Business Plan 2023 – 2025

Regional Innovation Scheme Urban Mobility Specialists (RISUMS) Open Call 2025

Call Manual

EIT Urban Mobility - Mobility for more liveable urban spaces

History of changes

Version	Publication Date	Change
1.0	04.07.2024	Initial version
2.0	16.07.2024	Correction of the link of the PIF and the total score in Excellence Revision of the elements to be cured
2.1	25.07.2024	Correction of the link of NetSuite

Any updates to this Call Manual, are identified in the table above. Amended versions of this Call Manual are published on the EIT Urban Mobility Call website.

Disclaimer

The title of this Call may undergo minor changes, which will be indicated in this Call Manual if they occur. However, any change in the title will not affect the content or requirements of this Call.

Contents

Abbreviations

ECO	EIT Community Officer, the person, who is coordinating the local EIT Community RIS Hub
ECRH	EIT Community RIS Hub, defined by the governance MoU, including all local EIT KIC representations in RIS countries
EIT	European Institute of Innovation & Technology
FSA	Financial Support Agreement
FS	Financial Sustainability
FSM	Financial Sustainability Mechanism
HE	Horizon Europe
KAVA	KIC Added Value Activities
KIC	Knowledge and Innovation Community
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
MGA	Model Grant Agreement
NCP	National Contact Point
PFT	Performance Funding Target
RIS	Regional Innovation Scheme
RISUM	RIS Urban Mobility Specialists
SA	Strategic Agenda
SER	Summary Evaluation Report
SO	Strategic Objectives
TRL	Technology Readiness Level
WP	Work Package

Glossary

Lead Applicant	The entity/person that submits the proposal and will coordinate the project if it is selected. If the proposal is successful, the Lead Applicant becomes the Project Leader.
Project Leader	The Project Leader is the main contact for EIT Urban Mobility from the time the funding is awarded until the project has been implemented. In the case of multi-beneficiary Calls, the Project Leader represents the project and the consortium partners (the other partners participating in the project) to EIT Urban Mobility. For mono-beneficiary grants, the single legal entity involved in the project also acts as Project Leader.
Key Expert	Single person representing each consortium partner and area of expertise. The key expert represents the technical knowledge and expertise assessed in the eligibility criteria and evaluation stages.
Call for Proposals	The Call for Proposals is the instrument used by EIT Urban Mobility to allocate funding through projects to third parties, supporting the deployment and development of the Strategic Agenda. EIT Urban Mobility uses two types of Calls in accordance with the provisions outlined in the specific rules for EIT KIC actions in HE MGA Annex 5: (1) Open Calls (2) Calls for partners.
Call Manual	The Call Manual is the main document outlining the terms, conditions, and criteria of any Call for Proposals launched by EIT Urban Mobility, adhering to the principles of transparency, equal treatment, open competition, and sound procedural management.
Consensus meeting	The Consensus meeting is convened to enable all the experts who assessed the proposals to discuss their Individual Evaluation Reports and agree on comments and scores reflected in the Summary Evaluation Reports. This remote meeting is led by the rapporteur and supported by the quality controller (an EIT Urban Mobility officer), who seek a consensus and ensure that proposals are fairly evaluated and in line with the established evaluation criteria.
Deliverable	Deliverables capture the achievement of key outputs and may take the form of analysis reports, feasibility studies, strategy documents, pilot action reports, and training documentations. The deliverables specified need to fully demonstrate the project's achievements and the judicious use of public funds.
EIT Urban Mobility's Innovation Hubs	Offices of EIT Urban Mobility in different European locations, serving local partners and building local communities of partners (Barcelona – IH South, Amsterdam-IH West, Munich-IH Central, Copenhagen-IH North, Prague-IH East). EIT Urban Mobility's Innovation Hubs are the same entities as CLCs (Co-location Centres) of other KICs.
EIT KPIs (EITHE)	EIT defines a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that reflects the operational objectives for education, entrepreneurship, and innovation. These KPIs are used to measure how effectively a KIC/project meets the EIT's objectives.

EIT Common List KPIs (EITCL)	Former performance-based EIT KPI system used to measure the contribution of the RIS Hubs to EIT KPIs as an interim stage of the EIT KPIs' target achievement. Since this system is known to EIT and to some experts, we make reference in this Call document to the corresponding EITCL KPIs; however we use the PFTs as the main indicator. The PFTs provide a detailed breakdown of some selected EITCL KPIs. For the RISUMs, the EITCL KPIs are not important; they simply serve to provide additional information to the experts who were working in the former system.
Evaluation Process	Process by which EIT Urban Mobility, supported by external experts, examines the quality of a proposal to determine whether it should be selected for EIT funding.
Evaluation Panel	Group of expert evaluators (usually at least three external individuals for Calls) along with a rapporteur with proven expertise in a specific area or topic of the Call for Proposals. The role of this panel is to evaluate eligible proposals submitted in response to a particular Call for Proposals based on a set of predefined evaluation criteria. The evaluation panel is assisted by a quality controller from EIT Urban Mobility to ensure process compliance.

If a Call involves proposals of less than €60,000 in EIT funding, the evaluation panel must include at least one external expert evaluator. |
Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement	The Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement (HE MGA) sets out the rights and obligations, as well as the terms and conditions that apply to the grant awarded.
KIC-specific KPIs	Set of indicators defined by EIT Urban Mobility that reflect the societal challenge that the KIC seeks to address.
Knowledge Triangle Integration (KTI)	EIT Urban Mobility aims to create close partnerships between European education, research and business entities (knowledge triangles). It also involves cities, either through the composition of the project members or through the impact that the project is expected to have.
Milestone	Control points to chart the progress of a project implementation. They may correspond to the completion of a key deliverable that allows the next phase of work to begin.
Outputs	Tangible results, such as the specific technology, product, service, method, design, patents, new jobs, new curricula, prototypes, concept, methodology, approach, skills and experience created by the project.
Performance Funding Targets (PFT)	Performance Funding Targets (PFTs) are specific indicators, apart from the Core KPIs, set by EIT Urban Mobility for the RISUMS. When these PFTs are fully met, the RISUMS become eligible to receive the corresponding funding allocation.
Ranking List	List of proposals ranked according to the score awarded by the Selection Committee.
Selection Committee	The Selection Committee is responsible for selecting shortlisted proposals evaluated by the evaluation panel and defining the conditions for funding the selected proposals in

	the final EIT Urban Mobility portfolio. The Selection Committee is usually, but not exclusively, composed of members of EIT Urban Mobility's executive management team.
Summary Evaluation Report	The rapporteur issues a single and final Summary Evaluation Report (SER) for each proposal after the consensus meetings. This document provides a concise overview of the proposal's final evaluation score, its strengths, weaknesses, associated risks, and any recommendations made.

Introduction

At EIT Urban Mobility, our mission is to accelerate change towards a sustainable mobility model for liveable urban spaces. In the current context of climate emergency, our objective is to support our community of innovators to develop mobility solutions that help people mitigate and adapt to climate change, while improving the quality of life in our cities, creating jobs and strengthening the European mobility sector.

In the countries of the Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS), tailor-made activities are developed to meet the diverse innovation needs of its eligible countries and to ensure the balanced pan-European geographical coverage of the innovation community.

Since 2020, EIT Urban Mobility has been building a broad network of partners across Europe, involving 33 countries and more than 450 partners. We work with innovators in city administrations, research organisations and businesses, to strengthen the urban mobility ecosystem.

Through our growing portfolio of projects designed to support agile and collaborative mobility innovation and through our supported startups, we can offer an inspiring innovation ecosystem that improves and stimulates the connection with the local networks of the RIS countries.

On 8 November 2023, a new place-based roadmap was approved by the EIT and the EIT KICs, setting out the deployment of 24 EIT Community RIS Hubs in the RIS countries and outermost regions. Each country's EIT Community RIS Hub will bring together all the KIC-related offices, RIS country specialists and National Contact Points (NCP) under one single community.

