

# ClimAccelerator



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## Partnering with EIT Climate-KIC on ClimAccelerator *Call for Expression of Interest in Europe & Asia*

In the pursuit of urgent and transformative climate action, EIT Climate-KIC invites visionary partners to join our efforts to reshape the trajectory of our planet's future.

We are seeking new partners from **Europe and Asia**, across all regions, to collaborate with us on the ClimAccelerator programme!

The Expression of Interest phase for potential ClimAccelerator Organisers is now open until **31 March 2025, 12.00 CET / 19:00 SGT**.

### What is the ClimAccelerator programme?

[ClimAccelerator](#) is a global programme designed to empower start-ups to innovate, catalyse, and scale the potential of their climate solutions. We transform climate-relevant start-ups into successful businesses, harnessing the power of human ingenuity to drive rapid impact and unlock a net-zero, resilient future for all. Over the past 10 years, the accelerator programme powered by EIT Climate-KIC, has been a major climate innovation solution provider. We've supported more than 6,000 start-ups with access to resources, tools, mentoring and networks.

Our mission is to establish unparalleled prominence by building the world's foremost climate-focused accelerators. And we do by enabling accelerators, incubators, innovation hubs, or any Entrepreneurship Support Organisation to run ClimAccelerators effectively. Together, we aim to foster entrepreneurship that addresses climate change through innovative, scalable solutions and for this Expression of Interest round, we have selected two thematic areas for our partners.

## Agri-tech & Blue Economy for Climate Innovation

**Agriculture** and **Agri-tech** stand at the frontline of climate impact and adaptation, where innovation is not just necessary but imperative. This thematic initiative underscores the urgent need to reimagine agricultural practices in the context of a changing climate. Agriculture is not only essential for feeding the world's growing population but also plays a critical role in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, preserving biodiversity, and enhancing ecosystem resilience. Within this theme, various sub-sectors emerge as focal points for innovation and adaptation:

- Precision Agriculture
- Regenerative farming
- Sustainable supply chains
- Climate-Smart Crop Breeding
- Water Management
- Soil health enhancement
- Renewable energy integration
- Circular Economy Model

**Blue Economy** represents a critical frontier for sustainable development and climate resilience, where innovation is essential for the health of our oceans and coastal communities. This thematic initiative highlights the urgent need to harness the potential of marine and aquatic resources responsibly, ensuring their preservation for future generations. The blue economy is crucial not only for supporting livelihoods and food security but also for its role in mitigating climate change, protecting marine biodiversity, and enhancing ecosystem resilience. Within this theme, several sub-sectors stand out as key areas for innovation and sustainable development.

- Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Marine Renewable Energy
- Coastal Ecosystem Restoration
- Blue Carbon Initiatives
- Ocean Plastics Reduction and Recycling
- Marine Biotechnology
- Sustainable Maritime Transport



## Programme Benefits

- ✓ **Narrative:** Branding and communication materials for fundraising and positioning. Your accelerator becomes part of a bigger story powered by a globally recognised brand, in affiliation with the EU and EIT Climate-KIC.
- ✓ **Tools:** Programme management tools, content, coaching and mentoring networks. Everything you need to successfully run your own ClimAccelerator.
- ✓ **Climate-KIC's Impact Assessment Services** provide a comprehensive suite of services designed to measure, project, and communicate both climate and social impacts. These services are tailored to meet the needs of startups, SMEs, and the programs and investors that support them.
- ✓ **Gender Mainstreaming Handbook:** Access to our WeClim Equally gender-smart handbook for implementing a gender perspective in your climate accelerator programme.
- ✓ **Financial Support:** No direct funding or grants, but we offer access to exclusive fundraising and investment opportunities and many ClimAccelerators are eligible for grant funding from external sponsors.
- ✓ **Global Network:** Join EIT Climate-KIC's community of 400+ organisations worldwide, working towards a net-zero carbon transition.

## Who Can Apply?

The ClimAccelerator programme is seeking dynamic and committed organisations ready to support and accelerate climate-positive innovation. We welcome applications from a wide range of organisations and consortiums that can effectively deliver and co-fund impactful accelerator programmes. This includes, but is not limited to:

- **Incubators**  
Entities that nurture climate innovation by providing early-stage startups with the necessary support infrastructure, resources, and guidance to build scalable solutions.
- **Accelerators**  
Specialised organisations that offer structured programs to support early-stage climate ventures, providing mentorship, access to networks, and potential funding opportunities.

