



European Innovation Council (EIC) Overview & Application Process

26 June 2024

Elena UNGUREANU

Horizon Europe NCP EIC&EIE



European Innovation

Horizon Europe

EU framework program for research and innovation



Innovative Europe
EIC, EIE

Digital Innovation

Digital Single Market strategy ensures the free movement of digital goods, services, and capital across Europe



Digital Europe Programme

Green Innovation

European Green Deal sets the framework for EU's sustainable growth strategy, aiming for climate neutrality by 2050



Green Deal Call under Horizon Europe

Startup Ecosystems

Startup Europe aims to connect local startup ecosystems across Europe and support the growth of startups into scaleups



European Innovation Council (EIC)

Industrial Strategy

EU Industrial Strategy aims to strengthen Europe's industrial base, ensure global competitiveness, and promote a fair and digital transition



European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)

Collaborative Networks

Framework for European Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) facilitates collaboration in research and innovation across borders



Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs)

Innovation Clusters

Smart Specialization Strategies (S3) promote regional innovation ecosystems, focusing on their strengths and competitive advantages



European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP)

European Innovation – A New European Innovation Agenda



Leading Deep Tech Innovation

- Advances in physical, biological, and digital spheres to address global challenges
- Deep tech startups in the EU have the potential to drive economic transformation and help achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Strengths of the EU

- Scientific leadership
- Industrial base and startup ecosystem
- Framework conditions

Innovation Ecosystems and Reducing the Innovation Divide

- Pan-European innovation ecosystem that leverages regional strengths through smart specialization strategies
- Address the innovation divide between regions and enhance internal cohesion

Strategic Autonomy and Global Partnerships

- Reducing dependencies on key technologies and raw materials
- Initiatives like REPowerEU Plan aim to boost energy efficiency and clean energy technologies, fostering resilience and new trade opportunities

Innovation Procurement and Infrastructure

- Enhance innovation procurement processes
- Support the development of testing and experimentation facilities to promote the adoption of innovative solutions

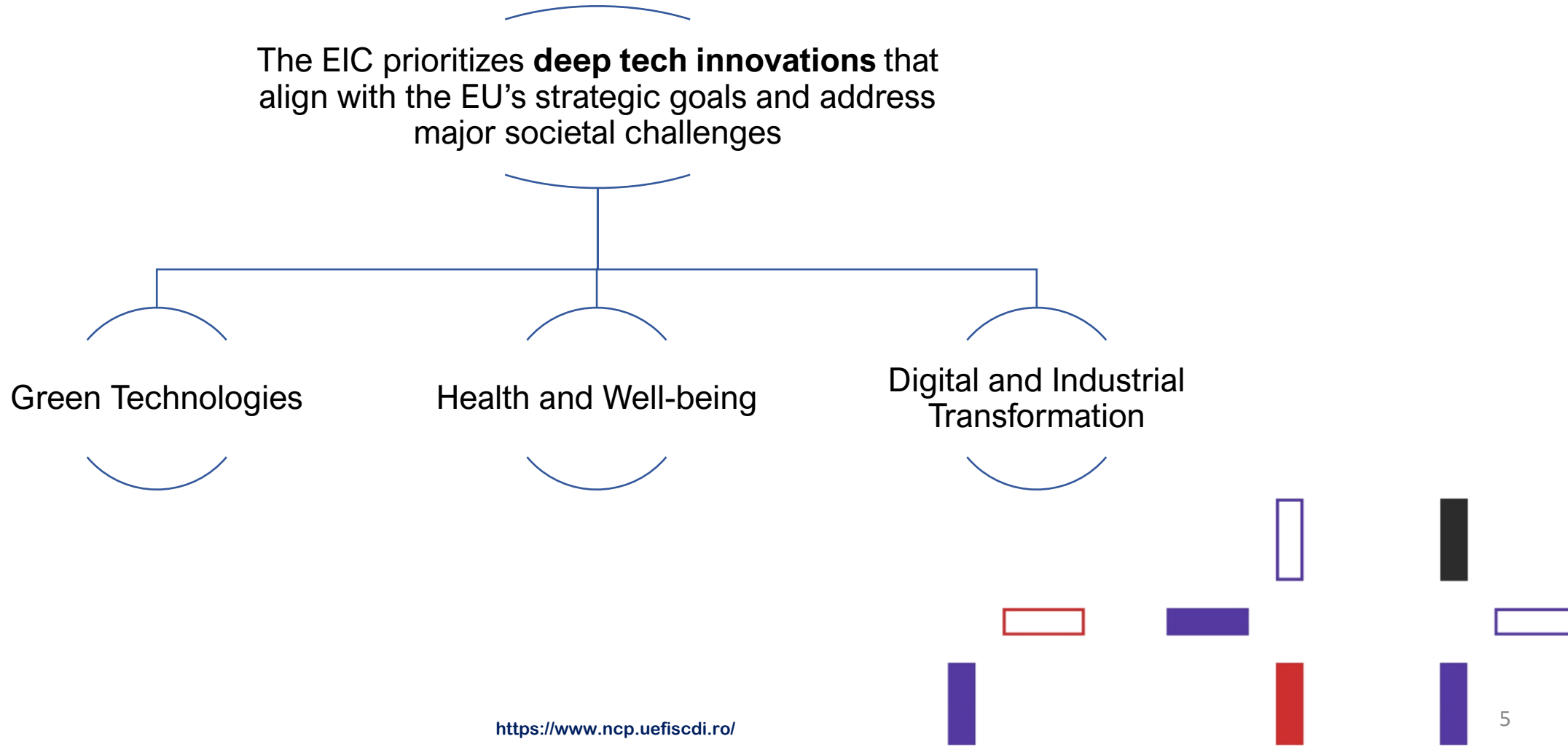
Deep Tech in the New European Innovation Agenda

