

European Innovation Council in Horizon Europe

Marta Calderaro
calderaro@apre.it
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Agenda

- Rationale and context
- Pathfinder
- Accelerator
- Business Acceleration Services
- Horizon Europe outlook

The European Innovation Council

One stop shop for breakthrough & disruptive innovators

Open to all innovators, in any field, at any time

Highest potential innovators selected on basis of ideas and team

Agile funding from idea to investment

Pathfinder grants for advanced research on emerging technologies
Accelerator funding for innovative start-ups (<€2.5 million grant, <€15 million equity)

Crowding in private investment (VC, Invest EU)

Building ecosystems and communities

Access to mentoring and advisory services and to knowledge partners (e.g EIT)

Expert Programme Managers to engage with projects and communities
Prizes for breakthrough technologies

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

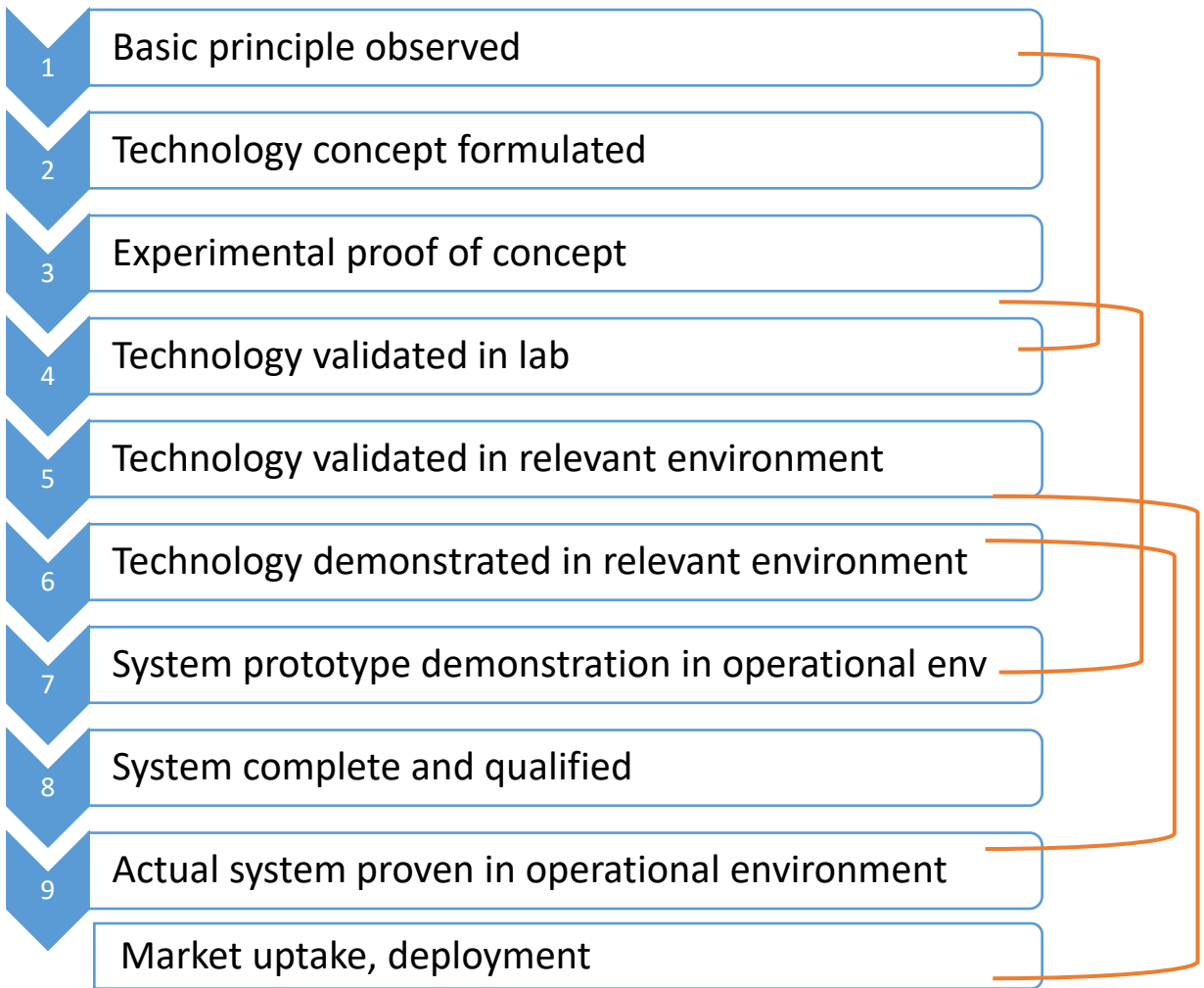
PATHFINDER Pilot	ACCELERATOR Pilot
€ 700 million Approx. 180 projects	€ 1,500 million 700 projects
FET OPEN + FET Proactive Future and Emerging Technologies (grant-only)	SME Instrument Phase 2 / Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) (grant-only) OR Blended finance (grant + equity)
Visionary idea for developing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

