



Call Manual

Financial support to startups Open Call

(Multi-cut off)

Business Plan 2026 – 2028
Version 1 - 23 December 2025

History of changes

Version	Publication Date	Change
1.0	23.12.2025	Initial version

Disclaimers

- This Call Manual may be subject to corrections, modifications and clarifications. Applicants are encouraged to regularly check the call pages of the EIT Urban Mobility website for any updates.
- This Call Manual follows the main rules and principles of openness, transparency, equal treatment, non-discrimination, proportionality and efficacy established by the EU and EIT. All proposals submitted to the EIT Urban Mobility calls are evaluated based on these principles.
- This Call Manual has been drafted in accordance with the applicable rules and provisions established in the Horizon Europe General Model Grant Agreement, with particular reference to the obligations and procedures outlined in Annex 5 of the EIT Urban Mobility Grant Agreement. The content of the manual is intended to ensure consistency with these frameworks and to provide clear guidance to applicants and beneficiaries regarding the conditions for participation, evaluation, selection, and grant implementation.
- This Open Call falls under the Business Plan 2026-2028, which remains subject to formal approval by the EIT. Please be advised that the conditions and funding allocation for this Call may be subject to change.

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1. Executive Summary

EIT Urban Mobility is the largest trusted ecosystem of urban mobility innovation in Europe. Our mission is to accelerate the transition to sustainable and inclusive urban mobility. We partner with startups, established businesses, universities, research institutes, and the public sector, providing access to markets, talent, funding, and knowledge. Our work supports the vision of decarbonised mobility and more liveable urban spaces for all.

EIT Urban Mobility is an initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (“EIT”). EIT Urban Mobility entered into a Partnership Agreement with the EIT, establishing a long-term cooperation laying down the general terms and conditions under which EIT Urban Mobility must operate as an institutionalized European partnership under the Horizon Europe Programme. Within the Partnership Agreement, EIT and EIT Urban Mobility are entering into Grant Agreements enabling the funding of activities included in the relevant Business Plans approved by EIT.

Pursuant to the principles of the financial sustainability of KICs (Decisions 13/2021 and 35/2015 of EIT’s Governing Board), EIT Urban Mobility is expected to and shall become financially sustainable in the long term. In this context, the present Call includes the relevant provisions designed to ensure that EIT Urban Mobility meets the financial sustainability requirements set out by the EIT, while remaining fully aligned with its public-interest mission.

EIT Urban Mobility is incorporated as a limited liability company (S.L.); however, its sole shareholder is a non-profit association established under EU law. As a result, EIT Urban Mobility does not distribute dividends nor transfer economic value to private interests. Any revenues, financial returns or other proceeds generated through its financial sustainability mechanisms are irrevocably reinvested in the fulfilment of EIT Urban Mobility’s public-interest mission, namely the development, scaling and promotion of sustainable, inclusive and innovative urban mobility solutions across Europe.

This governance structure ensures that all financial sustainability instruments serve exclusively the long-term objectives of the EIT Urban Mobility ecosystem and the wider EIT mission, functioning as a mechanism to reinforce impact, resilience and continuity.

Against this background, this Call is designed to strengthen Europe’s capacity to innovate and tackle pressing urban mobility challenges. By providing financial support to early-stage ventures, we aim to stimulate the growth of Pre-Seed, Seed, and Series A companies, amplify the impact of EIT-funded research and innovation activities, and foster collaboration across industry, academia, cities, and startups. The initiative supports the development of high-impact solutions that reduce congestion, lower carbon emissions, improve safety and security, and enhance accessibility, while ensuring de-risked, high-quality funding and scaling opportunities aligned with the [EIT Urban Mobility Financial Support thesis](#).

EIT Urban Mobility will provide financial support of **up to €2.5 million per company**, for startups developing breakthrough mobility solutions. The purpose of this document is to invite eligible companies to apply for this financial support. Funding is provided through an open application process with multiple cut offs throughout 2026 (see [Section 3.5](#) for the cut-off dates in 2027 and 2028):

- Cut off 1 – 23 February 2026
- Cut off 2 – 18 May 2026
- Cut off 3 – 31 August 2026
- Cut off 4 – 16 November 2026

Should your application be eligible, you will be given the opportunity to present your company to EIT Urban Mobility team and external evaluators, who will rate your application using the following criteria:

- Application Assessment: a) Strategic fit, b) Excellence, novelty, and innovation, c) Impact and financial sustainability and d) Quality and efficiency of the implementation.
- Live pitch Assessment: a) People, Leadership and Team, b) Product and Innovation, c) Market, Financials and Impact and d) ROI potential.

Upon conditional acceptance of your application, the final funding terms and any other matters will be negotiated and agreed before signing with EIT Urban Mobility.

All funding paid out will be subject to Horizon Europe cost eligibility rules. Should you be interested in applying for funding, you are encouraged to read this document in full. If you require further information about the application, contact details are provided in this document.

2. About the Call

Proposals submitted to this Call for Proposals must support EIT Urban Mobility's vision and mission and directly contribute to tackling our strategic objectives (SOs). Applicants need to demonstrate how the proposals will align and actively contribute to the [EIT Urban Mobility Strategic Agenda 2021-2027](#).

2.1 Who can apply?

This Call for Proposals is open to all legal entities established in the Member States of the European Union, and/or in [Third countries associated with Horizon Europe](#).

Special cases regarding Horizon Europe regions:

- **Temporary eligibility requirements for Hungarian universities:** Due to Council measures protecting the EU budget (effective December 15, 2022), Hungarian public interest trusts and their affiliated universities may face participation and funding restrictions in any EIT Urban Mobility Calls. For details and affected entities, see the document [Eligibility of Expenditure](#) published also on the Call webpage.

To be considered eligible for this Call, applicants must also meet **all the following mandatory criteria**. Applications that do not fulfil these criteria will not be considered eligible.

- You are a startup **currently engaged in an active fundraising round** (pre-seed/seed or series A round).
- Your proposed innovations target the **Urban Mobility market**.
- You **may not apply to three consecutive cut-offs**. After submitting an application to two consecutive cut-offs, you must skip at least the following cut-off before applying again.
- You are **not currently part of EIT Urban Mobility equity portfolio**.
- Your company **pre-money valuation does not exceed €50,000,000**.
- Your startup has **individual founders or executive team members who jointly hold more than 40% share of the company's equity before the current fund raising**.
- You have a **prototype, pilot, or Minimum Viable Product (MVP)**.

