

The EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda (SIA)

The Strategic Innovation Agenda (SIA) is the strategic policy document, which will outline the long-term priority fields of the EIT for future initiatives for a period of seven years. The major elements of the SIA, as outlined in the EIT Regulation, are:

- an overview of the planned higher education, research and innovation activities,
- an assessment of its socioeconomic impact and its capacity to generate the best innovation added-value,
- an estimate of financial needs and sources in view of the future operation, long-term development and funding of the EI,T
- an indicative financial plan covering the period of the financial framework.

A draft SIA will be prepared by the EIT and submitted to the Commission in June 2011. Subsequently, on a proposal from the Commission, the SIA will be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council.

The "Innovation Union" Communication, which was published by the European Commission in October 2010, sets out a strategic approach to innovation, and is a "flagship" in the Europe 2020 Strategy. It specifically commits the EIT to present a Strategic Innovation Agenda to expand its activities as a showcase for Innovation in Europe. The SIA should map out EIT's long term development within the Innovation Union, including the creation of new KICs, close links with the private sector and a stronger role in entrepreneurship. It should also provide for the introduction of "EIT degrees" in 2011, as an internationally recognised label of excellence.

EIT education conference and the SIA

The EIT education conference will serve as a platform for an exchange of ideas for and input to the EIT's future educational mission. Stakeholders are invited to join the discussions on a number of specific themes important to the further development of EIT activities in the field of Higher Education.

SIA ROADMAP:

- **April 2011** - SIA Stakeholder conference: A conference will be organised with a view to involve the wider stakeholder community
- **By 30 June 2011:** Submission of a draft Strategic Innovation Agenda (SIA) by the EIT Governing Board to the Commission
- **End of 2011:** Submission of the SIA by the Commission to the Council and European Parliament