



# European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)

# European Innovation Ecosystems



- The EIE Work Program aims to create a more **connected** and **efficient** innovation ecosystem that supports the **scaling** of companies and spurs innovation to address important challenges in a responsible way.
- It contains actions to harness the potential of innovation for the benefit of **people**, society and the **economy**. It will do this by improving enabling conditions and spurring collaboration between different actors to maximize the impact of **innovation ecosystems**.



# Destination 1 – CONNECT

## Interconnected innovation ecosystems



Fostering an enabling innovation ecosystem requires a systemic approach that is inclusive and collaborative, involves diverse actors, institutions and places, maximizes the value of innovation to all and ensures equitable diffusion of its benefits.

This destination offers a holistic package of actions that:

- foster the implementation of demand-driven joint co-funded multi-annual program of activities among Member States, Associated Countries and EU regions;
- enhance the inclusion of more stakeholders from the quadruple helix (academia, industry, public bodies and society) and a wider participation of territories in existing successful initiatives and networks towards the deployment of innovation;
- stimulate innovation procurement to help innovative solutions to enter the market and integrate social innovation that responds to the needs of people and society.

# Destination 1 – CONNECT

## Interconnected innovation ecosystems



**The destination is open for any thematic area.** Besides strengthening and fostering excellent innovation ecosystems, actions should encourage participation of innovation stakeholders and territories less involved in previous framework programmes.

They should promote the creation of links:

- with all key innovation stakeholders, including the private sector, between SMEs, start-ups and other innovators with investors, industry and public and/or private buyers for faster access to funds and markets.
- between innovation leaders and strong innovators with moderate and modest innovators across the EU and Associated Countries.
- with networks such as National Contact Points, Enterprise Europe Network, social innovation networks, clusters, pan-European platforms such as Startup Europe, regional or local innovation actors, public but also private, incubators and innovation hubs that could moreover be interconnected to favor partnering among innovators.

# Destination 1 – CONNECT

## Interconnected innovation ecosystems



Proposals are invited against the following topics:

- **HORIZON-EIE-2022-CONNECT-01-01:** Towards more inclusive networks and initiative in European innovation ecosystems
- Total budget for the year in question 4.00M€
- CSA – Coordination and Support Actions
- Opening: 11.01.2022 Deadline: 26.04.2022

### Target groups:

Public national, regional and/or local authorities, private organisations, public-owned enterprises, professional associations, clusters, accelerators, innovation hubs, incubators, technology parks, and/or any other representative that lead initiatives/networks that support the deployment of innovations

# Destination 1 – CONNECT

## Interconnected innovation ecosystems



### Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Increased inclusiveness by enlarging the participation of more diverse innovation actors and broaden the participation among EU and Associated Countries territories, in already existing successful initiatives and networks that interconnect European innovation ecosystems and promote the deployment and scale-up of innovative solutions
- Reduce the innovation divide in Europe and reinforce the innovation aspect of the European Research Area in the areas of inclusiveness and connectivity, improving the innovation capacities of Member States and Associated Countries and enabling them to engage in joint efforts for sustainable growth and economic development.

# Destination 1 – CONNECT

## Interconnected innovation ecosystems



- **HORIZON-EIE-2022-CONNECT-01-02:** Integration of social innovation actors in innovation ecosystems
- Total budget for the year in question 3.00M€
- CSA – Coordination and Support Actions
- Opening: 11.01.2022 Deadline: 26.04.2022

### Target groups:

Social innovation actors/social entrepreneurs, SMEs, start-ups, accelerators and business incubators, investors, industry. Foundations and philanthropy societies, universities and RTOs POEs.

# Destination 1 – CONNECT

## Interconnected innovation ecosystems



### Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Active participation of social innovation actors in innovation ecosystems, by ensuring their interlinking and connection with all other actors, including the SMEs and start-ups, accelerators and business incubators, industry, investors, philanthropy societies and the public sector, with the aim to ensure access to their entrepreneurial knowledge and skills required to run successful projects
- Wider access to alternative means of financing social innovations achieved by promoting its impact and mobilising a broad range of partners
- Tested innovation models with potential of scaling up and replicability, and that are available for widespread use, possibly through the policy actions

# Destination 2- SCALE-UP Europe

## Elevating the scalability potential of European businesses

The overall aim of this destination is to reinforce and stimulate innovation ecosystems to support the generation of **scale-ups** “*Made and grown in Europe*”. It aims at providing support, smart matching mechanisms across sectors and geographies, and interconnection via various instruments so that innovation ecosystems pull together to support the strengthening of innovative enterprises innovation capabilities and their potential for growth.

Proposals for topics under this Destination should:

- Enable innovative enterprises to accelerate the next stages of growth by tapping into the full potential and resources of markets;
- Enhance the ability of innovation ecosystems to nurture, attract and retain entrepreneurs and related innovation ecosystems actors to scale-up in Europe;
- Stimulate and implement startup-corporate and startup-investor collaboration at international level, enable access to sufficient, patient and smart capital financing, and foster exits;
- Reduce market fragmentation and boost the possibilities of companies to go internationally;
- Support and train professional business management to increase scalability potential, including attraction of C-Level executives for scaling up;

# Destination 2- SCALE-UP Europe

## Elevating the scalability potential of European businesses



Proposals are invited against the following topics:

- **HORIZON-EIE-2022-SCALEUP-01-01:** Expanding Acceleration Ecosystems
- Total budget for the year in question 5.00M€
- CSA – Coordination and Support Actions
- Opening: 25.01.2022 Deadline: 10.05.2022

### Target groups:

Vocational schools, higher education establishments, public authorities in the field of education and employment, SMEs, corporations

# Destination 2- SCALE-UP Europe

## Elevating the scalability potential of European businesses



### Expected Outcome:

Project results are expected to contribute to all of the following expected outcomes:

- Improved flows of innovation resources between innovation ecosystems at various levels of developments
- Improved quality of entrepreneurial education and local talents equipped with skills to support business acceleration and digitalization
- Enhanced entrepreneurial activity in developing innovation ecosystems and its scale up across Europe or internationally
- Increased youth (self) employability
- Raised awareness of diverse business cultures and opportunities across sectors and / or geographies.