EIT RawMaterials
Call for KAVA 8
Education projects
Instructions and process description

February 2021

Preamble – read carefully

As part of the implementation of the new Horizon Europe framework, including the multi-annual grant structure, EIT will have specific conditions that must met by projects commencing in 2022 as a requirement for their inclusion in the 2022-2024 Business Plan. EIT will make the details available in Q2 of 2021, therefore, to guarantee the best possible outcomes for our partnership in the new framework, we would be able to share this information only after the first stage of the selection process in May is complete.

1. Purpose and scope of this document

This document describes the process for preparation, submission, evaluation and selection of proposals in response to the KAVA 8 call launched by the EIT RawMaterials for the following KAVA (KIC Added-Value Activity in EIT terminology) types:

- Lifelong Learning
- Master Education

All Education proposals must fit one of the two "learning segments" listed above.

1.1 Lifelong Learning

In order to align with the objectives set in the Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027, as well as with strong challenges for Europe, EIT RawMaterials will call for a limited number of lifelong learning projects dealing with 2 thematic areas. The vision is to secure sustainable access to critical and strategic raw materials, advanced materials, and processing know-how for the EU industrial ecosystems.

Lifelong Learning has also been prioritized to contribute to the long-term continuation and well-being of the KIC as a network and service organization. This concept includes a revenue-sharing model between the KIC and the partners on the basis of the particular background IP and know-how contributed by both, and the generation of joint foreground IP and exploitation when developing the Lifelong Learning course or program.

In that regard, **in KAVA Call 8, EIT RawMaterials seeks 2 Lifelong learning programmes which fulfill the criteria described below in two different Pillars**.

Pillar 1 - Lifelong Learning proposals must be demand-driven, demonstrate a clear industrial need for a course, and show that they can support the sustainability of the organization.

In that regard, Lifelong Learning proposals may be submitted, as long as they fulfill the following criteria and produce the mandatory deliverables:

- Must prove customer-demand at the time of proposal submission, be provided in the proposal as a letter of intent. Deliverable: training needs analysis. This report describes and analyses the professional education need expressed by at least one company. It includes the questions and answers provided by the companies the project participants have contacted. This is a mandatory deliverable in year 1.

- Can demonstrate a competitive advantage over existing lifelong learning offers in the European marketplace, including an overview of the existing offers and price-benchmarking against existing competitors. Deliverable: courses design. This document includes the identification of the learning objectives and the design of the courses, the name of experts creating said course design and teaching materials.

- Must provide sound business model . Deliverable: Business model. Partners will develop a business model for the course consisting at least of its cost sructure and the expected turnover as a function of the number of participants. The business model will be established for three years after the funding period.

- Must contribute to the KIC sustainability . At the start of the project, EIT RawMaterials will discuss with the Commercialisation partner a strategy for the financial sustainability of the KIC. The mechanism shall reasonably take into account the amount of the grant allocated, the impact generated by it and, if applicable, additional opportunities provided by EIT RawMaterials. Details of the backflow will be negotiated prior to the signing of the Project Agreement (PA) and will be outlined in the PA. The mechanism that will be implemented for the KIC's financial backflow must be outlined in the proposal to a sufficient level of detail that will allow a proper assessment of the project's financial risks and benefits for the KIC. If the project is recommended for funding, the details of the backflow mechanism (amount, caps, timeline, responsible party/ies, conditions, etc.) must be fully defined and agreed upon in writing by both parties before the project starts. Funds will be released only after both parties have agreed on the backflow mechanism and estimated amount.

- Must record achievements, lessons learnt, and continuously improve. <u>Deliverable:</u> course evaluation. After each training session, the partners will write a report that will include the number of participants, their institutional affiliation (including company/organisation's name), their gender and the result of the survey on the quality of the training and an improvement plan, if needed.

Pillar 2 – Thematic orientation

EIT RawMaterials Academy staff has carried out a systematic analysis of lifelong learning portfolio of projects and has identified gaps that need addressing. Thanks to KIC partners, EIT RawMaterials has matched these portfolio gaps with current and future skill gaps in the European workforce.

Henceforth, EIT RawMaterials seeks Lifelong Learning proposals which address two topics:

Raw and Advanced Materials for Energy Storage and Conversion.

Based on insights from initiatives supporting the battery industry in the EU, like Alistore-ERI, EIT InnoEnergy, ALBATTS, Batteries 2030+, Drives, and the Strategic Research Agenda for Batteries 2020[1], suggested overarching learning objectives could be:

- Re-/Up-skilling existing workforce (especially the re-skilling of staff in automotive industries),
- Mobilizing the future workforce (exchanges between industry and academia),
- Training on cross-cutting skills (*e.g.* digitalisation, cross-sectoral/-disciplinary/-value chain knowledge),
- Training in large scale manufacturing.

Furthermore, given the results of the *Future Expert Needs in the Battery Sector* workshop[2] carried out in October 2020, a list of three main areas is brought to the attention of the applicants, in which to frame their proposals:

- Battery minerals (raw materials; from active materials to components)
- Battery production (process/equipment; cells; modules and packs)
- Applications (first, second life applications and recycling)

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[1] https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/batteries_europe_strategic_research_agenda_december_2020__1.pdf

[2] The report of the workshop will be made available in the EIT RawMaterials Infocenter. Alternatively, contact the education manager in your CLC to request it.

