



# EIT RawMaterials

## Call for KAVA 8 Upscaling 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 be 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 Upscaling Projects (Upscaling KAVA – KIC Added-Value Activity in EIT terminology). It is a requirement to contact Innovation Hub staff and the Senior Advisors before submitting the proposal. The Innovation Hub staff can offer further advice.

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

- The present document (call text)
- *EIT RawMaterials Upscaling Project proposal FINAL SUBMISSION 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
- *Go-to-market strategy for upscaling projects – Process and guidance*
- 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

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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 2021-27 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 (e.g., number of jobs created/saved; please refer to Strategic Agenda 2021-2027).
- Upscaling projects are innovation projects based on validated technologies that need additional step(s) for up-scaling, demonstration or implementation. The objective is to bring the technology to market, as a product, service or process.
- Only the proposals that are fully aligned with the EIT RawMaterials 2021-2027 Strategic Agenda will be considered for funding. In particular, the proposal should address at least one of the topics listed in the Lighthouse Appendix and must be developed in close cooperation with the KIC staff that have been assigned to the proposal. Proposals that do not address the topics listed in the Lighthouse Appendix will be considered for funding, but will be given lower priority.
- Projects that have the potential to become investment cases for the European Raw Materials Alliance within the funding period will be evaluated positively and will be given a priority over other projects that have achieved a similar score in the quality criteria.
- All the funded projects must contribute to the financial sustainability of the KIC by generating a financial backflow equivalent to at least 100% of the EIT grant. The amount, time and conditions for the backflow will be crucial criteria for the selection of the funded projects.
- In the case of a resubmission, it is mandatory to highlight the improvement performed
- The technology must be at Technology Readiness Level (TRL<sup>1</sup>) of at least 5 at the beginning of the project, corresponding to a “technology validated in relevant environment”. Documented evidence must be

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<sup>1</sup> Definitions of Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 1 to 9 are given in FAQ document.



provided in the application to substantiate this claim. The project may be scored very low or even deemed to be ineligible without such evidence.

- At the end of the project, the technology is expected to have reached a TRL of at least 7, corresponding to a “system prototype demonstration in operational environment”. Information must be provided in the application to substantiate this claim, and the project may be scored very low or even deemed to be ineligible without it.
- The co-funding contributed by the project consortium should be minimum 30% of the total funding (NOT 30% of the EIT funding). This is the minimum amount set by the EIT for innovation projects. Projects that provide a higher co-funding will be evaluated positively. The co-funding contributed by each partner does not need to be proportional to the funding allocated. In fact, it is expected that Industry partners will contribute the largest proportion of co-funding.
- Upscaling projects must aim for market introduction and/or a commercial use within 3 years (or less) after the end of project. Projects that aim for commercialization within the project duration will be evaluated positively. The proposal must clearly state who (which partner) will be responsible for commercialization, and outline a plan for market introduction.
- 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 status.
- Deliverables must include a mandatory Final Report 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.
- 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, 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 and pay fees; 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.
- Above and beyond the specific EIT RawMaterials Eligibility criteria, all projects must comply with H2020/Horizon Europe and EIT rules, and with the conditions set in the new EIT RawMaterials Partnership Agreement (ParA).
- EIT RawMaterials is committed to supporting the best ideas and the projects with the highest potential to generate impact in the raw materials value chain, as well as to developing its financial sustainability strategy as mandated by the EIT. EIT RawMaterials requests a financial backflow in case of project success. The definition of success will be negotiated and agreed upon with EIT RawMaterials and must be defined at the time of proposal submission. If the success conditions are met, EIT RawMaterials will consider two main types of backflow mechanisms:
  - 1. Revenue sharing: EIT RawMaterials receives a percentage of the revenue generated from the project in at least the amount of the allocated grant if the commercialisation is successful.
  - 2. Any other reasonable mechanism contributing to the financial sustainability of the KIC the Parties may agree upon. In that regard, the consortium shall remain open to enter into negotiations with EIT RawMaterials to co-invest into a project spin-off at a later stage, if applicable; project backflow could be reinvested into this new venture

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 such as successful access to investors and customers. Details of the backflow will be negotiated prior to the signing of the Project Agreement (PA) and will be outlined in the PA. The option selected 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 details.

