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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Decision

on approving the work programme 2024 of the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency

Annex

Annual work programme 2024

EUROPEAN INNOVATION COUNCIL AND
SMEs EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EISMEA)

Contents

FOREWORD. Message from the Director

As EISMEA begins the third ([1]) year of its mandate, the focus of the agency's work will support ever more closely the political priorities of the European Commission.

In particular, the new Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) Regulation aims to stimulate investments in critical technologies and proposes to reinforce the European Innovation Council's (EIC) support for companies that seek scale-up capital beyond the first innovation phase. This places the EIC centre stage in supporting new innovations that can help to ensure, for example, the EU's energy sustainability and security, digital transformation, food security, economic security, and prevention of health emergencies. In this vein, EISMEA will continue to support the objectives of the Chips Act, having selected projects and startups/SMEs in this field in 2023 for an amount of around EUR 100 million.

Following the Commission Decision adopted in early December 2023, the restructuring of the EIC Fund is now complete with the move to indirect management of the Accelerator investment component from 1 January 2024. In this context, the agency will no longer be responsible for the implementation and management of the EIC investment component but will continue to play a key role notably in the coordination of grant and equity components and in the support to beneficiaries to find co-investors.

Overall, 2024 will also be a crucial "harvest" year for our EIC portfolio of projects and activities as they begin to come to fruition. I look forward to following and communicating their results which collectively will help to meet the economic, digital and environmental objectives of the European Commission. In this context, 2024 will see the second version of the EIC Tech report.

Through EISMEA's implementation of the Single Market Programme and the EIC, the agency will continue to play a role in supporting Ukraine. Notably, the EU-Ukraine Cluster Partnership will help stimulate economic activity in key areas and contribute to the country's recovery. Under the EIC the Pan-European network of startup associations will support the integration of Ukrainian tech innovators into European ecosystems and enhance their operations in Ukraine.

This will also be an important year for the European Innovation Ecosystems Programme (EIE) and Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument. New Regional Innovation Valleys, that form the cornerstone of the flagship 3 of the New European Innovation Agenda, will be announced in 2024. This development will build on strategic areas of regional strength and specialisation, help accelerate innovation, unlock excellence and address the innovation divide.

([1])   The annual work programme 2022 was the first one to contribute with the new mandates closely aligned with the Commissions priorities as to manage new programmes.

In line with the agency's delegation and its simplified financial statement (SFS), and after the reallocation of some EIC tasks and Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) from EISMEA to the Commission, EISMEA will also continue its effort in FTEs reduction in 2024. Despite the challenge, to ensure that high-quality programme implementation is maintained, several actions have been launched in 2023 and will be reinforced and complemented in 2024. In this respect, with the support of other Executive Agencies, our parent DGs and DG HR, we are resolute in our commitment to enact all necessary measures to navigate staff reductions. Our goal is to balance the organisational needs with the well-being and job security of every staff member.

Concrete implementation will start in early 2024 with a job fair. I am confident that, despite these challenges and thanks to the commitment of each and every EISMEA colleague, the agency will confirm its strong track record in delivering excellent results in a sound financial and legal framework and will remain an attractive place to work in the coming year and beyond.

Jean-David Malo
Director, EISMEA

PART 1. Mission statement

From ideas to global markets: Innovation made in Europe.

The European Innovation Council and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Executive Agency (EISMEA) was established on 1 April 2021 (²). With a focus on innovation and the single market, it will create strong synergies to support the recovery, strengthening and twin transition of the European economy. The agency has been entrusted with the implementation of the following (parts of) Union programmes:

- Horizon Europe, pillar III: the European Innovation Council (EIC) and European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE);
- European Regional Development Fund: Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument;
- Single Market Programme: SME Pillar; Internal market; support to standardisation; and Consumers.

By implementing these programmes and the specific delegated tasks (³), the agency will contribute to reaching the European Commission's objectives of a European Green Deal and a Europe fit for the digital age, hence contributing to its open strategic autonomy. It will also be contributing to the objectives of the new STEP Regulation (⁴) to stimulate investments in critical technologies.

EISMEA's mission is to provide high quality support to European innovators, researchers, businesses, regions and consumers. We aim to reinforce the European Union's position as a global leader in Research and Innovation, strengthen its Single Market, open up opportunities for SMEs and maintain high standards of protection for its citizens towards a more competitive, digital, green and inclusive EU.

The agency implements its mission in close cooperation with its five parent DGs: DG Research and Innovation (DG RTD), DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT), DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), DG Justice and Consumers (DG JUST), and DG Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) who are represented on EISMEA's Steering Committee. It also benefits from the presence of Secretariat-General (SG) and of Directorate A of DG RTD as Observers in the Steering Committee. This close cooperation with the parent DGs is essential not only for programme implementation tasks but also for the feedback the agency provides to the Commission in view of the latter's policy tasks.

(²) COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2021/173 of 12 February 2021
(³) As outlined in Article 4 and annexes of Commission Decision C(2021)949 final, as amended by Decision C(2023) 4256 final.
(⁴) Regulation (EU) 2024/795

PART 2. Key performance indicators

The agency's key performance indicators provide a comprehensive overview of the agency's performance.

Efficient programme management. Ensuring that grants are signed on time demonstrates the agency's ability to manage the evaluation and grant agreement preparation processes that form a major part of its core tasks. Full operational budget execution ensures that the programmes run smoothly and stay on track.

Sound financial management. The agency's ability to pay within legal deadlines helps to demonstrate the effectiveness of its financial management across its administrative and operational budget.

Policy support impact. As the ten EIC Programme Managers are now in place, each will provide a workshop for DGs on future trends in their key thematic areas – with their detailed presentations made available to interested DGs – that will help to inform the Commission's policy making.

Robust internal control. The agency will measure the overall risk at closure. This indicator is compulsory for all Executive Agencies.

Quality of service (client satisfaction). The agency will survey its clients – including beneficiaries, contractors, and evaluators – to get a more in-depth understanding of the quality of its service and use the results to improve further.