With this new outlook in mind, we seek to build on the results of the former RIS Hub network of EIT Urban Mobility, making the necessary changes to thrive in a new structure full of new synergies and opportunities.

This Call for Proposals, **Regional Innovation Scheme Urban Mobility Specialists (RISUMS),** aims to select the strongest proposals that will deliver activities to support our RIS strategy in the selected regions and countries in all fields of activity, such as enlarging the network, scouting and supporting new talents or products, and deploying new solutions. More particularly, the selected RISUMS will foster close interactions between local innovation actors and link local innovation ecosystems to the KIC's pan-European innovation ecosystem. They will also help integrate potential new partners and participants from the local innovation ecosystem in KIC activities.

This Call focuses on multiannual projects for the period of 2025-2028, and the intention is to maintain the long-term collaboration even beyond 2028, should the objectives be met.

We look forward to broadening our partnerships and our portfolio of RIS activities!

1. Call summary

Call for Proposals Main Features	
Key dates of the Call calendar[1]	• **Call opening:** 4 July 2024 • **Call closure:** 30 September 2024 at 17.00 CET • **Eligibility and admissibility check:** October 2024 • **Evaluation of proposals (First stage):** October-November 2024 • **Portfolio Selection (Second Stage):** November 2024 • **Communication of results:** December 2024 • **Tentative start of the projects:** 1 January 2025
Total estimated EIT Funding allocated to this Call	€1,500,000 total for 2025, all countries combined. A similar amount is estimated for 2026, 2027 and 2028.
Link to the submission portal	Refer to Section 4.2.1 How and when to apply
Countries to be covered	Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Türkiye, Greece + Cyprus, Serbia + Montenegro + North Macedonia, Croatia + Slovenia + Bosnia & Herzegovina.
List of documents to be submitted	• Application form available on the NetSuite platform • Self-Declaration of Competencies (template available) • CVs of the key experts (for all three areas if applicable) • PFT budget proportion calculation table (template available) • Project Budget Forecast for 2026-2028 (template available) • Video pitch link
List of documents to take into consideration	• Call Manual • EIT Urban Mobility Strategic Agenda 2021-2027 • Governance MoU of the EIT Community RIS Hub • Guidelines for Applicants • Eligibility of expenditure • Appeal procedure • Project Implementation Handbook • Financial Support Agreement (FSA) template

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[1] Please note that this calendar is indicative. Dates may be subject to slight changes.

	• [Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#)
Short summary of the topics to be addressed	Proposals must support the local RIS actions of EIT Urban Mobility in the respective country in at least two of the following areas: 1. Local community building 2. Impact Ventures support 3. Innovation support 4. Education support Preference is given to proposals that address all four areas. Proposals offering support in all areas will be given a higher score in the evaluation.
Evaluation criteria (first stage)	• Excellence: Applicant's track record in mobility, transport and innovation, EIT Urban Mobility programme knowledge and experience, key expert qualification. • Impact: level of ambition in KPI and PFT • Quality and efficiency of implementation: budget and value for money, workplan of activities
Portfolio selection criteria (second stage)	• Evaluation of the video pitch • Business intelligence, including applicants track record in EIT Urban Mobility projects, and financial viability

2. General requirements

2.1 EIT Urban Mobility strategic focus and objectives

Proposals submitted to this Call for Proposals must support EIT Urban Mobility's vision and mission and directly contribute to tackling our strategic objectives (SOs). Proposals need to demonstrate how the proposal will actively contribute, not solely align, to the EIT Urban Mobility Strategic Agenda 2021-2027 (SA).

2.1.1 Vision and mission

Our mission is to accelerate the transition towards sustainable mobility for liveable urban spaces. As the leading European innovation community for urban mobility, we facilitate collaboration between cities, industry, academia, research, and innovation. We develop and deploy solutions for the mobility of people and goods.

All EIT Urban Mobility activities serve the purpose of achieving three societal impact goals:

- Improve quality of life in cities;
- Mitigate and adapt to climate change;
- Create jobs and strengthen the European urban mobility sector.

Further details on the strategic focus of this Call for Proposals are provided in Section 3.

2.1.2 Strategic objectives

Five strategic objectives (SOs), as set out in the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027, steer our activities and ambitions, and guide us towards achieving our mission:

- SO1 - Create liveable urban spaces
- SO2 - Close the knowledge gap
- SO3 - Deploy and scale green, safe, and inclusive mobility solutions for people and goods
- SO4 - Accelerate market opportunities
- SO5 - Promote effective policies and behavioural change.

The submitted proposals must be aligned with SO2, SO3 and SO4 and fall within the scope set out in Section 3 below.

2.2 Applicants' eligibility and membership

The EIT creates ecosystems. The KICs are anchored in regional and local communities via their co-location Innovation Hubs. The EIT Urban Mobility links the knowledge triangle components of education, research,

and businesses with cities. Accordingly, EIT Urban Mobility currently brings together more than 472 partners from 33 countries from the four sectors.

2.2.1 Who can apply

This Call for Proposals is strategically focused on RIS countries, and is therefore open to all legal entities (for example SMEs, start-up accelerators, research & technology organisations, or large businesses) established in the following EU Member States and Third countries associated to Horizon Europe:

- Bulgaria
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Hungary
- Malta
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Türkiye

It is also open to the following **regions**, covering several EU Member States and Third countries associated to Horizon Europe:

- Croatia + Slovenia + Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Greece + Cyprus
- Serbia + Montenegro + North Macedonia

This Call for Proposals is intended to select only one proposal per country and per region. In other words, **each proposal must cover only one country or region.**

It is open to **multi-participant proposals** (a consortium of several entities) and **mono-participant proposals** (one single entity).

In the case of a consortium, the proposals must fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

- The proposal must be composed of **a maximum of three independent entities**[2] from the eligible countries mentioned above.
- Each entity must be identified as a specialist in at least one area covered by the proposal: start-up acceleration, education and training, and business development.
- Accordingly, each consortium partner should lead at least one of the four work packages (WPs) (i.e. one partner can cover more than one area of expertise).

Additionally, the applicants applying to this Call (through multi-participant proposals and mono-participant proposals) must meet the following eligibility criteria related to the competencies:

1. All entities must have had an office in the respective country of the application for at least three years by the closing date of this Call. In the case of regional applications (e.g. the application for the region covering Croatia + Slovenia + Bosnia and Herzegovina), the office in any of the relevant countries will be accepted.
2. All areas should be covered by key expert(s) with relevant experience. They should be a native speaker of the respective language and have excellent English skills. In the case of Malta, only English will be required.
3. All areas should be covered by key expert(s) with at least a three-year track record by the closing date of this Call in the field of innovation support in the country/region of the application.

If qualified, one key expert may cover several areas. In such cases, please nominate the expert for each position separately. If an area is not covered in the proposal, the corresponding key expert does not need to be provided; however, the connected scoring of the expert/area will be lost.

The Lead Applicant of each proposal is requested to submit a signed self-declaration of competencies (on behalf of the consortium, if any) when submitting the proposal, to declare that the entity/entities involved in the proposal fulfil this requirement. A self-declaration template is available on the Call webpage.

Temporary eligibility requirements for Hungarian universities

Following the Council's Decision on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary, which entered into force on 15 December 2022, special participation and funding restrictions may affect Hungarian public interest trusts and any linked universities participating in EIT Urban Mobility Calls. For further information and the list of affected entities, please refer to Annex I of the *Eligibility of Expenditure* document.

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[2] Two legal entities shall be regarded as independent of each other where neither is under the direct or indirect control of the other or under the same direct or indirect control as the other. Please refer to the entire definition in Article 8: https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/legal_basis/rules_participation/h2020-rules-participation_en.pdf

This Call for Proposals follows the main rules and principles established by the EIT rules and EU general principles. All Call processes respect the principles of openness, transparency, equal treatment, and efficacy.