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- Consortia are encouraged to consider offering our EIT RM Alumni an internship in their project and/or a site visit. Our Alumni are past or present participants in EIT RM Education or Business Development activities. The EIT RM Alumni Association would assist in the logistics involved in an internship or study/project visit.
- Proposals claiming to achieve any positive environmental impact, such as resource and energy savings, waste reduction, waste valorization, emissions reduction, etc., must include a Work Package on the assessment of the environmental impacts of the developed products or processes using LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) methodologies.
- Upscaling projects need to be based on a solid market analysis, covering important aspects such as the business environment (e.g., technical, regulatory, social, environmental and political aspects, user needs and targeted applications, customer value proposition, target market(s) (e.g., size, structure, growth potential, segmentation), risk assessment, design or market studies, and intellectual property exploration. A preliminary market analysis must be included in the proposal and will be the basis for the Go-to-market strategy that will be developed in Work Package 0 (WPO) during the project. The Go-to-market strategy will be updated throughout the duration of the project and enable go/no-go decisions following annual reviews.

#### **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 the total available funding. Only Upscaling projects will be considered in the KAVA 8 call.

At least 10% of the total EIT budget will be allocated to RIS activities <sup>2</sup>.

It is expected that the budget for each project will be no less than € 500,000 per year (including EIT funding and consortium co-funding).

#### **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.

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<sup>2</sup> In general, these are activities led by RIS partners and carried out in RIS countries. See the EIT RIS webpage for further information.



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 registration and preparation

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 and the 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 criteria

Frequently asked questions and further guidance and advice of general interest will be posted 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 Senior Advisors before submitting the DRAFT proposal using the Seedbook platform.

**Proposals must be registered by Monday 19 April 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 early April 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 *Upscaling 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 proposal** 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 5 following criteria, which will be evaluated as “yes/no”. Only proposals receiving “yes” to all of 5 following criteria will be invited to submit a FINAL proposal in Stage 2:

1. For a proper alignment with the selected Lighthouse topics and the Strategic Agenda 2021-27, the proposal draft targets one of the topics described for each Lighthouse program,
2. To make sure that it will create a High impact, the proposal aims at delivering innovative solution(s) to the market and potentially translate into a larger project for which additional capital/investment (e.g. European Raw Materials Alliance) will be required, as well as to create a relevant amount of jobs
3. To support the commercial attractiveness, the proposal clearly aims to deliver / commercialise something to the market, with a clear definition of the economic benefit it will create. A good understanding of the market potential and the identification of the first customers is also required
4. The commercialization capacity should also be demonstrated with into the consortia clear roles & responsibilities on partners contribution to the commercialisation activity, with an initial business model already in place (who sells what to whom, how revenues will be made, ..)
5. The amount of negotiable payback, time horizon for pay back and estimated backflow revenues (should be = or > to total EIT RM grant) for the organization should also be clearly described.



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. The Quality criteria include the evaluation of the 'Market Analysis' and the 'Communication and Dissemination' WPs (Sections 1-3 and 6 of the Quality Criteria evaluation grid, respectively).

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 the 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 facilitators 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.

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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, ranking, overall available funding and the mandatory EIT requirement to allocate at least 10% of the total EIT budget to RIS activities, 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.

