

ANNEX II

EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program

RULES AND REGULATIONS

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1 EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program

With the objective of continually fostering skills development, entrepreneurial education, creation of new deep technology-based ventures, EIT Digital IVZW (hereinafter referred to as “EIT Digital”), an international non-profit association under Belgian law, with registered office at Rue Guimard 7, 1040 Brussels, Belgium, hereinafter EIT Digital registered under the Belgian company number 0831.431.639, is launching the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program.

EIT Digital works towards and believes that creating a Strong Digital Europe will safeguard European values by being inclusive, fair, and sustainable. EIT Digital considers that empowering individuals with entrepreneurial skills, embodied here in the EIT Digital entrepreneurial education and venture creation program, is an essential cornerstone to building a Strong Digital Europe, safeguarding European values by fostering an inclusive, fair, and sustainable innovation ecosystem.

To that sense, the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program is a two-stage competition aimed at strengthening entrepreneurial education through SpeedLauncher, enabling participants to gain essential skills, and supporting the establishment of deep technology-based ventures, through pre-acceleration program. Through this initiative, EIT Digital aligns with its core KPIs of entrepreneurial education, venture support, and venture creation, helping innovators by:

- Developing entrepreneurial skills through the SpeedLauncher program, a 12-week-long structured incubation phase designed to equip participants with practical knowledge in problem identification, ideation, validation, technology adoption, business planning, and go-to-market strategies. The program provides a safe environment for aspiring founders to explore entrepreneurship, upskill, and gain the confidence to launch their ventures.
- Connecting teams to EIT Digital’s ecosystem, offering access to expert mentors, investors, and partners across Europe, focusing in Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) countries, ensuring that individuals from less innovative regions benefit from EIT Digital’s reach and full range of activities.
- Providing venture-building support, guiding teams through the development and validation of a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) and preparing them for the Pre-Acceleration Phase, where selected teams receive a Growth Package, including a cash prize and access to further development resources.

Part of the SpeedLauncher Program is executed and delivered in collaboration with Innovation Partners of EIT Digital, leveraging their expertise to maximize reach (especially in RIS countries), impact and ensure participants are equipped for long-term success.

EIT Digital reserves the right to choose at its entire discretion and without any further liability on EIT Digital’s part, to not execute this edition of the program if the number of applications does not reach the required amount for the development of the program. EIT Digital shall communicate said circumstance to the applicants of the cancelled

edition as soon as reasonably possible.

This particular call is open to residents in countries listed hereinafter:

EU27 Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

HE Associated Countries in Europe: Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine.

1.1 Structure of the Venture Incubation Program

By applying to the Venture Incubation Program, teams participate in a two-stage competition consisting of:

1. **Incubation Phase:** teams explore and learn essential entrepreneurial skills during a 12-week long program delivered through participation in SpeedLauncher. This step is mandatory for selected teams.
2. **Pre-Acceleration Phase:** selected teams from the Incubation Phase receive a “Growth Package” consisting of a cash prize and participation in a Pre-Acceleration program. Admission to this second stage requires the successful completion of the first stage. Established ventures will provide EIT Digital with equity.

Incubation Phase

The selected teams will first enter the Incubation Phase, during which they will participate in the SpeedLauncher program focused on entrepreneurial education. This step is mandatory. This Venture Incubation Program phase is designed to empower aspiring founders, teams and individuals curious about entrepreneurship by providing a safe space to explore and learn essential entrepreneurial skills. The initiative fosters the development of deep tech startups through structured incubation, mentoring, and investment opportunities, with a strong focus on creating digital tech ventures with tangible business impact and sustainable growth.

During the Incubation Phase teams will be supported in their skills development through the SpeedLauncher program. The Incubation Phase will kick off with a bootcamp, followed by the virtual entrepreneurial education from the SpeedLauncher program. The Incubation Phase for this call will be executed in collaboration by EIT Digital and the EIT Digital Innovation Partner and will be overseen by the Venture Program Committee consisting of two representatives from EIT Digital and two representatives from the EIT Digital Innovation Partner.

