# EIT Health Call Document Deep Tech Venture Builder Programme Call 2025

14 October 2024



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# Introduction

Deep technology or Deep Tech is a classification of an institution, an organisation or a start-up company, with the expressed objective of providing advanced and emerging technology solutions to deep societal challenges. Deep Tech presents scientific or engineering challenges requiring lengthy research and development, and large capital investment before successful commercialization. The primary risk is technical risk, while market risk is often significantly lower due to the clear potential value of the solution to society. The underlying scientific or engineering problems being solved by Deep Tech companies generate valuable intellectual property and are hard to reproduce. Moreover, the solutions provided by deep technology and applications are critical for solving the complex global challenges that humanity faces, including climate change, sustainable energy or health.<sup>1</sup>

In the rapidly evolving healthcare landscape, driven by technological advancements and a focus on patient-centric care, EIT Health is dedicated to foster a collaborative ecosystem to accelerate health-focused ventures. The transition from academic research to practical innovation is full of risks and challenges. The journey from research to innovation in Europe is known as the notorious "Valley of Death," where many promising ideas fail to transition out of academic environments. Successfully navigating this stage entails the crucial transition from theoretical concepts to the tangible establishment of a commercial entity, requiring strategic deployment of legal expertise, business vision, and entrepreneurial spirit.

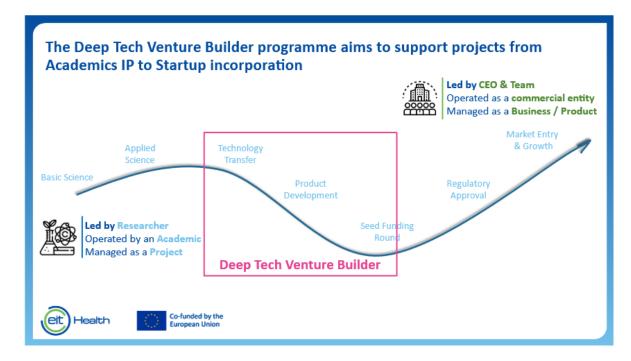
The Deep Tech Venture Builder (DTVB) programme seeks to bridge the gap between intellectual property and start-up incorporation by providing practical support on challenges such as bureaucratic hurdles, and funding uncertainties. The DTVB programme identifies and supports promising research and academic projects and provides a comprehensive ecosystem for the growth of small and micro enterprises. Through training and mentoring, access to an extensive healthcare innovation network, and financial support, the DTVB programme aims to de-risk early-stage investments in deep-tech and support innovation at pre-maturation and maturation stages. Figure 1 below shows the innovation journey from the laboratory to the market, and highlights where in this journey the DTVB programme will focus.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.eitdeeptechtalent.eu/the-pledge/what-is-deeptech/





Figure 1



#### In a nutshell

An overall financial amount of €2.7 million is available for this first edition of the DTVB. The main goal of the DTVB Programme is to transform deep tech academic research projects into ventures.

The programme is looking for academic teams or researchers with projects in Deep Tech that are focusing on MedTech<sup>2</sup>, and Digital Health<sup>3</sup>, with solutions that address pressing challenges in the healthcare sector. Teams should have an <u>Innovation Maturity Levels</u> (IML) of at least 3/4, and be aiming to reach a IML 6/7 by the end of the programme. Academic teams or researchers are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As per the MedTech Europe definition, MedTech refers to: "Medical technologies are products, services or solutions used to save and improve people's lives", What is Medical Technology? - MedTech Europe, <a href="https://www.medtecheurope.org/about-the-industry/what-is-medical-technology/">https://www.medtecheurope.org/about-the-industry/what-is-medical-technology/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As per the European Commission definition, Digital health and care refers to tools and services that use information and communication technologies (ICTs) to improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment, monitoring and management of health-related issues and to monitor and manage lifestyle-habits that impact health, <a href="https://health.ec.europa.eu/ehealth-digital-health-and-care/overview">https://health.ec.europa.eu/ehealth-digital-health-and-care/overview</a> en#:~:text=Digital%20health%20and%20care%20refers,lifestyle%2Dhabits%20that%20impact%20health.





requested to apply together with a venture builder. More details on this in the section <u>Conditions</u> to receive funding.

This call consists of two phases and aims at supporting **up to 20 projects** in Phase 1 and **up to 10 projects** in Phase 2 of the programme.

Each project will receive up to €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros) as a grant during Phase 1 of the DTVB. After completion of the first phase, and if successfully evaluated by an external expert committee, the project shall pass to Phase 2.

During Phase 2, projects that incorporate as a startup could receive additional funding from EIT Health in the form of a grant-to-option agreement of €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros). See the section Conditions to receive funding for more details.

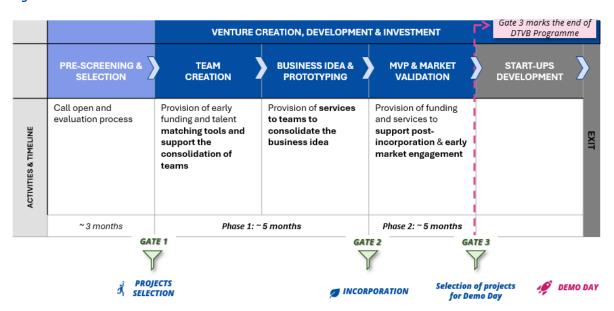




# The Deep Tech Venture Builder Programme

The DTVB programme is a 10-month programme structured in two phases. Phase 1 focuses on team creation, business idea development and prototyping. Phase 2 targets the minimum viable product (MVP) and market validation. To successfully complete Phase 1 and be considered for Phase 2, applicants will need to submit several deliverables that are linked to the achievement of certain milestones, one of which being company incorporation. The programme will end with a Demo Day where the selected teams who have successfully completed each stage present their company in front of investors and other stakeholders. Figure 2 below provides an illustration of the programme and its different phases.

Figure 2



#### The DTVB programme offers:

- Access to an assigned EIT Health staff based in the applicant's region to support and facilitate access to the EIT Health innovation ecosystem.
- Training via the EIT Health Academy, covering courses such as entrepreneurship, venture creation, and product development.
- Grant funding: structured in two stages, connected with programme phases.





Access to mentoring from an established Venture Builder.<sup>4</sup>

The grant funding available is divided as follows:

- Phase 1: Up to 20 teams will receive up to €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros) in grant support for a successful application to participate in the programme.
- Phase 2: Up to 10 teams that successfully complete Phase 1 and pass through Gate 2 into Phase 2 will receive up to €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) in grant support from EIT Health.<sup>5</sup>

# Phase 1: Team Creation, Business Idea Prototyping

# **Duration: 5 months**

This phase starts with Gate 1 after which up to 20 projects will be selected following a successful application. Once accepted into the programme, projects will be awarded up to €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros) as a grant from EIT Health<sup>6</sup> and in-kind services coordinated by EIT Health. Projects will receive training through the EIT Health Academy and assigned an EIT Health Entrepreneurship Lead to act as their single point of contact throughout the programme.