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 Horizon Europe rules, proposals that do not meet all the eligibility criteria at the time of FINAL 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 Upscaling proposals:

- It must clearly explain how the proposal is aligned with the Strategic Agenda 2021-27 of EIT RawMaterials
- It must clearly explain how the proposal addresses one or more of the topics listed in the Lighthouse Appendix
- The proposal must clearly state if and how it has the potential to become an investment case for the European Raw Materials Alliance within the funding period
- The co-funding contributed by the project consortium should be minimum 30% of the total funding (NOT 30% of the EIT funding). Co-funding exceeding 30% will be evaluated positively, but does not replace the financial backflow requirement.
- The proposal must include a strategy and a tentative plan for the financial sustainability of the KIC as outlined in Section 2.1, leading to a financial backflow equivalent to at least 100% of the EIT grant.



- 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 by the time the project starts
- 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)
- 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 proposals must include a Go-to-market Strategy Work Package (WPO), following the guidelines outlined in the document ‘*Go-to-market strategy for upscaling projects – Process and guidance*’
- A Preliminary Market analysis must be included in the proposal
- 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
- Additional eligibility criteria apply as outlined in the document ‘*Lighthouse Appendix*’

## 2.4. Quality criteria

Weight	Description of Criteria
5	<b>1. Idea/GoToMarket</b> To what extent does the core idea have the potential to be a future commercial success that is in line with the strategic agenda of EIT RawMaterials?



	<p><i>Expected competitive advantage vs. other solutions (already available in the market or in development). Preliminary business opportunity assessment: value proposition to target customers, market size and expected growth, ability to bring the solution to the target customers, etc. Clear description of the IP management: background IP, ability to generate new IP, ability to protect, and valorize IP among partners and eventually with the support of the KIC</i></p>
5	<p><b>2. Project plan</b></p> <p>To what extent is the project plan clear and feasible – with information about what the TRL levels are as well as how the project will develop the idea and associated technology(ies) from their current level to TRL7/8 and beyond?</p> <p><i>Clear definition of project objective and overall identifiable output. Clear definition of work packages (WP) with concrete objectives, tasks and measurable deliverables (including for non-technical aspects of the project, e.g., marketing, finance, IP, stakeholder management, regulatory, etc.). Clear project schedule, with well-defined milestones. Risk management: Identification of key risks (with regards to technology, market, regulatory, financial, stakeholders, managerial etc.) and effective mitigation measures</i></p>
5	<p><b>3. Consortium</b></p> <p>To what extent does the project consortium have the competencies to implement the project plan, and the commitment and competencies to take the steps that will lead to commercialisation of the idea/technology(ies) beyond TRL8?</p> <p><i>Soundness of the consortium: Quality and relevance of the leading partner, presence of complementary partners covering the key elements of the value chain, diversity of countries and Innovation Hubs represented in the consortium, Involvement of relevant industrial partner(s), presence of one or several SME(s) as active Task partners. Roles and governance: Clear definition of roles corresponding to the specific strengths of each partner, clear definition of project governance structure and of coordination mechanisms among partners</i></p>
5	<p><b>4. Innovation</b></p> <p>How relevant and feasible are the innovation proposed and its development? To what extent is the solution innovative 1) relative to global markets and 2) in the specific market where it will be introduced.</p> <p><i>Technical feasibility of the solution based on the technology(ies) currently available to consortium partners</i></p>
5	<p><b>5. Impact</b></p> <p>What is the problem that the project solves and how big is that problem? How large is the impact that the project will generate outside the consortium?</p> <p><i>Creation of synergies with other actors in the local ecosystem to create an impact beyond the individual project itself</i></p>



5	<p><b>6. Communication and dissemination</b></p> <p>Soundness and effectiveness of the communication and dissemination strategy relative to the scope of the project.</p> <p><i>Compliance with EIT requirements and proactive communication and dissemination plan. Clear dissemination strategy and application (to other countries, on-going initiatives and programmes, links to development in other materials, themes, markets, audiences, partners, etc.)</i></p>
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## Total weight =30

