

EIT Community in Latvia

Making innovation happen!

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

Budapest, Hungary | 2017/2018

www.eit.europa.eu



METHODOLOGY NOTE

Financial data: 2017.

Presented financial data of partners and linked 3rd parties include a share of the EIT grant transferred to the Legal Entities (LEs) and the Innovation Hubs. The share is calculated based on each partner's / linked 3rd party's received EIT grant, in proportion to the total EIT grant received by all the Innovation Communities' partners / linked 3rd parties.

Data on Innovation Community structures, EIT RIS, EIT-labelled programmes, and participations: Sept 2018.

Please note that the number of participations per country may include several participations from a single organisation, and include both partner organisations and linked 3rd parties. The data on participations was retrieved on 13 September 2018 from the EIT's partnership management database. Organisations whose partnership requests were being processed at that time (entering and exiting organisations) may not have been included in the factsheet.

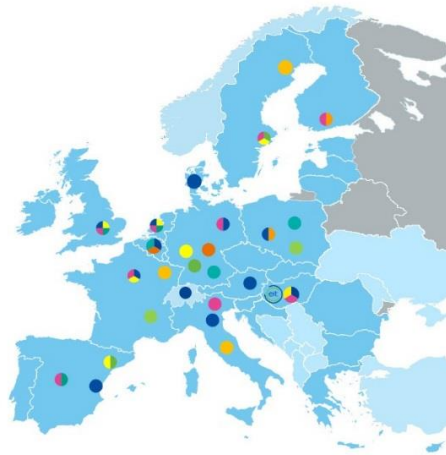
The information contained in the following pages about students, graduates, entrepreneurs, companies, and/or innovation projects is gathered from publicly available sources, as well as from the EIT Innovation Communities and the innovators themselves.








The challenges the world faces are well documented. Climate change, for example, will exacerbate the scarcity of resources. This influences food, water and energy supply, and affects health and national security. **The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)** was set up to find solutions to such challenges and this is exactly what we deliver. We do this with tangible results, bridging innovation gaps among regions.

Europe's largest Innovation Community

- EIT Climate-KIC
- EIT Digital
- EIT Food
- EIT Health
- EIT InnoEnergy
- EIT RawMaterials
- EIT Headquarters



RESULTS & IMPACT

-  € 890 + million investment raised by EIT ventures
-  6100+ jobs created
-  1700+ graduates
-  1250+ ventures supported
-  600+ new products

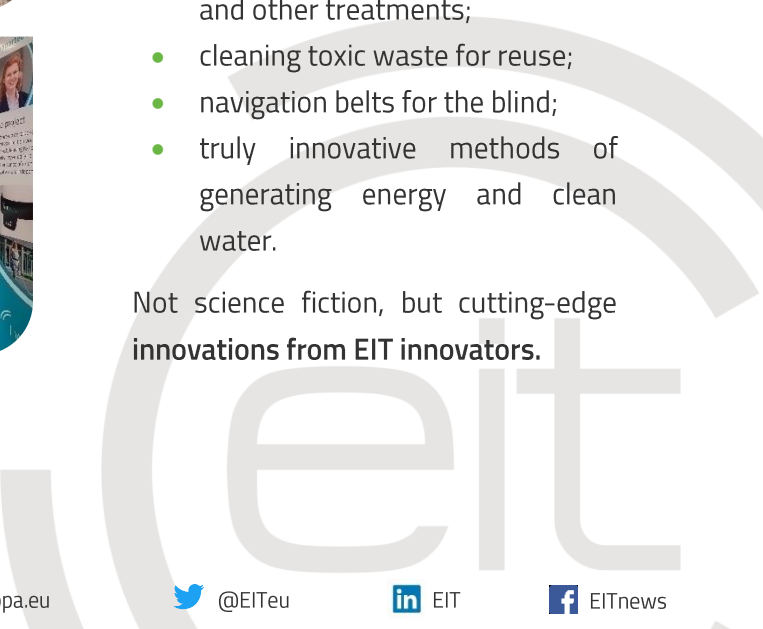


Did you know?

The EIT is home to innovations that **make the difference for this planet, the EU and its citizens.**

- Incredible new cancer therapies and other treatments;
- cleaning toxic waste for reuse;
- navigation belts for the blind;
- truly innovative methods of generating energy and clean water.

Not science fiction, but cutting-edge innovations from EIT innovators.



What EIT Innovation Communities are there?