The Incubation Phase will:

- Develop essential skills like problem identification, ideation and validation; team selection; technology adoption; business planning and go-to-market strategies.
- Equip the entrepreneurs with fundamental hands-on knowledge and skills, focusing on key moments along the entrepreneurial journey in the digital domain.
- Help selected teams to focus on market verticals & offer, shifting from a product to a market perspective.
- De-risk deep-tech ventures via product and market validation, pushing participants to test market hypotheses with real potential customers.
- Create opportunities for peer-to-peer learning among selected teams encouraging a strong community spirit that will last far beyond the end of the program.
- Enable participants to maximize their product-market fit by exposing them to real market actors in their target sectors.
- Prepare the participants for a (pre)seed stage investment from Business Angels or Venture Capital firms.

At the end of the Incubation Phase, selected teams will have the opportunity to continue and participate in the Pre-Acceleration phase followed by Demo Day.

Growth Package and Pre-Acceleration Phase

This stage consists of a Growth Package with cash prize of 5,000 € for selected teams, followed by a 12-week Pre-Acceleration Phase delivered by qualified experts. This program phase is equity based (3%). The Pre-Acceleration Phase will support teams in the further development and finalization of their MVP and in the establishment of their venture. It will provide ad hoc training through an 12-week-long virtual mentoring program and it will feature a Demo Day as defined in the Venture Incubation Program. The Pre-Acceleration Phase will be executed by EIT Digital personnel and will be overseen by the Venture Incubation Program Committee, consisting of representatives from EIT Digital.

The Pre-Acceleration Phase will:

- Help selected teams focus on market verticals and market offer, shifting from a product to a market perspective.
- De-risk deep-tech ventures via product and market validation, pushing participants to test market hypotheses with real potential customers.
- Create opportunities for peer-to-peer learning among selected teams encouraging a strong community spirit that will last far beyond the end of the program.
- Enable participants to maximize their product-market fit by exposing them to real market actors in their target sectors.
- Prepare the participants for a seed stage investment from Business Angels or Venture Capital firms.

At the end of the Pre-Acceleration Phase, successful participating teams are expected to have executed and validated their Minimal Viable Product (MVP). The selected teams from this phase will have the opportunity to participate and pitch at Demo Day.

1.2 Venture Incubation Program Focus

EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program targets *deep innovation* - i.e., new deep-tech-leveraged global solutions requiring consistent human and financial resources to achieve commercialization. The program focuses on personal growth, upskilling, and reskilling, giving participants the confidence and tools to take the leap toward becoming successful entrepreneurs. The hands-on curriculum includes essential skills like problem identification, ideation and validation; team selection; technology adoption; business planning and go-to-market strategies. Graduating from the programme, the entrepreneurs are equipped with fundamental hands-on knowledge and skills, focusing on different moments along the entrepreneurial journey in the digital domain, as well as tailored support through mentorship, with the ultimate goal of enabling a more confident pursuit of the entrepreneurial journey and success in establishing and growing promising digital businesses.

The program focuses on 5 market verticals:

Digital Industry

Digital Industry covers the seamless process from production to retail and related supporting functions such as logistics and consumer engagement.

We are looking for innovative solutions to improve efficiency in production and retail, to better address customer needs, and to help save natural resources in manufacturing and logistics. This includes solutions creating value from big data collection, aggregation, analysis and visualization services (and their enabling technologies) for decentralized production management covering the complete product life cycle:

design, simulation, production, operation/consumption, maintenance, and consumer relationship frameworks. Value creation may also be achieved from dynamic and flexible omnichannel solutions for all kinds of commerce – physical, online or blended- which enable the seamless consumer experience in exploration, in choice of products, payment and delivery, as well as collection and analysis consumer trends and insight for logistics, retail operations and customer relationship management.

Keywords: Production and retail, manufacturing, IoT, logistics, big data.

Digital Cities

Digital transformation of the cities through centralized, participative and collaborative interactions between city actors: government, city service providers, industry, citizens.

