



Innovation Hub CLC Central NEWSLETTER 2018

EIT RawMaterials started in 2015 with the vision to develop Raw Materials into a major strength for Europe. Today, we are on a good track achieving our ambitious goal with a community of 120 members. Indeed, with nearly 200 projects running that will boost competitiveness, growth and the attractiveness of Europe we will initiate a fundamental paradigm shift in the raw materials sector (metals and minerals) via radical innovation, new education approaches and entrepreneurship.

The Innovation Hub Central CLC that covers France, the South-Western part of Germany, Switzerland and Portugal, is based in Metz (France) in the heart of the Materials Valley. We are engaged in many significant actions to meet the challenge of securing the raw materials and materials supply in Europe, with today 38 projects running that represent an overall investment of 63 million Euros.

With 4 new organisations from the 3 different sides of the knowledge triangle (Education, Research and Industry) joining the Innovation Hub Central CLC in 2018, we have now 26 members that take actively part in the roadmap, with among them Siemens, which has a large spectrum of activities in that field.

The roadmap is defined by the CLC members in Steering Committee meetings and reflects both their priorities and the EIT RawMaterials' vision and strategy. In that regard, to prepare for future changes and developments in the Mobility sector, it is imperative to focus in the coming years on Raw Materials and Advanced materials that will address Batteries, Permanent Magnets, Fuel cells and Metal powders for 3D printing. These key issues for the future were addressed at the "Expert Forum on Sustainable Materials for Future Mobility" organized by Central CLC in October 2018 in Darmstadt. The workshop attracted over 200 participants coming from across the value chain, and certainly initiated new project ideas that will complement the list of 20 projects already running in this field.

LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAMS

In this regard, we are fully aligned with the objectives of our organization, as 2 Lighthouse programs will be launched in 2019, namely "Mobility of tomorrow" and "Circular Societies". The Lighthouse Mobility focuses on Raw Materials and Advanced Materials for two key innovation trends in Mobility: Electrification (Materials: fuel cells, magnets, batteries, e-drives) and Lightweight design – both topics are key areas of interest of our community. Consequently, we are strongly involved in the European Battery Alliance (EBA) that aims to develop a value chain on batteries in Europe to solve challenges of e-car manufacturing in European countries. Therefore, the new call for projects of EIT Raw Materials launched in October 2018 has a specific focus on "Mobility of tomorrow" and "Circular Societies". Our ambition is to support innovative ideas that convert into new projects in order to boost economic growth and employment in the RawMaterials and Materials sector.

EDUCATION

We boost innovation not only with up-scaling projects but also by supporting outstanding education programs focusing on the central themes of EIT RawMaterials and emphasizing innovation, entrepreneurship and mobility. We supported a master degree in its successful EIT label application. Thanks to partner visits in the framework of a Roadshow, the portfolio and role of the RawMaterials Academy has been promoted.

Further, we specifically aim at developing lifelong learning projects that will support our partners' workforce qualification. In this context, also linked to the EBA and lighthouse, a dedicated Battery workshop has been organized to tackle this particular value chain.

BUSINESS CREATION

In terms of Business creation, EIT RawMaterials has successfully supported nearly 100 innovative start-ups in the last 3 years, with core activities related to Raw Materials and Materials. After a pilot phase, we will implement in 2019 an Accelerator Program comprising of 3-Phases, dedicated to existing start-ups that bring radical innovation.

Through personal coaching and support, this new initiative shall foster quick access to the market and boost the development of a panel of 30 start-ups in 2019.

OUTLOOK

In 2019, we will continue to strengthen the value chain on the 4 main strategic pillars, by supporting Higher Education, large scale Innovation projects and start-ups. In parallel, we will organize networking events which will be open to non-members, to accelerate innovation through fruitful matches. We are pleased to announce our flagship event "Raw Materials Summit" which will take place 20-22 May 2019 in Berlin.

As we are an open innovation community, I invite you to contact us if you are interested in these topics. We aim to develop new partnerships within the ecosystem of innovation, both downstream with Tech Transfer Offices, incubators and SMEs for technology push, and upstream with companies for market pull. We encourage you to visit your website and to contact us for additional information.

On behalf of the team I wish you a happy new year !

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