- **EIT Climate-KIC** - working to accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon economy
- **EIT Digital** - driving Europe's digital transformation
- **EIT Food** - leading a global revolution in food innovation and production
- **EIT Health** - giving EU citizens greater opportunities to enjoy a healthier and active life for longer
- **EIT InnoEnergy** - achieving a sustainable energy future for Europe
- **EIT Raw Materials** - turn Europe's dependence on raw materials into a strategic strength

In December 2018, two new Innovation Communities joined us:

- **EIT Manufacturing**: strengthening and increasing the competitiveness of Europe's manufacturing industry
- **EIT Urban Mobility**: providing sustainable solutions for urban mobility

The EIT Community brings together:



570+ companies, including SMEs



190+ higher education institutions



150+ research centers



80+ cities, regions and NGOs

The EIT: Working across Europe

Our mission to build up Europe's ability to innovate. We bridge the existing gaps in innovation performance across Europe. We achieve this through the **EIT Regional Innovation Scheme**.

Our operational arms are the **EIT Innovation Communities**. They cooperate closely with the local ecosystem.



Being an entrepreneur never occurred to me before EIT Climate-KIC. They brought out the entrepreneur in me!

Florence Gschwend, co-founder Chrysalix Technologies and EIT CHANGE Award winner 2017



EIT Health really opens doors for start-ups! They really helped us on our journey to reach our patients.

Carsten Mahrenholz, CEO COLDPLASMATECH and EIT Audience Award winner 2017

The future of the EIT

In **Horizon Europe**, the EIT will continue to:

- generate ground-breaking products and services;
- start revolutionary companies;
- train a new generation of entrepreneurs.

We also want to find new solutions to **European challenges and set up new Innovation Communities**. Do you wonder where our water will come from? Do you think about the future of European culture and creative industries, security and migration? We do too, so we want to **roll out our model to new countries and regions**.

We will also expand our entrepreneurial education model, because **education is at the heart of innovation and our future**.



The EIT boosts innovation across the EU and all of its Member States. In Latvia, the EIT Community delivers education, innovation and entrepreneurship activities through its outreach strategy, the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS). The aim of the EIT RIS is to boost innovation in European countries that are defined as modest or moderate innovators by the European Innovation Scoreboard. The EIT Community works towards this objective by engaging local organisations and individuals in our Innovation Communities' activities, transferring good practices to local innovation ecosystems, and providing tailor-made services to bridge innovation gaps.



Riga Technical University acts as **EIT Climate-KIC's** Hub in Latvia. EIT Climate-KIC's partners in Latvia support climate-friendly ideas and innovations with a range of programmes that support them to reach market-readiness and grow into successful and viable businesses.

Through the EIT RIS, EIT Climate-KIC connects Latvian innovators with its pan-European network. Their programmes in Latvia focus on accelerating early-stage cleantech start-ups and developing urban sustainability solutions. In 2017, the EIT allocated a total of **€ 209,656** to EIT Climate-KIC's activities in Latvia.

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EIT Digital serves the whole of Europe through the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme programme. At EIT Digital, this programme is called **ARISE Europe**. Although EIT Digital does not have a Hub in Latvia, through **ARISE Europe**, EIT Digital stimulates growth in EU countries where EIT Digital is not present with Innovation Hubs.

Their mission is to connect the most innovative local ecosystems to their European-wide network of global companies, leading research centres, and top ranked universities, strengthening local innovation centres by linking them to EIT Digital's innovation and entrepreneurship activities, and fostering entrepreneurial skill development by connecting local talents and educators to their excellent education programmes.

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🌐 www.eitdigital.eu/about-us/arise-europe



EIT InnoEnergy's Hub in Latvia is hosted by Attīstības projektu institūts, located in Riga. The Hub provides information on EIT InnoEnergy's services and products available in Latvia and globally. In 2017, the EIT allocated € 1,427,834 to EIT InnoEnergy's activities in Latvia.

EIT InnoEnergy offers Business Creation Services to energy-related start-ups and scale-ups at different stages of maturity. Additionally, EIT InnoEnergy offers entrepreneurial education programmes and sets up innovation projects that bring together researchers and industry to create commercially viable technologies.

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EIT Health selected Rīga Stradiņš University to serve as its Hub in Latvia in December 2018. The new Hub will focus on developing the local innovation ecosystem, implementing the EIT RIS programme and helping EIT Health find the best Latvian talents, start-ups, and entrepreneurs.

EIT Health offers a wide range of services to innovators. Their business creation and acceleration programme is open to entrepreneurs at every stage of the innovation process. EIT Health also provides comprehensive support to innovation projects and education programmes for aspiring entrepreneurs and professionals in the healthcare sector.

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EIT RawMaterials has two Latvian project partners: Riga Technical University and University of Latvia, although it does not have a Hub in Latvia.

The country is covered by EIT RawMaterials' outreach strategy that aims at establishing fruitful partnerships and sharing good practices. EIT RawMaterials' EIT RIS activities are defined on a case-by-case basis. These activities include mobility programmes for students and professors, study visits, technology transfers, support to start-ups, joint communication, and networking events.

