DECISION 11/2021

OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF

THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

ON THE ADOPTION OF THE NEW EIT LABEL FRAMEWORK

THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)[1], as amended by Regulation (EU) No 1292/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013[2] (hereafter referred to as the 'EIT Regulation'), and in particular Article 8 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (hereafter referred to as the "EIT Regulation (recast)")[3], in particular Articles 6 and 12 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe (hereafter referred to as the "EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027")[4];

Having regard to the Decision No 29/2015 of the EIT Governing Board of 9 November 2015 adopting the amended EIT Label Framework Document[5], which repealed Decision No 23/2015 of the EIT Governing Board of 3 June 2015 adopting the EIT Label Framework Document[6];

WHEREAS

(1)   In the period of 2014-2020, the EIT Regulation, the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2014-2020 and Governing Board Decision 29/2015 laid down the rules and principles on the EIT Label model for degree (Masters and Doctoral) programmes of KICs.

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[1] OJ L 97, 9.4.2008, p. 1-12.

[2] OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 174-184.

[3] Version of 12 February 2021, as endorsed by the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER) at its meeting held on 17 February 2021 (6062/21); its publication in the Official Journal is foreseen in April 2021.

[4] Version of 12 February 2021, as endorsed by the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER) at its meeting held on 17 February 2021 (6066/21); its publication in the Official Journal is foreseen in April 2021.

[5] Decision of the Governing Board of the EIT 02115.EIT.2015.I.GB.WP of 9 November 2015.

[6] Decision of the Governing Board of the EIT 00356.EIT.2015.I.GB35 of 3 June 2015.

(2)   In 2019, the EIT conducted a study evaluating the existing EIT Label model with ambition to see how to further strengthen the education brand in the next strategic period 2021-2027 and to explore feasibility of potential changes considering:
a) improvements to the current versions of the EIT Label provisions at Masters and Doctoral level;
b) the need to expand the EIT Label beyond academic education and
c) the possibility to open the EIT Label to the universities and audience outside the KICs networks.

(3)   As of 2021, the EIT is part of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and the new financial framework (i.e. EU Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027). Additionally, the new specific legal framework (i.e. EIT Regulation (recast), EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027) has reached a political agreement in the respective legislative procedures.

(4)   Article 6 of the EIT Regulation (recast) and the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027 require that the EIT shall extend the EIT Label to lifelong learning activities, e.g. mentoring, coaching, vocational training, skilling and re-skilling programmes, MOOCs, involving and reaching out to a wider target group of students, adult learners and institutions (including VET institutions) beyond the KICs. The application of the EIT Label beyond the EIT Community is expected to have a more structuring effect at all levels (individual, programme and institution).

(5)   According to the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027, the EIT shall also monitor the award and expansion of the EIT Label to KICs' education and training programmes and explore a more effective quality assurance mechanism, including external recognition and accreditation for the EIT Label.

(6)   The purpose of the present decision is to lay down the new EIT Label Framework as the key strategic building stone of the future EIT Label model, to address the objectives and challenges identified in the EIT Regulation (recast) and the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027.

(7)   The new EIT Label Framework, as annexed to this decision, identifies the main segments of the education and training covered by the EIT Label, as well as its key principles and the Overarching Learning Outcomes of the EIT education and training, and the roles and responsibilities of the key actors and stakeholders in the process.

(8)   As a complementary document for operational purposes, a new version of the EIT Label Handbook will lay down all details on the EIT Label Framework implementation process regarding the degree programmes at Masters and Doctoral level. This new EIT Label Handbook should be aligned to this EIT Label Framework document and shall support the implementation of the EIT Labelled degrees and modules.

(9)   Subsequently, similar set of operational level documents will be adopted to also lay down all details on the EIT Label Framework implementation process in regards of the new elements - EIT Fellowships and the EIT Competence Certification Model.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Adoption

The 'The EIT Label Framework' is hereby adopted as set out in the Annex.

