



# INNO- -NEXT

**The Next  
Generation  
Innovation  
Talents' Initiative**

*June 12<sup>th</sup> 2025*



European  
Innovation  
Council



Community



Funded by the  
European Union

# Agenda

- 1. About InnoNext**
- 2. Beneficiaries**
- 3. Innovation Internship**
- 4. Key dates**
- 5. Funding**
- 6. Find a match**
- 7. After the match**

# InnoNext Overview

**InnoNext is an EU-funded initiative connecting researchers and professionals with innovative companies**

**Creating opportunities to collaborate and develop entrepreneurial skills**

**Boosting innovation in companies**

**In collaboration with  
EIC, EIT, ERC, MSCA, RI**



# Why join InnoNext?

**Develop entrepreneurial skills**

**Apply the core expertise gained from the originating project in Startups and SMEs**

**Get in touch with the HC knowhow**

**Strengthen technology performance**

**Face specific challenges collaborating with highly skilled Talents**

**Access new ideas**

**+ Receive expert mentoring**

# InnoNext beneficiaries



## Visiting Talents

### EIC:

- **Pathfinder** PhD/Postdoc researchers
- **Transition** Researchers

### EIT:

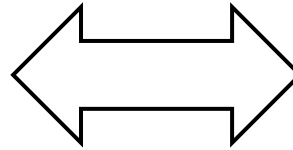
- **Label programmes** students/alumni
- **KIC education** participants

### MSCA:

- **Postdoc Fellows** participants
- **Doctoral Networks** participants
- **COFUND** participants

**ERC** PhD/Postdoc researchers

**RI** PhD/Postdoc researchers



## Hosting Companies

### EIC:

- Supported by **EIC Pathfinder**
- Supported by **EIC Transition**
- Supported by **EIC Accelerator**
- Awarded by **EIC Seal of excellence**

### EIT:

- Supported by **EIT Community**
- Created as a result of /receiving support from **KICs**
- Have been partners of **KICs** for Innovation activities
- With at least one co-founder who is an **EIT Alumni** member

# Two types of innovation internships

## **INNOVATION INTERNSHIP**

Transformative collaboration between high-level talents and visionary start-ups and SMEs.

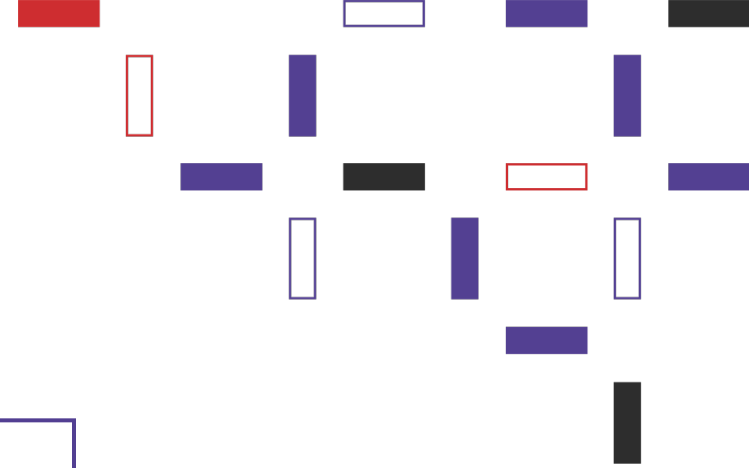
### Deep Tech Talents

- **Technology-focused experiences**
- Technical innovation projects

### Aspiring Innovators

- **Business-focused experiences**
- Entrepreneurship skills development

# Key Dates



## InnoNext end:

EIT beneficiaries: **December 2025**  
Others: **July 2026**

**Internship Duration:** 3-6 months

**Applications:** Rolling basis

**Start Dates:** Flexible

# Financial Support (to talents only)

Funding varies by program:

**MSCA:** Covered by grant

**RI:** Personnel costs covered by project

**EIC Pathfinder:** Flat monthly rate mobility allowance (>150 km)

**ERC:** Flat Monthly Rate Reimbursement

**EIT:** Fixed monthly rate

Covered by InnoNext funding

Max 3 months

3 - 6 months

# Financial Support (to talents only)

## Funding varies by program:

**MSCA:** Covered by the originating project

**RI:** Personnel costs covered by the originating project

**EIC Pathfinder:** 2.300 € gross/month (>150 km)

**ERC:** PhD students: 4,300 € gross/month  
postdocs: 5,300 € gross/month

**EIT:** 2000€ gross/month  
+750 € one-time mobility allowance

Covered by InnoNext funding

Max 3 months

3 - 6 months

# Steps to find a match - Talents



**Explore website**

Visit

[innonext-project.eu](https://innonext-project.eu)



**Register filling the online form**



**Look at the opportunities**



**Apply**



**Monitor the application and the new opportunities**

# Steps to find a match - Companies



# Eligibility documents



## Visiting Talents

- **Declaration of Honor**

**EIT**

**EIT Certificate or Letter of Commitment**

## Hosting Companies

- **Letter of Commitment**

**EIT**

**EIT Certificate or Letter of Commitment**

! The **Declaration of Honor** must be signed and sent **before the activation** of the internship

! The **Letter of Commitment** and the **EIT Certificate** must be uploaded/sent **during the registration**

**\*EIT Certificate or Letter of Commitment:** Any document that **proves the current or past participation in an EIT programme or in a programme related to EIT** (e.g. Contract, Grant Agreement, Acceptance Letter, Investment agreement, collaboration contract)

# After the match



**Direct contact to organize and do the Interview** (the company indicate the progress in the platform)



**Both VT and GC express their decisions:**

- **The Company indicate it in the platform** (both in case of acceptance or decline)
- **The Talent sign and upload the Declaration of Honor**



**InnoNext team share the required documentation to be signed and send back**  
(Internship agreement and if needed Financial agreement)



**The collaboration can start!**



**Monitor:** Fill the **self-assessment and the surveys to** monitor your progress through InnoNext and help improve the project processes.

