

Driving Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Cities

Potential Areas of Collaboration with EIT Urban Mobility for Applicants to the EIT Higher Education Initiative 2025 Call for Proposals

Who we are

Founded in 2019 as an initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, [EIT Urban Mobility](#) is committed to accelerating the transition to sustainable mobility and foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the sector. We are doing so by providing established businesses, startups, universities, research institutes and the public sector with access to markets, talents, funding and knowledge.



We empower our partners to develop and deploy new solutions that address the mobility challenges European cities face. While many innovative solutions already exist, their widespread adoption is often too slow. Our role as Europe’s largest innovation community for urban mobility is to catalyse their uptake and accelerate this transition. In 6 years, we have collaborated with more than [1,200 organizations](#), including more than 130 cities and regions, leading the path towards decarbonization. Our network includes all key players in the field, from cities leading the mobility transformation (Barcelona, Paris, Helsinki or Istanbul), to world renowned universities (UCL, KTH, Aalto, RMIT or TUM) and Europe’s most relevant corporates, from startups & SMEs (Wolt, Bird or Dott) to multinational companies (Siemens, Skoda or BWM).

What we do & how we do it

Match and connect

We match and connect key stakeholders – including public sector, students, research institutes, universities, large enterprises, SMEs, startups, and NGOs – to accelerate the transformation of the mobility sector across all our activities and geographies.

This is done via [our five physical hubs](#) located throughout Europe, as well as through our [mobility marketplace](#) (which features 500+ mobility solutions), and by organizing the largest European event in the sector (which gathers 27.000 attendees annually), in collaboration with the Smart City World Congress: [Tomorrow Mobility](#).



Talent to business

We elevate talent to business by fostering entrepreneurship and upskilling practitioners for the urban mobility challenges of tomorrow. In collaboration with Europe's top universities such as Aalto, TU Eindhoven, TUM, UPC or Ghent University, we offer several [Master's programmes](#), a [Doctoral Training Network](#), [tailored courses](#) for students and professionals, and numerous support programmes to nurture entrepreneurship such as [student incubators](#).

Additionally, we coordinate the [EIT Campus](#), a one-stop shop for all the education resources (230+ courses) produced by the 9 EIT KICs and their partners.



Innovations to market

We bring innovations to market by supporting partners to develop, deploy and commercialise mobility products and services. We facilitate connections between the public sector, research institutes, established companies, startups and SMEs to implement agile pilots in European cities where market-ready solutions are tested in real-life. So far, we have conducted [420 pilots in 185 European cities](#).

Notable examples include [AI4Life](#), which allowed for the testing of IoT devices produced by French and Turkish start-ups to reduce traffic accidents in Istanbul and Helsinki, and [MiGriS](#); which tested modular battery swapping systems produced by a German start-up in urban areas of Turkey and Croatia.



Startups to scale

We grow startups to scale by providing access to funding, coaching, and concrete opportunities through our accelerator and scale-up programmes. We nurture entrepreneurs to create and scale new solutions by connecting them with a broader network of potential shareholders and customers. Since 2019, [we have supported 520 startups and invested more than €30M in 140 of them](#), 27% of which are women-led.

EIT Urban Mobility has been named Europe's most active investor in the mobility sector for the last two years in Via ID and Dealroom's industry leading report: [the State of the European Mobility Start-Ups](#).

Potential areas of collaboration with EIT Urban Mobility

See below some suggestions regarding potential synergies between projects funded by the EIT Higher Education Initiative Call for Proposals 2025, and EIT Urban Mobility. Please note that these are not prescriptive and are only mentioned to provide inspiration to applicants to the Call. Applicants are invited to explore the activities within each focus areas of EIT Urban Mobility – as mentioned above - and come up with concrete, relevant and realistic collaboration ideas to include in their IVAP. We strongly encourage applicants to reach out to EIT Urban Mobility (via antoine.berwart@eiturbanmobility.eu) to discuss these potential synergies, prior to the submission of their project proposal.

Examples of ideas to strengthen regional innovation ecosystems

- Explore collaboration opportunities between EIT Urban Mobility and project partners of EIT HEI 2025 projects, including via planning for the submission of applications to relevant [EIT Urban Mobility Calls for Proposals](#) that would strengthen the activities of the EIT HEI project;
- Develop funnels between beneficiaries of the EIT HEI 2025 projects (e.g. student startups focusing on the topic of transport/mobility, students or HEI staff with an interest in I&E) and EIT Urban Mobility's activities in each its focus areas, and explore potential alignment with EIT Urban Mobility's [Marketplace](#), or [Innovator](#) platforms;
- Participation/co-organization and sponsorship of [events](#) (e.g. in cities hosting a [EITUM or EIT RIS hub](#)) benefitting both the KIC, and the EIT HEI project.

Examples of ideas to improve innovation and entrepreneurship in curricula

- Develop modules, short programmes or micro-credentials focused on urban mobility, transportation and/or innovation and entrepreneurship, in line with the EIT Urban Mobility course offering, as featured [here](#);
- Align content and learning outcomes of already existing courses with EIT Urban Mobility course offering and, when relevant, explore pathways towards [EIT Label certification](#);
- In new or already existing programmes, integrate content, such as learning material, [impact stories](#) stemming from EIT Urban Mobility projects, or [studies](#) published by the KIC¹.
- Promote relevant education activities from EIT Urban Mobility to students, staff and startups benefitting from the activities of the EIT HEI project, and explore synergies with EIT Urban Mobility's [Doctoral Training Network](#), [Consultancy Services](#), [Summer and Winter Schools](#) and [EdTech conference](#).

¹ This will require the prior authorization of the organization(s) involved in the conception of this content.

Examples of ideas to bring research to the market

- In alignment with your technology transfer office or any similar structure in your consortium, identify promising research or student projects that can be prepared for urban testbeds and align with relevant EIT Urban Mobility frameworks (such as its [SME expansion call](#), [city raptor](#) or [innovation advisory services](#)) to validate and test these technologies;
- Explore collaboration with EIT Urban Mobility's [Horizon Lab](#) for proposal development, consortium building, and project implementation of EU funded opportunities that would reinforce the planned activities of the EIT HEI project.

Examples of ideas to scale up student-led startups

- Develop a pathway for the most promising entrepreneurial ideas and start-ups emerging from the EIT HEI project to receive further support from EIT UM's venture support schemes ([market readiness accelerator](#), [scale-up programme](#), and [investment services](#)) and join EIT Urban Mobility's [Growth Lab](#).

As mentioned above, we strongly encourage applicants to reach out to EIT Urban Mobility (via antoine.berwart@eiturbanmobility.eu) to discuss potential collaboration ideas prior to the submission of their project proposal to the EIT's Higher Education Initiative Call for Proposals 2025.