



EIT Awards 2013

Celebrating innovation and entrepreneurship!

12 November 2013 - Budapest, Hungary



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Changing Europe's perspective

“ It's a very special event that I'm welcoming you to today because it's a celebration of entrepreneurship in Europe.

As you know, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) has the challenging tasks of changing the entrepreneurial mind-set in Europe and helping create new jobs by supporting students and entrepreneurs to develop innovative products and services, and start new companies.

It's something that's easily said, but challenging to do. We have a beautiful economic and social area, with great traditions and wonderful iconic people in all areas of society. And I'm saying this because today, when you want to re-establish the world, you cannot only talk about economic returns because the world is much more complex – it's much more interlinked.

At the EIT, we thought that Europe needed a new perspective. That's why entrepreneurship has been added to the original concept of the knowledge triangle, which is research, higher education and business – so European universities, research centres and businesses, both industrial corporations and SMEs.

We will talk a lot about what entrepreneurship is today, but let me set the scene by saying that there are two Europes. One is very innovative and one is very entrepreneurial. And the challenge is to bring these perspectives together.

These perspectives exist at the level of a single individual, and also at the level of countries. Some of us have already lived through dramatic, very successful transformation periods and right now it is the first time ever – possibly in over 2,000 years – that Europe is becoming reunited and is able to leverage its whole potential.

Again, it's easier said than done, but the EIT's aim is to exploit and build on Europe's capacities, as well as embrace the fact that we live in one of the most innovative economies in the world.

And with that, I'm very happy to welcome you all, including my board colleagues, the KIC representatives and in particular the nominees, to the EIT Awards 2013. ”

*Daria Golebiowska Tataj,
EIT Governing Board member, speaking at the EIT Awards 2013*



Naveen Jain on...

The potential of innovation and entrepreneurship to solve the big challenges facing humanity

If anyone knows about overcoming big challenges, then it's Naveen Jain. Born in rural India, Naveen came to the United States in 1983 with broken English and only five dollars in his pocket. Fast-forward thirty years and he's now one of the most successful entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley, with multiple businesses to his name.

“ We are living in the most innovative decade of human history ”

He's also a passionate advocate for innovation and entrepreneurship to solve society's problems. “We are living in the most innovative decade of human history,” he explains. “In the next 20 years, fundamentally every single industry will get disrupted by entrepreneurs.”

One of these industries, Naveen believes, is education. “A lot of people think the education system is broken. It's not. The problem is that the system is obsolete. It's doing exactly what it was designed to do, but our needs have changed.”

It's a powerful argument. The education system that's still in place today was designed for the industrial era, where the aim was to produce people with specific skillsets. As Naveen puts it, “We designed education just like a manufacturing process.” While this system worked effectively in the past, needs have changed. Rapid technological developments mean that many of the skills the education system is promoting are no longer relevant in today's society.

“ We need an education system that adapts, is personalised and that moves at each student's pace ”

So what's the answer? For Naveen, it's all about being adaptable. “As opposed to students learning to adapt to how the teacher is teaching, what if the education system was flipped and it adapts to how each student learns?” he suggests. “Because each of us learns differently. Some people learn conceptually, some experimentally and some graphically. So we need an education system that adapts, is personalised and that moves at each student's pace.”



He calls it “fixed learning, variable time” and likens it to playing a video game, with students only able to progress to level 2 once they've completed level 1. The addictive nature of video games is a common complaint among parents, but what if this addictive nature had an educational base? Suddenly it's a much more attractive prospect.

It's not only the education system that Naveen challenges the entrepreneurs of today to disrupt. The problem of renewable energy sources has been a common theme throughout the EIT Awards 2013, and Naveen has some unique ideas of his own. “70% of Earth is salt water,” he points out. “Imagine if we're able to design synthetic bacteria that suck the carbon dioxide and use the salt water with photosynthesis to convert the salt water into a fossil fuel. So if you want to use fossil fuel, what if you can create an ocean of fossil fuel?”

He has similar thoughts about the potential for entrepreneurial involvement in the healthcare system. “Imagine that, with synthetic biology and a DNA synthesizer, you're able to take the information from one side and send the information by email to the other,” he says. “Imagine if a virus is spreading in India, someone is able to create the vaccine in the US and send an email so they can produce the vaccine right on the spot.”