They are summarised in the table below.

Key Performance Indicators – overview

Efficient Programme Management	
Source of data: European Innovation Council & SMEs Executive Agency (Unit C.01)	
Baseline (2023)	**Target** (2024)
Time to grant 83% of grants signed within deadlines. **% of budget execution** operational budget: 100% (commitments and payments).	**Time to grant** ([5]) 95% of grants signed within deadlines. **% of budget execution** operational budget: 100% (commitments and payments).

Sound Financial Management	
Source of data: European Innovation Council & SMEs Executive Agency (Unit C.01)	
Baseline (2023)	**Target** (2024)
Timely payments 99,7% of payments within legal deadlines (administrative budget). 99,6% of payments within legal deadlines (operational budget).	**Timely payments** 99% of payments within legal deadlines (administrative and operational budget).

Policy Support Impact		
Source of data: European Innovation Council & SMEs Executive Agency (D.02)		
Baseline (2024) ([6])	**Mid-term** (2025)	**Target** (2027)
F2P workshop sessions for DGs from each EIC Programme Manager (PM) – Target: one per PM. Policy support impact of workshops – Target: satisfaction rate ([7]) (usefulness of feedback to policy) of 75%.	One thematic workshop per year per PM. Policy support impact: satisfaction rate above 75%.	One thematic workshop per year per PM. Policy support impact: satisfaction rate above 75%.

Robust internal Control	
Source of data: European Innovation Council & SMEs Executive Agency 2023 AAR (Team C.01)	
Baseline	**Target** (2024)
1,45%	**Overall risk at closure** < 2% of relevant expenditure.

% of satisfied clients		
Source of data: Agency client satisfaction survey		
Baseline (2023) ([8])		*Target* (2027) ([9])
Coaches 71.9% Experts 91% Grant applicants 63,8% Beneficiaries 83,2%	Tenderers & Contractors 78% EIC Prizes Awardees 74.5% EIC Prizes Applicants 53,1%	Higher levels of satisfaction by client group / programme.

([5]) In addition to time to grant, indicators 'time to inform' and 'time to sign' will be used (and reported on).

([6]) Indicator agreed in 2023 (previous indicator concerned EIC Board – these tasks were repatriated to the Commission in 2023)

([7]) Measured via a survey of participants

([8]) EISMEA client satisfaction survey conducted in 2023 (mid-term)

([9]) Survey to be conducted at end of mandate (2027)

PART 3. Delivering on the Commission's priorities: main outputs for 2024

EISMEA has a strong economic oriented portfolio, grouping the EIC with other relevant strands of the Single Market Programme. It creates strong synergies to support the recovery of the European economy, and in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, notably through innovation. Reinforcing these efforts, European Innovation Ecosystems and Interregional Innovation Investments ensure visibility for innovation, key to supporting the modernisation and sustainability of the EU economy.

The agency contributes to the achievement of the general and specific objectives of its five parent DGs. EISMEA is responsible for implementing tasks such as the launch and conclusion of grant and procurement procedures, management of prizes, the adoption of award decisions, project monitoring, financial control and accounting, the contribution to programme evaluation and various support tasks including contribution to the preparation of the EIC work programme and the provision of feedback to policy (F2P).

The agency's F2P framework, encompasses all delegated programmes under a single umbrella to respond to the policy needs of its parent DGs and also other policy DGs. It aims to foster synergies between the programmes to increase efficiencies and strengthen impact.

In 2024, EISMEA will continue implementing F2P activities in line with the action plan agreed with its parent DGs. A specific focus will be given to political priorities including a European Green Deal, a Europe fit for the Digital Age, an Economy that Works for People, and the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) Regulation. The agency will also work with parent DGs to increase awareness of their policy goals among EISMEA's staff as a means of ensuring that EISMEA's policy feedback corresponds even more closely to parent DGs' needs.

Horizon Europe

As part of Horizon Europe – the EU's research and innovation framework programme – pillar 3 (Innovative Europe), the agency will implement actions under **European Innovation Council** and **European Innovation Ecosystems**.

By implementing these actions EISMEA will support the development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies and help make sure that Europe's open strategic autonomy is ensured in critical technology areas. It will also help create an ecosystem where innovative solutions can be created and supported in their growth. As such, EISMEA will contribute to the European Commission's objectives of 'A Europe fit for the Digital Age' and 'An Economy that Works for People'.

European Innovation Council (EIC)

The EIC aims to support the rapid scale up of innovative technologies and companies (mainly start-ups and SMEs) at EU and international level. It is organised into three main funding schemes: the **EIC Pathfinder** for advanced research to develop the scientific basis to underpin breakthrough technologies; the **EIC Transition** to validate and test technologies and plan a pathway to market; and the **EIC Accelerator** to help companies bring their innovations to market and scale up. The financial support is complemented with access to **Business Acceleration Services (BAS)**. In addition, EIC **prizes** and other related actions, provide complementary support to promising innovators. As well as implementing this funding and support, EISMEA also supports the European Commission in its coordination of the activities of the **EIC Board**.

EIC Programme Managers

The priorities of the EIC Programme Managers for 2024 are:

- Dissemination of the Challenges of the EIC Work Programme 2024 to help build a community that can respond to the relevant calls for proposals. Includes the organisation of an info day.
- Development of Challenges for the EIC Work Programme 2025.
- Pro-active portfolio management for 10 Pathfinder Challenges coming from the 2021 and 2022 Work Programmes, including the development and update of their respective portfolio strategy plans, containing progress made in the Portfolio activities.
- Participation in selection panels and juries for Pathfinder, Transition and Accelerator topics coming from the Work Programme 2024.
- Feedback to policy activities in the form of workshops run by each Programme Manager with relevant policy DGs, contribution to the EIC Tech Report 2024, and production of annual reports showcasing current EIC projects and portfolios in their areas.
- Reinforced effort to develop novel, cross-disciplinary activities, across their individual portfolios.
- Selection and on-boarding of four new Programme Managers, to replace Programme Managers whose four-year contracts are coming to an end. The new Programme Managers will cover the areas of: Health – Biotechnology and pharmaceuticals; Health – Medical imaging and AI; Energy systems and green technologies; Artificial Intelligence.

