

Lo European Innovation Council

*Opportunità di finanziamento per la ricerca innovativa,
focus sullo schema di finanziamento Pathfinder*

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Sapienza Università di Roma
04 Marzo 2021





Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

*“The programme aims at giving Europe a new push to a global positioning. Horizon Europe is to be **the biggest and most ambitious EU Research Innovation programme ever**. It builds on the success of Horizon 2020 and improves it further by fostering a stronger support to **breakthrough innovation through the European Innovation Council**, by creating greater **impact** through R&I **missions** and by streamlining **partnerships landscape**.”*

Le 6 Priorità della Commissione per il 2019-24

A European Green Deal

Striving to be the first climate-neutral continent



A Europe fit for the digital age

Empowering people with a new generation of technologies

An economy that works for people

Working for social fairness and prosperity



A stronger Europe in the world

Europe to strive for more by strengthening our unique brand of responsible global leadership

Promoting our European way of life

Building a Union of equality in which we all have the same access to opportunities.



A new push for European democracy

Nurturing, protecting and strengthening our democracy

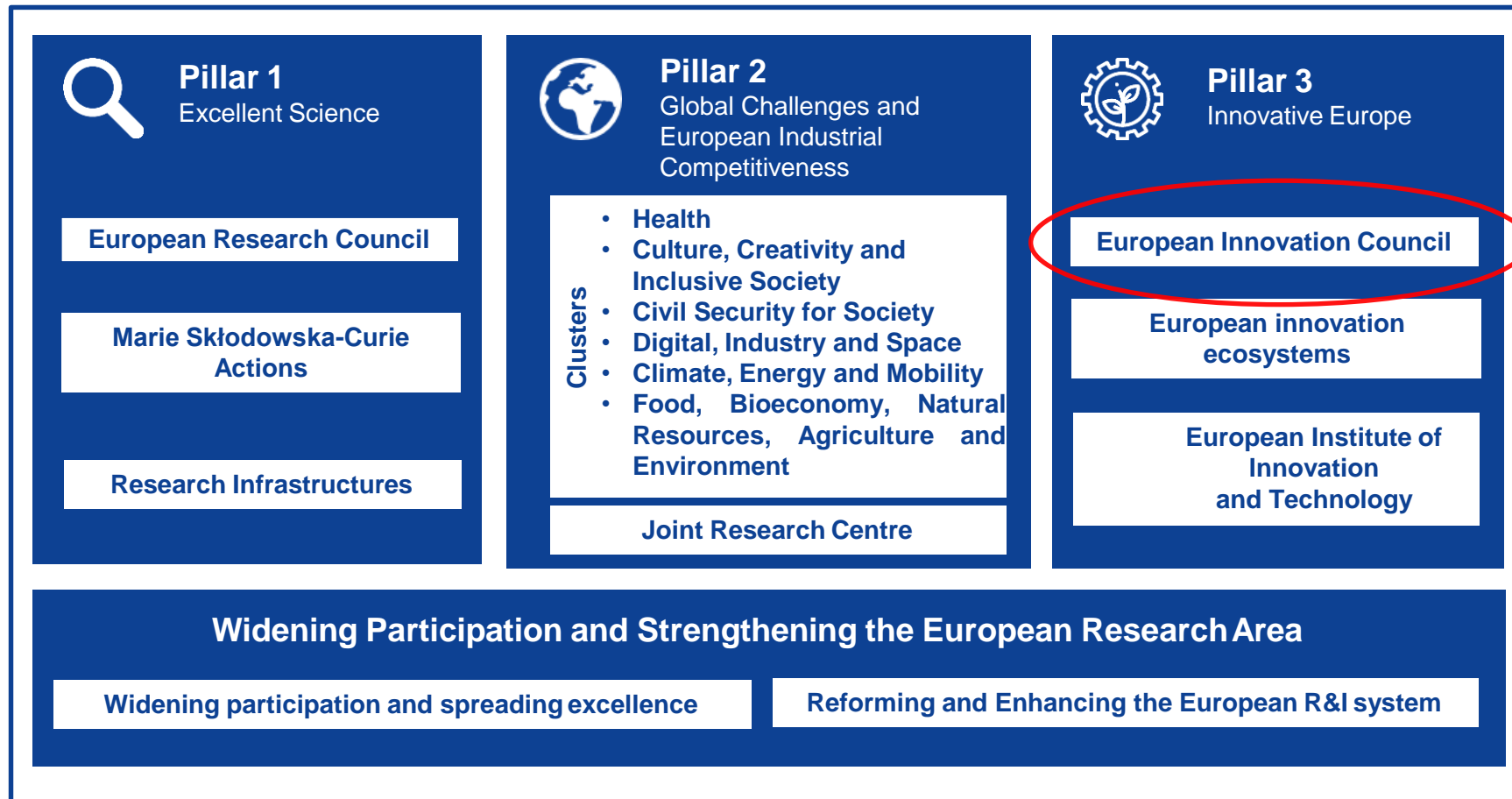
Lezioni apprese dalla valutazione intermedia di Orizzonte 2020

-  Sostenere le innovazioni pionieristiche →
-  Moltiplicare l'impatto attraverso un approccio orientato alle missioni e il coinvolgimento dei cittadini →
-  Intensificare la cooperazione internazionale →
-  Rafforzare l'apertura →
-  Razionalizzare il panorama dei finanziamenti →
-  Incoraggiare la partecipazione →

Novità principali di Horizon Europe



Horizon Europe: struttura



**basato su testo di compromesso (17 Aprile 2019)*

III Pilastro "EUROPA INNOVATIVA"

Stimolare innovazioni pionieristiche creatrici di mercato ed ecosistemi favorevoli all'innovazione

Consiglio europeo per l'innovazione

- Sostegno alle innovazioni dal potenziale pionieristico e creatrici di mercato

Ecosistemi europei per l'innovazione

- Instaurare un legame con gli operatori dell'innovazione a livello regionale e nazionale

Istituto europeo di innovazione e tecnologia (EIT)

- Riunire gli operatori fondamentali (ricerca, istruzione e imprese) attorno a un obiettivo comune per favorire l'innovazione

	HE (MFF)	NGEU	TOTALE	
<i>Tema</i>	<i>Miliardi €</i>	<i>Miliardi €</i>	<i>Miliardi €</i>	<i>% sul totale</i>
Pillar I	25,013	0,000	25,013	26,19%
ERC	16,004	0,000	16,004	16,75%
MSCA	6,603	0,000	6,603	6,91%
Research Infrastructures	2,406	0,000	2,406	2,52%
Pillar II	49,458	4,059	53,517	56,03%
Clusters	47,488	4,059	51,547	53,96%
1. Health	6,893	1,353	8,246	8,63%
2. Culture Creativity Inclusive Society	2,281	0,000	2,281	2,39%
3. Civil Security for Society	1,597	0,000	1,597	1,67%
4. Industry Digital Space	13,995	1,353	15,348	16,07%
5. Climate Energy Mobility	13,770	1,353	15,123	15,83%
6. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Environment	8,952	0,000	8,952	9,37%
JRC	1,970	0,000	1,970	2,06%
Pillar III	12,246	1,353	13,599	14,24%
EIC	8,752	1,353	10,105	10,58%
Innovation Ecosystems	0,528	0,000	0,528	0,55%
EIT	2,966	0,000	2,966	3,11%
Strengthening ERA	3,393	0,000	3,393	3,55%
Widening participation spreading exc.	2,955	0,000	2,955	3,09%
EU R&I System	0,438	0,000	0,438	0,46%
TOTALE	90,110	5,412	95,522	100,00%



