



EIT Health

Call for organisations in Latvia, Croatia and the Czech Republic to cooperate with EIT Health as EIT Health Hubs within the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme 2019

Submission Deadline: **Thursday November 8, 2018, 17:00 (CET)**

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Application: <https://eithealth.wufoo.com/forms/me3kbho0uwhua8/>

EIT Health hereby invites legal entities from Latvia, Croatia and the Czech Republic to apply to become EIT Health Hub within the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS) programme 2019.



EIT Health is supported by the EIT,
a body of the European Union

Get engaged with EIT Health! Take part in the implementation of the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) 2019! Receive support for the development of your local innovation ecosystem! Help us find best talents, entrepreneurs and start-ups from your region/country! Support innovative SMEs to create new economic activity and new jobs locally! Team up with one of the biggest healthcare initiatives worldwide! Learn and adopt best in class business creation and education programs!

EIT Health

[EIT Health](#) – supported by the European Commission and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology - is one of the largest healthcare initiatives worldwide. Its goal is to sustainably advance the foundations of healthcare and thus promote the future conditions for healthier living and wellbeing of people across Europe. EIT Health is leveraging the expertise of more than 130 leading organisations spanning key areas of healthcare such as Pharma, MedTech, Payers, Research Institutions and Universities. The consortium offers best-in-class research capabilities, higher education and business expertise. With a budget of 2 billion EUR over the next decade, EIT Health will purposefully invest in Europe's best entrepreneurial talents and creative minds to foster the development and commercialisation of smart product and service solutions in the health sector, addressing the challenges imposed by demographic change and ageing societies.

The regional structure of EIT Health extends across Europe. With its headquarters in Munich (Germany), EIT Health has established six co-location centres in leading innovation hubs of Europe such as London (UK/Ireland), Stockholm (Scandinavia), Barcelona (Spain), Paris (France), Mannheim and Heidelberg (Germany/Switzerland) and Rotterdam (Belgium/Netherlands).

EIT Health InnoStars

With the twin goals of leveraging diversity and driving the potential of emerging innovation clusters, EIT Health has added the "[InnoStars](#)" to its network. These active regional clusters consist of industry partners, academia, and health providers in 7 countries – Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Italy, Malta, UK, Croatia. Each region represents research specialties and socio-economic structures that ideally complement the EIT Health co-locations centres while ensuring wider participation and outreach across Europe's multifaceted innovation landscape.

EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS)

EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS) is a structured outreach scheme of EIT Health. EIT RIS is designed to disseminate knowledge, know-how, good practices and lessons learnt emerging from the EIT Health's activities, as well as to widen participation in its activities. EIT RIS focuses on countries with limited or no participation in the EIT Health, where innovation capacity is moderate or modest and which otherwise would not be able to benefit from the experience gained by EIT Health.

EIT RIS is designed as a two-way interaction scheme. By sharing its good practices of Knowledge

Triangle Integration (KTI)¹ and increasing their activities in the eligible countries, EIT Health will also gain access to productive inputs, business skills, talent, cooperation opportunities in education, market and business, currently untapped entrepreneurial potential, customers for innovative ventures, innovation, knowledge, knowhow and technology transfer possibilities, additional testbeds for applications of innovative solutions as well as access to co-funding options provided by EU, Regional and National support Schemes.

In the mid-term perspective, EIT RIS is expected to facilitate the incorporation of relevant players of the local innovation ecosystems in the EIT Health ecosystems and foster the Knowledge Triangle Integration approach as a framework for the enhancement of innovation capacity.

Local EIT Health Hubs within RIS (also referred to as “RIS Hubs” throughout the document) are selected through an open and transparent process. Participation in the EIT RIS does not imply automatically a potential future partnership with EIT Health; however, it will not impede it in the future (beyond 2020).

In the long run EIT Health RIS activities cover the following two areas of action:

I. Engaging local players in EIT Health activities

EIT Health will engage local players—individuals (students, PhDs) and entities (e.g. start-ups, scale ups, universities, research labs, NGOs, regions and cities)—in its activities within the three main pillars (education, entrepreneurship and innovation & research) by practically demonstrating the benefits of Knowledge Triangle Integration (KTI). The aim of this activity is to increase participation in EIT Health’s business creation and education programs as well as innovation projects. All the activities under this action line should receive broad publicity on local and regional levels by raising awareness of the brand of EIT Health and the KTI model.

II. Mobilising, interlinking and internationalising the national/regional innovation networks

In addition to directly involving potential local players in the innovation ecosystem, EIT Health intends to work with Knowledge Triangle (KT) stakeholders on national and regional levels to raise awareness and share the best practices of the KTI model to create fully-fledged KTI-based innovation ecosystems locally.

In the framework of this area of action EIT Health intends to establish a formalised collaboration with a local entity capable of functioning as an EIT Health Hub (also referred to as “RIS Hub), an ‘interaction point’ between EIT Health and local actors. Also acting as an interface of EIT Health, this entity will interact with local players, mobilising and internationalising the local innovation networks and facilitate EIT Health’s efforts in fostering the Knowledge Triangle Integration as innovation brokers.

