

Call for Applications

Bridges: Expert-led training and matchmaking for Horizon Europe consortia building in the field of Health, 2026

Under X-KIC Regional Innovation Internationalisation Business Plan 2026-2028

EIT Health (EIT Hub Israel)

Tel Aviv | 15.7.2026

<https://www.go-eit.eu/eit-israel-hub/>

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Change Log

Version	Date	Document	Description
1		Call Document	Initial release of the Call Document

Abbreviations

EIT	European Institute of Innovation and Technology
KIC	Knowledge and Innovation Community
EIT SIA	EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda
PA	Partnership Agreement
HE MGA	Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement
KIC SA	KIC Strategic Agenda
BP	Business Plan
FSTP	Financial support to third parties

Definitions

Knowledge Triangle Integration	The EIT is established to complement existing Union and national policies and initiatives by fostering the integration of the knowledge triangle – higher education, research and innovation, and business creation – across the Union.
Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement	The Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement (HE MGA) sets out the rights and obligations and the terms and conditions applicable to the implementation of the EIT grant.

Call Fact Sheet

Call publication	15/07/2026
Deadline for applications	15/09/2026, 17:00 CEST
Evaluation timeline	• Evaluation of proposals start: 15/07/2026 • Notification of final outcome: 30/09/2026
Project implementation timeline	• Signature of agreements: 15/10/2026 • Project start: 19/10/2026 (kick-off session) In-person: 25/11/2026 • Project end: 31/12/2026
Funding amounts	• Overall financial amount of up 13.500 EUR available for this Call. • Up to 18 projects may be awarded, subject to the quality of the proposals. • Maximum funding of 750 EUR per awarded project.
Funding terms	• Up to 750 EUR reimbursement of Travel and Accommodation costs for participation in the Bridges Programme in Thessaloniki.
List of call documents	• Call document • Annex 1: Bridges Programme Description • Annex 2: Eligible Costs • Annex 3: Reimbursement Report • Annex 4: Participant Agreement
How to apply	• Step 1: Register your organisation in the EU Funding & tender opportunities portal to obtain the nine-digit Participant Identification Code (PIC number). If you do not know if your organisation already has a PIC number, you can verify directly on the EU Portal (click here) whether your organisation is already registered. • Step 2: Apply to the call via the application platform here.
Events	• Call introduction webinar: 02/09/2026. Click here to register.
Contact	maytal.perlman@eithubisrael.eu

1. Introduction

1.1 About EIT

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is a European Union body with a legal personality and a wide legal capacity accorded to legal persons under national law. The EIT was created in 2008 by the European Union (EU) to enhance Europe's global competitiveness by fostering collaboration between businesses, research institutions, and higher education organizations.

The EIT is governed by Regulation (EU) 2021/695 (EIT Regulation), which aligns the EIT's mission with the EU's priorities and the objectives of Horizon Europe on evolving research, innovation, economic growth, job creation, global competitiveness, sustainable growth, higher education and entrepreneurship, by means of the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), which address specific societal challenges and are established and supported by the EIT.

The EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda (SIA) 2021-2027 is aligned with Horizon Europe and lays down the priority fields and the strategy of the EIT for future initiatives, capacity to generate the best innovation added-value, objectives, key actions, mode of operation, expected results, impact, as well as an estimate of the resources needed for the duration of Horizon Europe.

Horizon Europe Regulation

The Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) 2021/695 foresees that the EIT takes part in the implementation of the Horizon Europe Programme in accordance with its strategic objectives for the period 2021 to 2027, as laid down in the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the EIT, and taking into account the strategic planning of Horizon Europe.

1.2 EIT and Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) relations

The EIT Regulation defines KICs, such as EIT Health, as large-scale Institutionalised European Partnerships of higher education institutions, research organisations, companies and other stakeholders in the innovation process in the form of a strategic network, regardless of its legal form, based on joint mid- to long-term innovation planning to meet the EIT's challenges and contribute to attaining the objectives established.

According to the EIT Regulation, and without prejudice to the partnership agreements and grant agreements between the EIT and each KIC, the KICs have substantial autonomy to establish their internal organisation and composition, as well as their agenda and working methods, provided that they result in progress towards achieving the objectives of the EIT and the KICs, taking into account the strategic planning of Horizon Europe and the strategic direction of the EIT set out in the SIA and by the Governing Board.

1.3 Contractual framework between the EIT and the KICs

The long-term relations between the EIT and each KIC are based on a seven-year Partnership

Agreement (PA)¹ laying down the general terms and conditions under which the KIC operates as an Institutionalised European Partnership. Subject to positive performance, interim review and outcome of comprehensive assessment of the KIC, the PA can be extended for another period of a maximum of seven years.

The Partnership Agreement between the EIT and EIT Health entered into force on 01 January 2016. The Grant Agreement (GA)² is the contractual instrument laying down the provisions concerning the implementation of the KIC activities (KIC Business Plan, Cross-KIC activities, etc.) through grants, on an annual or multi-annual basis of up to three years with the KICs. Business plans describe the main objectives and expected results and actions taken by the KICs.

The Grant Agreement (2026-2028) between the EIT and the XKIC initiative Regional Innovation Internationalisation will enter into force during 2026 and have a retroactive date as of 01 January 2026. The signature of the grant agreement between EIT and EIT Health is a requirement for the disbursement of funding through this call.

1.4 Contractual framework between the KIC and the subgrantees

In accordance with the Grant Agreement (Annex 5), the KIC launches calls in order to select projects or award prizes. The KIC awards a “financial support to third parties” (i.e. the so called “subgrants” and “prizes”) for the implementation of these projects and signs subgrant agreements (“Financial Support Agreements”) with the selected entities or consortia.

1.5 About EIT Hub Israel

EIT Hub Israel is a global outreach location of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), established in 2019 to bridge the European and Israeli innovation ecosystems. Legally operating under EIT Health while serving all EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) under the Regional Innovation and Internationalisation (RII) Cluster, the Hub creates strategic synergies that support the growth of innovative startups and increase EU-Israel collaborative projects.