Rare Earth Magnets and Motors

Rare earth permanent magnets are the very core of the global megatrend of electrification. Offshore wind turbines that contain several tons of the material experience an exponential growth. Due to their high energy density, rare earth magnets are found in 95 % of electric vehicles' traction motors as well as all highest energy efficient white goods and industrial machinery, to name a few examples. There is a growing need to educate people along the rare earths value chain to be able to respond to a growing need for a skilled workforce, that is, particularly scientists, geologists, designers, engineers, and mechanics.

Based on the Lighthouse position paper Sustainable Materials for Future Mobility[3] and the ERECON report entitled *Strengthening the European rare earths supply-chain – challenges and apolicies[4],* EIT RawMaterials encourages applications dealing with challenges in sectors of particular importance, including but not limites to the metallurgical processing of rare earths, magnet making, e-motor and generator design as well as dismantling and recycling. Also, a circular economy of electric motors and generators would require a safe handling of the materials and related process all across the value chain.

1.2 Master Education

In order to deliver on the higher education ambitions outlined in the new EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027, as well as the EIT RawMaterials Strategic Agenda 2021-2027, the higher education focus of KAVA Call 8 shall be on EIT-Label degree education, and specifically, master education.

Three of the four of the EIT Core KPIs on education are directly related to EIT-Label Education. For this reason EIT RawMaterials will seek proposals on master education degree programmes that deliver on the following EIT Core KPIs:

- # graduates from EIT-Labelled degree programmes (EIT HE 7.1)
- # students and/or graduates from EIT-Labelled programmes who create start-ups (EIT HE 5.1)
- # students and/or graduates from EIT-Labelled programmes who join start-ups (EIT HE 9.1)

In KAVA Call 8 EIT RawMaterials seeks three master degree programmes which fulfil the criteria described below in Pillars 1 and 2.

Pillar 1: In order to achieve the above EIT Core KPIs, a master degree programme must first obtain the EIT-Label through the annual EIT-Labelling Call launched and coordinated by EIT HQ in Budapest. Consequently, EIT RawMaterials will seek master degree proposals submitted in KAVA Call 8 which demonstrate they are either currently in possession of the EIT-Label or they will fulfil the compulsory EIT-Label requirements

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[3] Available in the Infocenter (5.3_LHPP-Sustainable Materials Mobility) or upon request to your CLC education manager.
[4] https://hal-cea.archives-ouvertes.fr/cea-01550114/document

outlined in the EIT-Label Handbook and commit to satisfying the remaining EIT-Label requirements in the EIT-Label Handbook. These EIT-Label requirements are described in Pillar 1 below.

Pillar 2: In order to complement the portfolio of existing EIT-Labelled Master Programmes in the Master School, EIT RawMaterials will seek three master programmes that fulfil specific thematic orientations. These three thematic orientations will be described in Pillar 2 below.

Pillar 1: EIT-Label Pillar

Because EIT RawMaterials seeks master degree programmes which will apply for the EIT-Label if selected for funding from KAVA Call 8, all master degree programmes submitting proposals to KAVA Call 8 must demonstrate (1) they fulfil the EIT-Label compulsory requirements outlined in the EIT-Label Handbook and (2) the EIT-Label Overarching Learning Outcomes will be integrated into the courses of the master degree programme.

Master degree programmes which currently possess the EIT-Label and are applying for an extension of their KAVA project are not required to answer the questions in Pillar 1.

International Mobility

All master degree programmes must include an international mobility component amounting to minimum 15 ECTS.

To fulfil this, the EIT RawMaterials Labelling Strategy requires a prospective EIT-Labelled Master Programme to include minimum two higher education institutions from two different countries to deliver the education.

This means, students must be physically located for minimum one semester at minimum two higher education institutions located in two different countries.

Consortium Agreements

All higher education institutions involved in the delivery of the education must have formally signed a consortium agreement no later than April 2022.

Language of Instruction

The master degree programme must be taught in English.

RIS involvement

Minimum one higher education institution involved in delivering the education must be from a RIS country.

Process description and instructions for Education activities – KAVA 8

Student recruitment and selection
Specific criteria for assessing applicants' entrepreneurial potential should be part of the selection process.

Cross-Organizational Mobility
All students must fulfil cross-organizational mobility amounting to minimum 15 ECTS.

Cross-organizational mobility refers to student mobility to non-academic stakeholders.

EIT RawMaterials Labelling Strategy partially fulfils this criteria by requiring all students to carry out an internship at a non-academic partner, which may also be in connection with thesis research. Other degree programme elements contributing to the cumulative fulfilment of this criterion may be study tours to non-academic stakeholders, teaching/ lectures from non-academic actors, internships with non-academic stakeolders, project work with non-academic stakeholders, etc.

Important will be that proposals quantitatively demonstrate the 15 ECTS cross-organizational mobility will be fulfilled.

Non-Academic Involvement
In order to provide student with a real-world perspective and relevance to their education, the EIT-Label requires meaningful non-academic involvement in the development and delivery of the master degree programme.

Proposals must demonstrate non-academic stakeholders are meaningfully involved in the development and evolution of the curriculum. Good practices from existing EIT-Labelled Master Programmes are to establish Industrial Advisory Boards with industrial stakeholders who will contribute to and benefit from the corresponding master degree programme.

Non-academic stakeholders must also be involved in the delivery of the master degree programme. The fulfilment of the criterion may be shared with the "cross-organizational mobility" criterion. Good practices from existing EIT-Labelled Master Programmes are guest lectures from industry, study tours to industrial sites, and industrial projects provided as course content.