Consiglio europeo per l'innovazione (EIC)

Sostegno alle innovazioni pionieristiche e dirompenti e al potenziale di espansione dei progetti che sono troppo rischiosi per gli investitori privati (***il 70 % del bilancio è destinato alle PMI***)

**Consiglio europeo
per l'innovazione –
uno sportello unico**

Aiutare gli innovatori a creare i mercati del futuro,
mobilitare fondi privati e sviluppare le loro imprese

Progetti incentrati sull'innovazione, snelli ed inclini
ad assumere rischi, gestione e seguito proattivi

Due strumenti complementari colmano il divario tra l'idea e il progetto investibile

Pathfinder: sovvenzioni
(dalla tecnologia in fase iniziale
alla fase pre-commerciale)

Accelerator: solo sovvenzioni &
finanziamenti misti
(dalla fase pre-commerciale
alla fase di mercato ed espansione)

EIC Main Instruments

Pathfinder

- Open (Bottom Up: long-term vision; Concrete, novel and ambitious science-towards-technology breakthrough; High-risk/high-gain research approach and methodology)
- Challenges (Top Down: Digital, Health and Biotech, Energy and Environment)

Transition

- Open (Bottom Up: Key Pathways: Transition to innovation, to the market or to entrepreneurship)
- Challenges (Top Down: Medical technology and devices: from lab to patient; Energy harvesting and storage technologies)

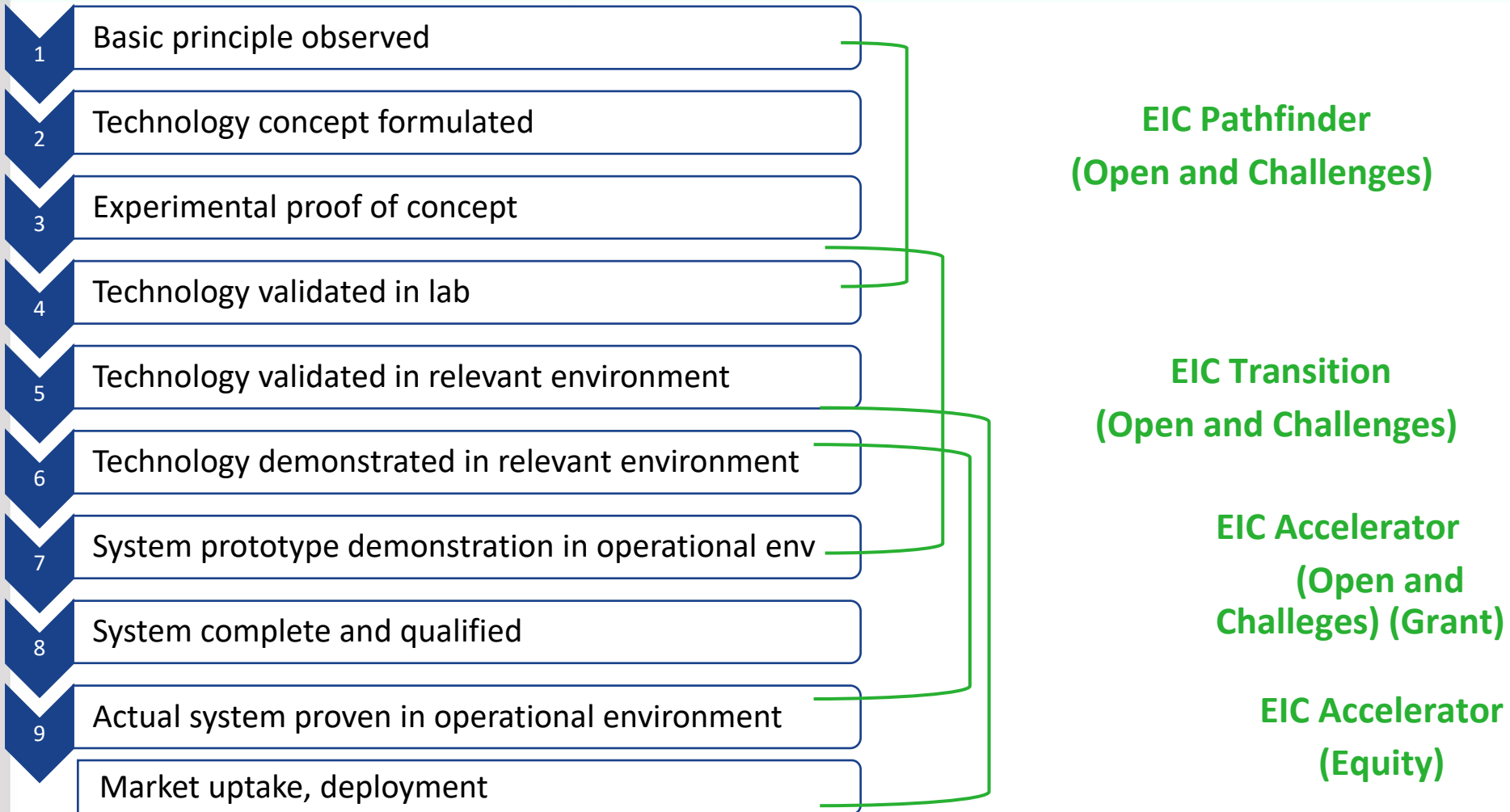
Accelerator

- Open (Bottom Up: To scale up high impact innovations with the potential to create new markets or disrupt existing ones)
- Challenges (Top Down: Digital, Medical, Green Deal)

Prizes

- 1. EU Prize for Women Innovators; 2. The European Capital of Innovation Awards (iCapital); 3. The European Innovation Procurement Awards; 4. The Social Innovation Award

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The EIC Instruments and the TRL



EIC Pathfinder

Within EIC, the spirit of FET remains the same



<https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/the-fet-spirit-revisited-recording>

EIC Pathfinder for Advanced Research

DRAFT

- ❏ *Grants* to *high-risk cutting-edge projects* exploring new territories, developing radical innovative technologies of the future and new market opportunities.
- ❏ The Pathfinder will initially support the *earliest stages of scientific and technological research and development*, including proof of concept and prototypes for technology validation.
- ❏ The Pathfinder will be open to *all types of innovators*, from individuals to universities, research organisations and companies, in particular startups and SMEs, and from single beneficiaries to multi-disciplinary consortia