To be considered eligible and be evaluated, applications must first successfully pass the Admissibility and Eligibility check. Please also refer to [Section 5.1](#) for details.

All members of the KIC Partnership (as defined in the Partnership Agreement) have equal opportunity to express their interest in participating, unless otherwise justified by the nature of the activity/KIC Partner category.

2.2 Exclusion Criteria

Entities participating in this Call for Proposals can be excluded **at any time** (during the assessment, the contracting phase, or the implementation phase) if they:

- Are in one of the following situations:
 - a. Bankrupt, being wound up, having their affairs administered by the courts, entered an arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or subject to any other similar proceedings or procedures under national law (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts)
 - b. Declared in breach of social security or tax obligations by a final judgment or decision (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts).
- Are found guilty of grave professional misconduct by a final judgment or decision (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making, or control).
- Are subject to an administrative sanction (i.e., exclusion).
- Are convicted of fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making, or control).
- Show significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under a procurement contract, grant agreement or grant decision financed by the EU or Euratom budget (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making, or control).
- Have misrepresented information required for participating in the EIT Urban Mobility funding scheme or fail to submit such information.
- Were involved in the preparation of any documentation regarding this call or are involved in the evaluation process of this call and this entails a distortion of competition.
- Are found to be attempting to influence the decision-making process of the call during the process.
- Are found attempting to obtain confidential information that may confer upon its undue advantages in the call process.
- Are found, at any point in the process, to have misrepresented information about their fundraising activities. This Open Call is intended to support companies that are conducting (or are reasonably imminently commencing) a bona fide equity or equity-linked fundraising round in which EIT Urban Mobility intends to participate. EIT Urban Mobility may invest at, before, between, or after one or more closes of the same round, provided the investment is part of, or materially on the same terms as, that round.
- Do not submit the application through the same legal entity that will receive the grant and incur the costs. The grant can be spent only by the startup that applies to this Call and is awarded the grant, noting however that the implementation of the FS mechanism may involve, as appropriate, any other entities within a holding company structure
- Do not accept the general principles and objectives of EIT Urban Mobility's FS strategy. The award of the grant is subject to the successful conclusion of the contracting phase, including agreement

on all applicable conditions foreseen under this Call. Where such agreement is not reached, EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right not to proceed with the awarding of the grant.

Applications may be excluded if, in EIT Urban Mobility's reasonable discretion, the proposal falls outside a qualifying fundraising, including (without limitation) where:

- no bona fide primary equity or equity-linked raise is occurring or reasonably imminent.
- the round (in substance or form) precludes EIT Urban Mobility's participation on customary market terms.
- the raise consists solely of non-dilutive funding (e.g., grants, revenue-based financing) or solely of secondary share sales without a primary issuance.
- the raise is purely internal (existing shareholders only) with no opportunity for EIT Urban Mobility to participate; or
- proceeds are not intended for the company (e.g., shareholder liquidity only).

If any applicant is excluded at any stage (e.g. evaluation, contracting, implementation), EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right to take appropriate action, such as rejecting or discontinuing the proposal or project.

2.2.1 Conditions Clearing exclusion

Application approval conditional on satisfactory legal and tax due diligence: Any approval under this Open Call, and any resulting financial support by EIT Urban Mobility, is subject to completion of satisfactory legal, tax and compliance due diligence at EIT Urban Mobility's discretion. Without limitation, the scope may include review of:

- Corporate & governance: legal existence and good standing; corporate structure; charter documents; shareholder/Investor Rights/SAFE/Note/Warrant/ESOP documents; board and shareholder approvals/minutes; required consents.
- Capitalisation: full cap table (including options, convertibles, warrants, SAFEs/notes), recent issuances/transfers, liens or encumbrances, transfer restrictions, pre-emptive/ROFR/MFN/anti-dilution rights.
- Material contracts: customer/supplier/distribution/licensing/partnership agreements; exclusivities; change-of-control and assignment provisions; most-favoured-nation clauses; termination rights.
- Intellectual property: ownership/assignments, employee/contractor invention and confidentiality agreements, registrations and applications, third-party licenses, FTO considerations, open-source software use and compliance.
- Regulatory & compliance: sector-specific licenses/approvals; data protection, privacy, and cybersecurity (incl. GDPR); export controls and sanctions compliance.
- Employment & incentives: key employment/consultancy agreements, immigration/work-permit issues, vesting/repurchase terms, non-compete/non-solicit/confidentiality undertakings.
- Litigation & disputes: threatened, pending, or historical claims, investigations, or governmental inquiries.
- Financial/legal exposures: indebtedness and security interests; real property/leases; insurance coverage; related-party transactions; tax registrations/filings/liabilities.

- KYC/AML/ABC: know-your-customer, anti-money laundering, sanctions, and anti-bribery/anti-corruption checks on the company and relevant principals.

The applicant must provide complete, accurate, and timely information and cooperate in the process. EIT Urban Mobility may impose remedial conditions, restructure or delay closing, or withdraw any approval (without liability for costs) if due diligence findings are unsatisfactory or if a material adverse change occurs prior to closing. EIT Urban Mobility is under no obligation to provide detailed reasons for such decision.

2.3 Membership

EIT Urban Mobility is Europe's largest community for urban mobility innovation. As a general principal, applicants selected for funding under this Call may be required to **become a member of our community** and where applicable **pay the corresponding membership fee**: [Become a Partner - EIT Urban Mobility](#).¹

By partnering with EIT Urban Mobility, the applicants will tap into a dynamic network and have the opportunity to collaborate with top innovators, enhance their visibility, access crucial funding opportunities, and test their ideas in real-world environments which best suits them. Details on available membership categories and on annual fees are available on [EITUM General-Terms-and-conditions](#). Membership conditions and fees may be updated to align with EIT Urban Mobility 2026–2028 Business Plan and individual project timelines. Any changes will be communicated well in advance.