Finally, all student thesis research projects must be co-supervised by a non-academic stakeholder. The fulfilment of this criterion may be shared with the "cross-organizational mobility" criterion, as students may often carry out their non-academic internship as part of their thesis research project.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Central to the EIT-Label Model is the integration of transversal innovation & entrepreneurship into the master degree programme.

EIT RawMaterials illustrates innovation & entrepreneurship within a master degree programme through the illustration of "T-shaped Professionals" – people who have a deep expertise in an academic discipline supplemented with transversal innovation & entrepreneurship knowledge, skills and attitudes. As such, the innovation and entrepreneurship content of a master degree programme should be integrated into the curriculum.

The amount of innovation & entrepreneurship content shall represent minimum 15 ECTS.

The programme should be able to demonstrate a plan for supporting educators through training, shared learning or continuous professional development in the area of I&E education.

Overarching Learning Outcomes (OLOs)

Central to the EIT-Label Model are the 6 Overarching Learning Outcomes (OLOs).

EIT-Labelled degree programmes must have a strong focus on creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, and also on shaping a sustainable society based on ethics and human values. Therefore, one of the key missions of the EIT-Label is to ensure students achieve a set of common, cross-cutting set EIT-Label Overarching Learning Outcomes.

The EIT-Label Strategy within EIT RawMaterials is to map the OLOs onto the individual courses in the master degree programme, which complement the intended learning outcomes of a course. Important to note is that not all OLOs must be integrated into each course. Experience has demonstrated one course may address maximum 1-3 OLOs.

Overarching Learning Outcome	Description
EIT OLO 1 - Entrepreneurship skills and competencies	The ability to identify and act upon opportunities and ideas to create social, cultural and financial value for others, including translating innovations into feasible business solutions.
EIT OLO 2 - Innovation skills and competencies	The ability to formulate knowledge, ideas and technology to create new or significantly improved products, services, processes, policies, new business models or jobs.
EIT OLO 3 - Creativity skills and competencies	The ability to think beyond boundaries and systematically explore and generate new ideas.

Process description and instructions for Education activities – KAVA 8

EIT OLO 4 – Intercultural skills and competences	The ability to engage and act globally and to function effectively across cultures, sectors and/or organisations, to think and act appropriately and to communicate and work with people from different cultural and organisational backgrounds – at home or abroad
EIT OLO 5 - Making value judgments and sustainability competencies	The ability to identify short- and long-term future consequences of plans and decisions from an integrated scientific, ethical and intergenerational perspective and to merge this into a solution-focused approach, moving towards a sustainable society.
EIT OLO 6 - Leadership skills and competencies	The ability of decision-making and leadership based on a holistic understanding of the contributions of Higher Education research and business to value creation, in limited sized teams and contexts.

The programme should not only integrate the EIT OLOs into the individual courses, but also present a plan for tracking individual students' progress in achievement of the OLOs throughout the course of the programme.

Stakeholder Feedback/ Graduate tracking

The programme should be able to demonstrate a plan for establishing processes to gather feedback on the programme from students, educators, alumni and non-academic stakeholders. This plan should include:

1. A mechanism for tracking Label graduates' career progress;
2. Questions for students on EIT profile, EIT OLOs, I&E content and skills acquisition, etc.

Enrolments

All master degree programmes selected for funding from KAVA Call 8 must enroll students no later than autumn semester 2023.

Pillar 2: Thematic Orientation

Based on a gap analysis of the existing portfolio of EIT-Labelled Master Programmes in EIT RawMaterials carried out in 2019 and 2020, with discussion with and endorsement by the EIT RawMaterials Education Committee in 2020, EIT RawMaterials will seek to support three EIT-Labelled Master Programmes covering the following thematic orientations and disciplines.

- Resource Engineering, with a focus on processing and resources engineering applications to primary and secondary raw materials

- Mining Engineering, with a holistic approach to mineral resources and understanding of the full mining value chain
- Mineral Resources Exploration, with a primary focus on field activities and a secondary focus on sustainability performance

Based on the thematic parameters defined for each master programme, partners are encouraged to build a new master degree programme, or augment and retrofit an existing master degree programme.

The master degree programmes must fulfil all requirements in Pillars 1 and 2 of this KAVA Call 8.

Master Degree Programme 1: Resources Engineering

EIT RawMaterials seeks an EIT-Labelled Master Programme in **Resources Engineering,** *which is already in possession of the EIT-Label,* to be selected from KAVA Call 8. The selected master degree programme will continue as an EIT-Labelled Master Programme in the Master School.

The focus of the master degree programme in Resources Engineering shall equip students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to identify and characterise primary and secondary raw materials and apply metallurgical and process engineering techniques to recover primary and secondary raw materials.

The programme shall focus primarily on key aspects related to resources engineering, resource characterization, process engineering and metallurgy, and also modeling and management.

Upon completion of the master degree programme, graduates will learn how to apply their knowledge, skills and attitutdes to the topics of primary and secondary resources and process engineering technologies and techniques. Graduates will be suited to become leaders in industry, create start-ups, geological surveys, engineering and consulting, governmental organizations, doctoral studies, etc,

Master Degree Programme 2: Mining Engineering

EIT RawMaterials seeks a master degree programme in **Mining Engineering**, to be selected from KAVA Call 8, and ultimately to be ready for submission to EIT for EIT-Labelling in summer 2022.