The score given for each criterion by the panel will then be multiplied by the weight. Maximum score is 300 = 30 (total weight) \* 10 (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
9	<p><b>1. Strategic importance for the KIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall contribution to the KIC's objectives and strategic agenda</li> <li>• Contribution to the KIC's financial sustainability strategy (amount and conditions for financial backflow to the KIC)</li> <li>• Potential to become an investment case for the European Raw Materials Alliance</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>2. Expected impact for the KIC (return on KAVA investment)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 2021-27 of EIT RawMaterials) in relation to the requested budget, with focus on added value (investment attracted – KPIs EITHE06.1 and EITHE06.2; KICN01.5) and jobs created (KICN01.10)</li> <li>• KAVA co-funding brought by the consortium beyond the minimum requirement (addressing EITHE12.1)</li> <li>• Outline of a convincing strategy for introduction to the market within the project funding period (KPIs EITHE01.1 and EITHE02.1)</li> </ul>

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2	<p><b>3. Completeness and Compliance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completeness and clarity of information provided in the proposal</li> <li>• Alignment with feedback given by EIT RawMaterials on previous submissions (if applicable)</li> <li>• Quality of the project budget definition: clear explanation and justification of costs, proper balance of costs among partners in line with their assigned roles</li> </ul>
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### Total weight =20

The score given for each criterion by the panel will then be multiplied by the weight. Maximum score is 200 = 20 (total weight) \* 10 (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 criterion (above), each project will be scored from 0 to 5 according to the following scale:

0	<b>Non-existent:</b> no relevant information provided in the application file or cannot be judged because out of range
2	<b>Very poor:</b> The criterion is addressed in a very incomplete and unsatisfactory manner
4	<b>Poor:</b> There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question
6	<b>Fair:</b> While the proposal addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correction
8	<b>Good:</b> The proposal addresses the criterion well, although some improvements are possible
10	<b>Excellent:</b> 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 Upscaling projects
Early April 2021	The proposal submission platform “Seedbook” ( <a href="https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu">https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu</a> ) goes online
Monday 19 April 2021 at 13.00 CET	<b>Proposal <u>REGISTRATION</u></b> deadline
Monday 3 May 2021 at 13.00 CET	<b><u>DRAFT</u> Proposal <u>SUBMISSION</u></b> 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	<b><u>FINAL</u> Proposal <u>SUBMISSION</u></b> 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.



## 2.7. Registration and proposal submission using SeedBook

Registrations and proposals can **only** be submitted using the IT-tool SeedBook. Project Coordinators who do not have a SeedBook account are invited to register via this link <https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu> from late November 2020 to get access to the tool 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. Support for Environmental Technology Verification

Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) is a tool designed to help innovative environmental technologies access the market. It consists of the verification, on a voluntary basis, of the functional and environmental performance of a technology by qualified third parties, through tests of controlled quality. The end product is an ETV Statement of Verification published on the ETV website and used in business-to-business relations. This enables technology owners to document the reliability of their claims and differentiate from competitors, and it helps technology purchasers identify innovations that suit their needs.

ETV is implemented by accredited Verification Bodies in three technology areas (other areas will also be considered in the near future):

- Water treatment and monitoring (e.g., monitoring water quality, treatment of drinking water and waste water)
- Materials, waste and resources (e.g., separation and sorting of solid waste, recycling of materials, end-of-life products and chemicals, biomass-based products)
- Energy (e.g., renewable energy, energy generated from waste, energy efficiency)

Technologies can be proposed for verification if they are ready for market (TRL 7 to 9, exceptionally 6) and if they present an innovative aspect and environmental added-value in comparison with relevant alternatives on the market. Interested technology developers are invited to contact one of the 12 accredited Verification Bodies early enough in their development project to plan for the verification procedure and tests in good time and thereby save costs.

Additional information and contact details: [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoap/etv\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoap/etv_en)

You can budget a maximum of € 75,000 subcontracting to take your proposed technology through this verification process.



## 2.9. 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](mailto: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.