



**2019/0152(COD)**

23.3.2020

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## **DRAFT REPORT**

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe  
(COM(2019)0330 – C9-0043/2019 – 2019/0152(COD))

Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Rapporteur: Maria Da Graça Carvalho

### ***Symbols for procedures***

- \* Consultation procedure
- \*\*\* Consent procedure
- \*\*\*I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- \*\*\*II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- \*\*\*III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

### ***Amendments to a draft act***

#### **Amendments by Parliament set out in two columns**

Deletions are indicated in ***bold italics*** in the left-hand column. Replacements are indicated in ***bold italics*** in both columns. New text is indicated in ***bold italics*** in the right-hand column.

The first and second lines of the header of each amendment identify the relevant part of the draft act under consideration. If an amendment pertains to an existing act that the draft act is seeking to amend, the amendment heading includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend.

#### **Amendments by Parliament in the form of a consolidated text**

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Deletions are indicated using either the **■** symbol or strikeout. Replacements are indicated by highlighting the new text in ***bold italics*** and by deleting or striking out the text that has been replaced.

By way of exception, purely technical changes made by the drafting departments in preparing the final text are not highlighted.

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## DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

**on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe (COM(2019)0330 – C9-0043/2019 – 2019/0152(COD))**

**(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2019)0330),
  - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 173(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C9-0043/2019),
  - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
  - having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the opinion of the Committee on Culture and Education,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (A9-0000/2020),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
  2. Suggests that the act be cited as 'the Decision on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe';
  3. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
  4. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

### **Amendment 1**

**Proposal for a decision  
Citation 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Having regard to Regulation (EC) No***

***deleted***

**294/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology<sup>5</sup>, and in particular Article 17 thereof,**

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<sup>5</sup> OJ L 97, 9.4.2008, p. 1.

Or. en

*Justification*

Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 will be replaced by a new EIT regulation (2019/0151 (COD)) and the relevant article is now Article 4. However, it is appropriate in the citations only to refer to the direct legal basis, which, in this case, is Article 173(3) TFEU. It is sufficient to refer to Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 in the recitals (see recital 1).

**Amendment 2**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Recital 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 provides for the adoption of a Strategic Innovation Agenda (‘SIA’).

*Amendment*

(1) Regulation (EU) .../2020 [EIT Regulation (2019/0151/COD)] provides for the adoption of a Strategic Innovation Agenda (‘SIA’).

Or. en

**Amendment 3**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Recital 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) The SIA *should define* the priority fields and the long-term strategy for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (‘EIT’) and include an assessment of its socio-economic impact and its capacity to generate best innovation added value. The SIA *should* take into account the results of the monitoring and evaluation of the EIT.

*Amendment*

(2) **Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) .../2020 [EIT Regulation (2019/0151/COD)] provides that** the SIA **is to cover** the priority fields and the long-term strategy for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (‘EIT’) and **to** include an assessment of its socio-economic impact and its capacity to generate best innovation added value. The

SIA *is to* take into account the results of the monitoring and evaluation of the EIT.

Or. en

#### Amendment 4

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) The SIA *should* include an analysis of potential and appropriate synergies and complementarities between EIT activities and other Union initiatives, instruments and programmes.

*Amendment*

(3) ***In accordance with Article 4(2) of Regulation (EU) .../2020 [EIT Regulation (2019/0151/COD)]***, the SIA *is to* include an analysis of potential and appropriate synergies and complementarities between EIT activities and other Union initiatives, instruments and programmes.

Or. en

#### Amendment 5

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 1 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the period from 2021 to 2027 as set out in the Annex is hereby adopted.

*Amendment*

The Strategic Innovation Agenda (***‘SIA’***) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology for the period from 2021 to 2027 as set out in the Annex is hereby adopted.

Or. en

#### Amendment 6

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 2 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The SIA shall be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU) ***No on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology***<sup>6</sup> .

*Amendment*

The SIA shall be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU) ***.../2020 [EIT Regulation (2019/0151/COD)]***.

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<sup>6</sup> Reference to the adopted recast EIT Regulation.

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<sup>6</sup> Reference to the adopted recast EIT Regulation.

Or. en

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 1

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

This Decision shall enter into force ***on the day following that of*** its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

#### *Amendment*

This Decision shall enter into force ***twenty days after*** its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Or. en

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 1 – point 1.1 – paragraph 1

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT was established in 2008 in order to contribute to sustainable economic growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of the Member States and the European Union. It pioneered the integration of education, ***business and*** research (knowledge triangle) together with a strong emphasis on entrepreneurial talent and innovation skills. The mid-term evaluation of the EIT in 2018 confirmed that the overarching rationale of the EIT remains valid and the model of innovation-driven knowledge triangle integration remains relevant.

#### *Amendment*

The EIT was established in 2008 in order to contribute to sustainable economic growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of the Member States and the European Union. It pioneered the integration of ***higher*** education, research ***and innovation*** (knowledge triangle) together with a strong emphasis on entrepreneurial talent and innovation skills. The mid-term evaluation of the EIT in 2018 confirmed that the overarching rationale of the EIT remains valid and the model of innovation-driven knowledge triangle integration remains relevant.

Or. en

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 1 – point 1.1 – paragraph 2



*Text proposed by the Commission*

A decade after EIT's establishment, the pace of innovation has accelerated dramatically. Innovation is reshaping economic sectors, disrupting existing businesses and creating unprecedented opportunities. With a shifting global economic order and international competition on the rise, the EU's dependence on talent and its capacity to innovate is growing. Co-design, collaboration and co-creation across disciplines and between education, business and research have never been as important as today to contribute to address global challenges related to climate change and unsustainable use on natural **recourses**, digital transformation, demographic shifts or the future of healthcare and food.

*Amendment*

A decade after **the** EIT's establishment, the pace of innovation has accelerated dramatically. Innovation is reshaping economic sectors, disrupting existing businesses and creating unprecedented opportunities. With a shifting global economic order and international competition on the rise, the EU's dependence on talent and its capacity to innovate is growing. Co-design, collaboration and co-creation across disciplines and between education, business and research have never been as important as today to contribute to address global challenges related to climate change and unsustainable use on natural **resources**, digital transformation, demographic shifts or the future of healthcare and food.

Or. en

*Justification*

*Linguistic adjustments.*

**Amendment 10**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Since its set up, the EIT has established itself gradually as a **successful** instrument addressing societal challenges. The EIT operates mainly through Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), which are large-scale European partnerships between education and training, business and research organisations. There are currently eight KICs that operate in the following areas: climate change, digital transformation, energy, food, health, raw materials, urban mobility and added-value

*Amendment*

Since its set up, the EIT has established itself gradually as a **unique** instrument addressing societal challenges **through the integration of the knowledge triangle**. The EIT operates mainly through Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), which are large-scale European partnerships between education and training, business and research organisations. There are currently eight KICs that operate in the following areas: climate change, digital transformation,

manufacturing (*see Figure 2*).

energy, food, health, raw materials, urban mobility and added-value manufacturing.

Or. en

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Each KIC *is* organised **around five to ten** of co-location centres (CLCs<sup>22</sup>) which are intended to act as geographical hubs for the practical integration of the knowledge triangle. They are organised and structured according to their respective national and regional innovation context and build on a pan-European network of existing labs, offices or campuses of a KICs' core partners.

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<sup>22</sup> A 'Co-location centre' is a geographical area where the main KICs knowledge triangle partners are based and can easily interact, providing the focal point for the KICs' activity in that area.

##### *Amendment*

Each KIC *has so far been* organised **into between five and ten** co-location centres (CLCs<sup>22</sup>) which are intended to act as geographical hubs **that also provide a physical space for interaction within the local innovation ecosystem and** for the practical integration of the knowledge triangle. They are organised and structured according to their respective national and regional innovation context and build on a pan-European network of existing labs, offices or campuses of a KICs' core partners.

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<sup>22</sup> A 'Co-location centre' is a geographical area where the main KICs knowledge triangle partners are based and can easily interact, providing the focal point for the KICs' activity in that area.

Or. en

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 3 – indent 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

— Education and training activities with strong entrepreneurship components to train the next generation of talents, including the design and implementation of programmes awarded the EIT Label<sup>23</sup>, in particular at master and doctoral level;

##### *Amendment*

— **Higher** education and training activities with strong entrepreneurship components to train the next generation of talents, including the design and implementation of programmes awarded the EIT Label<sup>23</sup>, in particular at master and doctoral level **and the development of**

*entrepreneurship and digital skills programmes and activities aiming to re-skill and up-skill human resources in a lifelong learning perspective; special attention shall be dedicated to gender issues, especially in areas where women are still under represented such as ICT;*

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<sup>23</sup> The EIT Label is a quality seal awarded by the EIT to a KIC's educational programme which complies with specific quality criteria related inter alia to entrepreneurial education and innovative 'learning-by-doing' curricula.

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<sup>23</sup> The EIT Label is a quality seal awarded by the EIT to a KIC's educational programme which complies with specific quality criteria related inter alia to entrepreneurial education and innovative 'learning-by-doing' curricula.

Or. en

### **Amendment 13**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

##### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 3 – indent 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

— Activities supporting innovation to develop innovative, products, processes and services that address a specific business opportunity;

*Amendment*

— Activities supporting **research and** innovation to develop innovative products, processes and services that address a specific business opportunity;

Or. en

### **Amendment 14**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

##### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Nevertheless, all current and future KICs shall use best efforts to dedicate more attention towards research activities in order to stay at the forefront of scientific advances and to balance the three sides of the knowledge triangle. The research activities of the KICs should be an integral part of their business plans and reviews.***

Or. en

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*The KICs represent dynamic innovation ecosystems that produce a wide range of results (see Figure 1 below).*

*deleted*

Or. en

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – figure 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*[...]*

*deleted*

Or. en

## Amendment 17

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Education and training, talent and skills development are at the core of the EIT model. No other EU action on innovation includes higher education in the innovation value chain to the extent the EIT does. The EIT's education agenda is key for developing highly entrepreneurial and skilled innovators. ***By 2017, more than 1700 graduates have successfully completed an EIT-labelled master and/or doctoral programme, and thousands have participated in entrepreneurial and innovative education activities and formats.***

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Or. en

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 6

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The focus on global challenges through the integration of the knowledge triangle distinguishes the EIT from other innovation instruments. By providing a grant for up to 15 years to KICs, the EIT is delivering ***on its long-term objective of tackling*** global challenges through innovative products and services and bringing concrete benefits to our society and citizens. The EIT also has set the objective ***to*** the KICs to become financially sustainable after 15 years, which is a unique feature that leads to a business and result oriented innovation instrument. In this context, KICs have to develop and implement revenue-creating strategies in order to maintain their innovation ecosystem beyond the period covered by the grant agreement.

##### *Amendment*

The focus on global challenges through the integration of the knowledge triangle distinguishes the EIT from other innovation instruments. By providing a grant for up to 15 years to KICs, the EIT is delivering ***long-term stability which should allow the beneficiaries to address*** global challenges through innovative products and services and bringing concrete benefits to our society and citizens. The EIT also has set the objective ***for*** the KICs to become financially sustainable after 15 years, which is a unique feature that leads to a business and result oriented innovation instrument. In this context, KICs have to develop and implement revenue-creating strategies in order to maintain their innovation ecosystem beyond the period covered by the grant agreement. ***While the innovation and close-to-market activities of the KICs should be financially sustainable at the earliest possible date and in any event within 15 years of their establishment, the higher education, training and horizontally-structured activities of KICs should have the possibility to continue to receive EIT funding, after thorough evaluation by independent experts.***

Or. en

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 7

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT approach contributes to both incremental and disruptive innovations to happen, to effectively address market

##### *Amendment*

The EIT approach contributes to both incremental and disruptive innovations to happen, to effectively address market

failures **and** help transform industries. It enables the creation of long-term business strategies for addressing global challenges and helps creating the framework conditions that are essential for a well-functioning innovation ecosystem to grow and innovation to thrive.

failures, help transform industries **and support the creation of start-ups, spin-offs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)**. It enables the creation of long-term business strategies for addressing global challenges and helps creating the framework conditions that are essential for a well-functioning innovation ecosystem to grow and innovation to thrive.

Or. en

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 8

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT offers an efficient and effective platform for launching, scaling up and managing KICs with strong network effects and positive spill-overs (*see Figure 2 below*). The first wave of KICs (EIT Digital, EIT Climate-KIC and EIT InnoEnergy), launched in 2009, is established and mature and after 2024 their framework partnership agreements **will** be terminated, in line with the **maximum** grant duration. A second and third generation of KICs (EIT Health and EIT Raw Materials (2014), EIT Food (2016)) is maturing. EIT Urban Mobility and EIT Manufacturing, the two KICs designated in December 2018, are starting their operations in 2019.

##### *Amendment*

The EIT offers an efficient and effective platform for launching, scaling up and managing KICs with strong network effects and positive spill-overs. ***A KIC usually has a lifespan of seven to fifteen years.*** The first wave of KICs (EIT Digital, EIT Climate-KIC and EIT InnoEnergy), launched in 2009, is established and mature and after 2024 their framework partnership agreements ***should*** be terminated, in line with the grant duration. ***However, a possible extension of the Framework Partnership Agreement may be decided by the EIT Governing Board, after a thorough evaluation by independent experts. That extension shall not exceed three years.*** A second and third generation of KICs (EIT Health and EIT Raw Materials (2014), EIT Food (2016)) is maturing. EIT Urban Mobility and EIT Manufacturing, the two KICs designated in December 2018, are starting their operations in 2019.

Or. en

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – figure 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**[...]**

**deleted**

Or. en

## **Amendment 22**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 9**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Through its eight KICs with more than 1000 partners from business, research and education, the EIT represents the largest EU-supported innovation ecosystem. The EIT has supported more than 1200 start-ups and innovative ventures, leading to over EUR 890 million in external funding attracted by those companies and more than 6000 jobs created by the supported start-ups. More than 50% of KIC partners are from the business sector (industry, SMEs and start-ups) demonstrating the proximity to the market. ***The increase in number of partners in each KIC shows the attractiveness and long-term potential of the EIT model. By 2019, there are more than 600 businesses, 250 HEIs, 200 research organisations, and more than 50 civil society organisations and authorities participating in EIT KICs.***

Through its eight KICs with more than 1000 partners from business, research and education, the EIT represents the largest EU-supported innovation ecosystem. The EIT has supported more than 1200 start-ups and innovative ventures, leading to over EUR 890 million in external funding attracted by those companies and more than 6000 jobs created by the supported start-ups. More than 50% of KIC partners are from the business sector (industry, SMEs and start-ups) demonstrating the proximity to the market.