# Agreement toolkits

## Visiting Talents

- **Innovation Internship Agreement**
- **Financial Agreement**  
(a dedicated template to talent from **EIC Pathfinder, EIT and ERC**)

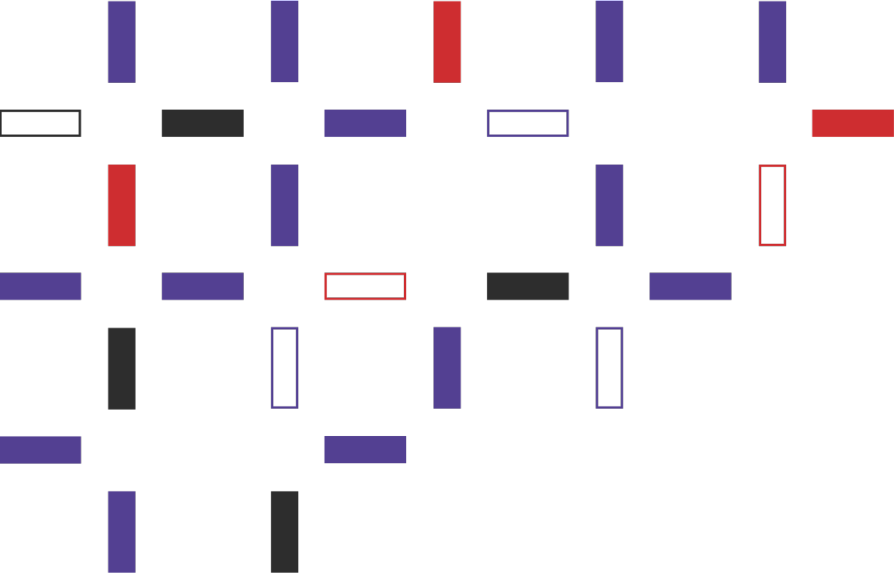
## Hosting Companies

- **Annex 2 of Letter of Commitment: Innovation Internship Agreement**

The **Innovation Internship Agreement Template** can be complemented by Hosting Company and Visiting Talent. **It also includes IP management**

## BEST PRACTICES GUIDELINES

A non-legal document which clarifies roles and responsibilities of the parties involved (VT, HC & InnoNext Team)



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The call is open  
**Apply Now!**



# INNO- -NEXT

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Generation  
Innovation  
Talents' Initiative

[info@innonext-project.eu](mailto:info@innonext-project.eu) | [www.innonext-project.eu](http://www.innonext-project.eu)

FONDAZIONE  
**links**  
PASSION FOR INNOVATION

 **Réseau  
Entreprendre**  
PIEMONTE

 **ZUCCHETTI**

# Support

## General questions

**Website FAQs section:** <https://innonext-project.eu/en/faq>

## General questions or technical issues

**Website contact form:** <https://innonext-project.eu/en/contact>

**Email:** [info@innonext-project.eu](mailto:info@innonext-project.eu)



- For specific information about **taxes**, please refer to your country tax office
- InnoNext does not have an **accomodation** office

# AI matchmaking



The InnoNext artificial intelligence-based matchmaking system analyses the **talent's application (CV/ORCID)** and the **internship description**



In the **Job matching section** the system displays a **shortlist of optimal opportunities** for the talent



The **talent** observes the opportunities and **decides** which one to apply to



For each vacancy the system shows to the company **all the talents that applied, ranking them** from the most optimal and showing the level of suitability detected in percentage.



The **company** observes the talent list and **decides which** candidate to contact

# Success Story



## Talent

The **process** went very professionally and **efficiently**, and the **support** from InnoNext was second to none once CinSOIL and I found an agreement on the vision and the way forward.

During the next 6 months, I am aiming to make CinSOIL's **technology** the go-to solution for affordable and quick soil testing and soil data within the agri-food **value chain**. I also intend to **learn** loads in this process.

*Nicolas Gholam  
EIT Alumnus, EIT Food Innovator Fellowships  
Berlin, Germany*

## Company

I think this program is **ideal** for companies that are **growing** at this stage and need this kind of **support** where they get access to high class **talents** that have prior **experience** in the exact ecosystem we are part of (e.g. EIT Food in our case), and being able to support the talents **financially** at the same time through the InnoNext program.

The process was really **smooth**. We advertised two positions (so far) and within a day we started getting applicants (up to 15 applicants for one position). This was followed by scheduling interviews with the candidates with the most **interesting** profile(s) and finalising the hires.

*Dr. Tavseef Mairaj Shah  
COO and Co-Founder CinSOIL GmbH  
Berlin, Germany*