EIC Pathfinder

The [EIC Pathfinder](#) offers grants to achieve proof of principle and validate the scientific basis of breakthrough technology. EIC Pathfinder projects are characterised by their interdisciplinary / multidisciplinary nature. The agency will launch one "Open" call and five "Challenges" (thematic calls) in the following areas: Solar-to-X devices for the decentralised prosumption (production by consumers) of renewable fuels, chemicals and materials as climate change mitigation pathway; Towards cement and concrete as a carbon sink; Nature inspired alternatives for food packaging and films for agriculture; Nanoelectronics for energy-efficient smart edge devices; Strengthening the sustainability and resilience of EU space infrastructure. These calls will offer grants up to EUR 3 million (Open) or EUR 4 million (Challenges), or more if duly justified.

Put together, the calls will contribute to supporting the development and scaling up of breakthrough and disruptive technologies, helping to ensure Europe's open strategic autonomy in important technology areas.

In addition, the agency will implement the 279 Horizon Europe projects selected under the 2021, 2022 and 2023 EIC Pathfinder calls as well as the related **legacy activities of the Horizon 2020 Programme** Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) grants. The agency will support REA during the evaluation of proposals submitted by Pathfinder projects to the "Hop-on facility", to add participants from widening countries.

Further information is available in the annexed [EIC Pathfinder performance table](#).

EIC Transition

The [EIC Transition](#) funds innovation activities that go beyond the experimental proof of principle in laboratory. It targets research teams, established SMEs and spin-off companies willing to bring closer to the market research results stemming from Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe eligible projects.

Implementing EIC Transition actions will support the development and scaling up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies. As such, the agency will launch one Transition call open to any scientific and application topic, offering around 38 grants of up to EUR 2.5 million to single applicants or small consortia. Successful applicants must validate and demonstrate technology in an application-relevant environment and develop market readiness.

In addition, the agency will implement related legacy activities of the Horizon 2020 Programme including EIC Transition Pilot projects and FET Innovation Launchpad projects.

Further information is available in the annexed [EIC Transition performance table](#)

EIC Accelerator

The [EIC Accelerator](#) focuses on innovations building on scientific discovery or technological breakthroughs ('deep tech') and where significant funding is needed over a long timeframe before returns can be generated ('patient capital'). Funding and support from the EIC Accelerator are designed to enable such innovators attract the full investment amounts needed for scale up in a shorter timeframe.

To implement the EIC Accelerator, the agency runs continuously open calls as well as specific challenges, targeting EU policy priorities including: energy sustainability and security ([REPowerEU](#)); [food security](#); the [European AI Strategy](#); the [Health Emergency Response Authority](#) (HERA) as well as concerning critical technologies for the EU's economic security ([10]).

The Commission Decision C(2023) 8183 final (4 December 2023) establishing the move to indirect management of the investment component of the EIC Accelerator came into force on 4 December 2023. A separate Commission Decision C(2023)4256, on the delegation of tasks following the restructuring of the EIC Fund and clarifying tasks delegated in relation to financial instruments and support to the EIC Board and EISMEA, was also adopted in December 2023. Following these Decisions, EISMEA will continue to select (with the help of external experts) the beneficiaries of EIC Accelerator support, carry out technical due diligence with the help of experts, manage the grant component and ensure coordination between the grant and investment components. In addition, EISMEA will continue to provide Business Acceleration Services to beneficiaries and will support them to find co-investors through a dedicated platform and associated services.

Moreover, as of 1 January 2024, the European Investment Bank (EIB), entrusted by the Commission with the implementation and the management of the EIC investment component, will receive the appropriations corresponding to the investment component of the EIC Accelerator directly from the Commission (DG RTD) on the EIC Facility Account (=fiduciary account), managing this budget under indirect management and channelling this budget to the EIC Fund for investments.

The agency will continue to implement legacy activities (FTI, SME Instrument and EIC Pilot projects) launched under Horizon 2020 as well as 400 signed contracts under Horizon Europe. In this context, the EIC Fund will continue to monitor the investment component of the 141 companies selected under Horizon 2020 and 129 under HE.

Further information is available in the annexed [EIC Accelerator performance table.](#)

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[10]   C(2023) 6689 Annex to the Commission Recommendation on critical technology areas for the EU's economic security for further risk assessnent with Member States.

EIC Prizes

EIC Prizes are a powerful tool to support and foster innovation. They engage with citizens by shedding light on the best innovators and their practices while also having a direct impact on the ecosystems and their players. The agency will pay the Award winners of the 2023 edition of the prizes. It will also manage the process for the 2024 edition of the prizes:

The **European Capital of Innovation Awards** (iCapital) recognise the role of cities as catalysers of the local innovation ecosystem and stimulate new activities aimed at boosting game-changing innovation. 2024 will celebrate the 10th edition of iCapital and include promotional activities to mark this milestone.

The **EU Prize for Women Innovators** supports the flagship 4 of the New European Innovation Agenda by celebrating talented women entrepreneurs from the EU and countries associated to Horizon Europe, who have founded a successful company and brought innovation to market.

The **European Innovation Procurement Awards** support the flagship 2 of the New European Innovation Agenda by recognising public and private buyers across Europe in their efforts to promote innovation procurement and the innovative ways the solutions are procured.

The **European Social Innovation Competition** aims to stimulate social innovation's potential to provide solutions to societal challenges and foster sustainable and inclusive growth in Europe. It will directly support and reward ideas which best illustrate this concept.