Article 2
The EIT Label Handbook and other documents

The EIT Label Handbook and other documents setting out the operational details for conducting assessments and awarding the EIT Label on the basis of the EIT Label Framework shall be adopted by the EIT Director.

Article 3
Repeal

This Decision shall repeal Decision 29/2015 of the EIT Governing Board No of 9 November 2015 on the amended EIT Label Framework.

Article 4
Entry into force

This decision shall enter into force on the day of its signature.

Done in Budapest on 17 March 2021

Gioia Ghezzi
Chairperson of the EIT Governing Board

Annex

The EIT Label Framework

I. Introduction

The EIT, a European programme, was established "*to contribute to sustainable Union economic growth and competitiveness by reinforcing the innovation capacity of all Member States and the Union in order to address major challenges faced by society. It shall do this by promoting synergies, integration and cooperation among higher education, research and innovation of the highest standards, including by fostering entrepreneurship, thereby strengthening the innovation ecosystems in an open and transparent manner.*"[1]. In practice, EIT is the sole instrument with a distinct focus on education, as a key driver of innovation, growth and competitiveness. Since 2008, it has pioneered the integration of education, research and innovation, and business (knowledge triangle), enhancing entrepreneurial talent and innovation skills and addressing societal challenges.

One major task for EIT is to bring a new, more entrepreneurial mind-set to a highly skilled European workforce and in that, be a role model for European Higher Education. This involves the close cooperation of stakeholders from universities, business and research organisations in the design and implementation of EIT education initiatives.

II. The EIT in education and training

EIT champions education and training activities, which have strong entrepreneurship components, in order to train the next generation of talents. This mission is delivered through a unique brand of high-quality education provision, which addresses both business and societal needs.

The hallmark of EIT educational activities is to educate learners who know what to do and how to solve real life challenges, all framed within an entrepreneurial and innovative mind-set and a 'can-do' attitude. Thematic specialist knowledge is combined with horizontal skills, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship through education and training. Entrepreneurial skills and attitudes, combined with opportunities and innovation pathways, enable subject matter experts to transform their knowledge into economic, environmental and societal value.

Against this context, the EIT introduced the EIT Label in 2012 as a certificate of quality that is awarded to excellent educational programmes. It is based on the EIT overarching learning outcomes and the following key principles:

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[1] Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (hereafter referred to as the "EIT Regulation (recast)"), version of 12 February 2021, as endorsed by the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER) at its meeting held on 17 February 2021 (6062/21).

knowledge triangle integration; innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) education; highly integrated, innovative 'learning-by-doing' curricula; international engagement and experience, inter-sectoral and inter-organisational experience, geographic inclusion, diversity and gender mainstreaming and equality. Ethics and digitalisation are transversal elements that are embedded in EIT education programmes and run through all of the key principles.

III. The aim of the Framework

The aim of this document is to outline the new EIT Label Framework. The EIT Label Framework identifies the main segments of the education and training covered by the EIT Label, as well as its key principles and the overarching learning outcomes of the EIT education and training, and the roles and responsibilities of the key actors.

Against this context, the EIT Label Framework introduces the EIT's Quality Assurance and Learning Enhancement (EIT-QALE) Model, which represents the set of key principles to ensure that the EIT Label is consistently implemented in the education and training provision across the KICs education portfolio. EIT-QALE enhances the implementation of the overarching learning outcomes among learners and across the KICs' education and training portfolios and helps disseminate the experience across a large number of European higher education institutions, individual learners and other stakeholders. Concrete application rules will be provided in the EIT Labe Handbook for degree education and other instruction and guidelines for other elements of the new Label (EIT Fellowship and EIT Competence Certification model).

IV. The ambition of the new EIT Label

In line with the EIT Strategic Innovation 2021-2027[2], the ambition of the EIT Label is:

To strengthen and widen the scope of the EIT Label

EIT shall strengthen and widen the scope of the EIT Label activities to higher education institutions (HEIs) and lifelong learning activities involving and reaching out to a wider target group of students, adult learners and institutions beyond the KICs. The application of the Label beyond the EIT community is expected to have a more structuring effect at all levels (individual, programme and institution).