Mono- beneficiaries schemes in: EIC Pathfinder Challenges / EIC Transition Open & Challenges

EIC Pathfinder for Advanced Research



Open

- **interdisciplinary research and development**
- **Gatekeepers:** *long-term vision; science-towards-technology breakthrough; High-risk/high-gain research approach*
- The expected outcome is **the proof of principle**.
- multi- disciplinary collaborations (≥ 3 partners)
- 3 Millions euros + 50 K
- 19 May 2021



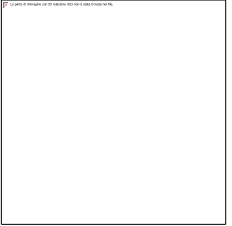
Challenges

- develop key strategic objectives calling for **deep-tech and radical thinking**
- **overcome market or regulatory barriers**, or strengthen an innovation community
- **multi-disciplinary collaborations** (from 2 to 5 partners) and mono-beneficiaries
- Portfolios' Proactive Mng by PMs
- 4 Millions euros + 50 K
- 27 Oct 2021



EIC Pathfinder Gatekeepers – Main characteristics

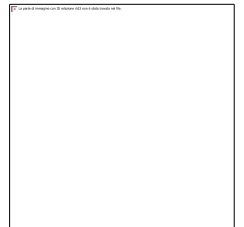
Convincing *long-term vision* of a radically new deep-tech that has the potential to have a transformative positive effect to our economy and society.



Concrete, novel and ambitious *science-towards-technology breakthrough*, providing advancement towards the envisioned technology.



High-risk/high-gain research approach and methodology, with concrete and plausible objectives.



EIC Pathfinder Open - Evaluation Criteria

DRAFT

Excellence

Threshold: 4/5, Weight: 60%

(Long-term vision; Science-towards-technology breakthrough; Objectives; Interdisciplinarity)

Impact

Threshold: 3.5/5, Weight: 20%

(Innovation potential;
Communication and Dissemination)

Quality and efficiency of the implementation

Threshold: 3/5, Weight: 20%

(Quality of the consortium; Work plan;
Allocation of resources)

Proposal Template

17 Pages

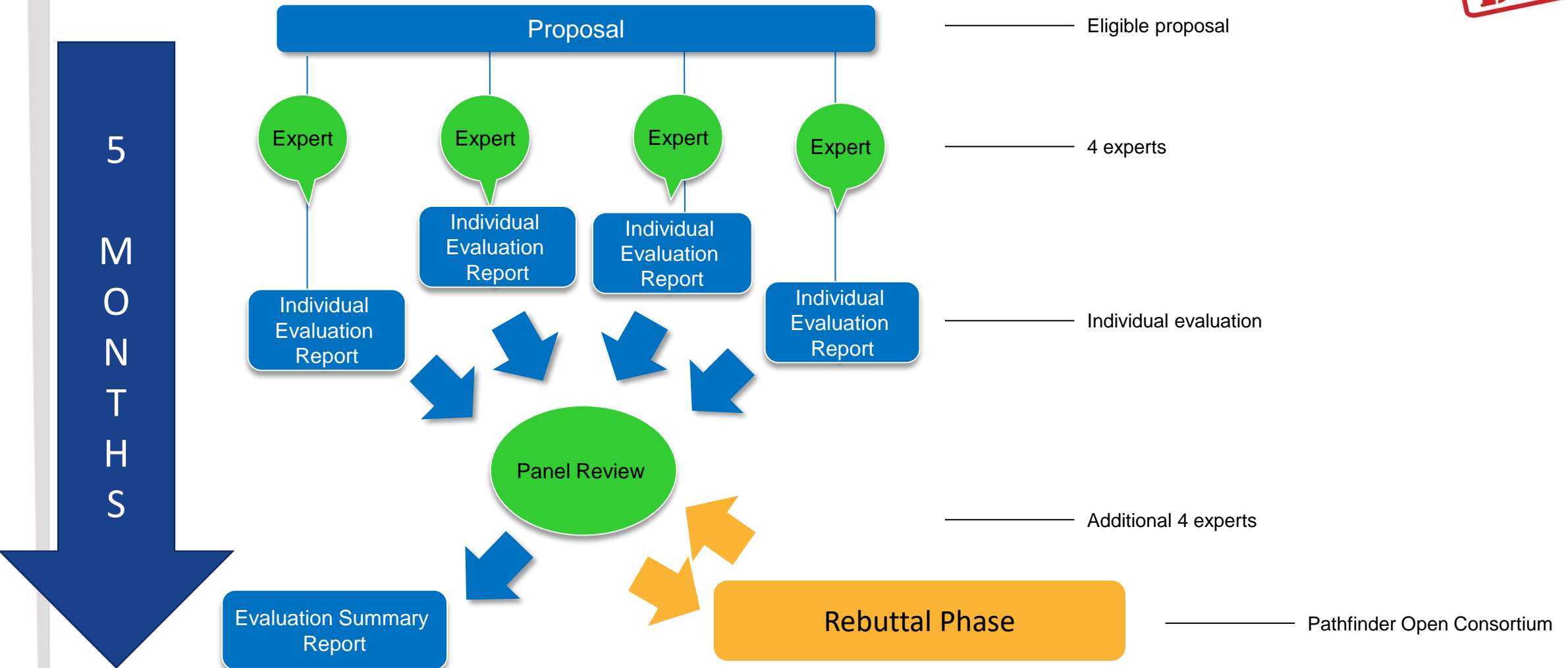
Single Step submission

Research and Innovation Actions



EIC Pathfinder Open- Evaluation Process

DRAFT



EIC Portfolios



- Regrouping of selected projects into **thematic or objective driven portfolios** will allow establishing critical mass of efforts and structuring new multidisciplinary research communities.
- These portfolios of selected projects will be further developed and enhanced, each along a **vision developed with their innovators**, but also shared with the research and innovation community at large.
- Under EIC Transition activities will be implemented to help innovators develop the different pathway to support the portfolios: for example by **enabling collaboration** within the portfolio and developing its **multidisciplinary community**.

Key Open questions: The identification of the portfolio (include projects selected under Horizon Europe programmes)?

EIC Pathfinder identified Challenges

DRAFT

Sources for ideas for potential topics include:

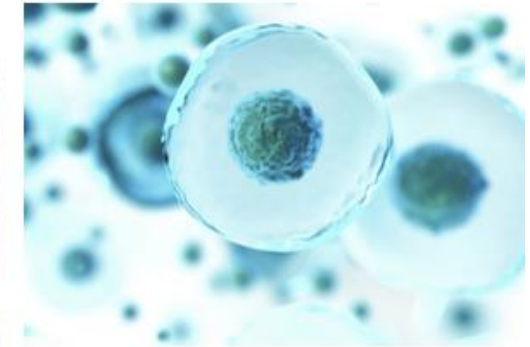
- ✓ Horizon scanning exercise: e.g., PREFET or OBSERVE (CSAS) ; Report [100 Radical Innovation Breakthroughs for the future](#)
- ✓ FET Open scanning exercise: as an excellent “reservoir” for identifying potential future topics
- ✓ Stakeholders’ consultation: e.g. Stakeholders Workshop on Pathfinder
- ✓ Existing portfolio of projects: surveys to FET Proactive and Open Coordinators on Emerging Trends and Opportunities in Innovation Development
- ✓ Inputs from the EIC Programme Managers
- ✓ Literature, analysis of funding, etc.