2.2.2 Membership

Implementing projects is a core activity of EIT Urban Mobility. Beyond this activity, the EIT Urban Mobility community connects members and runs networking activities to design and plan strategic actions that drive impact and accelerate systemic change, including accelerating the market adoption of innovative solutions into everyday city operations.

If an application is selected for funding, applicants will be required to become part of the community and choose one of the following membership categories when starting their projects:

- **Gold members**: pay an annual fee of €30,000 and have full access to all benefit packages offered by EIT Urban Mobility.

- **Silver members**: pay an annual fee of €10,000 and have limited access to all benefit packages offered by EIT Urban Mobility. In the case of Small and Micro Enterprises, and NGOs, a reduced annual fee of €5,000 will be applied.

  Small and Micro organisations in RIS countries (such as SMEs, NGOs and small cities) which are granted a yearly EIT funding allocation of less than €30,000 are eligible to apply for the membership fee waiver. The decision to grant the waiver will be taken on a case-by-case basis. (To apply for the membership fee waiver, all the EIT Urban Mobility funding allocated to the entity in all projects will be counted, and the total must be lower than €30,000 per year)

Cities are offered a special membership package:

- **Leading cities**: with an annual fee of €10,000, they have full access to the gold membership package and the additional city-specific service.

Implementing projects is a core activity of EIT Urban Mobility. Beyond this activity, the Community connects members and runs networking activities to design and plan strategic actions to accelerate the market adoption of innovative solutions into everyday city operations.

A detailed description of all packages and related benefits, as well as the registration and conditions for membership, is provided on our website: https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/become-a-partner/

3. Call specific requirements

3.1 The RISUMS mission

Proposals submitted to this Call for RISUMS country specialists should include an activity plan in one country/region to deliver on the mission of attracting new local partners (also called members) to EIT Urban Mobility's pan-European community, as well as providing targeted support to individuals and entities from EIT RIS-eligible countries to take part in EIT Urban Mobility activities and benefit from our services and programmes.

In doing so, RISUMS will generate business results, startup investments, and tangible benefits for local stakeholders measurable by RISUM-specific common list KPIs and by their contribution to framework KPIs (EIT core KPIs).

Integrating RISUMS into the EIT Community RIS Hubs is also a top priority. The RISUMS will work in close cooperation with the EIT Community RIS Hub, which represents all the EIT KICs in the country through an EIT Community Officer. Cooperation will involve information exchange, data sharing, alignment on events, stakeholder meetings, etc.

3.2 Areas of the RISUMS activity plan

Proposals must address **at least two** of the following areas (also called Work Packages):

1. Local community building
2. Impact Ventures support
3. Innovation support
4. Education support

Each Work Package will have a duration of 48 months.

Preference is given to proposals that address the four Work Packages. Proposals offering support in all these areas will receive a higher score in the evaluation.

The RISUMS will work with entities only from the country or region they represent to deliver the activity areas related to community building, innovation support and education support, whereas in Impact Ventures support, the RISUMS may work with startups registered in any RIS-eligible country.

RISUMS may cooperate with each other in delivering their targets, while respecting the provisions in KPI reporting for these cases, indicated in Section 3.5. The requested activities connected to each area of activity are described in the following sections.

Each Work package will be repeated every year and will be revised and confirmed annually during the projects' continuation assessment performed by EIT Urban Mobility.

3.2.1 Local community building work package

Targets of the RISUMS local community building activities

With regard to its members and stakeholders' community, EIT Urban Mobility aims to:
- Have geographically balanced portfolios of members and members' fields of activity;
- Facilitate access to its programmes for all local talents;
- Integrate the local knowledge triangle and stimulate the local innovation ecosystem;
- Ensure good visibility, accessibility, awareness raising, knowledge sharing, and dissemination of the innovative results;
- Participate in the governance of the EIT Community RIS Hub in each target country through its RISUMS.

To contribute to the above goals, the RISUMS will need to build and maintain a local professional network of innovation stakeholders and provide them with information on how to connect to the activities of EIT Urban Mobility and become part of the Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) network. The RISUMS will motivate the most interesting and innovative local entities to apply for membership of our KIC, in cooperation with EIT Urban Mobility's Innovation Hubs.

The proposals should describe the activities that will support the development of a strong professional local network, maximising the numbers of new KIC members.

Expected outcomes and impacts

Description of expected results, connected KPIs and PFT (performance funding targets), and potential impact:
- Scout for qualified leads and support the onboarding of new EIT Urban Mobility members from the local ecosystem (measured by PFT CB1 *(equivalent to the former EITCL07)*)
- Establish new links with the most important local organisations to boost the development of the ecosystem (EIT Urban Mobility will evaluate the importance of the partner organisations, the implementation steps of the joint programmes and the impact of the actions)
- Sign the EIT Community RIS Hub governance MoU and participate in the governance and joint activities in the country.
- Demonstrate the openness and accessibility of the innovation community
    - Active working relations with the ECO of the local EIT Community RIS Hub
    - Active working relations with the NCP and the local authorities
    - EIT Community participation in national-level innovation events

3.2.2 Impact Ventures support work package

Targets of the RISUMS Impact Ventures support activities

This WP is aimed at supporting activities related to the Impact Ventures Business Area. More particularly, proposals that select this topic must contribute to the following activities:

- Scout for high-potential startups to join EIT Urban Mobility startup support programmes (acceleration, scaling, investment).
- Promote the creation of new companies and bring them to a market readiness level.
- Assist EIT Urban Mobility equity portfolio companies in entering RIS markets.

To achieve these goals, the RISUMS will implement activities aimed at scouting and supporting the creation of new local startups that tackle mobility challenges and fulfil EIT Urban Mobility societal impact goals. The RISUMS will mobilise the local ecosystem and partner with business parks and research centres to facilitate their business creation needs and help EIT Urban Mobility startups penetrate the local market.

Proposals must focus on one or more of the following programmes:

1. **Startup Creation Programme**

   - One-year programme aimed at scouting mobility-related technologies in universities/incubators/technology parks, through citythons and/or hackathons, supporting the incorporation of the company and bringing it to a market readiness level (eligible for EIT Urban Mobility programmes).
   - Ideally the programme is structured in a way that ensures a future sale worth at least €10,000 (KPI: EITHE04.4).

2. **Deal flow Programme**

Disclaimer: *EIT Urban Mobility's goal moving forward is to simplify its offer, which means EIT is no longer interested in having scattered accelerator programmes which have proven to cannibalise and over-complicate the message to startups.*

A deal flow programme should be able to deliver leads for all EIT Urban Mobility available startup support programmes, where the means are up to the RISUMS to define. If applications focus on this programme, they must include all the following activities:

- Create a funnel for the EIT Growth Lab Platform paid membership;
- Create a funnel for startup support programmes (programmes available in 2025 are: EIT Jumpstarter, Market Readiness Accelerator, Investment Readiness Programme, Scale Up Programme, Rocket Up);
- Create a funnel for SIOC (Startup Investment Open Call) and other EU schemes (EIB Venture Debt Product, EIC Accelerator);
- Create a database of investors relevant to EIT Urban Mobility > Investing in mobility, cleantech, energy, deep tech (with potential to co-invest);
- Identify key startup events at the national level and actively participate in at least one (if none, suggest another way of raising awareness of EIT Urban Mobility opportunities within the local startup ecosystem).

3. **Soft Landing Programme**

Disclaimer: *Before including soft landing in your proposal, consider whether your local ecosystem is an attractive market for mobility startups. This programme will only be offered to EIT Urban Mobility equity portfolio startups. Applicants can check the profiles of our current portfolio companies* here: *Portfolio – EIT Urban Mobility*

If applications focus on this programme, they must include all the following activities:

- "Access to Country X" workshop over 90 min online workshop (in English and with a Q&A session) delivered through the EIT Growth Lab Platform to introduce the Country X startup and mobility ecosystem plus tips to access it. Testimonials and hands-on advice should be included.
- Open Call for startups interested in accessing the country market (only startups from EIT Urban Mobility's equity portfolio will be eligible).
- Selection of maximum two startups to access the country market, over at least 3-month support which might include legal advice, support in applying/gaining knowledge about public grants, info about administrative procedures, working space, facilitate networking/stakeholder meetings among others.