To create high impact

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[2] *Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Strategic Innovation Agenda of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) 2021-2027: Boosting the Innovation Talent and Capacity of Europe (version of 12 February 2021, as endorsed by the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER) at its meeting held on 17 February 2021 (6066/21))*

All EIT education and training provision shall generate high positive impact on a growing number of learners and KIC partners, and shall contribute to the solutions for the societal challenges.

The EIT education and training provision shall address the trends and societal challenges in the KIC specific areas, and take into account the larger context such as integration into the innovation system(s).

Focus on impact shall be embedded in the design, implementation, and evaluation of programmes, through diverse measures including systematic tracking of students and graduates, in line with the new EIT Impact Framework. The individual learner achievement of Innovation and Entrepreneurship learning outcomes shall be measured and monitored.

In line with the EIT Key Performance Indicators, the EIT will monitor for instance the number of graduates from EIT labelled Masters and EIT labelled PhD programmes, the number of employed EIT Label graduates, start-ups created by students enrolled and graduates from EIT labelled MSc and PhD programmes and the number of students and graduates from EIT labelled MSc and PhD programmes who joined start-ups. The EIT will also monitor the number of participants provided with training and mentoring activities (non-labelled EIT training activities).

To contribute to long term sustainability and to manage risks

EIT Label shall contribute to the development of strong and sustainable education and training programmes. The KICs shall be free to design their own sustainability strategies for their education provision.

In order to make the EIT education sustainable in the long run, EIT Label will also address risk management and risk mitigation measures which will be embedded in the programme design.

To enhance EIT visibility and branding

The EIT shall boost its brand visibility and recognition, leveraging the power of the renewed EIT Label. The brand visibility and recognition shall be strengthened through enhanced communication, not only among the various education actors (institutions, providers, learners at different level), but also graduates and employers. There will also be communication with the wider society including "*citizens and regional and national authorities, as the innovations coming out of the EIT contribute to demonstrating the concrete impact of Union investments through the Union framework programme for research and innovation.*" (EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027).

To drive enhancement and enable KICs to reach their own strategic objectives

The EIT Label shall drive the enhancement of quality of KIC education and training activities. It aims to involve the KIC partners, as well as the wider community – staff, students and stakeholders – in identifying the strengths, good practices and enhancement areas in the KIC education and training activities.

In addition to achieving the EIT strategic goals for education and training, the EIT Label shall also support the KICs to achieve their own objectives, by establishing a basis for the continuous development of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) education of KICs' and their partners, through a lean and flexible system with clear concepts and processes.

To enable more flexible approaches to meet the key challenges and EIT strategic objectives

The EIT Label shall also encourage innovation in the design, development, delivery and evaluation of the education provision.

V. The new EIT Label and its elements

EIT shall implement enhancement-led external evaluation, which respects and supports the autonomy and strategic development of KICs. The external evaluation will assess the fitness of purpose, functionality and effectiveness of the EIT education and training quality system and its implementation. The focus of the evaluation will be on the procedures used by the EIT, KICs to maintain and enhance the quality of their education and training activities as well as impact on learners. All EIT education and training provision will be monitored in terms of quality, impact and achievements. The EIT shall also explore a more effective quality assurance mechanism, including external recognition and accreditation for the EIT Label.

The main segments of the EIT and KICs' education, which are covered by the new EIT Label are: the EIT Label for degree programmes, the EIT Fellowships, and the new EIT Competence Certification model for non-degree programmes. These segments will have in place different set of particular models and methods, providing concrete requirements and assessment procedures, but all three aligned around the key principles as identified in this Framework, so the key values of Label philosophy will be represented in different segments in a coherent manner.

V.I The EIT Label for degree programmes

The EIT Labelling process provides an exclusive "seal of excellence" for the KICs' degree programmes (EIT Masters and EIT PhD programmes or Doctoral Schools). The primary focus of the EIT Label for degree programmes is to enhance the quality education and individual learner achievement.

