

General Information	
Preliminary title of the European Partnerships	EIT Climate-KIC
Short description of the partnership	It is a partnership of companies, scientific institutions and universities, city authorities and other EU public bodies working on innovation to mitigate climate change and to adapt to its unavoidable impacts.
Services directly involved	DG EAC, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
Context and problem definition <i>[this section is new compared to the previous template]</i>	<p>As acknowledged in Horizon Europe, climate change is one of the biggest global and societal challenges and reflects the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union’s commitment to implement the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>Preventing catastrophic climate change and achieving the ‘well below 2°C’ Paris Agreement target requires a speed of decarbonisation at least six times faster than anything the global community has achieved so far. The recent IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C calls for a 45–50 per cent reduction in GHG emissions globally no later than 2030 if we are to have a hope of staying below 1.5°C (IPCC, 2018). Given that low income countries will face additional challenges and require transition through less stringent emissions targets, and in a context of uncertainty with respect to US commitment to the Paris Agreement, a realistic global pathway to the 1.5°C target would call for Europe to assume more responsibility and leadership. European Commission’s ‘Strategic Long-Term Vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate-neutral economy by 2050’ (otherwise entitled ‘A Clean Planet for All’) calls for immediate, urgent and decisive climate action towards 1.5°C, targeting net-zero GHG emissions by 2050.</p> <p>Climate change presents Europe with a huge and diverse challenge, within an environment where the relevant business sector is young and equally diverse. Innovation is essential to provide solutions to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Innovation is also needed to provide novel structures, mechanisms and activities whereby these solutions can be generated and sustainability achieved.</p> <p>Recent reviews of the effectiveness of research and innovation activities funded by Europe’s Horizon 2020 programme have led to calls for more systemic and cross-sectoral approaches, breakthrough thinking and solutions and social inclusion through citizen engagement and participation.</p>
Objectives and expected impacts	<p>Building on EIT Climate-KIC’s experience to date, EIT Climate-KIC’s objectives moving forward - including beyond 2021 - have shifted away from identifying single-point incremental solutions and towards catalysing systemic change. EIT Climate-KIC’s mission is to catalyse systemic change through innovation in areas of human activity – cities, land use, sustainable production systems, finance - that have a critical impact on greenhouse gas emissions and to create climate-resilient communities and empowering people to change systems.</p> <p>EIT Climate-KIC aims to direct its efforts at systems innovation, working with ambitious actors to connect supply and demand while leveraging the power of its community to catalyse change. In this way, EIT Climate-KIC will work to unlock systemic change through strategic innovation – designing, executing and connecting entrepreneurial experiments and deep demonstrations selected and assessed as a portfolio of innovation effects on levers of systemic change.</p> <p>EIT Climate-KIC’s 12 climate innovation impact goals (https://www.climate-kic.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/EIT-Climate-KIC-Priorities-2018-v1-5-min.pdf) offer a framework for a portfolio approach that delivers a spread and diversity of innovation initiatives –</p>

	<p>experiments, demonstrations and scale-ups – across geographies, contexts, levels of risk, intervention points and levers of change.</p> <p>Societal impact In line with its mission of catalysing systemic change for climate action EIT Climate-KIC will strengthen the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies, and support the uptake of innovative solutions in industry and society to address global challenges – Horizon Europe.</p> <p>Expected Impacts (2027) EIT Climate-KIC will have made a significant contribution to catalysing systemic change, and achieving net zero-GHG emissions and climate resilience in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 European cities • 5 European agricultural regions • 5 European industrial regions • European financial institutions • 2 key climate-damaging material cycles <p>EIT Climate-KIC will have made a significant contribution to an overall shift in the European rule making, policy and governance landscape where climate change is a key factor in decision-making processes.</p> <p>Medium-term (2025) outcomes It is expected that the influence of the portfolio approach can be detected on key levers of systems change, measured through evaluations.</p> <p>Economic impact EIT Climate-KIC aims at fostering all forms of innovation, including breakthrough innovation, and strengthening market deployment of innovative solutions – Horizon Europe.</p>
<p>Necessity test: rationale for a European Partnership</p>	<p>To tackle climate change at the speed and scale we need, innovation must help trigger wholesale change at the systems level – something recently reiterated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. This model of innovation requires extreme experimentation, citizen engagement, rapid learning cycles, failing fast, high risk and working through multiple levers of change. Only a functioning and truly European partnership makes this possible.</p> <p>A partnership approach is more effective in achieving the objectives because it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • operationalises EU innovation policy on the ground and anchors it firmly with real-life problem owners which EIT Climate-KIC links to solution providers; • contributes to strengthening local innovation ecosystems, through the involvement of and interaction between local innovation actors; • creates the conditions to incentivise the commitment of innovation actors for a long time, in order to ensure the continuation of the activities once the EU financial support is phased-out. • combines, in an integrated way, the education and training activities, the support to innovation and business creation, the strengthening of innovation ecosystems, with the less administrative efforts (no funding to be allocated to research activities), to tackle a global challenge. • Establishes synergies and complementarities with other EU initiatives, in order to make the critical mass of efforts more