In the information area, we are looking for solutions to allow municipalities or regions to evolve from Open Data to an Urban Information Framework, creating value from big and real time data, audio/video flows generated by any sensors, IoT, social networks, crowd sensing, etc. Examples of expected new business models include semantic data browsing, data brokerage and trusted services between data providers and customers, as well as hyper-local services and local Internet networks. Additionally, solutions for a clean, quiet, stress-less and cost-effective mobility are of interest. Mobility as a Service integrating public, private, peer-to-peer, conventional, decarbonized or autonomous

transport means in seamless door-to-door mobility services. Augmented and virtual reality solutions for city planners and tourists in situ with valuable added information about the past and potential future of city sights. Also, solutions improving the safety in the cities are expected, either for exceptional events such as concerts, climatic events or terrorist attacks, or in daily life, in the street, at home or at work. Traditional centralized systems need to be enhanced with citizen participation and collaboration at each step of risk management: risk analysis, prevention and mitigation strategies, training, prediction and post-event analysis.

Keywords: mobility, safety, e-government.

Digital Wellbeing

Digital Wellbeing leverages digital technologies to stay healthy (prevention/early detection) or cope with an existing chronic condition. Both physical and mental wellbeing are considered.

The solutions should enable consumers to be well-informed about their wellbeing and to be able to use digital instrumentation to monitor and improve their quality of life, according to the motto “an ounce of prevention is worth at least a pound of cure”. Good examples are products (unobtrusive sensors and actuators and associated software services) targeted at occupational and private health and fitness. The clear focus is on measures supporting prevention or secondary care for both physical and mental/cognitive impairments. Correlation of diverse data sources in a “big data” approach is also important to get more relevant results. As the collected data is sensitive, privacy-aware systems are equally important. Solutions that delay the onset of physical and cognitive/mental conditions or cope with these conditions in a social context are considered as a triple win.

Keywords: prevention, fitness, monitoring, early detection, e-health.

Digital Tech

Digital Tech is the core enabler of digital transformation, by providing secure, robust, responsive and intelligent communications and computation facilities.

In this category we have several targets: In networking, the focus lies in improving the mobile broadband infrastructure, network management tools based on software defined networks (SDN), and a multitude of IoT applications in the network area. In computing, we focus on Cloud Computing, Big Data, and Artificial Intelligence, especially technologies efficiently combining AI techniques such as machine learning and deep learning capabilities on top of the cloud & Big Data platform(s) in such a way that it leads to successful business. In security, we are looking for solutions on privacy, cyber security, and digital ID management. Of great interest are solutions enforcing the privacy-by-design paradigm and the minimality principle in balance with usability, and usage of user-controllable privacy policies and assurance levels. We are also looking for data privacy solutions for cloud services through implementation of advanced cryptographic techniques.

Keywords: Cloud Computing, Big Data, AI, privacy, cyber security, digital ID management.

Digital Finance

Delivery of innovative financial products and services through digital technology, with the objective of making financial systems more reliable, more transparent, and less dependent on central infrastructures.

Within this category, we are looking for disruptive solutions using blockchain technology for various applications, including payments, contract handling and voting. Technologies integrating Artificial Intelligence, pattern identification technologies, machine learning, natural language processing, homomorphic encryption and big data analytics are equally interesting. In addition, solutions improving interactions between customers and financial service providers, offering new and innovative approaches for customer relations and focusing on usability are part of the focus of the Digital Finance category.

Key words: blockchain technologies, pattern identification, machine learning, natural language processing, homomorphic encryption.

2 Venture Incubation Program Application

2.1 Submission of applications

Submissions are expected to be made by individuals or multidisciplinary teams with both technology and management skills, that have an innovative business idea, PoC or prototype in Digital Industry, Digital Tech, Digital Wellbeing, Digital Finance and Digital Cities.

- All applications must be submitted in English using the application form provided on EIT Digital online platform via provided link – no paper submissions will be considered.
- Submissions must be received no later than the **28th May 2025, 23:59:00 CEST**

By submitting the requested information, individuals and teams represent and warrant that they have all rights, title and/or interest in their proposal, and that it is accurate and complete and that by submitting to the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program, they are not and will not be likely to be violating any contract or third party rights, including any patents, copyright, trade secret, proprietary or confidential information, trademark, publicity or privacy right.