Or. en

## **Amendment 23**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 10**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

In the backdrop of persisting regional disparities in innovation performance, the EIT launched a Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) in 2014 to widen its regional outreach to modest and moderate innovator

In the backdrop of persisting regional disparities in innovation performance, the EIT launched a Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) in 2014 to widen its regional outreach to modest and moderate innovator

countries. Through the RIS, the EIT has **expanded** its activities across Europe and **offers now** opportunities **for** regions with **low** innovation performance to engage in knowledge triangle activities as part of the **a KIC** community. **This is also reflected** in the **share of EIT funding allocated to EU-13 partners (8.3% as compared to 4.8% in Horizon 2020 as of 2018)**.

**regions and** countries. Through the RIS, the EIT has **to further expand** its activities across Europe and **must be dedicated to offering new** opportunities **to** regions with **lower** innovation performance to engage in knowledge triangle activities as part of the **EIT** community. **The RIS will also be used to establish new CLCs** in the **modest and moderate innovator regions and countries**.

Or. en

#### **Amendment 24**

##### **Proposal for a decision**

##### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 10 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***In addition, the KICs shall work closely with managing authorities in all regions where RIS partners are established in order to encourage a broader use of the Union’s ESI funds for R&I.***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 25**

##### **Proposal for a decision**

##### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – figure 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***[...]***

***deleted***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 26**

##### **Proposal for a decision**

##### **Annex I – point 1 – point 1.2 – paragraph 11**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

The EIT has been able to stay agile and to develop the governance principles and rules for the successful management of its

The EIT has been able to stay agile and to develop the governance principles and rules for the successful management of its



KICs under the overall umbrella of Horizon 2020, in accordance with the EIT Regulation. Its operational independence has allowed it to test and effectively implement a number of novelties in the management of its beneficiaries such as a competitive funding mechanism, financial sustainability targets and specific key performance indicators.

KICs under the overall umbrella of Horizon 2020, in accordance with the EIT Regulation. Its operational independence has allowed it to test and effectively implement a number of novelties in the management of its beneficiaries such as a competitive funding mechanism, **which should become the standard funding regime**, financial sustainability targets and specific key performance indicators. **However, that agility has also contributed to an increasing number of rules departing from those of Horizon 2020, thereby leading to an administrative complexity for the beneficiaries who are active under the different instruments of that programme. Notwithstanding the possibility to apply the derogations laid down in the Regulation... [EIT Regulation], the EIT and its KICs shall as much as possible operate under the Horizon Europe model grant agreement. In addition, derogations from the Horizon Europe rules on participation and dissemination shall be limited, duly justified and subject to a delegated act.**

Or. en

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.3 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT is part of the overall Horizon Europe framework that aims, inter alia, to deliver scientific, economic/technological and societal impact so as to strengthen the scientific and technological bases of the Union; deliver on the Union strategic policy priorities, foster its competitiveness in all Member States, including in its industry, and contribute to tackling global challenges, including the Sustainable Development Goals. A core condition for being successful in this endeavor is to respond to the persisting need to **increase**

##### *Amendment*

The EIT is part of the overall Horizon Europe framework that aims, inter alia, to deliver scientific, economic/technological and societal impact so as to strengthen the scientific and technological bases of the Union; deliver on the Union strategic policy priorities, foster its competitiveness in all Member States, including in its industry, and contribute to tackling global challenges, including the Sustainable Development Goals. A core condition for being successful in this endeavor is to respond to the persisting need to **bring**

innovation capacity across the Union. There are in particular **three** challenges the EU faces that will guide EIT's actions in 2021-2027 as reflected by its general objectives.

***R&D results to the market, thus increasing*** innovation capacity across the Union. There are in particular **four** challenges the EU faces that will guide EIT's actions in 2021-2027 as reflected by its general objectives.

Or. en

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.3 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

First, today's economies are increasingly driven by the skills and abilities of people and organisations to turn ideas into products **and** services. Innovation skills **and an** entrepreneurial culture make all the difference **today, in particular in the technological and scientific domains but increasingly also in other disciplines**. There is a strong need to further boost the innovation capacity of higher education institutions in Europe. The EIT is in a unique position to deliver on this in the Horizon Europe framework.

##### *Amendment*

First, today's economies are increasingly driven by the skills and abilities of people and organisations to turn ideas into products, services **and business models**. Innovation skills, entrepreneurial culture, **market uptake of innovative solutions and investments in R&I will** make all the difference **if the Union wants to succeed in its transition towards a competitive digital and decarbonised society**. There is a strong need to further boost the innovation capacity of higher education institutions **and research organisations** in Europe. The EIT is in a unique position to deliver on this in the Horizon Europe framework.

Or. en

## Amendment 29

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.3 – paragraph 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Second, physical proximity is a key enabling factor for innovation. Initiatives aiming at developing innovation networks and providing services that support the creation, sharing and transfer of knowledge, play a key role in fostering the interactions between business, academia,

##### *Amendment*

Second, physical proximity is a key enabling factor for innovation. Initiatives aiming at developing innovation networks and providing services that support the creation, sharing and transfer of knowledge, play a key role in fostering the interactions between business, academia,

research organisations, governments and individuals. Still, research and innovation performances across the EU, as reflected in the annual European Innovation Scoreboard, vary considerably. It is of crucial importance that innovation is inclusive and rooted in the local territories. EIT activities, thanks to their “place-based” approach, are well suited to contribute to strengthening local innovation ecosystems.

research organisations, governments and individuals. Still, research and innovation performances across the EU, as reflected in the annual European Innovation Scoreboard **and in the biannual Regional Innovation Scoreboard**, vary considerably. It is of crucial importance that innovation is inclusive and rooted in the local territories. EIT activities, thanks to their “place-based” approach, are well suited to contribute to strengthening local innovation ecosystems.

Or. en

### Amendment 30

#### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.3 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Third, talent circulation and R&I funding resources within the European Research and Education Areas are very unbalanced, raising growing concerns from Eastern and Southern Member States and increasing concentration. The EIT shall adopt measures to extend its geographical coverage in the Union, reduce unbalanced brain circulation within the Union and promote bi-directional talent circulation of students and researchers.***

Or. en

### Amendment 31

#### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 1 – point 1.3 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Finally, vibrant innovation ecosystems require a mix of knowledge, infrastructure and talent. Framework conditions for cooperation between European research, education and innovation along with strong

Finally, vibrant innovation ecosystems require a mix of knowledge, **investment**, infrastructure and talent. Framework conditions for cooperation between European research, education and

synergies need to be in place to ensure proper and efficient investment of scarce resources *into* research and innovation. Deepening the knowledge triangle integration through existing and new KICs is a proven way to foster an environment conducive to innovation and is a guiding objective for the EIT.

innovation *actors* along with strong synergies need to be in place to ensure proper and efficient investment of scarce resources *and to leverage other sources of funding for* research and innovation *aiming at financial sustainability*. Deepening the knowledge triangle integration through existing and new KICs is a proven way to foster an environment conducive to innovation and is a guiding objective for the EIT.

Or. en

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 2 – paragraph 1

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT as an integral part of the Horizon Europe programme will contribute delivering on its overarching objectives and priorities. The KICs *will be part of the Institutionalised* European Partnerships, meaning they will follow *a set of* principles and *life-cycle* criteria *to ensure a more coherent, open and impact-driven approach*. The EIT general objectives therefore reflect the overall role of the EIT in Horizon Europe and its place in the *[Innovative Europe Pillar]*.

#### *Amendment*

The EIT as an integral part of the Horizon Europe programme will contribute delivering on its overarching objectives and priorities. *Within Horizon Europe*, the KICs *are considered as* European Partnerships, meaning they will follow *the* principles and criteria *as established in Article 8 and Annex III to Regulation [xxx] [establishing Horizon Europe]*. The EIT general objectives therefore reflect the overall role of the EIT in Horizon Europe and its place in the ‘Innovative Europe’ Pillar. *Therefore it shall work closely with other implementing bodies of the Innovative Europe’ Pillar of Horizon Europe and use best efforts to contribute to a “one-stop-shop for innovation”*.

*The EIT is driven by excellence and it shall encourage the highest quality of higher education, research and innovation also in new innovation communities. Geographical spread is another key element, and to that end KICs shall be open and transparent throughout the implementation of their activities.*

Or. en

## Amendment 33

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The overarching areas of intervention for the EIT are defined in *the [Horizon Europe proposal]*. The EIT will continue to support its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) in order to strengthen the innovation ecosystems that help to tackle global challenges. It will do so by fostering the integration of education, research and business, thereby creating environments conducive to innovation, and by promoting and supporting a new generation of entrepreneurs and stimulating the creation of innovative companies in close synergy and complementarity with the EIC. In doing so it will in particular:

##### *Amendment*

The overarching areas of intervention for the EIT are defined in *Annexes I and Ia to Regulation [xxx] establishing* Horizon Europe. The EIT will continue to support its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) in order to strengthen the innovation ecosystems that help to tackle global challenges, *in full alignment with Horizon Europe*. It will do so by fostering the integration of education, research and business, thereby creating environments conducive to innovation, and by promoting and supporting a new generation of entrepreneurs, *while enhancing the gender dimension*, and stimulating the creation of innovative companies in close synergy and complementarity with the EIC. In doing so it will in particular:

Or. en

## Amendment 34

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 1 – point 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) Foster innovation and entrepreneurship through better education;

##### *Amendment*

(2) Foster innovation and entrepreneurship *skills* through better education *and mentoring, in a lifelong learning perspective*;

Or. en

## Amendment 35

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In line with the identified challenges that the EIT is facing (described in chapter 1.3.) and in order to contribute to the above overarching objectives defined for the EIT in *the [Horizon Europe proposal]*, the specific objectives of the EIT for the period of 2021-2027 are to:

*Amendment*

In line with the identified challenges that the EIT is facing (described in chapter 1.3.) and in order to contribute to the above overarching objectives defined for the EIT in *Annexes I and Ia to Regulation [xxx] establishing* Horizon Europe, the specific objectives of the EIT for the period of 2021-2027 are to:

Or. en

### **Amendment 36**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) Increase the impact of KICs and knowledge triangle integration;

*Amendment*

(a) Increase the impact of KICs and **boost** knowledge triangle integration;

Or. en

### **Amendment 37**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – point a a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(a a) Increase openness and transparency of the KICs by including a wider range of stakeholders across the Union;**

Or. en

### **Amendment 38**

#### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) Increase the innovation capacity of the higher education sector **by** promoting

*Amendment*

(b) Increase the innovation capacity of the higher education sector **across the**

institutional change in higher education institutions (HEIs);

***Union by guiding and monitoring KICs in promoting a better integration in the innovation ecosystems and an institutional change in higher education institutions (HEIs);***

Or. en

## Amendment 39

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – point c

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) Increase the regional outreach of the EIT in order to address regional disparities in innovation capacity across the EU.

##### *Amendment*

(c) Increase the regional ***and local*** outreach of the EIT in order to address regional disparities in innovation capacity across the EU ***and within individual Member States, in order to ensure a balanced geographical coverage.***

Or. en

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.2 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

By delivering on these objectives, the EIT will contribute to the overall achievement of Horizon Europe scientific, economic/technological and societal impacts. ***It will continue to strengthen innovation ecosystems that help to tackle global challenges, by fostering the integration of the knowledge triangle in the areas of activity of the KICs.*** The Horizon Europe Strategic Planning process will ensure closer alignment between the EIT activities and the rest of Horizon Europe. ***Based on its proven track record,*** the EIT will play an important role in the ***Open Innovation*** Pillar.

##### *Amendment*

By delivering on these objectives, the EIT will contribute to the overall achievement of Horizon Europe scientific, economic/technological and societal impacts. The Horizon Europe Strategic Planning process will ensure closer alignment between the EIT activities and the rest of Horizon Europe. The EIT will play an important role in the ***Innovative Europe*** Pillar ***and across the whole Horizon Europe.***

Or. en

## Amendment 41

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.2 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Strong synergies between the EIT and the European Innovation Council **will be key for the impact of the [Innovative Europe] Pillar. The EIT and the EIC** will run complementary activities aiming at streamlining the support provided to innovative **ventures**. Based on the expertise of its KICs, the EIT will provide business acceleration services and trainings to beneficiaries awarded EIC funding.

##### *Amendment*

Strong synergies between **all three implementing bodies of the [Innovative Europe] Pillar are required. The possibility of establishing a one-stop-shop for innovation shall be evaluated in the mid-term review of the EIT. That one-stop-shop shall have three main strands: knowledge triangle integration; European innovation ecosystems; scaling up of R&I-intensive SMEs and small mid-caps. In particular,** the EIT and the European Innovation Council will run complementary activities aiming at streamlining the support provided to innovative **companies**. Based on the expertise of its KICs, the EIT will provide business acceleration services and trainings to beneficiaries awarded EIC funding.

Or. en

## Amendment 42

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.2 – paragraph 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT will furthermore facilitate the access of EIC beneficiaries to KICs' innovation ecosystems and relevant actors of the knowledge triangle. In this way EIC beneficiaries can become actively involved in KICs' activities and benefit from KICs' services. In parallel, EIT beneficiaries will be able to apply to the EIC instruments, **when EIT KICs support may not be available**. The EIC may help start-ups supported by KICs with a high growth potential to rapidly scale-up. In particular, the most innovative **KICs'-backed** ventures may, if selected under the EIC, benefit

##### *Amendment*

The EIT will furthermore facilitate the access of EIC beneficiaries to KICs' innovation ecosystems and relevant actors of the knowledge triangle. In this way EIC beneficiaries can become actively involved in KICs' activities and benefit from KICs' services. In parallel, EIT beneficiaries will be able to apply to the EIC instruments **for support additional to the services provided by the EIT KICs**. The EIC may help start-ups supported by KICs with a high growth potential to rapidly scale-up. In particular, the most innovative **KICs'-backed** ventures may, if selected under the EIC, benefit



from the blended finance support offered by the EIC Accelerator and/or by the financial support offered by InvestEU instruments.

from the blended finance support offered by the EIC Accelerator and/or by the financial support offered by InvestEU instruments.

Or. en

## Amendment 43

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.2 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***The EIT will also ensure coherence with the European innovation ecosystems strand of the [Innovative Europe] Pillar of Horizon Europe. In particular, the EIT will take an active part in the activities of the EIC Forum and will establish links between the EIT Community and relevant activities supporting innovation ecosystems in order to avoid duplication and ensure the coherence and complementarity of actions***

Or. en

## Amendment 44

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.2 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

The EIT will ensure stronger synergies ***also*** with programmes and initiatives in the [Excellent Science] Pillar, to accelerate the transfer of knowledge resulting from blue sky research into concrete applications benefiting the society. In particular, with regard to the Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), the EIT will collaborate on the development of innovation and entrepreneurial skills of MSCA fellows.

