



# Empowering the next generation of climate innovators and entrepreneurs

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@ClimateK



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European Union



EIT Climate-KIC is Europe's largest public-private partnership addressing climate change through innovation to build a **net-zero-carbon economy and society**.

We are supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.

**OUR AIM** is to transform whole places, industries and value chains by 2030, working with funders and partners to develop and scale ambitious, mission-led programmes.

## Our Vision

A prosperous, inclusive, climate-resilient society with a circular net-zero emissions economy

## Our Mission

To catalyse systemic change for climate action

## Our Promise

Transformation in time, through systems innovation

Innovation is essential. But not as we have been doing it.

We need evolutionary programmes and project of **innovation** to catalyse **systemic change.**

...triggering massive leaps in decarbonisation and resilience.

Connected innovations...

....to transform places, people, sectors and value chains...

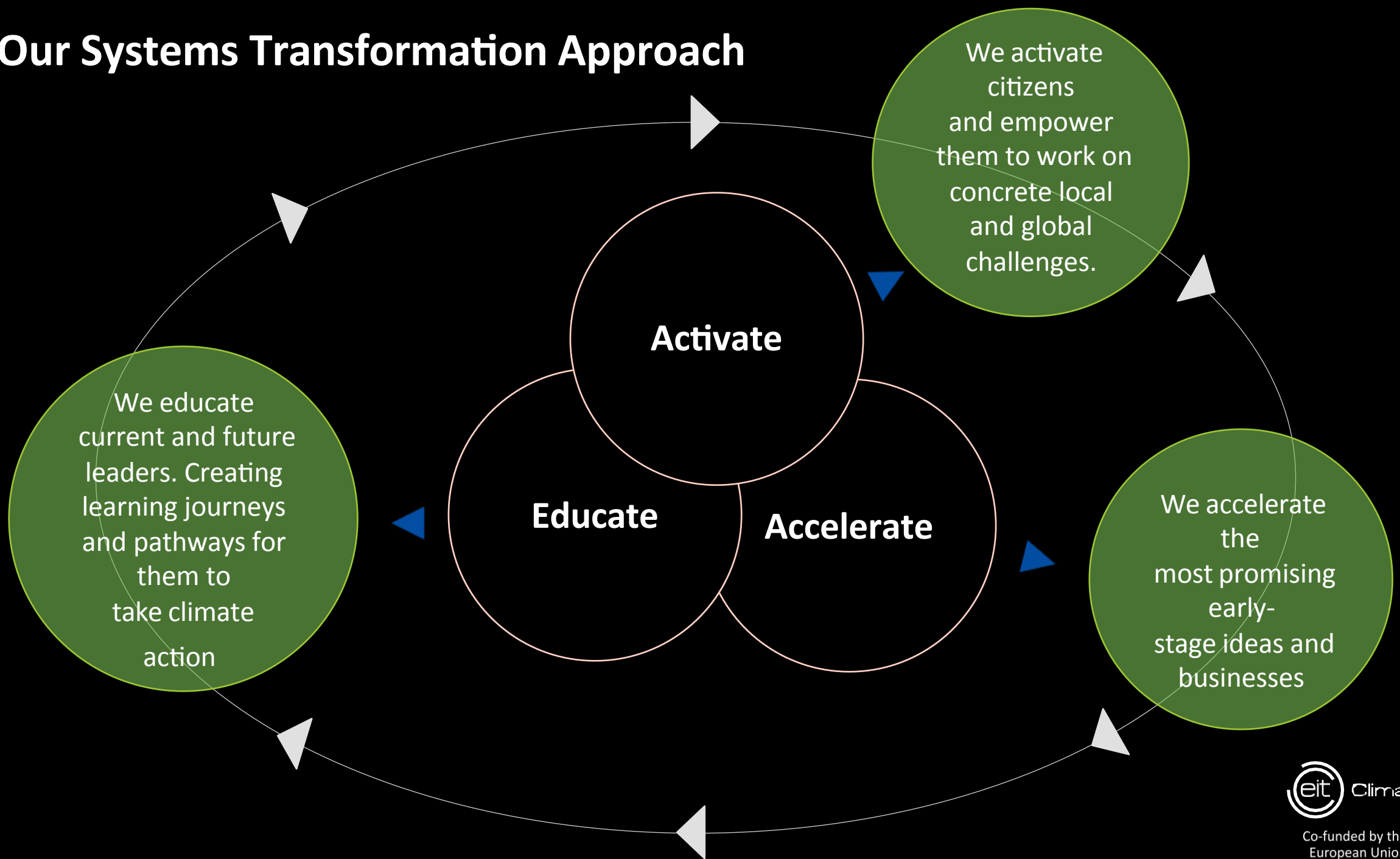
...acting simultaneously

...across multiple levers of change

# Agents from all parts of society will have to acquire new skills and capabilities if we are to decarbonise human activity at the scale and pace required to meet the Paris target

EIT Climate-KIC provides tested and innovative education and activation programmes for current and future changemakers - creating learning journeys and pathways for our partners (leading experts on climate change from universities, NGOs, public and private organisations and corporates) to meet the climate challenge – and to activate citizens to work on concrete local and global challenges.

# Our Systems Transformation Approach



# Addressing the barriers to change

## Current barriers

- A capacity and capability skills gap means workforces are unprepared to meet needs of greener economies
- Disenfranchised and disengaged citizens with no pathways for action
- Weak and poorly connected enabling environments
- Stakeholders working in isolation on own solutions
- Life-long learning mechanisms – need to reflect a changing world and values
- Education institutions and systems – not fit to prepare humans for a complex and changing world, with ability and skillset to lead and thrive in complexity

## Our approach

- We supply skills, ideas and talent: The outputs are activated citizens and educated climate changemakers needed for systems to transform.
- We build capacity and capabilities that respond to changing demands.
- We help nurture and build ecosystems: Sparking emergent ecosystems whilst developing talent and solutions to support innovations as they grow to maturity.
- We help build meaningful partnerships – a central component of systems work
- We build communities which can be mobilized to drive systemic change