During Phase 1 the project will undergo a series of online and in-person training divided into six different modules. Teams may distribute the training among different team members as they see fit. At least two members of the team must complete all the training modules between them. Phase 1 modules are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1

#	Module title	Module contents
1	Introduction to Venture Building	<ul> <li>Introduction and orientation webinar</li> <li>Case studies of successful healthcare start-ups</li> </ul>
2	Entrepreneurial and Commercial Mindset	<ul> <li>Entrepreneurship 101</li> <li>Introduction to Design Thinking for Healthcare</li> <li>Masterclass: turn your idea into a business</li> <li>Basic Financial Literacy</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Venture Builder will apply to the call together with the academic / research team

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> There is a condition of EIT Health funding that a co-investor also provides additional €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) investment. See Conditions to receive funding for more information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Grant money will be managed via the academic or research institution.



#	Module title	Module contents
3	Team Creation and Development	<ul> <li>Understanding team dynamics</li> <li>Identifying skills and Competencies</li> <li>Effective communication and collaboration</li> </ul>
4	Product Development and Technology	<ul> <li>Market research and validation</li> <li>Customer discovery and validation</li> <li>Regulatory basics and first strategy</li> <li>Develop a minimum viable product (MVP), prototyping and testing</li> </ul>
5	Business Model and Strategy	<ul> <li>Business model development</li> <li>Cost structure and financial planning</li> <li>Strategic planning and roadmap</li> </ul>
6	Tech Transfer Strategies & Impact Assessment	<ul> <li>Introduction to tech transfer</li> <li>Intellectual Property management</li> <li>Commercial potential assessment</li> </ul>

Throughout Phase 1, teams will be supported in the development of their project by members of their consortium. In particular, the Venture Builder will be expected to provide a minimum of 15 hours of mentoring and project planning.

Following the training and support provided, teams will work on the required deliverables for passing through Gate 2. This will include defining a project plan and budget for the following 5 months. When preparing project plans, the teams will be expected to incorporate a third partner linked to the future development activities. The third partner should be a healthcare organization, another research institution or lab providing testbeds or facilities for the startup to validate and test their solution, or a technology provider needed to test or validate the startup's solution.

At the end of Phase 1, plans will be evaluated at Gate 2 according to a set of quality criteria (see the section <u>Evaluation Process</u>). Up to 10 projects that meet the required quality criteria will pass through Gate 2 and will participate in Phase 2. See the section on the <u>application process</u> for further details.

# Milestones

By the end of Phase 1, teams will have achieved the following:

- Completion of training modules 1 to 6.
- Completion of mentoring hours.
- Added a third partner to the consortium.





- The third partner should be a healthcare organization, another research institution or lab providing testbeds or facilities for the startup to validate and test their solution, or a technology provider needed to test or validate the startup's solution. They will deliver services related to the MVP development and market validation in Phase 2.
- The third partner legal entity must reside in a country different either from the venture builder or academic /research institution.
- Attained the commitment of at least 1 full-time employee
- Start-up incorporation before 14 July 2025.

# Deliverables

Deliverables submitted at the end of Phase 1 will be used to assess and evaluate teams at Gate 2. The documents to submit for Gate 2 evaluation will include:

- One page summary of the project.
- A startup and pitch presentation.
- Preliminary business plan
  - Plan should cover the regulatory pathway strategy, team building, Research & Development spending, partner strategy, prototype development, product market fit, amongst other areas.
  - o Clinical unmet need
- Project Plan for the next 5 months, including Phase 2 milestones.
  - Plan should cover budgets for Phase 2 and include what the €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) plus what the <u>30% co-funding</u> will be spent on. The activities and costs detailed in the budget must be all related to the development of the MVP and market validation.
- Reports detailing how the initial grant of up to €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros) has been spent.
- The startup needs to provide proof of non-refundable payment by the Venture Builder or co-investor in order to access Phase 2.
- Certification of start-up incorporation before 14 July 2025.

# Phase 2: Minimum Viable Product (MVP) and Market Validation

# **Duration: 5 months**

Phase 2 starts after passing the Gate 2 evaluation process. Following submission to the Gate 2 evaluation, up to 10 shortlisted projects will be invited to Phase 2. See the evaluation criteria in the Evaluation process at Gate 2 section.





The selected projects admitted to Phase 2 will have access to a €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euro) grant and receive a series of online and in person training across a further three modules. Table 2 below details the training modules.

In Phase 2 teams will receive support in developing their MVP and achieving market validation, and a minimum of 25 mentoring hours from their consortium Venture Builder.

Table 2

#	Module title	Module contents
7	Product refinement and scaling	<ul><li>User feedback and iteration</li><li>Quality assurance</li><li>Health Tech Innovations</li></ul>
8	Market Access	<ul> <li>Market assessment and go-to-market strategies</li> <li>Regulatory pathways and Compliance</li> <li>Reimbursement and pricing strategies</li> <li>Branding and positioning</li> </ul>
9	Funding and Financial management	<ul> <li>Start-up financing and funding sources</li> <li>Preparing for fundraising</li> <li>Investor relations</li> </ul>

# Milestones

Participants will need to achieve the below milestones to pass Phase 2 and on to Gate 3:

- Clinical roadmap: Participants will need to identify and document the development steps required to get to clinical trials and the associated costs.
- Preclinical trials: Depending on the technology and solution, during Phase 2, teams should have started preclinical trials, in a way that the preclinical trials help researchers assess the new treatment's safety, toxicity, and efficacy before it can be tested in humans.
- CE marking roadmap: Participants will need to identify and document the steps to achieving CE marking and the associated costs.
- Minimum Viable Product: Participants will need to develop the minimum viable product
- Startup continuity: By the end of Phase 2 Startup must be still incorporated and existent.
- Completion of training modules 7-9
- Completion of mentoring hours





# **Deliverables**

At the end of Phase 2, participants will submit the following documents to be evaluated at Gate 3:

- An updated one pager
- An updated slide deck detailing the project
- o A hiring plan detailing how a full time and dedicated team will be set up
- o Report detailing the achievement of Phase 2 milestones including:
  - Startup continuity
  - Completion of training & mentoring
  - Clinical roadmap: identification of steps to be performed and related costs to be sustained
  - CE marking roadmap
  - MVP
  - Clear visibility on runway: reporting on how the €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) has been used so far and how they plan to use the co-investors' money going forward.
- A plan on how to achieve medium and long term milestones on how the project has and will develop and team performance in achieving milestone set in Phase 1 & 2.