The focus of the master degree programme in mining engineering should take a global view to the mining sector and cover the entire mining life cycle and value chain, from resource exploration to mine design and operations to mine closure. Economic, environmental, societal but also health & safety dimensions will be addressed at all stages of the mining life cycle.

As a result graduates of the mining engineering master degree programme will be equipped with the necessary technical but also key innovation & entrepreneurial knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to

pioneer the future of the mining sector in Europe. Graduates will be suited to become leaders in industry, create start-ups, mining companies, engineering and consulting, governmental organizations, doctoral studies, etc.

Master Degree Programme 3: Mineral Resources Exploration

EIT RawMaterials seeks a Master degree programme in **Mineral Resources Exploration** that combines a field-based learning approach together with innovative methods for exploration in challenging environment. An additional focus on sustainability performance including key social and environmental risks associated to exploration activities will be positively evaluated.

EIT RawMaterials encourages the programme to target bachelor students from a broad range of disciplines (Natural sciences, Chemistry, Physics, Data Sciences, Environmental Sciences).

Several key learning objectives to be included in the programme below (not exhaustive):
- Apply and integrate data science to mineral exploration challenges
- Understand the genesis of ore deposits
- Apply modern analytical techniques to mineral exploration
- Conduct detailed geological mapping of ore deposits
- Evaluate the resources and reserves of a deposit
- Communicate to different stakeholder groups
- Evaluate the environmental and social impact of exploration

As a result graduates of the mineral resources exploration master degree programme will be equipped with the necessary technical but also key innovation & entrepreneurial knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to pioneer the future of the actors within the mineral resources industry in Europe. Graduates will be suited to become leaders in industry, create start-ups, (junior) exploration companies, geological surveys, engineering and consulting, governmental organizations, doctoral studies, etc.

Process description and instructions for Education activities – KAVA 8

All EIT RawMaterials partners involved in the submission of a project proposal in response to this call should read the following documents carefully:

The present document (call text)

- *EIT RawMaterials Education Project proposal FINAL DRAFT Guidance and Template for complementary information*
- *EIT RawMaterials communication and dissemination guidance*
- *EIT RawMaterials Project Management guidance*
- The *Lighthouse Appendix* that outlines the topics and criteria for application through the Lighthouses
- FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) that will be posted in the online proposal submission platform "Seedbook" (https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu), also containing explanations of the terminology used in this document; Project Coordinators should check this section regularly to ensure that they are fully informed and updated on important matters such as eligibility and evaluation criteria, advice on the compilation of the proposal, costs and cost allocation
- The Strategic Agenda 2021-2027 of EIT RawMaterials that will be published as soon as it is approved by EIT

2. Project call and selection process

2.1. General rules and guiding principles

- All projects must lead to specific deliverables and outputs over a defined time schedule and they will be financed by EIT RawMaterials (the KIC) only for a defined duration.

- Proposals must meet the highest expectations and performance on the creation of impact (refer to Strategic Agenda 2021-2027).

- Partners may request up to 100% funding for eligible KAVA costs. Any co-funding contributed by the project consortium will be evaluated positively.

- A detailed work plan must be provided for each year of the project duration at the time of proposal submission. The work plan must contain major milestones to be achieved during each of the year(s) of the funding period, including main deliverables and description of the envisaged project .

- Deliverables must include a mandatory Final Report including number of participants, their institutions, gender ratio, the full set of teaching material (**with editable master files**), results of training programme evaluations (participants' surveys) and an explanation of whether and how the KAVA project will be continued by the partners. The Final Report must include a Conclusion.

- All projects will be tracked and their progress will be assessed for 5 years after the end of the funding period.

- In the case of a resubmission, it is mandatory to highlight the improvement performed

- Specific tasks may be attributed to subcontractors, as long as the necessity is clearly justified and follows the general Horizon Europe principles. Please note that only a limited part (in budget and scope) of a project may be subcontracted; depending on the scope of the work to be provided, it may be necessary for the entity to become a partner.

- It is possible to add other partners to the consortium after the project selection, but without changes to the total KAVA budget allocated to the project. Those partners have to be formally named to and approved by EIT RawMaterials, and in case of a non-member to submit an EIT RawMaterials membership application.

- Regardless of the funding source, in general, if an entity incurs costs as part of a KAVA they need to become KIC partners (with the exception of the RIS task partners). In other words, non-members who receive funding, or who incur costs as a result of a KAVA (even if the funding is brought in by them) need to become partners, supply all documents, pay fees and they need to report their costs, be subject to eligibility, etc. like any regular partner. Non-members who participate in a KAVA but receive no funding and incur no costs in the project do not need to become partners. They need to sign the PA, however, because this includes statements on IP, confidentiality, etc. that still need to be respected.

- The project duration can be from a minimum of 1 year to a maximum of 3 years. Note, however, that the Partnership Agreement (ParA) with EIT will be finalised in 2021. Therefore, the inclusion of projects will be conditional upon and subject to the conditions set in the new ParA.

  For Lifelong Learning proposals a market analysis must be included in the proposal. Relevant feasibility and market aspects must be considered in a dedicated 'go-to-market' Work Package (WP0). WP0 will be updated throughout the duration of the project and enable go/no-go decisions following annual reviews.

- Above and beyond the specific EIT RawMaterials Eligibility criteria, all projects will have to comply with Horizon Europe and EIT rules, and with the conditions set in the current EIT RawMaterials Partnership Agreement (ParA).

Our project selection process is designed to:

- Continue to build the collaborative backbone of the KIC consortium and future service offerings.

