Co-funded by the European Union

EIT Health Call for Proposals

Open Innovation: Start-up Support and Acceleration Bootcamp Services - Call for Providers

Under EIT Health Business Plan 2026 - 2028

EIT Health

Munich

www.eithealth.eu

Co-funded by the European Union

Table of Contents

Change Log **3**

Abbreviations **4**

Definitions **5**

Call Fact Sheet **6**

1 Introduction **8**

2 Call Scope: Programme Description and Objectives **10**

2.1 Call Scope 10

2.2 Project Purpose and Expected Impact 10

2.3 Description and Design of the Programme 11

3 Call Criteria **25**

3.1 Application Admissibility 25

3.2 Application Eligibility Conditions 25

3.3 Funding Conditions for Applications 26

3.4 EU Restrictions on Participation 27

3.5 Applicant Exclusion Criteria 28

3.6 Contracting Requirements for Successful Applicants 29

3.7 Grant Payment Mechanism for Successful Applicants 30

3.8 Financial Sustainability Contribution Conditions for successful applicants 30

3.9 Intellectual Property 31

3.10 Project Monitoring During and After the Funding Period 31

3.11 Fast Track Mechanism and Additional Project Funding 32

3.11.1 Evaluation process for the Fast Track mechanism 32

4 Application Process **33**

4.1 Key Timeline 33

4.2 Use of Artificial Intelligence 34

5 Evaluation Procedure **35**

5.1 Evaluation Criteria 35

5.2 Evaluation Process and Methodology 38

5.3 Communication of evaluation results to applicants 39

5.4 Standstill Period 40

5.5 Publication of Call Results 40

6 Grounds for Appeal and Appeal Procedure **41**

7 Where to Get Help **42**

7.1 Call Information Webinars 42
7.2 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) 42
7.3 Contact for Support 42
8 Other Terms and Conditions 43
8.1 Acceptance of the call conditions 43
8.2 Cancellation of the call 43
8.3 Data Protection 43
8.4 Confidentiality 44
8.5 Avoidance of conflict of interest 44
8.6 Ethics and values 45
8.7 Intellectual property rights 45
8.8 Withdrawal of the funding – Recovery of undue amounts 45
8.9 Checks, reviews, audits and investigations 46
8.10 Applicable law 46
8.11 Settlement of disputes 46
8.12 Marketing, Communication, Dissemination and Visibility 46
9 About the EIT 48
9.1 EIT and Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) relations 48
9.2 Contractual framework between the EIT and the KICs 48
9.3 Contractual framework between the KIC and the subgrantees 49
10 About EIT Health 50
10.1 Vision and mission 50
10.2 Strategic Objectives 50

Change Log

The below table captures all updates made to the call document. In the case any update made to this document, applicants with an application in 'draft' or 'submitted' status will receive an email from the EIT Health application platform notifying that an update has been made to this document.

ID	Date	Description
1	25/11/2026	Call Document published

Abbreviations

EIT	European Institute of Innovation and Technology
KIC	Knowledge and Innovation Community
EIT SIA	EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda
PA	Partnership Agreement
HE MGA	Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement
KIC SA	KIC Strategic Agenda
BP	Business Plan
EIT KPIs	Set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) defined by the EIT that reflect the EIT operational objectives for education, entrepreneurship, and innovation. These KPIs are used to measure how effectively a KIC/project meets the objectives of the EIT.
KAVA	KIC-added value activity
FSTP	Financial support to third parties
WP	Work Package

Definitions

Knowledge Triangle Integration	The EIT is established to complement existing Union and national policies and initiatives by fostering the integration of the knowledge triangle – higher education, research and innovation, and business creation – across the Union.
Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement	The Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement (HE MGA) sets out the rights and obligations and the terms and conditions applicable to the implementation of the EIT grant.
Deliverable	Deliverables are tangible or intangible goods or service produced during the project implementation phase. They track the progress made towards a project's objectives and may take the form of a report, document, software product, course, event or any other building block of a project. The deliverables specified need to fully demonstrate the project's achievements and the judicious use of public funds.
EIT Heath Bootcamps	EIT Health Bootcamps are short, intensive hybrid training programmes designed to support health start-ups with validated prototypes in advancing from pilot-stage innovation to market and/or investment readiness. Through self-paced learning, masterclasses, mentoring, and pitch opportunities, the bootcamps help ventures strengthen their commercialisation, regulatory, investment, and scaling capabilities.
Learning path	A structured sequence of learning experiences that guides learners through a defined progression towards specific learning outcomes or competencies. A learning path may exist within a course or across multiple courses, activities, or learning experiences.

Call Fact Sheet

Call publication	25 November 2026
Application form opens	02 December 2026
Deadline for applications	27 January 2027
Evaluation timeline	• Evaluation of proposals start: 28 January 2027 • Notification of final outcome: 17 March 2027
Project implementation timeline	• Signature of agreements: 19 April 2027 • Project start: 19 April 2027 • Project end: 31 December 2028
Funding terms	• Overall financial amount of up to 250,000 EUR available for this call. • Up to one project to be awarded, subject to the quality of the proposals. • Maximum EIT Health financial contribution: 250,000 EUR per awarded project. • Grant will cover up to 50% of the total project costs, up to the maximum funding described above.
Scope	This call aims to select a single provider or a consortium to design, coordinate, and deliver EIT Health's Open Innovation Bootcamp. An acceleration programme to support start-ups adapt their solution to address four healthcare challenges and move towards piloting and scaling. The Bootcamps are designed for micro, small, and medium enterprises (SMEs) whose solution has moved beyond early pilots or demonstrations and are approaching clinical validation. Start-ups will require targeted support in regulatory strategy, market access and reimbursement, real-world evidence generation, and structuring a scalable pilot with a corporate sponsor.
List of call documents	• Call document • Application form, available on the application platform here. • Frequently Asked Questions, available here. • Project implementation handbook, available here • Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement Template, available here
How to apply	• **Step 1:** register your organisation in the EU Funding & tender opportunities portal to obtain a Participant Identification Code (PIC number). If you do not know if your organisation has a PIC number, you can find out here. • **Step 2:** apply to the call via EIT Health's application platform here.
Events	• **Call introduction webinar**: 03 December 2026, 11.00 – 12.00 CET, click here to register. • **Open Q&A session:** 12 January 2026, 14.00-15.00 CET, click here to register.
Contact	Calls@eithealth.eu

1 Introduction

EIT Health is a Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), an EU body operating under the Horizon Europe framework. Our mission is to strengthen a sustainable healthcare system in Europe by accelerating innovation and building future health leaders (see section 9 and 10 for more information).

Europe has long been a leader in life sciences, built on a strong foundation of scientific excellence and research. At the same time, Europe's distinctive social model has always sought to ensure this innovation delivers benefits across society, promoting equitable access to healthcare and social inclusion.[1]

This challenge is also recognised in the European Commission's European Biotech Act. The Biotech Act seeks to strengthen the translation of Europe's research and innovation strengths into health biotechnology products and solutions. It addresses barriers to development, financing and market uptake, amongst others. [2]

Rapid clinical and technological advances are creating opportunities to improve patient outcomes, increase system efficiency and transform healthcare delivery. To realise this potential, innovators require targeted support that extends beyond scientific and technical development. This need is greatest as health innovations progress from early development towards validation and demonstration in relevant environments. It is during this phase that clinical, regulatory, commercial, and adoption strategies need to develop alongside the technology itself.

Intensive training programmes can help micro, small, and medium enterprises (SMEs) navigate the European innovation ecosystem, strengthen their commercialisation strategies, engage key stakeholders and prepare for successful market entry and scale-up. Open Innovation accelerates this journey by connecting start-up solutions with corporate expertise, resources, and real-world needs. Making these connections helps to bridge the gap between research and business and supporting the validation, integration, implementation, and scaling of innovations.

This is precisely what the EIT Health Open Innovation programme seeks to do. EIT Health is uniquely positioned to facilitate connections between SMEs with innovative solutions, and the corporate expertise, resources, and real world needs to help bring health innovations to market.

The EIT Health Open Innovation programme is a training programme to equip SMEs with the tools, skills, knowledge, and connections required to launch their innovation to market. The programme will offer training to SMEs that seek to address one of four challenges in healthcare, defined by industry leaders, and selected by EIT Health.

As part of the Open Innovation programme EIT Health require a provider to design, coordinate, and deliver a start-up support and acceleration bootcamp programme. The Bootcamps will combine a

[1] Mario Draghi, The Future of European Competitiveness: A Competitiveness Strategy for Europe (European Commission, 2024), p. 05

[2] European Biotech Act - Public Health - European Commission

common Core Curriculum with challenge-specific training, mentoring, corporate engagement, and practical pilot preparation.

The programme will equip participating start-ups with the knowledge, tools, expert support, and strategic relationships required to adapt their solutions to defined healthcare challenges, prepare credible pilot proposals, and progress towards validation, adoption, investment, and scale within European healthcare systems.

The European Commission is committed to promoting gender equality in innovation and technology. EIT, as a body of the European Union and an integral part of Horizon Europe, and EIT Health share the EIT KIC gender diversity value statement. Consequently, the gender requirements in Horizon Europe are of significant importance for all EIT Health supported and funded activities, as represented in this call.

The selected consortium is expected to align with Horizon Europe gender equality requirements. This includes inclusive design, the use of gender-inclusive language and examples, principles for fair, transparent, and inclusive recruitment, and gender balance in the project delivery team.

2 Call Scope: Programme Description and Objectives

2.1 Call Scope

The EIT Health Open Innovation Programme will address four healthcare challenges. EIT Health will run a separate process calling for corporate sponsors to propose the healthcare challenges that the EIT Health Open Innovation Programme should address. For more detail on the EIT Health Open Innovation Programme, please see paragraph 2.3 – Programme Description and Design.

