

EIT Raw Materials

FAST-TRACK Call for KAVA 6 projects

Instructions and process description

June 2019

This document describes the process for preparation, submission, evaluation and selection of proposals in response to the 2019 Fast-Track call (hereafter 'KAVA 6 Fast-Track Call') launched by the EIT RawMaterials for the following KAVA segments:

- Education (PhD Education, Master Education, Lifelong Education, Wider Society Learning)
- Upscaling
- Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS)
- Internationalization

The maximum amount of funding awarded to each approved project is expected to be € 50.000. Project funding in excess of € 50.000 may be considered in exceptional circumstances. The total amount of funding to be distributed depends on the amount of unspent 2019 funds declared by the Consortia by 31 August 2019. To facilitate the re-distribution of the largest possible amount of unspent 2019 funds, Consortia are strongly encouraged to provide their best and most accurate estimate of their project's under-spending (by making the necessary changes in BlueBook via 'change request') by 31 August 2019.

1. Eligibility criteria

Eligibility to apply for this call is restricted to the three categories listed below:

1. KAVA proposals that were submitted in the EIT RawMaterials KAVA 6 call but that have not been selected for funding in 2020 (hereafter referred to 'XXX.REJ' projects, where 'XXX' refers to the project acronym used in the KAVA 6 Call);
2. KAVA proposals that were submitted in the EIT RawMaterials KAVA 6 call and that have been selected for funding in 2020 (hereafter referred to 'XXX.PRE' projects, where 'XXX' refers to the project acronym used in the KAVA 6 Call);
3. Ongoing KAVA projects (hereafter referred to 'XXX.OLD' projects, where 'XXX' refers to the project acronym currently used in Bluebook).

In the XXX.REJ category, only proposals that will be submitted again in 2020 by essentially the same Consortium and within the same area (e.g., Education, Upscaling, etc.) are eligible to apply.

2. General rules and guiding principles

As a general rule, the same principles described in the KAVA 6 Calls apply. Note, however, that the primary purpose of this call is to:

1. For XXX.REJ proposals: assist the Consortium with the compilation of a more competitive KAVA proposal for submission in 2020, including the implementation of the 'Recommendations' made by EIT RawMaterials in its Proposal Feedback.
2. For XXX.PRE proposals:
 - a) provide the Consortium with an opportunity to fast-track its approved activities scheduled for 2020; and/or
 - b) assist the Consortium with activities that will lead to a demonstrated and quantifiable increased impact of their project; and/or
 - c) assist the Consortium with the response and implementation of the 'Mandatory changes and improvements' requested by the Expert Panel and EIT RawMaterials in their Proposal feedback (KAVA 6 evaluation).
3. For XXX.OLD proposals: assist the Consortium with activities that will lead to a demonstrated and quantifiable increased impact of their project.

3. Specific rules on funding eligibility

1. For XXX.REJ proposals: funding is restricted to activities that will lead to the submission of a more competitive proposal in the KAVA 7 call.
2. For XXX.PRE proposals: funding is restricted to activities that will:
 - a) provide the Consortium with an opportunity to fast-track or expand its approved activities scheduled for 2020; and/or
 - b) assist the Consortium with the response and implementation of the 'Mandatory changes and improvements' requested by the Expert Panel and EIT RawMaterials in their Proposal feedback (KAVA 6 evaluation).
3. For XXX.OLD proposals: provide assistance to the Consortium for activities that will lead to a demonstrated and quantifiable increased impact of their project.

Funding eligibility is subject to the same rules and conditions applied by EIT and EIT RawMaterials in the 'standard' KAVA projects. Within these rules, the decision to fund specific costs will be to the sole discretion of EIT RawMaterials.

Only the costs of EIT RawMaterials Core, Associate and Project Partners will be considered. RIS Task Partners will be considered only if they are based in the RIS region and the project is in the RIS category. Note that any funds received under this scheme will be counted in the maximum yearly funding available to the different Partner categories.

4. Specific funding conditions

1. For XXX.REJ proposals: as stated in Section 1., only proposals that will be submitted again in 2020 by the same Consortium and within the same area are eligible to apply. Consortia will need to sign a declaration ('Declaration of intent to submit a proposal in the KAVA 7 Call' – See Appendix 1) to this effect and the funds will be made available only after the submission of the proposal in the KAVA 7 round.
2. For XXX.PRE proposals:
 - a) the cost of fast-tracking activities in 2019 cannot be claimed again for the same activities in 2020. Consortia will need to explain how their 2020 funding request will be reduced if the Fast-Track KAVA 6 grant is awarded ('Declaration of non-duplication' – See Appendix 2). In case the proposal is selected for fast-track funding, changes will be required in Bluebook via a change request for 2020 to reflect the updated workplan.
 - b) as a rule, funding is restricted to activities that have been already approved for 2020 in the KAVA 6 funding round. New activities, however, may be supported to improve the scope of the existing project (e.g., addition of new RIS partners) and to the sole discretion of EIT RawMaterials. New activities may also be supported if they are necessary to comply with the 'Mandatory changes and improvements' requested by the Expert Panel and EIT RawMaterials in their Proposal feedback. Funding will **not** be awarded to compensate for funding reductions requested in the 'Mandatory changes and improvements' by the Expert Panel and EIT RawMaterials in their Proposal feedback.
3. For XXX.OLD proposals: funding is restricted to activities that will have a demonstrated high impact (e.g., additional/higher KPIs, creation of a success story, etc.). Consortia will need to explain how the funding requested will increase the impact of their project ('Declaration of additional impact' – See Appendix 3). Funding will **not** be awarded to compensate for funding reductions requested in 2019 or in previous years.

