



# **EIT RawMaterials**

## **KAVA Call 14**

### **SIGNs Appendix**

April 2026

## **1. Definition and scope of the Strategic Impact Group Network (SIGN)**

Since its inception, EIT RawMaterials has maintained its strategic vision to develop raw materials as a major strength for Europe. The Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) is committed to facilitating Europe's transition towards sustainability by fostering innovation, education, and business creation throughout the entire raw materials value chain. The approach is structured around three primary objectives: ensuring the security of raw material supply, developing materials solutions, and closing materials loops.

In 2025, EIT RawMaterials introduced the concept of Strategic Impact Group Networks (SIGN) to establish impact groups within the innovation community, targeting critical value chains and industry sectors:

1. Battery Materials
2. Rare Earths and Magnets
3. Green and Circular Metals
4. Mining and Processing Tech

SIGNs bring together experts from industry, academia, and policy-making to enhance collaboration across essential raw materials value chains, driving transformative outcomes and strengthening Europe's leadership in raw materials innovation. These impact groups are instrumental in identifying gaps related to innovation, education, investment, and European industrial regulations and policies. Stakeholders are encouraged to develop consortia along value chains, address technological



challenges, monitor market and technology trends, and contribute to educational tools and programs.

By leveraging this open innovation network, EIT RawMaterials can play a pivotal role in building a strategically autonomous European industry, reducing exposure to supply chain risks, and increasing value and employment in emerging sectors.

In the context of KAVA 14, each SIGN group addresses specific challenges, including:

- **Battery Materials:** Addressing shortages and bridging technology gaps to build a competitive and sustainable battery value chain in Europe: innovations in extraction, processing, design, and recycling of battery materials, with a focus on Li-ion and post Li-ion battery technologies.
- **Rare Earths and Magnets:** Addressing shortages and bridging technology gaps to build a competitive and sustainable rare earths and magnets value chain in Europe: innovations in extraction, processing, design, and recycling of rare earth materials.
- **Green and Circular Metals:** Innovation in disruptively increasing feedstock of CRM & SRM containing waste materials, promotion of valorisation of industrial by-products, industrial symbiosis, disassembly and sorting of end-of-life products, energy, resource efficient and low carbon processing of metals and minerals, design for recycling, and tools and services to promote responsible sourcing and supply chain management in a Circular Economy
- **Mining and Processing Tech:** Promoting innovation to disruptively transform the exploration, mining, and metals and minerals processing sectors with a focus on demonstrating new approaches for identifying untapped resources, improve mineral extraction efficiency, and minimising environmental impact.