## **European Innovation Council EIC Transition 2025**

Webinar ERC-Proof of Concept-2025 & EIC Transition 2025 Marta Marín marta.marin@fecyt.es



MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN **Y UNIVERSIDADES** 







### Horizonte Europa: ERC vs EIC

#### THREE PILLARS FOR IMPLEMENTATION Pillar 1 Pillar 2 Pillar 3 EXCELLENT SCIENCE **GLOBAL CHALLENGES & INNOVATIVE EUROPE EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL** COMPETITIVENESS **European Research Council** Health **European Innovation Council** Clusters Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions European innovation ecosystems Civil Security for Society Digital, Industry and Space Climate, Energy and Mobility Research Infrastructures **European Institute** Food, Bioeconomy, Natural of Innovation and Technology **Resources, Agriculture and** Environment Joint Research Centre

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system



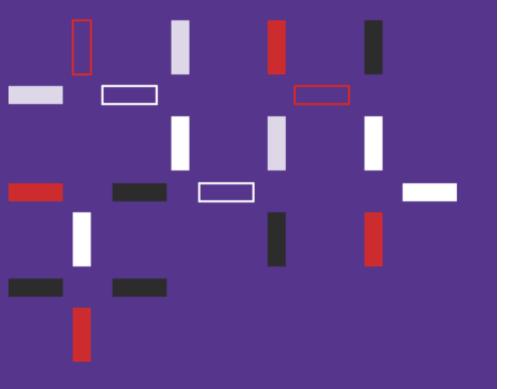
### Horizonte Europa: ERC vs EIC



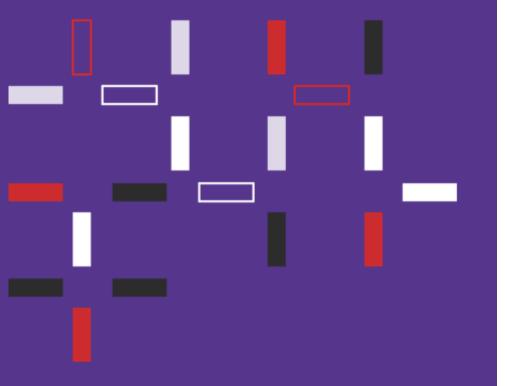
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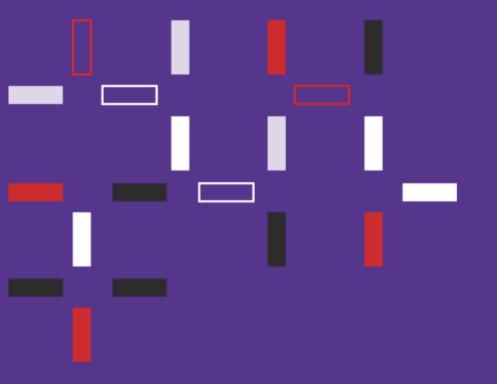