	Pathfinder
Energy, Climate, Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engineered living materials - Novel green hydrogen production
Digital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aware and self-developing artificial systems
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-precision observation and stimulation of brain activity - Emerging technologies for cell & gene therapy

Identifying technology areas where the EU has the potential or the strategic need to develop technology global leadership or signals on major technological breakthroughs

EIC Pathfinder Challenges

- ▣ Awareness inside
- ▣ Tools to measure & stimulate activity in brain tissue
- ▣ Emerging Technologies in Cell & Gene Therapy
- ▣ Engineered living materials
- ▣ Novel routes to green hydrogen production



EIC Pathfinder Challenge - Evaluation Criteria

DRAFT

Excellence - Threshold: 4/5, Weight: 60%

(Relevance to the Challenge; Novelty;
Plausibility of methodology)

Impact - Threshold: 3.5/5, Weight: 20%

(Potential Impact; Innovation Potential;
Communication and Dissemination)

Quality and efficiency of the implementation

Threshold: 3/5, Weight: 20%

(Quality of the applicant/consortium; Work plan;
Allocation of resources)

Proposal Template*

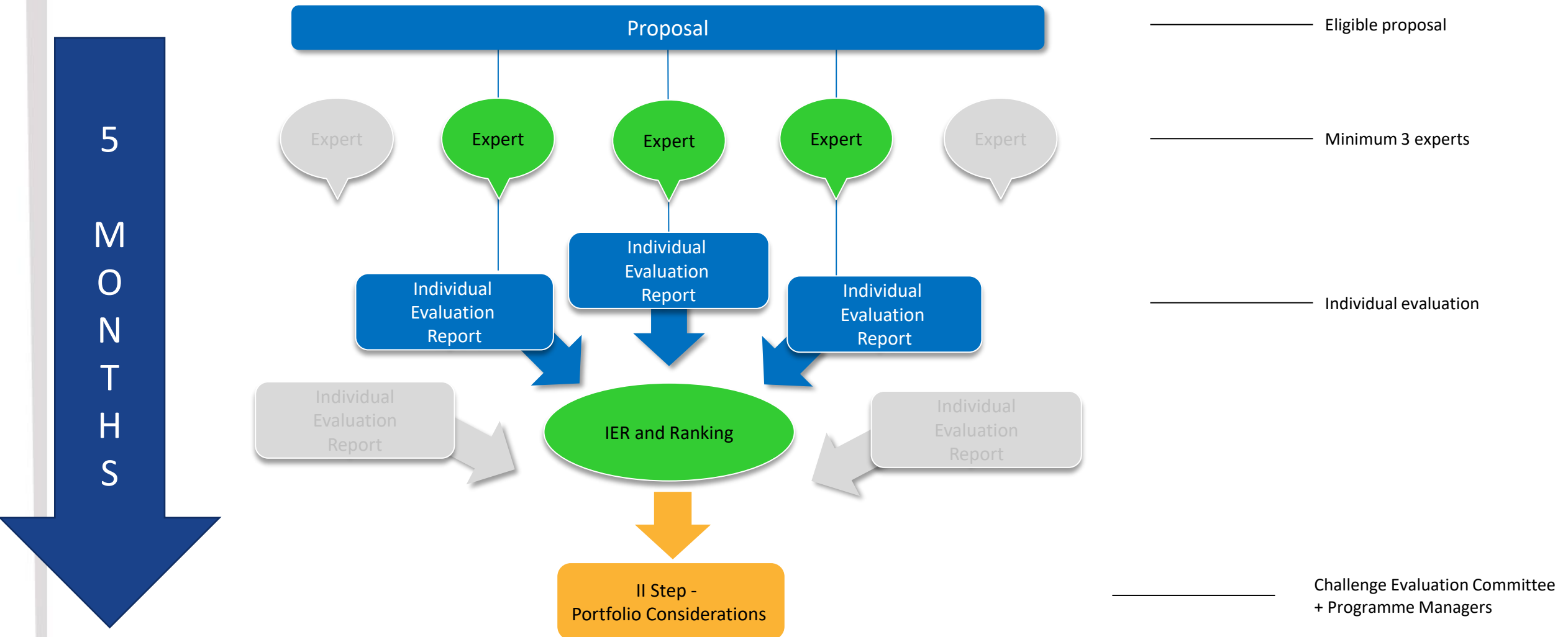
25 Pages

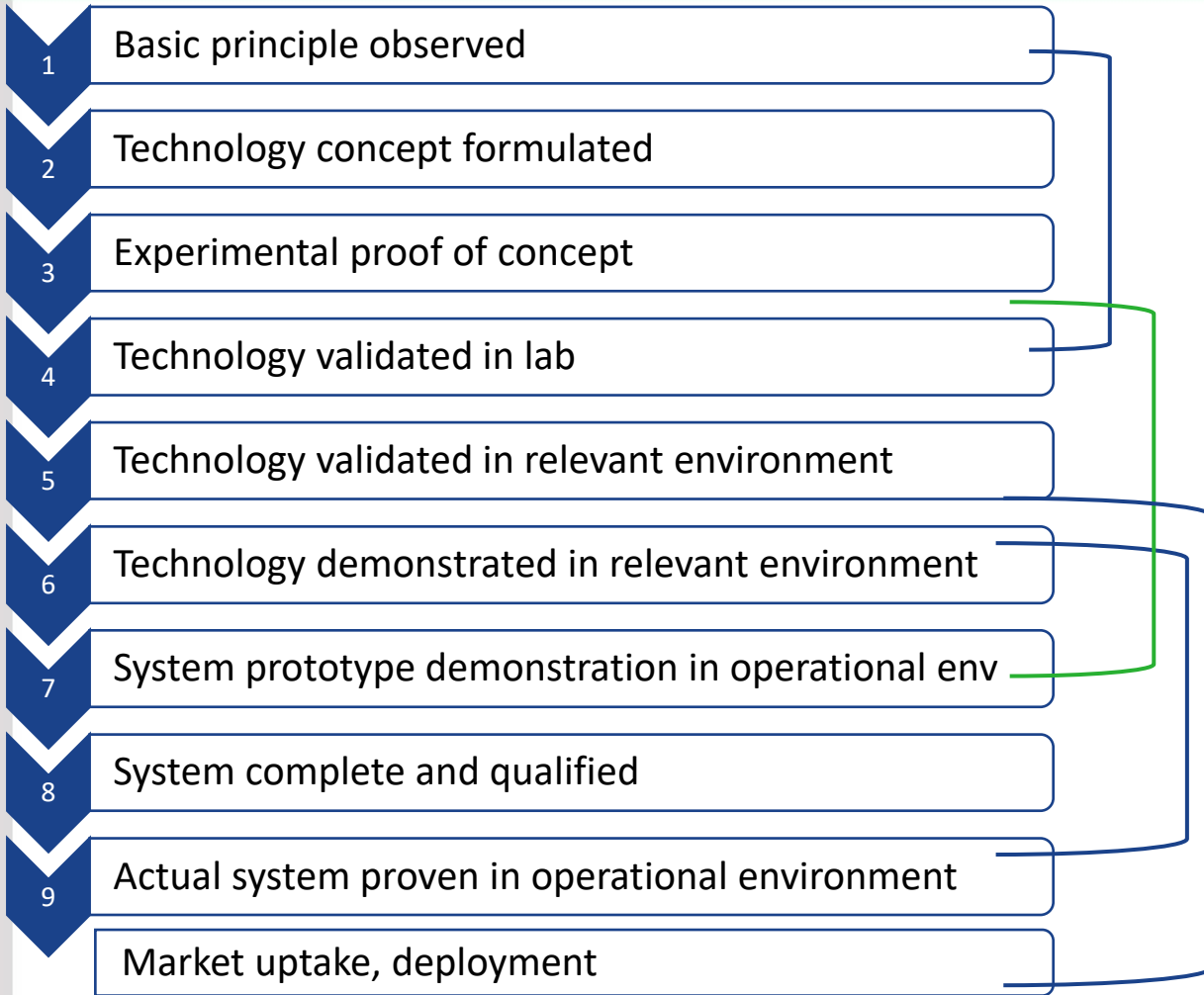
Single Step submission

Research and Innovation Actions

*** Note: Challenge Guidance**

EIC Pathfinder Challenges - Evaluation Process





EIC Pathfinder
(Open and Challenges)

EIC Transition
(Open and Challenges)

EIC Accelerator
(Open and Challenges) (Grant)

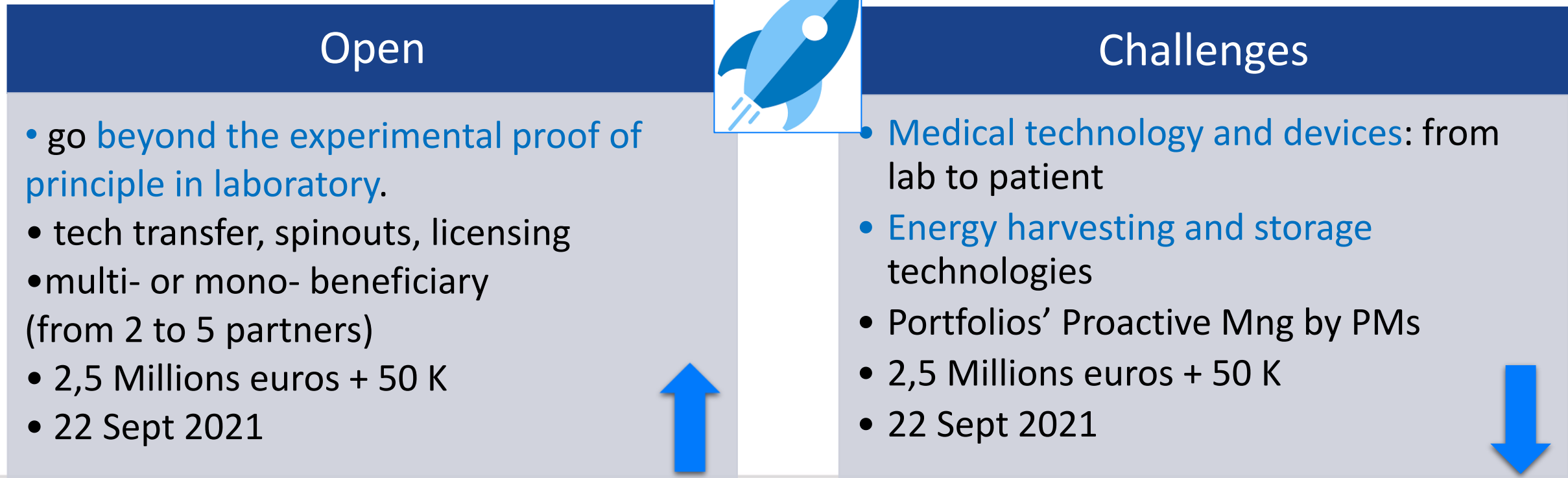
EIC Accelerator
(Equity)