2.2 Eligibility Conditions

- All team members must be fully-fledged members of the team and must be listed in the online application form.
- A minimum number of 1 member per team are eligible to take part in the program.
- Team members must be resident in one of the following countries:
 - **EU27 Member States:** Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

- **H2020 Associated Countries in Europe:** Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine.
- Each team can submit one and no more than one application.
- Applying teams must not have already established a legal entity for the project in question. Start-ups who registered their company no earlier than in the previous calendar year (from 1 January 2024) are eligible for the program. Those teams who already have registered start-ups before 1 January 2024 connected to their business ideas are not eligible to participate.
- Submissions must be legible once printed in black and white using default printer settings.
- Any source of funding that has an equity ownership component, including funding from non-managing founders, is considered institutional and must be clearly identified in the proposal.
- Teams that are in the process of securing arrangements for capital from any source must disclose the amounts and types of sources of capital (e.g. Grants, Angel and or Venture Capitalists (“VC”)) as well as amounts and dates. This information shall be clearly identified in their submissions and Teams shall keep the Venture Incubation Program Committee aware of such developments throughout the selection process. Such information will be treated as confidential.

The Venture Incubation Program Committee reserves the right to disqualify any submission that violates any of the points above. Disqualified submissions will not be reviewed and will receive no feedback.

Note: Participation from RIS countries is encouraged and positively evaluated. Participation of gender balanced teams are encouraged and positively evaluated.

2.3 Selection process

The selection process for the participants of the Venture Incubation Program will be performed by the Venture Incubation Program Selection Panel, appointed by the Venture Incubation Program Committee. The process will go through two phases:

- Application shortlisting, based on individual assessments provided by the Selection Panel members, followed by a consensus meeting.
- Interviews via video-conference with shortlisted teams.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

2.3.1 Selection criteria

Submissions that describe exciting technological breakthroughs but fail to show a clear path to commercialization will not score well. The goal of the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program is not to fund science, but to support, through SpeedLauncher, the development of essential entrepreneurial skills necessary for the execution of the MVP and the establishment of a new venture.

The selection will focus on how well the team has prepared the submission, i.e. but not limited to:

- Their solution to a clearly identified market challenge within one of the verticals

identified in Section 1, and the fit of the envisioned MVP to solve such a challenge demonstrated by the validation of at least a first mock-up prototype.

- The venture’s business model, how it’s going to be implemented and its scalability.
- Of the utmost importance, the quality of the team and its capability of executing the identified strategy, including clearly identified necessary technical and business skills. Key operational aspects during the execution stage and how the support provided may or may not have an impact on it.
- General quality of the presentation and demonstrated communication skills.

In more detail, all submissions shall address the following points, always to the extent that this is allowed under applicable law, which will also constitute the main evaluation criteria.

Excellence:

1) Technology underlying the product or service; uniqueness of the solution.

Please, keep in mind that the Venture Incubation Program targets deep-tech based solutions. Start by describing your technology, the stage of technical development you are at and what the next critical steps in development are to establish your MVP and have your solutions ready to launch in the market. What makes it different (better) from existing solutions? Participants must refrain from disclosing any confidential information for that purpose. In other words, do not describe how your technology works but rather explain what technology it is, what it does and how it meets customers’ needs. Also, explain your strategy for managing any Intellectual Property (IP) protection for your solution.

2) Product/service innovativeness.

Through a clear, 2 to 3 sentence statement, describe your solution, the benefits for the customer and how it overcomes the problems identified in item 2. Be as quantitative as possible in the description of the benefits. For instance, do not just say that your solution “is better than..” but rather “enables XX% improvement in..”

Impact:

3) Global impact.

Describe the main characteristics (margins; emerging; consolidation stage, other) of the market in which you will introduce your solution (product or service) and in which way your value proposition (to the customer) makes it an attractive opportunity for an investor. Include the financial needs for implementation and the projected returns for a hypothetical investor. Also, highlight how the market has been growing and how it is expected to grow in the foreseeable future. Always quote and reference your sources. You will also need to focus on market sizes for the total and the addressable markets respectively, and make clear any economic, political, and regulatory issues that may limit market access.

4) Addressed market/business challenge and its dimension.

Through a 2 to 3 sentence statement, describe who is your customer and the challenge that your product and/ or service will actually solve or help to solve.

Characterise clearly and quantitatively the current problems faced by customers with existing solutions (from competitors, direct and indirect).

Quality and efficiency of implementation:

5) Team composition and fit of each member with the project.