Further information is available in the annexed EIC Prizes performance table

EIC Community and Business Acceleration Services

The EIC's **Business Acceleration Services** **(BAS)** use the pan-European reach of the EIC to connect EIC beneficiaries, Seal of Excellence companies and Women Tech EU beneficiaries with ecosystem partners. The objective is to stimulate the development of the innovations as well as the growth of supported companies. In addition, EISMEA deploys coaches and manages contracts and grants delivering value-added services such as **tech-to-market activities** (also open now to European Research Council Proof of Concept grantees for the training part) and **access to business partners, corporates, innovation procurers and investors**. Initiatives include events, visits, access to overseas trade fairs, pilots and trial collaborations to facilitate the international expansion of EIC beneficiaries.

All BAS services are accessible through the EIC Community platform which also offers peer to peer activities, including a Women Leadership Programme and access to GHG emissions

measurement tool. The agency will coordinate the BAS activities described above through procurement actions and grants.

In 2024 the agency will further stimulate the uptake of services offered by selected ecosystem partners (including EIT KICs) in the online catalogue by offering financial support to cover up to 50% of the costs for EIC beneficiaries. It will also provide EIC beneficiaries with services to enhance their capabilities to take part in innovation procurement bids and will provide financial support for pilots between EIC beneficiaries and public and private procurers. Pathfinder and Transition beneficiaries will benefit from a continued set of venture building and training activities. The most promising companies – in line with the STEP strategic domains – will receive scaleup support through the EIC Scaleup100 programme (part of the actions of the New European Innovation Agenda).

In addition, the agency will continue to run projects and contracts delivering BAS services for the legacy Pathfinder, Transition, Accelerator and FTI projects funded under Horizon 2020 as well as for companies awarded the Seal of Excellence.

Further information is available in the annexed EIC Community and BAS performance table

Other EIC Actions

To support the EIC's core activities as described above and ensure the best possible support for innovative technologies and companies, the agency will launch public procurement actions, expert contracts, and grants in number of areas. Key actions for 2024 include:

External expertise for monitoring, ethics and policy advice through independent experts supporting the EIC's activities on a contractual basis in areas including the monitoring of ongoing projects, ethics compliance, technology advice and policy assessments.

EIC data management and IT systems integration. The focus in 2024 is to advance on the needed improvements and technological upgrade of the EIC IT system to ensure scalability, performance, and robustness. Key areas for development include: EIC community, coaching management and portfolio management tools, while seeking overall to enable further integration with the corporate Horizon Europe data and IT systems.

Foresight and anticipatory data-driven intelligence aims to increase EIC capacity by combining data-driven and expert-based intelligence in the creation and management of future-oriented knowledge. These actions are scoped and implemented in full cooperation with RTD and the JRC, and include anticipation and monitoring of breakthrough technologies and disruptive innovations, as well as data and analytical studies. This activity will be used, for example, in support of the work of Programme Managers and Feedback to Policy including the EIC Tech Report.

EIC Communication Actions

In 2024, EISMEA will promote EIC funding opportunities by participating in major deep-tech events, organising info days and the EIC Summit. The agency will also implement communication campaigns targeting key audiences (women innovators, start-ups, and researchers in widening countries, investors) and continue production of audio-visual communication material.

Please see EIC Communication Performance table

European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)

The agency is responsible for implementing European Innovation Ecosystems' calls for proposals and monitoring projects in thematic areas – "destinations". In 2024, calls are organised under the destinations **CONNECT and InnovSMEs** and are designed to support the completion of the New European Innovation Agenda (NEIA) flagships with a specific focus on:

- Implementing Regional Innovation Valleys under the co-funded action plans for connected regional innovation valleys in close coordination with a similar action under the I3 Instrument
- Launching a call to set up the African Union-European Union Innovation Platform (a key priority of the EU Communication Towards a Comprehensive Strategy with Africa, supporting the implementation of the EU-African Union Innovation Agenda) and to increase the market footprint of the European start-ups in strategic digital technologies and deep tech innovation, such as AI, advanced computing, cybersecurity, etc through the Startup Europe action
- Launching a call to expand academia enterprise collaborations by fostering creation or strengthening of innovation ecosystems with educational and research institutions and to support the national and regional innovation programmes to respond to the requirements of the plug-in certification for the step 2 of the EIC Accelerator.

The agency will continue implementing **InnovSMEs** and also launch and implement **procurement actions, direct action grants and expert contracts,** that inform policy making and thus support programme objectives articulated in the NEIA, such as:.

- Supporting the **EIC Forum** and its **Commission Expert Groups.** Output will include a policy report on obstacles encountered by iCapital cities in their innovation efforts.
- Continuing to implement the **IP Helpdesk**. An open call for tenders will be launched for a new IP Helpdesk to start as of January 2024.
- Establishing a set of innovation ecosystem specific indicators towards a pilot **European Start-up Scoreboard.**
- Mapping of **regulatory compliance advisory services** and identification of gaps.

Supporting its implementation of the EIE, EISMEA will promote the calls, results and success stories of the EIE programme via its digital communication channels. A major communication action will involve the organisation and promotion of info-days.

Further information is available in the annexed [European Innovation Ecosystems performance table](#)

Single Market Programme

The agency will implement several complementary strands of the [Single Market Programme](#): the [Consumers](#) pillar (actions aimed at protecting the rights of consumers in the internal market); the [SME pillar](#) (actions to support the competitiveness of SMEs), as well as actions designed to strengthen the [internal market](#) and provide [support to standardisation](#).

By implementing these actions, EISMEA will help to generate more business opportunities in the Single Market, ensure that more European SMEs have access to cross-border business by digital means, ensure that consumers are empowered and better protected and that sustainable consumption is promoted. As such it will contribute to achieving the European Commission's objectives of a Europe fit for the Digital Age and a European Green Deal.