Some of the exclusive benefits you will receive as a partner of EIT Urban Mobility are:

- **Access tailored support at every stage:** Explore our full suite of programmes designed to support your startup from the pre-seed to the scale-up stage; including exclusive upskilling opportunities through our partner-led initiatives.
- **Unlock diverse funding opportunities:** Discover grants and equity investments to secure the resources needed for growth.
- **Connect with investors and expand your market reach:** Join a network of potential investors and clients to access new markets and funding opportunities.
- **Pilot innovative solutions with cities and industries:** Test your solutions in real-world environments, collaborating with cities and industries to refine and scale your approach.
- **Become part of a pan-European mobility ecosystem:** Join a robust network of mobility leaders across Europe to foster collaboration, gain insights, and accelerate your impact.

¹ EIT Urban Mobility applies its membership framework in line with the principles of proportionality, inclusiveness, and competitiveness. Accordingly, membership conditions may be adapted on a case-by-case basis, taking into account factors such as the applicant's maturity and financial capacity, the strategic relevance of the project, the level and duration of engagement with the EIT Urban Mobility ecosystem, and alignment with EIT Urban Mobility's objectives and impact goals.

Our mission is to support partners of EIT Urban Mobility by empowering an ecosystem of front-seat innovators from the public and private sector, driving forward the transition towards sustainable urban mobility.

Applicants from this Call will fall in the partner category of “Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME)”.

2.4 Timeline

This call is open until 13 March 2028, at 17h00 CET.

Call opening	23 December 2025
Cut-off dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st cut-off 23 February 2026 (17h00 CET) • 2nd cut-off 18 May 2026 (17h00 CET) • 3rd cut-off 31 August 2026 (17h00 CET) • 4th cut-off 16 November 2026 (17h00 CET) • 5th cut-off 11 January 2027 (17h00 CET) • 6th cut-off 12 April 2027 (17h00 CET) • 7th cut-off 30 August 2027 (17h00 CET) • 8th cut-off 15 November 2027 (17h00 CET) • 9th cut-off 10 January 2028 (17h00 CET) • 10th cut-off 13 March 2028 (17h00 CET) <p><i>*Cut-off dates/deadlines (except for the 1st one) may be subject to adjustments that will be timely communicated</i></p>
Eligibility and admissibility check	Up to 1 week post deadline submission cut-off
Evaluation and invitations to live pitch session	Up to 4 weeks post deadline submission cut-off
Live pitch session	Approximately 2/3 weeks post invitation to pitch session
C-level Committee and Communication of results	Approximately 3/4 weeks post live pitch session
Tentative start date of the projects	Approximately 8 weeks post communication of results.

3. Call specific requirements

3.1 Type of proposals sought

We welcome applications from startups with high growth potential that align with EIT Urban Mobility's mission and investment strategy. We are particularly interested in ventures offering innovative solutions to urban and sustainable mobility challenges, at an early stage of their development and fundraising, and that can benefit from our financial support and ecosystem to accelerate growth, market access, and long-term impact.

This Call for Applications is open to startups that are already engaged in an ongoing funding round. EIT Urban Mobility aims to participate in such rounds alongside venture capital or other private investors, fostering co-investment opportunities that strengthen the ventures' financial position and growth trajectory. EIT Urban Mobility will not lead a funding round and, consequently, will not assume the role of lead investor, unless exceptional circumstances occur.

In addition, successful ventures typically demonstrate:

- A positive contribution to at least one Sustainable Development Goal (SDG3, SDG7, SDG8, SDG9, SDG11, SDG13).
- Alignment with EIT Urban Mobility's mission, addressing urban mobility challenges such as sustainability, accessibility, inclusivity, or safety.
- Impact embedded in the core business model, with measurable outcomes and KPIs that track societal or environmental benefits.
- Strong, experienced founding teams, with priority given to women-led or women-founded teams.
- Clear commercial prospects and the ability to scale across markets.

3.2 Topic scope

To accelerate the transition to sustainable mobility in cities, this Call focuses on five sectors in which we believe Europe has the potential to innovate and create impact. Proposals may target one or more of these sectors, particularly where there are clear synergies between them, for example, applying data-driven solutions and AI to public sector, or integrating electrification into urban logistics

In the future, this call may also include specific topic scopes to address key market opportunities or urgent market failures that can be addressed through our funding.



- Solutions such as **fleet management SaaS, MaaS integration tools, and coordination systems** that support mode shift, improve urban efficiency, and are **scalable across dense urban environments**.
- Innovations that decarbonize and streamline last-mile mobility for both goods and people in cities. This includes **AI-enabled logistics platforms, delivery infrastructure, and shared micromobility systems** that **reduce congestion and emissions**. It also covers **AI-driven threat detection and localised energy-backup systems** for delivery fleets, ensuring secure data flows and resilient continuity across urban logistics networks.

PUBLIC
TRANSPORT


- Solutions that **enhance shared and on-demand mobility** as a core element of an **integrated, efficient, and sustainable urban public transportation ecosystem**, improving digital connectivity, data interoperability, and overall system performance to complement public transit and reduce private car dependency.
- New **digital tools, SaaS platforms, and fleet management systems** that optimise **shared transport operations** and integrate micromobility services to improve first- and last-mile connectivity, inclusivity, and multimodal travel efficiency are encouraged.

 MOBILITY DATA
MANAGEMENT


- Solutions that apply **data analytics and Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to enhance the **performance, cost efficiency, safety, and integration of mobility systems**, including mobility data platforms, traffic and fleet optimisation tools, intelligent transport systems, and multimodal integration software.
- AI-powered innovations such as **autonomous driving enablers, urban digital twins, and predictive mobility infrastructure**, that reduce congestion, enable smarter operations, and are **scalable for high-impact deployment across urban environments**.

 ELECTRIFICATION
OF TRANSPORT
AND ALTERNATIVE
FUELS


- Solutions that accelerate the **transition to zero-emission urban mobility** through innovation across the electrification value chain, including **battery technologies, energy storage, smart charging infrastructure, EV components and software, and vehicle-grid integration**.
- Clean and **alternative energy innovations** such as **modular refuelling systems, energy orchestration tools, and e-fuel infrastructure**, that **reduce emissions**, improve system efficiency, and are **scalable** in high-impact urban use cases.

