



# THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (EIT)

**Next steps : The first Knowledge and Innovation  
Communities (KICs)**

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*The EIT : Excellence for innovation*



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## A light, two-level structure



- An innovative structure combining top-down and bottom-up approaches
- 18 fully independent Governing Board Members combining backgrounds in higher education, research and business
- A lean support structure for the Governing Board (60 pers. Max) for greater efficiency



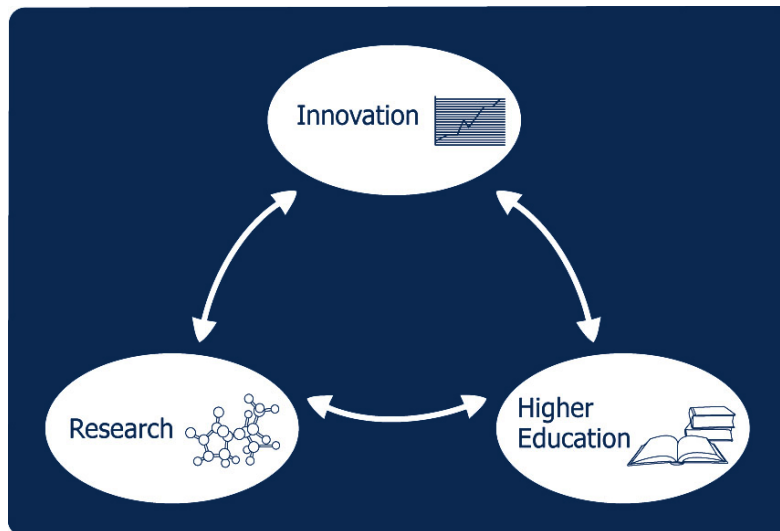
## The EIT Governing Board



- Strategy-setting and thematic outlook
- Setting up the KIC framework
- Selection, coordination, monitoring, evaluation of KICs



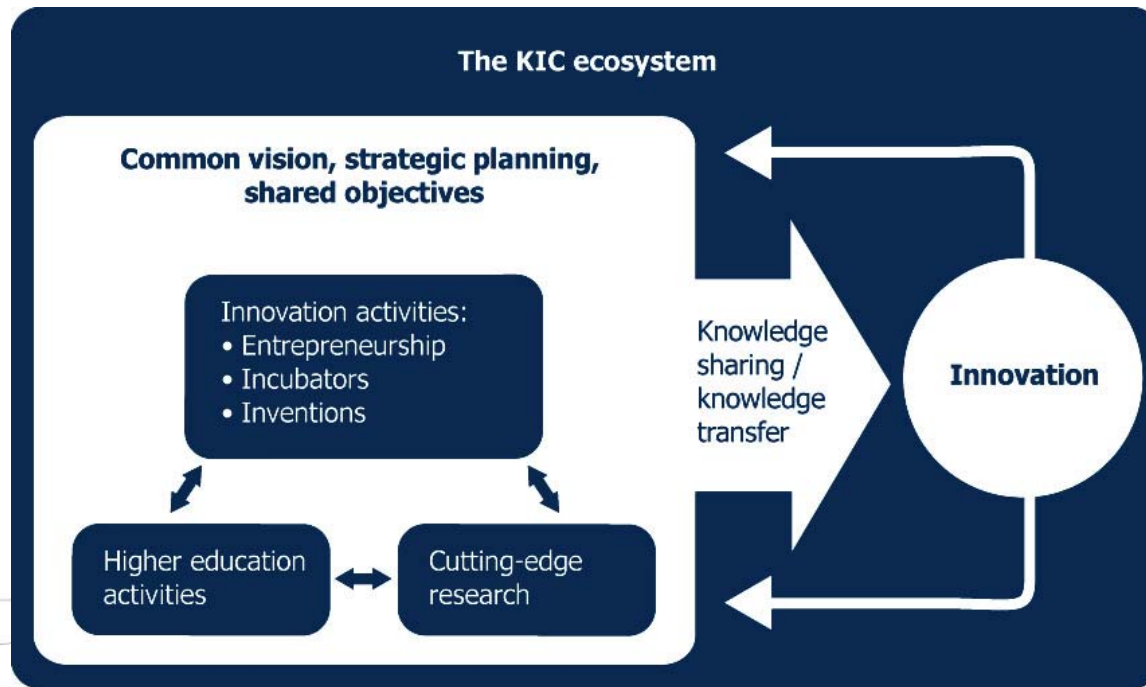
## KICs (1) : Integrating the knowledge triangle