# EIT Climate-KIC Strategic Programmes: Empowering innovators and change makers



## Young Innovators

Systems thinking for climate action for 12-18 year old youth

4.000 students,  
1.500 teachers since  
2019



## CL Journey

amplifying programme with residential summer school

2.500 Alumni, 480  
climate solutions  
since 2010



## Pioneers

Training professionals  
in transitions and  
system thinking

> 2.000  
professionals  
since 2010



## Climathon

A global climate movement  
for cities and citizens

100+ cities, 6.000+  
participants/year



## ClimateLaunchpad

The world's largest green  
business ideas competition for  
entrepreneurs

Runs in 50+  
countries, 4.000  
ideas received /year



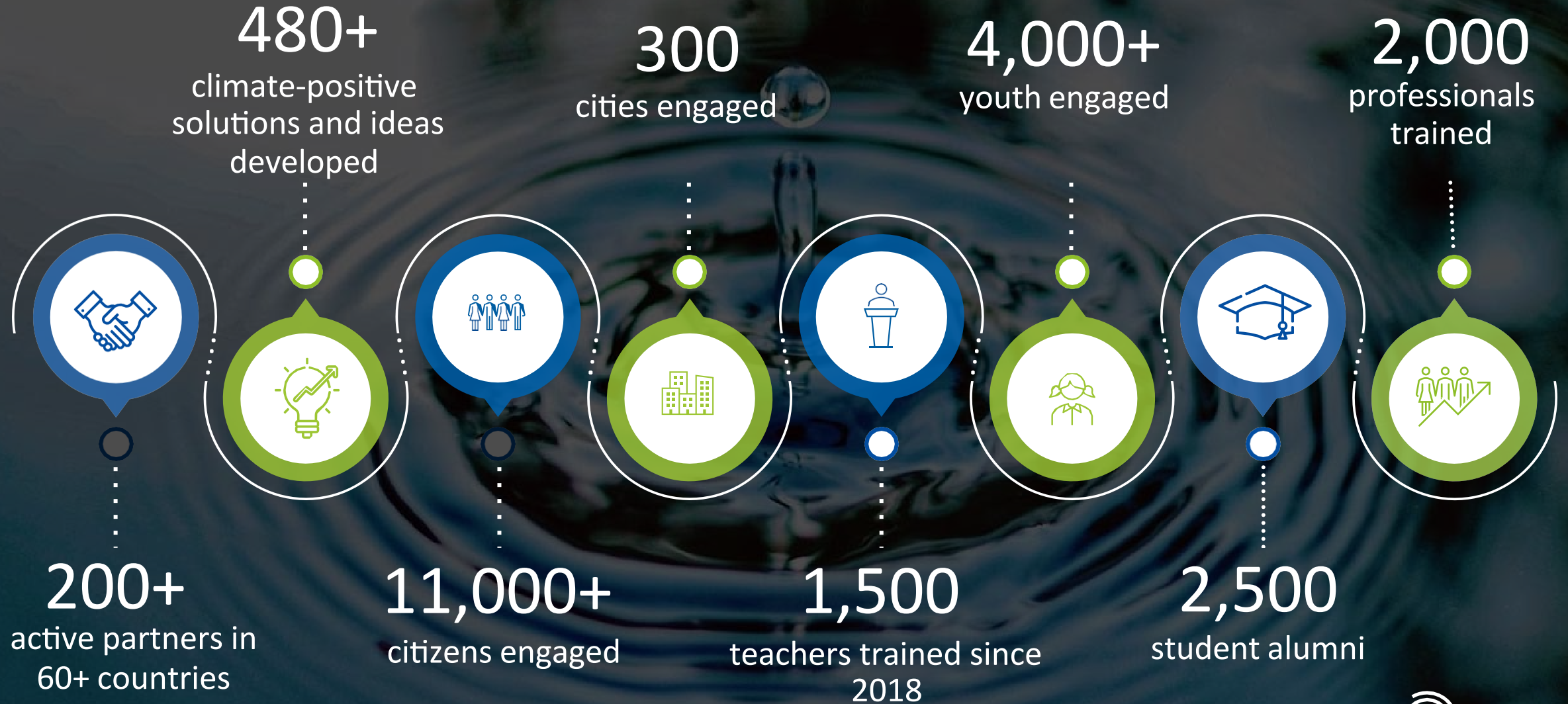
## ClimAccelerator

Accelerate growth of  
climate entrepreneurs  
around the world

Will run in 40+  
countries  
accelerating 1000+  
Start-ups



# Our track record in climate innovation





## What is the Climate Leadership Journey

CLJ programme empowers future leaders and innovators from all disciplines and all university and training levels to become active change agents within their ecosystem and to navigate the complexity within it.

The programme equips students and young professionals with the ability to combine climate insights with entrepreneurial, leadership and

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The Climate Leadership Journey is an extracurricular student-centric, demand-led, and challenge-based programme spreading and amplifying climate action with a residential and international experience of learning by doing summer school.

The programme is divided in 3 modules:

1. Inspiration - Sparks! provoking lectures and Digital community Summit
2. Experiential Learning – a two-week summer school and an Individual Action Plan
3. Personal Development - Regular, interdisciplinary group coaching sessions

The central programme is coordinated by EIT Climate-KIC, which includes a learning platform.

The programme activities are delivered by EIT Climate-

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# Selected partner reference



UPM

The Polytechnical University of Madrid is the largest Spanish technological university as well as a renowned European institution.



