

EIT HEI INITIATIVE

Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

HEI Initiative: Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education was launched by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) as part of the EIT's 2021-2027 Strategy. The initiative is led by EIT RawMaterials – one of the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities.



About the initiative

The initiative aims to help higher education institutions to build the capacity to innovate and to teach innovation and entrepreneurship. More specifically, the initiative aims to encourage these institutions to look at their own practices and develop concrete actions to increase their impact on their ecosystems. By supporting such activities, this new EIT initiative will create systemic impact, empowering HEIs to become regional engines of innovation and fostering sustainable growth and jobs across Europe.

In March 2020, the EIT's HEI Initiative launched a Pilot Call for Proposals, inviting higher education institutions to design activities that will improve their entrepreneurial and innovation capacity. We are pleased to announce the results of this Pilot Call.



Institutional change



Partnerships



Innovation



Entrepreneurship



Knowledge sharing

Pilot Call Key Figures



64

consortia applied



23

projects funded



135

higher education institutions



140

non-academic organisations



32

European countries



€27.5 million

maximum funding awarded

What's next

The pilot projects implemented in Phase 1 in 2021 will incorporate evaluation, learning and improvements before entering Phase 2 in 2022 and 2023, and scaling up their activities. Upon successful completion of Phase 1, further funding will be released to projects to complete Phase 2.

A second call for proposals for the EIT's HEI Initiative will be launched in late 2021, moving onto an annual call thereon.

Based on the results of the pre-pilot phase taking place from 2021 to 2023, the HEI Initiative will be extended into the period 2024–2027.

Pilot Call Timeline



HEI Initiative Timeline