Consumers pillar of the Single Market Programme

The agency will be responsible for implementing **grants** to:

- Support the consumer organisations and bodies
- Support individual consumers policy initiatives and objectives

It will also be responsible for **procurement** in areas such as:

Market surveillance and enforcement including: joint actions ("Coordinated Activities on the Safety of Products") to: support to the exchanges of EU Member States and EEA EFTA enforcement officials in the areas of consumer safety; and strengthen the operational capacities and cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of EU consumer protection law, also through the organisation of events.

Capacity building and education including: capacity building of consumer protection enforcement authorities, consumer organisations and other actors active in consumer policy; promoting local advice to consumers, consumer education and awareness-raising initiatives; implementation of innovative training tools and collaborative programmes. .

Studies, analyses and surveys including: consumers' attitudes, behaviours, and experiences with respect to domestic and cross-border trade, awareness of consumer rights and product safety, handling of consumer complaints, and unfair commercial practices

Events and external communication including: the Consumer Summit, High-level Ministerial/Presidency meetings, and Info-Days.

By implementing these delegated actions, the agency will contribute to improving the empowerment and protection of consumers.

In addition, the agency will implement the **legacy activities of the Consumer Programme (2014-2020)** and finalise procedures planned under 2023 Work Programme.

Further information is available in the annexed Consumer objective performance table

SME pillar of the Single Market Programme

The agency will launch actions to strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of SMEs and achieve added value at Union level by implementing **grants** for, inter-alia:

- Enterprise Europe Network (EEN);
- Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE);
- Joint Cluster Initiatives (EUROCLUSTERS), including an EU-Ukraine Cluster Partnership Programme;
- Reinforcing social economy enterprises in the context of the EU Green Deal and the Digital Single Market;
- Creating Renewable Energy Communities in the agrifood and retail sectors;
- Supporting the EU-Japan Centre for industrial cooperation and the EU SME Centre in China.

It will also be responsible for **procurement** in areas including:

- Communication, training, and IT support for EEN, including the organisation of the EEN annual conference;
- EYE support office;
- Support to SMEs in the creative industries through the Worth Partnership Programme;
- Observatory on due diligence;
- SOLVIT training programme for SMEs.

In addition, the agency will implement **the actions of the SME pillar under the Single Market Programmes 2021, 2022 and 2023 and the legacy activities of the COSME programme (2014-2020).**

EISMEA will promote the SMP's networks and initiatives, new calls and results (success stories) via its digital communication channels. Major events will include the EEN Annual Conference, SME Assembly and the European Cluster Conference.

Further information is available in the annexed SME pillar performance table

Internal Market and support to standardisation

The agency will implement grants and procurement actions aimed at the promotion and support of market surveillance and standardisation activities, in particular:

Market surveillance. Implementation of
- procurement actions launched with Request for Services under the Framework Contract CASP/JACOP (Organisation of Joint Actions on Compliance of Products in the EU and EFTA countries), promoted by DG GROW and DG JUST;
- 16 ongoing grants with market surveillance authorities (Joint Support Actions).

- Implementation of grants with market surveillance authorities to support the functioning of EU testing facilities (EUTF).

Standardisation. Launch and implementation of:
- **Action grants to European standardisation organisations** to carry out the development and revision of European standards and associated activities.
- **Operating grants to European stakeholder organisations** representing consumer, environmental, and social interests in European standardisation.
- **Action grants with a European stakeholder organisation** to represent the interests of SMEs in European standardisation.

In terms of **legacy activities**, the agency will continue managing action grants, concluded in the period 2013 to 2020 under successive Framework Partnership Agreements with European standardisation organisations CEN, CENELEC, and ETSI.

Further information is available in the annexed Internal Market and support to standardisation performance table

Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument (ERDF)

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions. The I3 Instrument is implemented under the EU Cohesion Policy, that encourages regions and Member States to enhance existing European value chains and/or develop new ones in less developed regions.

The I3 Instrument supports interregional innovation investments, focusing on Smart Specialisation to accelerate innovation deployment in connected regional innovation ecosystems across the EU. It provides financial and advisory support through two strands – strands 1 and 2a provide financial and advisory support to innovation actors and strand 2b supports actions to increase the capacity of regional innovation ecosystems in less developed regions.

In 2024, EISMEA's implementation of the I3 instrument will include:

- Monitoring of ongoing projects from previous calls.
- Evaluation and grant agreement preparations for all strands.
- Announcing successful projects that qualified as Regional Innovation Valleys (the cornerstone of the flagship 3 of the New European Innovation Agenda).
- Set up and running of the 'I3 Support Facility' of technical assistance to support innovation actors from less developed regions to participate in I3 Instrument projects.
- Meetings with project coordinators/beneficiaries and diverse I3 Instrument promotion activities related events, i.e. dedicated info days for applicants.

Further information is available in the [Interregional Innovation Investments performance table](#)

PART 4. Modernising the administration: main outputs for 2024

The internal control framework (¹¹) supports sound management and decision-making. It ensures that risks to the achievement of objectives are taken into account and reduced to acceptable levels through cost-effective controls.

EISMEA has established an internal control system tailored to its particular characteristics and circumstances. The effective functioning of the agency's Internal Control System will be assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the year and be subject to a specific annual assessment covering all internal control principles.

A. Human resource management

Human Resources activities in 2024 will strengthen the work of the initial years of EISMEA to create the best workplace for staff. This will be grounded in EISMEA's values and the EISMEA Management Charter adopted in 2022. Additionally, after analysing the Commission Staff Survey, expected to be available in early 2024, EISMEA will develop an action plan to address the survey results and update its activities accordingly.

2024 Staff allocation and Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) reduction

In line with the agency's delegation act and specific financial statement (SFS), EISMEA's staff numbers began to reduce from 2023.

In compliance with the CBA, EISMEA will continue to closely monitor the number of vacant positions using the same approach as before. This approach will be instrumental in preparing for the reduction of 24 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) expected in 2025, primarily by freezing vacant posts. While for contractual agents, the turnover rate allows for the FTE reduction to be absorbed, the turnover for temporary agents is lower. If the turnover is not sufficient to absorb the FTE reduction, EISMEA will continue to explore other options such as those indicated below.