ETH Zurich

ETH Zurich is the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. It is one of the leading international universities for technology and the natural sciences



MCAST

Established in 2001, the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) is the country's leading vocational education and training institution



Trinity College Dublin

As Ireland's university on the world stage, Trinity is recognized for academic excellence and a transformative student experience.



Utrecht University

Established in 1636, Utrecht University has evolved into a leading modern research university with a growing international reputation.



The Technical University of Košice

The Technical University of Košice is a public college covering a wide range of educational needs not just for the East Slovak region but also in the Central European area.



Cyprus University of Technology

One of the most important operating principles of the Cyprus University of Technology is the social responsibility and the substantial contribution to society.



UV

The University of Valencia (UV) stands out as one of the main public research organisations in Spain.



AquaBioTech Group

AquaBioTech Group is a global consulting and engineering company with over 25 years of experience in aquaculture, fisheries and other aquatic sciences..



Cleantech ForEst

Cleantech ForEst is an Estonian non-profit that funds early stage green technology startups, advances environmental education and supports energy experts.



Building Global Innovators

Building Global Innovators is an american-style, world class deep tech start-up accelerator based in Portugal.



TheRockGroup

TheRockGroup is an ambitious consultancy firm driving the transition towards a sustainable economy and society



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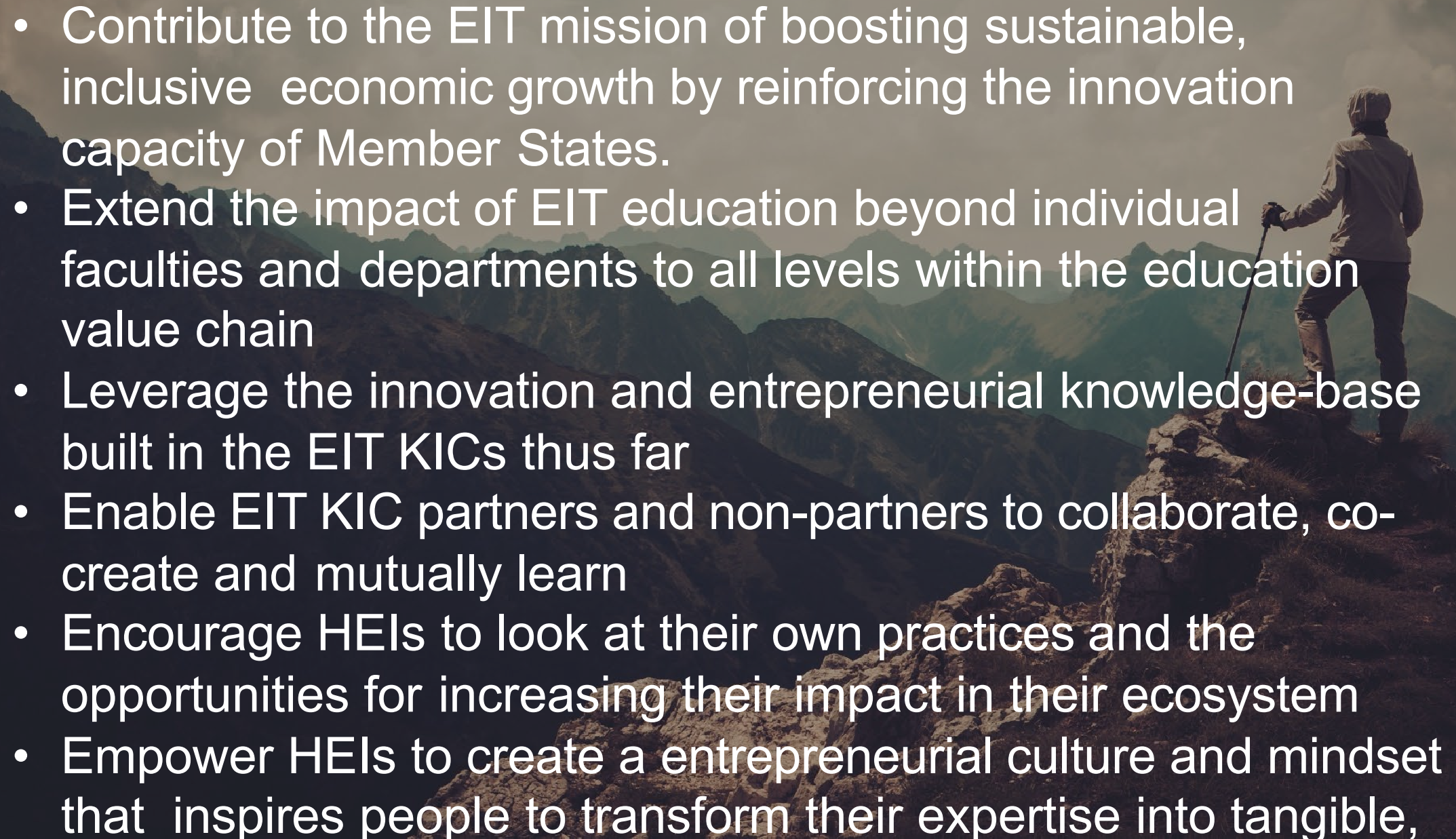
# The HEI Initiative: Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education