- Support the building of a networked community by encouraging partners to get involved in several projects.

- Create new programmes or redesign existing programmes, including a high degree of involvement of industry partners.

- Enhance interest in and knowledge of the role and importance of raw materials in society.

- Encourage the inclusion of SMEs as partners and/or customers in the projects.

- Align with, and clearly illustrate how proposals will contribute to, the EIT Core KPIs as detailed in the *Strategic Agenda 2021-2027* of EIT RawMaterials.

2.1.1. Expected budget and funding

The exact number of projects to be funded in the framework of this call will depend on the quality of the received proposals, and on the total available funding, with funding allocated to Lighthouse projects that will depend on the overall strength of the proposals. Lighthouse and non-Lighthouse proposals will be evaluated together, and selection for funding will be based only on the eligibility, quality and strategy criteria outlined in Section 2 of this document (additional eligibility criteria apply to Lighthouse projects as outlined in the 'Lighthouse Appendix' document).

Full scholarships Master's students are not in the funding scope of EIT RawMaterials. Tuition fees will also not be covered by the KIC. Please see the guidelines on added-value student activity (AVSA) grants for EIT-Labelled programmes (AVSA grants) – see the *Education Project proposal: Guidance and Template for complementary information*.

2.1.2. Confidentiality, data protection and ethical considerations

Access to the proposals will be given to EIT RawMaterials Management Team and to the evaluation panel conducting the evaluations. Everyone with access to the proposal texts will have signed a non-disclosure and confidentiality agreement before access is granted.

If a proposal is approved for funding, the full details of the approved project will be communicated to the EIT as part of the proposed Business Plan 2022-2024, where it will be included in EIT's evaluation of the Business Plan.

The title, scope, summary, name of partners in the consortium, name of coordinator and overall budget of projects approved for funding will be shared within the EIT RawMaterials community, and therefore will be made publicly available (e.g., on the EIT RawMaterials' web site, in presentations at conferences etc.). Public dissemination of the project's main results and outcomes is a mandatory condition for funding, and will be arranged jointly by the consortium and EIT RawMaterials staff taking into account the consortium's legitimate confidentiality requirements.

All data and information related to the proposal and its evaluation will be handled and stored in the 'SeedBook' platform according to EIT RawMaterials' customary procedures. The EIT RawMaterials' Code of Conduct will be followed throughout the evaluation process. External evaluators will receive specific instructions on the evaluation process, and access to the proposals will be granted to each Evaluator only after the upload of her/his 'Evaluator Agreement' with provisions on confidentiality, conflict of interest and code of conduct.

2.2. Proposal preparation, submission, evaluation and selection process

2.2.1. Proposal preparation and registration

Online matchmaking and brokerage events throughout the year allow partners to discuss project ideas and form potential consortia. It is mandatory for the Coordinator to inform her/his Innovation Hub Manager for each project proposal to be submitted. The Innovation Hub staff, including the Education Manager, and the Thematic Officers/Senior Advisors provide guidance and support in order to:

- Set up a solid consortium and find missing partner(s) if required

- Advise and support the consortium with their project proposals to ensure they are in line with the evaluation and eligibility criteria

Frequently asked questions and further guidance and advice of general interest will be posted in in the FAQ section of the online proposal submission platform "Seedbook" (https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu) throughout the proposal preparation period. Project Coordinators should check this section regularly to ensure that they are fully informed and updated on important matters such as eligibility and evaluation criteria, advice on the compilation of the proposal, costs and cost allocation.

It is a requirement to **register your intention to submit a proposal** and contact Innovation Hub staff and the Education Manager before submitting the DRAFT proposal using the Seedbook platform.

Proposals must be registered by Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time) using the SeedBook online platform.

The proposal registration will NOT be evaluated.

The registration form will become available through Seedbook by mid of March 2021. Following registration, the proposal will be assigned to a Project Officer who will be the primary point of contact with the Project Coordinator throughout the submission process. Note that Project Coordinators will be able to access the online proposal submission template only after their project has been registered and assigned to a Project Officer.

2.2.2. Proposal submission

The proposal submission will take place in two stages, with a DRAFT proposal and a FINAL proposal. **Both submissions will be evaluated.** It is therefore imperative that the DRAFT proposals contain sufficient information for a comprehensive evaluation.

- **Coordinators must submit a DRAFT proposal no later than Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time)** using the SeedBook online platform.

- **FINAL proposals must be submitted no later than Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time)** using the SeedBook online platform. The attached *Education Project proposal: Guidance and Template for complementary information* offers guidance for the content of the proposal.

2.2.3. Proposal evaluation and selection process

The **DRAFT proposals** submitted in Stage 1 should not exceed 5 pages and should contain an executive summary, with objectives, outcomes and final results expected (1/2 page), a short description of the consortium with role of each partner (1/2 page) and detailed information (4 pages) addressing the 7 following criteria, which will be evaluated as "yes/no"; only proposals receiving "yes" to all of the following criteria will be invited to submit a FINAL proposal in Stage 2:

1. Alignment with the EIT RawMaterials Strategic Agenda 2021-27,

2. Alignment to the topics described in the Thematic orientation

3. Achievement of EIT Core KPIs

4. Composition of the consortium

5. Alignment with a least one Lighthouse program - for Master Education proposals

6. Minimum one RIS university partner – only for Master Education proposals

7. Inclusion of a revenue sharing model – only for LLL proposals

Description of the above criteria:

Alignment with the EIT RawMaterials Strategic Agenda 2021-2027: The DRAFT proposal should clearly explain the impact and demonstrate how it is aligned to the expected impact in the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027.

