

DECISION 11/2024
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE INITIAL ALLOCATION OF THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION
TO BUSINESS PLAN 2024-2025
OF EIT CULTURE & CREATIVITY KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION COMMUNITY (KIC)

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY,

HAVING REGARD to Regulation (EU) 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (recast)¹ (hereafter referred to as the ‘EIT Regulation (recast)’), and in particular Article 18(7), and Section 2(1)(c) of the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation;

HAVING REGARD to Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013²;

HAVING REGARD to the Decision (EU) 2021/820 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe and repealing decision No 1312/2013/EU (hereafter referred to as the “EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027”)³, in particular Chapter 3.6 thereof;

HAVING REGARD to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (hereinafter referred to as the “EU Financial Regulation”)⁴;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 21/2019 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 25 September 2019 on the Financial Regulation of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (hereinafter referred to as the “EIT Financial Regulation”)⁵, in particular Article 1 thereof;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 14/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the principles for financing, monitoring and evaluating Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) activities⁶;

¹ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61.

² OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1.

³ OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 91.

⁴ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1–222

⁵ Ref. Ares(2019)6810859

⁶ Ref. Ares(2021)3111256

HAVING REGARD to Decision 21/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT on the authorisation of the EIT Director to prepare, negotiate and conclude partnership agreements and grant agreements⁷;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 06/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 16 March 2022 on the amendment of the principles on the financial sustainability on the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) and repealing Decision 13/2021 of the Governing Board of the EIT⁸;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 18/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 22 June 2022 on the selection and designation of the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) in the area of Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries⁹;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 19/2022 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 22 June 2022 on the allocation of the financial contribution for the Start-up grant to the newly designated Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) 'EIT Culture & Creativity'¹⁰;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 05/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 14 March 2023 on the principles for the determination of the initial EIT financial allocation for 2024-2025 to the Business Plan 2024-2025 of the Knowledge and Innovation Community EIT Culture & Creativity (EIT CC)¹¹;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 40/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 23 November 2023 on the progress of EIT Culture & Creativity in achieving the milestones of the start-up phase¹²;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 42/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 15 December 2023 on the adoption of the Final Single Programming Document (2024-2026) of the EIT¹³;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 43/2023 of the Governing Board of the EIT of 15 December 2023 on adopting the EIT budget and establishment plan for the financial year 2024¹⁴;

HAVING REGARD to Decision 07/2024 of the Governing Board of 26 March 2024 on the endorsement of the start-up phase of EIT Culture & Creativity and finalisation of the new KIC's designation process¹⁵;

HAVING REGARD to the Invitation to submit a proposal for the KIC Business Plan of Culture & Creativity 2024-2025 (hereafter referred to as 'Invitation 2024-2025')¹⁶;

WHEREAS

- (1) On 22 June 2022, the EIT Governing Board designated a new KIC in the 'Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries' thematic area, EIT Culture & Creativity, and decided that the maximum EIT financial contribution

⁷ Ref. Ares(2021)3798804

⁸ Ref. Ares(2022)2098580

⁹ Ref. Ares(2022)4608261

¹⁰ Ref. Ares(2022)4608465

¹¹ Ref. Ares(2023)1853190

¹² Ref. Ares(2023)8141934

¹³ Ref. Ares(2023)8668848

¹⁴ Ref. Ares(2023)8669589

¹⁵ Ref. Ares(2024)2295438

¹⁶ Ref. Ares(2022)4735537



for the start-up grant for EIT Culture & Creativity shall be EUR 6 million. The Start-up Grant Agreement (SUGA) was signed on 24 February 2023 for a maximum amount of EUR 5,995,362.13 for the implementation of the Start-up Plan of EIT Culture & Creativity, covering the period from 21 September 2022 until 31 December 2023.

- (2) On 14 March 2023, the EIT Governing Board adopted its Decision 05/2023 on the principles for the determination of the initial EIT financial allocation to the Business Plan 2024-2025 of the Knowledge and Innovation Community EIT Culture & Creativity.
- (3) On 24 April 2023, the EIT launched Invitation 2024-2025, with a deadline to submit the KIC's first Business Plan on 28 September 2023. The KIC submitted the proposal for its Business Plan 2024-2025, which was evaluated by independent external experts on the basis of criteria encompassing excellence, impact, and implementation.
- (4) By its Decision 40/2023, on 23 November 2023 the EIT Governing Board defined conditions to be met before the start-up phase of EIT Culture & Creativity can be endorsed by the EIT Governing Board. As one of the conditions concerned the shortcomings of the KIC's original proposal for its Business Plan 2024-2025, in November 2023 the EIT Governing Board was not in the position to decide on the funding allocation for the period of 2024-2025.
- (5) By its Decision 07/2024, on 26 March 2024 the EIT Governing Board decided to endorse the start-up phase of EIT Culture & Creativity and finalise the new KIC's designation process. Additionally, the Governing Board authorised the EIT Director to sign the Partnership Agreement with the KIC, which is the pre-condition for the award of any grant to the KIC, including the award of the initial EIT grant for 2024-2025.
- (6) In accordance with Article 3 of Decision 05/2023, the EIT Governing Board shall take the initial multiannual funding allocation decision for the 2024-2025 period based on the assessment of the criteria laid down in the same decision and a prudent multiannual planning. When the final EIT budget is known for 2025, the EIT Governing Board may take an additional funding allocation decision for 2025, taking into account the available EIT budget, the ongoing multiannual legal commitments between the EIT and the KIC, the performance of the KIC and the estimated financial needs. The additional funding allocation decision shall ensure that there is no double funding of KIC activities.
- (7) Regarding the initial funding allocation for 2024-2025, as a result of the assessment of the criteria laid down in Decision 05/2023, based on a prudent multiannual planning, and taking into account of the specific conditions of the EIT Governing Board regarding the KIC's Business Plan 2024-2025 proposal, the EIT Governing Board decides to approve EUR 25,000,000 for the initial funding allocation for 2024-2025.
- (8) In line with point 5 of Section 3 of the Statutes annexed to the EIT Regulation (recast), the agreement of the European Commission, expressed by its Representative in the Governing Board, is necessary for the adoption by the EIT Governing Board of the present decision. The Commission Representative's observations and opinion were shared before the voting by the EIT Governing Board at its meeting. Following the voting, the Commission, by way of its Representative, gave its agreement with the present decision.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1*****Initial financial allocation for EIT Culture & Creativity for 2024-2025***

The maximum initial EIT financial contribution to the Business Plan of EIT Culture & Creativity shall be **EUR 25,000,000** (including the RIS activities) covering the period of 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025.

Article 2***Award and implementation***

- (1) Upon condition of the signature of the Partnership Agreement between the EIT and EIT Culture & Creativity, and subject to the fulfilment of specific conditions of the EIT Governing Board, the EIT Director shall award the 2024-2025 initial grant for the implementation of the KIC Business Plan 2024-2025 proposal.
- (2) The EIT Director shall be responsible for the implementation of this decision, including the communication of the specific conditions defined by the EIT Governing Board for the KIC Business Plan 2024-2025 proposal to be addressed, and including the signature of the grant agreement covering the period from 1 January 2024 until 31 December 2025.

Article 3***Entry into force***

This decision shall enter into force with retroactive effect on 1 January 2024.

Done in Budapest on 26 March 2024

(e-signed)

Nektarios Tavernarakis

Chairperson of the EIT Governing Board