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



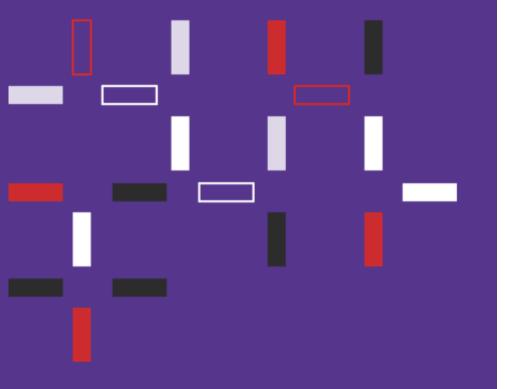
Horizonte Europa: ERC vs EIC



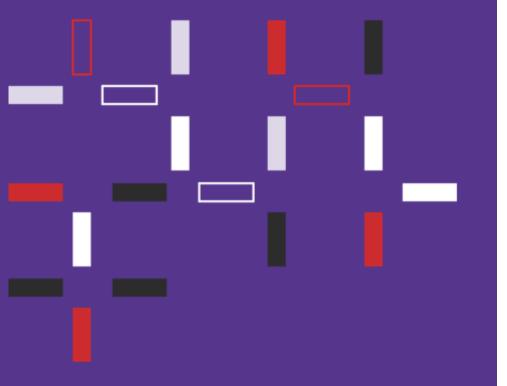
Widening participation and spreading excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system

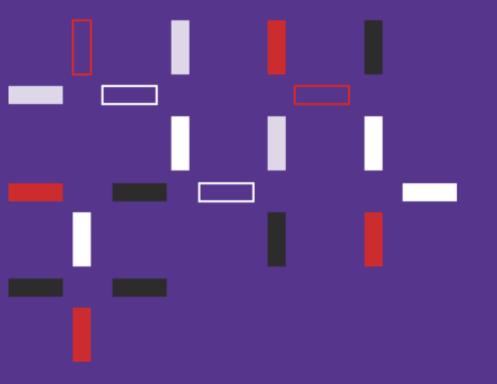




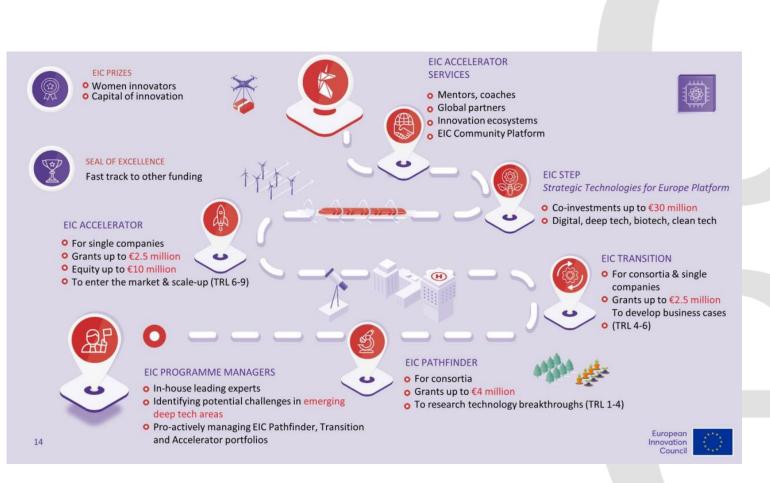
• Program established under the Horizon Europe Program