Expected outcomes and impacts

Description of expected results, connected KPIs and PFTs (performance funding targets), and potential impact:

- Companies incorporated in RIS countries. (KPI: EITHE04.4 & PFT: CREA2) | (KPI: EITHE04.2 & PFT: CREA1)
- High-quality leads for EIT Urban Mobility programmes (PFT: DEAL1, DEAL2, DEAL3, DEAL4, DEAL5, DEAL6 *(equivalent to the former EITCL3)*)
    - o EIT Urban Mobility support programmes (Market Readiness Accelerator, Scale Up Programme, Investment readiness programme, EIT Community programmes (EIT Jumpstarter, Rocket Up))
    - o Startup Investment Open Call
    - o EIB Venture Debt / EIC Accelerator
- EIT Urban Mobility equity portfolio companies accessing RIS markets (incorporation in a RIS country, securing investment from a local investor, signing a commercial agreement or launching a pilot with a local entity/city) (Core KPI: EITHE04.4 & PFT: SL1).

3.2.3 Innovation support work package

Targets of the RISUMS innovation support activities

The Innovation Programme aims to overcome urban mobility challenges facing European cities through action-orientated innovation. We co-create ideas that help to stimulate new projects in response to our annual Call for Proposals; demonstrate new solutions in real life; and generate commercial value. The Programme develops partnerships across and beyond Europe, and addresses regulatory and behavioural changes needed to improve urban quality of life for all citizens.

EIT Urban Mobility is looking for innovative new products that can be introduced on the market. Of course, "product" does not necessarily mean a physical product; it can also be a new type of service, organisation or even a new business model, although market readiness is key. We are looking for TRL level 7 solutions and above. In the context of its innovation programme, EIT Urban Mobility aims to support the participation of new local entities in innovation Calls, including scouting, matchmaking and preparing applications.

The RISUMS will propose activities aimed at disseminating the innovation programme Calls; identifying potential participating entities and supporting them in their matchmaking with other entities; and writing applications through close collaboration with EIT Urban Mobility's Innovation Hubs.

Expected outcomes and impacts

Description of expected results, connected KPIs and PFT (performance funding targets), and potential impact:

- Mentor the local innovation projects in applying for the different EIT Urban Mobility Innovation Calls:
  - Main Innovation Open Call 2025 (PFT: M1 *(equivalent with the former EITCL1)*)
  - RAPTOR Open Call (PFT: A3 *(equivalent with the former EITCL1)*)
  - SME Market Expansion Open Call (PFT: A3 *(equivalent with the former EITCL1)*)
- Innovations launched on the market by organisations from EIT RIS countries

3.2.4 Education support work package

Targets of the RISUMS education support activities

EIT Urban Mobility takes a broad range of educational actions in different areas of urban mobility innovation and entrepreneurship, both in degree and non-degree fields. In the context of its education programme, EIT Urban Mobility aims to:

- Establish a strategic dialogue with local authorities to support education and entrepreneurship national goals and programmes;
- Establish new collaborations with local champion entities in urban mobility education and training;
- Increase the participation of students from RIS countries and regions in EIT Urban Mobility labelled programmes;
- Increase the impact of our capacity building by implementing our professional training courses at local level.

The RISUMS will propose activities aimed at mapping the country/region mobility challenges suitable for training; sharing information about our opportunities and connecting local talents with our offerings; and identifying ongoing local education actions that are aligned with the EIT Urban Mobility Academy's programmes, so that these can be scaled with our support.

Expected outcomes and impacts

Description of expected results, connected KPIs and PFTs, and potential impact:

- Identify two local funding organisations (public or private) that provide financial support to students willing to join master's programmes. Connect the organisations with the EIT Urban Mobility Academy. (PFT: ED5)
- Create a thorough mapping of strategic urban mobility issues at local, regional and national level, as well as existing initiatives related to those challenges. The RISUMS must have a clear understanding of what the ecosystem/country needs and how the EITUM Academy can help to meet those needs.
- Identify two existing training programmes at local level, on urban mobility topics, which can be scaled through collaboration with the EIT Urban Mobility Academy. After they have been introduced to EIT Urban Mobility, the programmes' suitability must be approved by the Academy, and follow-up support is provided until a conversion agreement is reached. (PFT: ED4)
- Identify two new education players (not working already with our Academy) in the ecosystem that hold a leading position in the urban mobility professional training market (revenue track record), and connect these entities with the EIT Urban Mobility Academy's Competence Hub as potential project partners; after they have been presented and approved, follow-up support is provided until conversion. (PFT: ED3)
- Scout and connect potential customers (transport authorities, associations of cities, corporates with specific needs) to whom the EIT Urban Mobility Academy's Competence Hub can sell bespoke courses; after they have been presented and approved, follow-up support is provided until conversion (PFT: ED1)
- Dissemination of EIT Community Calls (i.e.: HEI Initiative) and EIT Urban Mobility RIS Education Call (PFT: ED2)

After 2025, the expected outcomes in the four areas may evolve depending on the performance of the RISUMS and the results obtained, and consequently new objectives might be set to build on the achievements.

3.3   Gender and diversity

EIT Urban Mobility aims to support organisations that also value diversity and gender equality. To this end, proposals applying to this Call should:

- Demonstrate how gender and diversity are considered when implementing their activities, with a special focus on supporting talents from underrepresented groups and groups with special needs; and show how these considerations interact with other identity traits (age, race, class, sexual orientation and physical ability, among others).
- Describe the measures in place to promote a diverse team and ensure that women and underrepresented groups within the applicant organisation(s) take an active role in implementing the project(s).

3.4   Supporting Knowledge Triangle Integration (KTI)

The activity of the local RISUM should contribute to building a local community based on the Knowledge Triangle Integration (KTI) concept. Knowledge Triangle Integration means establishing connections between entities that are actively working towards the three main pillars of innovation, (education, research and industry) at local level and fostering their interaction. In the case of EIT Urban Mobility, the focus is extended and the extended KTI also covers cities, since cities are the focal point of all urban Mobility activities.

Proposals should demonstrate how their activities contribute to fostering local communities and KTI.

3.5   Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Performance Funding Targets (PFTs)

3.5.1 Mandatory KPIs

To be eligible, all submitted proposals (except Malta) must address the **two mandatory KPIs listed below** and indicate the target value **for each KPI per year.**

KPI/PFT Code	KPI/PFT description	Supporting document required for reporting	Minimum Target expected per year
KPI EITHE04.2	EIT RIS Startups created of/for innovation *(associated PFT CREA1 or CREA2* Number of startups registered in EIT RIS country in year N and established as a result/ based on the output(s) of KAVA(s), or startups created for the purpose of an innovation project to organise and support the development of an asset.	**Structured data**: Year of reporting - Company name - Company registration number - Country of the company registration - Gender of the company CEO - Link to the specific KAVA - Was the company created through the HEI CB Initiative? - Was the company created through a cross-KIC project? No supporting evidence required.	1
PFT CB1	New RIS members referred by the RISUMS *(not valid if the new partner is made through a project grant)* *(corresponding to the former EITCL07 common list KPI)*	List of qualified leads provided to the corresponding EIT Urban Mobility Innovation Hub.	1

Due to the relatively smaller size of the Maltese ecosystem and the challenges involved in creating startups, proposals from Malta must include the **following two mandatory KPIs to be eligible**, and indicate the target value **for each KPI per year:**

KPI Code	KPI description	Supporting document required for reporting	Minimum Target expected per year
EITHE07.2	EIT RIS Graduates from EIT labelled programmes	Number of graduates from EIT labelled programmes in year N with Maltese citizenship Structured data: Year of reporting - Name - Contact detail/email address - Gender - Country of origin - Country of residence - Education programme/activity - Name of the HEI / education provider - Year of starting the studies under the EIT label - Year of completing the studies under the EIT label No supporting evidence required.	5
PFT CB1	New RIS members referred by the RISUMS *(not valid if the new partner is made through a project grant)* *(corresponding to the former EITCL07 common list KPI)*	List of qualified leads provided to the corresponding Innovation Hub of EIT Urban Mobility.	1

If a proposal offers a higher KPI/PFT target than the minimum stated above, it will be positively assessed during the evaluation process.

