

News of the Week - 04 | 2025

10 feb 2025 - Research & Innovation Pre-Award Advisory Unit (DPFC)

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1. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

» On the 4th of Feb, Jitka Spolcová, project officer at ETN Global was at the headquarters of IST-ID to present ETN Global and to know Técnico's research ecosystem better. The research units at the meeting found ETN Global a very interesting network.

Check her [PRESENTATION](#) and our [NOTES](#)

» Results from European calls

- Digital Europe Program (DEP): 1 project (INESC-ID). IST is a partner on the Portuguese Competence Centre in Semiconductors
- Horizon Europe, Missions Smart Cities: 1 project (IN+). IST is a partner in a very large consortium.
- Horizon Europe, Widening Hop-on: 1 project (ISR). IST-ID will be part of an ongoing project.
- Horizon Europe, MSCA-PF: 1 project (CERIS). IST is attracting talent.

» Applications to last week calls

- Horizon Europe, Cluster 5 (deadline: 4/02/2025): 10 applications (9 through IST-ID and 1 through IST)
- Horizon Europe, MSCA-SE (Deadline: 5/02/2025): 3 applications by IST

» **Pre-Award Network Meeting | feb 5th**

- UPDATE: [DIG4BIO](#) Training School
 - 20-21 February 2025, [The European Political Context](#)
- Next meeting: march 7th, 10h

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & UPCOMING CALLS

» Call for EIT Water: Transforming Europe’s Water, Marine, and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems

[HORIZON-EIT-2025-KIC-WATER](#)

The Call for Proposals for the new EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) is open until 17 June 2025 and the designated EIT KIC will be launched in 2026. The KIC will unite water, marine, and maritime innovators to join the EIT Community and build a pan-European partnership that addresses the most pressing challenges facing water-related innovation ecosystems.

» Coal and Steel Research Fund - Applications until May 6

The annual call for the Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS) for 2025 has an allocation of €175 million, aimed at supporting the digital, green and circular transition of the coal and steel sectors. Around 70% of this funding will be allocated to projects in the steel sector, while the remaining 30% will be allocated to the coal sector.

Applications for the so-called Big Tickets tenders are now open, with 100 million euros available for the steel sector and 35 million euros for the coal sector.

In addition, a regular tender is planned to be launched in June 2025, with a budget of 40 million euros, also intended for the two sectors.

Both calls can be accessed [HERE](#)

On **February 12, 2025**, the European Commission will hold an **Info Day** dedicated to the Big Tickets competitions, where details about these funding opportunities will be presented.

Agenda and Registration [HERE](#)

» **EUROSTARS 3 CALL 8**

Applications for the 8th call of the Eurostars programme remain open until **13 March 2025**. Eurostars projects are international, close-to-market, co-promotion R&D projects led by innovative SMEs.

Learn more about the EUREKA and Eurostars projects [HERE](#)

REVIEW the [WEBINAR](#) for applicants - European Partnership on Innovative SMEs

» **CELTIC-NEXT | ICT eureka Cluster - Applications until 25 April 2025**

Next-Generation Communications for the Digital Society

Spring Call 2025 additional information available [HERE](#)

Review the [LAUNCH EVENT](#) (15 jan 2025)

4. NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

» EIT Water [Marketplace](#)

This B2B platform will allow participants to connect with potential partners and agile their networking efforts for the upcoming EIT Water: Call for a new EIT KIC in water, marine, and maritime sectors & ecosystems.

» CELTIC-NEXT [BROKERAGE TOOL](#)

Support in preparing project proposal for Celtic-Next Calls

- Upload Project Ideas
- Share Expertise Offering
- Search Partners for collaboration
- Look for existing Project Ideas

5. UPCOMING EVENTS & SAVE THE DATE

» Save The Date! EIT Water Info Day

 on 5 March 2025 | 8h30-13h30

 in Brussels ([SPARKS](#) Venue)  and online

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) is organizing an Info Day dedicated to presenting the Call for Proposals for the new EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) in the water, marine, maritime sectors and ecosystems, in particular its scope, the application and evaluation process and timeline, as well as best practices from existing EIT KICs.

Aimed at potential applicants – including businesses, research entities and universities – this half-day, hybrid event will offer an excellent opportunity to get prepared for the Call for Proposals and to learn more about the EIT's approach to creating sustainable innovation ecosystems.

This Info session is part of the [European Ocean Days 2025](#) (check our previous issue) and will also offer inspiring discussions with members of the EIT Community and a chance for networking.

Registrations will be possible [HERE](#)

» Save The Date! **Briefing: European Funding Opportunities for the Battery Sector**

 on 26 february 2025 | 9h30

 in Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto (FEUP)

Battery Cluster Portugal, in partnership with ANI and the Portuguese Environment Agency (APA), are organizing the information session "**European Funding Opportunities for the Battery Sector**".

The event aims to publicize the funding opportunities available in 2025 under Horizon Europe and the Innovation Fund, specifically for the battery sector. The session will feature

interventions by the European Commission and the Battery European Partnership Association (BEPA), as well as a panel discussion where companies and national entities will share their experiences and perspectives.

The session (in English) is open to the public but requires mandatory registration [HERE](#)

See the event agenda [HERE](#)

» Save The Date! **CELTIC-NEXT Spring Call Proposer's Day 2025**

 on 24 february 2025 | 10h30

 in Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

See the Proposers Day [AGENDA](#)

Register [HERE](#)

6. RESOURCES

» EIT Call for Proposals 2025 for a new KIC on Water, Marine and Maritime Sectors and Ecosystems (EIT Water)

- [Documents](#)
- [EIT Water Factsheet](#)
- [KIC Water Evaluation Criteria](#)

» On the topic of - **European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT)**

- [Study on the Relevance of the EIT KIC Water](#)
- [EIT Innovation Model](#)
- [Webinar Series](#)