 HEALTH AND
MOBILITY


- Solutions that **promote healthier urban lifestyles through active and inclusive mobility**, improving safety, accessibility, and wellbeing while encouraging walking, cycling, and cleaner transport options.
- **Innovations that monitor and mitigate the health impacts of mobility systems**, such as air and noise pollution or inactivity, using data analytics, sensors, and health-informed urban planning.

Refer to [Annex I](#) for a detailed list of subsectors corresponding to each focus area.

3.3 Project duration

Project duration can be from a minimum of 2 months to a maximum of 36 months and must be clearly justified based on the scope, complexity, and planned activities. Proposals should not default to the maximum length.

As indicated in the [Project Implementation Handbook](#) available on the Call webpage, if during the project implementation, additional time is needed to achieve key results or KPIs, a no-cost extension may be requested and granted subject to EIT Urban Mobility's approval.

All projects, including any extension, must be however **completed by 31 December 2028**.

3.4 Financial aspects

3.4.1 Funding allocation

The indicative EIT funding allocated to this Call for the period 2026-2028 is **14 million EUR**. This includes approximately 4.5 million EUR specifically earmarked for proposals developing new innovations in countries covered by the [EIT Regional Innovation Scheme \(RIS\)](#). Under this call, Spain and Israel are not considered RIS countries.²

EIT Urban Mobility offers a financial support instrument for startups, which are entitled to receive up to **2.5 million Euro** of financial support (also known as “sub-grant”) per company to pursue activities which are in line with the overall EIT Urban Mobility objectives.

For more information on the payment scheme, please refer to Chapter 6 of the [Project Implementation Handbook](#) available on the Call webpage.

3.4.2 Co-funding rate and eligibility of expenditure

Applicants under this Call are encouraged to provide co-funding. The details will be discussed during the project negotiation phase.

² Spain and Israel are excluded from the RIS classification for this Call due to the maturity and competitiveness of their startup ecosystems. Companies from these countries operate under conditions comparable to non-RIS countries, and are therefore evaluated under the non-RIS framework to ensure fair assessment and alignment with the objectives of the RIS scheme.

3.4.3 Eligibility of expenditure

All expenditure must comply with the Horizon Europe rules (see the [Annotated Model Grant Agreement](#)). For a summary of the most relevant information on the eligibility of costs, please refer to the [Eligibility of expenditure](#) document published also on the Call webpage.

3.4.4 Contribution to EIT Urban Mobility's financial sustainability

In line with the EIT principles and decisions on the long-term financial sustainability of KICs, EIT Urban Mobility has developed a Financial Sustainability (FS) Strategy with the aim of progressively reducing dependency on public funding while reinforcing the resilience of its innovation ecosystem.

This strategy is based on a balanced combination of earned income (such as membership-related revenues and ecosystem services) and voluntary financial sustainability contributions associated with selected activities, including the Financial Support for Startups Call.

The Financial Support for Startups Call is central to this strategy. In line with Horizon Europe's blended financing schemes, the program enables the supported startups to partner with EIT Urban Mobility and on a voluntary basis, potentially explore EIT Urban Mobility becoming a shareholder. Such mutually agreed arrangements allow startups to benefit from institutional shareholder support, contributing to their growth, while offering a financial return to EIT Urban Mobility to become financially sustainable, without constituting a prerequisite or automatic condition for the awarding of a grant.

Any financial return generated through such financial sustainability mechanisms does not result in the distribution of profits to private interests. In line with EIT Urban Mobility's governance structure and the non-profit nature of its sole shareholder, any possible internal assigned revenue is fully and irrevocably reinvested back into the EIT Urban Mobility KIC ecosystem, functioning as a long-lasting funding recycling mechanism in support of sustainable urban mobility innovation.

By linking the non-dilutive support and cash components to structured performance-based and portfolio readiness milestones, the programme effectively de-risks the deal flow and enhances the quality and maturity of startups entering the natural funding portfolio pipeline. This approach allows EIT Urban Mobility to secure financial sustainability instruments, ensuring long-term alignment with KIC Strategic Agenda, the KIC financial sustainability and the startups' growth trajectory while maintaining flexibility, transparency and proportionality. In doing so, the Financial Support for Startups Call transforms early-stage ventures into validated, investable opportunities, combining technological excellence, market traction, and impact potential, ultimately strengthening EIT Urban Mobility's capacity to generate a sustainable and high-quality portfolio of innovation-driven urban mobility companies at a European level.

3.4.5 Fast track provisions

The successful execution and completion of the activities financed under the framework of the present call may unlock the possibility of receiving additional EIT Urban Mobility funding for upscaling purposes after project completion. This process is regulated by the provisions included in EIT Urban Mobility's Guidance on the fast-track mechanism.

3.5. Key Performance indicator (KPI)

Activities funded under the framework of the present call can, in addition, contribute the following KPI:

KPI Code	KPI title	KPI Definition
EITHE06.1	Investment attracted by KIC-supported startups and scaleups (in mEUR)	<p>Total EUR amount of private and public capital attracted within year N by supported startup/scaleups that have received KIC business creation services support of total duration of at least two months, within a maximum of three years following the last received KIC KAVA support activity.</p> <p>Supporting evidence: Declaration of a start-up proving the amount, type of investment, source of income by type (public/private) and a link to a specific KAVA and support received and the year when last support was provided. → TEMPLATE</p>

3.6. Deliverables

Startups should focus on providing deliverables and outputs linked to the project plan proposed in the Subgrant Agreement. The **minimum core deliverables** expected from a project are shown in the table below. This provides the list of mandatory deliverables to be submitted during the project implementation. **Additional deliverables may be proposed by EIT UM depending on the specific product/service/solution.**

Mandatory Deliverables	Description	Delivery date
Financial Report	Cost Reporting for Sub-grantees	At the end of the project implementation
Activity Report	Activity Reporting for Sub-grantees	At the end of the project implementation

3.7. Project implementation, monitoring and reporting

All projects selected for funding are regularly monitored by EIT Urban Mobility in accordance with the Financial Support Agreement and the EIT UM [Project Implementation Handbook](#), also published on the Call webpage. All supported startups must comply with the rules and procedures established in the [Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#) during project implementation, as well as with the branding, communication and dissemination rules outlined in the **Project Implementation Handbook**.