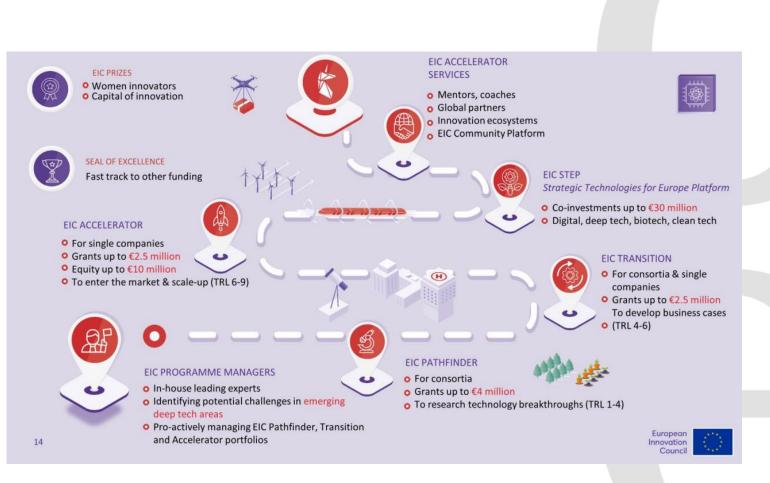
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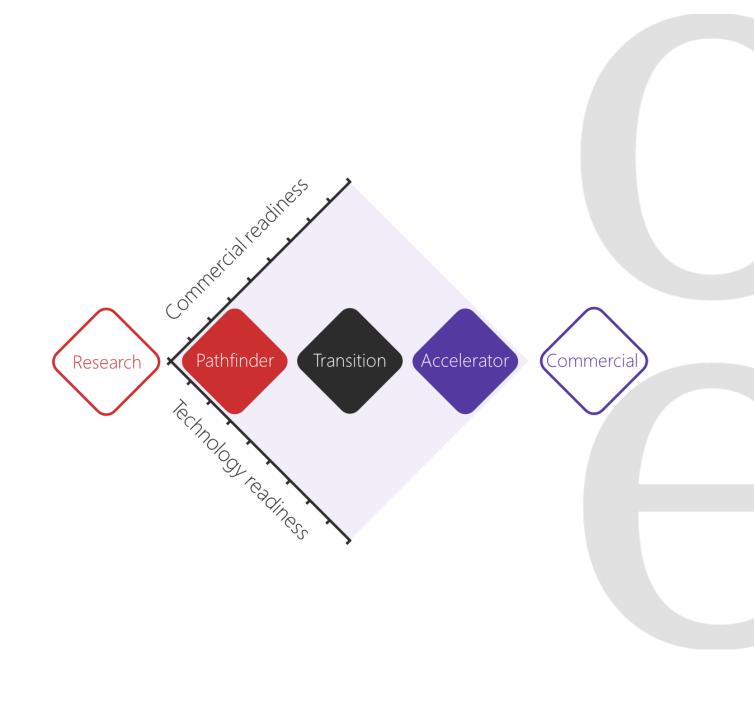


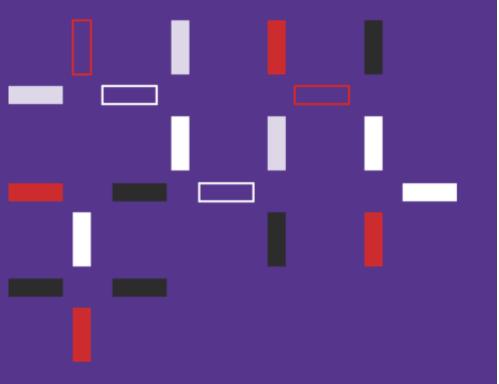
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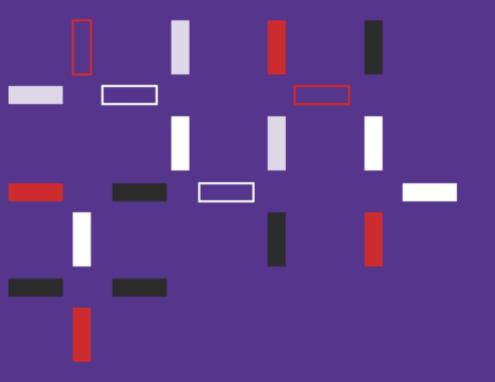




