Open Call
for entrepreneurial talents, teams, and early stage startups
for Pre-Acceleration SPRINT 2021

Topics
Manufacturing, Sustainable
Urban Mobility, Circular Economy, Sustainable Food, Health
Idea

What is Start for Future program

This year eBridge Alliance joined forces with European Institute of Technology (EIT) Manufacturing and EIT Urban Mobility to launch the Start for Future program. 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, July 2021-February 2022, with possibility to extend, teams talents and early stage startups go through several phases (Open Pre-Acceleration, Open Acceleration 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.

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

During the Open 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 and Circular Economy, Food and Health 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 Alliance Incubators!
Start For Future 2021 Topics

Besides the innovation challenge areas of EIT Manufacturing and EIT Urban Mobility, other topics such as Circular Economy, Sustainable Food and Health will 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.
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.

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.
The topic of health focuses on our everyday well-being. Our world is continuously being faced with new and unexpected challenges that influence various aspects of our well-being. Whether it is our physical, mental or overall health status, we must work on addressing and most importantly preventing them.

Sustainable Food

This topic focuses on how food can be approached in a more sustainable way. If we don’t increase agricultural productivity and sustainable food production, the number of people affected by hunger will surpass 840 million by the year 2030. Therefore, we support all ideas that contribute to achieving this goal and answer questions like how to waste less food, lower the greenhouse gas emissions, shorten the food gap, and other.
Open Call

This Open Call for the Start for Future 2021 program on Manufacturing, Sustainable Urban Mobility, Circular Economy, Sustainable Food, and Health starts on June 1st, 2021 at 12:00 am Eastern Standard Time and ends on June 27th, 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

To be eligible, the individual, teams or early-stage startups must meet one of the following criteria:

- You come from the eBridge Alliance or EIT Urban Mobility and EIT Manufacturing affiliated:
  - university course
  - hackathon
  - summer school
- You are alumni of the eBridge Alliance or EIT Urban Mobility and EIT Manufacturing affiliated university

Additionally, teams or early-stage startups must also meet one of the following criteria:

- You have a proof of concept related to Start for Future 2021
- You have a business plan with or without a prototype related to Start for Future 2021 topic
How to enter

Individual application

- Fill out application form
- Attach CV
- Upload a video (max 2 minutes) 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 2021
- Upload a video (max 2 minutes) 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. The most promising talents, startups and teams will be invited to an interview, from June 29th to July 2nd. On July 5th, you will be notified of your acceptance into the program. The official program will start on July 10th, 2021.

Join our Community

Imagine building your own startup

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

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

With Start for Future program, it’s possible!

For more information, please contact andreas.hammerl@sce.de, julia.dorsch@sce.de
Partner

The eBridge Alliance is a network of international universities and university-linked incubators and entrepreneurship centres located in world wide startup hotpots.

Partners in Europe

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ASK MORE QUESTIONS

Start for Future

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