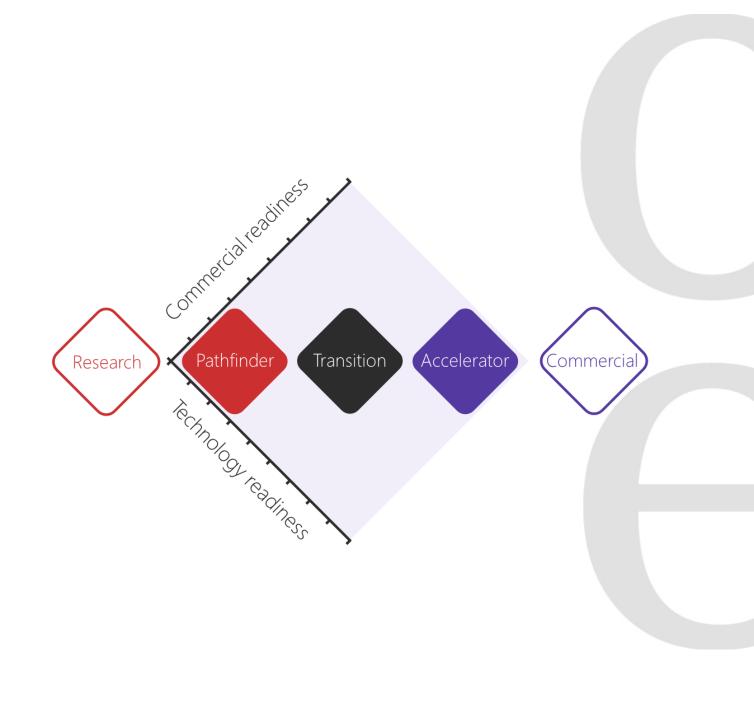


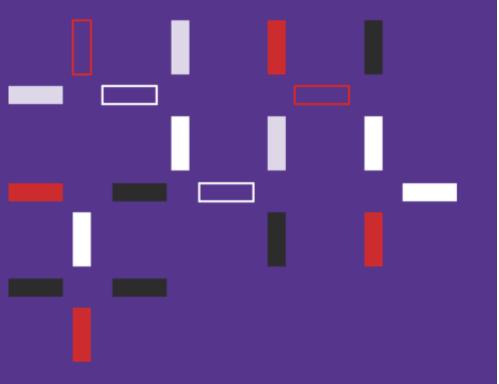
- Program established under the Horizon Europe Program
- It has a €10.1 billion



- Program established under the Horizon Europe Program
- It has a €10.1 billion
- It support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early stage research, to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of startups and SMEs.

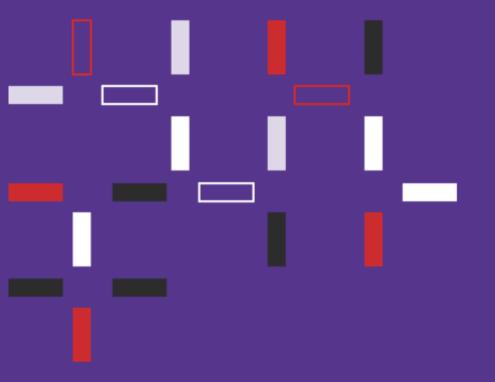




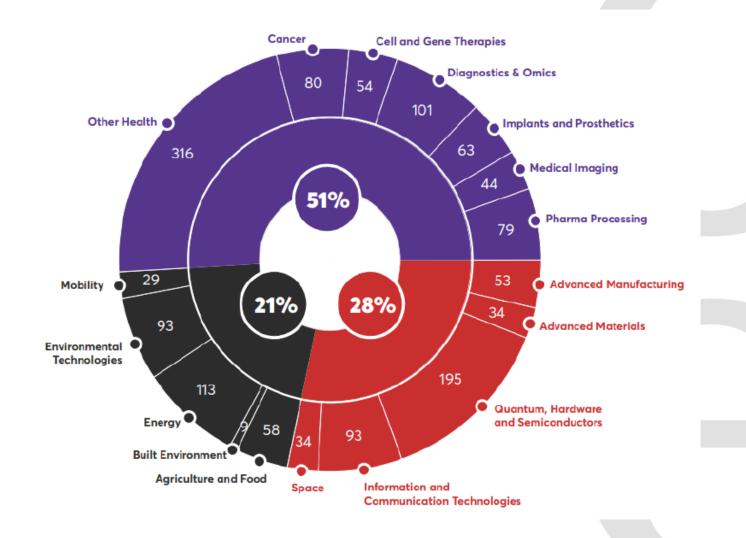


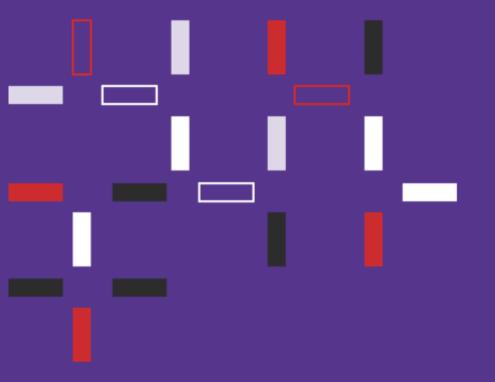
- Program established under the Horizon Europe Program
- It has a €10.1 billion
- It support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early stage research, to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of startups and SMEs.