The EIC Instruments



EIC Transition



to *nurture potential market creating innovation* out of breakthrough technological ideas, and bring them to demonstration stage or development of business cases or strategies for further take-up by the Accelerator or any other market deployment solution.



EIC Transition Open eligibility conditions

- 
 - ✎ A single legal entity (*'mono-beneficiary'*) if SME or research performing organisation (university, research or technology organisation).
Larger companies are not eligible to apply as a single legal entity;
- 
 - ✎ A small consortium of *maximum five independent legal entities* ('multi-beneficiary') that may for example include universities, research organisations, SMEs or larger companies, user/customer organisations or potential end-users (e.g. hospitals, utilities, industry, regulatory and standardization bodies, public authorities).



Connected to the following eligible projects

- ✎ EIC Pathfinder projects (including projects funded under EIC pilot Pathfinder, FET-Open, FET-Proactive calls, FET Flagships, ERANET Cofund: RIAs and FET ILPs)
- ✎ European Research Council (ERC) Proof of Concept projects
→ *Active since 12 months prior the deadline or completed in the previous 24 months*

EIC Transition Open & Challenges - Evaluation Criteria

DRAFT

Excellence - Threshold: 4/5

(Technological breakthrough, Technology feasibility and objectives)

Impact - Threshold: 4/5

(Business and market fit;

Economic and/or societal benefits; Entrepreneurship;

Partnerships and investment-readiness)

Quality and efficiency of the implementation

Threshold: 3/5

(Quality of the team; Milestones and Work plan;
Allocation of resources)