This Call will select a single provider or a consortium to design, coordinate, and deliver the EIT Health Open Innovation Bootcamp programme. The target audience for the Bootcamps is incorporated health start-ups operating in medtech, digital health, biotech and diagnostics with validated innovations. The Bootcamp should consist of a core curriculum and challenge specific modules. Amongst several deliverables, a central deliverable will be an Open Innovation Programme Playbook. This playbook will support the ongoing development of a financially sustainable EIT Health Open Innovation Programme for the future.

The bootcamps should include mentoring, pilot preparation, and pitch support to participating health start-ups. The programme should support participating start-ups in:

- adapting and positioning their solutions in response to the specific requirements of a healthcare challenge;
- strengthening their clinical, regulatory, technical, commercial, and implementation readiness;
- collaborating effectively with the corporate sponsor;
- defining a feasible pathway towards pilot validation;
- preparing a credible proposal for the adoption, integration, and scaling of their solution; and,
- pitching their proposed solution to the corporate sponsor.

The first Bootcamp programmes are expected to be delivered to participants in October 2027 for two challenges, and the second set of Bootcamps for the remaining two challenges are expected to be delivered to participants in December 2027. Preparations should begin from April 2027. See section 2.3 for more details on the programme and the four challenges.

2.2 Project Purpose and Expected Impact

The Open Innovation Bootcamp aims to facilitate collaboration between start-ups, corporate sponsors, mentors, investors, and the wider European health innovation ecosystem. It seeks to accelerate the validation, adoption, and scaling of high-potential European medtech, digital health, biotech, and diagnostic solutions. Through tailored training, mentoring, challenge-specific support, and pilot

preparation, the programme will strengthen start-up readiness for corporate collaboration, real-world validation, market adoption, investment, and scale.

The programme will leverage the knowledge triangle by providing an educational programme that connects start-ups moving out of research with industry corporates to address a healthcare challenge currently faced by the industry.

For details on specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), please see to sections 2.6 on Key Performance Indicators.

2.3 Description and Design of the Programme

2.3.1 The EIT Health Open Innovation Programme Summary

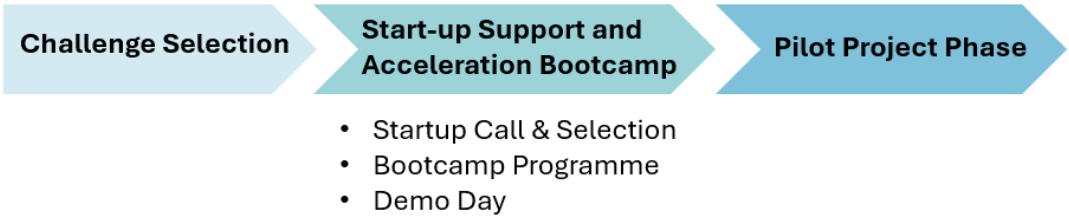
The Start-up Support and Acceleration Bootcamp Services (Bootcamps) form part of a broader Open Innovation Programme comprising the appointment of the Bootcamp provider and three main implementation phases.

EIT Health will be responsible for selecting the four challenges that the EIT Health Open Innovation programme will focus on. EIT Health will also be responsible for running an open and competitive process to select the start-ups that will participate in the EIT Health Open Innovation Programme.

Up to 40 applicants will be selected to go through the Bootcamps.[3] The Bootcamps will end with a Demo Day, where each participant will present their solution to an evaluation panel. The evaluation panel will score each team accordingly and up to six teams across all four challenges will be selected to receive funding from EIT Health.[4]

This funding should be used to deliver a pilot project to test the integration of their solutions in a real-world environment. These pilot projects will generate the relevant evidence to develop the solution's adoption, integration, and scale. The diagram below summarises the EIT Health Open Innovation Programme process.

The EIT Health Open Innovation programme



[3] Up to 10 start-ups per each of the four challenges.
[4] Subject to availability of funding, start-ups meeting the required evaluation criteria, and agreeing to the terms of funding.

The Open Innovation Programme will be owned, led, and operated by EIT Health. EIT Health will provide the strategic direction, programme governance, quality assurance, and coordination of the challenge selection, and start-up recruitment and selection. [5]

2.3.2 Start-up Support and Acceleration Bootcamps Summary

The EIT Health Open Innovation Bootcamps will be a challenge-driven acceleration programme designed to enable selected start-ups to adapt and position their solutions in response to substantial unmet clinical and/or sectoral needs identified by a corporate sponsor.

Throughout the programme, start-ups will apply their learning directly to their solutions and challenge-specific pilot opportunities. Start-ups will be supported by expert mentoring, peer learning, EIT Health alumni sessions, and engagement with the relevant corporate sponsor and wider European health innovation ecosystem. The programme will ensure that each start-up develops practical outputs that strengthen its clinical, regulatory, technical, commercial, and implementation readiness and support a credible pathway towards pilot validation, adoption, integration, and scale.

The selected Bootcamp provider will be responsible for designing, coordinating, and delivering a rigorous, practical, and tailored Bootcamp programme for each challenge. The EIT Health Open Innovation Bootcamp will follow a structured acceleration journey combining a common core curriculum with tailored training and support aligned with each Open Innovation Challenge and the specific needs of the participating start-ups. Specific requirements of the Bootcamp are as follows:

- A core curriculum applicable across all four challenges and adapted where necessary to the context of each start-up cohort.
- A challenge-specific module co-designed with the relevant corporate sponsor.
- Individual mentoring, coaching, and specialist expert support tailored to the needs of each start-up.
- Include an applied component in each module, such as a workshop, exercise, case discussion, template, start-up-specific assessment, working session, or expert-feedback activity.
- Align activities with the Open Innovation Programme timeline and coordinate closely with EIT Health and the selected corporate sponsors.
- Engagement throughout the programme with the corporate sponsor to deliver the proposed challenge-specific module, a selection of mentors and subject-matter experts for mentoring and Demo Day activities, and a schedule of challenge-specific activities.
- Peer learning and EIT Health alumni engagement.
- Pilot-planning and pitch-preparation activities.
- A final Demo Day for each challenge.

[5] EIT Health will be running a separate open process calling for healthcare corporates to propose a particular healthcare challenge that will be the focus of the Open Innovation Programme. EIT Health will select four challenges through this process.

Bootcamps should follow a primarily online delivery format, combining synchronous learning and acceleration activities with selected asynchronous resource. Bootcamps will combine common curriculum modules, challenge-specific content, tailored mentoring, and practical application.

Each Bootcamp is expected to support approximately up to ten start-ups, resulting in an estimated total of up to 40 start-ups across the four challenges. The programme should last approximately 14 weeks, including the final Demo Day. Recognising the resource limitations of start-ups, participation by start-ups should be between two to four hours per week and be accessible by start-ups spread across different time zones. Content should be delivered in English.

The final delivery schedule will be agreed with EIT Health based on the timing of the challenge and start-up selection processes. The timing of the four Bootcamps may overlap, the selected provider must demonstrate sufficient capacity and availability to deliver more than one Bootcamp within the same period, if required.

Delivery must;

- Be accessible during European working hours.
- Involve high levels of start-up and challenge partner engagement.
- Maintain flexibility to accommodate different start-up needs and maturity levels.
- Involve collaboration between start-ups and the corporate sponsors.
- Be scalable and replicable for the future.

The following sections provide further details on the modules that should be covered by the Bootcamp, and their content. All modules will be led by the selected Bootcamp provider:

2.3.3 Core Curriculum Requirements

The Core Curriculum should provide start-ups with the cross-cutting knowledge and capabilities needed to assess the feasibility of a potential pilot and prepare their solutions for validation, adoption, integration, and scale.

The Core Curriculum is expected to address the following areas:

- Regulatory pathway navigation: Product qualification and classification, MDR and IVDR requirements, Software as a Medical Device pathway, intended purpose, product claims, regulatory readiness, quality management, and relevant post-market considerations.
- Market access, reimbursement, and health economics: Identification of users, customers, buyers, payers, and beneficiaries; reimbursement and procurement pathways; health technology assessment; health-economic value propositions; budget impact; and evidence required to support adoption decisions.
- Clinical and real-world evidence: Definition of evidence needs, pilot objectives, endpoints, success indicators, target populations, implementation settings, patient and healthcare professional involvement, data-collection methods, and relevant ethical or clinical approval requirements.

- Data governance, interoperability, and cybersecurity: GDPR, health data governance, data access, privacy and security by design, cybersecurity, integration into corporate and healthcare provider environments, interoperability standards such as FHIR, and responsible AI considerations where relevant.
- Pilot preparation and implementation: Pilot scope, stakeholder roles, resources, work packages, milestones, risks, dependencies, technical requirements, adoption considerations, and decision-making arrangements.
- Value proposition and strategic communication: Articulation of the solution's clinical, operational, strategic, and economic value for the corporate sponsor, healthcare provider, patients, healthcare professionals, and other relevant stakeholders.

The content should be adapted where necessary to reflect the different technology categories, product classifications, healthcare settings, target markets, and maturity levels represented within each start-up cohort.

2.3.4 Challenge Specific Modules Requirements

Each Bootcamp will include challenge specific modules co-designed by the selected Bootcamp provider and the relevant corporate sponsor and overseen by EIT Health.

