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Accelerating innovation in European manufacturing: EIT Manufacturing ‘Call for Proposals 2023’ opened

EIT Manufacturing is Europe’s leading manufacturing community within the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), a body of the European Union.

Innovative solutions to equip European manufacturing for a digital, competitive future that is socially and environmentally sustainable will receive support through [EIT Manufacturing’s ‘Call for Proposals 2023’](#), which opens 9th February 2022. Organizations participating in activity proposals addressing the Call may receive a financial support of up to €1.5 million per year.

Innovators, research organisations, universities, major corporations, startups and businesses of every size are invited to submit ideas for using the latest technology to address these four **themes**:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital twins for manufacturing systems
- Smart technologies for circular and green manufacturing
- Collaborative robots and solutions for flexible manufacturing
- Automation for human-centred factories

The best proposals can receive financial support and connections to the EIT Manufacturing network, which includes investors as well as partners with the knowledge to assist in technology development. This is the key initiative that EIT Manufacturing launches every year. With the goal of promoting innovation in manufacturing, EIT Manufacturing dedicates most of its operational budget, roughly €400 million until 2026, to funding projects that turn research into industry-ready solutions. For the last ‘Call for Proposals’, 290 proposals were submitted and 81 projects around Europe were finally accepted.

Klaus Beetz, CEO EIT Manufacturing, pointed out that *‘the Call for Proposals is the main tool that EIT Manufacturing employs to boost innovative projects in manufacturing industry. This edition incorporates relevant new approaches that will encourage the participation and will accelerate turning scientific advances into marketable innovations in manufacturing to help prepare the industry for a green, digital and competitive future that is socially and environmentally sustainable’*. For instance, project groups can now submit proposals for 2-year activities, without the need to resubmit a proposal for the 2nd year of the activity in 2023.

Activities proposed for this call should be planned to begin in 2023 and last for either one or two years. **Dimitris Mavrikios, COO EIT Manufacturing**, remarked that *‘this multi-year approach is possible thanks to*

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the first multiannual Business Plan that we will put together for years 2023-25. It will allow the launch of longer term projects with more ambitious scope’.

Besides its length, the proposals should fall into the EIT Manufacturing **activity areas** of:

- **Innovation:** Supporting European manufacturing companies and tech organisations in launching and industrialising demonstrated breakthrough solutions with high business growth potential.
- **Education:** Increasing the innovation capacity in Europe by educating, upskilling and reskilling future and current manufacturers and supporting companies on the ongoing twin transition (digital and green).
- **RIS (Regional Innovation Scheme):** Enabling the transfer of good practices and know-how using the EIT Manufacturing’s unique approach of boosting innovation across the entire continent, including areas with moderate or medium levels of innovation.

Proposals for this call will involve consortia of EIT Manufacturing members from industry, research and academia in Europe, but also external organizations are eligible to join these consortia. If you are interested, you can find out how to participate in [EIT Manufacturing website](#)

What happens next

The EIT Manufacturing Call for Proposals 2023 has two stages. According to the Call guidelines, in the first stage, proposals can be submitted until 11 March 2022. Second-stage submission is open until 29 April 2022. The proposals are then evaluated, and by 11 July 2022, consortia will be informed if their submission has been successful.

Read more and find out how to participate: [Guidelines - Call for Proposals 2023](#)

Background information

[EIT Manufacturing](#) is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. EIT Manufacturing’s main goal is to bring European stakeholders focused on manufacturing together in innovation ecosystems that add unique value to European products, processes and services and inspire the creation of globally competitive and sustainable manufacturing. EIT Manufacturing brings together more than 70 member-organizations (universities, research institutes and business).

The [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#) strengthens Europe’s ability to innovate by powering solutions to pressing global challenges and by nurturing entrepreneurial talent to create sustainable growth and skilled jobs in Europe. The EIT is an EU body which is an integral part of Horizon Europe, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The Institute supports the

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development of dynamic pan-European partnerships – EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities – among leading companies, research labs and universities.

EIT Manufacturing — Making Innovation Happen!

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