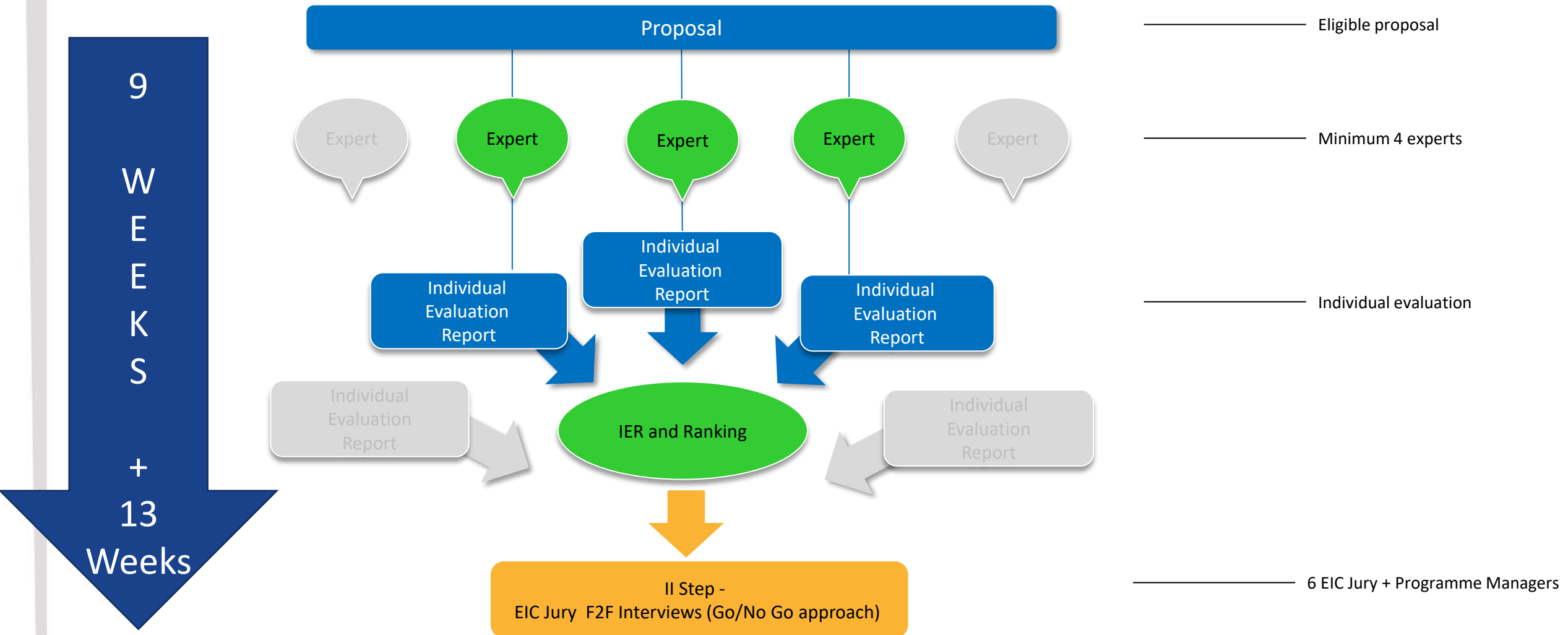
Proposal Template

25 Pages

Single Step submission

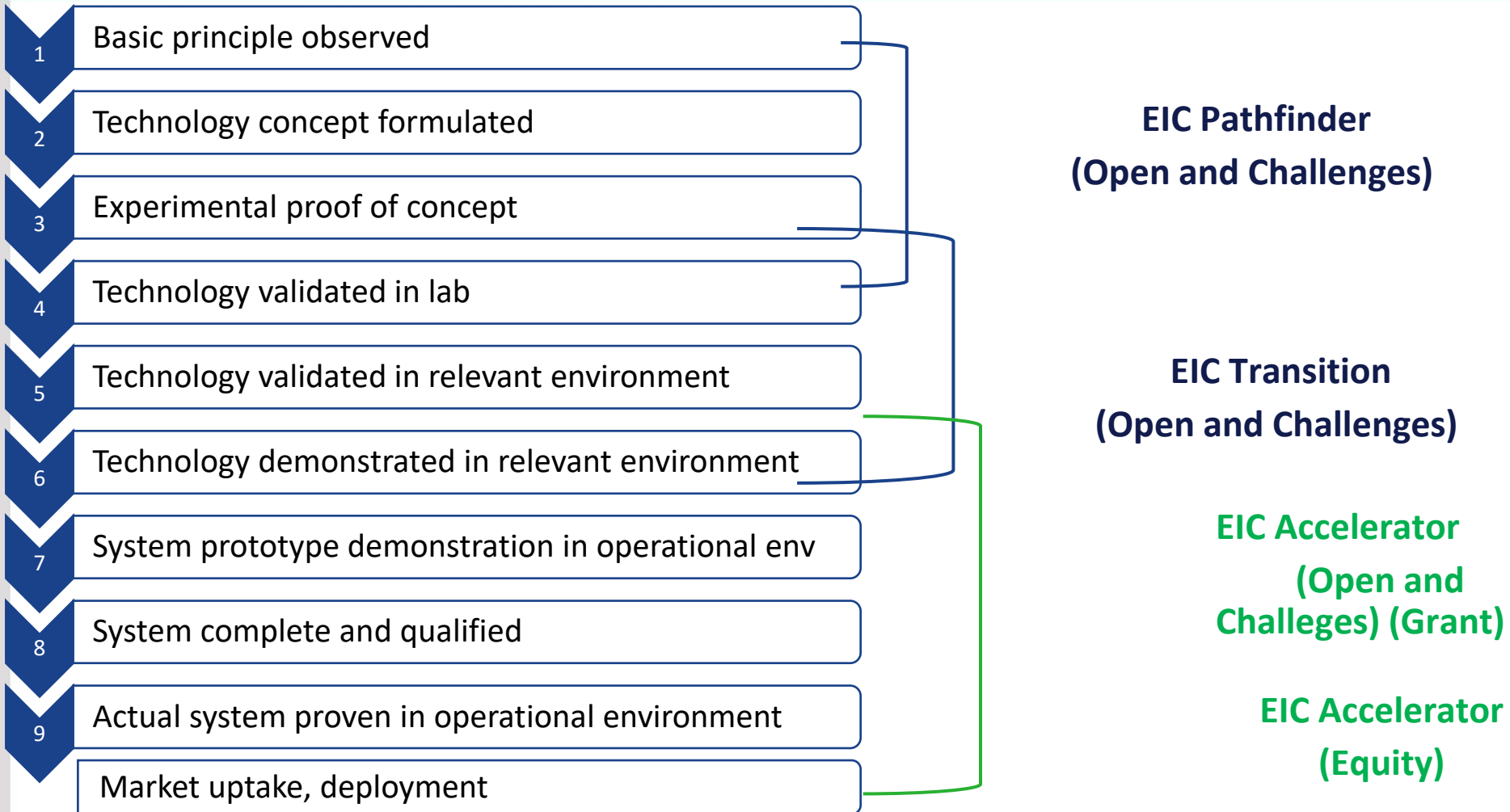
100% Funding Rate (Type of Actions?)