Our mission is to foster ecosystem learning at both startup and scaleup levels, drawing upon best practices from Israel’s world-class innovation landscape. By facilitating knowledge exchange and introducing advanced Israeli technologies to Europe, we contribute to the welfare of European citizens and the strength of the European economy.

Our vision is to serve as the premier bridge between Europe and Israel, leveraging both economies to empower entrepreneurs, corporates, and academic institutions to achieve significant societal impact.

EIT Hub Israel has facilitated, over the past 6 years, online and in-person events and roundtables between European and Israeli stakeholders. These efforts have resulted in more than 25 EU-Israel submissions and two successful projects under Horizon Europe calls and missions: Soil Health (EU Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe) and EIE (European Innovation Ecosystems).

¹ Model Partnership Agreement: [Partnership Agreement](#)

² Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement: [general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf](#)

Looking ahead to 2026, in a strategic partnership with the EU Delegation to Israel and the Israel Innovation Authority, EIT Hub Israel is committed to fostering more EU-Israel consortia and strengthening the capacity of leading organisations to apply for Horizon Europe funding and secure grants successfully.

2. Bridges Health 2026 Programme

The Bridges programme is designed to increase EU-Israel collaboration and the number of EU-Israel submissions and winning consortia. This edition will focus on high-impact open calls in the Health cluster. The Bridges Health 2026 Programme is planned to be held in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 25-26 November 2026.

Bridges is an intensive two-day programme designed exclusively for up to 40 experienced Horizon Europe consortium coordinators and partners from Europe and Israel. With a strong focus on Health open calls, the programme provides participants with the strategic insights, practical tools, and high-level connections needed to build competitive proposals and lead successful projects.

Participants will gain a deep understanding of selected Horizon Europe open calls, explore best practices in consortium leadership and project design, and take part in hands-on workshops to refine proposals. Facilitated matchmaking and thematic roundtables will help form high-impact, cross-border consortia among leading European and Israeli stakeholders.

2.1 Cohort selection and financial assistance

The entire cohort of the programme is up to 40 participants. All applicants will be selected based on the evaluation criteria and the cohort composition determined by the evaluation committee (see Section 6 for further explanation of the evaluation process).

Of those accepted into the programme, up to 18 selected participants may receive financial assistance for their travel and accommodation to Thessaloniki, Greece, on 25-26 November 2026. This financial assistance will be in the form of reimbursement for up to 750 EUR per person. In order to be considered for financial support for travel and accommodation, applicants must indicate this in the relevant section in the application form.

The awarding of financial support in the form of travel and accommodation reimbursement will be based on the ranking of the overall application and financial need (see financial need evaluation methodology outlined in Section 7.1) - 9 Israeli applicants and 9 EU/other associated countries applicants.

2.2 Programme main objectives

1. Strengthen collaboration between the EU and Israel and increase the number of EU-Israeli submissions and winning consortia under the Horizon Europe funding programme.
2. Deepen understanding of Horizon Europe's open calls in the Health cluster, including strategic priorities, eligibility, and evaluation insights.
3. Enhance the capacity of experienced participants by strengthening the skills, confidence, and proposal-readiness of coordinators and expert partners.

4. Sharpen project and consortium management skills by learning practical tools on budgeting, deliverables, timelines, and risk management from experts.
5. Engaging in structured matchmaking and in-person networking to build strong, cross-border partnerships, both during and following the event.

2.3 Why should I apply?

- Connect and form high-impact consortia with leading researchers, SMEs, corporates, and public figures from across Europe and Israel through structured, curated matchmaking tailored for experienced players.
- Dive into carefully selected Horizon Europe open calls aligned with your expertise, and gain valuable insights into policy context, evaluator expectations, and winning proposal strategies.
- Join expert-led, hands-on sessions covering advanced consortium management, budget optimisation, risk mitigation, and impact design.
- Access tailored support from Horizon Europe experts, both in person and following the programme, to help fine-tune your proposal and identify gaps.

3. Who Should Apply

Bridges is designed for experienced individuals or organisations from Europe, Israel, or associated countries who are ready to lead or strengthen high-quality EU-funded consortia under Horizon Europe. The programme is best suited for those with a strong track record and a clear intention to participate in upcoming Health calls.

Ideal participants include:

- **Experienced coordinators** who have previously led successful Horizon Europe or other EU-funded projects.
- **Experienced partners** who have actively contributed to winning EU consortia, particularly in health-related topics.
- Representatives from academia, industry, or government seeking to join high-impact projects and contribute their expertise to collaborative, innovative proposals.
- **Academic & Research Institutions:** Researchers and labs focusing on functional genomics, regenerative medicine, 3D bioprinting, mathematical and biophysics-based modelling, data science & bioinformatics.
- **Hospitals & Clinical Settings:** Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs), specialised medical departments (oncology, chronic disease management, regenerative medicine), and clinical research organisations.
- **Industry:** Companies and startups in biotech, bio/tissue engineering, med-tech, AI & digital health, software engineering, and pharmaceutical R&D.
- **Data Holders:** HMOs and biobanks.
- **Social Science and Humanities (SSH) Disciplines:** Patient representative organisations, SSH experts.
- **Regulatory & Compliance Experts**

EIT Health encourages the participation of entities from the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS Regions) with the goal of improving the Knowledge Triangle integration and the innovation capacity of local ecosystems in RIS countries and regions.

The European Commission is committed to promoting gender equality in innovation and technology. EIT, as a body of the European Union and an integral part of Horizon Europe, and EIT Health share the EIT KIC gender diversity value statement. Consequently, the gender requirements in Horizon Europe are of significant importance for all EIT Health supported and funded activities, including the ones in this call for proposals.

The programme is not suitable for consultants.

