

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is continuously looking for external expertise.

Work with us as evaluator or reviewer!

Who we are looking for? The EIT typically seeks experts with experience in working with business, education and research organisations or who are experienced in integrating business, education and research activities ('Knowledge Triangle Integration').

Types of assignment

The EIT appoints independent external experts for a variety of reasons, particularly in evaluating Innovation Communities and their portfolio of activities. For example:

- Evaluating proposals received in response to the Call for Proposals when selecting a new Innovation Community.
- Evaluating the annual Business Plans prepared by the existing Innovation Communities
- Performance evaluation of the Innovation Communities' annual activities based on the Innovation Communities' reports and deliverables
- Innovation Communities applications for EIT-labelled education programmes
- Review of the Innovation Communities' business creation, education or innovation portfolios of activities
- Review of the role of innovation hubs (co-location centres) and Knowledge Triangle Integration in the portfolio of activities
- Evaluation/Review of the Innovation Communities' innovation model and governance
- Evaluation/Review of the Innovation Communities' communication, dissemination and outreach activities, and, in particular, EIT Regional Innovation Scheme activities
- Evaluation/Review of the Innovation Communities' financial sustainability strategy
- Assisting the EIT by providing opinions and advice in other specific cases: e.g. knowledge and document management and grant management; key performance indicators review
- Assisting the EIT in gender mainstreaming of Innovation Communities' activities
- Participating as a jury member in the annual EIT Awards
- Assisting the EIT in defining performance indicators and conducting impact studies
- Evaluating particular aspects of the EIT's strategic agenda,
- Evaluating tender offers.

The expert may take up the role of an Evaluator, Rapporteur, Quality Reviewer or Independent Observer. The assignment is usually organised as a remote individual evaluation phase, i.e. at the expert's home or place of work, and consolidated sessions in Budapest. Depending on the assignment, experts may be asked to visit the Innovation Communities' premises.

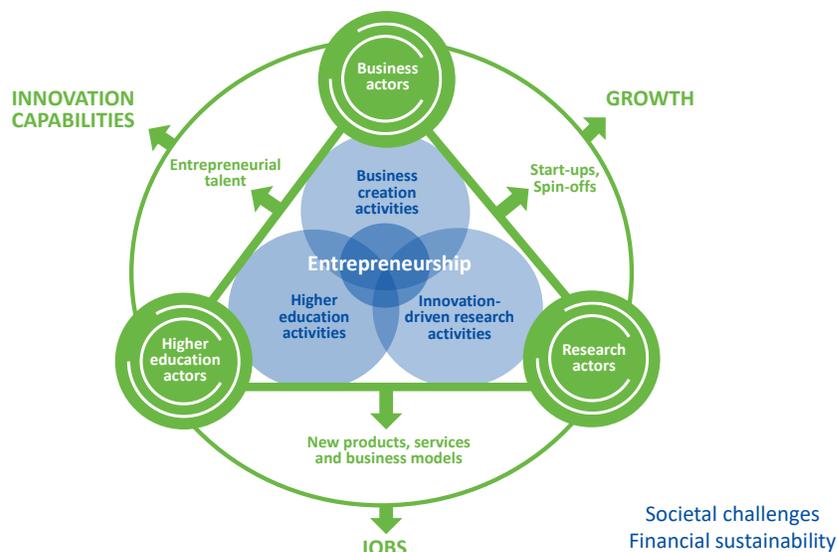
Who can be an expert? - Experts profiles and selection

While certain assignments require specific expertise **in the thematic field** in which the Innovation Community operates (climate, energy, digital technologies, healthy living and active aging, raw materials, food, manufacturing, urban mobility), other assignments cover **horizontal topics** (education, business creation, innovation, financial sustainability and business models, regional integration and regional innovation capacity building, communication, dissemination, outreach, exploitation, etc.). For some assignments, **combined expertise of a particular thematic field and horizontal topic** may be required.

The EIT typically seeks experts with experience in working with Knowledge Triangle stakeholders or experience in integrating business, education and research activities. In the majority of cases, experience in **Knowledge Triangle Integration** is among the top criteria when selecting experts.

The level of **applied experience** in the thematic field and horizontal topic is also very important.