The EIT will ***also*** ensure stronger synergies with programmes and initiatives in the [Excellent Science] Pillar, to accelerate the transfer of knowledge resulting from blue sky research into concrete applications benefiting the society. In particular, with regard to the Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) ***and the ERC***, the EIT will collaborate on the development of innovation and entrepreneurial skills of MSCA fellows ***and ERC grantees. That collaboration shall be made available on a voluntary basis and shall not increase the***

*administrative burden for the beneficiaries.*

Or. en

## Amendment 45

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 2 – point 2.2 – paragraph 7

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Opportunities for synergies will be also explored between the **Sharing** Excellence part of Horizon Europe and the outreach activities supported by the EIT. In particular, target countries of the Horizon Europe Sharing Excellence part will be able to leverage on EIT expertise and support for the development of downstream activities (i.e. close to market), as the target group for **for** EIT outreach activities.

##### *Amendment*

Opportunities for synergies will be also explored between the **Widening Participation and Spreading** Excellence part of Horizon Europe and the **RIS and other** outreach activities supported by the EIT. **The aim is to reach a more balanced representation of EIT activities across the Union. The EIT shall guide the KICs to make better use of the RIS.** In particular, target countries of the Horizon Europe Sharing Excellence part will be able to leverage on EIT expertise and support for the development of downstream activities (i.e. close to market), as the target group for EIT outreach activities. **The RIS budget shall also be used as leverage for ESI funds. Such synergies shall be used to create, inside the EIT, funding schemes that are similar to the widening actions of the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Teaming, Twinning and ERA-Chairs).**

Or. en

## Amendment 46

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

A reinforced role of the EIT, through a focus on actions where it will add value at the EU level and contribute to achieving the objectives of Horizon Europe, will guide the EIT strategy for 2021-2027.

##### *Amendment*

A reinforced role of the EIT, through a focus on actions where it will add value at the EU level and contribute to achieving the objectives of Horizon Europe, will guide the EIT strategy for 2021-2027.

First, the EIT **will** continue to support the innovation capacity and ecosystems through KICs, their further development and expansion, and through the launch of new KICs. Secondly, building on its experience with the knowledge triangle integration, the EIT **will directly support** the development of the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity in the higher education sector. Finally, through more effective cross-cutting measures, the EIT **will** ensure that its impact at the EU level **increases**. In addition, the EIT will also improve its operations in a number of areas in order to increase its effectiveness, efficiency and impact.

First, the EIT **shall** continue to support the innovation capacity and ecosystems through KICs, their further development, **openness** and expansion, and through the launch of new KICs. Secondly, building on its experience with the knowledge triangle integration, the EIT **shall monitor** the development of the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity in the higher education sector **embedded and implemented by the KICs**. Finally, through more effective cross-cutting measures, the EIT **shall make all necessary efforts to** ensure that its **visibility and** impact at the EU level **increase**. In addition, the EIT will also improve its operations in a number of areas, **such as the guidance to the financial sustainability of KICs, the openness and transparency of its own activities and of the activities of the KICs, gender balance and geographical coverage**, in order to increase its effectiveness, efficiency and impact.

Or. en

## Amendment 47

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 1 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The integration of the knowledge triangle by the EIT and KICs at EU, Member States, regional and local levels will remain a core task for strengthening innovation ecosystems and making them sustainable, as well as for developing new solutions to global challenges. The EIT will continue support a portfolio of KICs (*see Figure 2*) and will further strengthen its successful platform for launching, growing **and managing** them. KICs will continue to operate through **co-location centers (CLC)**. The KICs will continue to pursue financial sustainability in order to achieve financial independence from the EIT grant in the long-term (**at the latest**, after 15 years)

##### *Amendment*

The integration of the knowledge triangle by the EIT and KICs at EU, Member States, regional and local levels will remain a core task for strengthening innovation ecosystems and making them sustainable, as well as for developing new solutions to global challenges. The EIT will continue **to** support a portfolio of KICs and will further strengthen its successful platform for launching, growing, **monitoring and supervising** them. KICs will continue to operate through **CLCs selected after transparent open calls for proposals**. The KICs will continue to pursue financial sustainability in order to achieve financial independence from the EIT grant in the

through leveraging public and private investment.

long-term, *aiming to reach such an objective* after 15 years *of operation*, through leveraging public and private investment. *After the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation and based on the Memorandum of Cooperation and/or extension of the Framework Partnership Agreement, KICs should be able to participate in certain EIT activities, related, in particular, to education. Such an extension of the Framework Partnership Agreement shall be decided by the Governing Board on the basis of an assessment by independent external experts of the KICs' effectiveness and provided that they have made a sufficient degree of impact and financial sustainability. This will ensure that KICs are maintained in the EIT Community and that they continue to deliver certain results which cannot otherwise be achieved in a commercially viable manner.*

Or. en

## Amendment 48

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 1 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT *will* dedicate a large share of its budget to support KICs. *It will* monitor and analyse *their* performance and *ensure they deliver towards the objectives* of the *EIT and of the Horizon Europe Programme*. Beyond financial support, based on lessons learned, the EIT *will* provide strategic supervision to KICs, as well as guidance on horizontal and specific issues, including on the establishment of synergies within Horizon Europe *and* with other EU initiatives. In particular, the EIT *will* support KICs in establishing interfaces and fostering joint activities with relevant European Partnerships *and* other relevant

##### *Amendment*

The EIT *shall* dedicate a large share of its budget to support KICs. *Based on the indicators listed in Annex V to Regulation [xxx] establishing Horizon Europe, the EIT shall* monitor and analyse *the* performance, *the leverage investments* and *the different impacts* of the *KICs*. Beyond financial support, based on lessons learned, the EIT *shall* provide strategic supervision to KICs, as well as guidance on horizontal and specific issues, including on the establishment of synergies within Horizon Europe, with other EU *and international* initiatives. In particular, the EIT *shall* support KICs in establishing interfaces and fostering joint activities with relevant

Union initiatives and programmes.

European Partnerships, **with** other relevant Union initiatives and programmes, **and shall monitor the establishment of CLCs outside the Union.**

Or. en

## Amendment 49

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 1 – paragraph 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

It **will** also monitor **the award of** the EIT Label to KICs' education **and** training programmes and explore a more effective quality assurance mechanism, including external recognition and **accreditation** for the EIT Label.

##### *Amendment*

It **shall** also monitor **and strengthen** the EIT Label **that is awarded** to KICs' education, training, **mentoring and re-skilling** programmes, **including online**, and explore a more effective quality assurance mechanism, including external recognition and **visibility** for the EIT Label.

Or. en

## Amendment 50

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 1 – paragraph 4

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT **will** facilitate shared services **towards the KICs and** exchanges of experiences and good practices between KICs and foster collaboration between them (cross-KIC activities) on both thematic and horizontal topics. Cross-KIC activities have highest potential where several KICs **already address** common EU policy priorities where no dedicated KICs exist. Bringing together the different KICs communities in dedicated joint actions of mutual benefit has high potential for synergies **and** The EIT **will** boost such **activities and** take an active part in defining the content and structure of the cross-KIC activities. It **will** monitor the implementation of cross-KIC activities as well as the results achieved, with the aim

##### *Amendment*

The EIT **shall** facilitate **the establishment of** shared services **and facilities, aiming to jointly handle specific operational tasks that are common to several KICs. It shall also facilitate** exchanges of experiences and good practices between KICs and foster collaboration between them (cross-KIC activities) on both thematic and horizontal topics. **Cross-fertilisation between different subject areas is increasingly important for creativity, innovation and business.** Cross-KIC activities have **the** highest potential where several KICs **already address** common EU policy priorities **and** where no dedicated KICs exist. Bringing together the different KICs communities in dedicated joint actions of mutual benefit has high potential

of **making** those activities an integral part of the KICs' strategies.

for synergies. The EIT **shall** boost such **activities and** take an active part in defining the content and structure of the cross-KIC activities. It **shall** monitor the implementation of cross-KIC activities as well as the results achieved, with the aim of **ensuring long-term sustainability of** those activities **as** an integral part of the **EIT and the** KICs' strategies.

Or. en

## Amendment 51

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 2 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT **will** further increase its regional impact through an enhanced openness towards potential partners and stakeholders and a better articulated regional strategy of KICs, including **links to the** relevant Smart Specialisation Strategies.

##### *Amendment*

The EIT **shall** further increase its regional impact through an enhanced openness **of the KICs** towards **a wide range of pan-European** potential partners and stakeholders, **a balanced geographical coverage, a strengthened dissemination and exploitation of results** and a better articulated regional strategy of KICs. **When selecting partners, projects or new co-location centres, in case of equal quality of evaluation results and keeping in mind that excellence is the main criterion, KICs shall give priority to those proposals that:**

**- include a higher number of regions and countries that underperform in research and innovation;**

**- include a higher number of regions or countries that are not yet participating in the KIC community;**

**- involve regions and countries that commit to contribute with ESI funds.**

**In addition, each KIC shall be required to develop and implement a multi-annual strategy, integrated in its business plans, aiming at strengthening the relationship with regional and local innovation actors. Where relevant, KICs should demonstrate**

*links with Smart Specialisation Strategies and with the activities of thematic platforms and interregional initiatives, including with the Managing Authorities of ESI Funds. The EIT shall continuously monitor the implementation of these territorial strategies including the leverage effect on the ESI Funds. The EIT shall also monitor how CLCs operate and how they integrate in the local innovation ecosystems.*

Or. en

## Amendment 52

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 2 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme, steered by the EIT and implemented by KICs, has been so far run on a voluntary basis. From 2021 on, the EIT RIS **will** become an integral part of the **KIC**' multi-annual **strategy**. The EIT **will** continue to provide guidance and support to KICs in the preparation of multi-annual **EIT RIS strategies and in their implementation**. **EIT RIS activities will continue with improved support to** the innovation capacity of countries and regions that underperform in terms of innovation. The EIT budget devoted to implementing EIT RIS activities **will be at least 10%** of the overall EIT support funding to KICs, thereby **increasing the** number of KIC partners from targeted regions. Activities supported through the RIS **will** aim to:

##### *Amendment*

The EIT Regional Innovation Scheme, steered by the EIT and implemented by KICs, has been so far run on a voluntary basis. From 2021 on, the EIT RIS **shall** become **mandatory and** an integral part of the **KICs**' multi-annual **strategies**. The EIT **shall ensure that RIS activities are used as a bridge (i) towards relevant Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies thereby catalysing other investments, especially ESI funds and (ii) towards the integration of potential new partners thereby extending the KICs' geographical coverage**. The EIT shall continue to provide guidance and support to KICs in the preparation **and implementation** of multi-annual RIS activities **so that they** support the innovation capacity of countries and regions, **including outermost regions**, that underperform in terms of innovation **and have limited participation in the KICs' activities**. The EIT budget devoted to implementing EIT RIS activities **shall be between 10 and 15%** of the overall EIT support funding to KICs, thereby **facilitating an increased** number of KIC partners from targeted regions. Activities

supported through the RIS *shall* aim to:

Or. en

### Amendment 53

#### Proposal for a decision

##### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

— improve the innovation capacities of the local ecosystem, via capacity building activities and closer interactions between the local innovation actors (clusters, networks, regional authorities, HEIs, research organisations, VET institutions);

*Amendment*

— improve the innovation capacities of the local ecosystem ***across the Union***, via capacity building activities and closer interactions between the local innovation actors (clusters, networks, regional authorities, HEIs, research organisations, VET institutions);

Or. en

### Amendment 54

#### Proposal for a decision

##### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

— link local innovation ecosystems to pan-European innovation ecosystems through cooperation with EIT KICs and their co-locations centres.

*Amendment*

— ***attract new partners in EIT KICs, extend the geographical coverage of EIT KICs and*** link local innovation ecosystems to pan-European innovation ecosystems through cooperation with EIT KICs and their co-locations centres.

Or. en

### Amendment 55

#### Proposal for a decision

##### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 2 – paragraph 2 – indent 2 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*  
- ***leverage ESI Funds.***

Or. en



## Amendment 56

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 2 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*In addition, in order to ensure KICs' deeper integration in local innovation ecosystems, each KIC will be required to develop and implement a strategy aiming at strengthening the relationship with regional and local innovation actors, and the EIT will actively monitor the implementation. A "place-based" innovation approach should be integrated within the KIC's multi-annual strategy and business plan and build on KIC's CLCs (and RIS), thus leveraging on their role as gateway for accessing a KIC community and interacting with the co-located partners. KICs should demonstrate links with local Smart Specialisation Strategies and with the activities of relevant thematic platforms and interregional initiatives, including the Managing Authorities of ESI Funds. The EIT will also monitor how CLCs operate and how they integrate in the local innovation ecosystems.*

*deleted*

Or. en

## Amendment 57

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

In order to contribute to addressing new and emerging global challenges, the EIT *will* launch new KICs in priority fields selected based on criteria assessing, among other aspects, their relevance to Horizon Europe policy priorities, and their potential and added value to be addressed through the EIT model. The launch of new KICs *will* take into account the Strategic

In order to contribute to addressing new and emerging global challenges, the EIT *shall* launch *calls for creating* new KICs in priority fields selected based on criteria assessing, among other aspects, their relevance to Horizon Europe policy priorities, and their potential and added value to be addressed through the EIT model. The launch of new KICs *shall* take

Planning of Horizon Europe and the budget allocated to the EIT in 2021-2027. The relevant selection criteria for European Partnerships defined in Annex III of the [Horizon Europe Regulation] **will** be included in the KIC Call for proposals and assessed during the evaluation.

into account the Strategic Planning of Horizon Europe and the budget allocated to the EIT in 2021-2027. The relevant selection criteria for European Partnerships defined in Annex III of the [Horizon Europe Regulation] **shall** be included in the KIC Call for proposals and assessed during the evaluation.

