

Do you want to join the EIT RIS?

Contact the EIT Community!

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EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS)

ENGAGING REGIONS



European Institute of
Innovation & Technology

What is the EIT RIS?

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS) is an outreach scheme that:

- supports the integration of business, higher education and research institutions
- increases the innovation capacity of European regions that don't yet benefit directly from the EIT and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs).

Introduced in 2014, the EIT RIS is a new element of the EIT Community outreach strategy and the EIT's answer to encouraging wider participation in its innovation activities.

The EIT RIS is based on two-way engagement between the KICs and selected partnerships from business, higher education and research, as well as regional policy-makers, public entities and other stakeholders essential to spurring innovation in Europe. It capitalises on the potential offered by Europe's regional diversity in order to make a lasting impact on innovation in Europe.



How can European regions benefit from the EIT RIS?

The EIT RIS gives European regions:



Access to knowledge and good practices



Opportunities to network with partners



Access to the 'knowledge triangle', a unique integration of business, higher education and research organisations



A strong regional innovation ecosystem



An innovation boost!

How is the EIT RIS funded?

The primary sources of funding for the EIT RIS are from non-EIT sources (national funding, structural funds, participants' own resources, etc.), while specific mobility actions within the EIT RIS can be funded by the EIT.

The EIT RIS has been constructed in a way that allows for synergies and efficiency gains for regions that have been designing Regional Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) and want to enhance their innovation capacity at regional level.

The identification of relevant funding instruments for participating in the EIT RIS – in particular the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) – is strongly encouraged and supported by policy makers, to strengthen synergies and complementarities at all governance levels.

What are the EIT RIS's key principles?

1

Excellence

In line with all EIT activities, participation in the EIT RIS is based on the principle of excellence.

2

Implementation by KICs

The EIT will encourage participation in the EIT RIS and provide support to the KICs. The EIT RIS will be implemented by the KICs on a voluntary and autonomous basis.

3

Openness and transparency

EIT RIS participants will be selected by the KICs through open and transparent processes.

4

No automatic KIC membership

Participation in the EIT RIS does not imply a future partnership with a KIC.