



European  
**eic** **INNOVATION**  
Council

**EMPOWERING EUROPEAN INNOVATORS**

# The EIC Pathfinder pilot

***Bart Van Caenegem***

*Head of Sector*

*REA.A5 Fostering Novel Ideas: FET Open*

*EIC Pathfinder*

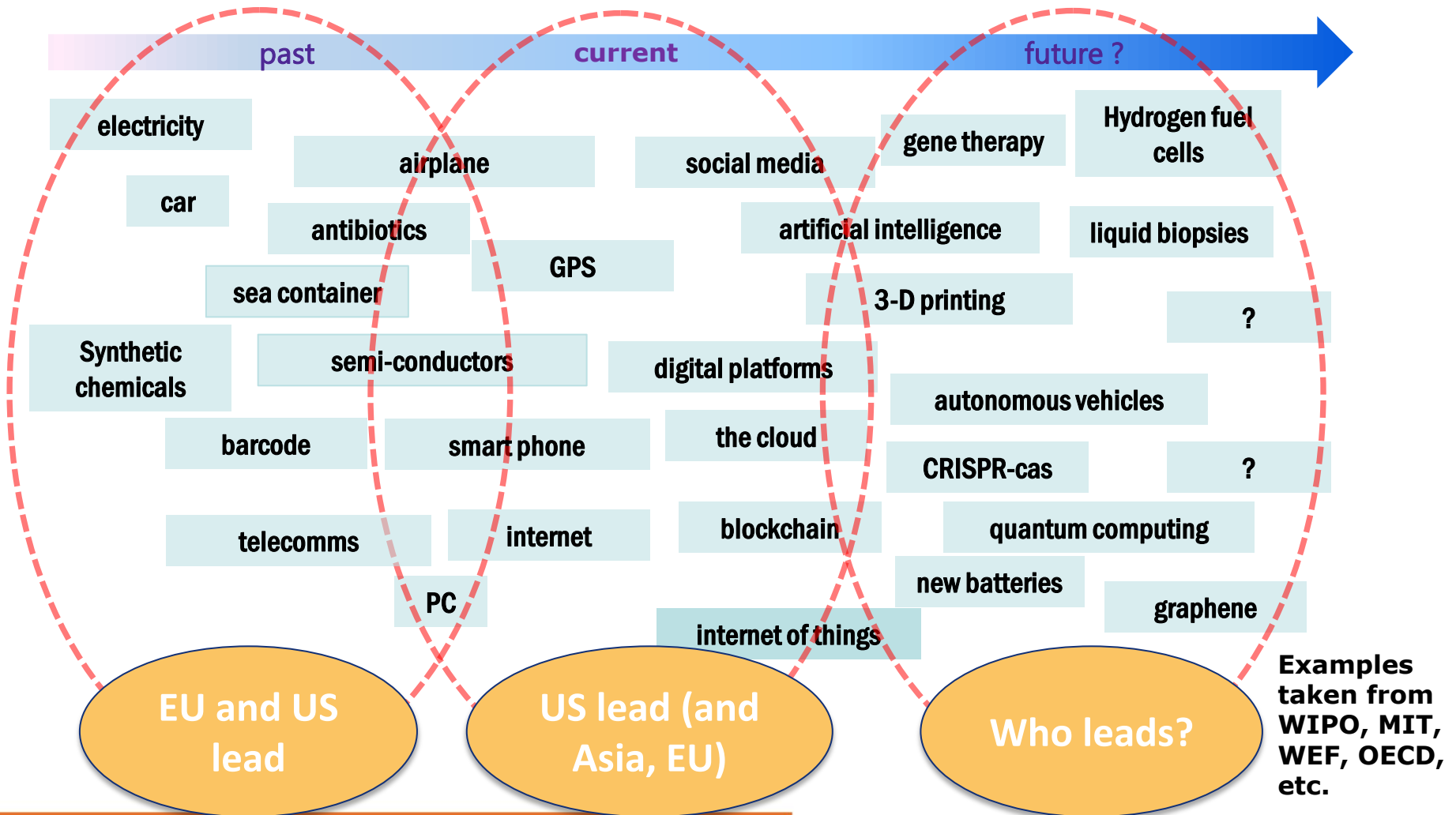
*Research Executive Agency*

*European Commission*

*Research and  
Innovation*



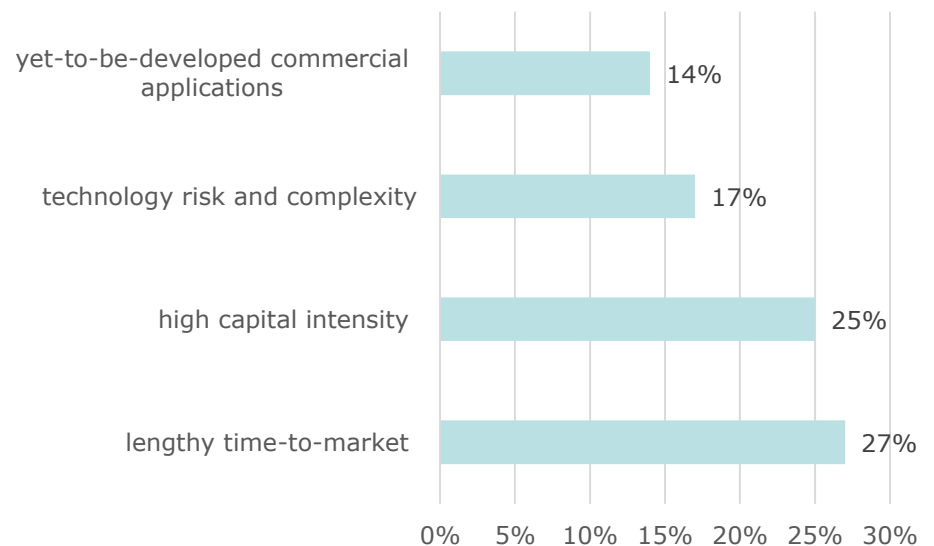
# Who will lead the next wave of breakthrough and disruptive innovation?



# EIC Pathfinder Pilot Deep-tech 'made in Europe'

- **Needs a strong research base**
- Deep-tech companies **constantly pushing the technological frontier**
- **Collaborations** are important: deep-tech operates at the crossroads of disciplines, fundamental research and industrial application

## Challenges for deep-tech startups



**Source:** BCG and Hello Tomorrow  
**Report:** "From tech to deep tech"

# 2.200 M€ - pilot package to support bottom-up ideas 2019-2020

PATHFINDER Pilot	ACCELERATOR Pilot
<p>€ 700 million Approx. 180 projects</p>	<p>€ 1,500 million 700 projects</p>
<p><b>FET OPEN + FET Proactive Future and Emerging Technologies (grant-only)</b></p>	<p>SME Instrument Phase 2 / Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) (grant-only)</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Blended finance (grant + equity)</b></p>