Or. en

## Amendment 58

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3 – paragraph 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Based on a proposal from the EIT Governing Board and an analysis thereof, a first KIC in the field of Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) is proposed to be launched in 2022 with a call for proposals to be published in 2021. ***This priority field has the strongest complementarity with the eight KICs that have already been launched by the EIT, as well as with the potential priority areas for other European Partnerships to be launched in the framework of Horizon Europe. CCI are a sector with a high growth potential, many grass-roots initiatives and strong citizen appeal. They are strongly embedded in their local and regional ecosystems. However, CCI are still a very fragmented sector and the innovators and business creators lack the needed entrepreneurial and innovation skills. These bottlenecks would be best tackled by a KIC thanks to its knowledge triangle integration approach, long-term perspective and place-based approach. A factsheet summarizing the challenges of the CCI field and the expected impact of the future KIC is included in Annex 1B to this SIA.***

##### *Amendment*

Based on a proposal from the EIT Governing Board and an analysis thereof, a first KIC in the field of Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) is proposed to be launched in 2022 with a call for proposals to be published in 2021 ***and a second KIC in the field of Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems (Water) is proposed to be launched in 2025, with a call for proposals to be published in 2024.***

Or. en

## Amendment 59

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3 – paragraph 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*The Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems priority field covers a wide range of traditional and emerging economic sectors, which are intrinsically linked to an environmental natural capital that is under pressure. This field will play a crucial role in delivering a climate-neutral, sustainable and competitive Union by 2050, as new technologies and the need to decarbonise the economy are leading to an increasing use and exploitation of marine and aquatic resources. Seas, oceans and inland waters have a central role in climate processes, in human health and wellbeing, in the provision of food, the preservation of biodiversity, critical ecosystem services, renewable energy and other resources. This priority field is complementary to the eight existing KICs. A factsheet summarising the challenges of the Water field and the expected impact of the future KIC is included in Annex 1B(new) to this Decision.*

Or. en

## Amendment 60

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3 – paragraph 3 b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*The CCI priority field has also a strong complementarity with the eight KICs that have already been launched by the EIT, and also with the potential priority areas for other European Partnerships to be launched in the framework of Horizon Europe. CCI are a sector with a high growth potential, many grass-roots*

*initiatives and strong citizen appeal. They are strongly embedded in their local and regional ecosystems. However, CCI are still a very fragmented sector and the innovators and business creators lack the necessary entrepreneurial and innovation skills. These bottlenecks would be best tackled by a KIC thanks to its knowledge triangle integration approach, long-term perspective and place-based approach. A factsheet summarising the challenges of the CCI field and the expected impact of the future KIC is included in Annex 1B to this SIA.*

Or. en

## Amendment 61

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Based on the proposed budget for the EIT, a second new KIC could be launched in 2025 with a call to be published in 2024, after an amendment to Annex 1A to add new priority field(s). The priority area(s) will be selected in light of the proposals of the EIT Governing Board. These proposals will take into account the priority areas to be identified in the Horizon Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Plan and the criteria set for the selection of European Partnerships, in particular openness, transparency, EU added value, coherence and synergies. The criteria for selecting new KICs will be aligned with those in the Horizon Europe. They will also support delivery on EU policy priorities such as missions and Sustainable Development Goals. Other new KIC/KICs could be selected in case additional budget to that of the EIT would become available.*

*Amendment*

*Other new KICs could be selected in case additional budget to that of the EIT becomes available and will take into account the priority areas to be identified in the Horizon Europe Strategic Research and Innovation Plan and the criteria set for the selection of European Partnerships, in particular openness, transparency, EU added value, contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, coherence and synergies.*

Or. en

## Amendment 62

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3 – table

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**The EIT will:**

**deleted**

— **Strengthen innovation ecosystems by continuing to support existing KICs in addressing global challenges through the integration of the knowledge triangle.**

— **Define areas of and promote stronger cross-KIC collaboration on topics of strategic and policy relevance.**

— **Ensure that KICs develop and implement a strategy to create collaboration and synergies with relevant European Partnerships and other relevant Union initiatives and programmes.**

— **Ensure that KICs have an inclusive approach aiming at strengthening their relationship with national, regional and local innovation actors.**

— **Ensure that EIT RIS activities deliver on increased regional impact and are fully integrated in KICs' multi-annual strategies.**

— **Launch new KICs in selected thematic areas of strategic importance, starting with a KIC in the field of Cultural and Creative Industries in 2022.**

Or. en

## Amendment 63

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

3.2. Supporting the innovation capacity of higher education

3.2. Supporting the **entrepreneurial and** innovation capacity of higher education

Or. en

## Amendment 64

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Through the knowledge triangle integration model, the EIT has helped to bridge the persistent gap between higher education, research and innovation. In particular, the EIT **is a key tool** for the development of human capital through **its** distinctive focus on entrepreneurial education. However, the impact of the EIT **remains** limited to the KICs' partners.

##### *Amendment*

Through the knowledge triangle integration model, the EIT has helped to bridge the persistent gap between higher education, research and innovation. In particular, the EIT **and its KICs are key** for the development of human capital through distinctive focus on entrepreneurial education. However the impact of the EIT **should not be** limited to the KICs' partners.

Or. en

## Amendment 65

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

To support innovation more widely, higher education institutions in Europe need to be innovative and entrepreneurial in their approach to education, research, and engagement with businesses and the broader local innovation ecosystem, including civil society.

##### *Amendment*

To support innovation more widely, higher education institutions in Europe need to be innovative and entrepreneurial in their approach to education, research, and engagement with businesses and the broader local innovation ecosystem, including civil society. **Therefore, it is proposed to both enhance the regular higher education activities of the KICs and embed new initiatives to further develop the entrepreneurial and innovative capacities of Higher Education Institutions within the KICs activities.**

Or. en

## Amendment 66

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Developing HEIs into more innovative and entrepreneurial organisations requires a clear strategy, a methodological framework and commitment of resources. Based on its experience, the EIT is uniquely positioned to **support the** development of entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of HEIs under Horizon Europe.

*Amendment*

Developing HEIs into more innovative and entrepreneurial organisations requires a clear strategy, a methodological framework and commitment of resources. Based on its experience, the EIT is uniquely positioned to **monitor the KICs activities with regard to the further** development of the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of HEIs under Horizon Europe.

Or. en

**Amendment 67**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Activities **will** be implemented by the **EIT through the** KICs in an open and targeted way which will aim at increasing the innovation capacity in higher education in order to integrate a wider number of HEIs in innovation value chains and ecosystems. These activities will **complement the intervention of the EIT on education as core part of the** Knowledge Triangle **Integration activities of KICs**, in particular through making them more open and accessible to non-partners of the KICs. **The impact of the EIT would** reach beyond the KICs and contribute to the EIT's core mission of boosting sustainable economic growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of Member States, in line with the Horizon Europe goals of fostering entrepreneurial and innovation skills in a lifelong learning perspective, **including increasing the capacities of HEIs across Europe.**

*Amendment*

Activities **shall** be implemented by the KICs in an open, **transparent** and targeted way which will aim at increasing the innovation capacity in higher education in order to integrate a wider number of HEIs in innovation value chains and ecosystems **across the Union**. These activities will **have to further integrate education in each KICs'** Knowledge Triangle, in particular through making them more open and accessible to non-partners of the KICs. **KICs shall integrate their activities aiming to strengthen the innovation capacities of the HEIs in the multi-annual strategy and shall report on those activities to the EIT.** The EIT **shall ensure that the activities have a** reach beyond the KICs and contribute to the EIT's core mission of boosting **European** sustainable economic growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of Member States, in line with the Horizon Europe goals of fostering entrepreneurial and innovation skills in a lifelong learning perspective, **always taking into account the gender dimension.**

Or. en

## Amendment 68

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT support **will build** on policy initiatives such as the HEInnovate<sup>24</sup> and RIIA<sup>25</sup> frameworks that have proven their value in a number of HEIs and Member States across the EU. The EIT **will design the support** activities in **close collaboration with the Commission ensuring** coherence and complementarity with relevant activities within Horizon Europe, **Erasmus** and other programmes. **The specific details of the implementation and delivery mechanism process will be further developed and fine-tuned in the first three years and will be subject to monitoring and evaluation during this pilot phase before further upscaling.**

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<sup>24</sup> HEInnovate is a policy framework developed by the European Commission and the OECD. HEInnovate offers HEIs a methodology to identify innovation capacity areas for further development and to shape relevant strategies and actions in order to achieve the desired impact. HEInnovate is based on sound methodological evidence with eight capacity development areas: Leadership and Governance; Digital Transformation; Organisational Capacity; Entrepreneurial Teaching and Learning; Preparing and Supporting Entrepreneurs; Knowledge Exchange; Internationalisation; and Measuring Impact. OECD has published a number of HEInnovate-based country reports, see OECD Skills Studies series at <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/>

<sup>25</sup> The Regional Innovation Impact Assessment framework (RIIA) was developed by the European Commission as

*Amendment*

The EIT **shall** support **the KICs in building** on policy initiatives such as the **European Universities**, HEInnovate<sup>24</sup> and RIIA<sup>25</sup> frameworks that have proven their value in a number of HEIs and Member States across the EU. The EIT **shall provide guidelines to the KICs in designing** activities in coherence and complementarity with relevant activities within Horizon Europe, **Erasmus** and other programmes.

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<sup>24</sup> HEInnovate is a policy framework developed by the European Commission and the OECD. HEInnovate offers HEIs a methodology to identify innovation capacity areas for further development and to shape relevant strategies and actions in order to achieve the desired impact. HEInnovate is based on sound methodological evidence with eight capacity development areas: Leadership and Governance; Digital Transformation; Organisational Capacity; Entrepreneurial Teaching and Learning; Preparing and Supporting Entrepreneurs; Knowledge Exchange; Internationalisation; and Measuring Impact. OECD has published a number of HEInnovate-based country reports, see OECD Skills Studies series at <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/>

<sup>25</sup> The Regional Innovation Impact Assessment framework (RIIA) was developed by the European Commission as



a first step in guiding assessments of the innovation impact of universities through the elaboration of metrics based case studies. Assessing the innovation impact, e.g. through the RIIA framework, could potentially be tied to innovation performance based funding instruments at the regional, national or EU level.

a first step in guiding assessments of the innovation impact of universities through the elaboration of metrics based case studies. Assessing the innovation impact, e.g. through the RIIA framework, could potentially be tied to innovation performance based funding instruments at the regional, national or EU level.

Or. en

## Amendment 69

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***The EIT will play a steering and coordination role in the implementation and monitoring of the activities that will be run by the KICs.*** Particular attention ***will be paid*** to ensuring: an inclusive approach to attract HEIs beyond the KICs' partners; an inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral approach; and a link with the European Commission Smart Specialization Strategy, relevant thematic platforms and the EIT RIS.

*Amendment*

***Each KIC shall pay*** particular attention to ensuring: an ***open and*** inclusive approach to attract HEIs beyond the KICs' partners ***aiming to ensure the widest geographical coverage possible***; an inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral approach; ***a broader participation of women in sectors where they are underrepresented***; and a link with the European Commission Smart Specialization Strategy, relevant thematic platforms ***such as the Policy Support Facility*** and the EIT RIS.

Or. en

## Amendment 70

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 7

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT ***will link its support to developing innovation capacity in higher education to*** the EIT Label, which is awarded ***currently*** to the KICs' education programmes. ***In particular,*** participating HEIs ***may be involved in the use of*** the EIT Label. The EIT ***will also extend*** the EIT Label ***to*** lifelong learning activities involving and reaching out to a wider target group of

*Amendment*

The EIT ***shall*** support ***KICs in the implementation of*** the EIT Label, which is awarded to the KICs' education programmes. Participating HEIs ***will be incentivised to use*** the EIT Label. The EIT ***KICs shall make better use of*** the EIT Label ***also extending it to MOOCs,*** lifelong learning activities, ***mentoring,*** ***vocational training, skilling and re-***

students, adult learners and institutions (including VET institutions) beyond the KICs. The application of the Label beyond the EIT **community** will have a more structuring effect at all levels (individual, programme and institution).

**skilling programmes**, involving and reaching out to a wider target group of students, adult learners and institutions (including VET institutions) beyond the KICs' **partners**. The application of the Label beyond the EIT **KICs' communities** will have a more structuring effect at all levels (individual, programme and institution).

Or. en

## Amendment 71

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – paragraph 8

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The **EIT will** in particular target HEIs from countries that are moderate and modest innovators and other low performing regions that wish to strengthen their innovation footprint and Smart Specialisation Strategies. The EIT **will** allocate **to this measure at least 25% of the overall** budget **allocated** to these activities.

##### *Amendment*

The **KICs shall implement their Higher Education initiatives through open and transparent calls for proposals. KICs shall** in particular target HEIs from countries **and regions** that are moderate and modest innovators and other low performing regions that wish to strengthen their innovation footprint and Smart Specialisation Strategies. The EIT **KICs shall** allocate **an adequate** budget to these activities **and the eligibility criteria to be included in the calls shall ensure that a significant number of the HEIs involved in the projects come from outside of the KIC.**

Or. en

## Amendment 72

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.2 – table

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

**The EIT will:**

**— In cooperation with the Commission, design and launch activities to support the development of innovation capacity in higher education, which will be**

##### *Amendment*

**deleted**

*implemented through the KICs, starting in 2021.*

— *Introduce an outreach scheme to incentivize HEIs from moderate and modest innovator countries to develop their innovation capacities.*

— *Provide specific guidance, expertise and coaching to participating HEIs.*

— *Strengthen and widen the scope of the EIT Label beyond the KICs to include the HEIs participating in the action.*

Or. en

### Amendment 73

#### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 1 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT *will* reinforce *its* communication and visibility. With a growing number of KICs *and a new action supporting the entrepreneurial development of HEIs*, the EIT will boost its efforts to increase *its* recognition as a quality brand for innovation. This brand management and improved communication is crucial especially towards citizens as the innovations coming out of the EIT contribute to demonstrate the concrete impact of EU investments through the European Research and Innovation Framework Programme. The EIT *will* apply an improved branding strategy towards its main stakeholders (HEIs, research *organisation*, businesses, etc.) in all Member States and beyond, in line with Horizon Europe communication approach.

##### *Amendment*

The EIT *and the KICs shall* reinforce *their* communication and visibility. With a growing number of KICs, the EIT will boost its efforts to increase *the* recognition *of Union support* as a quality brand for innovation. This brand management and improved communication is crucial especially towards citizens, *regional and national authorities* as the innovations coming out of the EIT *and EIC together* contribute to demonstrate the concrete impact of EU investments through the European Research and Innovation Framework Programme. The EIT *shall* apply an improved branding strategy towards its main stakeholders (HEIs, research *organisations*, businesses, *civil society* etc.) in all Member States and beyond, in line with Horizon Europe communication approach.

Or. en

### Amendment 74

#### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 1 – paragraph 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

In order to ensure wider dissemination and better understanding of the opportunities offered by the EIT, the EIT **will explore the possibility to** reinforce guidance and assistance on aspects related to participation in EIT KICs across Europe **by building** on existing networks of information across Europe.

*Amendment*

In order to ensure wider dissemination and better understanding of the opportunities offered by the EIT, the EIT **shall** reinforce guidance and assistance, **in particular through the dedicated network of country liaison officers which should be part of the National Contact Points for Horizon Europe**, on aspects related to participation in EIT KICs across Europe. **The liaison officers shall have the possibility to build** on existing networks of information across Europe, **to increase the visibility and communication activities of the EIT and the KICs and shall also support the national and regional authorities in identifying the necessary synergies with the multi-annual programmes of the KICs.**

Or. en

**Amendment 75**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 1 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT **will** continue running the EIT Stakeholder Forum and the EIT awards in order to promote the interactions with European actors of the knowledge triangle and recognise the most promising entrepreneurs and innovators in Europe.