Alignment to the topics described in the Thematic orientation: The DRAFT proposal should clearly demonstrate how the learning objectives are aligned to the thematic orientation described in this KAVA Call 8.

Achievement of EIT Core KPIs: The DRAFT proposal should clearly illustrate which EIT Core KPIs will be achieved and briefly how they will be achieved. The following EIT Core KPIs are related to education:

- # graduates from EIT-Labelled degree programmes (EIT HE 7.1)
- # students and/or graduates from EIT-Labelled programmes who create start-ups (EIT HE 5.1)
- # students and/or graduates from EIT-Labelled programmes who join start-ups (EIT HE 9.1)
- # participants in non-degree education and training (EIT HE 8.1)

Composition of the consortium: The DRAFT proposal should clearly explain the role of every partner.

Alignment with a least one Lighthouse programme for Master Education proposals: The DRAFT proposal should mention which EIT RawMaterials Lighthouse it addresses and briefly explain how the learning objectives contribute to the orientations given in the *Lighthouse Appendix KAVA Call 8*.

Minimum one RIS university partner – Master Education proposals only: The consortium description in the DRAFT proposal must commit to include one RIS university partner in the consortium; in the FINAL proposal there must be minimum one RIS university partner in the consortium. To find out more about RIS regions and objectives, please visit https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/eit-regional-innovation-scheme-ris.

Inclusion of a revenue sharing model – Lifelong Learning proposals only: As discussed in Pilar 1, the DRAFT proposal should outline the way in which financial backflow to the KIC is going to be initially proposed by the applicant.

A template will be provided in SeedBook for the submission of the DRAFT proposal. The template will contain specific instructions and the DRAFT proposals must contain sufficiently detailed and convincing information addressing these criteria. The evaluation will be carried out by the EIT RawMaterials Management Team.

The DRAFT proposal template must be completed and uploaded in SeedBook by **Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET.** Proposals that do NOT have this document uploaded by the due date will not be considered further in KAVA 8.

The **FINAL proposals** will be evaluated according to three sets of criteria :

Eligibility criteria - mandatory requirements (proposals that do not meet such criteria will not be considered for further evaluation), as described in section 2.3 below;

Quality criteria - quality criteria against which the collected proposals will be scored and ranked by external evaluators, according to the evaluation grid presented in section 2.4 below;

Strategy criteria - strategy criteria against which the collected proposals will be scored and ranked by the EIT RawMaterials Management Team, according to the evaluation grid presented in section 2.5 below.

Eligible proposals will be selected based on the quality and strategy criteria ranking. Quality criteria (external evaluation) account for 70% of the final score, while strategy criteria (EIT RawMaterials evaluation) account for 30%.

Proposals' quality will be evaluated by a panel of external experts appointed by the EIT RawMaterials Management Team. EIT RawMaterials will strive to achieve balance in the Evaluators' gender and geographic provenance.

• All members of the evaluation panel will sign non-disclosure and conflict of interest agreements.

• A minimum of three experts will be assigned to the evaluation of each proposal.

• In the first step, these assigned experts evaluate each proposal remotely using the criteria set out in the 2.4 Quality Criteria grid.

• Final evaluation of all proposals is conducted by the entire panel (with the exclusion of any member with a conflict of interest). The strengths and weaknesses of each proposal as perceived by the panel will be documented and communicated to the Project Coordinator once the evaluation process is completed.

• EIT staff and management will act as the secretaries of the panel and facilitate the discussion during evaluation panel meetings but will otherwise not take part in the evaluation process.

Proposals' strategy will be evaluated using the criteria set out in the 2.5 Strategy Criteria grid. The final selection of all proposals is conducted by the EIT RawMaterials Managing Board using the same criteria. The strengths and weaknesses of each project will be documented and communicated to the Project Coordinator once the evaluation process is completed.

Based on the evaluation and the overall available funding, the EIT RawMaterials Managing Board will propose a portfolio of projects to be funded. The Executive Board will approve the portfolio of projects to be submitted to the EIT for funding, for the Business Plan 2022-2024.

Coordinators of projects that are selected for funding will be informed after approval by the Executive Board and receive also the feedback from the evaluation panels. The feedback may include a list of requested changes that must be made by the Project Coordinator before the project can be given the final approval.

Also following approval by the Executive Board, Coordinators of projects that were not selected for funding will be informed. They will receive evaluation feedback as soon as it is finalised.

2.3. Eligibility criteria

Eligibility will be checked at the time of proposal submission and at the time of signing the Project Agreement, and apply throughout the project's funding period. In line with H2020 rules, proposals that do not meet all the eligibility criteria at the time of proposal submission will be deemed ineligible and will not be evaluated. Proposals that do not meet all the eligibility criteria at the time of signing the Project Agreement will be deemed ineligible and will not be funded. After the signature of the Project Agreement, EIT RawMaterials will not consider any changes that impact on eligibility criteria, and the project will be immediately terminated if these are not met. The following criteria apply to Education proposals:

- It must be clearly explained how the proposal is aligned with the Strategic Agenda 2021-27 of EIT RawMaterials (FPA, Annex I)

- The project consortium must consist of a minimum of 2 KIC Partners, coming from a minimum of 2 different countries

- The lead organization must be a Core or Associate Partner (or Linked Third Party to a Core or Associate Partner) of EIT RawMaterials at the time of proposal submission

