



EIT Health

Call for organisations in Slovenia and Estonia to cooperate with EIT Health as EIT Health Hub within the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme 2019

Extended submission deadline: Tuesday January 29th, 2019, 17:00 (CET)

Contact: **Monika Toth** (monika.toth@eithealth.eu) Program Manager, EIT Health InnoStars
Application: <https://eithealth.wufoo.com/forms/mlkce3r0pqdfhl/>

EIT Health hereby invites legal entities from Slovenia and Estonia 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 and 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

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).



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, healthcare professionals) and entities (e.g. start-ups, scale ups, universities, research labs, NGOs, regions and cities)—in its activities within its 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 the participation of these local players 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 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 local innovation ecosystem in EIT RIS regions, identifying key players, unique assets and selling points as well as focus areas and investment needs. Identifying connection points and synergies between regional capabilities and EIT Health strategic goals
- Providing opportunities for key stakeholders in RIS regions to get engaged with EIT Health activities and participate in certain EIT Health programs
- Organizing outreach events where EIT Health representatives can meet with RIS stakeholders, 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.
- Ensuring knowledge transfer towards EIT RIS regions to strengthen innovation ecosystems
- Provide comprehensive support and mentoring services for RIS regions how they can develop regional innovation ecosystems by mobilizing local KTI actors, working out joint development strategies and implement joint local projects.
- 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.

Geographical eligibility

- Slovenia
- Estonia

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 has to be designated as the lead. EIT Health will only contract the lead entity. 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). It is not required to apply with a group of partners, but it is an advantage to show the local potential of the new Hub. None of the applicants can be a Core or Associate Partner of EIT Health neither a linked or affiliated third party of an EIT Health Partner² and applicants have to submit a self-declaration about it.

² A full list of EIT Health Partners can be found under following link: <https://www.eithealth.eu/partners>



- **Personnel support:** The Hub will commit the necessary HR resource (at least 1 FTE) to execute the 2019 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 (in the field of 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.

Additional legal information

One RIS Hub will be selected in each country. Selected RIS Hub entities (in case of group application the lead Partner) have to join to EIT Health Framework Partnership Agreement³ and RIS 2019 Project Grant Agreement. Both documents are based on a standard H2020 grant agreement form.

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

- <https://eithealth.wufoo.com/forms/mlkce3r0pgdfh/>

³ General framework agreement between EIT and EIT Health to settle the basic legal framework for the operation of EIT Health until 2020.