<p>Visionary idea for developing radical and innovative technologies</p>	<p>Radically new, highly risky ideas commercially viable and with a potential to scale up</p>
<p>Coaching, mentoring and business acceleration services for all beneficiaries</p>	
<p>EIC Horizon Prizes + Support actions €50 million</p>	

# Major novelties

## EIC Programme managers

- For more **flexible and pro-active** management and steering of tech or challenge-based **portfolios**
- **5** programme managers to follow projects in **EIC Pathfinder Pilot**
  - [Call for expressions of interest \(deadline: 31 July 2019\)](#)
- **Professionals with visionary thinking**
- Hired as a **temporary Commission staff**

# Major novelties

## EIC Advisory Board

- To **advise** the Commission on the design of European Innovation Council (EIC) support for innovation
- **Group of 22** entrepreneurs, investors, individuals building start-up communities, innovative researchers and academics working on innovation policy
- Will support the Commission:
  - *Developing the pilot in 2019 and 2020*
  - *Enhancing innovation eco-systems and impact*
  - *With the overall strategy under Horizon Europe*

# EIC Pathfinder - FET Novelties

- From early stage proof-of-concept research, up to demonstration of commercial viability
- FET Proactive integrated in the Pathfinder Pilot
- Programme managers
- Business Acceleration Services
- FET Transition to Innovation Activities