4. Application Admissibility Conditions

- Applications must be submitted before the deadline(s) indicated in the Timeline section.
- Applications must be submitted electronically through the electronic submission tool in the How to Apply section.
- Applications must be submitted in English using the forms provided inside the electronic submission system. The structure and presentation must correspond to the instructions given in the forms.
- Applications must be readable, accessible, and complete and contain all the requested information and mandatory annexes and supporting documents.
- Submissions that are incomplete, late, or made through any other channel (for example, email or on paper) will not be accepted.
- In addition to the above admissibility conditions, document, page, or section limits may be applied to parts of applications. The limits are clearly shown in the application templates in the electronic submission system. After the call deadline, parts that exceed the limit and extra documents that are not specified as part of the application, will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.
- Staff employed by the KICs, part of the XKIC RII 2026-2028 Grant Agreement, cannot benefit from the activities supported within the scope of this call; proposals from those individuals will be deemed non-admissible.

5. Application Eligibility Conditions

Following the admissibility check, only proposals complying with the following conditions will be considered eligible for further evaluation:

5.1 Entities eligible to participate

Any legal entity, regardless of its place of establishment, including legal entities from non-associated third countries is eligible to participate without receiving funding, provided that the conditions laid down in the Horizon Europe Regulation have been met (e.g. the entity is not under EU sanction), along with any other conditions laid down in this call.

Under this call, a "legal entity" is any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, EU law, or international law that can exercise rights and be subject to obligations.

A **natural person** is a real, living human being, whereas a **legal person** (or juridical person) is a non-human entity created by law, such as a corporation or government agency.

5.2 EU restrictions on participation

EU restrictive measures - Entities subject to EU restrictive measures under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)³ as well as Article 75 TFEU⁴, are not eligible to participate in any capacity, including as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties (if any). Special rules also apply to entities covered by Commission Guidelines No 2013/C 205/0522⁵.

Legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine - Given the illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russia and the involvement of Belarus, there is currently no appropriate context allowing the implementation of the actions foreseen in this programme with legal entities established in Russia, Belarus, or in non-government-controlled territories of Ukraine. Therefore, even where such entities are not subject to EU restrictive measures, such legal entities are not eligible to participate in any capacity. This includes participation as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties (if any). Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis for justified reasons.

With specific regard to measures addressed to Russia, following the adoption of the Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1745 of 24 June 2024⁶ (amending Council Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014) concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine, legal entities established outside Russia but whose proprietary rights are directly or indirectly owned for more than 50% by a legal person, entity or body established in Russia are also not eligible to participate in any capacity.

Measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary - Following the [Council Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/2506](#), as of 15 December 2022, no legal commitments can be entered into with Hungarian public interest trusts established under the Hungarian Act IX of 2021 or any entity they maintain. Affected entities may continue to apply to calls for proposals and can participate without receiving EU funding, as associated partners, if allowed by the call conditions. However, as long as the Council measures are not lifted, such entities are not eligible to participate in any funded role (beneficiaries, affiliated entities, subcontractors, recipients of financial support to third parties, etc.). In case of multi-beneficiary grant calls, applicants will be invited to remove or replace that entity in any funded role and/or to change its status into associated partner. Tasks and budget may be redistributed accordingly.

Restrictions for the protection of European communication networks - The protection of European communication networks has been identified as an important security interest of the Union and its

³ Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the [EU Sanctions Map](#)

⁴ Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list and, in case of conflict, its content prevails over that of the [EU Sanctions Map](#)

⁵ Commission guidelines No [2013/C 205/05](#) on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards (OJEU C 205 of 19.07.2013, pp. 9-11)

⁶ OJ L 229, 31.7.2014, p. 1–11

Member States⁷. For further information, please refer to the Horizon Europe, Work Programme 2025, General Annexes, B – Eligibility on page 14⁸.

5.3 Entities eligible for funding

In accordance with the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025, to be eligible for funding, the applicant must be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:

- the Member States of the European Union, including their outermost regions;
- the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) linked to the Member States;⁹
- countries associated to Horizon Europe;¹⁰ or,
- certain low- and middle-income countries.¹¹

Freelancers cannot apply for funding under this call. Legal entities, which are established in countries not listed above will be eligible for funding if their participation is considered essential for implementing the action by the EIT.

6. Evaluation Process

The selection process is a single-stage submission followed by:

- **Admissibility and Eligibility Check:** EIT Hub Israel staff will perform a formal verification of application admissibility and eligibility status according to the requirements of the Call. See corresponding sections on application conditions.
- **Remote Evaluation:** A panel of 3 evaluators, one EIT Hub Israel staff (20% of the weight), one programme partner representative (20% of the weight) and one external independent expert (60% of the weight) will evaluate each submitted application based on the evaluation criteria stated in paragraph below.

The final score of each application will be a numerical score out of 100. This will be calculated by a weighted average of the three evaluators' scores. Selection will be based on a ranking of the final scores, where up to the top ranked 40 applications will be selected.

Applications are for participation in the event; however financial assistance is available. Of the up to 40 selected applicants, up to 18 applicants may be selected to receive financial support. Up to nine applicants from Horizon Europe eligible countries, and up to nine Israeli participants will be eligible to receive a financial support subgrant. Financial support will be given to the 9 Israeli entities with the highest financial need scores and highest evaluation scores. Simultaneously, financial support

⁷ European Council conclusions of 1 and 2 October 2020 (EUCO 13/20), point 11; Council Conclusions on the significance of 5G to the European Economy and the need to mitigate security risks linked to 5G, 14517/19.

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2025/wp-14-general-annexes_horizon-2025_en.pdf

⁹ Entities from Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) are eligible for funding under the same conditions as entities from the Member States to which the OCT in question is linked. See the Horizon Europe Programme Guide on the portal for a complete list of OCTs.