The EIT labelled degree programmes build on the EIT overarching learning outcomes (OLOs), in line with the Bologna process, as well as other quality criteria such as the key principles identified below. The EIT Label also has a strong focus on bringing innovation and entrepreneurship education to the countries eligible to take part in the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme[3] and promoting their further cohesion.

The new EIT Label for degree programmes is built around one clear model and set of requirements, as provided by the EIT Label Handbook, flexible and adaptable to specific contexts and modalities of particular KICs.

The EIT Label is awarded to the KICs' degree programmes through a specific labelling process including an independent peer review. This review is based on assessing "EIT added value" of these programmes, notably, to what extent the programmes foster an integration of the knowledge triangle dimension and equip learners with innovation and entrepreneurship competencies, including European and international dimension.

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[3] https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/eit-regional-innovation-scheme-ris

In addition, the programmes are expected to reflect on the impact, trends and societal challenges; the long term vision, and other aspects; that place the programme in a larger context such as integration of the programme into the European / regional / local innovation system.

The EIT Labelled degree programmes shall meet all the Bologna requirements, attested by the relevant competent bodies at international and national levels (QA agencies, recognition bodies, etc.), as well as any other national requirements. EIT labelled degrees are aligned with the "acquis" of the European Higher Education Area[4] and give proof of the correct implementation of the transparency tools: the Diploma Supplement, ECTS and the European Qualifications Framework as well as other Bologna requirements.

The assessment of other aspects, such as the official accreditation of degrees to obtain official recognition in a national or international context, is left to national or international quality assurance systems.

In case the programme does not meet the EIT Label requirements, EIT will ensure enhancement-oriented feedback and support the applicants to meet the requirements as well as flexible arrangements for the re-assessment. Once awarded, the quality as well as the impact and achievements of the programmes are regularly monitored..

The details of how the EIT Label for degree programmes is implemented are described in the EIT Label Handbook for the degree programmes which is approved by the EIT Director. The EIT will also provide guidance on the monitoring of existing EIT programmes.

V.II EIT Fellowships

In line with the requirements outlined in the EIT Strategic Innovation Agenda for 2021-2027, the EIT shall establish the EIT Fellowships to scale up and expand the scope of the EIT Label from the degree programme level to individual learners, and beyond the KICs existing networks of partner institutions.

The EIT Fellowships enable individual learning pathways including recognition of prior learning to equip students with similar learning experience and learning outcomes as in EIT Label degree programmes.

EIT Fellowships may include inter-sectoral and cross-organisational mobility and/or an opportunity to attend an EIT Labelled Summer/Winter School which focus on solving societal challenges on the KIC thematic area and developing and putting ideas into action through entrepreneurial competencies.

The EIT Label shall be awarded to the KIC-specific Fellowship schemes, designed and submitted to the EIT by the KICs. Individual learners shall be fully administered by the KICs (together with KICs partners) and by participating in these KIC educational formats, they will then become EIT Fellows. The details of how the EIT Fellowship is implemented will be provided in a specific operation level document (EIT Fellowship Handbook), which will be approved by the EIT Director. The EIT will also provide guidance on the monitoring of Fellowship schemes.

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[4] http://www.ehea.info/

V.III The EIT Competence Certification Model

The EIT will develop a Competence Certification Model to allow inclusion of non-degree programmes, such as professional and executive education (including lifelong learning activities, e.g. mentoring, vocational training, skilling and re-skilling programmes, MOOCs), in the EIT Label system and outreach to non-KIC partner institutions, and to further expand Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E) culture.

The EIT Competence Certification model will ensure a lean, flexible, tailor-made approach, adaptable to the specific characteristics of different types of activities and formats. The KICs will define their own certification model approach following the key strategic principles defined by the EIT, in line with the principles outlined in this Framework and accompanying international trends in quality assurance with a strong focus on individual competences.