1. Funding and Support for Deep Tech Startups	EIC, HE, EIT
2. Infrastructure and Ecosystem Development	Innovation Hubs and Clusters, Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs)
3. Regulatory and Policy Support	Regulatory Sandboxes, Standardization and Interoperability
4. Talent and Skills Development	Education and Training Programs, Attracting and Retaining Talent
5. Strategic Areas of Focus	Green Transition, Health and Well-being, Digital and Industrial Transformation
6. Public-Private Partnerships	Public-Private Investment Funds, Collaborative Research Projects

Deep Tech in the European Innovation Council – EIC

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/index_en

Identify, develop, and scale up high-risk, high-impact innovations across Europe



Funding Instruments in the European Innovation Council – EIC

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/index_en

Pathfinder

(TRL1-4)

- visionary research and the development of early-stage technologies
- high-risk, high-gain projects exploring novel ideas and interdisciplinary approaches
- **grants for exploratory research to validate the scientific basis of potentially groundbreaking innovations**

Transition

(TRL4-6)

- bridges the gap between research and market
- supports the maturation and validation of promising technologies and their business models
- helps to transform research results into innovation opportunities
- **funding for activities such as prototyping, business plans, and market analysis**

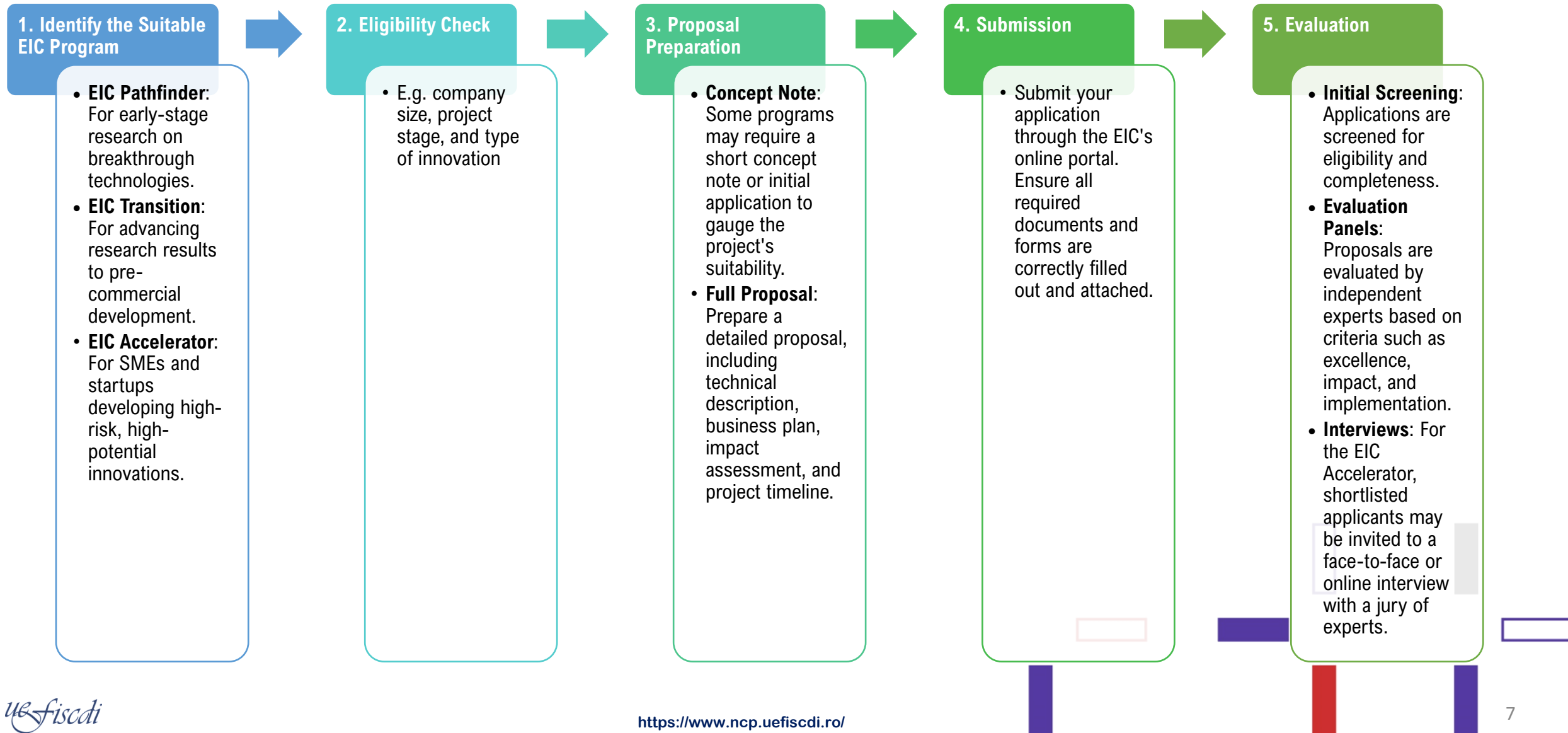
Accelerator

(TRL6-9)

- substantial **funding and support to scale up deep tech innovations**
- blended finance, combining grants and equity investments, to help companies bring their technologies to market and grow rapidly