- Program established under the Horizon Europe Program
- It has a €10.1 billion
- It support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early stage research, to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of startups and SMEs.
- "Open" funding to support technologies and innovations in any field without redefined priority areas.





- Program established under the Horizon Europe Program
- It has a €10.1 billion
- It support game changing innovations throughout the lifecycle from early stage research, to proof of concept, technology transfer, and the financing and scale up of startups and SMEs.
- "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

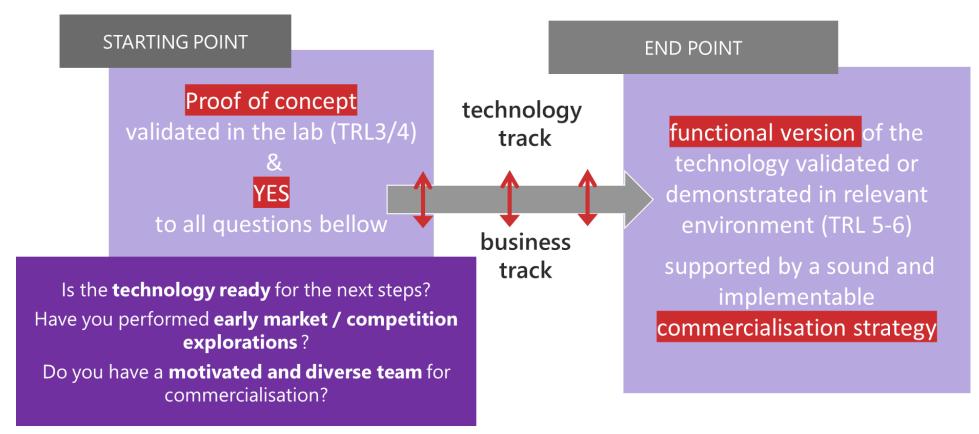
EIC Transition

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

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



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.

+

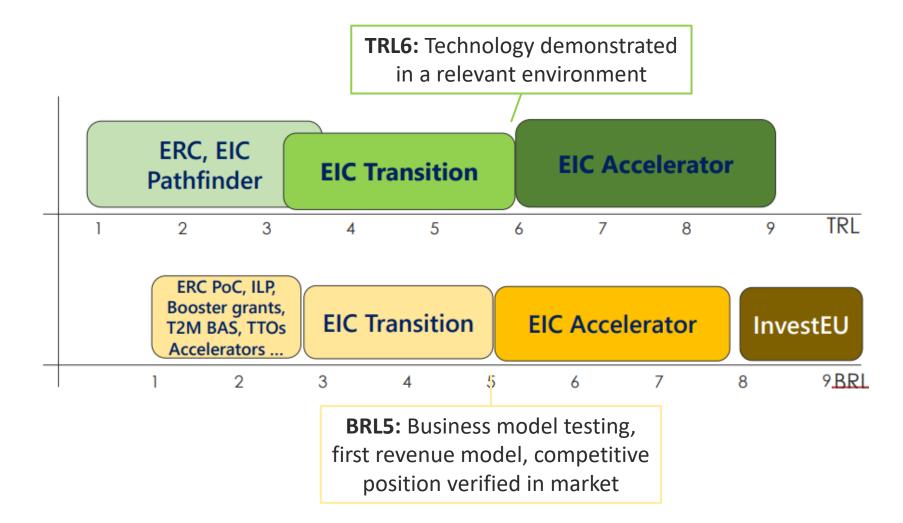
TEAM

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

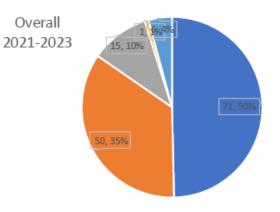
Call characteristics - specificities



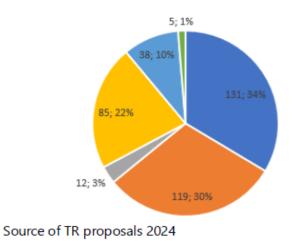
- Eligibility restrictions
- Lump sum
- Two-phase evaluation: proposal + interview
- Incipient business model