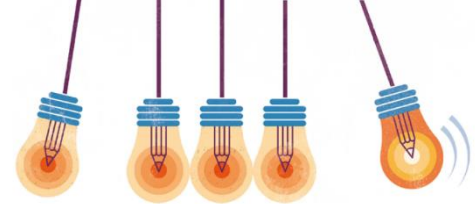




# EIC Pathfinder - FET Open Research and Innovation Actions

- Foundations for radically new future technologies, high-risk & high-impact interdisciplinary research:
  - *Radical vision*
  - *Breakthrough technological target*
  - *Ambitious interdisciplinary research*
- **Bottom-up and continuously open**
- **15-page proposal**, up to **€3 million** (indicative), consortium of minimum **3 partners** from 3 EU / associated countries





# EIC Pathfinder - FET Proactive

## Emerging paradigms and communities

- Stimulate the emergence of a **new technological paradigm**

- **Selected emerging paradigms**

- 2019 {
  - *Human-Centric AI*
  - *Implantable autonomous devices and materials*
  - *Breakthrough zero-emissions energy generation for full decarbonisation*
- €87.4M {
- 2020 {
  - *Future technologies for social experience*
  - *Measuring the unmeasurable -- Sub-nanoscale science for Nanometrology*
  - *Digital twins for the life-sciences*
- €50M {

- Up to **€4-5 million**, across up to **4 years**
- 30-page proposal, Minimum **3 partners** from 3 EU / AC

## EIC Pathfinder - FET Proactive Environmental Intelligence

- Stimulate the emergence in Europe around the emerging paradigm of **environmental intelligence**
- **Two complementary sub-topics:**

2020  
€18M

- *new techniques for creating and using dynamic models of environmental evolution*
- *radically novel approaches to resilient, reliable and environmentally responsible in-situ monitoring*

- Projects up to **€4 million**, up to **4 years**
- 30-pages proposal, Minimum **3 partners** from 3 EU / AC

## **EIC Pathfinder - FET Open Innovation Launchpad**

- **Turning results** from FET-funded projects **into genuine societal or economic innovations**
- Up to **€0.1 million** over 18 months
- Sole applicant or as part of a consortium
- Market analysis, business case, technology assessment, IPRs...

# EIC Pathfinder - FET Proactive Transition to Innovation Activities

- Turn promising results into **breakthrough and disruptive innovations**
- At the end of a typical FET-Open or FET Proactive project (i.e., starting from **early-stage technologies**)
- **Targeted technologies:** Micro- and Nano-technologies, Artificial Intelligence and advanced robotics, Technologies for the life sciences, health and treatment, Energy technologies, Interaction technologies
- 24 months, €1-2 million

# Pathfinder

## Next cut-offs

- FET Open
  - 18 September 2019
  - 13 May 2020
- FET Proactive Emerging paradigms and communities
  - 8 October 2019
  - 22 Apr 2020
- FET Proactive Environmental Intelligence
  - 22 Apr 2020
- FET Innovation Launchpad
  - 8 October 2019
  - 14 October 2020
- FET Proactive Transition to Innovation Activities
  - 8 October 2019

# EIC Pathfinder - FET Open and Proactive Evaluation Criteria

- **For FET Open and FET Proactive RIAs:**
  - *Three award criteria:*
    - 60% 'excellence'
    - 20% 'impact'
    - 20% 'quality and efficiency of implementation'
- **For Transition to innovation & Innovation Launchpad**
  - *Three award criteria:*
    - 40% 'excellence'
    - 40% 'impact'
    - 20% 'quality and efficiency of implementation'
  - **Time-to-inform:** 5 months
  - **Time-to-grant** 8 months



Jan Lichtenberg  
CEO and Co-Founder  
[InSphero](#)

# Pathfinder Pilot

## Success case

### *FET-Open 'Body-on-a-Chip' from research to commercialization*

"Young companies must be focused on generating market interest for their products. **The FET Open programme allowed us to get the balance right and to work on the next wave of innovation for the company.** We are proud to have made this project a success from start to commercial launch. This technology platform will change the way **new drugs** are developed in the future: **without animal testing.**"

# EIC Pilot

## Need help?

- [EIC Wizard via EIC website](#)
- [EIC Pilot Guide for Applicants](#)
- [EIC Questions and Answers](#)
- [National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#)
- [European Enterprise Network \(EEN\)](#)



## For further information

[EIC website](#)

[European Funding and Tender portal](#)

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