Only startups that complete all modules and milestones during Phase 2 will pass through to the Gate 3 evaluation. At Gate 3, an external panel of experts will remotely evaluate the deliverables provided by the consortium. Successful submissions will be invited to participate in the Demo Day. The Demo Day will be an opportunity for startups to demonstrate their project to VCs, industry leaders, and other relevant stakeholders from EIT Health's network.

For further details on the required conditions of funding please see the <u>Conditions to receive</u> <u>funding</u> section.

Table 3: Overview of DTVB Programme Timeline

Stage	Dates
Call open	14 October 2024
Webinar for applicants	24 October 2024 – 12.00pm CET



Stage	Dates
Call close	16 December 2024
Eligibility check	17 – 18 December 2024
Eligibility check notification	19 December 2024
Remote review	19 December 2024 – 09 January 2025
Interviews invitation	10 January 2025
Interviews	13 – 17 January 2025
Selection Notification	23 January 2025
Stand Still Period	23 January 2025 – 23 February 2025
Phase 1 starts	24 February 2025
Phase 1 deliverables submission deadline	14 July 2025, 12.00 CEST
Invitation for online pitching	15 July 2025
Evaluation at Gate 2  Remote review of deliverables  Online Pitching	14 – 18 July 2025 22 – 25 July 2025
Due diligence	15 July – 30 July 2025
Selection Notification	31 July 2025
Stand still period	1 August – 21 August 2025
Phase 2 starts	1 September 2025
Phase 2 ends	31 December 2025
Phase 2 deliverables submission deadline	20 January 2026, 12.00 CET





Stage	Dates
Invitation for final online pitching	21 January 2026
Final Evaluation (Gate 3)	
Remote review of deliverables	21 – 27 January 2026
Online Pitching	28 – 30 January 2026
Selection notification for Demo Day	09 February 2026
Demo Day	To be determined





# Conditions to receive funding

The beneficiary of the DTVB programme in the two different phases is defined as follows:

- 1. In Phase 1: The beneficiary of the DTVB programme is the legal entity where the assets resulting from the scientific research and/or innovation activities reside.
- In Phase 2: The legal entity incorporated after Phase 1 of the DTVB and also the third organization added to the consortium and that provides, for example, access to testbeds, labs or provides technology needed for the MVP and/or market validation phase.

This call follows the principle of equal opportunity and is open to applications for funding from both EIT Health association members and applicants outside of the EIT Health Partnership.

The European Commission is committed to promoting gender equality in innovation and technology. The EIT, as a body of the European Union and integral part of Horizon Europe, plays a vital role in supporting the EU's objectives of creating sustainable economic growth and jobs by enabling entrepreneurs and innovators to turn their best ideas into products and services for Europe. EIT Health shares the EIT KIC gender diversity value statement through supporting well-being at work, compliance with domestic and EU regulations, attracting and retaining talents, economic benefits, excellence and quality, effectiveness and efficiency of innovations and technology and as a leverage for organisational change. Consequently, the gender requirements in Horizon Europe are of significant importance for all EIT Health-supported and funded activities. Individuals cannot apply for funding under this call.

Above and beyond the specific EIT Health rules of participation, all activities must comply with the relevant Horizon Europe and EIT financial and legal framework considerations.

In case of questions regarding eligibility, reach out to <a href="mailto:flagships@eithealth.eu">flagships@eithealth.eu</a> with DTVB in the subject of the email.

# General EIT Health conditions for funding

To be eligible for funding, all applicants must be established in one of the Member States (MS) including their outermost regions, the Overseas Countries and Territories linked to the Member





States<sup>7</sup> or in countries associated to Horizon Europe as well as certain low- and middle-income countries <sup>8 9 10</sup>.

EIT Health encourages the participation of entities from the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS Regions) with the goal of improving the Knowledge Triangle integration, the innovation capacity of local ecosystems in RIS countries and regions, and attracting new RIS Partners.

The involvement of an EIT Health KIC member is recommended and highly preferable.

The provisions of the Articles of Association and By-Laws of the EIT Health association (EIT Health e.V) will apply to partners of selected activity consortiums who will only be eligible to receive funding after they have acceded to the relevant EIT Health legal framework.

To uphold the principles of EIT Health financial sustainability, the activities selected in this call that will enter EIT Health's portfolio and receive funding must commit to contributing to the long-term financial sustainability targets of EIT Health. To do so, they will be required to sign a Financial Contribution agreement. This agreement establishes a framework for responsible financial management, where beneficiaries are obligated to sign the Financial Contribution agreement, acknowledging their commitment to adhere to the specified EIT Health financial models and practices outlined here. Please see the DTVB Term sheet at Annex III in the <u>Appendices document</u> for further details.

<sup>7</sup> Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> UK entities will now be eligible to directly receive EIT funding, if selected as a part of a granted project consortia and will be treated as all other participants from Horizon Europe participating and associated countries. UK entities selected as part of prior calls for proposals (2023 and prior) will continue to be covered by the local UK reimbursement scheme. Further information on this topic can be found on the UK Research and Innovation website or by reaching out to the EIT Health Ireland-UK Co-location Centre.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Switzerland is currently not an associated country of the Horizon Europe programme. As such, Swiss entities are not directly eligible to receive EIT funding, when part of a selected project consortia. Entities can receive up to €60,000 in EIT funding within the EIT Health Business Plan 2023-2025. However, for funding above €60,000 organisations need to refer to the Swiss national reimbursement scheme. In the current non-associated third country mode, researchers and innovators in Switzerland are funded directly by the Swiss Confederation if the complete project proposal has been positively evaluated. Further information is available on the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) of Switzerland or by reaching out to the EIT Health Germany-Switzerland Co-location Centre.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Due to a decision by the Council of the European Union, published on and effective as of 15 December 2022, certain Hungarian "public trust foundations" are currently not eligible to receive funding under the Horizon Europe and Erasmus programmes. These Hungarian entities can still participate without receiving EIT funding, as an Associated partner, if allowed by the call conditions. Further information can be found on the EU Commission Funding and Tenders FAQ website. EU Commission Funding and Tenders FAQ website.





The maximum amount of financial support provided to individual entities within the 3-year duration of the Grant Agreement between EIT Health and EIT, namely 2023-2025 should not exceed €6,000,000 (six million Euros).