➤ **Venture Builders**

Organisations that actively co-create climate ventures by identifying market gaps and providing hands-on support to develop and launch innovative businesses.

➤ **Universities and Research Institutions**

Academic bodies and research organisations with a focus on sustainability and climate innovation, capable of offering research-backed insights, talent development, and access to cutting-edge technologies.

➤ **Joint-Consortium Applications**

We highly encourage joint proposals that bring together multiple organisations to collaborate on delivering and co-funding the ClimAccelerator program. Joint-consortium applications can harness the unique strengths, expertise, and networks of each organisation to maximise impact.

## Main Responsibilities of a ClimAccelerator Partner

As a ClimAccelerator partner, you will play a central role in fostering a community of climate entrepreneurs and ensuring impactful outcomes for the startups you support. Your responsibilities will include the following:

✓ **Branding & Unique Programme Identity**

Ensure consistent integration of the ClimAccelerator brand across all materials. Offer a standalone accelerator with a unique name and regional focus

✓ **Geographical Scope**

Partners must apply and structure their pilot programme to support startups within the same geographical area where their organization or company is located and actively present. This ensures the pilot leverages their local market knowledge and operational presence, fostering stronger initial outcomes.

✓ **Programme Timeline**

Launch your programme by Q2/Q3 of 2025, with a clear roadmap of activities and milestones.

✓ **Start-Up Support**

Support at least 7 climate-focused startups per batch. Startups must be regionally incorporated and aligned with local regulations. Provide tailored mentorship and resources to help them achieve climate-positive impact.

✓ **Climate Impact Reporting**

Ensure startups report clear, quantifiable climate impact metrics and share these with the

ClimAccelerator network for transparency.

✓ **Demo Day Event**

Host a Demo Day to showcase startup progress and facilitate connections with investors and stakeholders.

✓ **Reporting & Data Sharing**

Submit core data on the cohort, including key metrics and climate impact reports, contributing to the global ClimAccelerator community.

## Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Compulsory	Threshold
<b>Excellence:</b> Clarity and pertinence of the objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state-of-the-art.	Yes	3
<b>Impact:</b> Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts.	Yes	3
<b>Uniqueness:</b> The specific added value of the programme.	Yes	3
<b>Climate-KIC portfolio strategic fit:</b> The evaluation of how well the proposed program aligns with and supports the strategic goals and objectives of the Climate-KIC portfolio.	Yes	3
<b>Financial Sustainability:</b> Capacity to cover expenses, allocate resources effectively, and demonstrate financial preparedness for sustainable implementation.	Yes	3

6 = Excellent, 5 = Very Good, 4 = Good, 3 = Average, 2 = Subpar, 1 = Unacceptable / Veto

## Next Steps

If you would like to collaborate with us, the Expression of Interest phase is now open, and we invite you to send us your proposal by **31 March 2025, 12.00 CET / 19:00 SGT**

To ensure effective and consistent communication, we request that all official communication be conducted in English. This will help streamline information-sharing and enhance clarity for all

participants.

Further details on how we operate and support you can be found in this *Welcome Package for potential ClimAccelerator Organisers* [here](#)

## How to Apply

Submit your application by following this [\[link\]](#) and join us in driving innovation through agri & blue economy solutions for climate change.

To further support potential applicants, we are hosting an information session where you can learn more about the ClimAccelerator program and ask any questions you may have. We encourage you to attend and explore how your agri & blue economy innovation can contribute to addressing climate challenges.

- Info Session: Tuesday 25 February 2025, 9:00 CET/ 16:00 SGT. You can sign up [here](#).

## Further Questions

Please contact Alexandros Nikopoulos at [alexandros.nikopoulos@climate-kic.org](mailto:alexandros.nikopoulos@climate-kic.org) or our team at [climaccelerator@climate-kic.org](mailto:climaccelerator@climate-kic.org)

We are looking forward to receiving your questions, comments and proposals, and working together to foster entrepreneurship and acceleration for climate impact and systems transformation at scale!



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