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



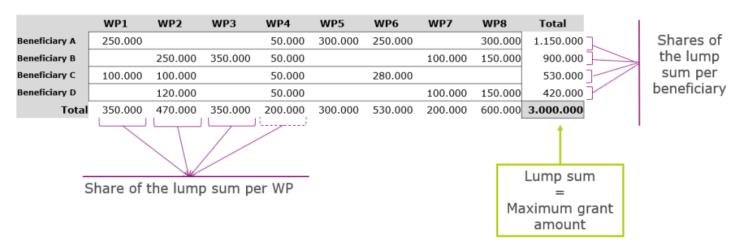
ERC PoC PT/FET = FET Flag 3 EraNets Others



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

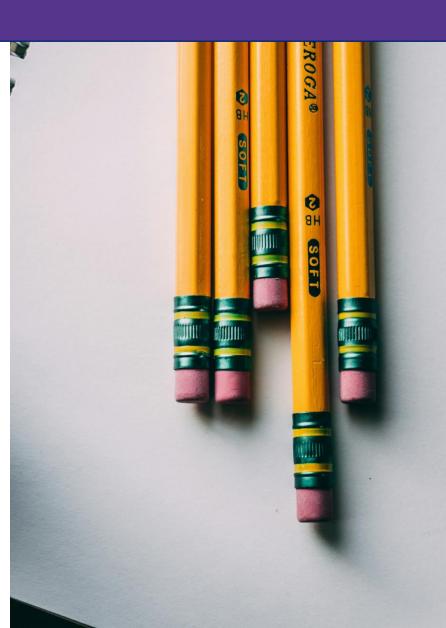
Know the problem you are solving

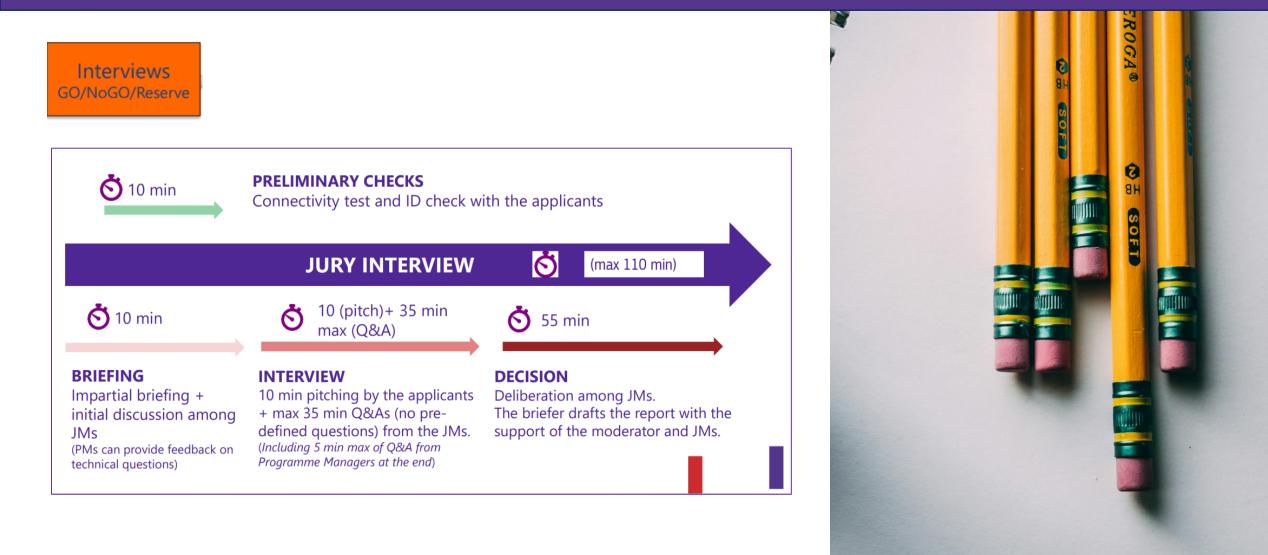
The novelty / disruptness of proposed innovation 26%		The no	ovelty / disruptiveness of the innovatio ${f T}$	70%
The business model 45%		The in	cipient business model 22%	
The team in the consortium or the exploitation partner 58%		The te	am	70%
The lack of involvement of early users / customers 32%		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)