# Specific conditions to receive funding at Phase 1

#### **Team**

- Research projects will need to be submitted by the organisation where the project is developed /where the protectable asset resides.
- At Phase 1 the consortium should consist of a team residing at an academic or research institution and Venture Builder.
- Each application must include the support of a Venture Builder. Organisations we consider as a
  Venture Builder includes organisations that specialise in creating and launching new
  businesses. Venture Builders use their own resources and networks to develop an idea into a
  product and create startups. Venture Builders are involved in the entire process from ideation,
  validation, and creation, to scaling and exit, providing a comprehensive approach to turn
  business concepts into independent companies.<sup>11</sup>
- The Venture Builder will provide support in the form of mentoring and services to develop the
  project and have an interest of investing in the future of the start-up in phase 2, or support in
  securing a co-investor. The costs of mentoring provided by the Venture Builder may count
  towards the additional 30% co-funding requirement. See section on <u>Budget</u> for further details.
- The Venture Builder needs to provide a Letter of Intent (LOI) to ensure securing the coinvestment in phase 2, either by themselves or by a third party.
- Each consortium must contribute to the <u>European Green Deal</u> and the <u>Sustainable</u>
   <u>Development Goals</u> (SDGs). At submission, each consortium must add at least one CUST KPI
   that proves how they contribute to the reduction of the environmental impact of their activity
   and at least 2 SDGs that the activity will contribute to<sup>12</sup>.
- Each consortium, must contribute to the EIT and EIT Health Dissemination and Promotion, and must follow the communication, dissemination, open science and visibility rules, including branding guidelines and obligations (set out in MGA Article 17). A communication, dissemination and outreach plan is required for each activity, including those providing financial support to third parties<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://iceo.co/blog/explaining-venture-building-what-it-is-what-it-is-not-and-what-stages-of-building-companies-it-covers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Above mentioned CUST KPI is not required for education proposals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Not applicable to Education programmes





- As part of the evaluation process, each consortium must complete the mandatory Ethical, Legal and Social Implications self-assessment checklist related to Horizon Europe in the EIT Health application system. Please see <u>Horizon Europe guidance here</u>, if needed.
- The final recipients of funding must comply with the IPR rules under the MGA Article 16.

# **Budget**

- At Phase 1 teams will need to clearly demonstrate how they will use total Phase 1 budget. This
  will be a minimum of €71,428 (seventy-one thousand four hundred twenty-eight Euros) and a
  maximum of €85, 714 (eighty five thousand even hundred fourteen Euros) from 01 February
  2025 to 13 July 2025. These amounts are derived from the following:
  - EIT Health will provide 70% of the total funding. This is a minimum of €50,000 (fifty thousand Euros) and a maximum of €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros) of EIT Health funding.
  - An additional 30% co-funding is expected. Based on the above EIT funding range, this 30% will therefore range between €21,428 (twenty one thousand four hundred twenty eight Euros) and €25,714 (twenty five thousand seven hundred fourteen Euros)
- The maximum duration of EIT Health financial support in Phase 1 is 5 months and will last until 13 July 2025, at the latest.

# **Funding rate**

• The maximum funding rate from EIT Health is 70% of costs incurred by the consortium for full duration of the phase 1 activity, up to a maximum of €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros).

#### Duration

• The DTVB Phase 1 covers up to 5 months (24 February 2025 to 13 July 2025). Teams should aim to incorporate as startups by 14 July 2025 at the latest.

# **Key Performance Indicators**

The below key performance indicators are a mandatory requirement for project monitoring. These are expected to be demonstrated through dedicated KPIs (core KPI and/or EIT health KPI), at the proposal stage and shall be documented by annual reporting. Please find list of KPIs here. Among the list of available KPIs the below ones are mandatory:

- Number of innovative products, processes and methods, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
  applications (code EITHE01.1)
- Amount of investment attracted (code EITHE06.1)





- Number of startups incorporated (code EITHE04.1)
- Number of individuals who have gone through the EIT Health labelled courses (code EITHE07.5)

# Conditions to receive funding at Phase 2

In order to apply to receive up to €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euro) grant at Phase 2, teams must meet the below conditions.

#### **Team**

- The consortium must consist of the academic or research institution where the project resides, a Venture Builder, the newly incorporated startup, and a third institution from different country to the startup, or to the Venture Builder.
- A third partner must join the consortium formed by Venture Builder and the academic institution where the project resides.
- The third partner must be a healthcare organization, or another research institution or lab providing testbeds or facilities for the startup to validate and test their solution, or a technology provider needed to test or validate the startup's solution.
- The third partner must legally reside in an EU country different from that of the Venture builder or the academic /research institution.
- The SME must be incorporated before 14 July 2024.
- Each consortium must contribute to the <u>European Green Deal</u> and the <u>Sustainable</u>
   <u>Development Goals</u> (SDGs). At submission, each consortium must add at least one CUST KPI
   that proves how they contribute to the reduction of the environmental impact of their activity
   and at least 2 SDGs that the activity will contribute to. 14
- Each consortium, must contribute to the EIT and EIT Health Dissemination and Promotion, and must follow the communication, dissemination, open science and visibility rules, including branding guidelines and obligations (set out in MGA Article 17). A communication, dissemination and outreach plan is required for each activity, including those providing financial support to third parties. 15
- As part of the evaluation process, each consortium must complete the mandatory Ethical, Legal and Social Implications self-assessment checklist related to Horizon Europe in the EIT Health application system. Please see <u>Horizon Europe guidance here</u>, if needed.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 14}$  Above mentioned CUST KPI is not required for education proposals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Not applicable to Education programmes





The final recipients of funding must comply with the IPR rules under the MGA Article 16.

# **Budget**

- At Phase 2 teams will need to clearly demonstrate how they will use Phase 2 budget. This will be a minimum of €214,285 (two hundred fifteen thousand Euros) from 01 August 2025 to 31 December 2025. As with Phase 1, this is derived in the following manner:
  - EIT Health will provide 70% of the funding, up to a maximum of €150, 000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) grant to the consortium.
  - As with Phase 1, an additional 30% minimum co-funding is expected. This amounts to €64,285 (sixty-four thousand two hundred eighty-five Euros). This can come from any partner in the consortium.
- Furthermore, the Venture Builder should co-invest or provide a co-investor that at least matches EIT Health DTVB's Phase 2 total grant of a maximum €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros).
- Under compliance of the conditions stated above, incorporated start-ups will receive €100,000 (one hundred thousand Euros) grant in cash from EIT Health and at least €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) from a co-investor.
- The third partner institution will receive up to €50,000 (fifty thousand Euros) in grant from EIT Health. The third partner institution must spend the budget in activities directly contributing to the development of the MVP and market validation of the startup. The third partner institution must provide these details in the budget table of the project, detailing the activities contributing to the development of the MVP and market validation of the startup.
- The budget must be spent according to Horizon Europe Annotated Model Grant Agreement in activities contributing to the development of the project, focusing, for example, on MVP development and market validation.
- To uphold the principles of EIT Health's financial sustainability, all activities selected in EIT Health's portfolio and receiving funding must commit to contributing to the long-term financial sustainability targets of EIT Health and will be required to enter into a Financial Sustainability agreement. This agreement establishes a framework for responsible financial management, where beneficiaries are obligated to sign the Financial Sustainability agreement, acknowledging their commitment to adhere to the specified EIT Health financial models and practices outlined within. The financial model to be used in this programme will be EIT Health's Grant to Options agreement. Please see the DTVB Term sheet at Annex III in the Appendices document for further details.