Application process at the European Innovation Council – EIC

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/index_en



Application process at the European Innovation Council – EIC

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/index_en

European Commission | EU Funding & Tenders Portal

Home > Funding > Calls for proposals

Calls for proposals

Calls for proposals are funding opportunities issued by the European Union institutions, agencies and bodies. These are direct financial contributions, known as grants, that are awarded to third-party beneficiaries (e.g., research organisations, public entities, non-governmental organisations, and private companies) to engage in activities that serve EU policies.

More details [L](#)

Filters

1 item(s) found

Quick search

Select...

Programme: Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Programming period

Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

HORIZON-EIC-2024-TR...

Submission status

All filters

Transition Open 2024

HORIZON-EIC-2024-TRANSITIONOPEN-01 | Call for proposal

Opening date: 18 April 2024 | Next deadline: 18 September 2024 | Single-stage

Open For Submission

Programme: Horizon Europe (HORIZON) | Type of action: HORIZON EIC Grants

Items per page: 50

Showing 1-1 of 1

European Commission | EU Funding & Tenders Portal

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Filters

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Quick search

Select...

Programme: Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

Programming period

Horizon Europe (HORIZON)

HORIZON-EIC-2024-A...

Submission status

All filters

EIC Accelerator 2024 - Short application

HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATOR-01 | Call for proposal