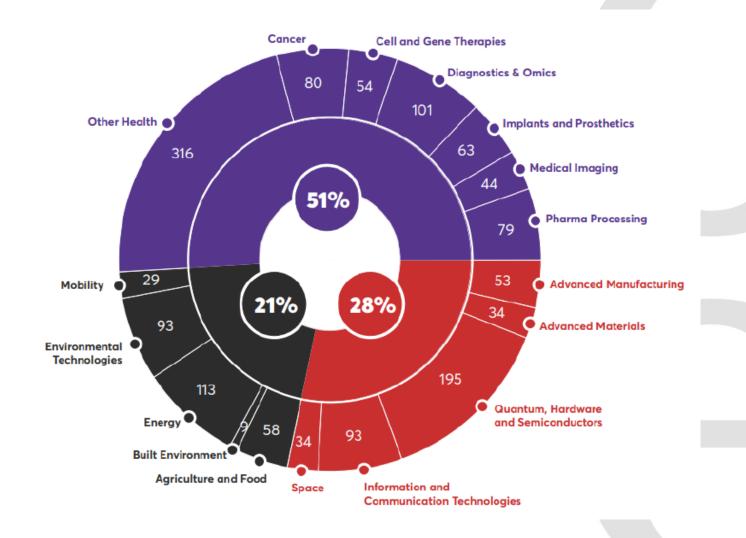


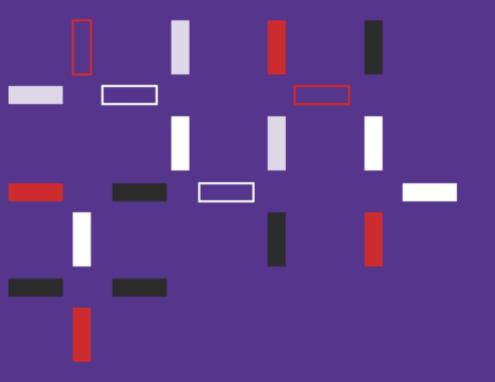
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- "Open" funding to support technologies and innovations in any field without redefined priority areas.
- It provides additional support to researchers in their transition from lab to market through the Business Accelerator Services (T2M, coaching, training), Booster Grants, Program Managers

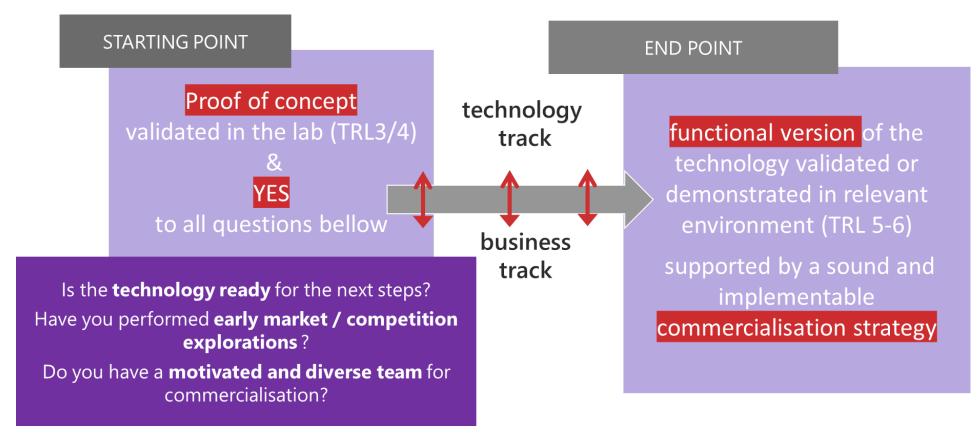
**EIC** Transition

# EIC Transition call

EIC Transition support **both** the <u>maturation and validation of your novel technology</u> from the lab to the relevant environment **as well as** explorations and development of <u>sustainable business plans</u> and business model towards commercialization into high potential markets

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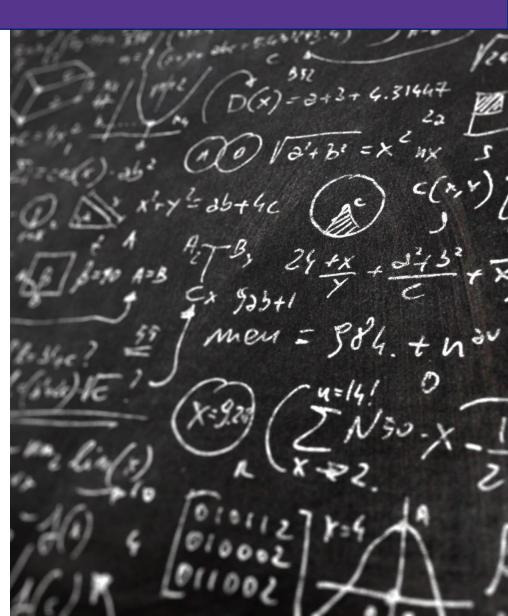
## **EIC Transition "gatekeepers"**

### **TECHNOLOGY**

+

MARKET

+ TEAM



# **EIC Transition "gatekeepers"**

### **TECHNOLOGY**

Laboratory validated technology (PoC) with promising results and ready to be **validated in a relevant environment** (TRL5-6).