5. Other conditions and information

1. The budget plan must include a co-funding Partner contribution in line with the amount required in the 'standard' KAVA 6 Call for the different project segments (Upscaling, Education etc.). In addition to co-funding, Partners should provide information on their KCAs, and KCA percentage contributions must also be the same as that applied in the 'standard' KAVA 6 Call for the different project segments. KCAs cannot replace co-funding.

2. Note that due to time constraints, no-pre-financing from EIT RawMaterials can be guaranteed, therefore Consortia must be able and willing to cover their costs until EIT RawMaterials funds are received.
3. Project Agreements (PA) cannot be issued unless the Amended Business Plan 2019 is signed by EIT and EIT RawMaterials. Therefore, Consortia need to be able to start projects without having PAs in place.
4. One new KAVA will be created in BlueBook for each XXX.REJ approved project, and this will be managed by the Consortia in the same way as they manage the 'standard' KAVAs. For XXX.PRE and XXX.OLD projects, the changes will be made in BlueBook in the existing KAVAs.
5. All the funds awarded in this call must be fully expended by 31 December 2019.
6. All activities supported in this call must be fully completed by 31 December 2019.
7. Projects selected in this KAVA 6 Fast-Track Call need to follow the regular Business Plan reporting cycle and rules.

6. Selection criteria

Proposals will be evaluated first at Innovation Hub (CLC) level using the criteria listed below. Based on the Innovation Hub evaluations and the overall available funding, the EIT RawMaterials Management Team (OMT) will rank the proposals and select the project portfolio. The total maximum score for a project is 15 (3 criteria, each with a maximum score of 5).

In addition to the eligibility criteria listed in Section 1, the following criteria will apply:

Maximum score	Description of criteria
5	<p>1. Strategic importance to the KIC, including but not limited to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic importance of the targeted theme/market • Contribution to an overall EIT RawMaterials portfolio that is in line with its strategic objectives • For XXX.PRE proposals: rationale and justification for fast-tracking approved activities scheduled for 2020 (including potential budget re-distribution in 2020)
5	<p>2. Compliance with EIT RawMaterials feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For XXX.REJ proposals: consideration and implementation of the 'Recommendations' made by EIT RawMaterials in its Proposal Feedback • For XXX.PRE proposals: response and implementation of the 'Mandatory changes and improvements' requested by the Expert Panel and EIT RawMaterials in their Proposal feedback

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For XXX.OLD proposals: overall performance of the project and compliance with EIT and EIT RawMaterials requests and guidelines
5	<p>Quality and impact of the specific activities to be carried out in 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition of aims, objectives and deliverables and their relevance to EIT RawMaterials Demonstration of the project's added value in terms of promoting entrepreneurship and innovation Contribution to KPIs Details of how the funds are to be used for in the form of a clear budget plan and timeline with justification Realistic assessment of the expected contribution that the Fast-Track KAVA 6 project will make to the specific project Realistic assessment of the expected contribution that the project will make to the impact of the KIC in relation to the requested budget

Evaluation scale: In relation to each of the criteria above, the score ranges from 0 to 5 according to the following scale:

0	Non-existent: no relevant information provided in the application file or cannot be judged because out of range
1	Very poor: The criterion is addressed in a very incomplete and unsatisfactory manner
2	Poor: There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question
3	Fair: While the proposal addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correction
4	Good: The proposal addresses the criterion well, although some improvements are possible
5	Excellent: The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor only.

Coordinators of projects that are selected for funding will be informed by their respective Innovation Hub Managers after approval by the OMT. Project Coordinators will be responsible for making the relevant changes and updates in BlueBook. Feedback on the proposals will be verbal only and will be given by the respective Innovation Hubs.

7. Confidentiality

Access to the project proposals will be given to EIT RawMaterials Innovation Hubs and Management Team for evaluation, management and reporting reasons. If a project is granted, a summary of the project proposal will be communicated to the EIT as part of the proposed Amended Business Plan 2019, where it will be included in EIT's evaluation of the Business Plan. The title, scope and overall budget of the project will be shared within the EIT RawMaterials community, and for most projects it is expected that selected non-confidential information can be made publicly available (e.g., on the EIT RawMaterials' web site, in presentations at conferences etc.). Public dissemination will be arranged in agreement with partners of the project consortium and the EIT RawMaterials staff.

8. Proposal submission

Proposals must be submitted via SeedBook no later than Monday 29 July 2019 at 13.00 CEST. Evaluation will commence immediately after submission, and the outcomes of the evaluation will be communicated to the Partners at the end of August 2019. The level of any available pre-financing of a project selected in the KAVA 6 Fast-Track Call will be announced together with the notification of acceptance of the particular project.