¹⁰ Please see the Horizon Europe Programme Guide on the Funding and Tenders Portal for up-to-date information on the current list of and the position for Associated Countries:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/guidance/programme-guide_horizon_en.pdf

¹¹ See the Horizon Europe Programme Guide on the Funding and Tenders Portal for a complete list of these countries. [List of participating countries in Horizon Europe.](#)

will be given to the 9 EU/other associated countries entities with the highest financial need scores and highest evaluation scores.

See section 7 for further details.

6.1 Evaluation criteria

Each application will be scored against the following criteria, assessed against the information provided in the application form.

Proposals will be assessed against criteria consistent with Horizon Europe standards and specific to the EIT Health mission and financial sustainability. The table below provides a description of these criteria, and their respective weights in their contribution to the final score of each stage.

Evaluation Criteria
Excellence: Weight 60% Applicants are experienced in participating in Horizon Europe projects. Applicants have experience in participating in Horizon Europe projects as project lead or coordinator. Applicants have participated in open, free training for Bridging the Horizon Health round table session on 23 June 2026.
Impact: Weight 12.5% Applicants plan to participate in a Horizon Europe funded project in 2027 Applicants are actively seeking out Horizon Europe opportunities.
Quality and Efficiency of Implementation: Weight 25% The applicant is actively working in the relevant fields. Applicants are working in healthcare.
Alignment with KIC strategic priorities: Weight 2.5% Applicant is based within the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS)

A minimum of 10 participants who identify as female/non-binary/other will be selected to participate and a minimum of 10 participants who identify as male will be selected to participate, should there be that given number of proposals submitted. The candidates will be selected according to their ranking and considering the IR/EU balance cohort.

6.2 Communication of evaluation results to applicants

- **Notification of Results and Changes:**

The results will be announced on 30 September 2026. Applicants will be notified by email of selection results and an explanation of the evaluation outcome approximately two weeks following the application deadline. If any changes to the call conditions occur during the application period, applicants will be informed promptly via email and the programme's official webpage.

- **Number of Selected Participants:**

The final number of selected participants (up to 40) will be determined by ranking. A maximum of 18 financial support subgrants will be awarded - 9 EU and other associated countries and 9 Israeli participants will be eligible to receive financial support subgrants.

- **Applicant Categories Limits:**

Applicants must be relevant to the programme's calls and thematic focus areas. However, the evaluation criteria prioritise balance across European regions, genders, and HE maturity levels to maximise the programme's diversity and impact.

- **Waiting List (Reserve List):**

Based on the evaluation ranking, a reserve list of 3-5 applicants will be established. If selected participants withdraw, or additional places become available, applicants from the reserve list will be invited to join the programme in order of their ranking. The reserve list will be valid from results notification until 19 October 2026.

- **Standstill Period:**

Results will be announced on 30 September 2026, followed by the programme's kick-off webinar on 19 October 2026. Should any applicant appeal the selection decision during the 15-day standstill period and the appeal is upheld, they will still have the opportunity to join and fully participate in the in-person programme scheduled for 25-26 November 2026.

6.3 Publication of call results

EIT Israel Hub may make available via its website, information on the call results and the recipients of funds from this call.

The following information shall be published, having due regard for the requirements of confidentiality and security, in particular the protection of personal data:

- the recipient's full legal name and the country where it is established;
- the amount committed and, in case of a commitment with multiple recipients, the breakdown of this amount per recipient where available; and,
- subject of grant or contract.

7. Funding Conditions for Applications

The overall amount of the financial support available through this call is €13,500 across all selected participants.

The full value of the programme is estimated at ~€1,050 per participant. For the 2026 edition, there is no participation fee; however, participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Of those up to 40 applicants selected to participate in the programme, funding is available for up to 18 participants to receive reimbursement of up to €750 to cover travel and accommodation costs. To receive financial support, applicants must indicate this in their application form.

Financial support is available for up to 18 applications that rank a minimum score of 50 points on the maximum score of 100, or above in their application evaluation. To be eligible for financial support, applicants must fulfil all the following criteria:

- Indicate in their application form that they wish to apply for financial support.
- Reside outside a 100km radius of Thessaloniki, Greece.
- Rank within the top 40 applicants from the evaluation based on the assessment criteria in section 6.1 above.
- Be from a Horizon Europe country and rank amongst top nine applicants requesting financial support who are from Horizon Europe eligible countries. Or be from Israel and rank amongst the top nine applicants requesting financial support who are from Israel.

Participants selected to receive financial support will be required to sign a Participant Agreement outlining the obligations to receive financial support. Recipients of financial support will be required to:

- Provide an update within one month after the programme on efforts and successes to build collaborations and develop joint EU projects.
- Blog posts - reimbursed participants will be required to write a blog post for EIT Israel to share on their website about their experience in the programme. The article should cover key insights and takeaways, how the programme has influenced their organisation, potential next steps in engaging with Horizon Europe or other EU funding opportunities, and any relevant lessons learned that could benefit others in their ecosystem. The blog post should be submitted to EIT Hub Israel for publication on its website and/or partner platforms.
- Social media publications - such as articles and LinkedIn posts - highlight key programme insights, collaborations, or success stories.

7.1 Dissemination plan

As outlined above, all selected participants receiving financial support under the Bridges Health Programme are legally obligated to contribute to communication, outreach, and dissemination efforts by providing a post-programme collaboration update in addition to writing a reflective blog post, testimonial, and/or social media publication highlighting key insights and reflections.

7.2 Ex-post impact assessment

Upon the conclusion of the programme, all selected participants will be asked to complete a comprehensive exit survey to evaluate the immediate impact and efficacy of the Bridges Health initiative. This assessment will capture vital qualitative and quantitative data regarding the quality of consortium matchmaking, operational delivery, and early partnership milestones.