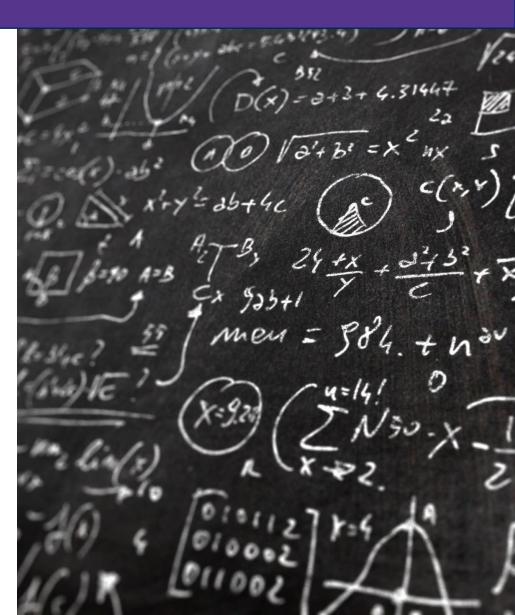
### MARKET

Advance from an incipient business model (BRL3) to a viable business model (BRL5) with a large potential market.

### +

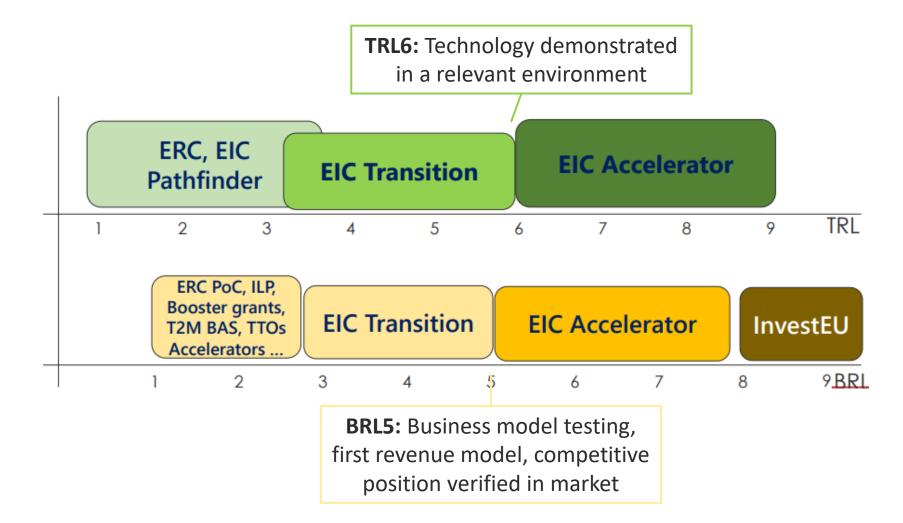
### **TEAM**

Support **motivated and entrepreneurial team** with a **mix of skills** to develop and drive the idea towards commercial success



# **TRLs and BRLs**

EIC



TRL Assessment: https://horizoneuropencpportal.eu/store/trl-assessment

Business Glossary: <u>https://access2eic.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Access2EIC\_Business-Glossary-sep-2020-Final-4.pdf</u>

# Call characteristics



- Consortium composition
  - Mono-beneficiary
  - Small consortium: 2 entities from 2 MS/AC
  - Consortium: 3-5 entities from at least 3 MS/AC
  - Spin-offs can be considered Affiliated entities
- Budget: 0,5M€ 2,5M€ (100% funding rate)
- Project duration: on average 12-36 months
- Proposal: 22 pages (excluding cover page)\
- Deadline: 17 September 2025

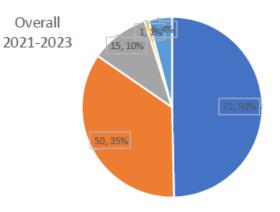
# **Call characteristics - specificities**



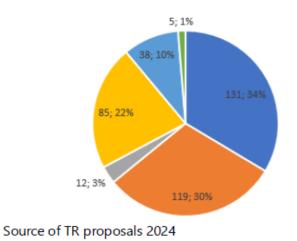
- Eligibility restrictions
- Lump sum
- Two-phase evaluation: proposal + interview
- Incipient business model

