

# Partnering with EIT Climate-KIC on the ClimAccelerator

## *Call for Expression of Interest*

We are looking for new EIT Climate-KIC partners to collaborate with us on the European ClimAccelerator programme. The Expression of Interest phase for potential ClimAccelerator Organisers is now open until 1 April 2024, 20:00 CEST.

Partners must operate within one of the following countries:

- The Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU) including their outermost regions
- Third countries associated to Horizon Europe (the detailed list can be found [here](#))

### What is the ClimAccelerator?

ClimAccelerator is a global programme for start-ups to innovate, catalyse and scale the potential of their climate solutions. We are turning cleantech start-ups into successful businesses and harnessing the power of human ingenuity to drive rapid impact and unlock a net-zero, resilient future for all.

Our goal is to enable accelerators, incubators, innovation hubs, or any Entrepreneurship Support Organisation to run ClimAccelerators effectively. Together, we can work as a collective of actors to support entrepreneurship that tackles climate change. We would love to work with new as well as existing Entrepreneurship Support Organisations scale climate innovation at the speed required for systemic change.

Over the past 10 years, the accelerator programme powered by EIT Climate-KIC has been a major climate innovation solution provider for more than 6,000 start-ups, with access to resources, tools, mentoring and networks. We're scaling the globe to break new ground in carbon reduction, adaptation and resilience, and more.

### Are you ready to take on the challenge of climate change?

At EIT Climate-KIC, we are determined to tackle this global issue head on. We have identified high-impact shifts across three core systems that contribute to a staggering 70 per cent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. By addressing these systems, we can pave the way for a sustainable and resilient future.

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## Core Systems

## Top high-impact shifts to be addressed



### How we make things

Create engineered carbon sinks

Reduce demand for Cement, Steel & Plastics

Use waste and promote circularity

Address refrigerant use



### How we eat

Shift agricultural practices

Address waste in supply chain

Change to lower GHG diets

Use degraded land and protect ecosystem



### How we live

Shift energy sources for heating, cooling and appliances

Enhance efficiency in build energy use

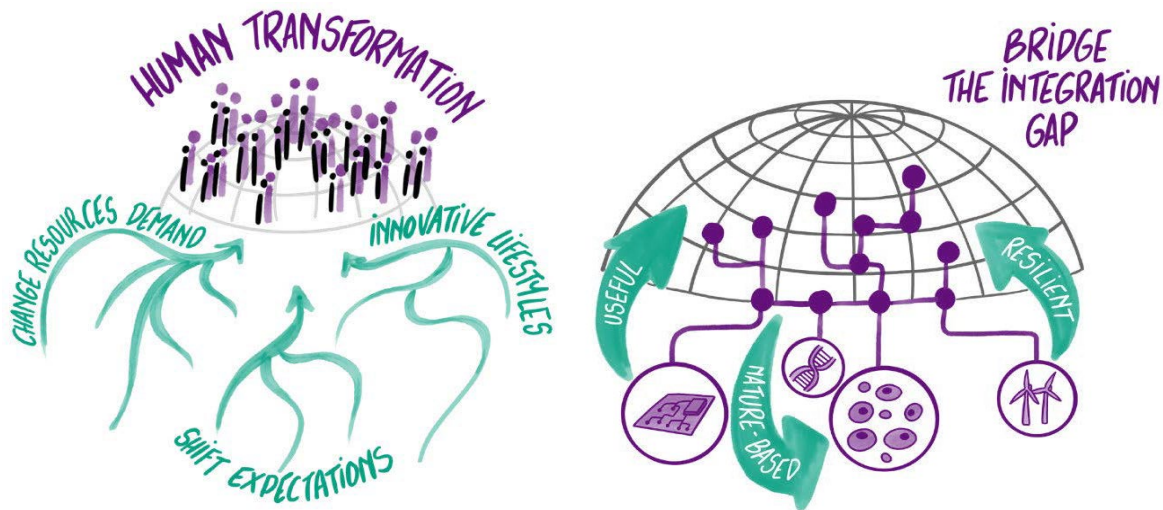
Rapidly scale up zero waste outcomes in cities

... and others.

In the pursuit of urgent and transformative climate action, EIT Climate-KIC extends a warm invitation to visionary partners who share our commitment to reshaping the trajectory of our planet's future. As we embark on the ambitious journey outlined in our newly unveiled strategy for 2024-2030, "[Transformation, With Urgency](#)", we are actively seeking experienced collaborators to join us in co-creating and delivering transformative solutions through ClimAccelerators.

## Innovations to allow people to live well with less

Climate change demands a fundamental shift in the way we live. Our strategy revolves around innovating lifestyles, drawing inspiration from natural ecosystems, and addressing the uneven distribution of materials. Through matchmaking demand and supply, generating resource-efficient solutions, and courageously addressing root causes, we aim to foster new restorative and regenerative paradigms. We invite partners who can contribute to this transformative human experience.



## Technology advances and nature-based solutions to lower emissions and build resilience

To bend the emissions curve, sustained investment in new technologies and nature-based solutions is imperative. We are particularly interested in collaborating on research involving AI, biomimicry, nanoscale interventions, green chemistry, and other advancements. Our goal is to provide insight and leadership, drawn from our expertise in managing complexity while developing technology across multiple fields. We welcome partners who share our passion for leveraging technology for sustainable, meaningful, and human and nature-centered living.