3.5.2 Performance Funding Targets (PFTs)

In addition to the mandatory KPIs, **proposals are expected to contribute to a number of additional goals, which are measured by the PFTs** listed below. The PFTs are specific KPIs defined by EIT Urban Mobility which have an associated funding amount that will be reimbursed only if the PFT is achieved by the RISUM.

Applicants are requested to select as many PFTs as they consider relevant for implementing their activities. This will be positively evaluated during the Quality Evaluation phase (Section 5.2.1). **The value of the PFTs must represent at least 15% to a maximum of 40% of the proposal's overall yearly budget, and must be delivered every year.**

The associated funding values for each PFT, per area, can be found in Annex 1, and should be used by the applicants to develop their work plan and budget. **Applicants are required to complete the PFT budget calculation spreadsheet available on the Call website.**

Area of the Activity Plan	PFT Code	PFT description and associated KPI
Innovation	A3	Applications to the agile innovation calls (SME Growth, RAPTOR).
Innovation	M1	Applications to the Main Innovation Call or to the Targeted Call.
Impact Ventures	CREA1	Startup created with the support of EIT Urban Mobility, by which the founders have been referred by the RISUM. Associated KPI: EITHE4.2
Impact Ventures	CREA2	Startup created with the support of EIT Urban Mobility, by which the founders has been referred by the RISUMS. The startup has been already achieved the 10.000 EUR income target. Associated KPI: EITHE4.4
Impact ventures	DEAL1-6	Applications from high potential startups (including scouting and supporting applications) to Impact Ventures programmes: Market Readiness Accelerator, Investment Readiness Programme, Rocket Up, Scale Up Programme, Startup Investment Open Call, Growth Lab Platform. *(Associated KPI: EITCL3)* Please see Annex 1 for a detailed definition of DEAL1-6.
Education	ED1-5	Scout and connect EIT Urban Mobility with local education and training champions, funding organisations, competence hub partners, local education training programmes, new partners to the RIS Education call. Please see Annex 1 for a detailed definition of ED1-5.

In the rare case that RISUMS of different areas have a joint collaboration programme targeting and reporting the same PFT, the target must be reported only once to avoid double reporting. The RISUMS must therefore decide internally which RISUMS is reporting the PFT.

Further plans and results (with no KPIs for PFTs) will be evaluated as well. EIT Urban Mobility focuses on qualitative rather than quantitative results, and so these will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis:

- Implementation of local programmes with strategic local organisations from the public and private sector: the number and potential impact of the new local programmes will be evaluated. Such programmes will leverage new sources of funding and match EIT Urban Mobility strategic goals with local stakeholders' needs.

- As a pre-stage of the above: the number and impact of MoUs with strategic local organisations of the public and private sector, taking into consideration that the MoU itself is not the goal but an enabler for the above-mentioned local joint programmes.

All the submitted KPIs and PFTs should be achieved annually. For instance, the KPIs and PFTs related to 2025 should be achieved within the project year and no later than 31 December 2025, and so forth in 2026, 2027 and 2028.

For the period 2026-2028, the KPIs and PFTs may be slightly updated during the annual performance assessment.

3.6 Mandatory deliverables, milestones and outputs

3.6.1 Deliverables

EIT Urban Mobility follows a results-based management of their portfolio, focusing on performance and achievement of results outputs, KPIs and impact. Applicants should therefore limit the number of deliverables to four, one for each WP. Each WP deliverable must be broken down into activities/key outputs and budget lines within the WP. The target and current value of the EIT KPI and the PFTs must also be shown for each activity/key output. EIT Urban Mobility will provide a predefined deliverable template during the implementation phase.

In response to this focus, **each proposal must include four mandatory deliverables per year** to be delivered at the end of the year. Find below an example for 2025. The same DEL requirement applies for the following years 2026-2028

Deliverable	Description	Delivery date
DEL1_WP1	Summary of the results connected to the community building WP (max 20 pages. Following the template provided by EIT Urban Mobility)	31.12.2025
DEL2_WP2	Summary of the results connected to the Impact Ventures support WP (max 20 pages. Following the template provided by EIT Urban Mobility)	31.12.2025
DEL3_WP3	Summary of the results connected to the innovation support WP (max 20 pages. Following the template provided by EIT Urban Mobility)	31.12.2025
DEL4_WP4	Summary of the results connected to the education support WP (max 20 pages. Following the template provided by EIT Urban Mobility)	31.12.2025

If the applicant does not include any WP in their proposal, the corresponding deliverables should be disregarded.

As mentioned in Section 3.5.2, documentation will be requested to provide evidence that the applicant has fulfilled the relevant KPI and PFT (see reference in the second last paragraph of Section 3.8).

For the period 2026-2028, the DELs may be slightly updated.

3.6.2 Milestones and Outputs

Proposals are requested to indicate at least the following milestones for every year's plan:

Milestones	Description	Delivery date
M1.1	Interim report delivered	31.07.2025
M1.2	Yearly action plan submitted for the next year	31.10.2025
M1.3	Yearly action plan approved for the next year	31.12.2025

Additional milestones are optional.

Please include only the outputs referring to the selected KPIs and PFTs (no other outputs should be defined).

3.7   Project duration, monitoring and reporting requirements

Projects selected in this Call for Proposals must have a duration of **48 months**, from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2028. Therefore, each Work Package will have a duration of 48 months and their corresponding KPI, PFT, milestones, outputs and deliverables established and accomplished every year.

Important Disclaimer: EIT Urban Mobility's intention is to have multiannual projects that will potentially run until December 2028. However, EIT Urban Mobility's current commitment is only until 31 December 2025 under the existing Business Plan 2023-2025. From 2026 to 2028, the projects will operate under a new Business Plan. Further commitments will be therefore subject to the terms and conditions outlined in this new Business Plan and to the continuation performance assessment review done by EIT Urban Mobility every year. **In other words, EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right to discontinue the Grant in duly justified cases.**

EIT Urban Mobility will perform a continuation assessment review before the end of each year to determine whether the ongoing projects should receive continued support and funding for the subsequent period. The exact budget, DELs, KPIs, PFTs and activities for 2026-2028 will be revised and confirmed annually during this continuation assessment process.

Accordingly, proposals are requested to submit a detailed work package description with detailed tasks for 2025. For the period 2026-2028, a general description is sufficient. Proposals should also include all KPIs, PFTs, Milestones, Outputs, and DELs for the entire period of 2025-2028. Lastly, the budget for 2025 should be included in the Application Form, while the budget forecast for 2026-2028 must be submitted as a mandatory supporting document in an Excel file using the template available on the Call webpage.

All the submitted KPIs and PFTs should be achieved annually. For instance, the KPIs and PFTs related to 2025 should be achieved within the project year and no later than 31 December 2025.

When reporting PFTs, the RISUMS must deliver the list of all their supported organisations during the year. This list will be cross-checked by EIT Urban Mobility with the list of the applications and participation. On that basis, the PFTs that have been successfully achieved will be verified.

EIT Urban Mobility will manage all projects according to the general rules and procedures outlined in the Project Implementation Handbook available on the Call webpage.

3.8   Financial aspects

3.8.1 EIT funding allocation

The **estimated EIT funding** allocated to this Call is €1,500,000 for 2025.

A similar yearly budget is foreseen for the period 2026-2028 but will be subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the new Business Plan 2026-2028.