The EIT innovation model



The **relevant thematic field** shall match one of the themes covered by the Innovation Communities:

- **Climate change mitigation and adaptation:** e.g. Climate change, Sustainable Land Use, Sustainable Water Use, Sustainable Cities, Sustainable Production, Greenhouse Gas, Decarbonisation pathways, Circular economy, insurance value of ecosystems, systemic eco-innovation, Climate services, Green infrastructure
- **Future information and communication society, digital technologies and related emerging technologies:** e.g. Digital Industry, Digital Cities, Digital Wellbeing, Digital Infrastructure, Digital Finance

- **Sustainable energy:** e.g. Energy; Secure, clean and efficient energy, energy storage, renewable energies, smart grids, Smart and Efficient Buildings and Cities, Energy from Chemical Fuels, Sustainable Nuclear and Renewable Energy Convergence, clean coal
- **Healthy living and active aging:** e.g. maintenance and promotion of health throughout the lifetime; healthy lifestyle; disease prevention; improving the ability to cure, treat and manage disease and disability; health services, health care; support active ageing; sustainable and efficient care sector; social care, including local and regional services and the adaptation of cities and their facilities for an ageing population; health and society; silver economy
- **Raw materials life cycle and value chain (covering sustainable exploration, extraction, processing, recycling and substitution):** e.g. sustainable surface, subsurface, deep-sea, urban and landfill mining, material management, recycling technologies, end of life management, material substitution and open trade, as well as global governance in raw materials; sustainable land and marine exploration, extraction and processing, resource efficient use, collection, recycling, re-use and substitution, circular economy
- **Value-added manufacturing:** e.g. eco-design, advanced manufacturing, factories of future, smart factories, industry 4.0, key enabling technologies, smart manufacturing, development of added-value products and services; sustainability and eco-innovation, new emerging manufacturing technologies, transformation of existing research and education infrastructures to support world-class manufacturing, energy and material efficient processes and machinery, the use of renewable power sources, the employment of smart energy management, reductions of waste and emissions
- **Sustainable food supply chain:** e.g. sustainable food production systems processing, packaging and distribution, climate resilient food system, food safety, food quality; sustainable management of biological resources; bio-based products; food wastage reduction; promotion of better nutrition; consumer behaviour and attitude
- **Urban mobility:** e.g. new mobility concepts, transport organisation, logistics, transport systems safety and security; reduction of greenhouse gases, air pollution and noise; urban planning; employment, social inclusion, housing and location strategies, inclusive, green and smart transport

The horizontal area of expertise shall be guided by, but not limited to, the following definitions:

- **Education:** expertise related to higher education innovation, entrepreneurship education, innovation education, creativity, and/or development of entrepreneurial skills and competences, and/or learning outcomes paradigm, and/or human capital development, and/or designing and/or delivering education activities (including creating new curricula and new forms of cooperation between enterprises, business partners, industry and education institutions), preferably in the context of the Bologna process or other recent initiatives in European higher education area development

- **Business creation:** expertise in new business creation, acceleration, scaling-up, setting-up start-ups and/or spin-offs; angel, venture capital, public, corporate and institutional investing; business support; entrepreneurial models; corporate venturing
- **Innovation management:** expertise in technology transfer, commercialisation, innovation management, process improvements, creation of value out of research results (either in monetary or social sense), innovation strategies, social innovations, open innovations, co-creation, innovation design, corporate governance, dissemination of innovation results, innovation ecosystems, knowledge management, knowledge and network economy, IPR management
- **Financial sustainability:** expertise related to investment finance and metrics, business models, revenue models, financial engineering, fund management, financial models, including those relevant to public-private partnerships
- **Regional innovation:** expertise related to the support and development of regional innovation ecosystems, with relevant knowledge of regional innovation strategies and policies, as well as European, national, regional funding schemes aiming to support regional innovation
- Other horizontal experts when deemed necessary and appropriate: e.g. regional integration and regional innovation capacity building, public procurement, communication, dissemination, and outreach, good governance and legal framework, analyst (e.g. from the venture capital sector, investment bank or international organization, such as OECD, FAO)

The most common selection criteria includes the following:

- Knowledge of the relevant Innovation Community thematic field
- Knowledge of the relevant horizontal area
- Minimum number of years of professional experience
- Excellent command of English or English as mother tongue
- Experience of working for/with Knowledge Triangle stakeholders (education, research, business)
- Level of applied knowledge in thematic field or horizontal area
- Level of diverse expertise in the thematic field or horizontal area
- Experience in designing and/or implementing projects/programmes/initiatives
- Previous practical experience of an evaluation organised by the European Commission and/or international programmes
- Experience with innovation ecosystem similar to the Innovation Community model

Conflicts of interest and contracting

If selected by the EIT, the experts will be invited to express their availability for the particular assignment. The working conditions and administrative process will be communicated in this invitation.

When appointing an expert, the EIT takes all steps necessary to ensure that no conflicts of interest in relation to the assignment are faced. In this respect, the EIT carries out a conflict of interest check during

the expert selection procedure and contracting. Prior to signing an expert contract, all experts are requested to sign a declaration stating that no such conflict of interest exists.

Once contracted, experts are entitled to a fee of EUR 450 for each full day worked and to the reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses. Remote evaluation work is reimbursed based on the type of assignment (number of days will be communicated in the invitation).