First pilot phase launched in 2018 - 19

- ✓ Introduction of **open support** for Start-ups and SMEs (no predefined themes)
- ✓ Introduction of **interviews** with juries of experienced innovators & investors to select SMEs for funding
- ✓ Launch of major **prizes** for breakthrough innovations, e.g low cost space launcher (€10 million prize); artificial photosynthesis (€5 million prize)
- ✓ **Increased budget of €1 billion** (2019) and inclusion of “FET Pro-active” in pilot EIC Pathfinder, with 6 target technologies + Transition activities
- ✓ **New EIC Advisory Board** to bring in leading innovators for strategy & implementation (appointed in July 19, meetings in Sept, Dec, Feb)
- ✓ **Introduction of pilot accelerator** with option to apply for blended finance (combined grant and equity)
- ✓ **Recruitment of first EIC programme managers**

Final pilot phase in 2020

- ✓ **Increased budget of €1.4 billion (2020)**
- ✓ **EIC Advisory Board** to present Vision for “full EIC” and roadmap for implementation
- ✓ **“Green Deal” EIC accelerator** (€300m, applications by 19 May)
- ✓ **Pilot for woman innovators** (startups with female CEO) - at least 25% at final interview phase.
- ✓ **Pilots with EIT KICs** to test collaboration mechanisms with EIC
- ✓ **Establishment of EIC Fund** and first wave of equity investments/ co-investments



**EIC Pathfinder
(FET Open and Proactive)**

**EIC Pathfinder
(Transition + Launchpad)**

**EIC Accelerator +
FTI
(Grant)**

**EIC Accelerator
(Equity)**

The EIC Instruments



EIC Pathfinder

The Pathfinder Pilot

Pathfinder



> supports researchers, innovators and innovative companies with ideas relating to future and emerging breakthrough technologies with a **grant**



> Researcher, innovator or innovative company can apply for Accelerator funding **as it matures**



EIC Pathfinder - FET Open Research and Innovation Actions

- FET Open (bottom-up): Radical vision, breakthrough technological target, ambitious interdisciplinary research
- FET Proactive (specific topics)
- Transition to Innovation Activities: Turn promising results into breakthrough and disruptive innovations, at the end of a typical FET-Open or FET Proactive project
- **Innovation Launchpad (deadline: 14 Oct 2020):** 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...

Rio2016



EIC Accelerator

The Accelerator Pilot

Accelerator



- > provides innovators and innovative companies with **blended finance** (grants / grants and equity) of up to € 17.5 M
- > **bridges the financing gap** between late-stage innovation activities and market take-up

Accelerator Pilot Building on SME Instrument

- Individual SMEs with high-risk, high-growth potential aimed at creating new markets
- Substantial funding for the last stages of development
- Bottom-up: all sectors, products, services, new business models
- Grant- activities of TRL 6-8
 - €0.5 - 2.5 million (funding rate 70% of total cost of project)
- With equity option (blended finance)- activities TRL 6 and above
 - Plus up to €15 million

From grant to blended finance

- **Grant:** Early-stage innovation for **development**
- **Equity:** Early-stage and mature innovation for **scale up**

Note:

- *If the proposal includes mature innovation activities, and consent has been given by the applicant, it will be changed into blended finance*
- *There is flexibility to obtain equity even if not requested at the moment of submission*

EIC Accelerator - Evaluation cut-offs

2020 7th October

2021 April (TBC)



Business Acceleration Services

EIC Pilot Business Acceleration Services

- For SMEs EIC clients (Pathfinder and Accelerator)
- Coaching: up to 12 days available
- Mentoring for individual founders, CEOs and leaders
- EIC Community Platform
- EIC Events, such as Corporate Days