8. Key Timeline

Milestone	Date	Description
Call Launch	15 July 2026	Publication of the Call Document and opening of the application process.
Call Presentation Webinar and Q&A Sessions	2 September 2026, 10:00 CEST	Presentation of the Call scope, objectives, and application platform including open Q&A session for applicants to ask questions
Proposal Submission Deadline	15 September 2026 (17:00, CEST)	Strict deadline for application submissions. Late submissions will not be considered.
Final Outcome Notification	30 September 2026	E-mail notification of final results
Standstill Period	30 September – 15 October 2026	Preparation of contracts for signature.
Project Contracting	15 October 2026	Signature of the participant agreement is launched
Programme Kick Off	19 October 2026	Official commencement of the programme
Programme in Thessaloniki	25-26 November 2026	Get together event in Thessaloniki

All communications about the programme will be done via the email address provided by the applicants in the application form.

9. Grounds for Appeal and Appeal Procedure

Applicants may appeal the outcome of their application of their own proposal in line with the procedure described below. The only grounds for appeal are as follows:

- Process errors.
- Technical problems beyond the control of applicants (e.g. the technical failure of the electronic submission system).
- Human/technical errors made by EIT Health staff.

- If you consider that you have been adversely affected by a particular decision not following EIT Health's Code of Conduct.

What does NOT constitute grounds for an appeal:

- Scores awarded in the course of the proposal evaluation process (unless these go against our Code of Conduct).

Appeals Procedure

- Applicants should send their appeals in writing to appeals@eithealth.eu as soon as they identify an error, but no later than 10 days after the error occurred.
- EIT Health assesses the claim and delivers a first response within 2 weeks.
- If there are grounds for appeal, EIT Health will attempt to remedy the consequences (e.g. if a technical error of EIT Health prevented the submission of a proposal or application, a late submission may still be accepted as eligible)
- The Head of Compliance, and where applicable, Supervisory Board is notified about the matter if:
 - the applicant does not accept a rejection of the appeal, or
 - there are grounds for appeal, but the problem cannot be remedied any more without disrupting the process

10. How to Apply & Where to Get Help

All application materials must be submitted via <https://www.go-eit.eu/eit-israel-hub/bridges-health/application-form/> before the deadline.

We strongly advise applicants to familiarise themselves with the application platform at least one week before the deadline.

For general administrative queries, questions about the application platform, or technical issues with the submission process, please contact the EIT Israel Hub:

- **Email:** maytal.perlman@eithubisrael.eu – please include the call code: **BRIDGESHEALTH26** and your application reference code in the subject line of all correspondence.

We aim to make the application process as clear and accessible as possible. If you have questions regarding this call, please consult the following resources:

10.1 Call information webinar

Session	Purpose	Date & Access
Call Presentation Webinar	Comprehensive introduction to the Call's objectives, scope, and the funding model.	02/09/2026 / [Registration Link]

10.2 Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

A comprehensive list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) is available below:

- **Does the programme require physical attendance?**

Yes, participants are expected to attend the programme in person on 25-26 November in Thessaloniki (the agenda on day 2 will conclude around 14:30). Active participation in workshops, networking sessions, and 1:1 meetings is essential to maximise the programme's value. Travel and accommodation partial reimbursement may be available for selected participants based on assessment scores and financial need.

- **Who will we meet during the programme?**

Participants will engage with leaders from Europe, Israel, and non-EU countries with extensive experience in EU funding, Horizon Europe projects, and international collaboration. The programme will feature experts from academia, government, tech companies, and industry, including successful project coordinators, ecosystem partners, corporate representatives, and funding specialists, who will provide valuable insights and networking opportunities.

- **Who should apply?**

Bridges is designed for experienced individuals or organisations from Europe, Israel, or associated countries who are ready to lead or strengthen high-quality EU-funded consortia under Horizon Europe. The programme is best suited for those with a strong track record and a clear intention to engage in upcoming calls in the Health cluster.

Ideal participants include:

- Experienced coordinators who have previously led successful Horizon Europe or other EU-funded projects.
- Experienced partners who have actively contributed to winning EU consortia, particularly in health-related topics.
- **Academic & Research Institutions:** Researchers and labs focusing on functional genomics, regenerative medicine, 3D bioprinting, mathematical and biophysics-based modelling, data science & bioinformatics.
- **Hospitals & Clinical Settings:** Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs), specialised medical departments (oncology, chronic disease management, regenerative medicine), and clinical research organisations.
- **Industry:** Companies and startups in biotech, bio/tissue engineering, med-tech, AI & digital health, software engineering, and pharmaceutical R&D.
- **Data Holders:** HMOs and biobanks.
- **Social Science and Humanities (SSH) Disciplines:** Patient representative organisations, SSH experts.
- **Regulatory & Compliance Experts**

The programme is not suitable for consultants.

- **What topics will be covered during the programme?**

The programme will cover:

- Horizon Europe Health Open Calls Overview
 - Masterclass on managing budgets, partners, and timelines – best practices for structuring successful proposals with diverse stakeholders
 - Case study from a winning consortium
 - 1:1 consultations – personalised guidance from experts to refine project strategies
 - Validation & assessment – firsthand insights from a Horizon Europe assessor on proposal evaluation.
- **How much does the programme cost?**
Participation in the programme is **free of charge**. While the actual value of the programme is estimated at €1,050 per participant, it is fully funded by the leading partners.

Participants are only expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. To support this, EIT Hub Israel will offer a limited number of travel subgrants of up to €750 to selected participants, based on assessment scores, evaluation committee decision regarding cohort composition, and financial need (as detailed in the relevant section).
 - **What can I expect as an outcome of the programme?**
As an outcome of the programme, you can expect to:
 - Build strong, competitive consortia with experienced partners from Europe, Israel, and associated countries, supported by structured matchmaking and facilitated collaboration.
 - Gain strategic insights into Horizon Europe open calls, including eligibility, policy context, and how to align your project for success.
 - Strengthen your project coordination capabilities with practical tools for managing budgets, timelines, deliverables, and partner roles.
 - Receive targeted expert guidance to refine your proposal, address gaps, and sharpen your strategy.
 - **What happens after the programme?**
As programme alumnus, you will join the EIT Hub Israel network and get access to Horizon Europe matchmaking opportunities and support.