*Amendment*

The EIT **shall** continue running the EIT Stakeholder Forum and the EIT awards in order to promote the interactions with European actors of the knowledge triangle and recognise the most promising entrepreneurs and innovators in Europe.

Or. en

**Amendment 76**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 1 – paragraph 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT **will** continue to steer and provide strategic guidance to the EIT Alumni

*Amendment*

The EIT **shall** continue to steer and provide strategic guidance to the EIT Alumni

Community<sup>26</sup> (in collaboration with the EIT Alumni Board) to maximise its entrepreneurial and societal impact and the continuous involvement of its members in EIT-supported activities. In the course of 2021-2027 the Community will continue growing and will also include the alumni taking part to the actions supporting the innovation capacities of HEIs.

Community<sup>26</sup> (in collaboration with the EIT Alumni Board) to maximise its entrepreneurial and societal impact and the continuous involvement of its members in EIT-supported activities. In the course of 2021-2027 the Community will continue growing and will also include the alumni taking part to the actions supporting the innovation capacities of HEIs.

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<sup>26</sup> The EIT Alumni Community brings together entrepreneurs and change agents who have participated in an education or entrepreneurship programme delivered by a KIC. The Community represents a network of over 5000 members.

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<sup>26</sup> The EIT Alumni Community brings together entrepreneurs and change agents who have participated in an education or entrepreneurship programme delivered by a KIC. The Community represents a network of over 5000 members.

Or. en

## Amendment 77

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 2 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT has a key role in disseminating good practices and lessons learned. The KICs and the projects supporting innovation and entrepreneurial capacity of HEI are a valuable source of evidence and experimental learning for policy-makers, providing examples of good practices and support in the development and implementation of EU policy in their thematic domains.

##### *Amendment*

The EIT has a key role in ***identifying, spreading and*** disseminating good practices and lessons learned. ***The EIT and the KICs shall engage with Member States' national and regional authorities to establish a structured dialogue including through the country liaison officers, in order to identify, share and disseminate good practices, learnings and opportunities.*** The KICs and the projects supporting innovation and entrepreneurial capacity of HEI are a valuable source of evidence and experimental learning for policy-makers ***and RDI stakeholders,*** providing examples of good practices and support in the development and implementation of EU policy in their thematic domains.

Or. en

## Amendment 78

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 2 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

So far, the good practices and learnings stemming from the KICs have not been sufficiently codified and disseminated effectively. In its support function as a knowledge partner for policy makers and the entire **innovation** community, the EIT **will** further develop its role as an innovation institute able to detect, analyse, codify, share and ensure the take-up of innovative practices, learnings and results from the EIT-funded activities (education & training, support to innovation, support to entrepreneurship) on a broader scale. This activity **will** build on the links and synergies with the other initiatives within the */Innovative Europe Pillar/***of the /Horizon Europe proposal/**.

##### *Amendment*

So far, the good practices and learnings stemming from the KICs have not been sufficiently **pooled**, codified and disseminated effectively. In its support function as a knowledge partner for policy makers and the entire **RDI** community, the EIT **shall** further develop its role as an innovation institute able to detect, analyse, codify, share and ensure the take-up of innovative practices, learnings and results from the EIT-funded activities (education & training, **research**, support to innovation, support to entrepreneurship) on a broader scale. This activity **shall** build on the links and synergies with the other initiatives within the Innovative Europe Pillar **of Horizon Europe, especially the European Innovation Council**.

Or. en

## Amendment 79

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 3 – introductory part

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) International cooperation

##### *Amendment*

(3) International cooperation **and global outreach activities**

Or. en

## Amendment 80

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 3 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Within the scope of the EIT Regulation, the EIT **will seek greater impact of its**

##### *Amendment*

Within the scope of the EIT Regulation **and in compliance with the Horizon**

activities through international cooperation and **will coordinate** international **EIT-funded** activities by the KICs. Its focus **will** align closely with relevant industrial policy objectives of the European Union as well as its research and innovation priorities and ensuring European added value.

**Europe approach to international cooperation**, the EIT **shall endeavour to ensure that** its activities **have a greater impact** through international cooperation and **shall monitor** international **and cross-KIC activities funded** by the KICs. Its focus **shall** align closely with relevant industrial policy objectives of the European Union as well as its research and innovation priorities and ensuring European added value.

Or. en

## Amendment 81

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 3 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

In its international cooperation **the EIT**, in consultation with the Commission, **will** focus on effective tackling of global societal challenges, contributing to relevant international initiatives and the Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring access to talent and enhanced supply and demand of innovative solutions. The EIT and KICs **will plan and** perform their international activities in close collaboration with the Commission, in compliance with the Horizon Europe approach and other relevant EU policies, and under the supervision of the EIT Governing Board.

##### *Amendment*

In its international cooperation **and global outreach activities the KICs**, in consultation with the **EIT and the** Commission, **shall** focus **on positioning their innovation model among other successful innovation activities**, on effective tackling of global societal challenges, contributing to relevant international initiatives and the Sustainable Development Goals, **on** ensuring access to talent and enhanced supply and demand of innovative solutions. The EIT and KICs **shall plan** perform **and report on** their international activities in close collaboration with the Commission, in compliance with the Horizon Europe approach and other relevant EU policies, and under the supervision of the EIT Governing Board.

Or. en

## Amendment 82

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.3 – point 3 – table

**The EIT will:**

*deleted*

**— *Improve its visibility through a stronger branding strategy towards main stakeholders in Member States.***

**— *Ensure visibility of the European Union’s support.***

**— *Explore the feasibility to use existing EU information networks and provide coordination to their activities in order to ensure better advice and guidance to potential EIT KICs partners.***

**— *Organise regular meetings of the Member States’ Representatives Group to ensure an effective communication and flow of information with MS.***

**— *Increase the visibility of its action towards citizens and its community of stakeholders through the Stakeholder Forum, the EIT Awards and the EIT Alumni.***

**— *Identify, codify, and effectively share learnings and good practices emerging from EIT-funded activities; engage with EU Member States authorities at both national and regional level, establishing a structured dialogue and coordinating efforts, in order to identify, share and disseminate good practices and learnings.***

**— *Develop broad lines of international cooperation of the EIT and the KICs under the supervision of the EIT Governing Board, in compliance with the Commission’s strategy for international cooperation on research and innovation and in consultation with the the respective Commission services.***

Or. en

## **Amendment 83**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – paragraph 1**



*Text proposed by the Commission*

This section includes a number of measures that aim to adapt and improve the current functioning of the EIT and the KICs. An effective and strategic EIT Governing Board **will** monitor the implementation of those measures at the EIT level, and **will** provide the necessary incentives and control, including through the funding allocation process, to ensure that the KICs implement them.

*Amendment*

This section includes a number of measures that aim to adapt and improve the current functioning of the EIT and the KICs. An effective and strategic EIT Governing Board **shall** monitor the implementation of those measures at the EIT level, and **shall** provide the necessary incentives and control, including through the funding allocation process, to ensure that the KICs implement them.

Or. en

**Amendment 84**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 4 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT will provide operational guidance to and monitor the KICs on compliance with sound management principles, the principles and criteria set out for European Partnerships in the Horizon Europe regulation and alignment with Horizon Europe priorities in order to **maximize** their performance and impact.

*Amendment*

The EIT will provide operational guidance to and monitor the KICs on compliance with sound management principles, the principles and criteria set out for European Partnerships in the Horizon Europe regulation and alignment with **the requirements stemming from** Horizon Europe **and with its** priorities in order to **maximise** their performance and impact. **Appropriate measures may be taken where a KIC underperforms or fails to achieve the expected results and impact.**

Or. en

**Amendment 85**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 4 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Measures ensuring continuous openness of the KICs and transparency during implementation will be improved notably by **including** common provisions for new

*Amendment*

**The EIT shall make sure that the** measures ensuring continuous openness of the KICs and transparency during implementation will be improved notably

members that add value to the partnerships. They **will** also run their activities in a fully transparent way. KICs will remain dynamic partnerships that new partners, including an increasing share of SMEs, can join on the basis of excellence and strategic fit. In order to limit the concentration of funding and ensure that KICs activities benefit from a wide network of partners, the procedure for the preparation of the Business Plan (including the identification of priorities, the selection of activities and the allocation of funds) **will** be made more transparent and inclusive. **Finally, KICs will increase the share of calls, in particular for innovation projects that are open to third parties. All these measures will increase the number of participating entities involved in KICs' activities.** Finally, KICs should report on the involvement of new partners in their regular reporting.

by **adopting and applying transparent and clear criteria for the inclusion of new partners, by a continuous monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures and other** common provisions for new members that add value to the partnerships. They **shall** also run their activities in a fully transparent way, **including through a systematic use of open calls for projects, for partners and for the establishment of new CLCs. When selecting partners, projects or new co-location centres, in case of equal quality of evaluation results and keeping in mind that excellence is the main criterion, KICs shall give priority to those proposals that:**

- **include a higher number of regions and countries that underperform in research and innovation;**
- **include a higher number of regions or countries that are not yet participating in the KIC community;**
- **involve regions and countries that commit to contribute with ESI funds;**
- **involve a higher number of SMEs;**
- **ensure a better gender balance.**

KICs will remain dynamic partnerships that new partners, including an increasing share of SMEs, can join on the basis of excellence and strategic fit. In order to limit the concentration of funding and ensure that KICs activities benefit from a wide network of partners, the procedure for the preparation of the Business Plan (including the identification of priorities, the selection of activities and the allocation of funds) **shall** be made more transparent, **open** and inclusive. Finally, KICs should report on the involvement of new partners **and beneficiaries** in their regular reporting.

## Amendment 86

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 4 – paragraph 3

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

As KICs operate across the entire value chain of innovation, they **will** ensure an appropriate balance of education, entrepreneurship and innovation activities in their Business Plan portfolio. KICs operations **will be** implemented through a lean, efficient and cost-effective structure that would keep administrative and overhead costs to a **minimum**. EIT will ensure that KICs will achieve their expected impacts through a broad range of activities, identified in the KICs' Business Plans, which effectively support the fulfilment of their objectives.

##### *Amendment*

As KICs operate across the entire value chain of innovation, they **shall** ensure an appropriate **and continuous** balance of education, **research**, entrepreneurship and innovation activities in their Business Plan portfolio. **The EIT shall monitor that** KICs operations **are** implemented through a lean, efficient and cost-effective structure that would keep administrative and overhead costs to a **maximum of 5%**. EIT will ensure that KICs will achieve their expected impacts through a broad range of activities, identified in the KICs' Business Plans, which effectively support the fulfilment of their objectives. **In order to decrease the administrative burden, the KICs' Business Plans and the EIT grants for the KICs shall cover a period of up to three years, while KICs activities shall continue to be reported annually.**

Or. en

## Amendment 87

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 4 – paragraph 4

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Commitments from each KIC's partner throughout the contractual duration of the initiative **will** be ensured by regularly monitoring the actual partner's contributions against the original commitments. EIT **will** ensure that KICs have a risk management system in place for cases where some partners are **not able** to meet their original commitments.

##### *Amendment*

Commitments from each KIC's partner throughout the contractual duration of the initiative **shall** be ensured by regularly monitoring the actual partner's contributions against the original commitments. EIT **shall** ensure that KICs have a risk management system in place for cases where some partners are **notable** to meet their original commitments. **Yet,**

*the priority for the KICs shall be to diversify their revenues and leverage other investments for their R&I activities rather than to rely on contributions from their partners. Any effort towards financial sustainability shall not lead to increases of tuition-fees or membership fees from partners, nor to a reduction of the grant funding mechanism in favour of other financial instruments, such as loans or blended finance, except for close-to-market activities. This aspect would be of particular importance for the participation of small entities, such as SMEs.*

Or. en

## **Amendment 88**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 4 – table**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***The EIT will:***

***deleted***

***— Ensure that KICs apply strict principles of openness and transparency, in particular as regards the selection of new partners and the procedure for the preparation of the Business Plans.***

***— Ensure that the implementation of the KICs is in full compliance with the respective requirements stemming from the Horizon Europe regulation.***

***— Ensure an appropriate balance in the Business Plans between activities of the knowledge triangle.***

***— Ensure that KICs keep their administrative costs to a minimum.***

***— Ensure transition of existing eight KICs towards delivery of the new implementation criteria of Horizon Europe for European Partnerships.***

Or. en

## Amendment 89

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Through a lean and simplified funding model, the EIT will enhance the impact and contribution of KICs towards reaching the objectives of the Horizon Europe Programme. In order to increase the value added of its support, the EIT **will** adapt its funding model. There are four main areas where the EIT will implement improvements.

##### *Amendment*

Through a lean and simplified funding model, **and limiting the derogations from the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement to the strictly necessary**, the EIT will enhance the impact and contribution of KICs towards reaching the objectives of the Horizon Europe Programme. In order to increase the value added of its support, the EIT **shall** adapt its funding model **in order to increase over time the commitments from KICs' partners or from other private and public sources**. There are four main areas where the EIT will implement improvements.

Or. en

## Amendment 90

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Firstly, the EIT will introduce a co-funding rate in order to increase the levels of private and public investments. The **adaptation of the funding model will facilitate** the KICs in the transition towards financial sustainability. It will **incentivise them to** decrease gradually during the duration of the framework partnership agreements the share of EIT funding in their Business Plan while increasing the level of co-investment from non-EIT sources. Fixed decreasing co-funding rates **will be applicable** across phases of the entire KICs' life cycle (start-up, **ramp-up**, maturity, exit from the EIT grant) as **presented below**.

##### *Amendment*

Firstly, the EIT will introduce a co-funding rate in order to increase the levels of private and public investments. The **gradual decrease of the co-funding rate will incentivise them to leverage investments other than revenues from their partners, thus facilitating** the KICs in the transition towards financial sustainability. It will decrease gradually during the duration of the framework partnership agreements the share of EIT funding in their Business Plan while increasing the level of co-investment from non-EIT sources. **EIT funding will be directly tied to progress made towards the achievement of the KICs objectives and may be discontinued in the case of persistent lack of results**. Fixed decreasing

*of co-funding rates from the EIT shall apply as follows across phases of the entire KICs' life cycle (start-up, maturity, exit from the EIT grant) as follows:*

*- start-up phase in the first four years: up to 100%;*

*- maturity phase in years 5 to 10: up to 70%;*

*- phasing-out of the EIT grant: up to 50% in year 11 with a 10% decrease per annum thereafter.*

Or. en

## Amendment 91

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – figure 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*[...]*

*deleted*

Or. en

## Amendment 92

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Secondly, the grant allocation process currently used ***will be geared more strongly towards competitive performance and results*** and the use of multiannual grants. The EIT Governing Board will provide stronger incentives to KICs in particular based on their individual performance in order to ensure the highest level of impact. The EIT will therefore amend its competitive funding provisions in order to improve its impact as part of Horizon Europe.