Describe the core knowledge and expertise of each team member, as well as any areas of competence still in need of development within the team. Be as open and honest as possible. Describe also the team's access to knowledge and expertise in any specialist field outside yours but required to implement the solution envisaged, i.e. your product and / or service, and to establish your venture.

6) Risks associated with your business model.

Global investors expect teams responsible for their projects to apply international best practice in managing the risks and achieving the objectives of the project. Risk management needs to be balanced with the opportunities presented in a timely and cost-effective manner. Clearly identify the main risks involved in your business model and strategy. Document the risks and the severity of any legal/regulatory issue (e.g. International standards, issues with privacy regulation, IP disclosures and protection strategies, etc.). Provide a discussion of the budgetary implications of dealing with the above risks, being honest about possible costs no matter how uncertain such estimates may be.

At least 3 Selection Panel members will individually rate each application according to the above listed Selection Criteria. Each category will be scored on a scale from 1 to 5 by the Panel members where:

- Poor - criterion is inadequately addressed or there are serious inherent weaknesses;
- Fair - application broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses;
- Good - application addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present;
- Very good - application addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present;
- Excellent - application successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

The maximum score attainable is 30.

After individual assessments, the Panel will convene in a consensus meeting and select the applicants to invite to individual interviews, with the aim of gathering additional information and clarifying possible pending issues.

After the interviews, the Selection Panel will rank the shortlisted applicants and provide, by consensus, the list of the winners of the Growth Package Prize, including a reserve list of eligible applicants. If a selected applicant resigns from the Program, the next ranked applicant from the reserve list shall be invited to participate.

2.4 Selected Team Obligations

Selected teams will receive from EIT Digital confirmation of their selection and EIT Digital will provide them with the following package of contract documents to sign:

The “Venture Incubation Program 2025- STARTUP SUPPORT AGREEMENT (SSA)” with EIT Digital including A Rules & Regulations acceptance confirmation.

3 Venture Incubation Program - Growth Prize

3.1 Submission of applications

Submissions are reserved to the ventures by the teams that after having participated in the Incubation Phase are selected to move forward. All applications must be received no later than the **25th August 2025, 23:59:00 CEST**.

3.2 Eligibility Conditions

Application is reserved to ventures established by teams that:

- have been selected for the Incubation Phase
- have actively participated in the entire Incubation Phase (see 1.1)
- have attended the entire Bootcamp on a FULL TIME basis

The selection will be performed by the Venture Incubation Program Selection Panel.

3.3 Selection Criteria

Applications to the Growth Package Prize will focus on the description of the finalized MVP and customer tests and their quality (2 pages max) and a pitch deck.

Excellence:

- Advanced technological level of MVP (not a "paper-test")
- The MVP must show clear prioritization of "minimum" features and the team must outline the hypotheses on which these are based

Impact:

- Based on the MVP a clear product-market fit should be demonstrated, including an analysis of target customers and how the MVP addressed their specific business needs (both quantitative and qualitative).

Quality and efficiency of implementation:

- Data collected for the MVP: prove relevancy in terms of both size and quality.

At least 3 Selection Panel Members (out of which at least 2 external experts) will individually review each application and, based on the above-mentioned four Selection Criteria, assign a score. Each selection criterion will be scored on a scale from 1 to 5 by the Panel members where:

- Poor - criterion is inadequately addressed or there are serious inherent weaknesses;
- Fair - application broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses;
- Good - application addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present;
- Very good - application addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present;
- Excellent - application successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

The maximum score attainable is 20. Individual assessments will be discussed by the Panel members in a consensus meeting to produce the list of the winners of the Final Prize.

3.4 Prize Amount

The Growth Prize Amount will be awarded to a minimum of 6 ventures applications with a final score greater than or equal to 16 who will receive 5,000 €.

EIT Digital shall publish in its website (in the section for the Venture Incubation Program (<http://www.eitdigital.eu/venture-program>) the lists of the ventures awarded the Growth Prize.