**EIC encourages the driving role of new actors in R&I,
including ambitious high-tech SMEs!**

new



Overseas Trade Fairs programme

new



GHG neutrality programme

new



EIC Scalator



Coaching



EIC Community



Early stage programme

Corporate partnership programme



Procurement partnership programme



Investor partnership programme





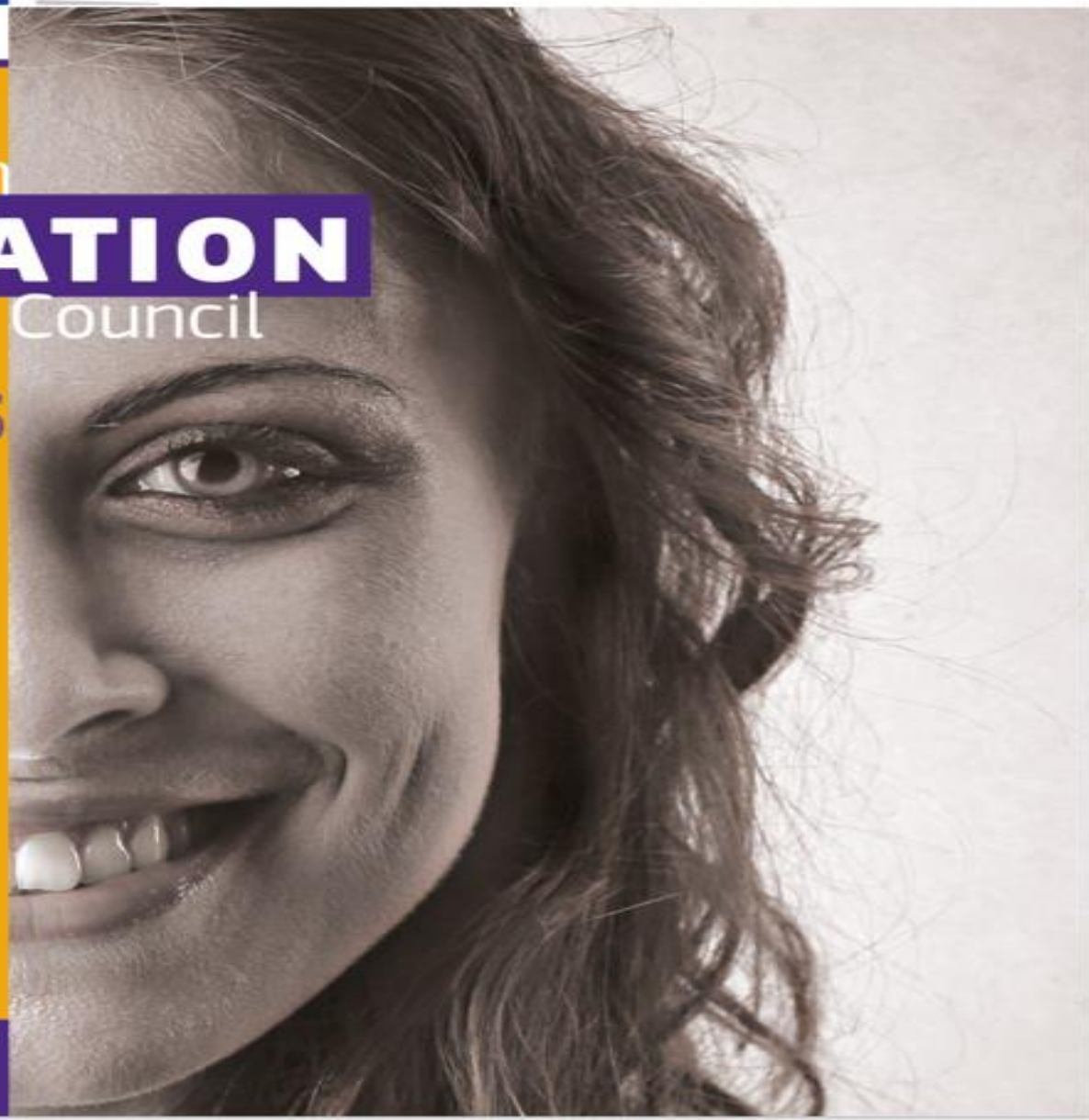
eic **INNOVATION** Council

EMPOWERING EUROPEAN INNOVATORS

"The future European Innovation Council will turn far more of Europe's world class science and start-ups to global technology leaders. I am glad that this first offer of combined grant and equity financing saw such a high demand from Europe's start-ups and SMEs. This confirms that the European Innovation Council is filling a gap in funding, and that it is right to set it up as a fully-fledged initiative under the next EU budget"

Mariva Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, December 2019.

Research and Innovation



“Full EIC” under Horizon Europe (2021-27)

- ✓ **EIC legally established**
- ✓ **Proposed budget of €10 billion**, majority of funding will be **bottom-up**, but also **targeted funding** for strategic technologies/ challenges
- ✓ **Dedicated governance with EIC President and independent Board** to set strategy, advise on separate EIC work programme, oversee implementation
- ✓ **Creation of “one stop shop” for implementation**
- ✓ **Fully designed accelerator** (mainly blended finance, also grant only & equity only) **and pathfinder** (including transition activities)
- ✓ **More flexible rules for selection and funding** (ability to stop or reorient, links to Invest EU) with increased role for **programme managers**
- ✓ **Fast track access** for Horizon grant holders (incl. ERC, EIT) and certified national schemes
- ✓ **EIC Forum** with Member States innovation agencies

References and Sources

- European Innovation Council [link](#)
- EASME [link](#)
- Access2EIC NCP Network [link](#)
- EIC Pathfinder Data Hub [link](#)
- EIC Accelerator Data Hub [link](#)



 **Access2EIC**
National Contact Points for Innovation

Info – day webinar on
Exploitation opportunities in EIC Pathfinder FET

Bring innovation from EIC Pathfinder
16th September 2020, 10.30 - 12.30

Thank you for your attention!

APRE
Agenzia per la Promozione della Ricerca Europea
Via Cavour, 71
00184 - Roma
www.apre.it
Tel. (+39) 06-48939993
Fax. (+39) 06-48902550



Marta Calderaro
H2020 FET/ICT NCP
calderaro@apre.it