Secondly, the grant allocation process currently used ***shall increase the share of performance-based funding*** and the use of multiannual grants. ***The duration of the KICs Business Plans shall be identical to the duration of EIT multiannual grants in order to decrease the administrative burden for the KICs.*** The EIT Governing Board will provide stronger incentives to KICs in particular based on their individual performance in order to ensure the highest level of impact. The EIT will therefore amend its ***performance-based and*** competitive funding provisions in order to improve its impact as part of Horizon

**Amendment 93****Proposal for a decision****Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – paragraph 4***Text proposed by the Commission*

Thirdly, the EIT will apply strict rules for reinforcing the review mechanism prior to the expiry of the first 7 years initial period of KIC's operations. This mid-term review to be undertaken with the help of external experts should be in line with the best international practice, in line with Horizon Europe criteria for the monitoring and evaluation of European Partnerships and take place before the expiry of the initial seven years period. As a result of the review, a decision will be made by the Governing Board to either continue the financial contribution to a KIC, or to discontinue it (thus not extending the framework partnership agreement with that KIC) **and reallocate the resources to better performing activities.**

*Amendment*

Thirdly, the EIT will apply strict rules for reinforcing the review mechanism prior to the expiry of the first 7 years initial period of KIC's operations. This mid-term review to be undertaken with the help of external experts should be in line with the best international practice, in line with Horizon Europe criteria for the monitoring and evaluation of European Partnerships and **shall in any case assess the efforts of the KICs to leverage other sources of funding. The review shall** take place before the expiry of the initial seven years period. As a result of the review, a decision will be made by the Governing Board to either continue the financial contribution to a KIC, or **take measures as to review it, to reduce it or** to discontinue it (thus not extending the framework partnership agreement with that KIC).

**Amendment 94****Proposal for a decision****Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – paragraph 5***Text proposed by the Commission*

Finally, the EIT will **continue** its efforts towards simplification **in order to alleviate unnecessary** administrative burden<sup>27</sup> **of the KIC**, allowing the implementation of their **annual Business Plan and multi-annual strategy** in an agile and efficient way. This will include the use of lump sum or unit costs for relevant KIC activities. Moreover,

*Amendment*

Finally, the EIT will **further increase** its efforts towards simplification **and reduction of the** administrative burden **for the KICs**, allowing the implementation of their multi-annual **Business Plans** in an agile and efficient way. This will include the use of lump sum or unit costs for relevant KIC activities. Moreover, in order

in order to provide a better planning of the resources, in particular of innovation activities, as well as facilitate stronger commitment and long-term investment from participating partners in KICs activities, the EIT will sign multi-annual grant agreements with KICs, **when appropriate**, under the respective framework partnership agreements. These multi-annual grant agreements should not exceed 3 years.

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<sup>27</sup> In particular, the annual reporting on KIC complementary activities would be discontinued, as recommended by the Court of Auditors in its Special Report of 2016 ( Recommendation 1, p. 51).

to provide a better planning of the resources, in particular of innovation activities, as well as facilitate stronger commitment and long-term investment from participating partners in KICs activities, the EIT will sign multi-annual grant agreements with KICs under the respective framework partnership agreements. These multi-annual grant agreements should not exceed 3 years.

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<sup>27</sup> In particular, the annual reporting on KIC complementary activities would be discontinued, as recommended by the Court of Auditors in its Special Report of 2016 ( Recommendation 1, p. 51).

Or. en

## **Amendment 95**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 5 – table 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***The EIT will:***

***— Implement a new funding model designed to incentivise commitment from KICs' partners.***

***— Continuously improve the funding model by simplifying KIC's reporting practices and, when deemed appropriate, sign multi-annual grant agreements with KICs under the respective framework partnership agreements.***

***— Adapt the competitive grant allocation process to reward performance and results.***

***— Reinforce the comprehensive review of the performance of each KIC prior to the expiry of their 7th year of activity to support a Governing Board decision on the continuation or termination of their financial support, in line with Horizon***

*Amendment*

***deleted***



## **Amendment 96**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 6 – paragraph 1 – introductory part**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Subject to an in-depth independent study in close cooperation with the Commission, by the end of 2023, the EIT ***will define its relations with the*** KICs that will stop receiving support grants in the course of the 2021-2027 programming period.

Subject to a positive ***outcome of a final*** review, the EIT may conclude a “Memorandum of Co-operation” with each KIC, aiming to maintain cooperation with KICs after the termination of the framework partnership agreement. This Memorandum should include, inter alia, rights and obligations linked to:

##### *Amendment*

Subject to an in-depth independent study in close cooperation with the Commission, by the end of 2023, the EIT ***shall assess the impact and results of the three*** KICs that will stop receiving support grants in the course of the 2021-2027 programming period ***and shall define its relations with them thereafter***. Subject to a positive review ***by external independent experts and a positive decision of its Governing Board***, the EIT may ***decide***:

***- to extend the framework partnership agreement until the end of the current programming period, if the evaluation shows that certain education, training and horizontally structured activities still need financial support from the EIT to allow the KICs to become financially sustainable;***

***- to conclude a “Memorandum of Co-operation” with each KIC, aiming to maintain cooperation with KICs after the termination of the framework partnership agreement. This Memorandum should include, inter alia, rights and obligations linked to***

## **Amendment 97**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 6 – paragraph 1 – indent 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

— the use of the EIT Label for education & training programmes;

*Amendment*

— the use of the EIT Label for education & training programmes ***and the relation with the EIT Alumni community;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 98**

### **Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 6 – paragraph 1 – indent 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

— ***relations with the EIT Alumni Community.***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

Or. en

## **Amendment 99**

### **Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.4 – point 6 – table**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***The EIT will:***

***— Develop the general principles for the relation with KICs after the termination of the framework partnership agreement, in line with Horizon Europe framework for European Partnerships;***

***— Conclude, subject to a positive final review and EIT Governing Board decision, Memoranda of Cooperation with the KICs in order to keep them as active members of the EIT Community.***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

Or. en

## **Amendment 100**

### **Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.5 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Building on its broad scope of action and distinctive role, the EIT is well placed to create synergies and provide complementarities with other EU programmes or instruments, including by reinforcing its support to KICs in their planning and implementing activities. The list below offers concrete examples where the EIT will contribute to synergies in the mid to long term beyond Horizon Europe.

*Amendment*

Building on its broad scope of action and distinctive role ***as an integral part of Horizon Europe***, the EIT is well placed to create synergies and provide complementarities with other EU programmes or instruments, including by reinforcing its support to KICs in their planning and implementing activities. The list below offers concrete examples where the EIT will contribute to synergies in the mid to long term beyond Horizon Europe.

Or. en

**Amendment 101**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.5 – paragraph 4 – indent 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

- ***Given the territorial dimension of the KICs and innovation ecosystems, synergies with ESI Funds shall be sought. Best efforts shall be made towards the inclusion of KICs' activities in the operational programmes of the cohesion funds' managing authorities. This could contribute to the objectives of openness, geographical balance and financial sustainability of the KICs and increase the overall impact of the EIT.***

Or. en

**Amendment 102**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 3 – point 3.5 – paragraph 4 – indent 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

— EIT KICs will promote the collaboration ***with*** the Smart Specialisation Platforms, ***particularly the projects having experience in working with the Managing***

— EIT KICs will promote the collaboration ***between KICs and*** the Smart Specialisation Platforms, in order to facilitate synergies between EIT resources,

*Authorities of Cohesion Policy Funds*, in order to facilitate synergies between EIT resources, Cohesion Policy Funds and other European, national and/or regional programmes.

Cohesion Policy Funds and other European, national and/or regional programmes.

Or. en

## Amendment 103

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.1 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT's budget needs in the period 2021-2027 are EUR [3000] million and are based on **three** main components: 1) the expenditure for the existing eight KICs (reflecting that for three of them the framework partnership agreements will come to an end by 2024) and the launch of two new KICs (in 2022 and 2025); **2) the launch of a new EIT support and coordination action; and 3)** administrative expenditure.

##### *Amendment*

The EIT's budget needs in the period 2021-2027 are EUR [4800] million and are based on **two** main components: 1) the expenditure for the existing eight KICs (reflecting that for three of them the framework partnership agreements will come to an end by 2024) and the launch of two new KICs (in 2022 and 2025); **and 2)** administrative expenditure.

Or. en

## Amendment 104

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.1 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Around EUR [2500] million (83,3 % of the total EIT budget) is envisaged to fund existing and new KICs **and includes** EUR [200] million for the Regional Innovation Scheme. Through the introduction of a co-funding rate, the KICs are expected to mobilise a further EUR [1500] million of other public and private sources. **The budget for the launch of two new KICs (to be launched in 2022 and 2025, respectively) will be around EUR [300] million.** Should additional budget to that of the EIT become available, the EIT could

##### *Amendment*

Around EUR [4640] million (96,7 % of the total EIT budget) is envisaged to fund existing and new KICs **of which :**

also launch additional KICs.

- EUR [464] to [696] million for the Regional Innovation Scheme;

- *at least EUR [400] million for the launch of new measures to strengthen the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of HEIs;*

- *around EUR [480] million for the launch of two new KICs (to be launched in 2022 and 2025, respectively).*

Through the introduction of a co-funding rate, the KICs are expected to mobilise *at least* a further EUR [2400] million of other public and private sources. Should additional budget to that of the EIT become available, the EIT could also launch additional KICs.

Or. en

## Amendment 105

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.1 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*The EIT will launch a new support action to help develop the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of HEIs. This action will require horizontal project management and monitoring services. Around EUR [400] million of the EIT budget (max. 14%) is needed to implement these activities, with EUR [120] million dedicated to the start-up phase (first 3 years) and the rest for the scale-up phase (final 4 years)*

*deleted*

Or. en

## Amendment 106

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.1 – paragraph 4 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT will continue to be a lean and dynamic organisation. The costs of administrative expenditure, covering necessary staff, administrative, infrastructure and operational expenses, will increase but on average **not exceed** 3% of the EIT budget. Part of the administrative expenditure is covered by Hungary through provision of free of charge **office space** until the end of 2029. **On this basis, administrative expenditure will therefore be approximately EUR 73 million for 2021-2027. The budget breakdown is presented below:**

*Amendment*

The EIT will continue to be a lean and dynamic organisation. The costs of **EIT** administrative expenditure, covering necessary staff, administrative, infrastructure and operational expenses, will increase but on average **be around** 3% of the EIT budget. Part of the administrative expenditure is covered by Hungary through provision of **office space** free of charge until the end of 2029. **Besides, a major effort shall be done to decrease the KICs administrative costs which in any case shall not exceed 5% of their individual budget.**

Or. en

**Amendment 107**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 4 – point 4.1 – paragraph 4 – figure**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

[...]

*Amendment*

**deleted**

Or. en

**Amendment 108**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The measurement of EIT's impact will be continuously improved over the next programming period taking into account the lessons learnt **and** the experiences gained so far. The EIT will apply **an** evaluation, reporting and monitoring framework **ensuring coherence with the overall approach taken for Horizon Europe while catering for flexibility. In particular, feedback loops between the Commission, EIT and KICs will be**

*Amendment*

The measurement of EIT's impact will be continuously improved over the next programming period taking into account the lessons learnt, the experiences gained so far **and the need to streamline its practices with those of Horizon Europe.** The EIT will apply **the** evaluation, reporting and monitoring framework **established in Horizon Europe, using the indicators listed in Annex V to Regulation [xxx] establishing Horizon Europe.**

*improved in order to address the objectives in a consistent, coherent and efficient manner.*

Or. en

## **Amendment 109**

### **Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### ***Mid-term review of the EIT***

***The EIT shall be subject to a thorough mid-term review by the Commission, on the basis of the periodic evaluations established in article 19 of the Regulation [xxx] on the EIT. Among other elements, that mid-term review shall also assess the feasibility of bringing closer the all implementing bodies of Pillar III of Horizon Europe in order to have a one-stop-shop for innovation with a set of different complementary activities.***

Or. en

## **Amendment 110**

### **Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Evaluation

***KICs' evaluation and review***

Or. en

## **Amendment 111**

### **Proposal for a decision**

**Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

The periodic evaluations of the EIT activities, including those managed through KICs, will be carried out by the

The periodic evaluations of the EIT activities, including those managed through KICs, will be carried out by the

Commission in line with the provisions of the EIT Regulation and Horizon Europe Regulation. These evaluations will assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU added value of the EIT activities including the KICs. They will be based on independent external evaluations and will feed into the overall mid-term and ex-post evaluations of Horizon Europe.

**Furthermore**, each KIC will be subject to a thorough review by the EIT before the end of the **7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>** year of operation under the Framework Partnership Agreements.

Commission in line with the provisions of the EIT Regulation and Horizon Europe Regulation. These evaluations will assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU added value of the EIT activities including the KICs. They will be based on independent external evaluations and will feed into the overall mid-term and ex-post evaluations of Horizon Europe.

Each KIC will be subject to a thorough review by the EIT before the end of the **4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>** year of operation under the Framework Partnership Agreements. ***Such review shall be carried out by independent external experts and the continuation of the KIC shall be subject to a positive decision of the Governing Board.***

Or. en

## Amendment 112

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 5

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The ***reporting and monitoring*** of the ***KICs operational performance and their results will be a primary task*** of the EIT ***and will be implemented in cooperation with*** Horizon Europe ***common corporate services. The reporting and monitoring system for KICs will be built into the overall*** Horizon Europe ***monitoring system, in particular by implementing common data models including data collection.*** The Commission will take part in the co-design of all relevant impact and monitoring indicators and tools developed or applied by the EIT in order to ensure compatibility and consistency with the

#### *Amendment*

The ***Commission shall monitor continuously the management and implementation*** of the ***activities*** of the EIT ***in accordance with Article 45 of Regulation [xxx] establishing*** Horizon Europe. ***Data from projects funded under the EIT shall be included in the*** Horizon Europe ***database.*** The Commission will take part in the co-design of all relevant impact and monitoring indicators and tools developed or applied by the EIT in order to ensure compatibility and consistency with the overall Horizon Europe monitoring system, including the key impact pathways, the criteria framework for European



overall Horizon Europe monitoring system, including the key impact pathways, the criteria framework for European Partnerships and the Strategic Planning Process. Furthermore, EIT will take into account the deployment of the Innovation Radar methodology in Horizon Europe, and will explore how Innovation Radar could be leveraged by the KICs for enhancement of its monitoring activities.

Partnerships and the Strategic Planning Process. Furthermore, EIT will take into account the deployment of the Innovation Radar methodology in Horizon Europe, and will explore how Innovation Radar could be leveraged by the KICs for enhancement of its monitoring activities.