Once the project implementation has been completed, startups shall submit their final performance and cost reports within one month from the end date of the project. Only the applying and awarded legal entity will be recipient of the grant and shall incur and report costs. Costs incurred or reported by any other legal entity shall not be considered eligible. Please refer also to the [Eligibility of expenditure](#).

Both the Cost Report and the Activity (Performance) Report shall be submitted via the EIT Urban Mobility NetSuite platform. The final review comprises two elements:

- **A Performance Report**, providing an overview of the project implementation, including the project summary and objectives, project activities, and impact/results achieved.
- **A Cost Report**, providing an overview of the project expenses incurred.

A formal ex-post impact assessment may be conducted by EIT UM within up to five years after the project's completion.

3.8. Intellectual Property

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. By submitting their application, applicants affirm that they hold ownership and/or have legally secured the right to use all elements of the innovative product or service included in their application, or that they will take appropriate measures to secure and protect such rights during the project. The IP strategy checklist, published on the Call webpage, provides guidance to applicants on measures to protect the innovations.

Access to, use of, or dissemination of Results developed in the course of this project by third parties shall be subject to applicable intellectual property rights, confidentiality obligations, and relevant provisions under the Financial Support Agreement, Grant agreement and [EIT UM IP Policy](#). Beneficiaries are responsible for protecting their results appropriately and must ensure that any exploitation or dissemination activities do not compromise the protection or potential commercial use of such results. The granting authority and EIT Urban Mobility shall not be held liable for any use that may be made of the results contained herein.

Applicants agree to indemnify and hold harmless EIT UM and/or any assignee or affiliate from any third-party allegations or claims of intellectual property rights infringement by the product or service of applicants. Applicants shall have the right to further develop, use and license their intellectual property rights for creating, making, marketing, and distributing products, services, and technology. Applicants agree to respect the IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) Rules Article 16 of the General Model Grant Agreement and Article 10 of the Financial Support Agreement (Common Subgrant Agreement Model).

3.9. Gender and diversity

EIT Urban Mobility is committed to fostering a more equitable, diverse and inclusive innovation ecosystem. As outlined in our [Gender Equality & Inclusion Policy and Action Plan 2025–2027](#), gender equality and social inclusion are essential to achieving our mission: to create more liveable urban spaces through innovation in mobility.

Startups supported through this call are expected to reflect these values. Proposals must address how gender, diversity and inclusion are considered across the project, including in:

- team composition and leadership roles;
- product or service design;
- data analysis and outcomes (e.g. differentiated impacts by gender, age, ability).

Proposals with diverse teams and clear strategies for inclusive innovation will be positively assessed during the evaluation phase.

4. Preparing and submitting a proposal

4.1 Support given to applicants preparing a proposal

Applicants are encouraged to thoroughly read the Guidelines for Applicants, attend the Call information sessions, and direct any questions to the contact persons during the proposal preparation process to improve chances of successful applications.

Guidelines for Applicants

The *Guidelines for Applicants* document is published on the Call webpage and provides comprehensive information and instructions on how to prepare and submit a proposal for this Call.

Call information sessions

To help applicants prepare and submit their proposals, EIT Urban Mobility will host information sessions after the publication of the Call. These online information events will focus on the Call content, the challenges, and requirements, as well as on the general procedures, such as the submission and evaluation process, the financial aspects and the monitoring and reporting activities.

Type of event	Topic covered	Date and time (CET)	Access to platform
Webinar	Launch of the Call info session: scope and challenges of the call, tips to applicants. General procedures: Call calendar, evaluation and selection process, financial aspects and NetSuite submission tool.	January 23, 2026, 10.00 - 11.00 CET	Zoom meeting – Webinar registration

Call contact points

All applicants may contact the Impact Ventures Team at EIT Urban Mobility to answer any questions or address any concerns about the Call: investments@eiturbanmobility.eu

4.2 Submission of a proposal

4.2.1 Proposal submission

Before starting to draft a proposal, **all applicants** must follow the following steps:

- **Step 1:** register your organisation in the [EU Funding & tender opportunities portal](#) to obtain the nine-digit Participant Identification Code (PIC number). If you don't know if your organisation already has a PIC number, you can verify directly on the EU Portal (click [here](#)) whether your organisation is already registered.
- **Step 2:**
 - o If you never registered in NetSuite, please complete the **Partner Information Form (PIF)**³. If the system denies your registration because your email address is associated with an existing entity, please contact servicedesk@eiturbanmobility.eu.
 - o If you are already registered in the [EIT Urban Mobility NetSuite platform](#) (NetSuite) please log in by going to step 3.

EIT Urban Mobility may take **up to two working days** to process your registration in NetSuite and cannot guarantee last-minute registration requests, especially during peak periods close to the call deadline. Therefore, all applicants are strongly advised to **complete their registration several days before the submission deadline** to ensure successful and timely submission.

- **Step 3:** access the [EIT Urban Mobility NetSuite platform](#) and find the calls under menu --> Call for Proposals --> Open Calls. Fill in and **submit your application form within the given deadline**, including the following mandatory supporting documentation:
 - Application form (fully compiled in **English language**).
 - **Deed of incorporation** (mandatory).
 - **Investor pitch deck** (mandatory).Other supporting documents, recommended but not compulsory:
 - Signed term sheet as proof of ongoing/active fundraising round (only if available).

Applications missing any of the mandatory supporting documents or submitting blank or wrong documents will be automatically rejected during the admissibility and eligibility check.

³ If in a few hours, after submitting the PIF form, you don't receive an automatic e-mail with the log-in credentials, please contact the EIT Urban Mobility Service Desk servicedesk@eiturbanmobility.eu.

5. Evaluation and selection process

Once the applicants have submitted their proposals and the cut-off has passed, EIT Urban Mobility will proceed to:

- Check eligibility and admissibility of those proposals and, if successful,
- Evaluate the content of the proposals with the support of independent expert evaluators.