3.5 Selected Venture Obligations

Teams selected for the Growth Package Prize will receive from EIT Digital confirmation of their selection and EIT Digital will provide them with the following package of contract documents to sign:

- The “Venture Incubation Program 2025- Pre-Acceleration Phase STARTUP SUPPORT AGREEMENT (SSA)”
- The “Venture Incubation Program 2025- Growth Package PRIZE AGREEMENT” with EIT Digital, including a **Rules & Regulations** acceptance confirmation.
 - Signed copy of a SAFE (Simple Agreement for Future Equity) letter which will be countersigned by an authorized representative of EIT Digital.

Each team member will have a maximum of three working days, upon request from EIT Digital to sign (each team member) and send electronically the full contract for the and the Venture Incubation Program 2025- Pre-Acceleration Phase STARTUP SUPPORT AGREEMENT (SSA)” and Venture Incubation Program 2025- Growth Package PRIZE AGREEMENT listed just here above.

3.6 Growth Package Prize Payment

Signature of all the documents in section 3.5 is required to receive the Growth Package prize. The prize can only be awarded as a full package, and not divided into single items.

If all agreements in section 3.5 have been effected, the 5,000 € cash prize shall be issued within three weeks to the bank account specified in the application.

The prize winners shall be responsible for all possible taxes, wire transfer costs and other possible costs related to the payment of prize amounts.

4 Intellectual Property and Publication Rights

Participants retain full and exclusive ownership of a) their prior information and intellectual property rights; b) any additional information and intellectual property right they might develop through the Venture Incubation Program.

5 Confidentiality - Data Protection

The sole purpose of the collection of data is to verify the eligibility of the proposals, identify the best teams or assess the quality of the achieved MVP. Only for the purposes of the execution of the competition will participants provide their name, postal address, email address and telephone number (“personal data”). EIT Digital will process the submitted material according to Belgian law.

The Venture Incubation Program Selection Panel members are the only individuals who may have access to the submitted information. All necessary steps are taken to limit access to the submitted information.

The Selection Panel will consist of people used to dealing with confidential material on a regular basis. If some part of the submitted information is confidential, applicants will have to clearly mark that information as “CONFIDENTIAL,” and the Venture Incubation Program Committee will retain that legend in any copy of the material provided to the Selection Panel. However, even if candidates mark their information as confidential, there will be no confidentiality obligation by any recipient of the summary for information which:

- i. Is publicly available prior to the time of its disclosure to the Venture Incubation Program or becomes publicly available thereafter through no wrongful act of the recipient, or
- ii. Was known to the recipient prior to the date of disclosure or becomes known to the recipient thereafter from a third party having an apparent *bona fide* right to disclose the information, or
- iii. Is disclosed by the recipient in accordance with recipient’s approval, or
- iv. Is disclosed by the recipient or any member of his/her team without restriction on

- further disclosure, or is independently developed by a recipient; or
- v. The recipient is obligated to disclose to comply with applicable laws or regulations, or with a court or administrative order.

By applying to the Venture Incubation Program, applicants consent that EIT Digital IVZW will collect, transfer, process, store and delete their data under above-mentioned conditions.

6 Conflict of Interest

Beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation that could compromise the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest (“conflict of interest”).

Beneficiaries must formally notify EIT Digital without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

EIT Digital may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

7 Venture Incubation Program Agreements

The participation of the selected teams in the two stages of the Venture Incubation Program will be regulated by three Venture Incubation Program Agreements to be signed with EIT Digital:

1. The "Venture Incubation Program 2025- STARTUP SUPPORT AGREEMENT (SSA)" with EIT Digital including A Rules & Regulations acceptance confirmation.
2. The “Venture Incubation Program 2025- Pre-Acceleration Phase STARTUP SUPPORT AGREEMENT (SSA)”
3. The “Venture Incubation Program 2025- Growth Package PRIZE AGREEMENT” with EIT Digital

8 EIT Digital Equity

By submitting an application to the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program participants commit to provide EIT Digital with equity in the venture, being a company incorporated (the NEWCO) within 2 years of the signature of the “EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program 2025 - Pre-Acceleration Phase STARTUP SUPPORT AGREEMENT (SSA)”, in which

participants directly or indirectly have a majority stake and which has been developed through their participation in the Venture Incubation Program.

- That equity will correspond to 3% shares at nominal value of the Venture
- Specifically, the venture will be asked to sign a Share Transfer Agreement (STA).
- A Share Transfer Agreement must be signed within the same year of incorporation or within a maximum of 100 days from the incorporation of the NEWCO.
- The equity must be granted to EIT Digital irrespective of whether the established venture has applied for the Growth Prize and/or the outcomes thereof.