Or. en

### **Amendment 113**

#### **Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 6**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Overall, it will be a responsibility of the EIT to regularly monitor the operational performance of the KICs and to adapt continuously its monitoring systems in line with Horizon Europe monitoring and reporting framework for European Partnerships and in cooperation with the Horizon Europe common corporate services. The results of such monitoring will feed into the KICs business planning processes and into the EIT decision-making on the allocation of the budget and preparation of the framework partnership agreements with the KICs as beneficiaries.

##### *Amendment*

Overall, it will be a responsibility of the EIT to regularly monitor the operational performance of the KICs and to adapt continuously its monitoring systems in line with Horizon Europe monitoring and reporting framework for European Partnerships and in cooperation with the Horizon Europe common corporate services. The results of such monitoring will feed into the KICs *multi-annual* business planning processes and into the EIT decision-making on the allocation of the budget and preparation of the framework partnership agreements with the KICs as beneficiaries.

Or. en

### **Amendment 114**

#### **Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 7 – point 1**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) economic/innovation impact by influencing the creation and growth of companies, as well as the creation of new innovative solutions to address global

##### *Amendment*

(1) economic/innovation impact by influencing the creation and growth of companies, as well as the creation of new innovative solutions to address global

challenges, creating direct and indirect jobs and **mobilising** other public and private investments;

challenges, creating direct and indirect jobs and **leveraging** other public and private investments;

Or. en

## Amendment 115

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 7 – point 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) scientific and educational impact by strengthening human capital in research and innovation, enhancing innovative and entrepreneurial skills both at individual and organisational levels and fostering the diffusion of knowledge and innovation openly within society;

*Amendment*

(2) scientific and educational impact by **creating new knowledge**, strengthening human capital in research and innovation, enhancing innovative and entrepreneurial skills both at individual and organisational levels and fostering the diffusion of knowledge and innovation openly within society;

Or. en

## Amendment 116

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 7 – point 3 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(3 a) systemic impact, within the EIT Community and especially in the cross-KIC relations and in the contribution to shaping Union policies to address global challenges.**

Or. en

## Amendment 117

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 7 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Those impacts shall be measured according to the indicators presented in Annex V to Regulation [xxx] establishing**

## **Amendment 118**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 8**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The table below provides the non-exhaustive list of management indicators and their targets that would be monitored by the EIT in 2021-2027. These indicators provide the main input and output orientations for monitoring the achievement of EIT's key objectives for the period 2021-2027 such as fostering innovation and entrepreneurship through better education, increasing its regional impact and openness towards potential partners and stakeholders, and bringing new innovative solutions to global challenges to market.

##### *Amendment*

***In addition***, the table below provides the non-exhaustive list of management indicators and their targets that would be monitored by the EIT in 2021-2027. These indicators provide the main input and output orientations for monitoring the achievement of EIT's key objectives for the period 2021-2027 such as fostering innovation and entrepreneurship through better education, increasing its regional impact and openness towards potential partners and stakeholders, and bringing new innovative solutions to global challenges to market.

Or. en

## **Amendment 119**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – paragraph 10**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The EIT ***will*** ensure that the data it collects through its internal monitoring system, including the results from KICs, are fully integrated in the overall data management system of Horizon Europe programme. The EIT ***will*** ensure that detailed information arising from its monitoring and evaluation process are made available timely and are accessible in ***a*** common e-database ***on*** Horizon Europe ***implementation***. In addition, the EIT ***will*** ensure dedicated reporting on quantitative and qualitative impacts, including on committed and actually provided financial contributions.

##### *Amendment*

The EIT ***shall*** ensure that the data it collects through its internal monitoring system, including the results from KICs, are fully integrated in the overall data management system of Horizon Europe programme. The EIT ***shall*** ensure that detailed information arising from its monitoring and evaluation process are made available ***in a*** timely ***manner*** and are accessible in ***the*** common e-database ***for*** Horizon Europe. In addition, the EIT ***shall*** ensure dedicated reporting on quantitative and qualitative impacts, including on committed and actually provided financial

contributions.

Or. en

## Amendment 120

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 4 – point 4.2 – table 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***The EIT will:***

***deleted***

***— Improve its current monitoring systems and introduce a reporting and monitoring framework including impact indicators, aligned with the Key Impact Pathways of the [Horizon Europe programme].***

***— Regularly monitor the KICs operational performance and their outputs, results and progress towards impact in line with the [Horizon Europe framework].***

***— Ensure the development of the specific societal indicators in the KICs areas of activity and its regular monitoring in line with Horizon Europe framework for societal impact.***

***— Ensure reporting on quantitative and qualitative impacts, including on financial contributions.***

***— Ensure access to results and project data from KICs and integrating it in the overall data management and reporting system of Horizon Europe programme.***

Or. en

## Amendment 121

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 5 – paragraph 1 – point 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems***

**Amendment 122****Proposal for a decision****Annex I – point 6 – paragraph 1 – point 7 – paragraph 1***Text proposed by the Commission*

Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) can bring a horizontal solution to an array of rising challenges, which are of a permanent nature, and can be addressed through research and innovation activities. These challenges can be grouped into four pillars: 1) Europeans' creativity, cultural diversity and values; 2) European identity and cohesion; 3) European employment, economic resilience, and smart growth; and 4) Europe as a global actor.

*Amendment*

Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI)<sup>1a</sup> can bring a horizontal solution to an array of rising challenges, which are of a permanent nature, and can be addressed through **education**, research and innovation activities. These challenges can be grouped into four pillars: 1) Europeans' creativity, cultural diversity and values; 2) European identity and cohesion; 3) European employment, economic resilience, and smart growth; and 4) Europe as a global actor.

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***<sup>1a</sup> The cultural and creative sectors include inter alia architecture, archives, libraries and museums, artistic crafts, audio-visual (including film, television, video games and multimedia), tangible and intangible cultural heritage, design, festivals, music, literature, performing arts, publishing, radio and visual arts.***

Or. en

**Amendment 123****Proposal for a decision****Annex I – point 6 – paragraph 1 – point 7 – paragraph 3 – indent 3 a (new)***Text proposed by the Commission**Amendment*

- ***Cultural heritage is an important source of innovation, providing good return on investment and significant economic revenues, but its potential is still untapped. Being a catalyst for sustainable heritage-led regeneration and an essential stimulus to education and lifelong learning, fostering cooperation and social***

*cohesion, it can vastly benefit from the CCI KIC.*

Or. en

## Amendment 124

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 6 – paragraph 1 – point 8 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

An EIT KIC on CCI – with its holistic and integrated approach - will help address all challenges defined above. By covering nearly all sectors of our lives, society and economy, such KIC will be highly relevant in terms of economic and societal impact, unlocking strategic opportunities for economic, technological as well as social innovation.

##### *Amendment*

An EIT KIC on CCI – with its holistic and integrated approach - will help address all challenges defined above. By covering nearly all sectors of our lives, society and economy, such KIC will be highly relevant in terms of economic and societal impact, unlocking strategic opportunities for economic, technological as well as social innovation. ***It will also be instrumental to strengthen knowledge and continuous learning, allowing higher arts education institutions to play a significant role to develop hybrid competences and an entrepreneurial mindset meeting industry needs.***

Or. en

## Amendment 125

### Proposal for a decision

#### Annex I – point 6 – paragraph 1 – point 8 – paragraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

Culture-based and creativity-driven innovations boost European competitiveness either directly by creating new enterprises and jobs or indirectly by creating cross-sector benefits to the wider economy, improving quality of life and increasing the attractiveness of Europe. CCIs are increasingly seen as new sources of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and jobs. employing already more than 12 million people in the **EU**, which amounts to **7.5%** of all EU people in employment.

##### *Amendment*

Culture-based and creativity-driven innovations boost European competitiveness either directly by creating new enterprises and jobs or indirectly by creating cross-sector benefits to the wider economy, improving quality of life and increasing the attractiveness of Europe. CCIs, ***cultural heritage and arts*** are increasingly seen as new sources of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and jobs. ***Those sectors are*** employing already more than 12 million people in the **Union**, which

amounts to **more than 7,5%** of all EU people in employment. **Cultural heritage is a key component of CCIs and a major contributor to the attractiveness of Europe's regions, cities, towns and rural areas. It is a driver for private sector investments, for talent attraction, for footloose business generation and for direct and indirect job creation.**

Or. en

## Amendment 126

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 6 – table

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***An EIT KIC on CCI will:***

***deleted***

***— Reduce the fragmentation of the cultural and creative sectors' innovation landscape by fostering the creation of innovation ecosystems that will connect actors and networks across sectors and disciplines at local, regional, national and EU levels.***

***— Train the next generation of innovators in the CCI sectors by equipping them with the necessary entrepreneurial and technical skills needed to thrive in a fast changing environment.***

***— Contribute to the development of the right framework conditions to transform ideas into new technological developments and social innovation that will improve the quality of life and benefit EU citizens.***

***— Foster the creation and development of new ventures in the cultural and creative sectors by mobilizing investment and long-term commitment from the business sector.***

***— Synergize with the existing KICs, as well as with other European partnerships, programmes and initiatives to drive***

*innovation beyond cultural and creative industries in other sectors of the economy.*

*— Strengthen the EU position as a global actor in CCI by harnessing Europeans' creativity and cultural diversity.*

Or. en

## Amendment 127

### Proposal for a decision Annex I – point 6 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### **6 a. Annex 1B.a.**

***Factsheet on the Knowledge and Innovation Community “Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems”(“WaterKIC”)***

***(1) An integrated approach to a crucial economic, environmental and social challenge for the Union Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems cover a wide range of traditional and emerging economic sectors, which are intrinsically linked to an environmental natural capital that is under pressure. That field will play a crucial role in delivering a climate-neutral, sustainable and competitive Europe by 2050, as new technologies and the need to decarbonise the economy are leading to an increasing use and exploitation of marine and aquatic resources. Seas, oceans and inland waters play a central role in climate processes, in human health and wellbeing, in the provision of food, critical ecosystem services, renewable energy and other resources, as well as the preservation of biodiversity.***

***The challenge of the "WaterKIC" will be to turn freshwater and marine ecosystem degradation into an opportunity for a competitive circular blue-economy. That challenge can be addressed only through a multi-disciplinary and integrated***



*approach looking at the interlinkages between water on the one hand and climate, food, land, society, energy and others, on the other. The "WaterKIC" could be aligned with the following pillars which are fully in line with the orientations towards the first Strategic Plan for Horizon Europe<sup>1a</sup>:*

***1) Preserving and restoring marine biodiversity and aquatic ecosystems***

*The Blue Economy sectors need to prepare for and adapt to alterations in the water ecosystem, mainly from climate change, pollution and ocean acidification. Marine biodiversity had tremendous applications in fields such as the food value chain, marine-derived pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, chemicals, and materials.*

***2) Sufficient availability, quality and security of water***

*Coastal and maritime tourism highly depend on good environmental conditions and in particular on good water quality. In 2017, around 2,2 million people were directly employed in the sector of Union coastal tourism, an increase of 13,5% compared to 2016<sup>1b</sup>. This increase might, in turn, affect the environmental conditions.*

***3) Sustainable planning and management of inland water, coastal and marine resources***

*This pillar will aim to develop an optimal maritime spatial plan. Innovative solutions are needed to mitigate and adapt to climate change and reduce human induced pressures, from overfishing to pollution, on freshwater and marine ecosystems. This includes the means to fight illegal fisheries and resource extraction, as well as emerging sectors such as blue energy and ecosystem services.*

***4) Contributing to food and nutrition***

*security*

*Seas, oceans and inland waters can deliver food with lower carbon and freshwater footprints than land-based production, while boosting profitability in the sector. Sustainable fisheries and mariculture are set to play an increasing role on food and nutrition security and be part of the forthcoming sustainable food from Farm to Fork Strategy. This requires developing, demonstrating and deploying solutions in order to produce more, safe, healthier and better quality food, and to exploit new food sources from the seas, oceans and inland waters, while preserving biodiversity, thus alleviating pressure on land and fresh water resources and boosting profitability in the sector. This will go hand in hand with sustainable and resilient aquatic food production systems that minimise the use of chemical inputs, nutrients and antimicrobials, and will guarantee the transparency and traceability of aquatic food products<sup>1c</sup>.*

*5) Blue Economy development*

*Promotion of innovation technologies for a sustainable marine industry and sustainable economic activities, respectful of the environment*

*(2) Relevance and Impact*

*The “WaterKIC” - with its holistic and integrated approach - will help address the challenges set out in point 1, deliver on Union priorities and help the Union achieve the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations for 2030. Under the motto “the science we need for the ocean we want”, the UN is to hold a “decade of ocean science for sustainable development” between 2021 and 2030<sup>1d</sup>. The “WaterKIC” should be part of this UN worldwide community. In addition, the “WaterKIC” has the potential to support several SDGs, in particular SDG 6 “Clean Water and Sanitation”, SDG 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”,*

***SDG 13 “Climate Action” and SDG 14 “Life below Water”. The IPCC Report on the Oceans and the Cryosphere (2019)<sup>1e</sup> provides solid evidence on ominous developments ahead calling for urgent action: there is a need to adapt to extreme sea level events and coastal hazards in the nearest possible future.***

***According to the most recent figures from 2017, the established sectors of the Blue Economy employed over 4 million people in the Union, generated EUR 658 billion of turnover and EUR 180 billion of gross value added<sup>1f</sup>. This does not include the emerging sectors of the Blue Economy such as blue energy, blue bioeconomy and biotechnology, which offer significant potential for growth and jobs, especially in renewable energies. In addition, there is solid evidence demonstrating that marine research and education have a positive economic impact on local coastal economies. The fact that almost 45% of the Union population (214 million people) live in coastal regions demonstrates in itself the relevance and potential impact of the “WaterKIC”.***

***The “WaterKIC” is fully enshrined in the new policy objectives of the Union, as described in the European Green Deal. Therefore there is a pressing need for the Union to develop the next generation of researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs in this field. The unique integration of education along with technology and innovation in the knowledge triangle model of the EIT will contribute to these overarching and ambitious Union goals. It will contribute to ensuring that by 2030 the potential of oceans, seas and inland water, their ecosystems and economies to drive a healthy planet is fully understood, unlocked and harnessed, in particular through human capacity building. As demonstrated in the impact assessment for the EIT proposal, the “WaterKIC” is not limited to a specific economic sector but is***

*required for many sectors and the whole environmental ecosystem to sustainably prosper<sup>1g</sup>.*

*It will also contribute to priorities outlined in the communication on the European Green Deal<sup>1h</sup> from January 2020, in particular:*

- the “Farm to fork strategy”*
- the “zero pollution action plan for air, water and soil”*
- the “initiatives to increase and better manage the capacity of inland waterways”.*