5.1. Admissibility and eligibility check

A proposal will be **admissible** if it fulfils the criteria detailed below:

1. Completeness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal is submitted before the indicated deadline. • The proposal is submitted via the NetSuite submission tool. • The proposal is complete, all mandatory fields are filled in, and mandatory supporting documents are submitted (blank or wrong documents will not be admissible). • The proposal cannot include external links (except those specifically required); any other links will be disregarded by evaluators. • The proposal and all its supporting documents are written in English.
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If a proposal is not admissible, it will not go to the eligibility check.

A proposal will be **eligible** if it fulfils the below criteria:

1. Applicant eligibility	<p>Each applicant must be located in an EU Member State or a Third Country associated with Horizon Europe. Applicants shall also comply with the eligibility criteria set out in Section 2.1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • startup currently engaged in an active fundraising round (pre-seed/seed or series A round) • proposed innovations target the Urban Mobility market • not applying to three consecutive cut-offs. After submitting an application to two consecutive cut-offs, applicants must skip at least the following cut-off before applying again • startup not currently part of EIT Urban Mobility equity portfolio • company pre-money valuation does not exceed €50,000,000 • startup has individual founders or executive team members who jointly hold more than 40% share of the company's equity before the current fund raising • have a prototype, pilot, or Minimum Viable Product (MVP)
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2. Applicants registration	Each applicant must have fully completed the Partner Information Form (PIF) in the NetSuite online submission tool, including their correct PIC number . Accordingly, each applying startup shall be fully registered in the EU Participant Portal and hold a valid PIC number.
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5.1.1. Rectification process

In the case of missing information or obvious clerical errors linked to the Partner Information Form (PIF), applicants will be given **five calendar days**⁴ after receiving the official communication to complete or correct the PIF and resubmit it. If the applicant responds positively to this requirement within the time limit, the proposal will progress to the next stage of the evaluation process (See Section 5.2). If the applicant fails to respond or responds after the deadline, the proposal will remain ineligible and will not be further processed.

The applying startup may appeal the decision to reject a proposal on the grounds of inadmissibility or ineligibility. This appeal must be made within seven calendar days⁵ of the official EIT Urban Mobility notification regarding inadmissibility or ineligibility (see the [Appeal procedure](#) document published also on the call webpage).

5.2. Proposals evaluation

Each evaluation phase will be assessed according to the following scores:

Score	Description	
0	<i>Fail</i>	The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
1	<i>Poor</i>	The proposal inadequately addresses the criterion, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
2	<i>Fair</i>	The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
3	<i>Good</i>	The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
4	<i>Very good</i>	The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

⁴ A few additional days might be granted according to the circumstances (i.e. public holidays/weekends). In such cases, the Project Leader will be informed by email of the exact period.

⁵ A few additional days might be granted according to the circumstances (i.e. public holidays/weekends). In such cases, the Project Leader will be informed by email of the exact period.

5	Excellent	The proposal fully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion and is outstanding in every aspect.
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5.2.1. Stage 1: Applications evaluation

The purpose of this evaluation is to determine a proposal's suitability for funding that has passed the admissibility and eligibility check.

The evaluation will assess the proposal's strategic fit, as well as its excellence, impact, and quality and efficiency of implementation, with a focus on early strategic and concept validation. It will be carried out by three independent External Expert Evaluators (EEEs). The evaluators will have relevant experience in startup acceleration, urban mobility, startup investment, and gender/diversity inclusion. Each proposal is scored individually and anonymously.

The table below provides an overview of the maximum for each evaluation criterion:

	Maximum score	Minimum score
Strategic fit	<i>15 points</i>	<i>3 points</i>
Excellence, novelty, and innovation	<i>15 points</i>	<i>3 points</i>
Impact and financial sustainability	<i>15 points</i>	<i>3 points</i>
Quality and efficiency of the implementation	<i>15 points</i>	<i>3 points</i>
Total points	60 points	12 point

Only applications with a minimum score in each of the evaluation criteria will be considered for the next step, by being invited to the online live pitches.

The evaluation can yield a maximum total score of 60 points, split across the following criteria.

Strategic fit	Max. score
Investment alignment and strategic focus: The application demonstrates alignment with EIT Urban Mobility's Strategic Objectives and investment focus, including company stage (pre-seed, seed, Series A), priority sectors, and fundraising readiness. The proposal should show strong strategic coherence with EIT Urban Mobility's mission and the potential for high-growth and scalable outcomes alongside private investors.	15 points (5 points x 3)

Excellence, novelty, and innovation	Max. score
Innovation quality and differentiation: The proposal demonstrates a clear problem-solution fit, highlighting customer needs, originality of the approach, level of innovation and differentiation from existing alternatives. The maturity of the solution (idea, proof of concept, MVP, or product-market fit) should be appropriate for the funding stage, supported by a credible development roadmap with realistic milestones and R&D plans.	15 points (5 points x 3)

Impact	Max. score
Mission alignment and scalable impact: The proposal articulates a compelling impact thesis that aligns with EIT Urban Mobility’s mission. It should demonstrate measurable contributions to urban mobility challenges such as sustainability, accessibility, inclusivity, or safety, with a business model capable of scaling impact as the company grows. Assessment will consider how impact is embedded in the core business model.	15 points (5 points x 3)

Quality and efficiency of the implementation	Max. score
Execution strategy and operational readiness: The proposal presents a feasible and credible execution plan, including a sound business model and commercial, sales and operational strategy suited to the company’s stage. The evaluation will also consider market accessibility, entry barriers, regulatory landscape and any other tailwinds or bottlenecks that may influence implementation and growth. For pre-revenue startups, emphasis is on the clarity and realism of the plan to achieve early traction; for commercialized startups, evaluation focuses on alignment between current traction and future scaling milestones.	15 points (5 points x 2)

5.2.2. Stage 2: Online live pitch evaluation

The online live pitch evaluation will be managed by the EIT Urban Mobility Investment Committee. The Investment Committee, composed of two Internal Expert Evaluators (IEEs), will assess each proposal across the following dimensions: People, Leadership & Team; Product & Innovation; Market, Finance & Impact; and ROI potential. This stage is focusing on growth and investment readiness.

Following the live pitches, additional information on the venture will be requested and reviewed (see [Annex II](#) for a detailed list). Access to a data room will be arranged, and an in-depth due diligence will be conducted by the EIT Urban Mobility team. During this phase, additional interviews with the venture’s founders may also be held to address any clarification linked to the due-diligence.