The KIC's professional and executive education will meet the following key building elements and principles: an identified market demand/need, sustainability through co-financing arrangements, co-design and sharing of responsibilities, risk management and impact. Professional and executive education will be modular-based with emphasis on individual learning trajectories, which may be achieved through micro-credentials.

The details of how the EIT Competence Certification Model is implemented will be provided in a specific operation level document, which will be approved by the EIT. The EIT will also provide guidance on the monitoring of implementation and follow-up evaluation of all elements under the future EIT Competence Certification Model.

VI. Key principles of the EIT Label education provision

EIT education is built on eight key principles: knowledge triangle integration, innovation and entrepreneurship education, highly integrated, innovative 'learning-by-doing' curricula, international engagement and experience, inter-sectoral and inter-organisational experience, geographic inclusion, diversity and gender mainstreaming and equality.

Ethics and digitalisation are transversal elements that are embedded in EIT education programmes and run through all of these principles.

Knowledge Triangle Integration

Knowledge Triangle Integration shall be embedded in all EIT education and training provision including executive and professional education, and programmes with schools and in vocational education and training. The focus on societal challenges through the integration of the knowledge triangle distinguishes the EIT from other EU innovation instruments. Co-creation and collaboration between education, business and research contribute to addressing these challenges.

Innovation & entrepreneurship (I&E) education

EIT adds to a highly skilled European workforce with an entrepreneurial mind-set and capacity for innovation. All EIT education and training activities promote – in a balanced way – both I&E content and components. In higher education, the EIT programmes increase the I&E capacity by promoting and supporting institutional change in higher education institutions and their integration into innovation ecosystems.

Highly integrated, innovative learning-by-doing curriculum

All EIT education and training provision is characterised by learning by doing, which refers to a hands-on approach where learners interact with their environment in order to adapt and learn. Typically, this entails solving authentic challenges articulated by KIC industry and business partners and other non-academic partners.

International engagement and experience – the European dimension and openness to the world

All EIT education and training provision embeds international engagement and experience, ranging from international mobility, to exposure to international environment, according to the particular education format.

While EIT labelled degree programmes shall continue to feature mainly physical mobility, non-degree programmes have no formal mobility requirements and the exposure to international environment is embedded through different means[5].

Inter-sectoral and inter-organisational experience

EIT education and training programmes typically embed inter-sectoral or organisational experience. All EIT Labelled degree programmes shall include inter-sectoral or organisational mobility in non-academic organisations, including business and industry, start-ups, public sector, government, regulators etc. This can be complemented with collaborative projects with intense interaction between the learner and the external organisation.. In executive and professional education, where participants are typically from industry, inter-sectoral and inter-organisational experience may entail exposure to cutting edge RDI and entrepreneurship outcomes.

Geographic inclusion

The European dimension and openness to the world are embedded in all EIT education provision in student recruitment, programme content and programme partner selection. The EIT education and training activities also increase their regional and local outreach in order to address disparities in innovation capacity and to promote knowledge and innovation diffusion across the Union. Special efforts will be made to enhance the participation of learners, teachers, and organisations from the countries eligible to take part in the EIT Regional Innovation Scheme[6].

Inclusion, diversity and gender mainstreaming and equality

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[5] International engagement and experience can mean physical, virtual or blended mobility; cross-border web-based co-curricular activities with learners from different countries and backgrounds; 'internationalisation at home' including mixed classrooms and learning groups etc.

[6] https://eit.europa.eu/our-activities/eit-regional-innovation-scheme-ris

Inclusion, diversity and gender equality are integrated in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all EIT education and training programmes in line with the EU policies on equality[7] and anti-discrimination[8].

Inclusion and non-discrimination shall be embedded in the EIT education provisions, including EIT-QALE and student support policies. Recruitment and enrolment policies, alternative pathways and recognition of prior learning are promoted in view of improving social inclusion. Investments in the student support enables equal access and success in EIT education and training activities. EIT will also promote university-school collaboration in order to raise aspirations and improve the quality of learning and teaching, with special regard to learners from disadvantaged and under-represented backgrounds.