Informative yearly estimation of budget clusters:

- **Micro regions/countries** (Malta): funding available between €50,000 and €70,000
- **Small regions/countries** (Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Bulgaria): funding available between €70,000 and €100,000
- **Medium-sized regions/countries** (Croatia + Slovenia + Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece + Cyprus, Hungary, Portugal, Serbia + Montenegro + North Macedonia): funding available between €90,000 and €120,000
- **Large regions/countries** (Romania, Poland, Türkiye): funding available between €140,000 and €180,000

It is important to highlight that the above budget clusters are merely informative estimations of the expected project size and should only be used as a rule.

Since the budget is closely connected to the expected offered outcomes of the yearly work plans and not strictly to the size of the region/country, the final budget distribution will be based on the value-for-money principle. Higher realistically offered outcomes might justify a higher budget proposal.

Applicants must submit the detailed budget for 2025 in the Application Form. The project budget forecast for the period 2026-2028 should be submitted as a supporting document using the Excel template provided on the Call webpage. The exact budget for 2026-2028 will be revised and confirmed annually during this continuation assessment process.

All consortium partners should have a justifiable core role with a budget that enables them to perform their activities. If the Selection Committee considers that there has been performative participation in projects, or inclusion of partners who have no justifiable intrinsic value or are not demonstrably essential to the project's outcomes, it will raise the issue with the applicant.

3.8.2 Co-funding rate

All proposals must have a minimum **co-funding[3] rate of 15% across the project budget** per year.

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3 Co-funding refers to financial contributions such as entities' own resources and/or other non-EIT funding sources.

For the period 2026-2028, the project co-funding rate of 15% might be updated yearly.

Any co-funding rate above 15% will be positively assessed if two proposals for the same country/region obtain the same scoring after the two evaluation stages.

3.8.3 Eligibility of expenditure

For information on the eligibility of your project's budget costs, please refer to the *Eligibility of Expenditure* document published on the Call webpage.

3.8.4 Contribution to EIT Urban Mobility financial sustainability

EIT Urban Mobility has developed a Financial Sustainability Mechanism (FSM). This FS strategy aims to create a sustained source of income that will enable the KIC's innovation activities beyond the predefined 14-year cycle of EIT grants.

The RISUM network is expected to contribute to EIT Urban Mobility's FS strategy directly through their own membership fees to the KIC. However, the RISUMS role is primarily to support local stakeholders' innovations, whose products and startups are indirect outputs of the RISUM's activity, making it hard to establish the direct connection to financial sustainability. An income source for EIT Urban Mobility, which results from the RISUM activity, is the membership fee payments of new members referred to the KIC, as well as the ROI from startups referred by the RISUMS and invested in by the KIC. These two income sources will be taken into account and measured by the KIC in the yearly performance evaluation.

Finally, the selection committee will positively evaluate the FS contribution of proposals that create a synergic programme at the national or regional level and leverage ESIF or National innovation funds aligned with the KIC objectives.

A higher contribution to financial sustainability will be assessed positively as part of the evaluation criteria.

3.9 Fast-track provisions

The successful execution and completion of the activities financed under the framework of the present call may unlock the possibility of receiving additional EIT Urban Mobility funding for upscaling purposes after project completion. This process is regulated by the provisions included in EIT Urban Mobility's Guidance on the fast-track mechanism.

4. Preparing and submitting a proposal

4.1 Support given to applicants preparing a proposal

Guidelines for Applicants

The Guidelines for Applicants document is published on the Call webpage and provides comprehensive information and instructions on how to prepare and submit a proposal for this Call.

Call information sessions

To help applicants prepare and submit their proposals, EIT Urban Mobility will host information sessions after the Call is published. These online information events will focus on the Call content, the challenges, and requirements, as well as on the general procedures, such as the submission and evaluation process, the financial aspects and the monitoring and reporting activities.

Details are provided below. To register for the webinar, please complete **this form**.

Type of event	Topic covered	Date and time (CET)	Access to platform
Webinar	**EIT Urban Mobility – RISUMS Call Information session** Introduction to the Call, strategic focus, scope and Call requirements, evaluation process and proposal submission process.	**17 July 2024 11.00-12.30 CET**	Zoom Meeting ID 896 3564 1604

Call contact points

In parallel with the Call information session, all applicants may contact the RIS Team at EIT Urban Mobility at ris@eiturbanmobility.eu to resolve any concerns or doubts about the Call content and process.

4.2 Submitting a proposal

4.2.1 How and when to apply

Before starting to draft a proposal, all applicants (Project Leader and consortium partners) must follow the following steps:

- **STEP 1**: register in the **EU Funding & tender opportunities portal** to obtain the nine-digit Participant Identification Code (**PIC number**). If an organisation has already a PIC number, there is no need to register again.
- **STEP 2**: access the new EIT Urban Mobility NetSuite platform, by submitting the **Partner Information Form (PIF).**
  NB: For organisations that previously participated in an EIT Urban Mobility project, and therefore are already registered in the PLAZA platform, do not submit the PIF form but **contact the EIT Urban Mobility Service Desk servicedesk@eiturbanmobility.eu**: you will be provided with the credentials to access the new NetSuite platform.
5. **STEP 3**: access the E**IT Urban Mobility NetSuite platform** and find the open calls under *menu --> Call for Proposals --> Open Calls.*

The following documentation must be submitted by the Lead Applicant **through NetSuite no later than 30 September 2024 at 17.00 CET.**

- Application Form (**mandatory**)
- Self-declaration of competencies (**mandatory**)
- CVs in English of the key experts - for all three areas if applicable (**mandatory**)
- PFT budget proportion calculation table (**mandatory**)
- Project Budget Forecast for 2026-2028 (**mandatory**)
- Video pitch link (**mandatory**)

Please carefully read the registration and submission processes. They are outlined in the *Guidelines for Applicants* document. Be aware that the registration of a new entity on the online submission platform can take up to two working days. Therefore, please ensure that **all project partners** are correctly registered in NetSuite a few days before the deadline.

Any proposals submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

5. Evaluation and selection process

Once the applicants have submitted their proposals, EIT Urban Mobility will proceed to:

- Check eligibility and admissibility of the proposals;

- Begin evaluating the content of successful proposals, assisted by independent expert evaluators.

- Finally, assess the proposals that passed the minimum threshold set during the quality evaluation stage as part of the final portfolio selection

5.1   Eligibility and admissibility check

A proposal will be admissible if it fulfils the following criteria:

1. Completeness	The proposal is completed and **covers only one country or one region**. It is **submitted in time**, to the right Call, by the Project Leader via the NetSuite submission tool, in English, and with all its mandatory sections and annexes.

If a proposal is not admissible, it will not go to the eligibility check. A proposal will be eligible if it fulfils the following criteria:

2. Applicants registration	Applicants (including all consortium partners, if any) have fully completed their Partner Information Form (PIF) in the NetSuite submission tool, including their PIC number.
3. Applicants eligibility	Applicants (including all consortium partners if any) are entities located in the EU Member States and Third countries associated to Horizon Europe defined in Section 2.2.1.
4. Consortium composition (when applicable)	In the case of a consortium, the proposal must be composed of a maximum of three independent entities from the eligible countries mentioned in Section 2.2.1. Additionally, each entity must be identified as a specialist in at least one area covered by the proposal: startup acceleration, education and training, and business development. Each entity will lead at least one WP of the four WPs (one partner can cover more than one area of expertise).

6. Self-Declaration of competencies	The Lead Applicant submitted a signed self-declaration of competencies (on behalf of the consortium, if any) to declare that the entity/entities involved in the proposal fulfil the requirement of competencies defined in Section 2.2.1.
7. Video Pitch link	All proposals must have included the Video Pitch link of 4 minutes (see Section 5.3.1) as part of their Application Form.
8. Co-funding rate	All proposals must have a minimum co-funding rate of 15% across the project per year.
9. Mandatory KPI addressed	All proposals must identify and address these mandatory KPIs:

KPI/PFT Code	KPI title	Min. target pear year
EITHE04.2 (except for Malta)	EIT RIS Startups created of/for innovation	1
CB1	New RIS members to the KIC referred by the RISUMS	1
EITHE07.2 (only for Malta)*	EIT RIS Graduates from EIT labelled programmes	5

*As indicated in Section 3.5, proposals from Malta must address EITHE 7.2 (instead of EITHE4.2 which is mandatory for all the other countries).