The objective of this module is to provide participating start-ups with a detailed understanding of the challenge and the context in which their solutions may be validated and implemented. Challenge specific modules should cover the following:

- A deep dive into the unmet clinical or sectoral need.
- A deep dive into the relevant therapeutic area, care pathway, or operational environment.
- Perspectives on the relevant challenge from patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals.
- The corporate sponsor's priorities and needs, such as procurement, contracting, and internal decision-making processes, in relation to the respective challenge.
- The clinical workflows and implementation environment in relation to the relevant challenge.
- Relevant data, infrastructure, interoperability, and cybersecurity requirements.
- Regulatory, clinical, and evidence requirements associated with the challenge.
- Expectations regarding pilot design, implementation, and evaluation.
- Adoption and integration requirements.
- Access to relevant corporate business units, clinical teams, and subject-matter experts.
- Additional topics identified jointly with the challenge sponsors, as required.

The selected Bootcamp provider shall propose the most effective format for each curriculum module, combining relevant knowledge transfer with practical application and tailored expert feedback. Applicants may propose alternative or blended formats where these provide clear added value and support active start-up participation.

2.3.5 Start-up onboarding and needs assessment

An individual Needs and Readiness Assessment for each start-up, identifying its maturity, priority development gaps, challenge-specific objectives, support requirements, and recommended mentors or expert profiles.

2.3.6 Individual Mentoring and Coaching Requirements

Each start-up shall receive tailored mentoring and coaching throughout the Bootcamp. The purpose of this support is to address start-up-specific gaps, test key assumptions, support the development of practical outputs, and facilitate effective engagement with the challenge sponsors.

Start-ups should have access to named mentors and experts from the relevant corporate sponsor, complemented by the Bootcamp provider's own network of specialists.

The Bootcamp provider will be responsible for identifying, matching, briefing, coordinating, and monitoring mentors and experts to ensure that the support provided is relevant, consistent, and aligned with programme objectives.

Depending on the needs of the start-up and the nature of the challenge, mentoring and expert support may cover:

- Clinical validation and evidence generation.
- Regulatory and quality strategy.
- Market access, reimbursement, and health economics.
- Data protection, cybersecurity, and interoperability.
- Technical integration.
- Corporate procurement and partnership development.
- Intellectual property and contracting.
- Pilot implementation and project management.
- Adoption and change management.
- Commercialisation and scaling.
- Investment readiness.[6]

Following the start-up needs assessment, the selected Bootcamp provider should propose a tailored mentoring plan and engage the most appropriate experts from its network to respond to the individual needs of each participating start-up.

[6] This list is indicative and non-exhaustive

2.3.7 Corporate Reverse Mentoring Requirements

Corporate reverse mentoring intends to help the corporate sponsors understand how to collaborate effectively with start-ups. It involves start-ups acting as the mentor to help the corporate sponsor understand what the start-up needs to facilitate two-way collaboration.

Content should be adapted and continuously improved by drawing on the Bootcamp provider's experience, best practices, and lessons learned from delivering other open innovation programmes.

Corporate reverse-mentoring sessions should cover the following:

- How to collaborate effectively with start-ups.
- Differences between start-up and corporate working practices.
- Establishing expectations, responsibilities, and communication channels.
- Making timely decisions for pilot feasibility and implementation.
- Avoiding processes that are disproportionate to the scope and risk of a pilot.
- Accessing data, users, clinical expertise, and technical resources.
- Preparing internal stakeholders for pilot.
- Ownership and governance
- Budgeting for pilot implementation
- Preparing for adoption, integration, and commercial collaboration.

2.3.8 Peer Learning, Alumni, and Ecosystem Engagement Requirements

The Bootcamp programme should include facilitated peer-learning activities that enable participating start-ups to exchange experiences, share good practices, review practical outputs, and discuss common challenges. External speakers from the European health innovation ecosystem should be engaged to provide insights on:

- Working with corporate and healthcare providers.
- Preparing and implementing healthcare pilots.
- Navigating regulatory and market access requirements.
- Moving from pilot activity to adoption.
- Raising investment.
- Entering European healthcare markets.
- Common barriers to start-up collaboration with corporates.

2.3.9 Pilot Action Plan Requirements

Through collaboration with mentors and experts a Preliminary Pilot Action Plan will be developed by each participating start-up. The plan will be developed following a Pilot Preparation and Implementation module.

The Pilot Action Plan should cover, where applicable:

- Pilot rationale, objectives, and scope
- Solution description, the unmet need it addresses, its intended use, its user group, and implementation setting.
- Technical, data, infrastructure, interoperability, and integration requirements of the solution.
- Regulatory, legal, ethical, data protection, and contracting requirements.
- A work plan including work packages, milestones, dependencies, timescales, budget and resources, and roles and responsibilities.
- Success indicators
- Evidence-generation and data-collection methodology
- Risk assessment
- Project governance arrangements
- Next steps following validation.

2.3.10 Demo Day

The Bootcamp shall include a pitch preparation and feedback module to support participating start-ups pitch their solution and pilot project. The module should combine pitch coaching, practical exercises, and structured feedback.

Demo Day Rehearsal

Before the final Demo Day, participating start-ups shall have the opportunity to present their pitch to a live rehearsal panel with relevant health tech, corporate, and venture capital experience. This session should provide start-ups with practical feedback on their pitch and should be given sufficient time to incorporate this feedback before the final challenge competition.

Demo Day

Each Bootcamp will conclude with a challenge-specific Demo Day. During the Demo Day start-ups will pitch their solutions and proposed pilot project to the relevant challenge sponsors, EIT Health, and other invited stakeholders. The selected Bootcamp provider shall be responsible for the end-to-end design, organisation, coordination, and delivery of each Demo Day.

The Demo Days are typically delivered online. In-person or hybrid format may be considered and subject to funding and prior agreement with EIT Health.

Start-ups will have their pitches evaluated by an expert panel built by the Bootcamp provider. The top ranked start-up in each challenge will receive a cash prize of €15,000. Start-ups ranked second will receive a €10,000 cash prize, and start-ups ranked third will receive a €5,000 cash prize. All awards are subject to eligibility, evaluation, contractual, and funding requirements.

Progress Monitoring and Feedback

The Bootcamp provider will be responsible for project monitoring, including feedback from participating start-ups, mentors, challenge sponsors, and EIT Health.

The Bootcamp provider shall maintain a Programme Monitoring Dashboard covering attendance and engagement, activity and output completion, mentoring participation, progress against agreed objectives, risks and issues, participant and stakeholder feedback, and proposed corrective actions. Progress updates shall be shared with EIT Health at agreed intervals, and any significant risk, delay, or participation concern shall be escalated promptly. Monitoring findings shall corrective actions as appropriate.

At the end of each Bootcamp programme, the Bootcamp provider shall produce a progress and evaluation report summarising start-up development, programme performance, participant and challenge partner feedback, key outcomes, lessons learned, and recommendations for future editions.

2.3.11 Knowledge transfer

The selected Bootcamp provider shall document the open innovation programme in an Open Innovation Programme Playbook. This Playbook should facilitate the consistent implementation of the Open Innovation Programme, and the Bootcamps in future years. Content and materials developed specifically for the programme must be provided to EIT Health in editable and reusable formats. EIT Health will retain rights to reproduce, adapt, update, translate, integrate, and reuse the materials in future programmes and activities.

2.4 Activities and Work Packages

All project proposals for this call must include a comprehensive workplan describing all the required Work Packages (WPs) and tasks and activities required to successfully design and deliver the Open Innovation Bootcamp programme and achieve the expected programme outcomes.

The workplan will be structured into the Work Packages (WPs) described in the table below. Each WP should contain clearly defined tasks, milestones, outputs, deliverables, and associated Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Project workplans should last no longer than 31 December 2028.

The organisation and distribution of WPs, tasks, and responsibilities is at the discretion of the Bootcamp provider according to their specific objectives, proposed methodology and expertise. Applicants may propose additional Work Packages and/or further subdivide the Work Packages and include additional tasks where these strengthen programme delivery. However, EIT Health mandates certain deliverables and KPIs. See section 2.5 for a list of the mandatory deliverables and section 2.6 for a list of the mandatory KPIs. The below table sets out the mandatory work packages and tasks that EIT Health expects to see in applications to this call.

Mandatory Work Packages and Tasks

WP #	WP Name	Task Name
1	Project Management and Programme Coordination	• Develop the detailed implementation plan, delivery schedule, governance structure, and risk-management framework. • Coordinate Bootcamp provider members, EIT Health, challenge sponsors, mentors, experts, and other programme contributors. • Organise regular project and coordination meetings. Monitor timelines, resources, dependencies, risks, deliverables, and contractual requirements. • Maintain appropriate project documentation and submit progress and financial reports to EIT Health.
2	Bootcamp Methodology, Core Curriculum and Learning Content Development	• Design the overall Bootcamp methodology, learning journey, curriculum structure, and delivery formats. • Develop the Core Curriculum, including masterclasses, applied workshops, practical exercises, tools, templates, and start-up activities. • Define learning outcomes, expected start-up outputs, and the assessment and feedback approach. • Prepare finalised, quality-assured, accessible, and delivery-ready content for live delivery. • Provide editable source files and update the content throughout the programme period.
3	Challenge Sponsors Engagement and Challenge Specific Module Development	• Initiate coordination with the four selected challenge sponsors immediately following challenge selection. • Within the 12-week mobilisation period, co-design the Challenge-Specific Modules with the relevant corporate sponsors. • Define challenge-specific content, engagement activities, contributors, delivery responsibilities, and schedules. • Identify suitable staff from the challenge sponsor organisations to participate as speakers, subject-matter experts, mentors, and, where requested by EIT Health, members of the start-up selection and Demo Day evaluation panels. • Coordinate sponsor engagement throughout Bootcamp preparation and delivery.
4	Start-up Assessment,	• Conduct a needs and readiness assessment for each participating start-up and develop tailored support recommendations.

