

Research and Thought Leadership: Learning about innovation and systemic change from the EIT Climate-KIC portfolio

EIT Climate-KIC are looking to identify partners to conduct vital research on our portfolio that cuts across the areas of our innovation experiments to generate learning, research and insights on broader questions of how to use innovation to catalyse systemic change. The findings should be actionable and have the potential to accelerate and improve innovative action within the community, support decision-making and policy development, and share learning for wider impact beyond the community. Findings should also feed into ongoing sensemaking processes within EIT Climate-KIC.

We invite proposals that address cross-cutting thematic questions within the main innovation portfolio of experiments which could be ongoing projects or using our historical experience, or cross-cutting questions relevant to several of the Deep Demonstrations of change that have started in 2019. These would therefore be action research and documentation processes and we expect teams to be flexible as work develops and demand led.

Questions could include but are not limited to:

- How and in what ways do multiple pockets of innovative climate action and/or experimentation interact within a system or geography to catalyse broader change?
- What common factors underpin those experiments in different contexts and scales that are successful in catalysing broader change? And through what mechanisms has the impact been achieved?
- What role does building capabilities and leadership play in instigating more systemic change?
- To what extent and in what ways can we identify positive tipping points for transformative climate action and how do we use these to inform our policy and practice?
- To what extent are existing inequalities exacerbated through climate innovation and experimentation and what supports more just transitions/transformations?
- What are the synergies and trade-offs between adaptation and mitigation agendas in more systemic change through innovation?
- What can we learn from the political economy of successful innovation and systemic change and how best to support more disruptive forms of change?
- What policy frameworks best support and enable innovation for climate action?
- How do different models of innovation support rapid change?

Partners can find out more about the portfolio from our network map [Exaptive](#), our [insights website](#), innovation review and the thematic summaries on our website and theme pages.

We strongly recommend partners interested in this call get in touch with us early to discuss their ideas or areas of research interest so we can connect you with the relevant parts of the portfolio to tailor your application. We have a variety of data sources but would expect there to be new empirical data collection as our monitoring systems do not capture the depth of insights required for this call. The contact for this call is: susannah.fisher@climate-kic.org.

Eligibility

Project Type	MAX. DURATION	MAX. EIT REQUEST Per annum	MAX. EIT REIMBURSEMENT RATE	MIN. CO-FUNDING (total project costs)	OTHER
Research and Thought Leadership	Start/ Finish within 2020	100-400k EIT Request	Guide: 80%	Guide: 20%	Proponents are asked to provide cofunding where possible, but the maximum EIT reimbursement rate for this work could be up to 100%

Specific Application Process

- There will be a **one stage application process**, where applicants must submit a full proposal for the deadline else will not be considered for funding.
- Please refer to the [proposal guidelines](#) when preparing and submitting a proposal.

Timeline

- The deadline for submitting a proposal in PLAZA is **January 06, 2020 1800hrs CET**
- The final outcomes and feedback will be communicated by 20 January 2020

Assessment Criteria

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION
Project Consortium/ Partnership	- Do the consortium partners have the appropriate applied research skills and capabilities to successfully deliver the project? If no, what skills and capabilities are missing? - Do the project consortium have the communication and outreach skills necessary to conduct research for impact? Does the consortium have the geographical knowledge and relationships relevant for the project? Does the team include a range of specialists from appropriate disciplinary backgrounds? Does the team have sufficient intellectual leadership from senior research leaders and appropriate levels of research support?
Quality and appropriateness of research plans	- Are the work plan and work packages clearly explained and relevant to support the project objectives and expected impact? - Is the work plan, work packages, outputs, deliverables and KPIs targeted reasonable for the duration of the project and the grant amount requested? - Is consideration given to how the results and learnings inform further action? - Is the research likely to generate insights valuable for key European and country-level policy and programming? - Is the research design appropriate in terms of rigour, applicability of findings and speed of learning? - Have any research ethics and data archiving issues been properly considered? - Does the programme proposed generate insights relevant to the existing or future portfolio within CKIC?
Value for Money	- How well is the funding spent on activities directly linked to achieving the project objectives, deliverables and KPIs? - How appropriate is the funding request in relation to the anticipated benefits? - How much co-funding is offered to match the EIT funding? (Note: Baseline is the minimum programme-specific co-funding requirement.) - Is there value for money in the design of the team and use of appropriate levels of staff for different activities?