In line with the EIT Gender Mainstreaming Policy[9], the gender perspective shall be integrated in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all EIT learning programmes, in order to promote gender equality and inclusion. The EIT shall promote a gender responsive portfolio of education provision and balanced gender representation among education actors (learners, teachers, evaluators and decision makers) to address the current and anticipated skill shortages and demographic changes as well as the underutilisation of the skills and competencies of women (STEM studies, workforce and start-ups).

VIII. Overarching Learning Outcomes (OLOs)

The objective of the EIT Label is to equip learners with innovative and entrepreneurial skills and competencies. This is done by applying specific EIT Overarching Learning Outcomes (OLOs) in the design and implementation of the EIT education and training provision.

While the EIT overarching learning outcomes are applicable across different formats and levels, in practice, the focus on a specific OLO varies across programmes and activities.

The EIT Overarching Learning Outcomes (OLOs) are the following:

- **Entrepreneurship skills and competencies (EIT OLO 1)**: The capacity to identify and act upon opportunities and ideas to create social, cultural and financial value to others, including translating innovations into feasible business solutions with sustainability at their core[10].

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[7] EU Charter on Fundamental Rights, https://ec.europa.eu/info/aid-development-cooperation-fundamental-rights/your-rights-eu/know-your-rights/equality_en
[8] https://ec.europa.eu/info/aid-development-cooperation-fundamental-rights/your-rights-eu/know-your-rights/equality/non-discrimination_en
[9] https://eit.europa.eu/library/eit-gender-mainstreaming-policy
[10] See for example ENTRECOMP 2016, p. 13. https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/entrecomp-action-get-inspired-make-it-happen-user-guide-european-entrepreneurship-competence

- **Innovation skills and competencies (EIT OLO 2)**: The ability to use knowledge, ideas and technology to create new or significantly improved products, services, processes as well as policies, business models and jobs, and to mobilise system innovation to contribute to broader societal change, while evaluating the unintended consequences of innovation and technology.

- **Creativity skills and competencies (EIT OLO 3)**: The ability to think beyond boundaries and systematically explore and generate new ideas.

- **Intercultural skills and competencies (EIT OLO 4)**: The ability to engage internationally and to function effectively across cultures, to think and act appropriately and to communicate and work with people from different cultural backgrounds.[11]

- **Making value judgments and sustainability competencies (EIT OLO 5)**: The ability to identify the consequences of plans and decisions and to merge this into a solution-focused approach that moves towards a sustainable and green society.

- **Leadership skills and competencies (EIT OLO 6):** The ability of decision-making and leadership based on a holistic understanding of the contributions of Higher Education, research and business to value creation.

The OLOs are delivered within the EIT programmes, rather than through separate components. They complement, but do not substitute, the European (QF-EHEA) and/or the national (NQF) learning outcomes in the EIT programmes.

The EIT Label allows significant flexibility in the way the required OLOs are defined, interpreted, contextualised and seamlessly incorporated into KICs' education and training activities into thematic fields. Each OLO is applicable across different education formats and levels, although their specific focus may vary across programmes and activities. Different EIT education programmes and activities further transform the OLOs into more specific outcomes at programme and modular levels. Concrete instruction on how to approach and apply the learning outcomes at different levels and format will be further specified in EIT Label Handbook for degree programmes and in other operation level documents for relevant formats (EIT Fellowship, EIT Competence Certification Model) respectively.