“ Scientists invent; entrepreneurs innovate ”

These are ground-breaking, game-changing ideas. The world's energy crisis could be solved by utilising a timeless resource. Epidemics could be stopped in their tracks with the click of a few buttons. It's this kind of entrepreneurial flair that Naveen is looking for. “Innovation gets confused with the word ‘invention’,” he explains. “Scientists invent; entrepreneurs innovate. We don't have to invent anything – we take brilliant ideas and put them into action. Entrepreneurs are problem-solvers.”

Problem-solvers who are perfectly placed to take on the challenge of solving humanity's challenges with a combination of innovation and imagination. “The best way you can teach an entrepreneur to be an entrepreneur is to allow them to dream,” Naveen concludes. “Allow them to dream so big that people think they're crazy.”



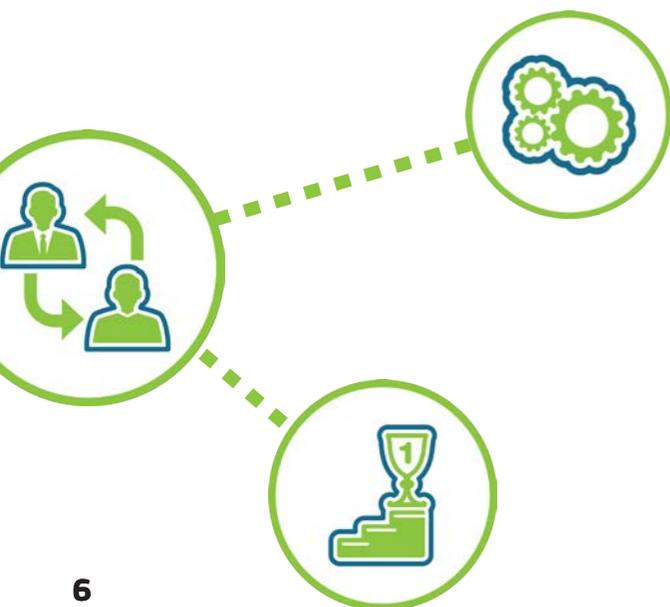
CH.A.N.G.E Award nominees

The 2013 EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award nominees are some of the most innovative and inspiring students and alumni involved with EIT-labelled training and education programmes. Their ideas cover a wide range of subjects in the fields of climate change, sustainable energy and ICT, but are all fundamentally linked by the desire to make a positive impact on the world around them.

With each KIC nominating three of their top budding entrepreneurs, competition was fierce and any of the students would have been worthy winners. To find out who the judges chose, simply turn over the page...

You can find more information about this year's nominees and their exciting ideas on the EIT Awards website:

<http://eit.europa.eu/entrepreneurship/2013-awards/change-nominees/>



Climate-KIC nominees



Kate Hofman *GrowUp*

Sustainable urban farming

"I'm looking to change the way we feed people in cities"



Swati Pandey *TRA Labs*

Medicinal plants for sustainable communities

"I want to provide rural communities in India with sustainable livelihoods"



Evan Bruner *SolarCatch*

Efficiency, visibility and money-saving

"My aim is to make clean technology attractive and appealing to business owners"

EIT ICT Labs nominees



David Pribil *Heart-Guard*

Health, safety, protection

"I want to prevent firefighter fatalities from heart attacks"



Dorottya Maksay *Homebuddy*

Connecting generations

"My aim is to improve the quality of life and well-being of older people"



Germán Leiva *Jukeboss*

Music powered by you

"I'm looking to bring a new level of interaction to events and nightlife"

KIC InnoEnergy nominees



Eduardo Appleyard *Solar Lighting for Africa*

Focus, empower and grow!

"I want to bring low-cost, clean energy services to developing regions of the world"



Muhammad Rizwan Awan *Chimney Sheet*

Health, environment, life

"Everyone who cooks on an open fire should be able to do so safely"



Linkesh Diwan *Wise Earth Technologies (CrisisCommunicator)*

Dependable disaster communication

"I want to reduce the social and economic cost of natural disasters"

CH.A.N.G.E Award winners 2013

There were nine outstanding people, but there could only be three winners...



Kate Hofman

GrowUp

www.growup.org.uk

The EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award for Climate-KIC went to Kate Hofman, for her forward-thinking urban farming business GrowUp. In an assured presentation, Kate spoke of her desire to change the way we grow food for people in cities and introduce a method that's sustainable, has a lower impact on the environment and creates jobs. She touched upon the importance of people when it came to making things happen and concluded by thanking the Climate-KIC 2011 summer school for introducing her to science and giving her the opportunity to work on developing a business model and business plan.

