



Calling food and manufacturing innovators: countdown begins to the launch of new EIT innovation hubs

Calling innovators in food and manufacturing! Today, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is offering innovators from business, higher education and research the chance to join the expanding EIT Community.

The EIT is launching the 2016 **Call for new Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)** for the creation of two new KICs: EIT Food and EIT Manufacturing, to add to the five already up and running in the areas of climate, digital, energy, health and raw materials innovation.

EIT Food will seek to develop innovative solutions to ensure a climate-resilient and sustainable global food value chain. **EIT Manufacturing** will strengthen and increase the competitiveness of Europe's manufacturing industry.

The Call is open until July 2016 and the winning partnerships will be announced in November 2016.

"The EIT was founded on the belief that by working in partnership we can face the challenges ahead and enhance Europe's competitiveness and well-being. I am convinced that two new KICs in food and manufacturing will enhance the EIT's ability to do just that," said Peter Olesen, Chairman of the EIT Governing Board.

"The EIT demonstrates Europe's ability to innovate and to build a future, which is both sustainable and creates new jobs. I would like to invite innovators in food and manufacturing across Europe to seize this opportunity and participate in the call for proposals to join our EIT Community," added Martin Kern, EIT Interim Director.

The proposals to form a KIC should be submitted by partners from business, higher education and research institutions, with the aim of tackling societal challenges by developing innovative products and services.

More information about the EIT 2016 Call for KICs Proposals is available at <http://eit.europa.eu/collaborate/2016-call-for-kics>.

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Background

About the EIT

The EIT is an independent EU body with a budget of €2.4 billion from 2014 to 2020 within the European Union's Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The EIT aims to create sustainable growth and jobs by boosting innovation and entrepreneurship in Europe. Its dynamic, cross-border Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) bring together leading business, higher education and research institutions, which develop innovative products and services, generate new companies and train the new generation of entrepreneurs. We look forward to EIT Food and EIT Manufacturing joining us in November 2016.

The EIT – Making Innovation Happen

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

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