10. Total PFT budget	The total cumulative budget of PFTs offered in the proposal accounts for at least 15% and up to 40% of the total budget for each year.

Proposals failing to meet one or more admissibility and eligibility criteria will receive an official communication from EIT Urban Mobility, informing the Lead Applicants of the outcome of the admissibility and eligibility check and explaining why the proposal failed to meet the criteria.

If there is any missing or incorrect information linked to applicant's registration, self-declaration, video pitch link, total PFT budget Excel, Budget Forecast 2026-2028 Excel, co-funding and KPI, applicants will be awarded five calendar days after receiving the official communication to allow them to complete or correct the proposal and resubmit it. If the applicants respond positively to this requirement within the time limit, the proposals will progress to the next stage of the evaluation process (See Section 5.2 below). If the applicants fail to respond, or respond after the deadline, the proposals will be ineligible and will not be processed further.

The Lead Applicants may appeal if they disagree with the decision to reject a proposal on the grounds that it is inadmissible/ineligible. An appeal must be made within five calendar days of the official EIT Urban Mobility notification of ineligibility (see *Appeal procedure* document published on the Call webpage).

- ## Stage 1 Quality evaluation of proposals

The purpose of the quality evaluation is to assess the excellence, impact, quality and efficiency of the implementation of each proposal that successfully passes the eligibility and admissibility check.

The evaluation is comprised of different groups of criteria and sub-criteria which will be assessed according to the following scores:

Score		Description
0	None	The information requested is missing or incomplete
1	Very poor	The information provided is considered irrelevant or inadequate with regard to the specific Call provisions.
2	Poor	The information provided lacks relevant quality and contains significant weaknesses with regard to the specific Call provisions.
3	Fair	The overall information provided is adequate, however, some aspects are unclearly or insufficiently detailed with regard to the specific Call provisions.
4	Good	The information provided is adequate with sufficiently outlined details with regard to the specific Call provisions.
5	Excellent	The information provided is outstanding in its details, clarity and coherence with regard to the specific Call provisions.

During this phase, each proposal will be evaluated by an evaluation panel composed of three external expert evaluators, one internal expert evaluator, and one rapporteur. The evaluation panel will be invited to evaluate and score each proposal against the criteria listed in the table below.

The rapporteur will produce a Summary Evaluation Report (SER) for each assessed proposal. The SERs will be discussed and agreed upon in a Consensus meeting attended by the evaluation panel and a quality controller. The result of each SER will be sent to the Selection Committee together with the evaluation results list of all proposals assessed.

Excellence	Max. scoring 45 points
Relevance to the Strategic Objectives and Knowledge Triangle Integration	5 points
• The proposal is aligned with the specific objectives of the Call as detailed in Section 2.1.2 • The proposal facilitates collaboration within the knowledge triangle (business, research and education)	5 points
Track record of specialist entities in mobility, transport and innovation within EIT Urban Mobility strategic focus areas and consortium composition	10 points
• The applicant(s) entity(s) has (have) a strong track record in innovation and entrepreneurship support in the past five years	5 points
• The applicant(s) entity(s) has (have) a strong track record in the mobility sector in the past five years	5 points
Knowledge and experience of the EIT Urban Mobility programme	15 points
• Knowledge of the EIT Urban Mobility programme can be demonstrated by previous projects and related KPI delivery	5 points
• Experience in implementing the EIT Urban Mobility funding programme be demonstrated by EIT programme implementation	5 points
• Proven knowledge of the EIT Urban Mobility branding requirements based on references to the implementation of past events	5 points
Key expert(s) qualification evaluation based on CVs (I/E/BC)	15 points
• The key expert(s) have sound experience in the field business development in the urban mobility sector • The key expert(s) has (have) the required language skills (English, native) showcased in their CV	5 points
• The key expert(s) has (have) sound experience in the field of startup support area. • The key expert(s) has (have) the required language skills (English, native) as showcased in their CV	5 points
• The key expert(s) has (have) sound experience in the field of innovation-related education and professional training • The key expert(s) has (have) the required language skills (English, native) as showcased in their CV	5 points

Impact	Max. scoring 35 points
KPI +PFT ambition level	35 points
• KPIs and PFTs offered in the proposal cover a broad portfolio of results, including coverage of the four areas/WP.	10 points (5 points x2)
• The workplan (including deliverables and milestones) effectively addresses the requested activity areas, incorporating a gender dimension and aligning with the proposed objectives, KPIs and expected outcomes. There is a realistic chance of achieving the expected outcomes based on the activity plan, and no activities are superfluous or unrelated to the expected outcomes.	5 points
• The expected outcomes (KPI and PFT) target levels are ambitious but realistic with regard to the opportunities available in the innovation ecosystem (country/region) that is covered.	15 points (5 points x3)
2. The proposal presents a coherent and realistic plan to create a synergic national or regional cooperation programme with local strategic organisations, in line with the FS strategy.	5 points

Quality and efficiency of the implementation: planning and sound financial management	Max. scoring 25 points
• The budget is clearly outlined and justified for each work package and reflects value for money. • The PFT-related part of the budget represents more than the minimum of 15% per year.	10 points (5 points x2)
• Budget distribution is sufficient to reach the target KPI values and PFTs and is proportional to the expected impact of the activities/key outputs. • The budget distribution reflects the division of roles and responsibilities among partners (if applicable).	5 points
• The proposal provides effective and professional management structures, including a gender-balanced team, to achieve the stated outcomes and adhere to a clear risk and mitigation plan.	5 points
3. The communication activities are clearly related to specific outcomes (KPI and PFT) and are sufficient and achievable.	5 points

The total scoring of 105 points is distributed as follows:

	Max score
Excellence	*45 points*
Impact	*35 points*
Quality of implementation	*25 points*
Total points	*105 points*

• Stage 2 Video Pitch and Portfolio Selection

Based on the stage 1 Quality Evaluation a short list of applicants for each country/region will be defined. Up to two proposals per country/region **with a score equal to or above 60 points (threshold)** in the first stage evaluation will be considered for the second stage evaluation.

If two or more proposals within the same country/region receive the same score (equal to or above the threshold) during the first stage, only the two proposals with the highest scoring first in Impact and then in Excellence will be considered for the second stage.

The second stage consists in assessing a pre-recorded video and Business Intelligence criteria by the EIT Urban Mobility Selection Committee. The Selection Committee is composed of a member of the EIT Urban Mobility Executive Management Team, the RIS Team and the respective Innovation Hub Manager (or their deputies).

• *Video pitch evaluation format*

The pre-recorded video submitted by the Lead Applicant should have a maximum length of <u>four minutes</u> and must be submitted before the closing date of the Call.

The applicant(s) must answer the following three predefined questions in English:

4. Please explain how the applicant(s) is (are) embedded in the national innovation ecosystem, and which are the most important partners and actions in their innovation support activity.
5. Please provide evidence that the suggested KPIs and PFTs indicated in your application can be reached realistically and provide details of your experience regarding the proposed activities.
6. Please present your long-term vision of the impact of cooperation with EIT Urban Mobility and your main added value in this cooperation.

The time allocated to each answer should be evenly distributed so as to have enough time to address them all properly.

In the case of a consortium, all consortium members can contribute; the answers should cover all entities, but the timeframe remains the same regardless of the size of the consortium.

The pre-recorded video pitches will be evaluated by the Selection Committee against the following criteria. If the video exceeds four minutes, the Selection Committee will only evaluate the first four minutes.

- *Final selection process*

The Selection Committee will consider the following factors and **add 20 points** to the final scoring obtained by each proposal in the first stage of evaluation.