The pitches can yield a maximum of 40 points and are evaluated and scored against the criteria listed below:

People, Leadership and Team	Max. score
Team strength, diversity, and governance: The proposal demonstrates the experience, skills, complementarity, and diversity of the founding and management team. Assessment will consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant sector experience, industry track record, and familiarity with the company’s target clients and related products. • A balanced combination of technical and business-oriented skills among co-founders and management. • Additional relevant experience (e.g., serial entrepreneurship, unique expertise, or achievements). • Evidence of adaptability, leadership, and execution capabilities within the team. 	10 points (5 points x 2)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of a diverse, gender-balanced, and inclusive team, with representation in leadership and decision-making roles. The team should demonstrate concrete actions or strategies to foster an equitable working environment and ensure that innovation design and user engagement reflect diversity across gender, age, and other dimensions • The soundness of the team structure and governance, including clarity of roles, equity distribution, incentive mechanisms, and decision-making processes. 	
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Product and Innovation	Max. score
Product strength, defensibility, and IP readiness: The proposal outlines a robust and scalable product strategy that supports the value proposition. Evaluation will consider technical soundness (given the stage and fundraising to date), scalability, maintainability, differentiation and defensibility. The proposal demonstrates a clear and credible intellectual property (IP) strategy, if applicable. The assessment will examine the adequacy of protection measures for the innovation, product, or service, and evaluate whether these can be commercialised without infringing on third-party IP rights. The roadmap should be realistic and aligned with past R&D progress and planned fundraising objectives.	10 points (5 points x 2)

Market, Financials and Impact	Max. score
Market opportunity and commercial viability: The proposal presents a clear market opportunity, detailing market size (TAM, SAM, SOM), growth potential (e.g., CAGR, tailwinds), and the competitive landscape. Evaluators will consider the robustness of financial assumptions, scalability of the business model, and evidence of traction or potential for high growth. The analysis will also examine market dynamics, potential strategic partnerships, and the plausibility of achieving long-term financial sustainability and impact.	5 points

ROI potential	Max. score
Investment attractiveness and value creation potential: The proposal demonstrates investment attractiveness and financial scalability, aligned with EIT Urban Mobility's capital allocation, ROI expectations and EIT Urban Mobility's Financial Sustainability strategy. Evaluation will consider key business KPIs (unit economics, path to profitability, cost and revenue scalability, go-to-market, fundraising strategy, and exit potential - including relevant VC and buyer universe). Evaluation will also consider the internal consistency and credibility of the underlying financial assumptions used to support the proposed business KPIs and growth projections. Expectations will be calibrated to the startup's maturity stage. Evaluation will also consider the applicant's willingness to contribute to EIT Urban Mobility's Financial Sustainability strategy and its openness to	10 points (5 points x 2)

explore and define mutually aligned mechanisms that support the long-term objectives of the EIT Urban Mobility ecosystem.	
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The table below provides an overview of the maximum for each evaluation criterion:

	Maximum score	Minimum score
People, Leadership and Team	<i>10 points</i>	<i>7 points</i>
Product and Innovation	<i>10 points</i>	<i>7 points</i>
Market, Financials and Impact	<i>5 points</i>	<i>3 points</i>
ROI potential	<i>10 points</i>	<i>7 points</i>
Total points	35 points	24 points

Once Stage 2 has been finalised, a ranking list will be produced, and only the **top 12 proposals** (the 4 top-proposal from RIS Countries and the 8 top-proposal from non-RIS Countries) will advance to the third and final stage — the Portfolio Selection, conducted by the Selection Committee.

In the event of a tie at the threshold, proposals will be prioritised based on their score for ROI potential followed by i) People, Leadership & Team, ii) Product & Innovation, iii) and Market, Finance & Impact.

5.2.3. Stage 3: Portfolio selection

The Selection Committee is composed of three members of the EIT Urban Mobility Executive Management Team (or their deputies). The Selection Committee will assess the applications pre-selected by the Investment Committee (top 12 proposals).

The Selection Committee will consider the following factor and will add 5 points to the final scoring obtained by each proposal in the 1st stage and 2nd stage evaluation.

Portfolio fit	Max. score
Alignment with EIT Urban Mobility portfolio: The proposal demonstrates a clear fit within the existing EIT Urban Mobility equity portfolio. The assessment focuses on the extent to which the startup complements or differentiates from current portfolio companies, and creates potential synergies across the EIT Urban Mobility ecosystem. This includes evaluating collaboration opportunities, knowledge exchange, and ecosystem value creation, as well as identifying any potential conflicts of interest. The criterion assesses the startup's ability to generate value within the current portfolio.	5 points

Selection Committee will determine which projects are selected, placed on the reserve list (if any), or rejected.

Finally, EIT Urban Mobility retains the right to reach out to proposals listed on the reserve list within a year of selection. If additional EIT funds become available in the current Business Plan and in justified cases, EIT Urban Mobility can fund companies on the reserve list.

5.3. Communication of results to applicants

Each applicant will receive a communication from the EIT Urban Mobility with the evaluation results, after the initial assessment (if not shortlisted for stage 2) or at the end of the evaluation and selection process. The email notification will include the Summary Evaluation Report (SER) of the proposal, the total score received and the results of the selection process (pre-selected, rejected, reserve list).

If the proposal is pre-selected, the evaluation results may include a set of conditions to improve the proposals, within a defined non-negotiable period. The applicant of a conditionally preselected proposal must respond and update the proposal according to these conditions within this timeframe. If the applicant fails to comply with the conditions or does not respond before the deadline, EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right to withdraw the conditional notification.

Unsuccessful applicants may be contacted by EIT Urban Mobility staff about future opportunities, subject to their consent.

5.4. Appealing against evaluation Results

If the applicant disagrees with the decision, they may appeal only in the event that a comment in the SER clearly contradicts the information provided in the proposal. In this case, the applicant will have seven calendar days after receipt of the final SER to submit an appeal (see the [Appeal procedure](#) document published also on the call webpage).

5.5. Onboarding and contracting phase

Should all conditions be successfully met within the indicated timeframe, EIT Urban Mobility will initiate the onboarding and contracting process. The contract can be signed only after 30 days from the preselection decision.