The 2025 reduction will respect the allocation per delegated programme while ensuring the balance between the different types of activities: approximately 83% for operational activities and approximately 17% for management and administrative support activities.

In 2023, EISMEA opened discussions with the other five Executive Agencies to identify concrete support actions by creating additional opportunities for inter-agency mobility. A number of actions were outlined in a communication from the Directors of the Executive Agencies, several of which will be rolled out in 2024. In particular, two job fairs are planned: one in February (5-9), and a second in the autumn. Additionally, the Agencies will publish their selection planning so that all staff will be informed about job opportunities.

(¹¹) Communication C(2017)2373 - Revision of the Internal Control Framework

Furthermore, all six Agencies have committed to using the inter-agency job market systematically when a vacancy cannot be filled through internal mobility. Internally, EISMEA is promoting training, career guidance and coaching services more actively to support colleagues in preparing their applications.

EISMEA will put in place working groups to identify simplification and automatization measures in the recruitment and selection procedures.

In the first half of the year, the agency will conduct a thorough analysis of the workload and will present the results to the management with proposals for action.

Building up and reaching out

In 2024, even though the agency is reducing staff, there is a clear need to strengthen the staff retention policy. Retaining staff will help to safeguard key skills and competences while ensuring that the agency remains an attractive employer.

From 2024, EISMEA plans to focus its learning and development activities on key aspects to retention such as: reskilling and upskilling of staff, career development opportunities and support, wellbeing actions and teambuilding activities. EISMEA also foresees an all staff away day in 2024 to reinforce the sense of belonging and collaboration.

Furthermore, the agency will continue to use a broad range of recruitment channels combined with competency-based assessments.

To promote two-way communication, staff will be able to express their needs and give feedback on the actions put in place by HR through pulse surveys and ad hoc meetings.

Shaping the agency's organisational culture

The agency will continue to implement its internal communication strategy, adopted in 2022 with actions designed to help the agency achieve three goals:

- **Establishing EISMEA as an outstanding employer through listening to staff and promoting dialogue**. Initiatives will include regular "open door" slots and informal coffee chats for staff with senior management as well as Town-Hall meetings to encourage open and transparent exchanges.
- **Building up a vibrant and inclusive working environment** by continuing to promote bottom-up, staff-led initiatives.
- **Establishing EISMEA as a beacon of innovation** including use of the agency's re-launched "idea lab" to harvest and implement the best ideas from staff.

Four events per year (two bottom-up events linked to the country of the rotating EU Presidency and two agency-wide get-togethers including an away-day) are planned for 2024 to further build and develop the corporate culture in line with the above three goals.

Implementing a modern HR service

Following a 360° appraisal exercise in 2023, EISMEA launched an in-depth reflection at management level to work on identified gaps and to build a cohesive management team. This will lead to the deployment of a management excellence training package in 2024.

In 2024, EISMEA will work on expanding its internal training offer in line with its learning and development strategy. It will continue to reinforce the essential training (such as ethics, expenditure lifecycle or anti-fraud training) as well as providing courses targeted to internal needs.

Facilitating career development and increasing synergies between Executive Agencies

In 2024 the agency will continue working to build efficiencies in talent acquisition (supporting joint recruitment procedures and sharing its reserve lists with other Agencies).

The agency will continue to participate in the DG/Executive Agencies exchange programme (a second edition is foreseen in 2024) as well as relaunching the Inter-Agency Job Shadowing scheme to encourage mobility among Agencies, especially in view of the foreseen reduction in posts to complement the actions already mentioned above.

Promoting gender balance

The agency endeavours to continue working closely with the parent DGs in a joint effort to increase female representation [12] in middle management positions, aiming to maintain a good gender balance.

The agency fully supports the target, will provide parent DGs with a regular overview of the gender and geographical distribution within the middle management and will continue to help the parent DGs in reaching the Commission targets.

The agency is sustaining its own efforts to promote diversity and inclusion together with the other Agencies, having launched the second Inter-Agency Women Talent Programme with the objective of empowering women aspiring to leadership positions and taking part in the Diversity and Inclusion week.

Further information is available in the annexed HR Management performance table

B. Sound financial management

The agency will continue implementing cost-effective control procedures to ensure proper implementation of the delegated programmes and particularly the legality and regularity of

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[12] The responsibility for making these appointments lies with the parent DG

financial transactions in accordance with the principle of sound financial management as well as effective protection of the financial interests of the Union.

The agency's Internal Control represents a comprehensive system of processes providing reasonable assurance to the management of the agency.

In 2024, the agency will continue monitoring the implementation of the Internal Control Framework based on an updated Internal Control Monitoring Criteria. EISMEA will implement actions identified following the 2023 Internal Control Assessment exercise to further improve its Internal Control Systems. Key initiatives, among others, include refining the internal communication strategy, ensuring timely updates to staff, improving transparency through accessible meeting recordings, and fostering managerial trust through targeted training. Additionally, there will be an emphasis on the establishment of clear performance objectives for staff and a revision of the Competency Framework. These actions aim to better match competencies to agency profiles and to align with other Executive Agencies' practices.

In the second quarter of the year, the agency will review the risks identified in relation to programme implementation in 2024. At the end of the year, the agency will conduct its annual risk assessment exercise.

Following the rollout of the corporate register of exceptions and non-compliance events in CENTRICS ([13]), the agency will update its guidance to report the deviations and will follow up with training for all EISMEA staff. The agency will further use the CENTRICS tool to encode the Internal Control Monitoring Criteria and risks as well as reservations, if any.

The agency will continue to provide training and info sessions for staff on different aspects of the Internal Control Framework, supported by an internal network of colleagues who will raise awareness on topics such as the implementation of the risk assessment exercise and the appropriate use of exception and non-compliance reports.

To ensure adequate management of risks related to legality and regularity of underlying transactions, the agency will carry out ex ante and ex post controls embedded in its programme management processes included in the agency's control strategy.

