

Pillar 3 Innovative Europe (EIC & EIE)

Jill Leonard – National Contact Point
Innovative Europe, Horizon Europe

HORIZON
EUROPE



THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION
PROGRAMME 2021 - 2027

#HorizonEU



An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta
Department of Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science





EIC Pathfinder



EIC Pathfinder

Open

Bottom-up and interdisciplinary research & development

17-page proposal, up to €3 million (indicative), consortium of minimum 3 partners from minimum 3 EU or AC. The 2021 call closes on the 19th May 2021.

expected outcome of your project is the proof of principle

- **17 Page proposal**
- Supports **Collaborative Research**
- Bottom up – topic free
- Funding up to **€3 Million**
- **Call Deadline - 19 May 2021**

Projects from Pathfinder are eligible to:

- *Apply to additional grants of up to EUR 50 000*
- *Apply to transition activities*
- *Apply via Fast track scheme to Accelerator*

Challenges

Aim to build on new, cutting-edge directions in science and technology to disrupt a field and a market or create new opportunities by realising innovative technological solutions grounded in high-risk/high-gain research and development.

- **25 Page proposal**
- Supports **Collaborative Research and single applicants**
- Five topics: Awareness Inside, Brain, Cell & Gene therapies, Hydrogen, Living materials
- Funding up to **€4 Million**
- **Call Deadline - 27 October 2021**

Gatekeepers

Explore foundations for radically new future technologies, high-risk & high-impact interdisciplinary research (Gatekeepers):

- *Convincing long-term vision of a radically new technology*
- *Concrete and ambitious breakthrough technological target*
- *High-risk/high-gain research approach with concrete objectives*



EIC Transition Actions



EIC Transition Actions

Open

Transition funding is a new scheme, for 2021 and it is restricted to applications based on results generated by the following eligible projects:

- EIC Pathfinder projects (including projects funded under EIC pilot Pathfinder, Horizon 2020 FET-Open, FET-Proactive) and FET Flagships calls (including ERANET calls under the FET work programme)
- European Research Council (ERC) Proof of Concept projects

Call opens **15 April 2021**

Deadline for Open and Challenge calls is **22 September 2021**

Challenges

1. **Medical Technology and Devices: from Lab to Patient**
2. **Energy harvesting and storage technologies**

The starting point:

the project should be a **preliminary prototype of a medical device or technology** that demonstrates, in a lab or preclinical context, the essential features that underpin the disruptive nature of the innovation **(TRL 3-4)**.

The endpoint deliverable:

The project should be a completely **functional version of the technology** suitable in its end-of-project state for clinical validation **(TRL 5-6)**, supported by a sound and implementable exploitation strategy.



EIC Accelerator



EIC Accelerator

Open Funding

- This funding has no predefined thematic priorities and is open to proposals in any field of science, technology or application.
- The EIC Accelerator supports the later stages of technology development as well as scale up.
- The technology component of your innovation must therefore have been tested and validated in a laboratory or other relevant environment ((at Technology Readiness Level 5/6 or higher).
- The EIC Accelerator looks to support companies where the EIC support will act as a catalyst to crowd other investors necessary for the scale up of the innovation

Challenges

1. Strategic Health and Digital Technologies
2. Green Deal innovations for the economic recovery

Short form and Full application deadlines

- Continuously Open.
- The two deadlines for the full application stage are **9 June 2021** and **6 October 2021**
- Both open calls and challenge-driven calls will take place simultaneously on these deadlines.

Financial and Ancillary Support

Grant

- Maximum EUR 2.5 million, - eligible costs are reimbursed up to a maximum of 70%
- innovation activities supported should be completed within 24 months
- small mid-caps are not eligible for grant (but can apply for investment only)

Investment (Equity)

- Minimum EUR 0.5 million and maximum EUR 15 million
- usually in the form of direct equity or quasi-equity
- maximum 25% of the voting shares of the company
- “patient capital” principle (7-10 years perspective on average).

Seal of Excellence

- Certification awarded to individual SMEs that apply for EIC Transition or EIC Accelerator funding and are assessed to meet the relevant funding criteria.
- May be awarded by the Jury following interview if the proposal meets the first two criteria (excellence and impact) but does not demonstrate a sufficient level of risk or the need for EU support under the third evaluation criterion.