WP #	WP Name	Task Name
	Mentoring and Bootcamp Delivery	• Design and deliver corporate reverse-mentoring sessions for the challenge/corporate sponsors. • Deliver the Core Curriculum and Open Challenge-Specific Modules through appropriate combinations of masterclasses, applied workshops, group discussions, mentoring, coaching, office hours, peer learning, and EIT Health alumni sessions. • Recruit, brief, match, coordinate, and monitor mentors and experts. • Support start-ups in applying the programme content to their solutions and the requirements of the selected challenge.
5	Pilot Preparation, Pitch Support and Demo Day Delivery	• Deliver the Pilot Preparation and Implementation module and support each start-up in developing a Preliminary Pilot Mutual Action Plan. • Provide a dedicated Pitch Preparation and Feedback module, including coaching, pitch development, and structured expert feedback. • Organise Pitch Day rehearsals involving relevant challenge sponsor mentors, EIT Health Investment Management team representatives, and other appropriate experts. • Design, organise, coordinate, and deliver one Demo Day for each challenge, including event planning, start-up expert evaluator panel preparation, technical delivery, evaluation materials, results, feedback, and follow-up reporting.
6	Progress Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality Assurance	• Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework covering start-up attendance, engagement, mentoring participation, progress against objectives, completion of practical outputs, identified risks, participant satisfaction, and challenge partner feedback. • Maintain a regularly updated Programme Monitoring Dashboard. The Programme Monitoring Dashboard shall be accessible to the EIT Health Innovation team throughout programme delivery. • Use monitoring findings to adapt the curriculum and start-up support during delivery. • Escalate significant risks, delays, or participation concerns to EIT Health. • Produce a concise evaluation report following each Bootcamp and a final programme evaluation report covering outcomes, feedback, lessons learned, and recommendations.

WP #	WP Name	Task Name
7	Knowledge Transfer, Playbook and Future Sustainability	• Develop and deliver an Open Innovation Programme Playbook documenting the end-to-end programme blueprint, framework, methodology, operational processes, curriculum, stakeholder roles, mentoring model, tools, templates, evaluation approach, lessons learned, and recommendations. • Ensure that the Playbook and supporting materials are sufficiently practical for EIT Health, or an appointed third party, to independently replicate, adapt, and scale the programme. • Provide recommendations for a financially sustainable and commercially viable Open Innovation Programme beyond the availability of Horizon Europe public funding, including potential sponsorship, partnership, revenue, and co-funding models.
8	**Communication and Dissemination Plan**	• A plan outlining key actions, audiences, channels, and communication strategies to support participant recruitment and disseminate project results.

2.5 Mandatory Deliverables

All work packages must have associated tasks, milestones and deliverables, the achievement of which will be assessed at each reporting period during programme delivery. The deliverables listed below are mandatory minimum requirements for the successful applicant. Applicants may propose additional deliverables where these add value to programme. Please refer to section 3.7 on Grant Payment Mechanisms for further information on the relationship between deliverable acceptance and payment.

#	Deliverable	Definition	Month Due
1	**Project implementation, Inclusion and Quality Plan**	A consolidated plan covering project governance, Bootcamp provider roles and responsibilities, programme schedule, resources, dependencies, coordination with EIT Health, quality assurance, risk management, reporting, and continuous improvement. The plan must demonstrate alignment with Horizon Europe gender equality requirements.	M1
2	**Bootcamp Methodology, Core Curriculum and Pilot-Planning Framework**	A complete framework defining the Bootcamp methodology, start-up acceleration journey, delivery formats, mentoring model, monitoring approach, expected practical outputs, monitoring methodology, and template for developing each startup's Preliminary Pilot Action Plan.	M4, with updates as required
3	**Challenge Mobilisation, Sponsor Engagement and Challenge-Specific Modules**	A mobilisation and co-design package for each challenge, developed in collaboration with the challenge sponsor. It shall define the challenge-specific curriculum, engagement activities, contributors, mentor and expert pool, potential panel members, roles, time commitments, dependencies, and delivery schedule. It shall include the activities required to prepare corporate sponsors to collaborate effectively with participating startups.	Challenge 1 & 2; M5 Challenge 3 & 4; M7
4	**Start-up assessment, Mentoring and Expert Support Programme**	A needs and readiness assessment and tailored support plan for each start-up, together with the mentoring and coaching methodology, mentor selection criteria, confirmed mentor and expert pool, startup mentor matching and mentoring planning.	Within one-two weeks of start-up onboarding Challenge 1 & 2; M6 Challenge 3 & 4; M8
5	**Pitch Preparation, Rehearsals and Demo Day**	Delivery of pitch coaching, feedback, and live rehearsal activities for each start-up cohort, followed by the end-to-end design, organisation, coordination, and delivery of one Demo Day per challenge.	Following each Demo Day Challenge 1 & 2; M9

#	Deliverable	Definition	Month Due
			Challenge 3 & 4; M11
6	**Bootcamp Delivery, Monitoring and Evaluation**	Delivery of four challenge-specific Bootcamps and continuous monitoring of startup attendance, engagement, mentoring participation, progress, completion of practical outputs, risks, feedback, and corrective actions. A concise completion report shall be submitted following each Bootcamp, summarising activities delivered, participant and sponsor feedback, results, lessons learned, and recommendations for subsequent delivery.	Following each Bootcamp Challenge 1 & 2; M9 - 10 Challenge 3 & 4; M11 - 12
7	**Open Innovation Programme Playbook**	A comprehensive Playbook developed progressively during the Acceleration Phase and finalised during the Pilot Phase. An evaluation of programme delivery and impact and recommendations for the future editions. Recommendations for establishing a financially sustainable Open Innovation Programme beyond public funding.	M13 - 15

The due dates are indicative and will be aligned with the final programme implementation calendar and contractual starting date. Where a deliverable relates to more than one challenge or Bootcamp, it shall be delivered separately for each relevant cohort or updated progressively throughout programme implementation.

2.6 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

EIT Health will be responsible for the delivery, monitoring, and reporting of KPIs. The table below lists the KPIs that the Open Innovation Bootcamps programme will aim to. The below table is for informative purposes only, the successful applicant is not expected to take sole ownership for delivery of these KPIs, and EIT Health will not monitor performance of the project delivery against the below KPIs. The KPIs are shared below to aid understanding of the performance metrics that the Bootcamps programme will have to achieve. EIT Health will expect submitted proposals to describe how the Bootcamp provider will design and deliver a course that will support EIT Health achieve the KPIs in the below table.

KPI	Definition	Min. Target	Timeline
EITHE08.1: Participants in non-labelled education and training	Number of successful participants in EIT professional development courses, online training courses and other education/training activity.	Up to 40	From project start until 3 years after the end of the funding period.
EITHE03.1: Start-ups and scale-ups supported by KICs	Number of start-ups and scale-ups supported by KICs for at least 2 months in year N, provided the KIC's services contribute to the company's growth (including potential growth).	Up to 40	From project start until 3 years after the end of the funding period.
EITHE03.2EITRIS: EIT RIS Start-ups/scale-ups supported	Number of start-ups and scale-ups registered in EIT RIS country supported by KICs for at least 2 months in year N.	2-4	From project start until 3 years after the end of the funding period.
EITHE08.2EITRIS: EIT RIS Participants in n on-labelled education and training	Number of successful participants in EIT professional development courses, online training courses and other education/training activity delivered or in a process of delivery with citizenship in EIT RIS countries.	2-4	From project start until 3 years after the end of the funding period.

3 Call Criteria

Following the deadline for submission, admissibility, eligibility, exclusion, and selection criteria checks will be performed on each proposal in line with the following criteria. Only proposals satisfying all the admissibility and eligibility criteria shall pass on to the evaluation stages.

3.1 Application Admissibility

Only proposals satisfying all the admissibility criteria below shall pass on to the eligibility criteria assessment stage.

- Applications must be submitted before the call deadline of 27 January 2027, 16.00 CET. Any proposals submitted after the deadline will be inadmissible.
- Applications must be submitted using the application platform. Applications submitted through other means will be inadmissible.
- Applications must use a valid Participant Identification Code (PIC code).
    - To obtain a PIC code, register your organisation in the EU Funding & tender opportunities portal to obtain the nine-digit Participant Identification Code (PIC number). If you do not know if your organisation already a PIC Code has, you can verify directly on the EU Portal (click here) whether your organisation is already registered.
- All upload templates provided in the application platform must be used and unaltered. Uploads that do not use the templates where provided will be inadmissible.
- Any consortium member that is a public body or a public-for-profit organisation, a public or private research organisation, or a public or private higher education establishment must have an organisational Gender Equality Plan in place.7

3.2 Application Eligibility Conditions

Only proposals complying with all the following conditions will be considered eligible and move to the external evaluation stage.

3.2.1 Entities eligible to participate

Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from non-associated third countries is eligible to participate without receiving funding, provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met (e.g. the entity is not under EU sanction), along with any other conditions laid down in this call.

For this call, a 'legal entity' means a legal entity created and recognised as such under national law, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without legal personality.

[7] More information on gender equality in Horizon Europe please visit https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/democracy-and-rights/gender-equality-research-and-innovation_en

3.2.2 Entities eligible for funding

In accordance with the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025 [8], to be eligible for funding, the applicant must be established in one of the eligible countries, specifically:

- the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions;
- the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States; [9]
- countries associated to Horizon Europe; [10] or,
- certain low- and middle-income countries.[11]

Individuals cannot apply for funding under this call.

3.2.3 Consortium composition

This call aims to select a single provider or a consortium.

Consortium members may include educational and training institutions, start-up accelerator, incubators, innovation consultancies, healthcare innovation organisations, research and technology organisations, or other organisations with relevant health innovation and start-up acceleration expertise. This is a non-exhaustive list, and other organisation types may be considered as long as all relevant conditions are met.