# Elegibility

- Previous HE/H2020 funded-projects: ERC PoC, EIC Pathfinder, FET, RIAs HE-Pilar II or H2020-SC
  - Only one proposal per ERC-PoC in the same call
  - Ongoing project: > 12 months starting date of grant
  - Completed project: < 30 months end date of grant
  - List of eligible projects available in EIC Transition webpage soon
- An applicant do not need to be participant or result owner of the previous project -> Commitment letter



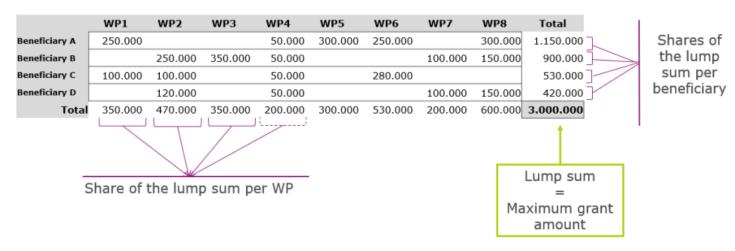
ERC PoC PT/FET = FET Flag 3 EraNets Others



PT/FET ERC-PoC = Flagships H2020 pilarII+III HEU pillarII ERA NETs

### Lump sum

- Lump sums (per beneficiary/per WP) are defined up-front and fixed in the grant agreement.
- They are **paid upon completion of the activities in work packages**, aligned with Reporting Periods.
- Specific **detailed budget annex** should be completed
- <u>EC dedicated page</u>



WP no	WP name	YEAR 1						YEAR 2									YEAR 3										YEAR 4																		
			Reporting Period (RP) 1								Reporting Period (RP) 2												Reporting Period (RP) 3																						
		1 2	3	4	56	7	8	9 1	.0 1	11	2 1	.3 1	14	5 1	5 17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34 3	35 3	6 37	/ 38	3 39	94	0 4:	1 4	2 43	3 44	45	46	47	48
WP1	Management (RP1)																																												
WP2	Management (RP2)					Π																																							
WP3	Management (RP3)																																												



There are different criteria at remote and jury phase!