“ I would consider myself to be a change agent because I have a real passion for what I do, and when I talk to people about my business and about the impact we can have by growing food in cities in a sustainable way, I want to be able to take them on that journey and convince them that it's something they want to be part of ”

Kate Hofman,
EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award winner, Climate-KIC

Climate-KIC
winner



Dorottya Maksay

Homebuddy

Homebuddy, “the social innovation that connects generations”, was the project that led to Dorottya Maksay being named the winner of the EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award for EIT ICT Labs. Inspired by a personal experience with her grandmother, the idea sees elderly people inviting students to live with them for very little rent, with the students helping the homeowner with anything from housework to computing in return. Dorottya explained how Homebuddy would match the elderly people and students based on their skills and interests, and also help ease the housing problems that universities and institutions often suffer from.

“ We need to communicate our idea in the right way, so that everybody can understand that Homebuddy really solves an important problem, both for the students and for the elderly ”

Dorottya Maksay,
EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award winner, EIT ICT Labs

“ She really turned a challenge from her personal environment into a business idea. Her initiative has the potential for real change and social impact by creating win-win situations ”

Karen Maex,
Chair of the CH.A.N.G.E Award jury



EIT
ICT Labs
winner



Eduardo Appleyard

Solar Lighting for Africa

Eduardo Appleyard was awarded the EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award for KIC InnoEnergy thanks to his work in providing people in Africa with safe and affordable energy. Having spent time on the ground, Eduardo was able to offer a first-hand perspective on the scale of the problem and shared how he has been helping to address the issue by making cost-effective solar lighting available in a number of African countries. He also discussed the need to create an environment that allows local people to access the finance they need to purchase such products, while also ensuring the manufacturers and product distributors have appropriate funding of their own.

“ Energy poverty is a major impediment to social, economic and human development. Yet in Africa there are 600 million people living without electricity – that's twice the population of the USA. How can we change this? Change requires great ideas, but it also requires action. I decided to act ”

Eduardo Appleyard,
EIT CH.A.N.G.E Award winner, KIC InnoEnergy

“ He really stood out for his proactive attitude, drive and hands-on approach to bringing light to developing countries to improve their lives ”

Karen Maex,
Chair of the CH.A.N.G.E Award jury



KIC
InnoEnergy
winner



Alexander von Gabain on...

The history and future of the EIT

Chairman of the EIT Governing Board since 2011, Alexander von Gabain opened the proceedings at the EIT Awards 2013 and spoke about the need for more young entrepreneurs in Europe. We caught up with him during the event to get his thoughts about the EIT going forward.

Alexander, what is the main objective of the EIT Awards event here in Budapest?

I think it's to put the entrepreneur in the centre of innovation, and show that we're really playing a new game in innovation here in Europe. We're not just rewarding good science or good companies, but the people who make the change.

The idea has been around for four to five years now – what have you achieved so far?

Well to be fair, the KICs are only three years old! It was a great achievement that in only one and a half years we had the first KIC calls and selected the first three KICs. Then in only three years these KICs were absorbing €300 million of seed money and adding on €1.1 billion as they built up their innovative hubs.

“ We're not just rewarding good science or good companies, but the people who make the change ”

What is the outlook for innovation and technology here at the EIT in the next seven years?

The aim is to have six to eight KICs that are all interconnected. We want to reshape the European landscape of innovation.

We just heard a very inspiring speech by Naveen Jain – he was saying that entrepreneurs in Europe need to be far more audacious. Have we been too modest in Europe about our ambitions as entrepreneurs and innovators?

We're not only too modest and too humble; we do not even celebrate when we are very innovative and successful. When we are strong in a particular area, we're not taking global leadership and that's a challenge we need to overcome. This is also an important part of the EIT's work – to change mind-sets and our approach to entrepreneurial culture.

What do people in Europe need to know about this event today here in Budapest?

I think people should see that there is now a group of people working to interconnect all the players in the field of innovation, and carry this back to the industries, universities and communities and say “We have to rethink how we're doing innovation”.

“ We want to reshape the European landscape of innovation ”



David Maasz on...

The needs and potential of European entrepreneurs

David Maasz has been a busy man. A serial entrepreneur, business angel and start-up evangelist, he established his first business at the age of 19 before going on to develop over 10 more innovative companies. Today he has investments in a number of different sectors and a passion for encouraging entrepreneurship, which made him a natural choice to facilitate the Venture nominees' session during the EIT Awards 2013.