For applications from single providers, the applying entity must have the capacity to deliver the majority of activities and keep subcontracting to a minimum. See section 3.3.4 on cost eligibility for more details.

3.2.4 Project duration

Project duration is 20 months. Activities will last from 14 April 2027 to 31 December 2028. Projects may incur costs between 14 April 2027 until 31 December 2028. Projects must end by 31 December 2028.

3.3 Funding Conditions for Applications

3.3.1 Maximum EIT Health funding

Projects may request up to 250,000 EUR in EIT Health funding.

---

[8] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp-14-general-annexes_horizon-2025_en.pdf

[9] Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked. See the Horizon Europe Programme Guide on the portal for a complete list of OCTs.

[10] Please see the Horizon Europe Programme Guide on the Funding and Tenders Portal for up-to-date information on the current list of and the position for Associated Countries: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/programme-guide_horizon_en.pdf

[11] See the Horizon Europe Programme Guide on the Funding and Tenders Portal for a complete list of these countries. List of participating countries in Horizon Europe.

3.3.2 Co-funding requirements

EIT Health will fund a maximum of 50% of the project's total costs. The consortium must secure the remaining 50% co-funding from other sources (non-EIT Health/KIC).

Project's total costs = EIT Health funding + Co-funding.

3.3.3 Budget submission

To assess the co-funding requirement, the project budget submitted must include the total project costs, not just a budget covering the EIT Health funding.

3.3.4 Cost eligibility

Eligible costs must follow those as set out in the Horizon Europe model grant agreement.[12] Subcontracting is permitted in the Horizon Europe model grant agreement. However, for this call subcontracting costs must cover only a limited part of the action and cannot replace a single provider's own capacity to implement the Bootcamp. Applications with a high proportion of subcontracting costs in their budget are unlikely to be evaluated positively.

3.4 EU Restrictions on Participation

3.4.1 EU restrictive measures

Entities subject to EU restrictive measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)13 as well as Article 75 TFEU14, are not eligible to participate in any capacity, including as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties (if any).

Special rules also apply to entities covered by Commission Guidelines No 2013/C 205/052215.

3.4.2 Legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine

Given the illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russia and the involvement of Belarus, there is currently no appropriate context allowing the implementation of the actions foreseen in this programme with legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine. Therefore, even where such entities are not subject to EU restrictive measures, such legal entities are

[12] See Article 6 – Eligible and Ineligible Costs and Contributions - https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/aga_en.pdf
[13] Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map
[14] Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the EU Sanctions Map
[15] Commission guidelines No 2013/C 205/05 on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards (OJEU C 205 of 19.07.2013, pp. 9-11)

not eligible to participate in any capacity. This includes participation as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties (if any). Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis for justified reasons.

With specific regard to measures addressed to Russia, following the adoption of the Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1745 of 24 June 2024[16] (amending Council Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014) concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine, legal entities established outside Russia but whose proprietary rights are directly or indirectly owned for more than 50% by a legal person, entity or body established in Russia are also not eligible to participate in any capacity.

3.4.3 Restrictions for the protection of European communication networks

The protection of European communication networks has been identified as an important security interest of the Union and its Member States[17]. For further information, please refer to the Horizon Europe, Work Programme 2025, General Annexes, B – Eligibility on page 14 [18].

3.5 Applicant Exclusion Criteria

Applicants will be excluded from participation in the Call and from the award if they are in one of the situations referred to in Article 138(1) of the EU Financial Regulation. Applicants may not participate in this call that are subject to EU administrative sanctions (i.e. exclusion) or are in one of the following exclusion situations that bar them from receiving EU grants:

- bankruptcy, winding up, affairs administered by the courts, arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or other similar procedures (including procedures for persons with unlimited liability for the applicant's debts);
- they are in breach of social security or tax obligations (including if done by persons with unlimited liability for the applicant's debts);
- they are guilty of grave professional misconduct (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant);
- they are guilty of fraud, corruption, having links to a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant);
- they have shown significant deficiencies in complying with their main obligations under an EU procurement contract, grant agreement, prize, expert contract, or similar (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant);

[16] OJ L 229, 31.7.2014, p. 1–11
[17] European Council conclusions of 1 and 2 October 2020 (EUCO 13/20), point 11; Council Conclusions on the significance of 5G to the European Economy and the need to mitigate security risks linked to 5G, 14517/19.
[18] See here - wp-14-general-annexes_horizon-2025_en.pdf

- they are guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/9534 (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant); or
- they have created under a different jurisdiction an entity with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin or created another entity with this purpose (including if done by persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, beneficial owners or persons who are essential for the award/implementation of the grant).
- Have misrepresented the information required as a condition for participating in the procedure or have failed to supply that information; or,
- were previously involved in the preparation of documents used in the award procedure where this entails a breach of the principle of equality of treatment, including distortion of competition, that cannot be remedied otherwise.

As evidence, applicants selected for funding (i.e. the coordinator and all the proposed partners participating in the applicant consortium) will have to submit a declaration of honour on exclusion criteria and the absence of any conflict of interest as part of the contracting process. This declaration will last for the duration of the funding period. Failure to provide adequate documentation may result in the exclusion of the applicants concerned.

3.6 Contracting Requirements for Successful Applicants

The following contracting obligations and requirements must be fulfilled by each member in the consortium of selected projects to receive funding.

- Declaration of honour signed by the participants
- Signature of the Financial Support Agreement (FSA)
- Having a registered and validated Participant Identification Code (PIC)19
- Settlement of any open balance with EIT Health (e.g. due invoice)

All consortium members of selected applications must sign all the above agreements and complete all the necessary steps within three months before grant funding can be dispersed. Failure to do so may lead to EIT Health withdrawing the funding offer and selecting the next application in the final list of ranks.

3.6.1 Legal Entity and Financial Capacity Check

Successful applicants may go through a legal entity validation process known as the Partners Validation Service. This process requires a valid PIC code, organisations in the consortium without a valid PIC code may fail this validation process. This can lead to significant delays in the release of funding. The Partners

[19] Register your organisation in the EU Funding & tender opportunities portal to obtain the nine-digit Participant Identification Code (PIC number). If you do not know if your organisation already has a PIC number, you can verify directly on the EU Portal (click here) whether your organisation is already registered.

Validation Service [20] will request registration documents and a signed Declaration of Honour from the successful applicant. The validation may also include a check of the successful applicants by the EIT in the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES) of the European Commission.

Applicants must have stable and sufficient resources to successfully implement the projects and contribute their share. In accordance with Article 27 of the Horizon Europe Regulation, the financial capacity shall be verified for the coordinator if the requested funding is equal or greater than 500,000 EUR. If there are grounds to doubt the financial capacity of an applicant, EIT Health shall also verify the financial capacity of the applicant, or of the coordinator even where the requested funding is below the threshold referred to above. If requested by EIT Health, successful applicants will go through a financial capacity check as part of the Partners Validation Service.

3.7 Grant Payment Mechanism for Successful Applicants

Funding will be provided via actual costs model.

Funding can only be disbursed once all contracting requirements have been completed (see section 3.6 on contracting requirements above). The disbursement of grant funding follows an annual cycle. Grant funding is disbursed annually, based on the annual budgets submitted in the application.

At the beginning of each year, a standard pre-financing rate of 25% of the annual budget is paid to each consortium member in line with the annual budget. The remaining 75% of the grant amount for that year will be released as a balance payment at the end of the year after completing a cost reporting process. To receive the balance payment, consortium members must report all eligible incurred costs to EIT Health towards the end of the year.[21] EIT Health will review these costs and release the remaining amount for that year based on the approved incurred costs, up to a maximum of the budget amount for that year, minus the 25% of prefinancing already received at the beginning of the year.

Above and beyond the specific EIT Health rules of participation, all activities must comply with the relevant Horizon Europe and EIT financial and legal framework considerations.

3.8 Financial Sustainability Contribution Conditions for successful applicants

The Financial Sustainability Contribution associated with the Open Innovation Programme will apply during the Pilot Project Phase and will not form part of the obligations under this Call for Bootcamp providers.

The Bootcamp provider will contribute to EIT Health's long-term financial sustainability through the development and delivery of the EIT Health Open Innovation Programme Playbook. The Playbook shall capture the programme blueprint and framework, start-up acceleration methodology, operational processes, tools, practical experience, good practices, and lessons learned. It shall enable EIT Health to

[20] The Partners Validation Service is a shared service used by all EIT KICs. The service is operated by EIT Urban Mobility.
[21] This includes costs funded by the EIT Health grant and costs included as co-funding in the proposal.

independently replicate, adapt, scale, and exploit non-commercially and where appropriate commercially future editions of the Open Innovation Programme beyond the initial funding period.

3.9 Intellectual Property

The Open Innovation Programme is expected to generate reusable knowledge, methodologies, tools and programme assets that can support future innovation activities beyond the initial funding period.

The content, materials, tools, and templates developed for the Open Innovation Programme will be made available for independent use, adaptation, reproduction, and further exploitation by both EIT Health and the Bootcamp provider.

The ownership of project results remains with the contributing organisations in accordance with their respective contributions and consortium arrangements.[22] However, applicants should be prepared to grant EIT Health broad rights to use, adapt, reproduce, integrate, distribute and further develop the programme materials and Playbook for both commercial and non-commercial purposes.

3.10 Project Monitoring During and After the Funding Period

During the funding period, projects will undergo regular monitoring and reporting to track progress against the agreed-upon workplan and deliverables. Project reporting takes place every six months for EIT Health to maintain a good overview of the activities. Activity Leaders are asked to report the progress of their deliverables, milestones and KPIs in a dedicated online platform, along with submitting a bi-annual cost report to ensure eligibility of costs (see section 3.7). EIT Health monitoring principles and obligations are governed by the Horizon Europe MGA, Annex 5 23.