## Impact as a measurement for success

### Programme Benefits

- ✓ **Tailored Tools:** Our open-sourced 'Operating System' provides everything you need to successfully run your own ClimAccelerator, including management tools, content, coaching and mentoring networks, and more.
- ✓ **Climate Impact:** We've developed a Climate Impact Framework that presents climate impact indicators alongside financial key performance indicators, allowing start-ups to assess and validate their credibility and business potential.
- ✓ **Financial Support:** No direct funding or grants, but we offer access to exclusive fundraising and investment opportunities and many ClimAccelerators are eligible for grant funding from external sponsors.
- ✓ **Global Network:** Join the EIT Climate-KIC Community of 400+ organisations across the globe working to drive a net-zero carbon transition.
- ✓ **Branding:** Selected Organisers will receive access to ClimAccelerator logos, EU flag logos and branding materials. The selected and graduated ClimAccelerator startups are given permission to use ClimAccelerator logos on websites: <http://www.climate-kic.org/partner-information-page/>

### Revenue Share

To support Organisers around the world in running ClimAccelerators requires significant resources. EIT Climate-KIC is responsible for acquiring these resources, and needs help from the community of ClimAccelerator Organisers. For that purpose, we have designed the following mechanism:

- The ClimAccelerator Organiser will be obligated to pay a fixed annual fee of €1,000 to EIT Climate-KIC in Q4 of the calendar year, contingent upon the achievement of specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) or the successful completion of predetermined objectives. EIT Climate-KIC will issue the invoice in Q4 of each year, and the ClimAccelerator Organiser is required to settle the invoice upon fulfilling the designated criteria.

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## Climate SAFE Agreement for the supported start-ups

The Climate-SAFE is the 50.000 EUR equity-as-a-service investment introduced in 2021 that is made up of additional services package provided by the Climate-KIC team to support the startups once they have graduated from the ClimAccelerator programme. Currently 94 start-ups have signed the Climate-SAFE. Once every quarter EIT Climate-KIC will provide Climate-SAFE workshop to ClimAccelerator organisers.

The start-ups receive:

- Carbon Impact Forecasting, Modelling and Validation
- Access to ClimateHIVE community
- Fundraising support & connections to Climate-KIC investor network
- Commercialisation Opportunities
- EU Policy & Affairs support
- A dedicated portfolio manager
- Possibility of additional investment from the 1,5 Seed Fund

## Evaluation Criteria of the Applications

Section	Compulsory	Score	Threshold
<b>Excellence:</b> Clarity and pertinence of the objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state-of-the-art.	Yes		3
<b>Impact:</b> Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts.	Yes		3
<b>Uniqueness:</b> The specific added value of the programme.	Yes		3
<b>Climate-KIC portfolio strategic fit:</b> The evaluation of how well the proposed program aligns with and supports the strategic goals and objectives of the Climate-KIC portfolio.	Yes		3
<b>Financial Sustainability:</b> Capacity to cover expenses, allocate resources effectively, and demonstrate financial preparedness for sustainable implementation.	Yes		3

6 = Excellent, 5 = Very Good, 4 = Good, 3 = Average, 2 = Subpar, 1 = Unacceptable / Veto

## Themed Accelerator

Our mission is to establish unparalleled prominence by building the world's foremost climate accelerator(s). For this round of Expression of Interest we have selected two thematic areas for our partners, Energy Efficiency and Circularity.

### Energy Efficiency

As we navigate the complexities of climate change, the importance of energy efficiency has never been more pronounced. Accelerators focusing on energy efficiency serve as dynamic platforms for driving



innovation and progress. By optimising energy consumption, reducing environmental impact, and fostering sustainable energy practices, these accelerators contribute significantly to a greener and more sustainable future. Entrepreneurship Support Organisations that

engage with the energy efficiency theme in accelerators play a crucial role in propelling advancements that transcend traditional boundaries. These accelerators empower collaborations that lead to the development of groundbreaking technologies and practices, making a lasting impact on the global pursuit of energy efficiency and environmental stewardship.



## Circular Economy and Circularity

In our commitment to fostering a sustainable and resilient future, we recognise the imperative of embracing circular economy principles. The essence of a Circular Economy (CE) lies in creating a regenerative system that minimises waste, optimises resource use, and promotes sustainable practices. Accelerators dedicated



to the theme of circularity play a pivotal role in advancing this vision. By supporting Entrepreneurship Support Organisations that drive collaborative projects focused on cutting-edge technologies and innovative strategies, we aim to accelerate the transition towards industrial

circularity. These accelerators serve as catalysts for transformative change, facilitating the development of solutions that not only address current environmental challenges but also contribute to a more sustainable and circular global economy.

## Next Steps & How to Apply

If you would like to collaborate with us, the Expression of Interest phase is now open, and we invite you to send us your proposal by 1 April 2024, 20:00 CEST.

In order to ensure effective and consistent communication, we request that all official communication be conducted in English. This will help streamline information-sharing and enhance clarity for all participants.

Further details on how we operate and support you can be found in this *Welcome Package for potential ClimAccelerator Organisers* [here](#)

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**Please apply by following the link below:**

<https://forms.office.com/e/KFFAhcyNP5>

Additionally, we have two info sessions for questions on the European ClimAccelerator coming up on:

- 12 February 2024, 10:00-11:00 CET - Register [here](#)
- 1 March 2024, 10-11 CET CET - Register [here](#)

### **Further questions?**

Please contact Alexandros Nikopoulos at [alexandros.nikopoulos@climate-kic.org](mailto:alexandros.nikopoulos@climate-kic.org) or our team at [climaccelerator@climate-kic.org](mailto:climaccelerator@climate-kic.org).

We are looking forward to receiving your questions, comments and proposals, and working together to foster entrepreneurship and acceleration for climate impact and systems transformation at scale!

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