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Developing raw materials into a major strength for Europe

Connecting business, research and education



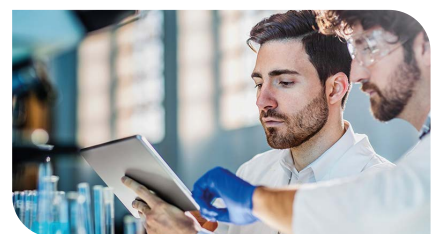
Partnership

EIT RawMaterials, initiated and funded by the EIT (European Institute of Innovation and Technology), a body of the European Union, is the largest consortium in the raw materials sector worldwide.



Fostering innovation

EIT RawMaterials activities drive and foster innovation, entrepreneurship and education along the raw materials value chain, inspiring innovators to bring ideas to market.



High relevance

Securing supply of raw materials is vital for the future of Europe, that is why EIT RawMaterials focuses on European excellence in developing new materials, ensuring reuse and recycling while tackling societal challenges.

Raw materials in modern life

Smartphones, light bulbs, wind turbines, electric cars, office buildings – raw materials are everywhere. Modern life as we know it would not be possible without them. A smartphone alone contains 40 different elements, for example 0,2 grams of indium, an important by-product of zinc metal processing. Yet 20 kg of zinc ore are needed to gain only those 0,2 grams.

20 kg Zn  **0,2 g** In

Europe faces difficulties in securing these, due to a high reliance on imports, increasing demand and the decreasing quality of resources. A sustainable supply of raw materials is vital for the future of Europe.

Turning challenges into opportunities

EIT RawMaterials, initiated and funded by the EIT (European Institute of Innovation and Technology), a body of the European Union, is the largest consortium in the raw materials sector worldwide. Its vision is to develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe. Its mission is to enable sustainable competitiveness of the European minerals, metals and materials sector along the value chain by driving innovation, education and entrepreneurship. EIT RawMaterials activities:

- Support innovative product and service development across Europe
- Accelerate start-ups and boost SMEs' growth
- Facilitate exchange of knowledge and best practices as well as networking across different disciplines and businesses
- Support new entrepreneurial education approaches
- Train new generations of intra- and entrepreneurs

Business creation & acceleration

Entrepreneurs, start-ups, SMEs or spin-offs receive financial and non-financial support along the innovation life cycle through:

- Business idea competition: Idea holders can submit their business ideas and get business basic training in boot camps as well as individual coaching towards a business plan
- Booster funding: Established start-ups receive funding to drive proof of concept, feasibility study or customer validation
- Accelerator program: Idea holders and established start-ups can enter the three-phase accelerator program from idea to proof of concept until investment is found or product is launched
- Co-Creation facilitation: For companies that are looking for innovative solutions from start-ups or SMEs, through hackathons and innovation workshops



EIT RawMaterials and its partners

EIT RawMaterials unites more than 120 core and associate partners and over 190 project partners from leading industries, universities, research and technology organisations from more than 20 EU countries.

Partners of EIT RawMaterials are active across the entire raw materials value chain; from exploration to mining and mineral processing, substitution, recycling and circular economy. They collaborate on finding innovative solutions to secure supplies and strengthen the raw materials sector in Europe.

EIT RawMaterials aims at significantly enhancing innovation in the raw materials sector by sharing knowledge, information and expertise: Entrepreneurs, Start-ups and SMEs receive funding and support through its partner network and collaboration activities.

EIT RawMaterials aims at generating a significant impact on European industrial competitiveness and innovation capacity as well as empowering students, entrepreneurs and education partners to drive Europe towards the circular economy. This is expected to result in the introduction of innovative and sustainable products, processes and services, as well as talented people who will deliver increased economic, environmental and social sustainable impacts to the European society.

Innovation themes



EXPLORATION
AND RAW MATERIALS RESOURCE ASSESSMENT



MINING
IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS



PROCESSING
INCREASED RESOURCE EFFICIENCY IN MINERAL AND METALLURGICAL PROCESSES



RECYCLING
AND MATERIAL CHAIN OPTIMISATION FOR END-OF-LIFE PRODUCTS



SUBSTITUTION
OF CRITICAL AND TOXIC MATERIALS IN PRODUCTS FOR OPTIMISED PERFORMANCE



CIRCULAR ECONOMY
DESIGN OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

EIT RawMaterials regional hub network

EIT RawMaterials has six regional Innovation Hubs, called Co-Location Centers (CLC's), that represent different regional ecosystems connecting industry, research and education. They are located in Belgium, Finland, France, Italy, Poland and Sweden. They cover raw materials innovation themes and complement each other with their fields of expertise and innovation potential contributed by their partners.