In 2024, the agency will update its ex post audit strategy related to the delegated programmes Single Market Programme (SMP) and the Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument. The agency will also close the audit cycle for legacy programmes.

In the area of financial management, further harmonisation of business processes should lead to significant efficiency gains in the financial management of the delegated budgets in 2024.

([13])   CENTRICS is a corporate web-based application for the registration of internal control related information.

The agency will also prepare for the rollout of SUMMA, the new Commission financial management system.

Finally, the agency will continue updating its internal guidance and the Manual of Procedures to ensure adequate coverage and dissemination of the relevant rules, processes and procedures including all strands of the EIC programme.

Further information is available in the annexed [Sound Financial Management performance table](#).

Fraud risk management

In 2024, the agency will continue implementing its Anti-Fraud Strategy and contributing to the implementation of the Common Anti-Fraud Strategy in the Research and Innovation Family (RAFS), both updated in 2023. It will also contribute to the implementation of the revised Commission anti-fraud strategy Action Plan[14] . The agency will undertake the following anti-fraud activities:

- Capacity building on anti-fraud skills for effective prevention and detection of potential fraud cases through training (mandatory for newcomers and as a refreshment for established staff every two years).
- Enhancing reactivity in case of suspicion of fraud by taking timely precautionary measures and timely notifications of cases to OLAF.
- Cooperation with OLAF by providing timely information for handling of selections and investigations.
- Improving the agency's responsiveness regarding recoveries, penalties and other corrective measures in cases of fraud.
- Participation in the Fraud Prevention and Detection Network with a view to contributing to the design and implementation of the anti- fraud measures in the Commission;
- Participation in the Fraud and Irregularities in Research Committee, a forum to share best practices in the frame of fraud prevention, detection and correction activities;
- Participation in a working group to collect user requirements to enhance a corporate risk-scoring tool.

Working arrangements between the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and the six Executive Agencies were formalised in July 2023. EISMEA is working closely with EPPO in its cases of criminal investigations and prosecutions across various Member States for crimes against the financial interests of the EU. EISMEA will continue to cooperate with OLAF by providing timely information for handling of selections and investigations and ensuring reactivity in case of suspicion of fraud by taking timely precautionary measures.

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14 COM(2023)405.

Further information is available in the annexed [Fraud Risk Management performance table](#)

C. Digital transformation and information management

For the implementation of Horizon Europe, the agency uses the eGrants IT applications suite by default. Where provided for by Horizon Europe legal base and EIC work programmes, in consultation and subject to prior validation of the solution by the relevant parent-DGs and corporate IT governance bodies, the agency may use, develop and procure specific IT solutions, complementing corporate solutions.

The planning, budgeting, procurement, and development of specific IT tools must comply with the Commission's established IT governance and cybersecurity rules and follow the [Commission's Digital Strategy](#) (CDS). The agency will continue operating in line with the CDS focusing on the following four objectives:

Digital transformation

- **Objective #1 (CDS) Foster a Digital Culture** – EISMEA will improve digital skills by promoting the use of collaborative and interoperable tools and offering support and training on them. EISMEA staff will continue participating in digital transformation Communities of Practice.
- **Objective #3 (CDS) Empower business-driven digital transformation** – To help deliver high-quality programme management, EISMEA will use innovative technologies and Artificial Intelligence to facilitate the finding and allocating of experts to evaluate proposals. In 2024 EISMEA will examine how to rethink and redesign business processes using automation and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve resource efficiency and performance.
- **Objective #4 (CDS) Ensure a seamless digital landscape –** EISMEA will use the Dual Pillar Approach (DPA), Reusable Solutions Platform (RSP) and open-source technologies for the new IT initiatives of the agency.
- **Objective #5 (CDS) – Sustain a green, secure and resilient infrastructure** – EISMEA will develop/update its IT Security Plans. EISMEA will continue improving the resilience and security of its IT infrastructure including the local data centre coupled with a hybrid cloud infrastructure.

Information and IT security rules

On cybersecurity, activities will include:

- Further use of the IT Security Plan service, Application Security Testing, Vulnerability Testing and other services provided under the Service Level Agreement with DIGIT S, improving the security of IT applications.
- Updating EISMEAs relevant security plans and finalising the ongoing ones.
- Continuing cybersecurity awareness activities for senior managers and staff.

Data, information and knowledge management

The agency will continue to foster the use of corporate IT platforms and perform continuous proactive updates to the EC data inventory. Handling of data will adhere to data quality principles, namely accuracy, completeness, reliability, relevance and timeliness.

EISMEA will continue implementing its Microsoft 365 Applications ecosystem to ensure faster, more inclusive collaboration and knowledge sharing. This will facilitate a more efficient management, discovery and reusability of information. Notably, the migration of EISMEA's Intranet (communication and collaboration sites) is planned for 2024.

Support to staff for collaboration and knowledge sharing will be reinforced and communities of practice will be encouraged to bridge silos across programmes.

Data protection

The agency will continue to actively monitor compliance with the Data Protection Regulation (EU) N° 2018/1725 and update its Data protection action plan when required, largely based on the Action Plan of the Commission (cf. C(2020) 7625) and the IAS recommendations on processing of personal data. The agency's Data Protection Officer will provide regular awareness and training opportunities to staff and management, e.g. on European Data Protection Day, and update internal rules and guidelines, if required.

In 2024 the agency will continue its efforts to raise awareness of data breaches, data subject rights, obligations of Data controllers to regularly update DPNs and publish records and ensure appropriate allocation of resources for compliance with data protection obligations.

Further information is available in the annexed Digital Transformation and Information Management Performance Table.