11. Other Terms and Conditions

Acceptance of the call conditions

EIT Health reserves the right to make reasonable amendments and additions to the call conditions. Amendments and additions to the call conditions shall be valid only before the submission deadline, and if made available to all potential applicants at the same time via this call document and any relevant call documents.

EIT Health may declare the call unsuccessful in the case where zero applications are received, if the applications do not meet the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria, or if none of the applications reach the score thresholds laid down in this call text.

By submitting the application form, the applicant agrees to the present call conditions. Applicants agree that they have no legal entitlement to funding.

Cancellation of the call

EIT Health reserves the right to cancel the call at any time before the signature of the Financial Support Agreement(s) without the obligation to compensate applicants, in particular where its objectives can no longer be met, provided that the applicants are informed in a transparent manner in writing as follows:

- if the cancellation takes place before that award: on the call page of <https://www.go-eit.eu/eit-israel-hub>,
- if the cancellation takes place following the communication of the results to the applicants, during the standstill period, or anytime before the signature of the Financial Support Agreement: in writing directly to the selected applicants.

Data protection

EIT Health ensures that any processing of personal data shall be performed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and in accordance with Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). As a data subject, you have the right of access, the right to rectification, the right to erasure, the right to restrict processing, the right to data portability, the right to object, and the right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing. If you have a question about personal data processing or want to exercise your data subject rights, you can contact our Data Protection Officer at DataPrivacy@eithealth.eu.

The collected personal data will be used solely for the evaluation of the applications and the conduct of the call process. The data controller is EIT Health.

Personal data will be deleted five years after the announcement of the results of the call in case of unsuccessful applications and seven years for successful applicants.

By submitting your application to this call, you consent that EIT Health will collect, transfer, process, store, and delete your data in accordance with the aforementioned conditions.

For more information on the processing of your personal data as part of an application to this call, please consult the [Legal notice and Terms of use of EIT Health's online application management platform](#). You can also read EIT Health's online privacy statement at: <https://eithealth.eu/privacy-policy/>.

Confidentiality

EIT Health undertakes to use any confidential information shared by the applicants solely for the purposes of the evaluation process.

Confidential information shall mean data and/or information (in any form) that is proprietary to, or possessed by, the applicants and not generally known to the public, or that has not yet been revealed whether in tangible or intangible form, that is identified as confidential in writing or when disclosed orally.

Confidential information included in the application form must be expressly labelled by the applicant as such in the form. As regards confidential information expressly labelled as such in the call process, EIT Health undertakes to (i) not disclose them in any way and any form, without the prior written authorization of the applicant; and (ii) not to use them for purposes other than those strictly necessary for participation in the call.

Confidential information may be shared among EIT Health and its subsidiaries (e.g. KIC Co-Location Centres) solely for the purposes of the call process. EIT Health undertakes to impose this confidentiality obligation on its employees and the employees of its subsidiaries and its collaborators, as well as on independent experts and all subjects who, by virtue of participating in the conduct of the call, including as members of the Evaluation Committee, may have access to such confidential data and information.

The applicants agree that data and information regarding the selected projects' implementation (e.g. success stories) not labelled as confidential may be disclosed in connection with the activities of EIT Health.

Avoidance of conflict of interest

EIT Health is committed to ensure the avoidance of conflict of interest (regarding all actors) and comply with the principles of transparency, non-discrimination and sound financial management.

Measures to avoid potential Conflict of Interest or unequal treatment of applicants are ensured including through appropriate conflict of interest declaration and assessment process, established written communication channels and independent and fair complaints/redress procedures.

In case an applicant becomes aware of a potential conflict of interest affecting the conduct of the call process, it shall notify the EIT Health of the conflict of interest without any delay.

Ethics and values

The proposal must comply with:

- ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity); and,
- applicable EU, international and national law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Supplementary Protocols.

No financial support/ funding can be granted, within or outside the EU, for activities that are prohibited in all Member States. No financial support/ funding can be granted in a Member State for an activity which is forbidden in that Member State.

Please refer to the financial support agreement for further requirements.

Intellectual property rights

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. By submitting their application, applicants confirm that they own or lawfully hold, and have secured or will secure in due time, all rights and permissions necessary to use all elements of the innovative product or service included in their application, or that they will take appropriate measures to secure and protect such rights during the project. Applicants agree to indemnify and hold harmless EIT Health, the EIT, and/or any assignee or affiliate from any third-party allegations or claims of intellectual property rights infringement by the product or service of applicants.

Applicants shall have the right to further develop, use and license their intellectual property rights for creating, making, marketing, and distributing products, services, and technology.

As the **Bridges Health 2026** programme specifically focuses on consortium building for future funding applications, the following additional rules apply:

- **Consortium Internal Relations:** Participants are solely responsible for establishing agreements regarding the ownership and access rights of any joint results or background knowledge shared during the programme.
- **Model Grant Agreement Compliance:** All IPR activities must align with **Article 16 of the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement (MGA)**. Participants are encouraged to formalise these arrangements through a **Consortium Agreement (CA)** prior to any formal project submission.
- **Right of Use:** EIT Health retains the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the action (such as summaries, pictures, or audiovisual material) for policy, communication, dissemination, and publicity purposes, during the action or afterwards.

For more information, please see Article 16 of the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement¹².

Withdrawal of the funding – recovery of undue amounts

EIT Health may withdraw the funding after its award and recover all payments made in line with the provisions of the Participant Agreement including in the following cases:

- in case the applicant committed substantial errors, irregularities or fraud;
- in case the applicant committed serious breach of obligations under the Participant Agreement or during its award (including non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, etc.)
- it is established that the awarded applicants were not eligible or should have been excluded.

