europe's green and digital transition.

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New Opportunities on the EIT Horizon (13:50-17:30)

The launch event will continue in the afternoon with four thematic sessions, each dedicated to one of the pillars of the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027. The 45-minute sessions will involve participants from the EIT Community and external speakers. Short descriptions of each session can be found below.

Session 1: Strengthening the EIT Community's impact (13:50-14:35)

This session will focus on how the EIT will increase the impact of its work while preserving features such as thematic pan-European partnerships, knowledge triangle integration, and sustainability. Participants will hear about the EIT's new multiannual grant cycle, simplification measures for beneficiaries, and changes linked to the new EIT Impact Framework.

Session 2: Boosting the innovation capacity of higher education (14:45-15:30)

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) play a critical role in the innovation process. While some HEIs are becoming more innovative and integrating into innovation value chains, many are not yet well-equipped for the innovation age. This workshop will concentrate on the EIT Community's added value in supporting the development of more innovative HEIs and its new initiative to do just that.

Session 3: Increasing the EIT's regional impact (15:45-16:30)

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) was launched in 2014 to help close Europe's innovation gaps. The EIT RIS helps local innovators access EIT Community activities, creates linkages among regional innovation actors, and offers tailor-made programmes to support vibrant innovation ecosystems in countries with a lower innovation performance. The workshop will focus on the EIT's plans to boost its financial and strategic support for regional development and relevant opportunities for innovators.

Session 4: Call to action for the Cultural & Creative Sectors and Industries (16:45-17:30)

The Cultural & Creative Sectors and Industries (CCSI) are Europe's heart and soul. They highlight our diversity and inspire innovation across entire economies. The EIT is preparing to launch a new EIT KIC for the CCSIs that will create opportunities for innovation, entrepreneurial education, business creation and acceleration. This workshop will showcase the EIT's plans for supporting innovation in the CCSIs. It will also present the Selection Criteria that will be used for the upcoming Call for Proposals for the new KIC.

Register for the event now!