# **Funding rate**

- The maximum funding rate from EIT Health is 70% of costs incurred by the consortium for full duration of the activity, up to a maximum of €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros).
- Co-founding totalling 30% of total incurred costs is requested from consortium members for Phase 2.
- The startup needs to provide proof of non-refundable payment by the Venture Builder or coinvestor in order to access Phase 2 EIT Health grant. EIT Health will co-invest on a pari-passu (equal footing) basis with the co-investor up to a maximum of €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros).

#### Duration

• The DTVB Phase 2 lasts up to 5 months from 01 August 2025 to 31 December 2025. Once teams are incorporated, the commercialising entity and the third party will receive the funding from EIT Health. The corresponding EIT Health budget will need to be fully used by 31 December 2025.

# **Key Performance Indicators**

The below key performance indicators are a mandatory requirement for project monitoring. These are expected to be demonstrated through dedicated KPIs (core KPI and/or EIT health KPI), milestones and/or deliverables at the proposal stage and shall be documented by annual reporting. Please see the EIT Health Key Performance Indicator Framework at Annex II in the <a href="Appendices document">Appendices document</a> for further details.

- Number of innovative products, processes and methods, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) applications (code EITHE01.1)
- Amount of investment attracted (code EITHE06.1)
- Number of jobs created in new businesses as a direct result of your project (code KICO1)
- Graduates from EIT Labelled courses (code EITHE07.1)
- All points described above are expected to be demonstrated through dedicated KPIs (core KPI and/or EIT health KPI), milestones and/or deliverables at the proposal stage and shall be documented by annual reporting. Please see here for EIT Health's list of KPIs.





# **Application Process**

Applications must be submitted through the <u>EIT Health Application Platform</u>. If the applicant is already an EIT Health member or has registered as an External project Partner in a previous Call(s) on the EIT Health platform PLAZA, the corresponding data for the organisation will be available in the application platform. However, the applicant will still need to create a new account as an Organisation Representative and link themselves to their organisation. The approval of this link might take up to 48 hours and extra information on the organisation profile might be requested. New applicants will need to register on the application platform.

The deadline for applications is 16 December 2024, 16.00 CET. Applications received after the deadline or by any other means not the EIT Health Application Platform will not be considered.

Applications must be in English.

All applicants will be informed of the selection process outcome in each of the relevant evaluation stages, by email.

# Phase 1 application

To apply to be accepted onto the DTVB programme the following documents will be required during the application process:

- Application information
  - Work plan
  - Budget detailing how the up to €60,000 (sixty thousand Euros) grant will be spent
  - Description of the technology involved in the valorisation
  - Target market and end users
  - Status of the validation of the technology
  - Economic or social value of the valorisation of the results
  - IP rights
  - Description of team and CVs for each member
  - Three-minute video with introduction of the team and solution
  - Description of the Venture Builder
  - Letter of intent to commit to co-investment or secure a co-investor from the Venture Builder





- One pager containing:
  - Name of the project team
  - Team description
  - Problem statement
  - Solution Short description of the technology
  - Target market
  - Initial ideas for business model

# Phase 2 application

Following successful completion of DTVB Phase 1, project teams will need to apply for acceptance onto Phase 2 of the DTVB programme. The deadline for applications is 13 July 2025 at 16.00 CET. The following deliverables and information, amongst others, will need to be submitted through the <u>EIT Health Application Platform</u>:

- Updated one pager
- Complete slide deck summarizing the project
- Business plan covering, but not limited to:
  - regulatory pathway strategy,
  - team building,
  - research and development spending,
  - partner strategy,
  - prototype development,
  - product market fit
- Plan detailing how to achieve the Phase 2 milestones
- Report on how the up to €60,000 grant has been spent
- Evidence of the completion of training modules 1 to 6
- Details of the third partner to be added to the consortium.
  - The third partner will deliver services related to the MVP development and market validation. The third partner legal entity must reside in a country different either from the venture builder or academic /research institution. See <u>conditions to receive</u> <u>funding at phase 2</u> for further information.





• Evidence of full-time commitment of at least 1 full-time employee and certification of startup incorporation before 14 July 2025

The section below details how applications will be evaluated.





# Selection process

This section details how applications will be evaluated at each of the evaluation stages known as 'Gates'.

# Evaluation process at Gate 1

# **Eligibility check**

EIT Health Staff will conduct a formal eligibility check after reviewing all applications, considering completeness and compliance with all requirements specified in the <u>application platform</u>. Applications that do not fulfil eligibility criteria will be rejected from the selection process.

In addition to the requirements covered in the sections above, only applications that meet the following eligibility criteria will proceed for evaluation by an external panel of experts:

- Teams must consist of a multidisciplinary team of at least two individuals, coming from an organisation eligible to receive funding.
- Teams must apply with a Venture Builder with a letter of intent to commit to co-investment or secure a co-investor.
- Project applications must focus on DeepTech in the areas of MedTech and Digital Health.
- At least one entity of the consortium must be registered in an EU or a Horizon Europe associated country.
- Solutions must be at an Innovation Maturity Level (IML) 3 or 4.
- The protected or protectable assets must reside within the team or applicant organisation.

#### **Remote Evaluation**

The external evaluation will take the form of a remote review. Eligible applications will be reviewed by an external independent committee of experts, commissioned by EIT Health. At least 3 experts will review a single application. Each application will be rated based on a set of evaluation criteria to produce a final score out of 100. Table 4 below gives an overview of the evaluation criteria to be used during the remote review stage of Phase 1 applications.

Following the remote evaluation, applications that score at least 70 /100 or more will be ranked and up to a maximum of 40 applications will be invited to interviews at the next stage of the evaluation process.





#### Table 4

#### **Remote Review Evaluation Criteria**

#### **Activity Excellence and Strategic Fit (25%)**

**Disruptiveness and description of the solution:** Clarity and pertinence of the activity's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious and goes beyond the state-of-the-art. Projects must propose breakthrough solutions capable of significantly altering market dynamics and create new paradigms with the final goal of improving patient's lives.