Here he shares some brief thoughts about the needs and future of entrepreneurship in Europe.

David, you're probably one of the most beloved people that entrepreneurs like to see – a business angel and advisor. What do you think European entrepreneurs need nowadays?

I think they need, first of all, these kinds of events to encourage them, inspire them and get them to start believing that they can change this world for the better.

“ Looking at the nominees, we have immense potential here in Europe ”

How do you feel about this event and the world of the EIT?

I was very much looking forward to this event because I was not in touch with the EIT before, so I was honoured to be invited. And they put me on the jury and I got to moderate the pitching session too!

Looking at the nominees, we have immense potential here in Europe, not only in research but among the young people at the universities or outside them. So we definitely need to be more visible to them. We need to help them to connect with each other, so they can learn and get inspired. Then investors like me will come automatically.

Has Europe been too modest in the past?

I wouldn't say modest, but we have a very different mind-set when it comes to risk-taking, failure and entrepreneurship. Somehow becoming a new entrepreneur is not really seen as a career path for young people.

Having said that, I am seeing a change in the younger generation because of these kinds of events. And with more young people being successful it creates role models that encourage others to start down this path.

What's your best piece of advice for entrepreneurs in Europe?

I encourage them to mingle with other entrepreneurs, to really think big and believe that they are able to make these big changes. And when they connect and really execute ideas, then we will see real results here in Europe.



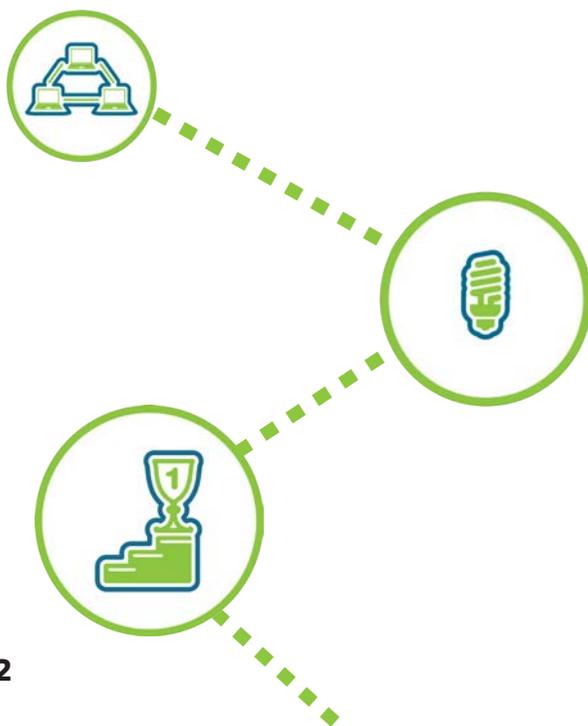
Venture Award nominees

Recognised for their breakthrough innovations and start-ups, the 2013 Venture Award nominees represent the bright future of European entrepreneurship. Their businesses cover everything from solar lighting and green energy technology to improving physical rehabilitation and reducing poverty.

With such an exciting variety of projects, the judges had the testing job of choosing only three winners, one from each of the KICs. You can find out who those winners are on pages 14-15.

For more details about 2013's nominees, why not visit the EIT Awards website:

<http://eit.europa.eu/entrepreneurship/2013-awards/venture-nominees/>



Climate-KIC nominees



Chokri Mousaoui
Eternal Sun

Solar simulation systems

"Our goal is to enhance the reliability, performance and sustainability of solar products"



Dominik Peus
Antaco

Carbon neutral coal

"I want to contribute to the most important social innovations of the next century and help eradicate poverty"



Peter Stein
greenTEG (gTEG)

Smart, efficient energy

"We want to scale our technology and be one piece of the puzzle in mastering the energy challenge"

EIT ICT Labs nominees



David Tacconi
CoRehab (Riablo)

Enjoy, control, rehabilitation

"My aim is to radically change physiotherapeutic rehabilitation around the world"



Fabio Belloni
Quuppa

Track, analyse, optimise

"We want to help a range of business better understand the movements of their customers and products"

KIC InnoEnergy nominees



Lars Wallden
Northstar Telemetrics (OAMR)

Optical, automatic, meter reading

"My ultimate goal is to be a top company and business leader"



Lionel Chaverot
Enerstone

The future of rechargeable batteries

"Our dream is to make a significant contribution to reducing carbon dioxide"



Hector Martin
Smalle Technologies

Sustainable, clean energy

"I dream of a sustainable society that doesn't consume natural resources"

Venture Award winners 2013

Eight ground-breaking pitches were given by eight inspiring people, but there could only be three winners...