	<p>consistent.</p> <p>The traditional research and innovation system is not suitable to achieve the objectives stated above because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current research and innovation system optimized for stability and incrementalism rather than extreme experimentation, citizen engagement, learning and benefits of failing fast. • Innovation outcomes are expected to be low risk, reliable, predictable pathways to success and solutions.
Relevant for the following parts of Horizon Europe	<p>Pillar II 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness'</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster Health</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cluster Culture, creativity and inclusive society</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster Civil Security for Society</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster Digital, Industry and Space</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster Climate, Energy and Mobility</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cluster Food, Bioeconomy Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cross-cluster</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pillar III 'Innovative Europe'</p>
Currently identified links with other partnership candidates / Union programmes	<p>Collaboration opportunities with other EU initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Cross-KIC collaboration with EIT-KICs Health, Food, Digital, Inno-Energy, Raw Materials, Mobility, Manufacturing - Partnership proposal on Circular bio-based Europe: opportunity to collaborate in the Forestry program Engagement with the investor community. - ETS Innovation Fund: to collaborate in developing and support investment-ready assets and solutions.
Does the proposed partnership build on currently active ones?	<p>EIT Climate-KIC is the continuation of the EIT-KIC partnership of the same name currently implemented through the EIT. It was established in 2010 following a call for proposal in 2009. In addition it builds on previous collaborations with the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint Programming Initiative "Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe" (JPI Climate): opportunity to align the respective strategies and contribute to make the partnerships results closer to the market. - European Technology Platform on Forests: opportunity to collaborate on activities on forestry.
Expected type and composition of partners	<p>The existing KIC has already attracted over 350 partners and operates across six geographies with 8 co-locations in the following countries: The Netherlands (HQ), Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, and Switzerland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The co-location centres bring together, at a local or regional level, the education, research and industry partners of the KIC, thereby allowing a face-to-face contact, geographical proximity and practical integration of the knowledge triangle. - Main industrial partners include: E.ON, Air Liquide, Ferrovia, Engie SA Veolia, Bayer AG. - Main academic/research partners are: Imperial College, University of Oxford, Chalmers University of Technology, Aalto University, Helmholtz, TU Berlin, Sorbonne University, TU Madrid, TU Denmark, TU Delft, University of Copenhagen. - In addition, more than 70 Cities, Regions and NGOs are partners. - Partners come from across the EU. Under Horizon Europe, the ambition is

	<p>to strengthen the rules and criteria for bringing in new partners who are usually first associated to KICs activities before eventually become fully-fledged KIC partner. Therefore, inclusion of new partners follows the business model and strategic direction of the KIC.</p> <p>- Behavioural change is crucial to induce a systemic transition. Therefore, EIT Climate-KIC has a number of actions aiming at promoting Stakeholder and Citizen Engagement. A good example of successful citizen engagement activity is Climathon, a 24-hour hackathon which in 2018 took place simultaneously in 113 cities, 46 countries, and across 6 continents. It attracted over 5000 entrepreneurs, developers, students and professionals to work on new, creative solutions to local climate change challenges in partnership with city governments, reaching 156m people via social media worldwide.</p>
Contributions and commitments expected from partners	<p>Membership fees</p> <p>If the organisation has less than 10 FTEs and an annual turnover of less than 2 Mio Euros, the membership fee is 500 EUR, If the headcount is less than 50 FTEs and the annual turnover less than 10 Mio Euros, the membership fee is 5000 Euros. For larger organisations the membership fee is 12 500 EUR per year.</p> <p>Other contributions</p> <p>Partners also provide in-kind contributions to co-fund the activities. In addition, partners help shape the innovation ecosystem and deliver the innovation on the ground.</p>
Currently envisaged implementation mode(s).	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Co-programmed European Partnership</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Co-funded European Partnership</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Institutionalised European Partnership</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Article 185</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Article 187</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EIT-KIC</p>
Justification of the implementation mode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place-based approach: i.e. integration of a KIC (through its CLCs) in local innovation ecosystems to strengthen the ties between innovation actors. • Target group: a KIC is meant to involve the actors of the Knowledge Triangle (academia, research and industry). However, a KIC can involve also other actors that can contribute to its objectives (i.e. financial actors, local government, civil society). In particular, entities managing and/or funding research and innovation programmes can also be involved in order to ensure synergies with initiative at national/local level. • Each KIC benefits from the interactions and synergies with the other KICs.
Proposed starting year	The partnership was established in 2010. It is proposed to continue funding this KIC in the course of Horizon Europe.