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[11] Adapted from Leung, K., Ang, S. and Tan, M.L. (2014), 'Intercultural Competence', Annual Review of Organizational Psychology and Organizational Behaviour, 1:4889-519

IX. Governance, roles and responsibilities

The EIT is responsible for the overall governance of the EIT Label model and in particular:

- EIT (either directly or through external provider of services) executes and / or monitors the assessment processes in place and awards the EIT Label to KICs' programmes. EIT can decide on revoking the Label in case the programme does not fulfil the EIT requirements;
- EIT is responsible for strategic leadership, setting a clear direction, development of guidelines, instructions and principles in relation to all elements of the EIT Label model at the strategic level;
- EIT decides on adoption of the quality assurance and quality management procedures, implemented either directly by the EIT, outsourced through external provider of services, or through the KICs – depending on particular education formats;
- EIT designs the overall quality assurance/ management system in collaboration with the KICs, including the external recognition and accreditation for the EIT Label and other education and training activities (outsourced through external provider of services);
- EIT decides on the selection of external experts, where relevant, and adopts necessary mechanisms to preserve the independence and absence of conflict of interest in evaluation processes to award the EIT label; EIT organises briefing session and training of the external experts;
- EIT ensures that relevant feedback is provided to the regular update of the EIT Label Model, by gathering lessons learned and examples of good practice in the KICs, in order to provide high quality tools and reference documents for the EIT Label assessment;
- EIT arranges (either directly or through external provider of services) regular enhancement seminars for KICs to provide feedback on the work carried out by KICs to enhance their activities after the assessments and evaluations, to get feedback on feedback, and to offer the entire EIT community an opportunity to share experiences and good practices regarding quality work.
- EIT (directly or through external provider of services), with the support of KICs, shall develop and implement overall communication principles to increase visibility of the EIT Label brand and to promote the EIT Label towards internal and external stakeholders;
- EIT (directly or through external provider of services), encourages and supports the KICs in developing tools and instruments to introduce and nurture more dynamic environment around the EIT Label (community of practice, support to programme coordinators, educators).

EIT Knowledge Innovation Communities (KICs) and their partners shall:

- Actively contribute to the design and implementation of the EIT Label;
- Decide which programmes are submitted for EIT Label assessment (including KIC specific EIT Fellowship schemes, if relevant);
- Nominate the Single Points of Contact (S.P.O.C.) and the representatives in the relevant platforms (such as the Education Panel);
- Ensure that all necessary documentation, needed for the EIT Label application is collected and submitted;
- Implement the evaluation results and recommendations;

- Develop the internal and external quality assessment and quality management procedures for the non-degree education and training in line with the EIT Competence Certification model and related guidance from the EIT;
- Design, implement and continuously update the tools and instruments for monitoring the impact of the EIT Label at programme(s) level around individual learners;
- Implement the EIT Label education formats (degree programmes, Fellowship scheme, or else) in line with the Label requirements;
- Take responsibility of the administration of learners admitted to the degree programmes or other formats (Fellowship, EIT Competence Certification formats);
- Inform the EIT on changes in the implementation of the education portfolio awarded Label (degree programmes, Fellowship schemes, EIT Competence Certification formats) that could have an impact of quality and compliance with the EIT Label requirements, in line with the guidelines specified in the relevant documents (i.e. EIT Label Handbook);
- Actively support the EIT in increasing visibility of the EIT Label brand and in promoting the EIT Label towards internal and external stakeholders and wider public;
- Design and execute communication campaigns and recruiting together with their education and industry partners at the programme level;
- Design, develop and implement instruments to introduce and nurture more dynamic environment around the EIT Label (community of practice, support to programme coordinators, educators).

The EIT Education Panel, as a joint platform of the EIT and KICs (and reporting directly to the EIT Forum)**:**

- Brings together the EIT, KICs and other relevant stakeholders, when needed, to discuss any particular aspects of the EIT Label;
- Participates in the coordination of the EIT Label related processes across the KICs, and ensures consistency of the application of the EIT model across different disciplines and formats;
- Monitors the implementation and execution of the EIT Label assessment processes and, in this regard, is being informed by the EIT on progress made and on the relevant steps and decisions taken;
- Upon request, provides input and feedback and, in other forms, informs the EIT in relation to the EIT Label;
- Advises the EIT in designing and implementing the overall quality assurance / management system and ensures the transparency of the elements of system on the KICs level.