EIT
ICT Labs
winner



David Tacconi

CoRehab (Riablo)
www.corehab.it

The EIT Venture Award for EIT ICT Labs went to David Tacconi for Riablo, an orthopaedic rehabilitation product developed through his company CoRehab. During an engaging pitch, David shared how his personal experience had inspired him to find a way to help patients engage with physiotherapy at home, while also allowing the physiotherapists to design their programme and track their progress remotely. Despite having only been launched a few months ago, Riablo is already generating interest and selling worldwide, and with their dealer network due to develop further, David was confident in the product's future.

“ Thanks to Riablo I can now exercise with my product and play football whenever I want ”

David Tacconi,
EIT Venture Award winner,
EIT ICT Labs

“ We've picked a venture that clearly addresses patient needs, with the technology that ensures compliance even at a distance. This venture has demonstrated a realistic business plan, already backed by investors, and has formed a strong and complimentary team ”

Peter Olsesen,
Chair of the Venture Award jury



Dominik Peus

Antaco
www.antaco.co.uk

Dominik Peus was announced as the winner of the EIT Venture Award for Climate-KIC for his company's innovative solution which changes biomass and biowaste into coal. Able to convert any type of biomass into fuel, Antaco's technology can provide solutions for a variety of sectors including waste, water, energy and agriculture. It produces fuel that's cleaner and cheaper than other renewables and in his professional presentation, Dominik showed how Antaco is leading the way, with their first plant due to open next year.

“ Our numbers are convincing for investors, we have an experienced team with an increasing number of experts joining us, and let me finish with our slogan: the future is bright, the future is coal ”

Dominik Peus,
EIT Venture Award winner,
Climate-KIC

“ The winning venture is based on old and recently rediscovered technology. It demonstrates a solid combination of societal need, sustainable energy, affordable bioenergy in all types of biomass and fantastic technology ”

Peter Olsesen,
Chair of the Venture Award jury

Climate-KIC
winner



Lionel Chaverot

Enerstone
www.enerstone.fr

Lionel Chaverot was the winner of the EIT Venture Award for KIC InnoEnergy. Lionel introduced his company's cutting-edge battery management system, which is aimed at the rechargeable battery market and intended to improve the charge quality of their batteries. The wide range of benefits for companies in this field includes boosting brand image, gaining a greater market share, customer satisfaction and reducing waste. With the industry growing by 12% per year, there is huge potential for Enerstone's product.

“ All batteries have a common problem: when one cell fails, the complete battery fails. Our system can help change this ”

Lionel Chaverot,
EIT Venture Award winner,
KIC InnoEnergy

“ We've picked a venture within energy saving, environmental impact and substantial product improvements. This venture has a clear understanding of value propositions for the technology and its implementation, and a business model with distinct benefits to end users ”

Peter Olsesen,
Chair of the Venture Award jury

KIC
InnoEnergy
winner



Winners' reactions

David Tacconi

"I'm proud. Proud of my partners (who believed in me), of our tech team (who made our idea come true in such a short time), and of me for being able to communicate the potential of CoRehab to such an important jury!"

Dorottya Maksay

"In the very first moment, I could hardly believe it, but while I was walking up to the stage I imagined what this could mean for Homebuddy, and what I felt then was enthusiasm and happiness"

Kate Hofman

"It's really exciting! It's really nice to see the EIT and Climate-KIC supporting entrepreneurs like myself on their journey as they scale their business"



Lionel Chaverot

"We finally know our project is something that is doable and that people in the business have identified it has potential"

Eduardo Appleyard

"It means a lot. I've done a lot of hard work over the last few years – a lot of hard work! – and it feels good to be rewarded in this way"

Dominik Peus

"I'm completely overwhelmed and very pleased to have been awarded this EIT award – it's been an amazing journey. And having this opportunity to present in front of everyone has been a truly great experience"

EIT Award winners 2012

Here we look back at the inspiring work and ideas of some of the past winners of the EIT Entrepreneurship Award (now known as the EIT Venture Award) and find out what they've been up to since they won in February 2012.



