

EIT DIGITAL PARTNERSHIP MODELS

This document summarises important information related to the EIT Digital Partnership. This information refers to 2022. For 2023, some changes may occur based on the possible evolution to cascading model under Horizon Europe and on decisions made by the EIT Digital General Assembly in the course of 2022.

EIT DIGITAL PARTNER CATEGORIES

1. **Members**
2. **Affiliated Entities** (ex-“Linked Third Parties”)
 - a. **Affiliated entities**, e.g. local subsidiaries or branches of member organisations.
 - b. **Entities with a legal link** with a member organisation for purposes unrelated to EIT Digital, e.g. national or regional ecosystem organisations.
3. **External Partners** (membership with limited duration, yearly).

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Partnership status opens access to the Entrepreneurship Academy and Innovation Factory, and the entire ecosystem for you to collaborate with. You are invited and expected to play an active role in creating a strong digital Europe.

- Partners have to pay **yearly partnership fees** (see below).
- Members have **voting rights** in the EIT Digital General Assembly; Members and Affiliated Entities **participate in their local Node Strategy Committee meetings**.

EIT DIGITAL PARTNERSHIP FEES

The below are the Partnership fees applicable in 2022 as defined by the EIT Digital General Assembly in its meeting of September 7, 2021.

Members or Affiliated Entities with a legal link (2.b above)

- €27,500 for large enterprises, research institutes and universities
- €11,000 for mid-size SMEs
- €5,500 for other SMEs

Affiliated Entities (2.a above)

- € 1,100 for Affiliated Entities affiliated to a member

External Partners (membership with limited duration, yearly)

- €13,750 for large enterprises, research institutes and universities
- €5,500 for mid-size SMEs
- €2,750 for other SMEs

SMEs are defined according to the below criteria (in line with the European Commission definition):

- Medium-sized SME: < 250 staff headcount and turnover < €50m or balance sheet < €43m
- Small SME: < 50 staff headcount and turnover < €10m or balance sheet < €10m
- Micro SME: < 10 staff headcount and turnover < €2m or balance sheet < €2m

- In case of a KIC Partner with affiliated entities, the sum of the staff headcount, turnover and balance sheet defines the status.

APPLYING FOR PARTNERSHIP

In order to start the partnership process and request further information:

- Organisations should fill in the [questionnaire](#) for new organisations
- Once the questionnaire is filled in, organisations will be contacted by the relevant Node to complete the process. Please see the Country to Node mapping below for reference.

Country (by alphabetical order)	Node
Austria	Berlin
Belgium	Eindhoven
Bulgaria	Budapest
Croatia	Budapest
Cyprus	Trento
Czech Rep	Berlin
Denmark	Stockholm
Estonia	Helsinki
Finland	Helsinki
France	Paris
Germany	Berlin
Greece	Trento
Hungary	Budapest
Ireland	London
Italy	Trento
Latvia	Helsinki
Lithuania	Helsinki
Luxemburg	Eindhoven
Malta	Trento
Netherlands	Eindhoven
Poland	Berlin
Portugal	Madrid
Romania	Budapest
Slovakia	Budapest
Slovenia	Budapest
Spain	Madrid
Sweden	Stockholm
Switzerland	Paris
UK*	London
All other Horizon Europe Associated Countries: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine	Brussels Office

OVERALL PARTNERSHIP PROCESS

- The **prospect Partner fills in the [questionnaire](#)** for new organisations.
 - once the questionnaire is filled in, the prospect Partner will be contacted by the relevant Node to complete the process.
- The **Node Director provides** the prospect Partner with:
 - information on the EIT, EIT Digital, Business Plan and the proposal submission process.
 - information on the types of partnership and associated costs.
 - the Application Package Template documents; including templates for the Letter of Intent (LoI), Membership Criteria document, Accession Letter
- The prospect Partner **receives the Partner Identification number**.
- The prospect **Partner provides the filled in templates** to the Node Director with:
 - the signed LoI which explains the Partner's capabilities and contribution to EIT Digital.
 - the Membership Criteria Document demonstrating compliance with the Membership criteria from Partner.
 - In the case of an Affiliated Entity, also a letter from the Member to which it is affiliated to endorse the entry (Affiliated Entity Support Letter).
- The **Node Director reviews** and suggests improvements to these documents, if needed. This step is important as the Partnership application will be accepted or rejected by the Node Strategy Committee (NSC) and EIT Digital Supervisory Board (SB) also based on the content of the documents and completeness of the information.
- The **NSC gives its support or not** to the Partnership application:
 - The **Application Package is sent out** to the NSC Members.
 - The **Node Director shortly presents the Prospect Partner** and its motivations for requesting Membership at the next NSC meeting.
 - NSC Members discuss the application based on criteria which includes the quality of the application, alignment with EIT Digital's ecosystem and membership criteria as well as financial robustness of the prospect Partner.
 - NSC Members vote and either **recommend the application for submission to the EIT Digital Supervisory Board (SB)** / or reject the application.
 - The Node Director informs prospect Partner of the NSC decision.
- If the outcome of the Node Strategy Committee is positive, the Partner Application is sent for approval to the EIT Digital Supervisory Board:
 - the **Node Director writes the Support Letter on behalf of the NSC** to the EIT Digital SB.
 - The Node Director forwards the **extended Application Package to the EIT Digital Grant Manager** for inclusion in the Supervisory Board approval procedure. The extended Package includes: the Letter of Intent (LoI), Membership Criteria, (Affiliated Entity Support Letter) and NSC Support Letter.
 - The EIT Digital Grant Manager prepares a Supervisory Board **Written Procedure** to accept or reject the Prospective Partner's application.
 - The **SB votes** on the prospective Partners.
- If the outcome of the EIT Digital SB is positive, the EIT Digital **Grant Manager collects the Accession Letter (if applicable) and the EIT registration documents** from the Partner.
- If partner intends to participate in Business Plan 2021-2022 activities, starts the **registration process with the EIT**. The **EIT confirms the registration** of the Partner to the EIT Digital Grant Manager; the EIT Digital **Grant Manager informs the Partner** of its registration as well as its eligibility date.
- If partner does not intend to participate in Business Plan 2021-2022 activities, the partnership process is considered complete. **EIT Digital Grant Manager informs the partner** of its partnership start date.