Opening date: 03 January 2024 | Next deadline: 24 December 2024 | Single-stage

Open For Submission

Programme: Horizon Europe (HORIZON) | Type of action: HORIZON EIC Accelerator

Items per page: 50

Showing 1-1 of 1

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/calls-for-proposals>

Evaluation criteria at the European Innovation Council – EIC

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/index_en

	EIC Pathfinder	EIC Transition	EIC Accelerator
Excellence	<p>Innovation potential: Degree of breakthrough and radical innovation.</p> <p>Scientific basis: High-risk/high-gain research with solid scientific grounding.</p> <p>Ambition: Clarity, pertinence, and relevance of objectives.</p>	<p>Innovation potential: Degree of novelty and feasibility.</p> <p>Technology readiness: Appropriateness of the level of technological readiness and the plan to advance it.</p> <p>Scientific and technological approach: Clear, coherent, and credible approach.</p>	<p>Innovation: Degree of novelty and ambition in the innovation.</p> <p>Technological feasibility: Soundness and feasibility of the proposed technology or innovation.</p> <p>Intellectual Property: Strength and strategic approach to intellectual property.</p>
Impact	<p>Innovation ecosystem: Contribution to the growth of the European innovation ecosystem.</p> <p>Societal impact: Potential for societal, economic, and environmental impacts.</p> <p>Dissemination and exploitation: Quality of measures for dissemination and exploitation of results.</p>	<p>Market potential: Potential for market creation or transformation.</p> <p>Commercialization: Viability and scalability of the business model.</p> <p>Societal benefits: Broader societal and environmental benefits.</p>	<p>Market creation: Potential for creating new markets or disrupting existing ones.</p> <p>Commercialization strategy: Clear, realistic, and effective commercialization strategy.</p> <p>Scalability: Potential for growth and scalability.</p>
Quality and efficiency of the implementation	<p>Work plan: Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources.</p> <p>Team: Qualifications and experience of the individual participants and the team.</p> <p>Management structure: Quality and efficiency of the management and risk mitigation.</p>	<p>Project planning: Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan.</p> <p>Team: Expertise and capability of the team members.</p> <p>Risk management: Identification and management of risks.</p>	<p>Team: Capability and commitment of the team members.</p> <p>Work plan: Coherence and efficiency of the work plan.</p> <p>Resource allocation: Appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources.</p> <p>Risk assessment: Identification of risks and mitigation strategies.</p>

Key Points for EIC Applicants – General (1/3)

- Alignment with EIC objectives
- Clear and detailed proposals
- Strong impact justification
- Solid team and planning
- Engage stakeholders (e.g. potential customers, partners, and end-users early in the proposal development) process.
- Seek proposal feedback (e.g. colleagues, mentors, or external advisors; National Contact Points (NCPs) or EIC Business Acceleration Services)
- Follow formatting guidelines
- Prepare for interviews (EIC Accelerator)

Key Points for EIC Applicants - General (2/3)

- Understand the EIC program
- Early preparation
- Clear and concise writing

Key Points for EIC Applicants – General (3/3)

Proposal Content

1. Innovation and Excellence:

- Clearly articulate the novelty and breakthrough potential of your innovation.
- Demonstrate the scientific or technological foundation of your idea with evidence and references.
- Highlight the unique selling points and differentiators of your innovation.

2. Impact:

- Clearly describe the potential market impact, including market size, growth potential, and competitive landscape.
- Explain the societal, economic, and environmental benefits of your project.
- Outline your dissemination and exploitation strategy, including how you plan to protect and commercialize your intellectual property.

3. Implementation:

- Provide a detailed and coherent work plan, including specific tasks, milestones, and timelines.
- Demonstrate the capabilities and expertise of your team members, emphasizing their roles and contributions to the project.
- Identify potential risks and present a comprehensive risk management strategy.

Key Points for EIC Applicants – Specific

EIC Pathfinder:

- Focus on the high-risk/high-gain aspect of your research.
- Show a clear pathway from fundamental research to potential applications.
- Emphasize interdisciplinary approaches and collaboration.

EIC Transition:

- Clearly explain how the project builds on previous research results.
- Provide a detailed plan for advancing the technology readiness level (TRL).
- Highlight the commercial potential and planned route to market.

EIC Accelerator:

- Present a strong business case, including a clear value proposition and business model.
- Demonstrate market validation and customer interest.
- Highlight the scalability and growth potential of your innovation.

Case Study:

Funding your Deep Tech company to scale up in the European Union

1. Understanding Deep Tech and its challenges

2. Funding sources

- Grants
 - [Horizon Europe → EIC](#)
 - [Cohesion Funds](#)
 - National and regional grants
- Equity investment
 - Venture capital (VC)
 - Corporate venture capital (CVC)
 - Angel investors
- Debt Financing
 - Loans and credit lines ([European Investment Bank \(EIB\)](#) and national programs)

3. Support programs and networks

- [Startup Europe](#)
- [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#)
- Incubators and accelerators

4. Strategic partnerships

- Collaborations with universities and research institutions
- Industry partnerships
- Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

5. Market entry and expansion

- Market research
- Local presence
- Trade missions and expos



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elena.ungureanu@uefiscdi.ro