- The project consortium must include KIC partners from at least 2 sides of the knowledge triangle (education, research, industry/business - as defined in the Partner registration documentation)

- Non-members are eligible to apply only if they submit an EIT RawMaterials membership application by the end of September 2021. Failure to apply for EIT RawMaterials membership by the end of September 2021 will result in their removal (including the requested funding) from the proposal (note that the project will be immediately terminated if eligibility criteria are not met at this stage)

- The project cannot have one partner (including its Linked Third Parties) as the Work Package leader in all Work Packages. In most projects, it is envisaged (but not mandatory) that each partner will lead at least one WP, and that no more than 50% of the EIT funding will be assigned to any one partner (justification to be provided otherwise)

- A detailed work plan must be provided for each year of the project duration at the time of proposal submission, including determined milestones planning as described under 2.1.

- All proposals must include a 'Dissemination and Communication Plan' Work Package, following the communications guidelines included in the document '*EIT RawMaterials Communication and dissemination guidance*'

- All Lifelong Learning proposals must include a 'Go-to-market strategy' Work Package 0

- All proposals must include a 'Project Management' Work Package, following the guidelines included in the document '*EIT RawMaterials Project Management guidance'.* The project should be managed by a project manager (PM) with relevant expertise in managing complex projects. Her/his profile can differ from the PC's, and s/he should commit to the project with a 15% FTE, to be monitored with timesheets (timesheet approved internally + declaration of honour) during project reporting. A one-page CV of the PM must be provided

- Lifelong Learning proprosals must include a model of revenue generation through joint service creation together with EIT RawMaterials, in addition to the contribution of co-funding. There in no pre-set nor preferred model as this is highly dependent on the type and scope of the project. The model must be developed in consulation with the KIC and must be described in the proposal

- All EIT-Labelled-Master programmes must follow the AVSA guidelines – see the document '*Education Project proposal: Guidance and Template for complementary information*'

- Additional eligibility criteria apply to Lighthouse proposals as outlined in the document '*Lighthouse Appendix*'

2.4. Quality criteria

Weight	Description of criteria
	(bullet points refer to examples but these are not exhaustive, and not all the points must be addressed in each project)
7	1. Innovation capacity Overall rationale for the project's importance for the development of human capital for the sector Innovation capacity compared with current practice Contribution to EIT Core KPIs Pedagogic/Andragogic approach and innovation

		Economic importance of the targeted theme/market (market size, breadth of customers/applications)
		Potential to deliver tangible results and products, processes or services that have not been delivered by other institutions
		Creation of synergies with other actors in the local ecosystem to create an impact beyond the individual project itself
7	2. Quality of the project definition and scope	
	• Explanation of the raw materials challenge addressed by this project and why the project will deliver robust solutions (background, current situation, issues and opportunities – specifically pertaining to EIT RawMaterials)	
	• Quantitative demonstration of short-term and long-term impact of the project, especially illustrating how the project impact will contribute solutions to societal and industrial challenges	
	• Detailed, step-by-step project work plan, broken down into design, implementation and post-EIT funding phases and defining work packages, management and milestones to show how the project delivers value to the project consortium and its key stakeholders during and beyond the project	
	• Definition of aims, objectives and deliverables and their relevance to EIT RawMaterials	
	• Demonstration of the project's added value in terms of entrepreneurship and innovation	
	• Details of how the funds are to be used in the form of a clear budget plan and timeline with justification	
	• Identification of key risks and success factors supplemented with a mitigation strategy to overcome those risks	
	• Effective and comprehensive communication and dissemination plan, building on the communication guidelines	
3	3. Quality of the consortium	
	• Relevance and demonstrated commitment of the lead partner	
	• Relevant experience, expertise and resources, and demonstrated commitment and engagement of each of the partners	
	• Meaningful involvement of minimum one RIS university partner	

Process description and instructions for Education activities – KAVA 8

	• Project governance structure and operational coordination mechanisms • Diversity and complementarity of the partners, and clear definition and description of roles and responsibilities with justification of why these partners were selected • Appropriate level of cooperation and interaction within the consortium • Active involvement of industrial partners and clear definition and description of their role and responsibility within the project
3	4. **Business Potential** • Soundness of the proposal from a demand perspective • For Lifelong Learning proposals: competitive advantage over existing offers in the European marketplace, including an overview of the existing offers and price-benchmarking against existing competitors • Expected financial sustainability for the continuation of the programme

Total weight =20

The score given for each criterion by the panel will then be multiplied by the weight. Maximum score is 100 = 20 (total weight) * 5 (maximum score for each criterion). These quantitative scores will be used as input for the consensus evaluation panel.

2.5. Strategy criteria

Weight	Description of criteria
8	**1. Strategic importance for the KIC** Overall contribution to the KIC's objectives and strategic agenda
8	**2. Expected impact for the KIC (return on KAVA investment)** • Realistic assessment of the expected contribution that the project will make to the impact of the KIC in terms of its EIT core and impact KPIs (see the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027 of EIT RawMaterials) in relation to the requested budget • KAVA co-funding brought by the consortium

	• For Lifelong Learning proposals: expectation and extent of revenue generation for the KIC and number of participants receiving non-degree training (EIT HE 8.1) • For Master: number of graduates from EIT-Labelled programmes (EIT HE 7.1), start-ups created by EIT Label students and/or graduates (EIT HE 5.1), and students/graduates who join start-ups (EIT HE 9.1)
4	**3. Completeness and Compliance** • Alignment with feedback given by EIT RawMaterials on previous submissions (if applicable) • Quality of the project budget definition: clear explanation and justification of costs, proper balance of costs among partners in line with their assigned roles

Total weight =20

The score given for each criterion by the panel will then be multiplied by the weight. Maximum score is 100 = 20 (total weight) * 5 (maximum score for each criterion). These quantitative scores will be used as input for the consensus evaluation panel.