3.10.1 Monitoring during the funding period

Every six months projects must report to EIT Health on the completion of work packages, outputs, deliverables, and the achievement of milestones. Although led by EIT Health, the Bootcamp provider will need to provide timely information in relation to tasks completion and status. The EIT Health PMO team will assess the submitted reports together with the assigned Programme Manager. Each review is a go/no-go point for the continuation of the activity and its EIT funding. EIT Health reserves the right to call projects for online interviews in case deemed necessary for follow-up on reported content.

As well as being the trigger point for the release of funding, the process serves to either fast-track, support, redirect, or stop the activity in cases of improper implementation or severe underperformance. See section 3.11 on the Fast Track mechanism for more information.

3.10.2 Post-funding monitoring

Post-funding monitoring is required for up to five years after activity closure, possibly longer if required by the financial sustainability agreements. Post-funding monitoring will be light in format and aims to capture the project's impact beyond the period of EIT Health funding. This helps identify success

[22] Where applicable
[23] general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf (europa.eu).

stories, capture key learnings, and evaluate the use of public funding against EIT Health's and Horizon Europe's strategic goals.

3.11 Fast Track Mechanism and Additional Project Funding

If relevant, and should the project selected under this Call demonstrate exceptional performance and high strategic value, it may be eligible for additional funding from EIT Health via the Fast Track mechanism. EIT Health may, at its own discretion and subject to available budget, provide extra grant funding to projects in its portfolio to maximize the impact of EIT Health's portfolio and seize time-sensitive opportunities. Successful execution and completion of a project will not guarantee Fast Track funding. Eligibility is strictly reserved for projects or entities that:

- **Exceed Expectations:** Have successfully achieved all original milestones including timelines for content development, learner satisfaction and EIT Label quality standards, where applicable.
- **Justify Necessity:** Can demonstrate a critical need for continued public funding to address specific market failures or regulatory hurdles (e.g., unexpected regulatory changes, opportunity to expand to high-impact patient populations).
- **Strategic Alignment:** Align with the specific strategic priorities of EIT Health at the time of the Fast Track decision.

3.11.1 Evaluation process for the Fast Track mechanism

Fast-tracked proposals will be subject to a specialized, expedited evaluation procedure involving an assessment by EIT Health and independent external experts against standard Horizon Europe criteria (Excellence, Impact, Implementation) and financial sustainability contribution potential.

4 Application Process

All application materials must be submitted via the EIT Health application platform.

We strongly advise applicants to familiarise themselves with EIT Health application platform before beginning their application, and to begin the application process on the platform at least one week before the deadline.

4.1 Key Timeline

Applicants are expected to ensure their availability for the pitching sessions and to accept the pitching date and time assigned if invited to a pitching session. EIT Health will not be able to rearrange pitching slots according to the availability of applicants once invitations are sent out. Please contact calls@eithealth.eu before the proposal submission deadline if you have specific requirements regarding pitching times.

Milestone	Date	Description
Call Launch	**25 November 2026**	Publication of the Call Document and opening of the application process.
Application form open	**02 December 2026**	Application platform open for application
Call Presentation Webinar	**03 December 2026**	Presentation of the Call scope, objectives, and application platform.
Q&A Sessions	**12 January 2026**	Open Q&A session for applicants to ask questions before deadline.
Proposal Submission Deadline	**27 January 2027**	Strict deadline for application submissions. Late submissions will not be considered.
Evaluation: Eligibility notification & invite to pitches	**03 February 2027**	Yes/no decision on proposal meeting eligibility requirements.
Evaluation: Pitch sessions	**22 February – 05 March 2027**	Online pitching sessions in front of a panel of external evaluators.
Final Award Notification	**17 March 2027**	E-mail notification of final results
Standstill Period	**17 March 2027 – 17 April 2027**	Preparation of grant agreements
Project Contracting	**19 April 2027**	Registration and validation of all applicants in the Grant Management System, signature of all agreements, and PIC number validation.
Start Date of Project Activities	**19 April 2027**	Official commencement of funded projects.

4.2 Use of Artificial Intelligence

Applicants may use generative AI tools to assist in drafting funding proposals. All AI-generated content must be handled with caution, responsibility, and full transparency. Below are EIT Health's guidelines that applicants should consider when using generative AI tools to build a proposal:

- **Review & validate:** Critically check AI output for factual accuracy, relevance, and alignment with the call's objectives.
- **Verify citations:** Cross-check any references suggested by AI; remove or correct any that are fabricated or incorrect.
- **Ensure originality:** AI may mirror existing sources—applicants must avoid plagiarism by properly attributing all material.
- **Disclose usage when advisable:** Clearly state which AI tools were used and how.
- **Respect IP & privacy:** Do not include copyrighted or proprietary material without authorization; review AI platform terms and avoid submitting confidential or sensitive data to AI tools, unless data protection standards (e.g. GDPR) are met.

Applicants remain entirely accountable for every part of their proposal, including AI-produced text.

5 Evaluation Procedure

Proposals will be assessed by an evaluation panel consisting of three external independent experts, and two EIT Health staff experts. Evaluators will answer a series of questions about the application based on the criterion and weighting in section 5.1 below. Evaluators will be asked to provide a rating for each question they answer on a scale of zero to five using the scoring system detailed below. This will produce a final score for each evaluator that is out of 100 and accounts for the weights of each criterion (see section 5.1). The final score for each application is a simple average of all five evaluators' final scores. To be considered for funding, applicants must score at least 10% of the total score in each evaluation criteria, and at least 70% overall.

Score	Rating	Description
0	Not met	The application does not address the criterion and provides insufficient evidence to demonstrate that it is met.
1	Poor	The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious weaknesses
2	Fair	Application broadly addresses the criterion but there are significant weaknesses
3	Good	Application addresses the criterion well, but there are several shortcomings.
4	Very good	Application addresses the criterion very well, with just a small number of shortcomings
5	Excellent	Application addresses all the criterion well, and any shortcomings are minor.

5.1 Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be assessed against four criteria, consistent with Horizon Europe standards and specific to the EIT Health mission and financial sustainability. The table below provides a description of these criteria, and their respective weights in their contribution to the final score of each stage.

Evaluation Criteria	Sub Criteria	Description
Excellence **Weight – 20%**	Understanding and strategic alignment	The proposal demonstrates a clear understanding of the objectives, target audience, structure, challenge-driven approach, and expected outcomes of the EIT Health Open Innovation Programme. The proposed approach is fully aligned with the scope and requirements of the Call.
	Programme methodology and design	The proposed methodology for designing and delivering the four Bootcamps is relevant, practical, coherent, and of high quality. It effectively combines the Core Curriculum, Challenge-Specific Modules, mentoring and expert support, corporate sponsor engagement, pilot preparation, pitch support, and Demo Day delivery.
	Tailoring and participant-centred support	The proposal clearly explains how the Bootcamp content and support will be adapted to each unmet health need, challenge context, startup cohort, and individual startup.
	Track record and sector experience	The applicant demonstrates a proven track record in designing and delivering comparable startup acceleration, open innovation, or corporate-startup collaboration programmes, including experience supporting startups at different stages of product and market maturity.
	Expert and mentor network	The applicant demonstrates access to an extensive European network of relevant mentors, experts, and other specialists required to support the expected range of challenges and startup solutions.
	Gender	The application includes a well-reasoned explanation of how gender has been accounted for in the project.
Impact **Weight – 20%**	Value for start-ups and challenge sponsors	The proposed activities have the potential to create significant and measurable value for participating startups and corporate challenge sponsors by enabling effective collaboration around substantial unmet health needs.
	Start-up readiness and progression	The proposal presents a credible approach to strengthening startups' clinical, regulatory, technical, commercial, and implementation readiness and supporting their progression towards pilot validation, adoption, investment, and scale.

Evaluation Criteria	Sub Criteria	Description
	Corporate start-up collaboration and pilot preparation	The applicant demonstrates the capacity to facilitate productive collaboration between startups and corporate challenge sponsors and to support the preparation of credible Pilot Action Plans.
	Impact and KPIs	The proposal clearly explains how the proposed activities and outputs will contribute to the expected programme outcomes and applicable Key Performance Indicators. The proposed impact pathway is credible, measurable, and achievable.
	Participant engagement and programme completion	The proposal includes appropriate measures to maximise startup engagement, support successful programme completion, identify participation risks, and provide corrective or additional support where necessary.
Quality and Efficiency of Implementation **Weight – 25%**	Work plan and delivery model	The workplan is coherent, realistic, and appropriately structured, with clear milestones, deliverables, roles, and dependencies. It demonstrates the provider's capacity to deliver four challenge-specific Bootcamps, including during periods when programme activities may overlap.
	Provider expertise and capacity	The provider has the collective expertise, experience, operational capacity, and resources required to deliver the programme.
	Stakeholder and expert coordination	The proposal presents a credible approach to coordinating with EIT Health and the four corporate challenge sponsors, including the co-design of Challenge-Specific Modules and the identification and management of mentors, experts, and other relevant stakeholders.
	Monitoring, quality and risk management	The proposal includes appropriate mechanisms for monitoring participation and progress, assuring programme quality, collecting feedback, managing risks, and implementing timely corrective actions and continuous improvements.
	Budget and resources	The allocation of resources are reasonable and sufficient to deliver on the proposed work plan and expected outputs to the required quality.
KIC Portfolio Strategic Fit and Compliance with the	Knowledge transfer and EIT Health Open Innovation	The selected Bootcamp provider shall document the open innovation programme in an Open Innovation Programme Playbook. This Playbook should facilitate the consistent

Evaluation Criteria	Sub Criteria	Description
Financial Sustainability Principles **Weight – 35%**	Programme Playbook	implementation of the Open Innovation Programme, and the Bootcamps in future years. The proposal presents a robust and practical approach to documenting the delivery of the open innovation programme through the Playbook.
	Financial sustainability	The proposal presents a credible approach to supporting the future financial sustainability of the Open Innovation Programme beyond Horizon Europe public funding, including recommendations on potential sponsor contributions, service packages, partnerships, co-funding arrangements, operating costs, revenue opportunities, or other appropriate models.
	KIC portfolio and strategic fit	The proposal demonstrates clear added value. The programme outputs and knowledge generated can strengthen future EIT Health activities and ecosystem impact. The proposal demonstrates how the Open Innovation Programme model can be efficiently replicated, adapted, and scaled across future healthcare challenges, startup cohorts, corporate sponsors, and European markets.