## EIT HEI Initiative Policy Context

- As part of Horizon Europe and under the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027, EIT and the KICs are expected to *raise the bar* in education
  - Create systemic impact by engaging 500+ HEIs at *institutional* level
    - Strengthen the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of HEIs at institutional level
    - Strengthen integration into innovation ecosystems
  - HEIs will be empowered to become engines of innovation for the realisation of a green, digital & inclusive society
  - EIT and KICs have established the HEI Initiative: Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education
- 
- A hiker in a grey jacket and dark pants stands on a rocky mountain peak, looking out over a vast mountain range under a cloudy sky. The hiker is holding a trekking pole. The background shows rolling mountains and a hazy sky.

## HEI Initiative objectives

- Contribute to the EIT mission of boosting sustainable, inclusive economic growth by reinforcing the innovation capacity of Member States.
  - Extend the impact of EIT education beyond individual faculties and departments to all levels within the education value chain
  - Leverage the innovation and entrepreneurial knowledge-base built in the EIT KICs thus far
  - Enable EIT KIC partners and non-partners to collaborate, co-create and mutually learn
  - Encourage HEIs to look at their own practices and the opportunities for increasing their impact in their ecosystem
  - Empower HEIs to create a entrepreneurial culture and mindset that inspires people to transform their expertise into tangible,
- 
- A person in a hooded jacket and dark pants stands on a rocky mountain peak, looking out over a vast, hazy landscape of rolling hills and mountains. The person is holding a walking stick. The sky is overcast with soft, diffused light. The overall tone is muted and atmospheric.

# HEI Initiative – by the numbers

## HOW

The HEI Initiative is a cross-KIC programme, co-designed & co-implemented by all 8 EIT KICs

Projects consisting of consortia of HEIs are selected through Open Calls for Proposals

- Pilot Call for Proposals launched in March 2021
- **Second Call for Proposals 18th November!**

## DURATION

HEI Initiative is a 3-year pilot (2021-2023), steered by the EIT Governing Board.

EIT Governing Board will decide if the HEI Initiative will continue or stop, 2024 – 2027

Selected projects have a maximum duration of 2 years

## BUDGET

Maximum budget of the HEI Initiative 3-year pilot is 3% of total EIT budget (EUR 90m)

Total maximum budget awarded to a selected project is EUR 1,2m per project

<https://eit-hei.eu/>

## Partner with us

### What we bring

- Tested strategic programmes and innovative methodologies
- An advanced learning platform and operating system
- An international network of change makers and solution finders
- A skilled pool of coaches and field experts
- Impact communications
- Orchestration and training of partners
- Global network of partners
- ClimateHIVE Community platform





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