- A new collaboration model promoting cross-national, cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary approaches to knowledge sharing and transfer for excellence in innovation
- For the first time, Higher Education will interact on an equal footing with other partners
- « EIT » as a pan-European brand / trademark for innovation



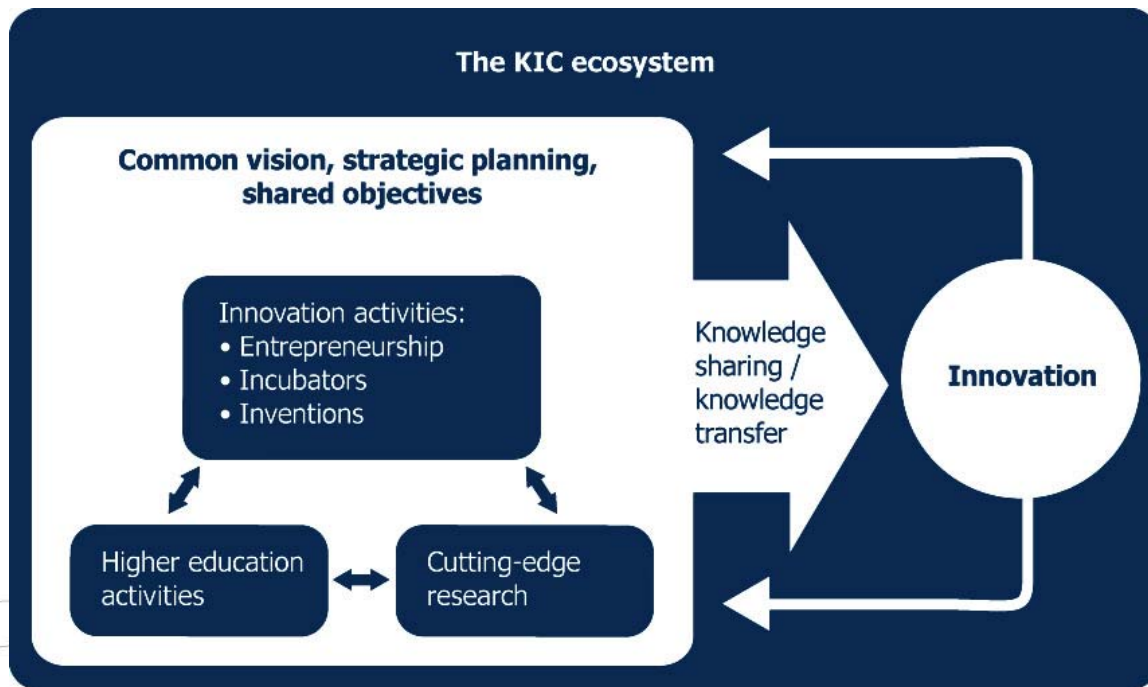
## KICs (2) : The KIC ecosystem



- Critical masses of the very best resources from the 3 sides of the knowledge triangle
- Highly integrated partnerships or “communities”
- Ambitious, large-scale, long-term (7-15 years)
- Flexibility & autonomy
- Joint vision, trust, team cultures



## KICs (3) : sharing knowledge, generating innovation



- Promoting the production, sharing and exploitation of new knowledge products and best practices across Europe
- Transforming the results of higher education and research activities into commercially exploitable innovation
- Ensuring a constant focus on delivering and disseminating usable outcomes
- Responding to market and societal demand



## A European initiative with a global outreach

- The EIT and its KICs are open to participation from third-country partners, allowing to connect with the most excellent resources worldwide
- Participation can be on all levels (Governing Board, admin support structure, KICs)
- Two conditions apply for KICs: a majority of KIC members must be from EU Member States and the Governing Board must give its approval





## Next steps...

- **December 2008 :** Third EIT Governing Board meeting
- **Spring 2009 :** Launching selection process of KICs
- **June 2009 :** Appointment of the EIT Director
- **Dec-Jan 2009-10 :** Selection of the first 2-3 KICs

**<http://eit.europa.eu>**