#### Remote **Evaluation** (by 3 experts)

### Weaknesses and Strengths of TR proposals

Know the competition you will face

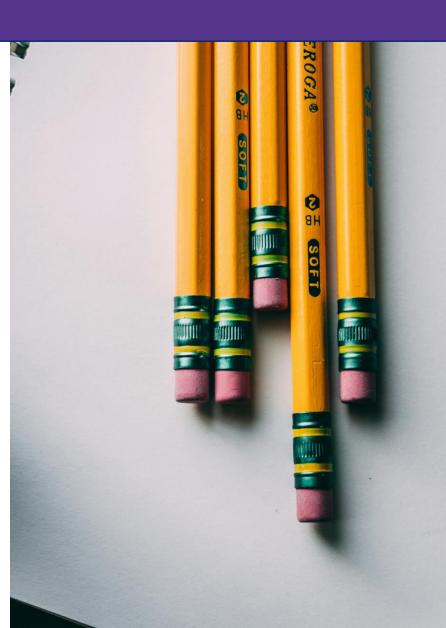
Know the problem you are solving

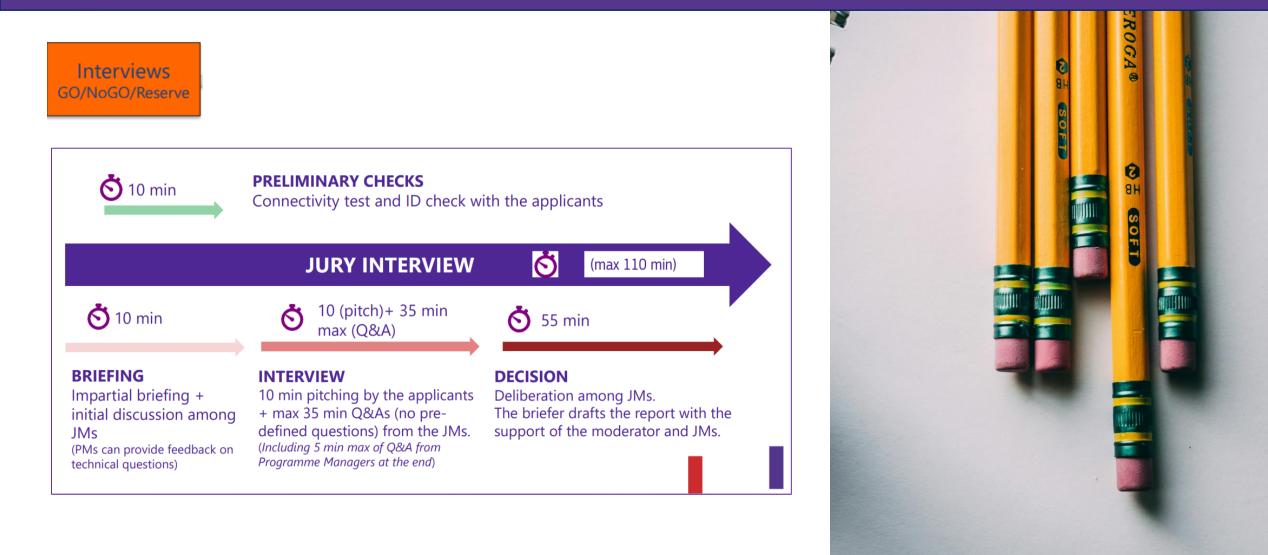
The novelty / disruptness of proposed innovation 26%		The no	ovelty / disruptiveness of the innovatio ${f T}$	70%
The business model 45%		The in	cipient business model 22%	
The team in the consortium or the exploitation partner 58%		The te	am	70%
The lack of involvement of early users / customers 32%		The in	volvement of users and early customers 26%	
The lack of understanding of the market / competition	74%		nderstanding and knowledge of the market competition 56%	
The wrong timing in terms of TRL, USP, feasibility 29%		The rig	ht timing in terms of TRL (4 to 5/6), USP, feasibility 26%	
Lesson learned NoGo proposals:			Succesful proposals have:	
• Know the market you plan to enter			• Disruptive innovation with high	

- **Disruptive innovation** with high commercial potential
  - **Competent team** to develop the technology and bring it to the market

European Innovation Council

### **TECNOLOGY+ MARKET + TEAM**





#### Interviews GO/NoGO/Reserve

- Proposal represented by max 5 persons but limited to the minimum necessary. Only individuals mentioned in the proposal can be present.
  - If the project is led by university, consider including TTO.
- Balance between scientific and business evaluators.
- <u>Evaluation criteria slightly</u> different than in the proposal phase
- Prepare in advance the pitch + Q&A (1 answer = 1min)



# Incipient business model

- 1. Value proposition: Which is the **problem** and how the **solution** aims to solve the problem
- 2. Target market: How big is the problem
- **3. Competitors analysis**: competitive advantage, direct competitors and alternative solutions. In case of new markets (not yet commercial), include technologies from labs in the same field
- 4. How the value proposition is delivered: direct exploitation, spinoff creation, licensing,... (include **exploitation manager** in proposal)
- 5. Key resources: **patent** (IP situation described in proposal)
- **6.** Key people: leading team for the project and beyond the project (already on board or plans to include them)
- **7. Consumers and their needs**: engage with them during the project for costumer validation (interview, pilot)

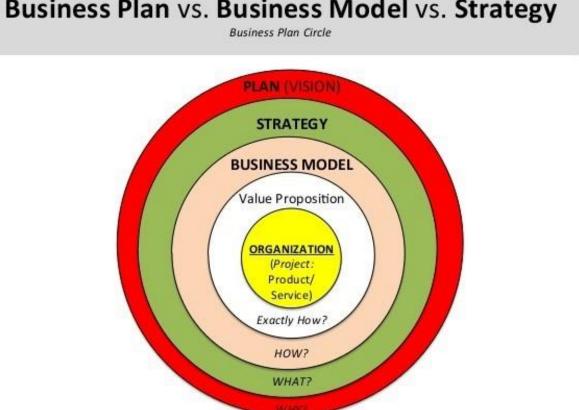
https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabc-ewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/fdad2aaf-88ae-4254-b084-bd5fc20585a3/file.bin



# Incipient business model

The Incipient Business Model at **proposal stage** will/should be refined, completed and validated during the implementation of the Transition project

The Business Model and the Business Plan will have to be further **developed and validated** during the project implementation and reach Accelerator / VC level quality at the end of the project.