Rosa Vilarasau
Noem

www.noem.com

Twelve months ago, Rosa Vilarasau stepped up onstage to collect her EIT Entrepreneurship Award 2012 for NOEM. During this year's awards she was invited up onto that stage again, but this time as a guest speaker, showing just how far she and her company, NOEM, have come.

So what is NOEM? "Our company's basic concept is an energy-efficient, pre-fabricated, modular house," Rosa explains. "NOEM offers an innovative building system and responds to the threefold challenge of modern construction: sustainability, versatility and energy efficiency." The system was created to help reduce CO2 emissions of residential buildings both in the production stage and later on, when the buildings are being used.

Since winning the award, Rosa and NOEM haven't looked back. The press attention they received in their local market helped them to achieve a major technological upgrade in the way they work and define their products. "We want to continue increasing our product sales," Rosa says, when asked about their future plans, "while improving our technical scope and environmental performance."



Christophe Williams
Naked Energy Ltd

www.nakedenergy.co.uk

Despite the somewhat misleading title of his company, the product that won Christophe Williams an EIT Entrepreneurship Award 2012 was his photovoltaic (PV) solar panel technology, which helps to cut carbon emissions and solves the common overheating problem of traditional solar panels.

"When a conventional solar panel overheats, it stops creating as much energy," Christophe says. "We've developed PV solar panel technology that prevents this overheating, allowing our solar panels to produce up to 46% more energy per square meter than a standard panel."

Over the last 12 months, Naked Energy has been continuing to develop and commercialise their breakthrough solar technology. Alongside grants and prize-related funding, they've successfully raised the remaining capital they need to finish developing their product. Their ultimate aim is to turn their business into a global company so that they can generate sustainable energy on sites around the world. "The more successful we are as a business," Christophe says, "the more successful we will be at cutting carbon emissions."



Karen Wilson on...

Entrepreneurial conditions in Europe

The current state of entrepreneurship in Europe was touched upon by many of the speakers at the EIT Awards 2013. The general consensus seemed to be that while Europe has come a long way in recent years and conditions have improved, we still need to think on a larger scale and develop more of a risk-taking mind-set if we want to compete on a global scale.

Karen Wilson agrees, but argues that it's not just about changing mind-sets – it's about changing systems too. "We have these programmes that help to promote young entrepreneurs, but we also have to make sure we remove the regulatory barriers and put the right framework in place so that entrepreneurs can't just start businesses, but can grow them."

"Starting a company is the easy part," she continues. "The hard thing is to grow and sustain the company over time. And so we need the right regulations in place, which don't keep companies small but instead allow them to grow without encountering additional barriers and costs."

“If we want high-growth firms, we can't just have the best national company; we need Europe-wide companies”

A Board Member and advisor of the European Forum for Entrepreneurship Research (EFER), Karen is well-placed to offer an insight on the kinds of barriers young European entrepreneurs are facing. "There's a lot of fragmentation in Europe," she explains. "There are so many different markets that it's hard for an entrepreneur to grow across countries. And if we want high-growth firms, we can't just have the best national company; we need Europe-wide companies. It has to be easier for entrepreneurs to grow, build their businesses, collaborate and get funding across borders."



This is exactly what the EIT is working to change. Karen recognises the importance of the Institute's role in connecting the three areas of the knowledge triangle: higher education, business, and research. "Everyone now is talking about the 'entrepreneurial ecosystem', but it's not just about this ecosystem or the players within it – it's about the people that can connect these players. That's where the gaps are and the EIT is working to address this through the KICs, which are very local but also global."

“The nine nominees for the CH.A.N.G.E Award – they weren't just about doing good business, but also about doing well in terms of addressing social issues”

When Karen facilitated the CH.A.N.G.E nominees' session during the EIT Awards, she had the chance to see how the support of the EIT is having a positive impact on Europe's entrepreneurial potential first-hand. "I was really impressed by the level of entrepreneurship that I witnessed," she says. "The nine nominees for the CH.A.N.G.E Award – they weren't just about doing good business, but also about doing well in terms of addressing social issues. They had really innovative business models, and many of them already had products too, which was great to see."

It's clear that while there might be a long road ahead, the work of organisations like the EIT is turning the tide and helping to ensure a bright future for entrepreneurship in Europe.



Elpida Keravnou-Papailiou on...