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🌐 www.eitrawmaterials.eu/eit-regional-innovation-scheme-ris



Following its establishment at the end of 2016, EIT Food is now in the process of setting up and consolidating their activities. Currently, EIT Food is selecting and establishing an Innovation Hub in Latvia. EIT Food Hub will be responsible for the implementation of a portfolio of instruments dedicated to local stakeholders.

The Hub will aim to connect the Latvian start-up community to EIT Food's innovation ecosystem and ensure that local innovators can benefit from EIT Food's portfolio of innovation instruments. Furthermore, the Hub will act as the regional contact point for interested stakeholders, maintaining relations with key regional players, and organising events and workshops for students, graduates and entrepreneurs.

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EIT Education Activities in Latvia

Through the **EIT Education Activities**, the EIT Community supports tomorrow's entrepreneurs and strengthens Europe's entrepreneurial culture. **EIT-labelled Master's and Doctoral degrees** make up the EIT's flagship initiative in education. These programmes combine excellent technical knowledge with robust entrepreneurship education. By completing an EIT-labelled programme, students earn a **double degree** from two of our partner universities **spread across Europe**.


In addition to EIT-labelled university degrees, the EIT Community offers European citizens a long list of other education activities: **lifelong-learning; professional and executive trainings; short courses and summer schools;** and **online courses**. Furthermore, several of our Innovation Communities offer **education activities in Latvia** or **directed at Latvian citizens** through the EIT RIS.




EIT Food's RIS Fellowships offer 30 students and graduates from RIS countries unique, three-month paid internships. During a multi-step recruitment process, candidates participate in networking and case study workshops led by EIT Food's hubs. The best candidates are offered internships in different areas of operations in EIT Food's **partner companies** or **RisingFoodStars companies**. The interns take on learning-by-doing activities and real-life challenges faced by the food industry.



EIT Health's StarShip Programme is an EIT Health educational initiative in cooperation with the University of Coimbra, IESE Business School, the RISE Research Institutes of Sweden, and Instituto Pedro Nunes, as well as six partnering companies. Using blended education approaches, such as the **Stanford Biodesign Concept**, StarShip is a unique opportunity to be involved in industry-driven life science innovation. During the one-year long programme, fellows work together in multidisciplinary teams and learn a proven, action-based approach to find solutions to health challenges in collaboration with key industrial players. The outcomes are the development of – or crucial contributions to – market-relevant products or services.



EIT Climate-KIC's Pioneers into Practice Programme is hosted in Latvia. Operating in fifteen European locations, the programme runs from May to November and consists of 4-6 week placements (domestic or international), mentoring, workshops, and online training. **11 Latvian participants** were selected to take part in the 2018 edition of the programme.



EIT InnoEnergy's Primer is an educational programme for start-ups in the pre-acceleration phase. Through the programme, aspiring entrepreneurs learn what it takes to build a successful business and how to overcome challenges in the sustainable energy sector. It focuses on different thematic areas, including how to develop a business model, a go-to-market strategy, or the perfect pitch.

EIT Business Creation & Acceleration Services in Latvia

The EIT Community's programmes cover the entire innovation chain from pre-incubation to acceleration in the fields of climate, digital, energy, food, health, and raw materials.

EIT Climate-KIC's offers to aspiring entrepreneurs, start-ups and scale-ups include:



- **Climathon:** A global 24-hour climate change hackathon gathering innovators, students and professionals to solve climate challenges. In 2018, Riga hosted the event in Latvia.
- **Climate Launchpad:** The world's largest green business idea competition, offering training, coaching, and financial support. Since 2015, several budding Latvian entrepreneurs have taken part in the Launchpad. In 2016, **Farmair** – a drone for orchard mapping and misting, and **STERCUS Solutions**, which developed a reverse photosynthesis reactor for heat, sterile compost and CO2 reduction, as well as **Bee in** – a natural alternative to food storage at home, competed in the Global Final. In 2017, the Latvian start-up **Eco-body**, which developed an educational environmental board game to change the environmental awareness and behaviour towards waste, won the National Final of the competition.
- **RIS Accelerator:** Offers € 50,000 in financial support, expert coaching, pitch trainings, mentoring, international bootcamps and workshops, as well as access to EIT Climate-KIC's pan-European network. **Catalyco**, a science-based start-up operating in the chemical industry introducing a new technology to improve industrial catalysts to the market, is one such Latvian start-ups benefiting from the accelerator.



EIT Digital **scale fast-growing technology start-ups** through two programmes:



- **EIT Digital Accelerator:** A 12-month programme for start-ups to raise Series A-B funding and scale up internationally.
- **EIT Digital Challenge:** EIT Digital's international pitching competition for promising scale-ups. The winners get a € 100,000 prize package, as well as the opportunity to participate in their Accelerator programme with comprehensive business support services. These programmes are also open to applicants from Latvia.