Checks, reviews, audits and investigations

EIT Health retains the right to initiate checks, reviews and audit on an applicant that has been awarded funding, to verify compliance with the requirements of the call conditions and of the legal and contractual framework referred to above.

¹² https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/agr-contr/general-mga_horizon-euratom_en.pdf

EIT Health may request any information and data from applicants that have been awarded funding for five years after completion for these purposes, as well as in relation to monitoring by the EIT.

In accordance with the Grant Agreement between the EIT and the KIC as well as the Financial Support Agreement, the EIT and/or the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and the Court of Auditors may carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations in relation to the call and the implementation of the projects.

Applicable law

The present call is governed by the applicable European Union legal framework (i.e. in particular the [EIT Regulation](#)¹³, the [EU Financial Regulation](#)¹⁴, the [Horizon Europe Regulation](#)¹⁵), supplemented if necessary by the national law of Belgium.

The applicants agree to observe the obligations outlined in the [Partnership Agreement](#) and the [Grant Agreement](#) signed between the EIT and EIT Health. Applicants agree to comply with the terms of the Participant Agreement between successful applicants and EIT Health.

Settlement of disputes

All disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, which cannot be solved amicably, shall be finally settled before the courts of Brussels.

¹³ Regulation (EU) 2021/819

¹⁴ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509

¹⁵ Regulation (EU) 2021/695

ANNEX 1 – Programme Description

Bridges Health is a curated, 2-day in-person event specifically designed to transition Health innovators from initial introductions to concrete partnership development. Taking place in Thessaloniki, Greece on **25-26 November 2026**, this summit serves as the critical bridge between abstract project concepts and the creation of competitive, high-impact consortia ready for submission.

Programme Highlights:

- **Collaborative Proposal Drafting:** Move beyond the conceptual phase through hands-on working sessions. Here, you will begin shaping your proposal's core content—translating project ideas into clearly defined objectives, detailed activities, and compelling impact narratives.
- **Consortium Organisation & Structure:** Establish a solid operational foundation. These practical sessions are designed to help you map out partner roles, distribute work packages, and define internal management frameworks to ensure your consortium is built for success.
- **Expert-led Masterclasses:** Gain a competitive edge with targeted workshops focused on effective consortium formation and the essential coordination skills required to lead a major European project.
- **Strategic Insights:** Receive direct, high-level guidance from Horizon Europe experts. Learn the "dos and don'ts" of successful bidding and gain the strategic insights necessary to achieve proposal excellence.

Indicative Agenda Outline for Bridges Health

- Day 1 – Deep dive into open calls, policy priorities, and evaluator insights, curated networking among Israeli, European, and associated country experts group.
- Day 2 – Dedicated to building winning consortia: designed to boost consortium formation and increase collaboration opportunities.

The 2-day programme will include master classes, workshops, and matchmaking roundtables that will cover topics such as:

- Horizon Europe Health Open Calls Overview
- Masterclass: Managing Budget, Partners & Timeline – Best practices for structuring successful proposals with diverse stakeholders
- Case Study from a winning consortium
- 1:1 Consultations – Personalised guidance from experts to refine project strategy
- Validation & assessment – Firsthand insights from an experienced Horizon Europe assessor on proposal evaluation

ANNEX 2 – Eligible Costs

The following expenditures are eligible under the current agreement:

- Multiple destination-trip flights to and from Thessaloniki (from Europe or Horizon Europe associated countries), **economy class only**.
- Travel by taxi is only allowed to and from the airport, but as an alternative, you are encouraged to use a train or bus as well on this route.
- Accommodation in Thessaloniki.

Accommodation is a pre-booked group reservation, please get in contact with our Project Lead, Maytal Perlman (maytal.perlman@eithubisrael.eu). The group reservation costs EUR XXXX/2 nights in XXXX hotel Thessaloniki (TBD). Maytal is holding the rooms already. The recipient must calculate the available budget based on this amount and look for a flight to be within budget.

Eligible date range: XXXX

In case participants are extending their trip a screen shot MUST be saved comparing the extension is cheaper than the flight matching the agenda.

Recipients must keep the records and the original documents justifying the costs declared such as tickets, boarding passes, invoices and receipts as follows:

- Flight: ticket, boarding pass, invoice
- Public transportation: ticket
- Taxi: receipt
- Accommodation: invoice

All invoices must be addressed to the Recipient (Subgrantee).

ANNEX 3 – Accommodation and Travel Support Report

****This report is to be filled out after the programme**

Contact

Recipient's name:		Phone:	
Email:		Address:	

Actual use of funding

Invoice date and number	Subject	Net value	VAT value	Gross value (in original currency)	Currency	Exchange rate (exchange rate based on the issuance date of the invoice)	Gross value EUR
TOTAL Travel and Accommodation Costs in EUR							

Exchange rate to be used:

https://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/policy_and_exchange_rates/euro_reference_exchange_rates/html/index.en.html

Place and date

Signature

ANNEX 4 – Financial Support Agreement (FSA)

EIT Health

Financial support agreement

(Travel support)

This financial support agreement, hereinafter the “**Agreement**,” shall have an effect as of [XXX] and is entered into by and between:

EIT Health e.V.

Having its registered seat at Mies-van-der-Rohe-Str. 1C, 80807 Munich, Germany

Registration number: XXXXXX

VAT number XXXXXX

Represented by XXXXX

(hereinafter referred to as: “EIT Health”)

And

<Entity Name>

Having its registered seat at: <XXXXX>

Registration number: <XXXXX>

VAT number: <XXXXX>

Represented by <XXXXX>

hereinafter referred to as the “Recipient”;

Hereinafter, jointly or individually, referred to as “Parties” or “Party”;

WHEREAS:

EIT Health has set up a project, being the project Bridges Health Thessaloniki 2026, hereinafter referred to as the “**Project**”.