The success of the EIT Awards

The current Rector of Cyprus University of Technology and an EIT Governing Board Member, Elpida Keravnou-Papailiou was one of the CH.A.N.G.E Award judges for the EIT Awards 2013. We caught up with her after the awards ceremony to get her reflections on the day.

We're at the end of the EIT Awards 2013 – what are your thoughts on this event?

I thought it was a great event! It was very exciting to be celebrating entrepreneurship with young people – the new generation of entrepreneurs – and to actually see so many exciting ideas and new products coming out. It's amazing what has been done in such a short period of time.

What does this mean for Europe? Is Europe turning a corner on innovation and entrepreneurship?

We hope so, although it's still early days so it's hard to say. We're still a long way from the US. We need to change the way people think; the way they consider entrepreneurship. It's something that should become an integral part of the educational systems and life in general. It shouldn't be considered a "scene" to be entrepreneurial, to think about ideas and to convert them into actions, products, services and services that have a social impact. This is the aim and vision of the EIT and our KICs – to create a new generation of young people with great ideas and a new way of thinking.

“We need to change the way people think; the way they consider entrepreneurship”

What do people need to know in Europe about what's happening at the EIT? Not just here today, but in general about the process that is encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship?

The unique feature of the EIT is that it implements the so-called “knowledge triangle”, which brings together higher education, research, and business, and entrepreneurship is the thing that glues all of these things together. It's a simple concept, but still a concept that can be implemented in a multitude of ways. There isn't one solution and that's why we see diversity.

Through the KICs themselves and as an Institute we try to ferment best practices and promote cross-KIC activities at all levels (education, innovation, business models). We're all quite excited about Horizon 2020 [the EU's new programme for research and innovation] coming up, because more KICs will be established and the existing KICs will be consolidated. So it is a very exciting period starting for the EIT and Europe in general. And hopefully, in a relatively short period of time, we'll be able to say we've caught up to other parts of the world.

“The unique feature of the EIT is that it implements the so-called 'knowledge triangle', which brings together higher education, research, and business”



EIT Awards 2013 in social media

Social media was a large part of the EIT Awards 2013, offering a blow-by-blow report on the events of the day. Here's an overview of the statistics:



During the awards, there were **364 tweets** (#EIT Awards 2013), with over **250** of those coming from the audience, and **108** from the EIT's main Twitter account.

Over **150** of these were **retweeted** and in total they received **80** clicks. The majority of these clicks came from Hungary, the UK and the Netherlands, with other European countries filling out the top ten.

To join the conversation on Twitter, visit <https://twitter.com/EITeu>

“Yes!!! Go Doro, go Homebody!!! You did it. Great representative for our team! #EIT Awards”
Manfred Micaux



Activity on the EIT's Facebook also increased during the awards, with **17** new posts, **14** new fans and **87** people sharing stories.

The page's content reached over **2150** people and received **739** clicks.

Keep up-to-date with all the latest news from the EIT and its KICs on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EITnews>

“Thanks for having us, it was a wonderful weekend/conference in a lovely city!”
Lasse Phlipsson



The main EIT LinkedIn page was also busy and now boasts a **membership of 650**.

To connect with other EIT professionals, visit: <http://linkd.in/1g5RB8f>

“Another big congratulations to the EIT Award Winners!!”
Hanna McLean

About the EIT and the KICs

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) was established in 2008 to enhance Europe's ability to innovate. It accomplishes this by nurturing young entrepreneurial talent and supporting exciting new ideas through the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs).

There are currently three KICs:

- **Climate-KIC** addresses the challenge of climate change
- **EIT ICT Labs** generates world-class ICT business
- **KIC InnoEnergy** tackles the issue of sustainable energy

All offer training and education programmes, business incubators and invaluable networking opportunities for their students and entrepreneurs.

Contact

To find out more about the exciting opportunities on offer through the KICs and the EIT, and how you can get involved, please use the following contact information:

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Tel:+36 1 4819 300

Website: <http://eit.europa.eu>

Climate-KIC

Website: www.climate-kic.org

EIT ICT Labs

Website: www.eitictlabs.eu

KIC InnoEnergy

Website: www.kic-innoenergy.com

Climate-KIC

▲ - Co-location Centre

▲ - RIC (Regional Implementation and Innovation Centre)

EIT ICT Labs

▲ - Co-location Centre

▲ - Associate Partner

KIC InnoEnergy

▲ - Co-location Centre