Role of future EIT Health Hubs in general

EIT Health Hubs should ensure active involvement of local Knowledge Triangle actors, as well as liaise and provide expertise to the relevant national, regional and local authorities. The Hubs will also help identify potential funding and project opportunities for Knowledge Triangle Integration, as well as provide advice to KTI project / initiative / programme development and implementation. A structured dialogue with the national/ regional/local authorities could contribute to a better understanding of the

¹ EIT Health’s overarching objective is to accelerate innovation in the health sector and support the creation of the conditions where innovation is more likely to thrive. It is done through the collaboration and interlinking of leading entities from **higher education, research and business areas**, which are the **three sides of the Knowledge Triangle**. EIT Health is fostering innovation via interlinking & integrating the three sides of the Knowledge Triangle, that is, Knowledge Triangle Integration (KTI).



KTI value and the incorporation of its components to their policy making. The enhanced visibility of the EIT Community and awareness raising among the national policy makers will be another positive effect of the KICs intervention via the Hubs.

EIT Health RIS programme 2019

EIT Health RIS activities focus on the following strategic areas of action in 2019:

- Mapping of the local innovation ecosystem in EIT RIS regions and identifying key players and investment needs.
- Ensuring knowledge transfer to strengthen innovation ecosystems with the help of existing InnoStars partners in the EIT RIS regions
- Organizing outreach events where EIT Health InnoStars representatives can meet with local actors, such as start-ups, regulators, policy decision makers, hospitals, researchers, industrial representatives to introduce EIT Health, present its programs and opportunities as well as to present achievements and success stories.
- Organizing start-up competitions. One type of competition is for start-ups with a product prototype ready to be launched commercially; the other, the European Health Catapult competition is for more mature start-ups intending to scale up and enter more markets.
- Engaging key national and regional policy makers within the activities of EIT Health in order to support fund interconnectivity and the set-up of local ESIF projects which can be directly linked with EIT Health programs; support the participation of local institutions in KIC activities and finance the adaptation and integration of best in-class programs of EIT Health into the local innovation ecosystem, if possible. Convincing local stakeholders is essential to utilize synergies between available ESIF and EIT Health programs. EIT Health has the significant potential to shape national grant management systems in a way that could lead to a better rollout of its activities across the continent.

Tasks of selected EIT Health Hubs (RIS Hubs) in 2018 as preparation for 2019

In line with the EIT Health 2019 RIS programme, the RIS Hub's tasks in Latvia, Croatia and the Czech Republic in 2018² aim to prepare the entities for the tasks in 2019. In 2018 the tasks are defined as follows:

- Acting as local contact point and disseminate information for those who are interested in EIT Health activities.
- Conduct a preliminary assessment of the ecosystem (identification of main players, goals, challenges) to prepare for KTI assessment in 2019
- Participate in the RIS Hub Summit to be held in the context of the EIT Health Partner Assembly in Lodz, Poland on December 5-6, 2018

In case the cooperation between EIT Health and the selected EIT Health Hub is successful and satisfactory for both sides, EIT Health can offer a longer-term cooperation beyond 2018 in 2019 and 2020 to continue as RIS Hubs. Tasks for 2019 will be defined by end of 2018/early January 2019.

² All tasks have to be completed until 31st December 2018. If there is a special deadline for a certain task it will be indicated.

Geographical eligibility

- Latvia
- Croatia
- Czech Republic

Eligibility criteria for EIT Health RIS Hubs

- **Legal status:** Being a registered legal entity. The applicant can apply together with a group of partners sparring the Knowledge Triangle but one organization needs to be designated the lead. In this case the lead organization needs to demonstrate the group's commitment by producing letters of commitment from the other partners. The group needs to include at least one university (but it doesn't need to be the lead organization).
- **Personnel support:** The Hub will commit the FTE support necessary to execute the 2018 hub tasks.
- **Thematic alignment:** The applicant entity should demonstrate a thematic alignment with EIT Health focus areas and a proven track record of start-up incubation (mentoring, coaching, training, knowledge transfer) and managing research projects in the area of EIT Health's mission: promote healthy living, support active ageing, improving healthcare.
- **Capacity:** Every entity acting as EIT Health RIS Hub should demonstrate its capacity to work with the local Knowledge Triangle actors (education, research, business) and national/regional authorities, both in terms of resources as well as in terms of network.
- **Relations with National/ Regional Authorities:** Access to policy-makers will strengthen synergies and complementarities at all governance levels. In this respect, the entity should be able to demonstrate whether it has existing relations and enjoys the support of policy makers in national and/or regional authorities.
- **Mobilising other sources of funding:** The potential EIT Health RIS Hub should be able to provide an outline of how they plan to mobilise and use other (additional) sources of funding (regional/ national/ EU funding) to support KTI projects, pilots, initiatives, programmes etc.

Useful information

- Available budget: ~5.000 €/Partner (including VAT) for the period November 20-December 31.

Application to become an EIT Health Hub (RIS Hub) for 2019

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