9 EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program Schedule

9.1 Key Dates:

Application Submissions Deadline	08 th June 2025
Selection Interviews (via video conferencing calls)	Until 22 th June 2025
Announcement of Program Acceptance (via email)	Until 25 th June 2025
Startup Support Agreement signatures	Until 28 th June 2025
Incubation Phase	28 th June to 20 th September
Bootcamps	28 th June to 10 th July 2025
Pre-acceleration Phase Contracts signature	Until 30 th August 2025
Growth Prize Submission Deadline	22 th September 2025
Announcement of Growth Prize winners	25 st September 2025
Growth Package Cash Prize	Until 30 th September 2025
Pre-Acceleration Program Period	25 th September to 25 th November 2025
Demo Day	Until 05 th December 2025

9.2 The Incubation Phase for this call will be executed in collaboration with EIT Digital Venture Program Partners.

9.3 The Pre-Acceleration Phase will be overseen by the Venture Incubation Program Committee consisting of representatives from EIT Digital.

10 Media & Reporting

There is no requirement for a dissemination plan as such for participating startups. But all teams are required to participate in media and reporting opportunities related to the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program. This includes, but is not limited to, the following opportunities:

1. All teams will be asked to provide a 500 character (without spaces) description in English during the Bootcamp that will be made available to media and may be released publicly, either in part or in its entirety;
2. All teams may be asked to speak to the media in interviews related to EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program and when requested by the Venture Incubation Program committee. Where possible, the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program organizers will provide media coaching & mentoring before such occasions.
3. All teams may be asked to provide quotes and/or content press releases related to EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program and when requested by the Venture Incubation Program committee;
4. Teams must display the EIT Digital logo with the text “EIT Digital is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union” on their website (if you have any) in a visible place. Relevant communication guidelines will be shared with teams during the program.
5. Participating in media and press opportunities in no way, shape or form requires teams to disclose any proprietary or otherwise confidential information related to their businesses. The Venture Incubation Program committee agrees to provide consultation to any team, upon request, to avoid such disclosures while participating in press related opportunities.
6. EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program will conduct at least yearly an “impact” survey which all participants are obliged to complete, including jobs created, financing raised, revenue generated among other critical information and this during a period of seven years. EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program will use such information only in aggregate form. Any discrete use of the data will always require pre-approval by the participants.

11 Miscellaneous

1. The participants agree that they will explicitly use the branding of “EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program” in any advertising or public presentation further to being selected to the accelerator, in accordance with the instructions for the use of the brand.
2. THE VENTURE INCUBATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND CONCERNING THE PROGRAM, OR ITS OUTCOME EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. IN NO EVENT SHALL EIT DIGITAL, ITS DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND PARTNERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY ADVICE, INFORMATION OR DECISIONS MADE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EIT DIGITAL VENTURE INCUBATION PROGRAM. IN NO EVENT SHALL EIT DIGITAL INCUR ANY LIABILITY FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND,

INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ECONOMIC DAMAGES AND LOST PROFITS. THE LIABILITY OF EIT DIGITAL SHALL IN ANY EVENT BE LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT OF 1.000 EUR.

12 Contact

For any required information, the contact email is venture_program@eitdigital.eu and the FAQ available in the website: <https://www.eitdigital.eu/venture-program/>

13 Acceptance of Rules and Regulations

By submitting the application form, participants agree to the Rules and Regulations, which form part of the submission. Participants agree that they have no legal entitlement to any prize whatsoever.

EIT Digital IVZW reserves the right to make reasonable amendments to these Rules and Regulations. Amendments and additions to these Rules and Regulations shall be valid only if communicated in writing or otherwise made available to the participants.

Any deviation from these Rules and Regulations can only be made in writing and signed by an authorized representative of EIT Digital IVZW and the participant.

The terms and conditions of the EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program RULES AND REGULATIONS are governed by the laws of Belgium.

Any disagreement or dispute which may arise in connection with these terms and conditions which cannot be settled amicably will be brought before the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Brussels, Belgium