As outlined in the [Project Implementation Handbook](#), available also on the Call webpage, entities receiving EIT Urban Mobility funding become sub-grantees committed to our Business Plan 2026-2028 targets. New entities without validated PICs will undergo validation by the EIT Community Onboarding Service before signing the Financial Support Agreement⁶.

Additionally, EIT Urban Mobility reserves the right to request to the EIT Community Onboarding Service a Financial Assessment Capacity to check the financial capacity of any entity of a selected proposal. If the Financial Assessment Capacity results are not satisfactory, EIT Urban Mobility might reject the participation of this entity and will then check whether the project is still eligible.

⁶ The Financial Support Agreement template is available on the Call webpage.

Annex I

Examples of subsector for each focus area

1. Urban Logistics

- Urban Logistics & Mobility Platforms
Digital coordination of urban delivery and multimodal freight operations.
- Smart Last-Mile Solutions
AI-driven routing, dynamic scheduling, and crowdsourced delivery orchestration.
- Sustainable Fleet Integration
EV-ready routing tools, compliance management, and low-emission logistics optimisation.
- Resilient & Secure Fleet Operations
AI-driven threat detection and local energy backup systems for delivery fleets, ensuring safe data flows and continuity in urban logistics networks.

2. Public Transport

- Shared & Autonomous Mobility Integration
Platforms that connect shared and autonomous vehicles with public transport through interoperable data and digitalised systems.
- Secure & Predictive Transport Systems
Cybersecure data frameworks and predictive analytics that enhance reliability, safety, and uptime across public transport and connected services.
- Micromobility & First/Last-Mile Services
Tools that link shared e-bikes and scooters to public transport, including fleet-management SaaS and MaaS integration APIs.
- Public Transport Fleet Operations
Software for real-time bus coordination, multimodal dispatching, and operational optimisation.

3. Mobility Data Management

- AI-Powered Mobility Efficiency
AI-driven fleet and traffic optimisation, predictive maintenance, and energy-efficient routing for logistics and passenger transport.
- Autonomous & Connected Mobility Stack
Software and control systems enabling autonomy, remote operations, and advanced simulation environments to accelerate safe AV deployment.
- Urban Mobility Data Infrastructure
Shared data environments, digital-twin city models, and multimodal APIs enabling coordination, interoperable mobility services, and real-time system management.

4. Electrification of transport & alternative fuel

- Battery & Storage Innovation
Smarter systems, advanced chemistries, and circular second-life & recycling models.

- EV Systems & Digital Layer
Advanced power electronics, embedded control software, and SaaS-driven EV optimisation.
- Charging Ecosystem Scaling
Ultra-fast networks, intelligent charging software, and vehicle-to-grid capabilities.
- Hydrogen & E-Fuels Enablement
Digital logistics, orchestration platforms, and modular refuelling for hard-to-electrify segments.
- Cyber-Resilient EV Infrastructure
Secure data architectures and distributed energy resilience tools (microgrids, V2X services)
ensuring uninterrupted operation and protection of electrified transport networks.

5. Health & Mobility

- Active & Accessible Mobility Tech
Startups enabling safer walking, cycling, and inclusive mobility through routing tools, safety analytics, and accessibility solutions.
- Urban Health Monitoring
Sensors and data platforms tracking air and noise pollution around mobility corridors, informing healthier travel and planning decisions.

Annex II

Information Requested for Due Diligence / Stage 2 Review

Applicants may be asked to provide the following supporting documentation and materials to facilitate evaluation:

- **Corporate and Legal Documents**
 - Shareholder agreements, stock option plans, and equity allocation
 - Capitalization table (Cap Table)
 - Term sheets from prior rounds, SAFE or convertible notes (if applicable)
 - Board meeting minutes and resolutions
 - Legal proceedings or any litigation history
 - Company registration certificate not older than (1) one year
 - Official VAT document or — if the entity is not registered for VAT — the proof of VAT exemption, not older than one (1) year
- **Financial Information**
 - Historical financial statements: income statement (P&L) for the last two (2) financial years (the most recent year must have been closed within the last 18 months)⁷; balance sheet for the last two (2) financial years (the most recent year must have been closed within the last 18 months)⁸; cash flow
 - Management accounts or monthly/quarterly financials
 - Parameterized financial model
 - Debt agreements, loan documents, and credit facilities
 - Tax forms
 - External audit report or self-declaration⁹
- **Product and Technology**
 - Demonstration of the product or access to the product (if applicable)
 - IP documentation (patents filed/granted, trademarks, copyrights)
 - Detailed roadmap, including hardware, AI, and data components; preferably with a diagram illustrating the technology stack

⁷ Exceptions are allowed for:

- start-up companies without closed annual accounts which provide prospective data (business plan) for one year only
- recently created entities which have closed annual accounts for one year only.

A single financial document containing comparative data of the annual accounts of both years under assessment will be accepted.

⁸ See previous note.

⁹ A single financial document containing comparative data of the annual accounts of both years under assessment will be accepted.

- Roadmaps and technology stack diagrams
 - Any technology audits or security assessments
 - Potential interview with Head of Product
- **Market and Commercial Information**
 - Market research and analysis supporting projections
 - Sales and customer pipelines (weighted/unweighted)
 - Key customer contracts or letters of intent
 - Pricing models, go-to-market strategy
 - Other customer or user engagement metrics
- **Team & HR**
 - Organization chart and bios of key team members
 - Employment agreements, contractor agreements, and equity allocations
 - Key hires planned or in recruitment
 - HR policies and compliance documentation
- **Compliance & Regulatory**
 - GDPR, CCPA, or other data privacy compliance documentation
 - Insurance policies
 - Licenses and regulatory approvals (if required by industry)
 - Security audits and certifications
- **KPIs & Impact**
 - Key performance metrics with supporting evidence
 - Theory of change or impact documentation (for social or mission-driven ventures)
 - Customer/user metrics that validate traction claims
- **Miscellaneous**
 - Investor communications or updates
 - Any other documents that back up claims or projections

Submission of these materials may be requested selectively based on the stage of evaluation and relevance to the proposal. Applicants are encouraged to prepare documentation in a clear and organized format (in folders by category) to facilitate review.