EIT Food's **Business Creation Services** offer several services to innovators in Latvia, including:



- The **RisingFoodStars Association**, EIT Food's start-up club of outstanding agri-food tech start-ups, offering access to knowledge, networks and EIT Food's activities.
- **EIT FoodSparks™** (EIT Food's VC fund), which provides start-ups with funds to bridge the critical early stage of their development.
- The **Access to Finance** programme, where EIT Food invests financially in promising start-ups. Selected start-ups also benefit from management support, access to the EIT Food ecosystem, distribution channels and potential customers.



EIT Health's services include the **InnoStars Awards**, which provide early-stage companies with funding for business development, as well as the opportunity to compete for € 25,000 to launch their innovation, and the **Headstart Programme**, which provides funding for early stage companies and SMEs to develop new products and services.





EIT InnoEnergy's **PowerUp! Competition** is a competition for energy, cleantech, mobility, cybersecurity, and smart city start-ups from 24 countries. The competition offers financial awards up to € 30,000 and the opportunity of a € 150,000 investment. The Latvian start-up **Mazzy**, which aims to provide products and solutions for remote meter readings of water, electricity, gas and heat meters, won the 2018 Latvian national Final and competed in the Grand Final in the Czech Republic in June.



EIT RawMaterials offers comprehensive Business Creation and Acceleration Services to excellent start-ups and scale-ups, including their **Business Idea Competition**, and their **Kick-Start and Booster programmes**. These programmes are also open to applicants from Latvia.

EIT Outreach and Dissemination Activities in Latvia

The EIT Innovation Communities also organise and participate in events and network building activities to reach out to promising Latvian start-ups and potential stakeholders through their hubs. For example, **EIT Climate-KIC** and **EIT InnoEnergy** took part in several national and international events in 2018, such as the DeepScience Hackathon, which was co-organised by the Institute of Solid State Physics; in ExportExpress selection panel and in regional bootcamps.



In 2018, **EIT InnoEnergy** signed a memorandum of cooperation with Latvian Ministry of Economics, aimed at developing further partnership, by promoting the exchange of resources, knowledge and experience for new energy companies. This cooperation will also set out to ensure implementation of innovative energy and intelligent solutions projects in Latvia.



HYGEN, supported by **EIT InnoEnergy**.



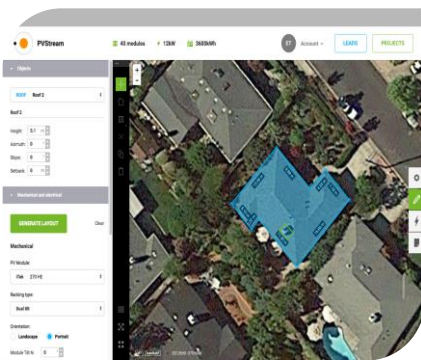
HYGEN has developed a Compressed Natural Gas Home Refuelling Station that makes it possible to refuel cars with clean and in-expensive fuel at an at-home supercharger for renewable gas-powered Vehicles. HYGEN is an innovation project from EIT InnoEnergy, from who they have received financial support and the first pilot customer, both of which are essential for testing their solution. In 2018, the project was nominated for the EIT INNOVATORS Award. The product is certified for the European market. HYGEN also entered into a pilot and market partnership with Volkswagen Group, Gas Technology Institute and Gas Natural Fenosa.

ALINA, supported by **EIT RawMaterials**.

ALINA has developed ALINA LIFE, an innovative and environmentally friendly clay mineral material that prolongs the life and improves the appearance of building products. They use an innovative production technology that make state-of-the-art clay mineral materials, taking responsibility for people and the environment they live in. ALINA was part of the EIT RawMaterials Booster Programme. In 2017, the company was nominated for the EIT VENTURE Award. In 2018, the company raised €550,000 and was listed among the top 25 New Clean Technologies and Business Models from the Nordics and Baltics.



PVStream, supported by **EIT Climate-KIC**.



PVStream has developed a web-based software that provides users with services needed for solar project development through all stages: lead generation, proposal, design, and post-installation monitoring. PVStream allows solar energy companies to significantly reduce soft costs and streamline PV project development processes, thus making solar energy more attractive for the end-user.

Energio Plus, supported by **EIT Climate-KIC**.

Energio PLUS replaces existing electrode materials in li-ion batteries and supercapacitors with unique materials – very specific types of carbon nanotubes. The technology can be used in all types of batteries for smart devices, electro cars and many other forms of energy storage, and supercapacitors. The technology aims to significantly enhance power charge/discharge processes, increase their capacity and efficient operating time without harming the environment.