The Recipient will be involved in the Project and will receive financial support from EIT Health

In this Agreement the Parties wish to lay down the contractual arrangements between them regarding the implementation of the Project and the financial support, transposing to the extent needed the provisions of the binding agreements that EIT Health has entered into with the EIT and EIT Health e.V.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1: Definitions

1.1 Definitions

“Effective Date” shall mean the date first referenced above.

“EIT” or **“granting authority”** shall mean the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, currently regulated by Regulation (EU) 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of May 20, 2021 (**“EIT Regulation”**).

“Project” shall mean the participation of [Name of Participant] on behalf of the Recipient in the Project Bridges Health Thessaloniki 2026.

Article 2: Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to lay down the contractual arrangements between the Parties regarding the implementation of the Project and the financial support provided by EIT Health.

Article 3: Entry into force, duration, and termination

3.1 Entry into force and duration

This Agreement shall have effect from the Effective Date and shall apply until the end date of the Project. The expected end date of the Project is 31.12.2026.

However, this Agreement may be terminated in accordance with Article 3.2 of this Agreement.

3.2 Termination

3.2.1. In the event that the Recipient is in breach of its obligations under this Agreement, EIT Health may give formal notice to the Recipient requiring that such breach will be remedied within 14 calendar days of this formal notice, unless such breach cannot be remedied.

If such breach is substantial and is not remedied within that period or, is not capable of remedy, EIT Health may terminate this Agreement upon notice.

3.2.2. EIT Health may terminate this Agreement with immediate effect through written notice to the Recipient in the event the further implementation of the Project is prevented or delayed with more than two weeks by Force Majeure.

3.3 Effects of termination

Termination shall not affect the obligation of the Recipient to provide all input, deliverables, and documents for the period that the Agreement was still in force and effect.

Article 4: Implementation of the Project

The Recipient must take part in the efficient implementation of the Project and cooperate, perform and fulfil, promptly and on time, all of its obligations under this Agreement

Article 5: Reporting

The Recipient shall comply with any reporting requirement of EIT Health in a timely manner. The

Travel and Accommodation Support Report (Annex 3) must be submitted no later than 30 days after the visit in Thessaloniki (25 December 2026). Reports that are submitted after the deadline will not be eligible for reimbursement.

Article 6: Financial Provisions

6.1. Financial contribution

The Recipient shall receive a financial contribution to cover actual costs related to travel and accommodation. The Recipient shall receive financial contribution only for its tasks in the Project carried out. The Recipient shall receive a financial contribution for its travel and accommodation costs incurred in relation to the 'Bridges Health' programme.

The maximum amount of financial contribution to the Recipient under this Agreement is in total **750 EUR (All eligible costs described in annex 2)**.

6.2 Payment schedule

The payment will be awarded as follows:

The financial support granted to the Recipient is provided within 30 days after submission and acceptance of the Travel and Accommodation Support Report.

If the Agreement is terminated before the completion of the Project, the Recipient shall refund all payments it has received except the amount corresponding to the costs already incurred and accepted by EIT Health.

6.3 Payments

Payment by EIT Health to the Recipient hereunder, shall be made to the following bank account:

Official name and legal form of Recipient:

IBAN:

BIC:

Bank:

Bank Address:

or any other bank account details as may be provided by the Recipient to EIT Health after the execution of this Agreement, which new details shall only be effective five working days after receipt by EIT Health of written notice from Recipient in that respect.

Article 7: Co-branding and Communication

The Recipient shall take into account and respect any co-branding and communication guidelines requested by EIT Health

Article 8: Liability Towards Each Other

8.1 Limitations of contractual liability

No Party shall be responsible to the other Party for any indirect or consequential loss or similar damage such as, but not limited to, loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts, provided such damage was not caused by a wilful act, gross negligence or by a breach of confidentiality.

8.2 Damage caused to third parties

Each Party shall be solely liable for any loss, damage or injury to third parties resulting from the performance of the said Party's obligations by it or on its behalf under this Agreement.

8.3 Force majeure

No Party shall be considered to be in breach of the Agreement if it is prevented from fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement by Force Majeure.

Each Party will notify the other Party of any Force Majeure without undue delay.

Article 9: Confidentiality

The Parties must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as confidential or sensitive ("Confidential Information").

Unless otherwise agreed between the Parties, they may use Confidential Information only to implement this Agreement.

Article 10: Miscellaneous

10.1 Applicable law

This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of Belgium.

The Parties shall endeavour to settle their disputes amicably.

All disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement that cannot be solved amicably shall be finally settled before the courts of Brussels.

10.2 Data protection

The Recipient ensures that any processing of personal data shall be performed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

The collected personal data will be used solely for the implementation, follow-up, reporting and management of this Agreement by the Recipient and its subsidiaries and for dissemination of information and communication purposes foreseen for this Agreement. Data subjects have the right to access, rectify or delete their personal data. Data subjects can also object to its processing. To exercise these rights, data subjects can contact Recipient.

Article 11: Rights Under EIT Agreements

The Recipient acknowledges and agrees that EIT Health must be able to comply with its obligations under the binding agreements it has entered into with EIT Health e.V (including the so-called Internal Agreement and the Financial Support Agreement) and therefore the Recipient agrees to provide, when relevant, the rights necessary to EIT Health to ensure compliance, a.o regarding auditing.

Signatures

The Parties have caused this Agreement to be duly signed by the undersigned Authorised Representatives.

The signature of a Party via a scanned or digitised image of a handwritten signature (e.g. scan in PDF format) or an electronic signature (e.g. via DocuSign), shall have the same force and effect as an original handwritten signature for the purposes of validity, enforceability and admissibility. Each Party receives a fully executed copy of the Agreement. Delivery of the fully executed copy via e-mail or via an electronic signature system shall have the same force and effect as delivery of an original hard copy.

EIT Health

Name:

Title :

Signature _____

Recipient:

Name:

Title:

Signature _____