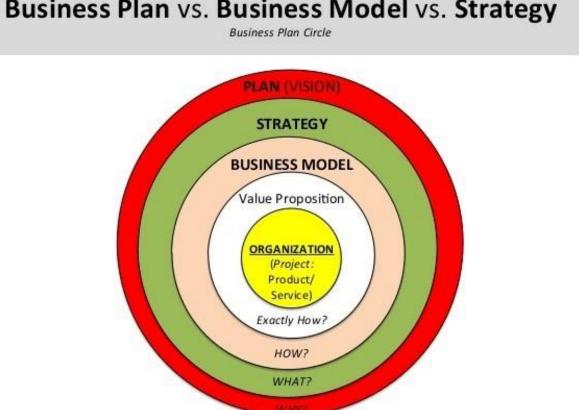
https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/circabc-ewpp/d/d/workspace/SpacesStore/fdad2aaf-88ae-4254-b084-bd5fc20585a3/file.bin



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

28

Do's and don'ts in preparing a proposal

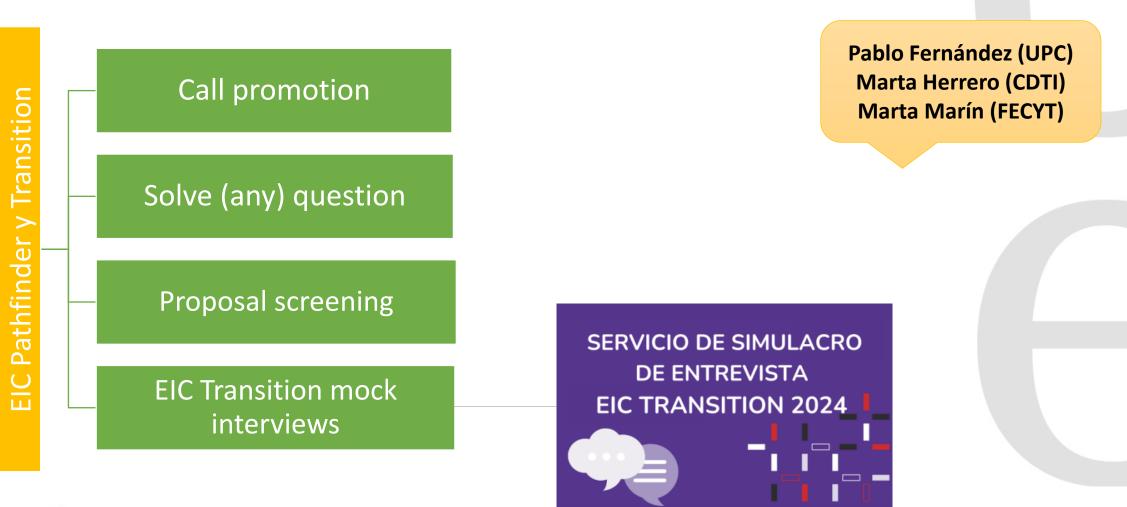
- Do pay attention to TRL, eligibility conditions and link project + results.
- Do your <u>preliminary</u> market research and explored potential competitors!
- Do put both milestones (including TRL achievements) and KPIs!
- Do take into account the maturation of technology <u>and</u> business in the 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 st cut off 2022	165 (143+22)	21	144 (129+15)	19 (14+5)	13.2% (10.9¦33.3)
2 nd cut off 2022	287 (236+51)	106	181 (157+24)	32 (25+7)	17.7% (15.9¦29.2)
1 st cut off 2023	180 (131+49)	14	166 (122+44)	19 (14+5)	11.4% (11.5¦11.4)
2 nd 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	 Consortia: If 2 partners: from 2 different MS/AC, If 3+ partners: from min 3 different MS/AC of which at least 1 partner in a MS Single legal entities in a MS/AC



Marta Marín marta.marin@fecyt.es