Unmet need: The project proposes to solve unmet clinical and/or business needs

**Strategic Fit:** The project justifies the necessity and relevance of EIT Health public funding and is aligned with EIT Health's ambition and strategy, in the areas of Deep Tech focusing on Digital Health and MedTech

# Impact and Sustainability (25%)

# **Applications should:**

- demonstrate pathways to achieve expected outcomes and impacts identified with plausible planning;
- identify measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts;
- present and initial idea of the potential business model. This can be refined during full proposal preparation; and,
- demonstrate scalability. The team should show a clear path to exponential growth, which includes a plan to efficiently scale operations to meet increasing demand.
- describe the impact generated by the proposed solution (social/economic impact, contribution to the healthcare system, contribution to the EU Green Deal and environment footprint reduction of the healthcare system.
- Contribute to at least 2 UN SDGs

# Implementation and Feasibility (50%)

# **Applications should:**

 demonstrate quality and effectiveness of the initial plan to implement the solution and reach the innovation maturity level foreseen;





#### **Remote Review Evaluation Criteria**

- evidence the capacity and role of each team participant;
- identify the complementary expertise required;
- demonstrate entrepreneurial experience;
- present an appropriately built budget to accomplish solution development
- evidence the practicality and viability of the proposed technology and business model, including its ability to achieve its goals with the available resources. Teams have to demonstrate technical development will be guaranteed; and,
- evidence the support of a competent Venture Builder.

#### **Interviews**

Shortlisted teams from the remote evaluation process will be invited for a 20-minute online interview with one expert from the remote evaluation committee and one EIT Health DTVB programme manager.

Each application will be rated based on a set of evaluation criteria. These evaluation criteria are set out in Table 5 below:

#### Table 5

# **Interview Evaluation Criteria**

# Team presentation, roles, and complementarity (30%)

Expertise, synergies and complementarity between team members. Experience in similar project or previous entrepreneurial experience. Meaningful role of assigned personnel and responsibility. Individuals should be coachable, and exhibit an entrepreneurial mindset and be willing to register a start-up company until the end of the DTVB programme

# Unmet clinical need and solution: Problem solution fit (30%)

To what extent is the proposed solution addressing a clearly defined unmet clinical need relevant at **a** European level, considering problem severity and people impacted?

# Product market fit (15%)





#### **Interview Evaluation Criteria**

How well does the proposed solution align with market demands? The team should demonstrate a clear understanding of their target market, potential competitors, and how their solution provides unique value to potential customers or users.

#### Support provided by the applying organisation and the Venture Builder (15%)

Track record of the venture builder in digital health or MedTech. Network and level of support at a local level (mentors, venture capitalists, public and private institutions, etc).

#### Open questions to further clarify the application information and documents (10%)

Evaluators can ask specific questions about any unclear points from the initial application. It's an opportunity to delve deeper into aspects of the project that may need further explanation or elaboration.

The score obtained from the interviews will be out of 100. This score will be combined with the remote evaluation score by taking the mean score of the remote evaluation and the interview score. Applications must score at least 70 / 100 overall to be considered for Phase 1 of the DTVB programme. Applications will be ranked by their overall score and EIT Health will select up to the top 20 to be accepted onto the DTVB programme.

# Ethical Legal and Social Issues (ELSI) review

Applications at Gate 1 will undergo an ELSI review. The ELSI review will aim to ensure that all elements in the proposal linked to critical ethical, legal and social considerations are well defined and addressed, thereby helping to de-risk the EIT Health portfolio. Feedback from the ELSI review will be shared with the applicants by email with their overall score and invitation (if applicable) to Phase 1.

# **Evaluation process at Gate 2**

At the end of Phase 1, up to 10 of the potentially 20 projects selected for Phase 1 will be selected for Phase 2. Selection will be based on an evaluation process based on a remote evaluation of Phase 1 deliverables, and online pitches. The Gate 2 evaluation process consists of the following

# **Eligibility check**

As with applications at Gate 1, Gate 2 applications will be subject to an eligibility check based on the following criteria:





- All deliverables must have been submitted before 14 July 2025 on the <u>EIT Health application</u> platform
- All mentoring and training modules on the EIT Health Academy platform must be completed
- The startup must be incorporated
- A co-investor must have been identified
- A third partner of the consortium must have been onboarded

# Remote evaluation and online pitching

Following submission of the required deliverables, EIT Health will appoint a panel of external experts to evaluate each project that completes Phase 1 and select up to 10 projects to pass Gate 2 into Phase 2. The panel will consist of industry, technical, clinical experts, regulatory experts, institutional early-stage investors, corporates, and Key Opinion Leaders (KOLs) on sector-specific matters. Experts will evaluate the quality of the following deliverables remotely between 14 July 2025 and 18 July 2025:

- Updated one pager
- Complete slide deck detailing the project
- Business plan covering, but not limited to:
  - regulatory pathway strategy,
  - team building,
  - research and development spending,
  - partner strategy,
  - prototype development,
  - product market fit.
- Plan detailing how to achieve the Phase 2 milestones.
- Report on how the up to €60,000 grant has been spent.
- Evidence of the completion of training modules 1 to 6.
- Details of the third partner to be added to the consortium.
  - The third partner will deliver services related to the MVP development and market validation. The third partner legal entity must reside in a country different either from the venture builder or academic /research institution. See conditions to receive funding at phase 2 for further information.





• Evidence of full-time commitment of at least 1 full-time employee and certification of startup incorporation before 14 July 2025.

Following the remote review of all submitted documents, projects will be invited to an online pitching event to present their projects. Online pitches will take place between 22 July 2025 and 25 July 2025.

Projects must have successfully submitted all the required documents to be invited to the online pitching. The online pitches should demonstrate the following:

- Quality and strategic fit of the management team;
- a robust business plan;
- a clear regulatory pathway strategy;
- a compelling and clear pitch;
- quality and stage of prototype development; and,
- clearly defined roles and contributions within the team, balanced combination of talents and business and technical expertise.

The external panel of experts will evaluate the deliverables and the online pitching based on the criteria in Table 6 below. Internal EIT Health staff may also join the online pitching sessions to be informed of project progress and to clarify questions that may facilitate a thorough assessment of the deliverables.

# Table 6

#### Gate 2 Deliverables and Online Pitch Evaluation Criteria

# **Activity Excellence and Strategic Fit (25%)**

**Disruptiveness:** Clarity and pertinence of the activity's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious and goes beyond the state-of-the-art. Projects must propose breakthrough solutions capable of significantly alter market dynamics and create new paradigms with the final goal of improving patient's lives. The project proposes to solve unmet clinical and/or business needs

Projects should clearly demonstrate the problem, and how the solution addresses the problem.

Projects should also demonstrate how their product is suited to the identified market.

Teams must deliver a clear and compelling pitch.