5.2 Evaluation Process and Methodology

The selection process is a single-stage submission followed by an admissibility and eligibility check, online pitches, and an ethical, legal, and social issues review. The below sections provide further details about each stage.

5.2.1 Admissibility and eligibility, exclusion and selection stages

1. **Admissibility and Eligibility Check**
   Formal verification of application admissibility and eligibility status according to the requirements of the Call. This will be carried out by EIT Health staff. See chapters 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 on application conditions.

5.2.2 Evaluation of proposals

2. **Online Pitching**
   Pitching sessions will consist of a pitch and a question and answers session. Each evaluation panel member will evaluate proposals based on a review of the submitted application, the pitch, and the answers to the question and answers session. The evaluation panel will consist of three external independent experts and two EIT Health staff experts.

   Applicants are expected to ensure their availability for the pitching sessions and to accept the pitching date and time assigned if invited to a pitching session. EIT Health will not be able to rearrange pitching slots according to the availability of applicants.

Following the evaluation criteria (see paragraph 5.1), each panel member will score proposals based on the submitted application, the pitch, and the answers provided during the question and answers section of the pitch session.

Each application will receive a single score and feedback on the application from each panel member. Final scores for each application will be out of 100 and are calculated by taking the mean of the reviewers' scores.

3. **Ethical Legal Social Issues Review**
   Independent experts will evaluate each project suggested for funding on the Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI) to ensure that all elements in the proposal linked to critical ethical, legal and social considerations are well defined and addressed, thereby helping to de-risk the EIT Health portfolio.

4. **Final Selection notification**
   Following the online pitching sessions and ELSI review, applications will be ranked from highest scoring to lowest scoring based on the scores given by the evaluators.

   EIT Health management makes the final funding decision based on evaluator recommendations, evaluation scores, and available funding. Only applicants with an evaluation score of at least 70/100 will be considered for funding. All applicants will be notified of the final outcome and receive feedback from each expert in accordance with the timetable in paragraph 4.1 above.

   The top-ranked applications will be selected for funding and invited to the contracting stage (see section 3.6). If an applicant does not pass through contracting, the next applicant in the ranking list might be contacted, as long as they have scored at least 70 / 100 in the final score.

5.3 Communication of evaluation results to applicants

5.3.1 Communication of evaluation results

Following the award decision, all applicants will be informed of the result in writing via email from the application platform on 17 March 2027. All applicants will receive their overall score, and feedback from each panel member. It is important that all emails with the @eithealth.eu domain are added to the safe senders list for all consortium members so that critical emails do not get sent to applicants' spam folder.

Applicants may request further clarification regarding the evaluation result via email. EIT Health will aim to reply to such requests within 15 days. Where this is not possible, EIT Health will inform the applicant requesting clarification with an estimated response time.

5.3.2 Requirements for selected proposals

If the proposal is selected, subsequent communications may include a set of recommendations or conditions as a result of the outcome of the evaluation. These requirements may not entail a substantial modification of the proposal.

Such communications will establish a clear and non-negotiable deadline for the submission of the adjusted proposals.

Should all conditions be met within the established deadline (two months after outcome notification), EIT Health will initiate the financial support agreement preparation process/onboarding (e.g. legal entity validation, signature of Declaration of honour, if not yet provided, financial capacity check, if relevant).

If the applicant fails to comply with the provided recommendations/conditions or does not respond in the time allocated (two months after outcome notification), EIT Health reserves the right to withdraw the conditional notification. Should this occur, EIT Health may decide to contact the following application in the final ranking list.

5.4 Standstill Period

Following final outcome notification, a 30-day standstill period will begin (17 March to 17 April 2027). During this time no contracts will be signed, however this time may be used to review and prepare contracts for signature from 19 April 2027.

5.5 Publication of Call Results

EIT Health may make available via its website, information on the call results and the recipients of funds from this call.

The following information shall be published, having due regard for the requirements of confidentiality and security, in particular the protection of personal data:

- the recipient's full legal name and the country where it is established;
- the amount committed and, in case of a commitment with multiple recipients, the breakdown of this amount per recipient where available;
- subject of grant or contract.

6 Grounds for Appeal and Appeal Procedure

Applicants may appeal the outcome of their application of their own proposal in line with the EIT Health Appeals procedure. The only grounds for appeal are as follows:

- Process errors.
- Technical problems beyond the control of applicants (e.g. the technical failure of the electronic submission system).
- Human/technical errors made by EIT Health staff.
- If you consider that you have been adversely affected by a particular decision not following EIT Health's Code of Conduct.

What does NOT constitute grounds for an appeal:

- Scores awarded in the course of the proposal evaluation process (unless these go against our Code of Conduct).

6.1.1 Appeals Procedure

- Applicants should send their appeals in writing to appeals@eithealth.eu as soon as they identify an error, but no later than 21 days after the error occurred.
- EIT Health assesses the claim and delivers a first response
- If there are grounds for appeal, EIT Health will attempt to remedy the consequences (e.g. if a technical error of EIT Health prevented the submission of a proposal or application, a late submission may still be accepted as eligible)
- The Head of Compliance, and where applicable, Supervisory Board is notified about the matter if:
    - the applicant does not accept a rejection of the appeal, or
    - there are grounds for appeal, but the problem cannot be remedied any more without disrupting the process

7 Where to Get Help

We aim to make the application process as clear and accessible as possible. If you have questions regarding the EIT Health Innovation Validation Call 2026, please consult the following resources:

7.1 Call Information Webinars

We offer two distinct online sessions to guide applicants:

Session	Purpose	Date & Access
Call Presentation Webinar	Comprehensive introduction to the Call's objectives, scope, and the funding model.	**03 December 2026** **11.00 – 12.00 CET** Register here
Final Q&A Session	A dedicated session to answer specific, detailed questions from applicants who are finalising their proposals.	**12 January 2026** **14.00 - 15.00 CET** Register here

7.2 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

A comprehensive Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is available, covering common questions on eligibility, budget preparation, and the evaluation process. We recommend consulting this document before submitting your formal application.

- **Access Link:** here

7.3 Contact for Support

For general administrative queries, questions about the application platform, or technical issues with the submission process, please contact the EIT Health directly:

- **Email:** calls@eithealth.eu – please include the call code: "Bootcamps 2026" and your application reference code in the subject line of all correspondence.

8 Other Terms and Conditions

8.1 Acceptance of the call conditions

EIT Health reserves the right to make reasonable amendments and additions to the call conditions. Amendments and additions to the call conditions shall be valid only before the submission deadline, and if made available to all potential applicants at the same time via this call document and any relevant call documents.

EIT Health may declare the call unsuccessful in the case where zero applications are received, if the applications do not meet the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria, or if none of the applications reach the score thresholds laid down in this call text.

By submitting the application form, the applicant agrees to the present call conditions. Applicants agree that they have no legal entitlement to funding.

8.2 Cancellation of the call

EIT Health reserves the right to cancel the call at any time before the signature of the Financial Support Agreement(s) without the obligation to compensate applicants, in particular where its objectives can no longer be met, provided that the applicants are informed in a transparent manner in writing as follows:

- if the cancellation takes place before that award: on the call page of https://eithealth.eu/
- if the cancellation takes place following the communication of the results to the applicants, during the standstill period, or any time before the signature of the Financial Support Agreement: in writing directly to the selected applicants.

8.3 Data Protection

EIT Health ensures that any processing of personal data shall be performed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and in accordance with Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). As a data subject, you have the right of access, the right to rectification, the right to erasure, the right to restrict processing, the right to data portability, the right to object, and the right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing. If you have a question about personal data processing or want to exercise your data subject rights, you can contact our Data Protection Officer at DataPrivacy@eithealth.eu.

The collected personal data will be used solely for the evaluation of the applications and the conduct of the call process. The data controller is EIT Health.

Personal data will be deleted five years after the announcement of the results of the call in case of unsuccessful applications and seven years for successful applicants.

By submitting your application to this call, you consent that EIT Health will collect, transfer, process, store, and delete your data in accordance with the aforementioned conditions.

For more information on the processing of your personal data as part of an application to this call, please consult the Legal notice and Terms of use of EIT Health's online application management platform. You can also read EIT Health's online privacy statement at: https://eithealth.eu/privacy-policy/.

8.4 Confidentiality

EIT Health undertakes to use any confidential information shared by the applicants solely for the purposes of the evaluation process.

Confidential information shall mean data and/or information (in any form) that is proprietary to, or possessed by, the applicants and not generally known to the public, or that has not yet been revealed whether in tangible or intangible form, that is identified as confidential in writing or when disclosed orally.

Confidential information included in the application form must be expressly labelled by the applicant as such in the form. As regards confidential information expressly labelled as such in the call process, EIT Health undertakes to (i) not disclose them in any way and any form, without the prior written authorization of the applicant; and (ii) not to use them for purposes other than those strictly necessary for participation in the call.