Assessment factor	Description of the assessment	Score methodology (each rated 0-5)	Max score
Evaluation of the video pitch	• Credibility and quality of the video pitch delivered. • Clarity of the responses to the predefined questions as indicated in Section 5.3.1	• Quality and credibility of the video pitch (5 points) • Clarity of the responses (5 points)	10 points
Business Intelligence	1. Former experiences with EIT Urban Mobility regarding: Track record of entities involved in a project in terms of performance (KPIs, quality of deliverables, demos), if applicable and applicable third-party data if available. 1. Financial clearing status of the entities.	• Reaching the offered KPIs, quality of deliverables. Impact of the activities and FSM performance (5 points) • Financial information (5 points)	10 points Minimum threshold of 4 points*

*Proposals that do not meet a minimum threshold of 4 points for business intelligence will not be considered.

If two proposals for the same country/region obtain the same scoring after the two evaluation stages, the proposal with a higher co-funding rate will be selected.

The final decision will be made on a country-by-country basis. This Call for Proposals is intended to select only one proposal per country and per region. However, the Selection Committee reserves the right to leave a country/region without an award if the proposals presented have low-quality scores or if the budget is taken up by other higher-quality applications that provide greater value to the KIC.

Based on the outcomes of the second stage evaluation, the Selection Committee will decide on the final ranking list (maximum total score of 125 points) of the RISUMS proposals put forward for funding, those

put forward for inclusion in the reserve list (maximum one per country/region), and those put forward for rejection.

• Communication of results to applicants

The Project Leader will receive a communication from EIT Urban Mobility with the results of the evaluation (SER) and if applicable, the results of the second stage.

If the proposal is pre-selected, the evaluation results may include a set of conditions to improve the proposals, within a defined and non-negotiable period. The Project Leader of a conditionally pre-selected proposal will need to respond and update the proposal according to these conditions within this timeframe. If the Project Leader fails to comply with the conditions or does not respond in the time allocated, EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right to withdraw the conditional notification. Should this occur, the next proposal on the ranking list will be contacted.

If the Project Leader of a rejected proposal disagrees with the decision, they may only appeal if an SER comment clearly contradicts the information provided in the proposal. In this case, the Project Leader will have five calendar days after receiving the final evaluation results to submit an appeal (see *Appeal procedure* document published on the Call webpage).

• Onboarding and contracting phase

Should all conditions be met within the given timeframe, EIT Urban Mobility will begin the onboarding and contracting process. The contract will be signed only after 30 days from the pre-selection decision.

As outlined in the Project Implementation Handbook, entities receiving EIT Urban Mobility funding for the implementation of projects will therefore become subgrantees of the Business Plan 2023-2025 (and potentially of the forthcoming Business Plan 2026-2028 under the conditions set out in Section 3.7), committing themselves to working towards achieving the related targets. Entities that have never been part of projects funded by EIT Urban Mobility and that do not have a PIC validated by the Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission will be subject to a PIC validation process managed by the EIT Community Onboarding Service. All validated entities will proceed with signing the Financial Support Agreement (FSA).

Additionally, EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right to request that the EIT Community Onboarding Service carry out a Financial Capacity Assessment to check the financial capacity of any entity of a selected proposal. In such case, EIT Urban Mobility may require:

- an enhanced financial responsibility regime, i.e. joint and several liability for all subgrantees or joint and several liabilities of Affiliated Entities if any;
- prefinancing paid in instalments (multiple/additional prefinancing);
- (one or more) prefinancing guarantees;

or may
1. propose no prefinancing;
2. request that the entity be replaced or, if needed, might reject the entire proposal.

In other words, if the assessment results are not satisfactory, EIT Urban Mobility may not allow the entity to participate, and will then check whether the proposal is still eligible.

Annex 1. Performance funding targets (PFT)

The tables below include, for each work package, the available performance funding targets, their description and budget value (excluding indirect costs).

Innovation

Programme	PFT Code	New or any entity	Type of entity	Price per eligible application unit per year	Price per eligible and selected application unit per year	Max. units per year
Agile Calls (Raptor & SME growth)	A3	Any entity	Commercial partner	€ 1,000	€ 3,000	3
Main & Targeted	M1	New entity	Demo hosts	€ 1,500	€ 4,000	2
Main & Targeted	M1	New entity	Technology expert partner	€ 2,500	€ 5,000	2
Main & Targeted	M1	New entity	Commercial partner	€ 3,000	€ 7,000	2

Impact Ventures

Programme	PFT Code	Target	Max. Units	Conditions	Price per Unit per year	Max. Total per year	Comments
Startup Creation Programme	CREA1	Startup creation	3	Registered	€ 1,000	€ 3,000	Company gets registered/incorporated in the RIS country.
Startup Creation Programme	CREA2	Startup creation	3	Registered and 10k invoice	€ 2,000	€ 6,000	Company gets registered/incorporated in the RIS country and makes a sale worth 10k.
Dealflow Programme | Growth Lab	DEAL1	Startup application	2	Subscribed	€ 850	€ 1,700	Where one unit means five startups subscribed to the premium Growth Lab (one year subscription is 1,700 EUR).
Dealflow Programme | Programmes	DEAL2	Startup application	9	Eligible, Selected and Graduated	€ 750	€ 6,750	Applicable programmes: Market Readiness Accelerator, Investment Readiness Programme, Rocket Up, Scale Up Programme.
Dealflow Programme | SIOC	DEAL3	Startup application	2	Eligible and Pitch to IC	€ 1,000	€ 1,000	Startup pitches to EIT Urban Mobility Investment Committee.

Programme	Code	Target	#	Conditions	Price	Max	Description
Dealflow Programme | SIOC	DEAL4	Startup application	2	Eligible, Pitch to IC and Invested	€ 2,000	€ 2,000	Startup selected for an investment.
Dealflow Programme | EIC/EIB	DEAL5	Startup application	1	Eligible	€ 1,000	€ 1,000	Startup signs a service agreement with EIT Urban Mobility or its consultant to file an application to EIC Accelerator or EIB Venture Debt
Dealflow Programme | EIC/EIB	DEAL6	Startup application	1	Eligible and Selected	€ 2,000	€ 2,000	Startups is funded by the EIC or EIB.
Soft Landing Programme	SL1	Startup landed / Startup creation	2	Registered	€ 2,000	€ 4,000	Startup becomes registered/incorporated in the RIS country.
				Registered and 10k invoice			Startup incorporated in the RIS country and makes a sale of at least 10k.
				Not Registered, but 10k invoice			Startup does not register in the RIS country but makes a sale at least 10k.
				Term sheet signed			Startup signs an investment term sheet with an investor referred by the Country Specialist
				Pilot signed			Startup runs a pilot thanks to the Country Specialist efforts.
EIT Jumpstarter	JS1	Individual application	5	Eligible	€ 300	€ 1,500	Need evidence of the scouting required (e.g., list of participants from workshops in universities)

Education

Programme	PFT Code	Target	Conditions	Price per unit per year	Max. number per year	Max total per year
Competence Hub	ED1	New Competence Hub training course implementation	New client or new course. Warm introduction and follow-up until conversion.	€ 2,000	3	€ 6,000
RIS Education call	ED2	Refer new beneficiaries of an RIS Education project	New entities only, different from RISUMS itself.	€ 1,000	2	€ 2,000

Programme	PFT Code	Target	Conditions			
Competence Hub	ED3	Refer new major education player	New entities that have revenue track record, and only if validated by Academy. Warm introduction and follow-up until conversion.	€ 1,000	2	€ 2,000
Existing local programmes	ED4	Refer existing training initiatives at local level	Programme scalability validated by Academy. Warm introduction and follow-up until conversion.	€ 1,000	2	€ 2,000
Master Courses	ED5	New funding organisation to support master students	Agreement between funding organisation and Academy. Warm introduction and follow-up until conversion.	€ 2,000	2	€ 4,000

Community Building

Programme	PFT Code	Target	Conditions	Price per unit per year	Max total per year
Community Building	CB1	New RIS member of the KIC	Referred by RISUMS not through project beneficiary	€ 2,000	€ 6,000