#### Pitch must clearly state the unmet need and how the solution is addressing it.

#### Impact and Sustainability (25%)

Applications should:

- demonstrate pathways to achieve expected outcomes and impacts identified with plausible planning;
- identify measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts;
- present a refined version of the potential business model presented at Gate 1;
- demonstrate scalability. The team should show a clear path to exponential growth, which includes a plan to efficiently scale operations to meet increasing demand; and,
- describe the impact generated by the proposed solution (social/economic impact, contribution to the healthcare system, contribution to the EU Green Deal and environment footprint reduction of the healthcare system.
- Contribute to at least 2 UN SDGs

The pitch must demonstrate the above-mentioned points in a compelling and clear way.

# Implementation and Feasibility (50%)

# **Applications should:**

- demonstrate the quality, robustness and effectiveness of the business plan;
- the team should achieve the milestones and deliverables in Phase 1, and prove to be coachable and of an entrepreneurial mindset;
- evidence a clear regulatory pathway strategy;
- evidence the practicality and viability of the proposed technology and business model, including its ability to achieve its goals with the available resources. Teams have to demonstrate technical development will be guaranteed; and,
- show the quality and stage of prototype development.

The pitch must demonstrate the above-mentioned points compellingly and clearly.





The result of remote evaluation and online pitching will result in a single quality evaluation score out of 100. Applications must score at least 70 / 100 to be considered for the Phase 2. Applications will be ranked by their quality evaluation score.

# **Due Diligence**

In parallel to the quality evaluation process, all projects that submit an application and pass the eligibility check will go through a due diligence process. To be considered for the due diligence process, projects must have successfully completed Phase 1 and submitted the corresponding deliverables.

To ensure the financial sustainability of EIT Health, successful applicants are required to sign EIT Health's Grant to Options agreement. Please see the DTVB Term sheet at Annex III in the <a href="Appendices document">Appendices document</a> for further details. Due diligence is carried out by EIT Health's internal and external investment specialists. These specialists consider a set of evaluative criteria that assess the investment potential, financial viability, and fit with EIT Health's financial sustainability requirements. Table 7 below provides further detail on the evaluative criteria on which the due diligence conclusions for SMEs will be drawn.

The due diligence will result in a pass or fail decision, and feedback on this decision will be provided to applicants along the lines of the evaluative criteria stated in Table 7 below.

During the due diligence process, EIT Health will communicate directly with entities to gain a comprehensive understanding of each applying entity and to finalize the due diligence process. This may involve interviews with key personnel and additional document requests in the circumstance where documentation provided is inconclusive or does not provide adequate assurance.

# Table 7

# **Due Diligence criteria**

#### 1. Product

Areas to be assessed will include, but not limited to, product scalability, technology maturity, regulation strategy, product commercialisation strategy, product design, portfolio strategy.

#### 2. Market assessment





#### **Due Diligence criteria**

Areas to be assessed will include, but not limited to, market competition, market demand, market size and growth.

# 3. Management team

Areas to be covered will include but not limited to, experience and capability to support company growth, governance, ownership structure and legal risks.

#### 4. Business model

Areas to be assessed will include but not limited to, revenue model, business milestones, risk assessment.

# 5. Financial sustainability

Areas will include but not limited to, financial trajectories, projections, and the potential to realise the EIT Health financial sustainability mechanism.

In the event where more than 10 entities pass due diligence, EIT Health will rank those entities who pass due diligence by their quality evaluation score and select the top 10 highest scores to pass through Gate 2 and into Phase 2.

# Ethical Legal and Social Issues (ELSI) review

As with Gate 1, applications at Gate 2 will undergo an ELSI review. The ELSI review aims to ensure that all elements in the proposal linked to critical ethical, legal and social considerations are well defined and addressed, thereby helping to de-risk the EIT Health portfolio. Feedback from the ELSI review will be shared with the applicants by email with their overall score and invitation (if applicable) to the relevant phase (i.e. Phase 1 or Phase 2).

#### **Selection Notification**

Projects will be notified via email about their selection or rejection at Gate 2 on 31 July 2025. Following this notification there will be a stand still period of one month. Phase 2 will begin on 1 September 2025.





# Evaluation process at Gate 3

At the end of Phase 2 there will be a final evaluation at Gate 3 of projects that successfully complete Phase 2. EIT Health will appoint an external panel of experts to evaluate the projects and assess if they are investor ready and eligible for the *Demo Day*. As previously, the expert panel will consist of industry, technical, clinical and regulatory experts, institutional early-stage investors, corporates and Key Opinion Leaders (KOLs) on sector-specific matters.

Projects that score at least 70 / 100 or above at Gate 3 will be invited to participate at the Demo Day.

As with Gate 2, teams will be required to submit a set of deliverables through <u>EIT Health's</u> <u>application platform</u>.

At Gate 3, Phase 2 deliverables will be evaluated given that all Phase 2 milestones have been completed. The startups will submit the following deliverables:

- An updated one pager
- An updated slide deck detailing the project
- A hiring plan detailing how a full time and dedicated team will be set up
- Report detailing the achievement of Phase 2 milestones including:
  - Startup continuity
  - Completion of training & mentoring
  - Clinical roadmap: identification of steps to be performed and related costs to be sustained
  - CE marking roadmap
  - MVP
  - Clear visibility on runway: reporting on how the €150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand Euros) has been used so far and how they plan to use the co-investors' money going forward.
- A plan on how to achieve medium and long term milestones on how the project has and will develop and team performance in achieving milestone set in Phase 1 & 2.

Following submission of the required deliverables on 20 January 2025 at 12.00 CET, all teams will be invited to an online pitch in front of the panel of experts. The deliverables and online pitching will be evaluated according to the evaluation criteria in Table 8. The remote evaluation will take place between 21 January 2026 and 27 January 2026. Online pitching will take place between 28 January 2026 and 30 January 2026.





#### Table 8

#### **Gate 3 Deliverables and Online Pitch Evaluation Criteria**

#### **Activity Excellence and Strategic Fit (25%)**

Disruptiveness: Clarity and pertinence of the activity's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious and goes beyond the state-of-the-art. Projects must propose breakthrough solutions capable of significantly alter market dynamics and create new paradigms with the final goal of improving patient's lives. The project proposes to solve unmet clinical and/or business needs

Projects should clearly demonstrate the problem, and how the solution addresses the problem.

Projects should also demonstrate how their solution is suited to the identified market.

Projects should be investment ready for early stage investment.

The pitch must demonstrate the above-mentioned points compellingly and clearly.

# Impact and Sustainability (25%)

Applications should:

- demonstrate pathways to achieve expected outcomes and impacts identified with plausible planning;
- identify measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts;
- present a refined version of the potential business model presented at Gate 1;
- demonstrate scalability. The team should show a clear path to exponential growth,
   which includes a plan to efficiently scale operations to meet increasing demand;
- deliver a clear and compelling pitch; and,
- describe the impact generated by the proposed solution (social/economic impact, contribution to the healthcare system, contribution to the EU Green Deal and environment footprint reduction of the healthcare system.
- Contribute to at least 2 UN SDGs

The pitch must demonstrate the above-mentioned points compellingly and clearly.