EIC Transition Open & Challenges - Evaluation Process





EIC Accelerator



The EIC Instruments

EIC Accelerator (ex SME Instrument)

Target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ singole PMI/Start up/Spin off europee for profit con innovazioni ad alto rischio e alto potenziale di crescita (eccezione natural person per short proposal?)
Obiettivo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “conquistare” nuovi mercati e “distruggere” quelli esistenti
Finanziamento	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ per gli ultimi stadi di sviluppo
Bottom-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ tutti i settori, prodotti, servizi, nuovi business model (eccezione Challenges)
Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ €0,5 – 2,5 milioni (tasso di finanziamento al 70% del totale dei costi) (TRL6-8)
Opzione equity (blended finance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fino a €15 milioni (Market uptake and deployment, TRL6-9)



Introduzione dell'opzione "Equity Only"

3 modalità di presentazione della proposta:

- 1 **Grant only Vs Grant first (partially new)**
- 2 **Blended finance**
- 3 **Equity only (new) ***

* Per l'opzione «equity only» saranno eccezionalmente eleggibili anche le small mid caps

Nuovo Sistema di selezione e valutazione

Selection process

1

Screening of ideas
(NEW)

2

From idea to full proposal
(NEW)

3

Remote evaluation of full proposal
(IMPROVED)

4

Face to face jury interview
(IMPROVED)

Business Acceleration Services

The Modules offered are the following:

- Technology Validation and product-market fit process
- Business Recognition and Market Data Module
- Venture Development Methodology Module
- Exploitation via Lean approach Module
- Presentation Pitch



11 and 12 March 2021 (Last Seats Available) - Apply

here: <https://entrypoint-smei.easme-web.eu/form/186>

15 and 16 April 2021 - Apply

here: <https://entrypoint-smei.easme-web.eu/form/187>

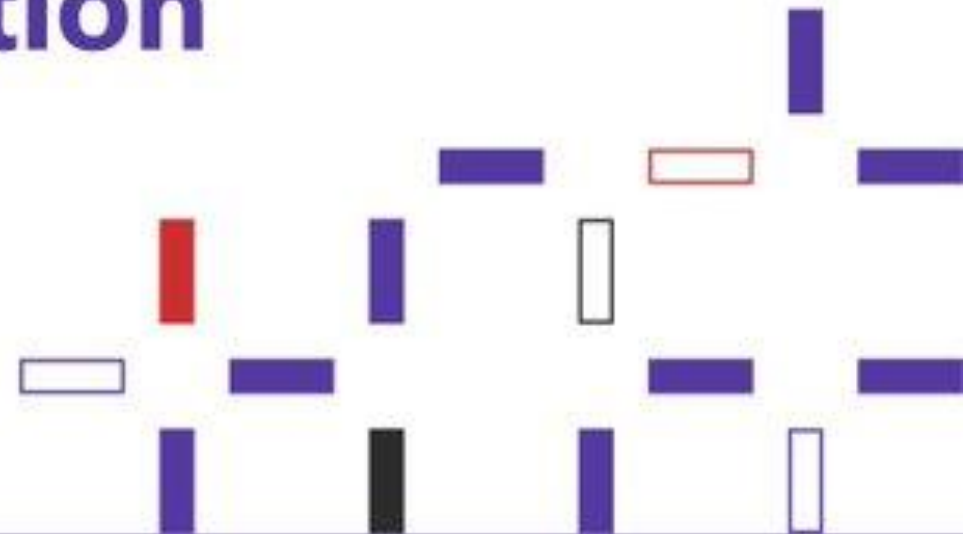
20 and 21 May 2021 - Apply

here: <https://entrypoint-smei.easme-web.eu/form/188>

Launch of the European Innovation Council

Virtual Event

European
Innovation
Council



18-19 March 2021

#EUeic

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/launch-new-european-innovation-council-2021-mar-03_en



EIC Pathfinder Sources

 EIC Community [link](#)

2020 EIC Innovation Procurement Programme Wrap-Up: Leave your mark to go to market

The EIC created a new Story | 3 hours ago



Every day, suppliers with innovative solutions compete for buyer's attention, struggling to find the right client match. For young startups this race is even harder. In 2020, the **European Innovation Council** decided to shake up this procurement market competition with a new array of events and acceleration services for its beneficiaries. Especially when COVID-19 hit the world and the pandemic was creating high market tensions and supply shock, so the Business Acceleration Services doubled down their efforts to build new bridges between procurers and startups. Time to wrap up the 2020 EIC Procurement Innovation Programme and get a glimpse of what the new year will bring.

3 0 27

Upcoming Events



EIC Corporate Day with LafargeHolcim

27 January 2021, 6:00 to 28 January 2021, 17:00



EIC Winter School Marketing essentials for small companies

29 January 2021, 6:00 to 17:00






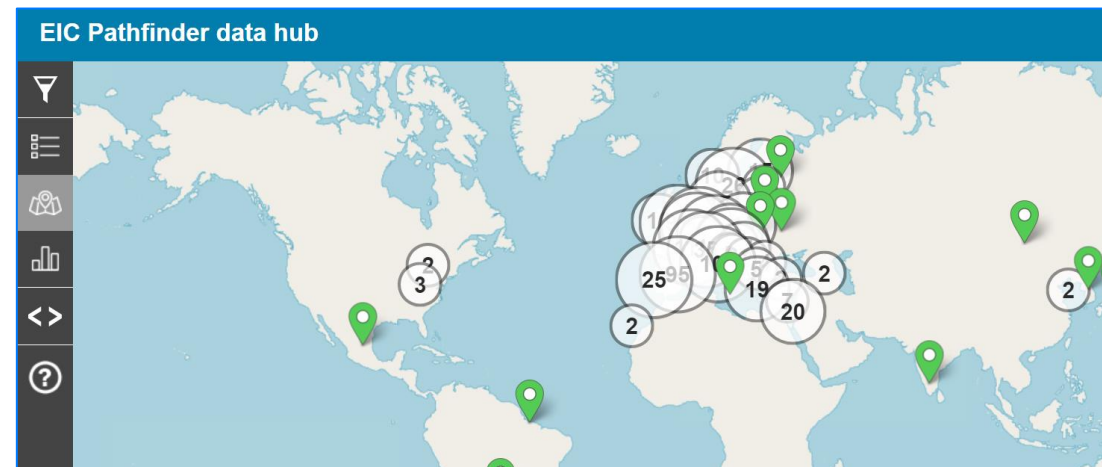
EIC Multi Corporate Day on Health with Dutch Giants

1 February 2021, 6:00 to 2 February 2021, 17:00



EIC Pathfinder Sources

- 
[EIC Community](#) [link](#)
- 
[EIC Pathfinder Data Hub](#) [link](#)
- 
[Innovation Radar](#) [link](#)



The figure is a screenshot of the "Discover Great EU-funded Innovations" website. The header includes navigation links for Home, Explore, Innovation Radar Prize, and About, along with social media icons for Twitter and LinkedIn, and a button for "Innovator's login". The main heading is "The EU Innovation Radar Platform". Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text "What are you looking for today?". A section titled "Looking for inspiration? Explore by maturity levels ..." contains four cards representing different stages of innovation maturity:

- Exploring**: Represented by a diamond icon. Description: "Innovations actively exploring value creation opportunities."
- Tech Ready**: Represented by a plane icon. Description: "Progressing on technology development process (e.g. pilots, prototypes, demonstration)".
- Business Ready**: Represented by a briefcase icon. Description: "Putting concrete market-oriented ideas together (e.g. market studies, business plans, end-user engagement)".
- Market Ready**: Represented by a rocket icon. Description: "Outperforming in innovation management and innovation readiness. Considered 'Ready for market'".

