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## What is the EIT Crisis Response Initiative?

The COVID-19 pandemic and unfolding economic crisis have brought unprecedented changes and challenges to our societies. For its recovery, Europe needs strong collaboration to develop, identify and implement solutions. The **European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)** has a responsibility to answer these needs with innovation at the heart of solutions to resolve the crisis.

The EIT Governing Board is therefore **mobilising EUR 60 million** of additional funding for the **EIT Crisis Response Initiative** to accelerate and support these efforts. These funds will be available for European innovators and entrepreneurs at the forefront of the crisis.

## What types of activities will the EIT support as part of the EIT Crisis Response Initiative?

The EIT Crisis Response Initiative will support new innovation projects and ventures responding to the COVID-19 crisis through the following two actions:



**1. Venture Support Instrument:** Start-ups, scale-ups and SMEs have been significantly affected by the crisis, with investment drying up and cash flow issues emerging. Additional EIT support (financing, technical assistance and network) will help highly innovative ventures weather the crisis and accelerate their post crisis growth.

**2. Pandemic Response Projects:** New solutions are needed more than ever to tackle the crisis and prevent its resurgence. The agile EIT ecosystem will mobilise innovators to tackle the impact of the crisis in terms of the immediate health concerns as well as the wider response needed. Additional financing will allow relevant innovation projects to be launched.

## How will the EIT decide how the EUR 60 million for the EIT Crisis Response Initiative is allocated?

In response to an EIT call outlining the conditions and criteria for the funding, each of the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities will present a portfolio of activities that could be implemented within the scope of the EIT Crisis Response Initiative. This will include proposals for the EIT Venture Instrument as well as for the Pandemic Response Projects. The EIT will then evaluate the KICs' proposals through a fast-track procedure, and the final selection will be put forward for the EIT Governing Board's decision.

## Will the EUR 60 million be split equally between each EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community?

The EIT Governing Board's priority is to ensure the highest-impact innovation projects and ventures receive the support required to develop and deliver solutions to the pandemic and economic crises. The amount of funding awarded to each Knowledge and Innovation Community will therefore be dependent on the quality and relevance of the proposals submitted.

# EIT CRISIS RESPONSE INITIATIVE



## EIT Climate-KIC

Accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy



## EIT Digital

Drive Europe's digital transformation



## EIT Food

Lead a global revolution in food innovation and production



## EIT Health

Give EU citizens greater opportunities for a healthy life



## EIT Urban Mobility

Smart, green and integrated transport



## EIT RawMaterials

Develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe



## EIT Manufacturing

Strengthen and increase the competitiveness of Europe's manufacturing industry



## EIT InnoEnergy

Achieve a sustainable energy future for Europe

### In what areas will the EIT Crisis Response Initiative support innovators?

The EUR 60 million financing will power innovations in health, climate change, digitisation, food, sustainable energy, urban mobility, manufacturing and raw materials. Each of these challenges offer direct and indirect responses to the crisis and all will contribute to Europe's recovery.

Maintaining the focus on global challenges also helps ensure the EIT continues to deliver on the European Green Deal, Europe's digitisation, and a new industrial strategy during the recovery.

### Where can entrepreneurs and innovators find information?

All calls for innovators and entrepreneurs under the EIT Crisis Response Initiative will be launched by the EIT's eight Knowledge and Innovation Communities. These will be published on their websites as well as the EIT website in the dedicated [COVID-19 section](#) and the [opportunities](#) page.

### What has the EIT Community already done to combat the COVID-19 pandemic?

The entire EIT Community has been mobilised to tackle challenges in critical areas of Europe's response. Our response has focused on some of the most vulnerable groups affected by the crisis: innovators, entrepreneurs (start-ups, scale-ups and SMEs), and students.

The EIT Community is responding to the crisis with concrete measures: [activities and resources](#) to support the global response, and [innovative solutions](#) powered by its innovators. In addition to these measures, the EIT Community also offers numerous [online courses](#) to develop [entrepreneurial skills](#).

### How can I stay up-to-date with the latest news from the EIT Community?

Follow the EIT on social media and subscribe to our [newsletter](#).



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