Open Call for entrepreneurial talents, teams, and early stage startups for Pre-Acceleration SPRINT 2022 and Preparation for International Incubation Program 2022

Topics
Manufacturing, Sustainable Urban Mobility, Circular Economy
Idea

What is Start for Future program

Start for Future is a co-developed program initiated by European Universities, reinforced by the EUAcceL and Tandem+ Consortium and EIT Urban Mobility and EIT Manufacturing. The program aims to connect young talents and start-ups with the assets of EIT KICs and its industry partners, addressing UN SDGs and combining it with highly impactful, profitable and scalable business models. Throughout the 8 month period, January - October, with possibility to extend, teams talents and early stage startups go through several phases (Open Pre-Acceleration, Open Incubator Program and Co-Creation) to bring forth their business concepts which will result in new promising startups.

EIT Urban Mobility is a knowledge and innovation community bringing together key mobility players across Europe to accelerate change towards a sustainable model of urban mobility and liveable urban spaces. eiturbanmobility.eu

EIT Manufacturing brings together manufacturing actors across Europe to integrate innovation and education for an entrepreneurial and sustainable Europe. eitmanufacturing.eu

During the Open Pre-Acceleration phase, enlarged and newly formed international teams work on their concepts and develop prototypes, which could be further developed into real businesses. Input and various feedback are provided by teams of EIT Manufacturing and EIT Urban Mobility experts, business coaches as well as relevant startups and industry partners. Business concepts of international teams are matched with the most suitable incubator of the program partners for further support in development, incubation, (virtual and physical) and market entry.
Benefits

Why to Apply?

- Bring your idea to life and learn from the best
- Work with international entrepreneurs on building a sustainable future
- Exclusive access to EIT Manufacturing, EIT Urban Mobility, and Circular Economy Coaches in your field
- Get in touch with startups, investors and industry partners
- Access to the best incubators around the world
- Co-Creation Workshop with renowned industry partners
- Get access to private and public funding
- Pitching event with Award

Click here to watch the video!

Click here to check out the Start for Future Incubators!
Start For Future 2022 Topics

Besides the innovation challenge areas of EIT Manufacturing and EIT Urban Mobility, Circular Economy will also be driving this year’s program.

Manufacturing

Industrial production of goods involves many processes and systems that must be considered in context of sustainability and our digital world. With advancement in AI and the rise of Industry 4.0, we are seeing an increase in the use of robots and digitalised value networks. Importantly, manufacturing can be transformed into a more waste-free system while producing personalised products with the use of additive manufacturing and advanced technical skills such as in the realm of IoT.
Sustainable Urban Mobility

This project focuses on mobility in urban settings. If we want to achieve the 2030 Agenda we cannot ignore sustainable mobility - it is a fundamental piece of the puzzle. This topic includes safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, minimizing the number of deaths and injuries due to road traffic accidents - and much more.

Circular Economy

This topic focuses on rethinking our current linear economy and creating a circular one. In a linear economy, we simply “take, make and dispose”. We are consuming a finite supply of resources and creating toxic waste. But is this a long-term solution? How can we use our waste to build capital rather than to reduce it? By rethinking ownership, creating new and sustainable materials and rethinking our current operating systems, we can come steps closer to the goal.
Open Call
The Open Call for the Start for Future 2022 program on Manufacturing, Sustainable Urban Mobility, and Circular Economy starts on November 19th, 2021 at 12:00AM Eastern Standard Time and ends on December 19th, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time.
Eligibility for Participation

This call is open to:
- A single individual
- A team of two (2) to five (5) individuals
- An early-stage startup of two (2) to five (5) individuals
- PhD Students and researchers looking to form a team and apply their innovation

To be eligible, the individual, teams or early-stage startups must meet one of the following criteria:
- You come from a Start for Future Alliance partner Ecosystem* or EIT Ecosystem:
  - hackathon
  - summer school
  - innovation format
- You are alumni of an affiliated university, EIT Urban Mobility and/or EIT Manufacturing

*at least one person in your team is a student, researcher or employee at a university participating in the program or affiliated with European Institute of Innovation and Technology (see Page 10/11 for Start for Future Partner Universities)

Additionally, teams or early-stage startups must also meet one of the following criteria:
- You have a proof of concept related to a Start for Future 2022 topic
- You have a business plan with or without a prototype related to a Start for Future 2022 topic
How to enter

Individual application

- Fill out application form
- Attach CV
- Upload Motivation Letter describing:
  1) why you are applying?
  2) what topic(s) interest(s) you?
  3) what you are looking for in Start for Future program?
  4) why you?

Teams & Early stage startups

- Fill out application form
- Attach pitch deck of project idea aligned to topic from Start for Future 2022
- Upload Motivation Letter describing:
  1) why you are applying?
  2) what are you looking for in Start for Future program?
  3) why you?
Whether you’ve applied as an individual, team or early stage startup, your participation and application will be confirmed. By 31st of December, shortlisted applicants will be confirmed and the most promising talents, teams and startups invited to an interview. Interviews will be held from January 3rd to January 15th. By January 21st, 2022, you will be notified of your acceptance into the program. This official program will start on January 29th, 2022, and conclude on March 25th, 2022.

Imagine building your own startup

Imagine having access to the best incubators and resources, remotely or physically

Imagine building a better and more sustainable future for yourself and others

With the Start for Future program, it’s possible!

For more information, please contact andreas.wauters@ugent.be, pavlina.vujovic@sce.de, julia.dorsch@sce.de
Partners

Start for Future is a network of international universities and university-linked incubators and entrepreneurship centres located in world wide startup hotpots.

Partners in Europe

- **Athens University of Economics and Business**
  Katerina Pramatari, k.pramatari@uni.fund and Stratos Baloutsos, acein@aueb.gr

- **Czech Technical University in Prague**
  petr.samanek@cvut.cz

- **Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship**
  Kåre Moberg, Kaare@ffefonden.dk

- **Dundalk Institute of Technology**
  colette.henry@dkit.ie

- **FH Campus Wien**
  Petra Pendl, petra.pendl@fh-campuswien.ac.at

- **Ghent University**
  Andreas Wauters, Andreas.Wauters@ugent.be

- **GründES! Centre for Entrepreneurship der Hochschule Esslingen**
  Omar Garcia Urdiales, omar.garcia-urdiales@hs-esslingen.de

- **HM Hochschule München University of Applied Sciences**
  Pavlina Vujovic, pavlina.vujovic@sce.de

- **International Burch University**
  Malcolm Duerod, malcolm.duerod@ibu.edu.ba

- **Junior Achievement Sofia, Bulgaria**
  Milena Stoycheva, milena.stoycheva@jabulgaria.org
• Napier University
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• University of Economics Varna, Bulgaria
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• University of Pisa
  Alessio Cavicchi, a.cavicchi@unimc.it

**Partners worldwide – USA, Russia, Canada, Australia and Nepal**

• California Polytechnic State University
  Thomas Katona, tkatona@calpoly.edu
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• La Trobe University
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• Ryerson University
  Steven Gedeon, sgedeon@ryerson.ca and Camila Londono, clondono@ryerson.ca
ASK MORE QUESTIONS

Start for Future

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