EIC Pathfinder Sources

- 🔗 EIC Community [link](#)
- 🔗 EIC Pathfinder Data Hub [link](#)
- 🔗 Innovation Radar [link](#)
- 🔗 Deep Tech Europe Report [link](#)
- 🔗 Proactive Mng – Report [link](#)



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- 🔗 Deep Tech Europe Report [link](#)
- 🔗 Proactive Mng – Report [link](#)
- 🔗 A2EIC NCP Network [link](#)



Access2EIC

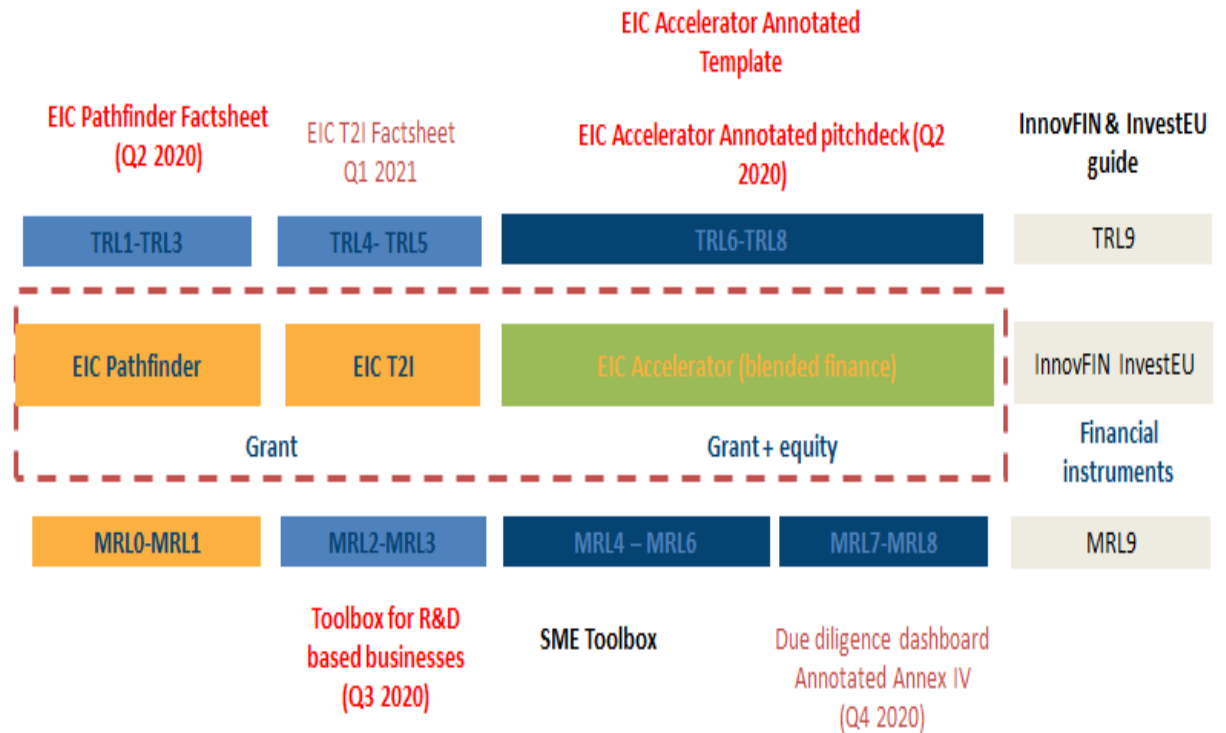
National Contact Points for Innovation

HOME

PROJECT

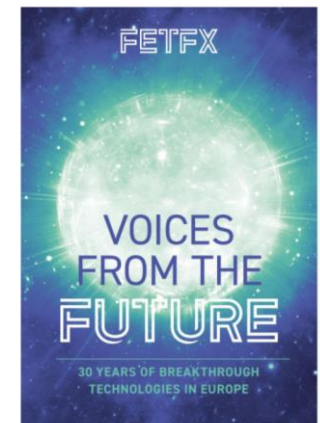
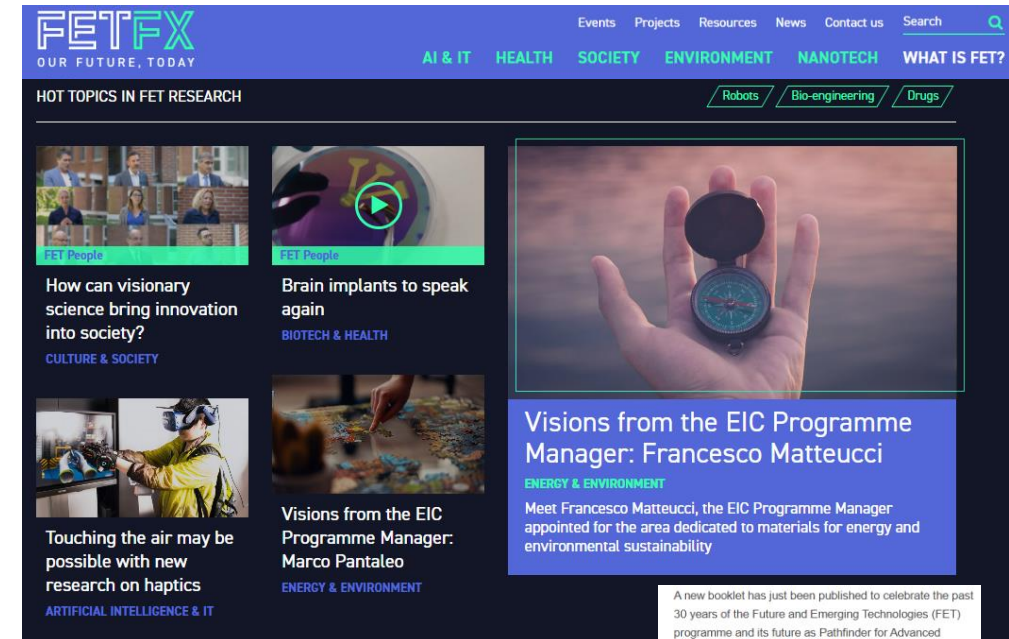
EIC

INNOVATION IN SMES



EIC Pathfinder Sources

- 🚩 EIC Community [link](#)
- 🚩 EIC Pathfinder Data Hub [link](#)
- 🚩 Innovation Radar [link](#)
- 🚩 Deep Tech Europe Report [link](#)
- 🚩 Proactive Mng – Report [link](#)
- 🚩 A2EIC NCP Network [link](#)
- 🚩 FETFX Communication & Outreach [link](#)



2021 2027
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EUROPE**



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