*(3) Synergies and Complementarities with existing initiatives*

*The “WaterKIC” will not only establish the strongest possible synergies with relevant Union policy initiatives as well as within the Horizon Europe Programme, but it will also interact on the international level with relevant UN initiatives and SDGs actions.*

*In terms of Union policy initiatives, the “WaterKIC” will not only be aligned with the priorities defined in the Water Framework Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive. It will also contribute to priorities outlined in the communication on the European Green Deal<sup>1i</sup>, in particular the “Farm to Fork strategy”, the “zero pollution action plan for air, water and soil” and the “initiatives to increase and better manage the capacity of inland waterways”.*

*Some regional Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) have identified a number of R&I strategies that focus on marine and aquatic industries and explore new linkages between local assets, potential markets and societal challenges through the involvement of a large set of entrepreneurial actors. This should be considered to be an asset by the “WaterKIC” when selecting applications*

*for colocation centres and innovation hubs, and maximal interactions with the relevant regional authorities will be provided for.*

*As far as the subparts of the Horizon Europe Programme are concerned, strong complementarities shall be ensured, and duplications shall be avoided, in particular with:*

- the mission area on “healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters”;*
- the overarching partnership on “a climate-neutral, sustainable and productive Blue Economy”;*
- clusters of pillar II;*
- joint programming initiatives (JPI), in particular “JPIWater” and “JPI Oceans”;*
- research infrastructures;*
- the EIC and the EIB for the uptake of promising innovations.*

*Indeed in the past years, the EIB has played an important role in helping the public and private sectors build a sustainable Blue Economy. The EIB increased lending to R&I projects in the Blue Economy. For example, the EIB was one of the first lenders to offshore wind projects and has helped fund around 40% of all capacity of the wind energy sector in Union<sup>1j</sup>.*

#### **Conclusion**

*The "WaterKIC" is most suited to addressing the major economic, environmental and societal challenges outlined in this Annex. This Water KIC is needed in particular to build human capacity building and translate into actions.*

*The “WaterKIC” will:*

- promote an integrated and multidisciplinary approach through collaboration among higher education*

*institutions, research organisations and innovative companies to ensure that the Union becomes climate-neutral, sustainable and competitive by 2050;*

*- connect actors and networks across sectors and disciplines at local, regional, national and Union levels, in particular, identifying the relevant R&I smart specialisation strategies (RIS3) and further regional strategies which include “Blue Economy” sectors;*

*- train and develop the next generation of researchers and innovators in the "Blue Economy" sectors by equipping them with the necessary entrepreneurial and technological skills needed for a sustainable and competitive development. This will include jointly recognised and tuition-free educational modules, as well as a long-term plan for human resources development;*

*- contribute to the development of the appropriate framework conditions to transform ideas into new technological developments and social innovation, and to their market deployment in view of improving the quality of life and benefitting Union citizens.*

*- synergise with the other existing Union partnerships, Horizon Europe missions, joint programming initiatives, the EIC and the EIB to scale-up innovations, allow other sectors to prosper in a sustainable manner and increase the market deployment of innovative solutions.*

*- strengthen the Union's position as a global actor in ocean science and maritime security.*

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*1a*

*[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research\\_and\\_innovation/strategy\\_on\\_research\\_and\\_innovation/documents/ec\\_rtd\\_orientations-he-strategic-plan\\_122019.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research_and_innovation/strategy_on_research_and_innovation/documents/ec_rtd_orientations-he-strategic-plan_122019.pdf)*

<sup>1b</sup> **In: The blue economy report 2019, p.28.**

<sup>1c</sup> **In line with intervention area 4.4 as described in the Orientations towards the Strategic Plan for Horizon Europe.**

<sup>1d</sup> **<https://www.oceandecade.org/>**

<sup>1e</sup> **<https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/>**

<sup>1f</sup> **In: The blue economy report 2019, p.7.**

<sup>1g</sup>

**<https://ec.europa.eu/education/sites/education/files/document-library-docs/impact-assessment-swd-330-final.pdf>**

<sup>1h</sup>

**[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf)**

<sup>1i</sup>

**[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf)**

<sup>1j</sup> **In: The Blue Economy report 2019**

**<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/676bbd4a-7dd9-11e9-9f05-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-98228766>**

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# EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

## Introduction

Since its creation in 2008, the European Institute for Innovation & Technology (EIT) and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) have played an important role in enriching the innovation ecosystems, training thousands of researchers, creating new businesses, and improving cooperation and transfer of technology between universities, research institutions and the private sector.

The EIT is instrumental in addressing key barriers for innovation in the Union, but it is yet to achieve its full potential. This revision should build on the achievements while correcting aspects and adapting to the new context. With digitalization and competition from other regions, the Union needs a new pace for achieving all its goals, including the ‘European Green Deal’, while becoming technologically sovereign.

The thematic focus of the future KICs deserves careful attention. EIT’s priorities should reflect the challenges of their times. We believe that Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI), the new KIC proposed by the Commission, is very promising, but we would also like to suggest a new one, on Water, to be launched in 2025.

## Principles

This draft report builds upon three major principles, supported by different measures. These principles are **Balance**, **Sustainability** and **Simplification**.

**Balance** is a crucial and comprehensive dimension. The current **geographical** distribution of KICs and grants is excessively concentrated and there are major inequalities between countries and even between different regions in the same country. Although excellence must remain the prior criterion when attributing funds, pockets of excellence exist all around Europe and not only in the richest regions of half the member states. The EIT must be an instrument for RDI capacity building and a vehicle for a more even brain circulation within the Union. **Gender** balance must also be the rule. Women need a special attention in the EIT and the KICs projects and structures, as they represent an untapped talent, which is key to the transformation of our economy. This results in a loss of talent for the European society, a lack of diversity in the workplace, an underrepresentation of women in leading positions and a potential threat to the search for scientific excellence, and the creation of innovative entrepreneurships and businesses. Finally, we must have a better balance between the three pillars of the **Knowledge Triangle** - Education, Innovation and Research. The KICs operate across the entire value chain with a specific goal: to promote entrepreneurship in different fields of expertise. However, without a true integration between Education, Innovation and Research, this task will always be incomplete. Education, in particular, needs to be more valued if the EIT is to fulfil its role, inducing institutional transformations at Higher Education Institutions, creating innovative entrepreneurships, new businesses and services.

**Sustainability** is a multi-dimensional, with financial, social, territorial and environmental aspects. The KICs must leverage external investments and become **financially sustainable**



after 15 years of institutional funding by the Union. This is still a challenge for the existing KICs and a certain flexibility to this timeline could be beneficial. Addressing geographical disparities and inequalities, not only between Member States but also within their territories, acting at regional and local level, fosters the **territorial sustainability** of the Union. Reflecting current EU priorities in the KICs activities, namely our **environmental** concerns, is justification for their existence. That is why a new KIC on Water is proposed.

The **Simplification** principle consists of adopting the most user-friendly solutions in all dimensions: **administrative, financial** and in the **structure of EIT** itself and its KICs. The interest of the beneficiaries of the grants and the decrease of their administrative burden must be our first concern. Our goal is to reduce complexity, to favour results and innovative outputs and to align the rules of the EIT and the KICs with those of Horizon Europe.

### **Key measures**

#### **1) Higher Education strengthened**

To embed entrepreneurial culture throughout the society, a better balance in the Knowledge Triangle is necessary for the EIT, in particular the increase of the capacities of higher education institutions to create talent and new competences. This is achievable in a balanced, sustainable and simple manner through:

- i. The extension of the regular Higher Education activities of the KICs. This implies re-skilling and up-skilling human resources in a life-long learning perspective, vocational training, mentoring activities and the systematic use of tuition-free MOOCs for the broadest possible dissemination of KICs educative outputs. Cooperation with the private sector will be key to enhance properly our business and innovation ecosystem;
- ii. The new initiative proposed under the form of a Support Action to foster the innovative capacity of Higher Educations institutions shall be an integral part of the KICs business plans and budget. This Higher Education Initiative will be implemented directly by the sectoral KICs through open and transparent calls; it shall not be a separate support action at EIT level.

#### **2) Openness, transparency and visibility increased**

The EIT and its KICs shall systematically launch open and transparent calls for selecting new partners, new projects and for establishing new colocation centres. Broad dissemination of these calls and the selection criteria are necessary. We also propose to establish a network of liaison officers dealing with EIT in each Member State within the National Contact Points for Horizon Europe.

Finally, to increase readability of the EU funding for innovation, all implementing bodies of the ‘Innovative Europe’ pillar of Horizon Europe shall work more and more closely. The feasibility of establishing a unique one-stop-shop for innovation at EU level shall be assessed during the mid-term review of the EIT.

#### **3) Geographical distribution extended**

The Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) has been a privileged tool for broadening the geographical base of EIT and KICs activities. Yet, its potential remained largely unexploited, notably due to the lack of synergies and diverging rules between Union’s structural and investments funds (ESI funds) and the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. For the next financial period, the RIS and the new network of country liaison officers can

promote a more balanced brain circulation and geographical distribution within the Union, notably by:

- making the use of RIS mandatory;
- using synergies with ESI funds *to create inside the EIT funding schemes that are similar to the widening actions of the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (teaming, twinning and ERA-Chairs);*
- encouraging the return of highly skilled people to home country, in particular towards those countries that suffer from higher outflows than inflows (“brain drain”); synergies with ERC, with Marie S. Curie actions, as well as national programmes for return grants could be instrumental;
- mobilising ESI funds for the creation of new colocation centres and/or new research infrastructures;
- ensuring that KICs activities are enshrined in Smart Specialisation Strategies. In addition, when dealing with ex-aequo proposals, the EIT and the KICs shall give priority to the proposals that meet more of the following specifications:
  - being able to leverage contributions from the ESI funds.
  - including a higher number of regions that underperform in R&I.
  - are under-represented in the EIT community.
  - include a higher number of SMEs.
  - have a better gender balance in the project teams.

All of this keeping in mind that excellence remains the main criterion.

#### **4) The funding model revised and simplified**

In order to reduce the administrative burden, to streamline the rules with those of ‘Horizon Europe’ and to encourage the KICs to become more rapidly financially sustainable, we propose that:

- i. Three instead of four co-funding rates shall apply over the lifetime of a KIC, to bring them closer to the practices under Horizon Europe;
- ii. As recommended by the European Court of Auditors in 2016, the EIT shall allocate only multi-annual grants to the KICs (two or preferably three years) and the duration of the KICs business plans shall be aligned to the duration of the grants;
- iii. The derogations to the model grant agreement of Horizon Europe shall be limited to duly justified cases and subject to a delegated act;
- iv. In line with Horizon Europe, the administrative costs of both the EIT and the KICs shall not exceed 5%;
- v. An extension of the Framework Partnership Agreement of the KICs for three more years, decided by the governing board after an independent assessment, could also be considered to ensure funding for essential activities that are not commercially viable.

Furthermore, it is crucial that the KICs leverage different sources of private and public funding. However, those should be external funders (regions, companies, foundations.). The efforts towards financial sustainability cannot lead to an increase of tuition-fees, membership fees that the KICs are demanding from the partners. Similarly, the efforts towards financial sustainability shall not lead to a decrease of the grant funding and a shift towards financial instruments (loans or blended finance), except for the more close-to-the-market activities. These aspects are of particular importance for smaller entities, such as SMEs.

#### **5) Two new KICs launched in well-defined priority fields**

The new KIC proposed on CCI is very promising, and its focus should take into account the preservation and valorisation of the European cultural heritage and arts. This draft report fully supports the timetable proposed to launch the call for this new KIC in the first year of the next financial period.

In order to allow for thorough preparation of the stakeholders and coordination with the strategic planning process for Horizon Europe, it is important to indicate the topic of the second KIC proposed. We are convinced that among the priority fields identified in the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda, the one on water presents the highest benefit at EU level. It is fully in line with the new EU priorities of the 'European Green Deal' as well as with international initiatives such as the UN 'Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development' between 2021 and 2030. Therefore a new annex proposing a KIC on of 'Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems' ('Water KIC') has been added.

#### **6) Gender dimension embedded in all aspects**

Women doctoral graduates are significantly under-represented in the fields of ICT (21 %), engineering, manufacturing and construction (29 %). The KICs education and training activities must pay more attention to the need to overturn these trends. When faced with two projects with an equal score, the one with a better gender balance shall prevail. The EIT has a specific monitoring role on the activities performed to this end.

## ANNEX: LIST OF ENTITIES OR PERSONS FROM WHOM THE RAPPORTEUR HAS RECEIVED INPUT

Since my nomination as rapporteur for the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the EIT, I had the chance to confront my positions with a series of public and private stakeholders that were requesting to discuss the Commission's proposal and their ideas on how to improve it according to various needs.

The table below is a summary of all the meetings and phone calls held in the past months with private undertakings that are active in different forms in the EIT and the KICs' activities.

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Topics discussed</i>
EIT Governing Board	21.10.2019 - 18.30	EIT functioning, relations between Governing Board and KICs, importance of Court of Auditors' remarks, results of the EIT so far
KICs on Raw Materials and Health	24.10.2019 - 08.30-09.30	KICs' activities, functioning and results obtained so far, improvements of the Com proposal, budget, funding curve, openness and geographical balance, financial sustainability, education, new KICs.
Hewlett Packard (HP)	06.11.2019 - 11.30-12	HP participation in the activities of the KIC Digital
KIC InnoEnergy	23.10.2019	KICs' activities, functioning and results obtained so far, improvements of the Com proposal, budget, funding curve, openness and geographical balance, financial sustainability, education, new KICs.
KIC Food	21.01.2020	KICs' activities, functioning and results obtained so far, improvements of the Com proposal, budget, funding curve, openness and geographical balance, financial sustainability, education and training activities, new KICs.
Frontiers Open Access Platform	06.02.2020	Open science, open access and interactions between editorial platform and dissemination of EIT and KICs' results.

Further to the bilateral meetings, the rapporteur co-organised and participated to some public activities during which it was possible to gather further opinions and to ask questions to the relevant actors. These were:

- an official mission organised by the ITRE committee to Budapest and Wien at the EIT Headquarters and some co-location centres from 28th to 30th of October 2019 - the report on the mission with further details and a summary of the discussions is available on request;
- a public breakfast event organised together with Knowledge 4 Innovation Network in the European Parliament on 13th of November 2019, on the European Innovation Council, with the participation of some KICs' representatives and many other stakeholders. Among other issues, also the relations between EIC and EIT were discussed;
- a public conference organised together with Knowledge 4 Innovation Network in the European Parliament on the 4th of February 2020, with the participation of the EIT Director, some KICs' representatives, the EP shadow rapporteurs and other stakeholders.

The Rapporteur received inputs in form of emails and position papers also from the following entities: Climate KIC; The Guild; Mission of Norway to the EU; YERUN; ECIU; Open University of Catalonia; Coimbra Group; Business Bridge Europe; ELIA.