#### **Gate 3 Deliverables and Online Pitch Evaluation Criteria**

# Implementation and Feasibility (50%)

# **Applications should**

- demonstrate the quality, robustness and effectiveness of the business plan;
- the team should achieve the milestones and deliverables in Phase 1 and Phase 2, and prove to be coachable and of an entrepreneurial mindset, and demonstrate a commitment to continue with the start up;
- evidence a clear regulatory pathway strategy;
- evidence the practicality and viability of the proposed technology and business model, including its ability to achieve its goals with the available resources. Teams have to demonstrate technical development will be guaranteed;
- show the quality and stage of the minimum viable product; and,
- Have a clear and robust roadmap to CE marking

The pitch must demonstrate the above-mentioned points compellingly and clearly.

The external judging panel will evaluate the deliverables, and the online pitching based on the above-mentioned criteria in Table 7.

Projects that score at least 70 / 100 will be invited to participate at the Demo Day. Selection notification for the Demo Day is planned for 9 February 2026.

The Demo Day officially marks the end of the DTVB Programme.





# Contracting

Activities that are accepted for funding must execute a set of legal agreements (see the list below).

Finalisation of the terms and conditions of such agreements will commence immediately after notification.

No activity funding will be released prior to execution of all agreements, but activities will be able to claim their costs retroactively from the notification date – the earliest Activity start date.

Sets of legal documents to be executed:

- a) Internal Agreement (IA) which is transposing the provisions of the Partnership agreement between EIT and EIT Health and the Financial Support Agreement (FSA) which is outlining the conditions for receiving financial support from EIT Health.
- b) **Project Grant Agreement (PGA) (In Phase 1 and in Phase 2)** which is the basis to govern the relationship between the EIT Health and the consortium in one specific activity as well as the relationship amongst the parties in this activity.
- c) Financial sustainability agreement (required in Phase 2) is the agreement between EIT Health and the commercialising entity that governs the financial sustainability model ("Grant to Option") implemented in the activity. Please see the DTVB Term sheet at Annex III in the Appendices document for further details.

Further information on contracting can be found in the Implementation Handbook. Please see the Implementation Handbook at Annex I in the Appendices document for further details.





# Monitoring

All projects will be subject of a monitoring review at the end of each Phase as described in the programme.

The process serves to either fast-track, support, redirect, or stop the projects in cases of improper implementation or severe underperformance.

The review is a go/no-go point for the continuation of the activity and its EIT funding.

Post-funding monitoring will also be required for up to five years after activity closure to capture impact which exceeds the activity lifetime and contributes to the EIT Health Strategic Agenda and Horizon Europe indicators.

Post-funding monitoring will, in most cases, be in a light format. However, capture of EIT Core KPIs in post-funding years is given special attention. Additionally, post-funding monitoring will help to identify potential success stories and capture key learnings to be shared with the wider community.

EIT Health monitoring principles and obligations are governed by the Horizon Europe MGA, Annex 5 general-mga horizon-euratom en.pdf (europa.eu).





# Confidentiality and conflict of interest

All proposals submitted through the <u>application platform</u> are accessible only to EIT Health staff members for the processing of the application, and the Master Contact of each Partner, as well as the persons designated during the proposal phase.

During the selection process, proposals are shared with assigned external evaluators, who are contractually bound to confidentiality. Additionally, EIT Health may give access to documentation provided during the due diligence phase to external advisors to support the assessment.

Furthermore, EIT Health may give access to the submitted data to sub-contractors who are tasked with maintaining the <u>application platform</u> and the Plaza system.

All such third parties are also bound by confidentiality provisions.

EIT Health staff are bound by the policy on conflicts of interest.

Staff of EIT Health Partners are not involved in the evaluation process of the proposals. Furthermore, members of the EIT Health Managing Boards (Supervisory Board) cannot be involved in activities.

Applicants and potential beneficiaries of the EIT grant in selected activities must avoid any conflict of interest and comply with the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, and sound financial management (Régulation EU 2021/695) <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0695">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0695</a>





# Grounds for appeal and appeal procedure

The appeal process can be publicly found here: https://eithealth.eu/appeals-procedure/

Applicants may appeal the process for the selection of their own proposal(s). The only grounds for appeal are:

- Process errors
- Technical problems beyond the control of applicants, e.g., the technical failure of the electronic submission system
- Human/technical errors made by EIT Health staff
- If you consider that you have been adversely affected by a particular decision not following EIT Health's Code of Conduct.

What does not constitute grounds for appeal:

 Scores awarded in the course of the evaluation process, unless if these go against EIT Health's Code of Conduct

#### **Appeal process:**

- Applicants should send their appeals in writing to <a href="mailto:appeals@eithealth.eu">appeals@eithealth.eu</a> as soon as they identify an error, but no later than 21 days after the error occurred,
- EIT Health assesses the claim and deliver a first response,
- If there are grounds for appeal, the staff will attempt to remedy the consequences, e.g., if a technical error of EIT Health prevented the submission of a proposal or application, a late submission may still be accepted as eligible,
- The Head of Compliance, and where applicable, Supervisory Board is notified about the matter if:
  - o the applicant does not accept a rejection of the appeal, or
  - there are grounds for appeal, but the problem cannot be remedied any more without disrupting the process.





# Where to get help

For further support a dedicated Q&A session is scheduled for: 24 October 2024, 12 pm CET. To join the webinar you will first need to register your attendance. Please click on the link below to register.

# Register for the webinar here

EIT Health has pan-EU representation via eight Co-Location Centers (CLCs), and an InnoStars office, all of which operate as strong clusters of relevant actors, collaborating in a thriving ecosystem. For support in the preparation and submission of proposals, or to find out how to participate, please contact your Co-Location Center (CLC) / InnoStars. More information here: <a href="https://eithealth.eu/in-your-region/">https://eithealth.eu/in-your-region/</a>

For applications by non-Partners without CLC affiliation, please contact support in the regions according to the table below:

Hub	Affiliated countries
Austria	Austria
Belgium-Netherlands	Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Israel
France	France
Germany-Switzerland	Germany, Switzerland
InnoStars	Italy, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Malta, Czechia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Greece, Hungary, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia, Latvia, Lithuania
Scandinavia	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Norway, Faroe Islands
Spain	Spain





Ireland-UK	Ireland, United Kingdom
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To further support our applicants, our <u>frequently asked questions (FAQ)</u> provides further clarifications.