EIC Accelerator Application Process

A new 4-step process

Rather than allocating scores, the new selection process takes more of a “go/no go” approach made up for four stages:

- **1st step:** Initial 5-page proposal, pitch deck and a video
- **2nd step:** Coaching by the EC, plus a detailed full proposal
- **3rd step:** Remote evaluation
- **4th step:** Oral interview with a jury

Short application – 5 pages using AI Platform

- Short applications will be evaluated remotely by four experts
- The evaluators will essentially look at the innovativeness/disruptiveness of your idea, its impact and your team using the award criteria
- Each evaluator will give a **GO or NO GO**.

Artificial Intelligence IT Platform

- Full application must be prepared on the EIC artificial intelligence-based IT platform, which includes the methodology to help you to develop your detailed business-plan and a number of automatic checks and feedback to guide you through the process.
- The full application consists of a full business plan and detailed information on your company's finances and structure. You will also need to propose a set of milestones to be used as a basis for the EIC to manage the funding for your innovation.
- As support for the development of your full application, you will be entitled to receive coaching from one of the business coaches from the EIC Business Acceleration Services.

Important - This support is only provided for first application

EIC Accelerator Full application

Business Plan

- If your short application is successful, then you will be entitled to receive support to prepare a full application which can be submitted to one of the cut-off dates within the next 12 months from the date of the response to your short applications.
- Prepare a business plan supported by the EIC AI-based platform and with the help of an EIC business coach (not mandatory)
- Submit your full proposal

Interviews

- The face-to face interviews will take place either in Brussels or remotely (video conference tool).
- Maximum of three representatives to attend interview

Resubmission

1. If rejected once. One resubmission directly to the remote evaluation at one of the following two cut-offs, but with an improved proposal.
2. If rejected a second time:

No resubmission will be allowed for 12 months, at which point you may only submit a new or significantly improved proposal to the short application stage.

Seal of Excellence

- Certification awarded to individual SMEs that apply for EIC Transition or EIC Accelerator funding and are assessed to meet the relevant funding criteria. In the case of the EIC Accelerator
- May be awarded if the proposal meets the first two criteria (excellence and impact) but does not demonstrate a sufficient level of risk or the need for EU support under the third evaluation criterion.

IC is expected to benefit from a total budget of around

Business Acceleration Services



Other Calls under EIC

Prizes

EU Prize for Women Innovators

In the 'Women Innovators' main category, three prizes of EUR 100 000 each are awarded to the women who, in the opinion of the jury, have excelled in all award criteria and stood out amongst the other applicants. In the second category, one prize of EUR 50 000 is awarded to a promising 'Rising Innovator' aged 30 or younger.

Cut-off 30 June 2021

European Capital of Innovation Awards

The European Capital of Innovation Awards will recognize the cities' role as catalysers of the local innovation ecosystem and will stimulate new activities aimed at boosting game-changing innovation.

Call opening mid-2021

European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)

- Ecosystem thinking based on collaboration between a range of stakeholders – academia, industry, different levels of the public sector, and civil society – is an approach that ERRIN is actively advocating for in the Horizon Europe programme.
- Connecting ecosystems across Europe would provide the possibility to access complementary skills, infrastructure, and markets, and collaborating ecosystems can form alliances to confront and overcome various challenges that both European society and regions face.
- The new European Innovation Ecosystems component in pillar III is thus of great interest since it explicitly focuses on ecosystem building and strengthening as well as the possibility to support ecosystem to ecosystem collaboration, which is not currently supported anywhere else on an EU level.

Call Opens mid 2021

Useful Links

Funding and Tenders Portal

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon>

Previously successful Projects

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-results>

[EIC Work Programme 2021](#)

Launch Events for Pathfinder, Transition Actions and EIC Accelerator

Horizon Europe - EIC Pathfinder and Transition

13th April 2021

<https://www.eventsforce.net/enterpriseireland/2950/home>

Horizon Europe EIC Accelerator Webinar

20th April 2021


<https://www.eventsforce.net/enterpriseireland/2951/home>

Horizon Europe - SME National Contact Points



Jill Leonard

NCP for Innovative Europe

 **087-9141439**


Tel: 01-7272751

jill.leonard@enterprise-ireland.com



Sean Burke

ND/NCP Innovative Europe

 **087 -9534606**

Tel: 061-777048

sean.burke@enterprise-ireland.com

THANK YOU