### Business Plan vs. Business Model vs. Strategy

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# Do's and don'ts in preparing a proposal

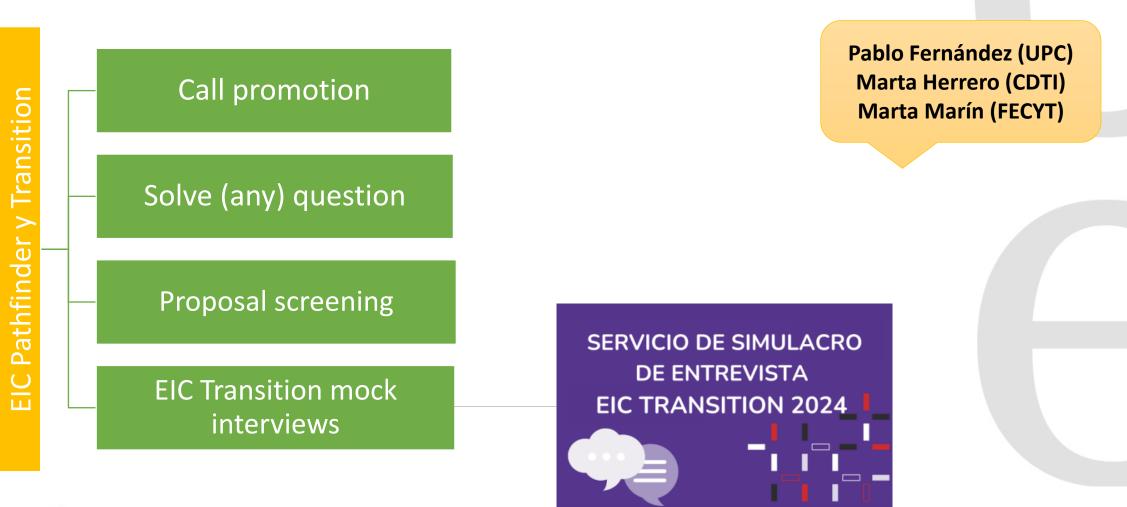
- Do pay attention to TRL, eligibility conditions and link project + results.
- Do your <u>preliminary</u> market research and explored potential competitors!
- Do put both milestones (including TRL achievements) and KPIs!
- Do take into account the maturation of technology <u>and</u> business in the project!
- Do have a mixed team able to advance both technology and business aspects.

- Do not apply if your TRL is <3 or >5. TR is not PT or ERC
  2.0 nor Accelerator with higher success rate
- Don't forget to focus on impact and high commercial potential
- Don't forget about your exploitation partner and/or channel
- Don't forget about you IPR (strategy).
- Do not forget to talk to your NCP and/or EEN nor to read well the WP and the new FAQ !

# It's a very competitive program!

Cut-off	Submitted	Inelig	Evaluated	Funded	Success rate
Cut off 2021	292 (221+71)	62	230 (173+57)	43 (31+12)	18.% (17.9¦21.1)
1 <sup>st</sup> cut off 2022	165 (143+22)	21	144 (129+15)	19 (14+5)	13.2% (10.9¦33.3)
2 <sup>nd</sup> cut off 2022	287 (236+51)	106	181 (157+24)	32 (25+7)	17.7% (15.9¦29.2)
1 <sup>st</sup> cut off 2023	180 (131+49)	14	166 (122+44)	19 (14+5)	11.4% (11.5¦11.4)
2 <sup>nd</sup> cut off 2023	257 (162+95)	18	239 (153+86)	27 (12+15)	11.3% (7.8¦17.4)
Cut off 2024	413	23	390	40	10.2%

### NCPs support





NCP services

# **EIC Transition call summary**

	Transition
Total budget	€98 million
Proposals (indicative)	Up to €2.5 million
Funding rate	100% of eligible costs
Opening	April 2025
Deadline	17 September 2025 at 17.00 CEST
Length of proposal	22-page proposal (part B)
Interview*	11-13 weeks after the deadline
Applicants	<ul> <li>Consortia:</li> <li>If 2 partners: from 2 different MS/AC,</li> <li>If 3+ partners: from min 3 different MS/AC of which at least 1 partner in a MS</li> <li>Single legal entities in a MS/AC</li> </ul>



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