Confidential information may be shared among EIT Health and its subsidiaries solely for the purposes of the call process. EIT Health undertakes to impose this confidentiality obligation on its employees and the employees of its subsidiaries and its collaborators, as well as on independent experts and all subjects who, by virtue of participating in the conduct of the call, including as members of the Evaluation Committee, may have access to such confidential data and information.

The applicants agree that data and information regarding the selected projects' implementation (e.g. success stories) not labelled as confidential may be disclosed in connection with the activities of EIT Health.

8.5 Avoidance of conflict of interest

EIT Health is committed to ensure the avoidance of conflict of interest (regarding all actors) and comply with the principles of transparency, non-discrimination and sound financial management.

Measures to avoid potential Conflict of Interest or unequal treatment of applicants are ensured including through appropriate conflict of interest declaration and assessment process, established written communication channels and independent and fair complaints/redress procedures.

In case an applicant becomes aware of a potential conflict of interest affecting the conduct of the call process, it shall notify the EIT Health of the conflict of interest without any delay.

8.6 Ethics and values

The proposal must comply with:

- ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity); and,
- applicable EU, international and national law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Supplementary Protocols.

No financial support/ funding can be granted, within or outside the EU, for activities that are prohibited in all Member States. No financial support/ funding can be granted in a Member State for an activity which is forbidden in that Member State.

Please refer to the financial support agreement for further requirements. You can access the financial support agreement templates under the 'Contract Templates' folder here.

8.7 Intellectual property rights

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. By submitting their application, applicants confirm that they own or lawfully hold, and have secured or will secure in due time, all rights and permissions necessary to use all elements of the innovative product or service included in their application, or that they will take appropriate measures to secure and protect such rights during the project. Applicants agree to indemnify and hold harmless EIT Health, the EIT, and/or any assignee or affiliate from any third-party allegations or claims of intellectual property rights infringement arising from the product or service developed by the applicants. Applicants retain ownership of intellectual property rights generated in the context of the project. However, for education activities supported under this call, and notwithstanding such ownership, applicants acknowledge and agree to grant EIT Health broad rights to use, adapt, reproduce, integrate, distribute and further develop the programme materials and Playbook for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. Applicants agree to comply with the IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) Rules set out in Article 16 of the Model Grant Agreement and Article 10 of the Financial Support Agreement (Common Subgrant Agreement Model). You can access the financial support agreement templates under the 'Contract Templates' folder here.

8.8 Withdrawal of the funding – Recovery of undue amounts

EIT Health may withdraw the funding after its award and recover all payments made in line with the provisions of the Financial Support Agreement (Article 7.4.), including in the following cases:

- in case the applicant committed substantial errors, irregularities or fraud;
- in case the applicant committed serious breach of obligations under the Financial Support Agreement or during its award (including non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, etc.)
- it is established that the awarded applicants were not eligible or should have been excluded.

8.9 Checks, reviews, audits and investigations

EIT Health retains the right to initiate checks, reviews and audit on an applicant that has been awarded funding, to verify compliance with the requirements of the call conditions and of the legal and contractual framework referred to above.

EIT Health may request any information and data from applicants that have been awarded funding for five years after completion for these purposes, as well as in relation to monitoring by the EIT.

In accordance with the Grant Agreement between the EIT and the KIC as well as the Financial Support Agreement, the EIT and/or the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and the Court of Auditors may carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations in relation to the call and the implementation of the projects.

8.10 Applicable law

The present call is governed by the applicable European Union legal framework (i.e. in particular the EIT Regulation[24], the EU Financial Regulation[25], the Horizon Europe Regulation[26]), supplemented if necessary by the national law of Belgium.

The applicants agree to observe the obligations outlined in the Partnership Agreement and the Grant Agreement signed between the EIT and EIT Health. Applicants agree to comply with the terms of the Model Financial Support Agreement between successful applicants and EIT Health. You can access the financial support agreement templates under the 'Contract Templates' folder here.

8.11 Settlement of disputes

All disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, which cannot be solved amicably, shall be finally settled before the courts of Brussels.

8.12 Marketing, Communication, Dissemination and Visibility

Article 17 of the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement requires that beneficiaries must promote the project and its results through strategic, coherent, and effective communications. Any such communications must be factually accurate, and communication materials must acknowledge EU support and display the European flag and funding statement.[27]

Article 17 of the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement requires also requires beneficiaries to inform EIT Health as the granting authority before any communication or dissemination activities take place.

In the context of this specific call, all marketing, dissemination, and promotion activities will be discussed and agreed with EIT Health. EIT Health will be the main party responsible for the marketing of

[24] Regulation (EU) 2021/819
[25] Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509
[26] Regulation (EU) 2021/695
[27] For specific materials and content to use please see Article 17 of the Horizon Europe General Model Grant Agreement - general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

the final programme. The Programme Manager will follow up the regular programme launch steps within the Communications and Marketing team and will provide the selected consortium/a within the approved elements for promotion. All EIT Health programmes count with a webpage and promotional actions such as social media posts and presence in newsletters.

9 About the EIT

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is a European Union body with a legal personality and a wide legal capacity accorded to legal persons under national law. The EIT was created in 2008 by the European Union (EU) to enhance Europe's global competitiveness by fostering collaboration between businesses, research institutions, and higher education organizations.

The EIT is governed by Regulation (EU) 2021/695 (EIT Regulation), which aligns the EIT's mission with the EU's priorities and the objectives of Horizon Europe on evolving research, innovation, economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness, sustainable growth, higher education and entrepreneurship, by means of the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), which address specific societal challenges and are established and supported by the EIT.

The EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda (SIA) 2021-2027 is aligned with Horizon Europe and lays down the priority fields and the strategy of the EIT for future initiatives, capacity to generate the best innovation added-value, objectives, key actions, mode of operation, expected results, impact, as well as an estimate of the resources needed for the duration of Horizon Europe.

Horizon Europe Regulation

The Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) 2021/695 foresees that the EIT takes part in the implementation of the Horizon Europe Programme in accordance with its strategic objectives for the period 2021 to 2027, as laid down in the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the EIT, and taking into account the strategic planning of Horizon Europe.

9.1 EIT and Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) relations

The EIT Regulation defines KICs, such as EIT Health, as large-scale Institutionalised European Partnerships of higher education institutions, research organisations, companies and other stakeholders in the innovation process in the form of a strategic network, regardless of its legal form, based on joint mid- to long-term innovation planning to meet the EIT's challenges and contribute to attaining the objectives established.

According to the EIT Regulation, and without prejudice to the partnership agreements and grant agreements between the EIT and each KIC, the KICs have substantial autonomy to establish their internal organisation and composition, as well as their agenda and working methods, provided that they result in progress towards achieving the objectives of the EIT and the KICs, taking into account the strategic planning of Horizon Europe and the strategic direction of the EIT set out in the SIA and by the Governing Board.

9.2 Contractual framework between the EIT and the KICs

The long-term relations between the EIT and each KIC are based on a seven-year Partnership Agreement (PA)[28] laying down the general terms and conditions under which the KIC operates as an Institutionalised European Partnership. Subject to positive performance, interim review and outcome of

[28] Model Partnership Agreement: Partnership Agreement

comprehensive assessment of the KIC, the PA can be extended for another period of a maximum of seven years.

The Partnership Agreement between the EIT and EIT Health entered into force on 01 January 2016.

The Grant Agreement (GA)[29] is the contractual instrument laying down the provisions concerning the implementation of the KIC activities (KIC Business Plan, Cross-KIC activities, etc.) through grants, on an annual or multi-annual basis of up to three years with the KICs. Business plans describe the main objectives and expected results and actions taken by the KICs.

The Grant Agreement (2026-2028) between the EIT and EIT Health will enter into force during 2026 and have a retroactive date as of 01 January 2026. The signature of the grant agreement between EIT and EIT Health is a requirement for the disbursement of funding through this call.

9.3 Contractual framework between the KIC and the subgrantees

In accordance with the Grant Agreement (Annex 5), the KIC launches calls (i.e. open calls or KIC partnership calls) in order to select projects or award prizes. The KIC awards a "financial support to third parties" (i.e. the so called "subgrants" and "prizes") for the implementation of these projects and signs subgrant agreements ("Financial Support Agreements") with the selected entities or consortia.

[29] Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement: general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

10 About EIT Health

EIT Health is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.

10.1 Vision and mission

EIT Health was established in 2015, as a 'knowledge and innovation community' (KIC) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) as strong, diverse and balanced European Partnership of best-in-class organisations in education, research, technology, business creation and corporate and social innovation.

EIT Health's vision is 'To enable people in Europe to live longer, healthier lives by building and growing businesses to create products and services that progress healthcare in Europe, while strengthening our economy and the sustainability of our healthcare systems.'

EIT Health's mission is: 'By 2030, we'll be Europe's leading innovation platform, facilitating longer, healthier lives and more sustainable healthcare systems.'

10.2 Strategic Objectives

Strengthening healthcare systems in Europe

We want to overcome obstacles to innovation so we can improve healthcare delivery in Europe and make life-changing solutions possible. By working together,
we can remove barriers across borders to create a more resilient and dynamic European healthcare system.

Promoting better health of citizens

European citizens and patients sit at the centre of our organisation. That's why we're engaging people at every stage; raising awareness, sharing knowledge and creating tools, treatment and breakthrough solutions which will promote healthy living and active ageing.

Contributing to a sustainable health economy in Europe

We want to create a fertile environment in which innovation can flourish. By building health enterprises and bringing innovative products and services to market, we can create new jobs to grow and strengthen a sustainable European economy.