Evaluation scale: In relation to each of the criteria above, each project will be scored from 0 to 5 according to the following scale:

0	**Non-existent:** no relevant information provided in the application file or cannot be judged because out of range
1	**Very poor:** The criterion is addressed in a very incomplete and unsatisfactory manner
2	**Poor:** There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question
3	**Fair:** While the proposal addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correction
4	**Good:** The proposal addresses the criterion well, although some improvements are possible
5	**Excellent:** The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor only

2.6. Calendar

Monday 1 March 2021	Launch of call for Education projects
Mid of March 2021	The proposal submission platform "Seedbook" (https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu) goes online
Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET	Proposal REGISTRATION deadline
Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET	DRAFT Proposal SUBMISSION deadline (DRAFT Proposal is uploaded in SeedBook)
Tuesday 4 May to Thursday 20 May 2021	Evaluation of DRAFT Proposals
Friday 21 May 2021	Outcomes of the evaluation of the DRAFT proposals is communicated to the consortia
Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 13.00 CET	FINAL Proposal SUBMISSION deadline
September 2021	Evaluation by panel of external experts
September 2021	Preparation of list of projects for funding by KIC Management Team
Friday 24 September 2021	Approval of list of projects for funding by KIC Executive Board & communication to partners
End of September 2021	Registration of new partners -
End of October 2021	Response to mandatory changes requested by the Selection Panel ('Change requests') and inclusion of selected projects in Business Plan 2022-2024, to be submitted to EIT
January 2022	Earliest starting date for approved projects (to be confirmed)
January 2022 (tba)	EIT approval of project portfolio after all the requests for clarification have been satisfied (to be confirmed)

The next call for projects is expected to be launched in the second quarter of 2021, with a submission deadline in the third quarter of 2021.

Process description and instructions for Education activities – KAVA 8

2.7. Registration and proposal submission using SeedBook

Registrations and proposals can **only** be submitted using the IT-tool SeedBook. Project Coordinators are invited to register via this link **https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu** from early November 2019 to get the access to the tool, register their proposal and commence the proposal submission process. Innovation Hub staff will assist in using the IT tool.

The **DRAFT Proposal** must be submitted **Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time).**

The **FINAL proposals** must be submitted by **Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time).**

2.8. Appeal and redress procedure

Upon reception of the feedback, the applicant may wish to lodge a request for redress, if there is a concern that there might have been a shortcoming in the way a proposal was evaluated, or if the results of the eligibility checks are incorrect. The redress procedure is not meant to call into question the judgement made by the expert-evaluators. It will consider only procedural shortcomings and factual errors.

Requests for redress should be raised within one month of the reception of the evaluation feedback sent by EIT RawMaterials, and should be sent to Compliance@eitrawmaterials.eu. Requests must:

- be related to the evaluation process, or eligibility checks;
- include a clear description of the grounds for the complaint;
- be received within the time limit specified above.

An initial reply will be sent to complainants no later than two weeks after the deadline for redress requests. This initial reply will indicate when a definitive reply will be provided. A redress committee of EIT RawMaterials may be convened to examine the evaluation process for the case under consideration. The committee's role is to ensure a coherent interpretation of requests, and equal treatment of applicants. The redress committee itself, however, does not re-evaluate the proposal. Depending on the nature of the complaint, the committee may review the evaluation report, the individual comments and examine the CVs of the evaluation experts. Following its review, the committee will recommend a course of action to the EIT RawMaterials OMT. If there is clear evidence of a shortcoming that could affect the funding decision, it is possible that all or part of the proposal may be re-evaluated. Unless there is clear evidence of a shortcoming there will be no follow-up or re-evaluation. The Executive Board of EIT RawMaterials will be informed of any redress procedures in due course.

Please note:

- This procedure is concerned with the evaluation and/or eligibility checking process.
- The committee will not call into question the judgment of the individual expert-evaluators,

whose qualifications have been already assessed and validated.

- A re-evaluation will only be carried out if there is evidence of a shortcoming that affects the quality assessment of a proposal. This means, for example, that a problem relating to one evaluation criterion will not lead to a re-evaluation if a proposal has failed anyway on the other criteria.
- The evaluation score following any re-evaluation will be regarded as definitive. It may be lower than the original score.
- Only one request for redress per proposal will be considered by the committee.
- All requests for redress will be treated confidentially.

3. Funding information

For all two KAVA types (Master Education and Lifelong Learning), funded activities can include:

- Partner costs for development, establishment, recruitment, marketing and communications, administration and coordination.

- Promotional activities to attract participants to relevant courses, programmes and events etc.

- Development of innovative education tools, e.g. online education, learning-by-doing modules, virtual education, MOOCs, etc. (including costs for e.g. hardware, time, travel)

- Follow-up activities related to KAVA projects that were previously granted funding. In this case, please provide an explanation of the outcomes from the first project as well as how the follow-up project will build on the results of the first project, and see the *Education Project proposal: Guidance and Template for complementary information* for further considerations to be taken into account.