D. Sound environmental management

EISMEA will promote the EMAS corporate campaigns at local level and identify local environmental actions to support the Commission's commitment to implement the

objectives of the Green Deal for its own administration, including becoming climate neutral by 2030 ([15]). These will include:

- Energy efficiency of buildings: Closing the SB34 building during holiday periods.
- Staff awareness actions to reduce energy use in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns in collaboration with OIB and DG HR (EMAS Team).
- Staff awareness actions on reducing GHG emissions.
- Staff awareness actions on digital pollution towards a gradual change of behaviour (Digital Frugality Action).
- Staff awareness actions on the promotion of "green items" in the EC office supplies' catalogue.
- First experiences of desk sharing to reduce the workspace allocation.
- Raising awareness about paper use in the office and reducing consumption.
- Substantial increase of the use and number of VC meeting rooms in the agency and promoting their use.
- Implementing the EC Guidelines for sustainable meetings and events.

Further information is available in the annexed Sound Environmental Management performance table.

E. Initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities

As described above, initiatives will include:

- Increasing the use of digital platforms for HR services to ensure a more efficient and effective use of the administrative budget;
- Increasing the use of collaborative IT tools to ensure that data becomes more searchable and shareable among staff.

([15])   Communication to the Commission - Greening the Commission C(2022) 2230

ANNEX 1: Performance tables

EIC Pathfinder performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age

Specific objective: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)

Europe's open strategic autonomy is ensured in critical technology areas (DG CNECT)

From 2020-2024 Strategic Plans

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	2
Calls for tender	Number of calls published	0
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	100% (by early 2025)
	Time to inform applicants	100% within 5 months
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	Less than 2%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	0-2 proposals
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	~90
	Time to grant	96% within 8 months
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	0
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	50 (from legacy projects)
Payments	Time to pay	100% payments executed within the legal time limit

EIC Transition performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age
Specific objective: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)
Europe's open strategic autonomy is ensured in critical technology areas (DG CNECT)
From 2020-2024 Strategic Plans

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	1
Calls for tender	Number of calls published	0
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	100% (by early 2025)
	Time to inform applicants	100% applicants informed within 17 weeks (~4 months) from submission deadline
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	Less than 3%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	Less than 2%
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	~38
	Time to grant	90% grants signed within 6 months from submission deadline
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	0
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	12 (from legacy projects)
Payments	Time to pay	100% payments executed within the legal time limit

EIC Accelerator performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age

Specific objective: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)

Europe's open strategic autonomy is ensured in critical technology areas (DG CNECT)

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	1 continuous call (short proposal) 1 call with 7 topics (1 open + 6 challenges) with 2 cut-off dates for the challenges and 2 cut-off dates for the Open topic (full proposal)
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	1 continuous session for continuous call (short proposal) 2 sessions (2 cut-off dates for Open and 2 cut-off dates for Challenges mentioned above – full proposals with interviews)
	Time to inform applicants	30-60 days for short proposal from submission to outcome 60 days for full proposal from cut-off date to outcome of remote evaluation 4 months max from cut-off to final decision of interview
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure (for short proposals)	< 7%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests (for short proposals)	< 0.5%
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	140 under Horizon Europe
	Time to grant	6 months for ≥85% of the grant agreements
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements, Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	4 SME Instrument and FTI; 100 EIC Pilot 140 EIC Accelerator
Payments	Time to pay	> 95% within the legal limit - **For EIC Accelerator Pilot and Horizon Europe projects**: 60 days for periodic reporting linked to additional pre-financing requests and 90 days for final periodic reporting; **- For SMEI Phase 2 and FTI projects**: 90 days for interim and final periodic reporting.

EIC Prizes performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age
Specific objective: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)
From 2020-2024 Strategic Plans

Main outputs in 2024:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Calls for applications	Number of calls for applications published	7
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	7
	Time to inform applicants	100% within 5 months of application deadline
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	< 0.5%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	< 0.5%
Prizes awarded	Number of individual prizes awarded	21
Payments	Time to pay	100% payment executed within the legal time limit
Outreach and promotion	Number of information and promotion events organised	10
	Average number of participants or views per event	200

EIC Community and BAS performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age

Specific objective: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)

From 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published (CSA)	0
Calls for tender	Number of calls published	1
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	2
	Time to grant	100% signed less than 6 months from submission deadline
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	1
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	1
Coaching cases	Number of coaching cases	1100
	Satisfaction from coaching service	90%
BAS events	Number of BAS events	40
	Participating EIC beneficiaries	500
	Average Deals for matching events	1-2
EIC Community	Number of members	15000

EIC Communication Performance Table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age

Specific objective: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)

Europe's open strategic autonomy is ensured in critical technology areas (DG CNECT)

From 2020-2024 Strategic Plans

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
EIC Summit – March 2024	Number of participants (physical + online)	1000
EIC local info days	Number of Info Days Number of participants	10 600
Presence at the important deep-tech/start-ups events (Hello Tomorrow, Sifted, Slush, Web Summit, etc.)	Number of events	15
Digital communication (EIC website and EIC social media accounts)	EIC website – Page views	+10%
	EIC X (ex-Twitter) – Number of followers EIC LinkedIn – Number of followers	+10%

European Innovation Ecosystems performance table

General objectives: A Europe fit for the digital age; an economy that works for people.

Specific objectives: Research and innovation actions and the European Innovation Council in particular support development and scaling-up of SMEs with breakthrough and disruptive technologies (DG RTD)

Research and innovation actions, increased R&I investments and the R&I component of the European Semester boost economic growth and jobs creation (DG RTD)
From 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	2 (= 4 topics)
Calls for tender	Number of calls published	1
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	4
	Time to inform applicants	5 months
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	<5%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	<3%
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	23
	Time to grant	95% within 8 months
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	1
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	144
Payments	Time to pay	90 days (grants)
Info day	Number of participants	300

SMP Consumer objective performance table

General objectives: A European Green Deal, A Europe fit for the digital age
Specific objectives: Consumers are empowered and better protected (DG JUST)
From 2020-2024 Strategic Plan
Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals incl. invitations to submit proposals	Number of calls published incl. invitations sent	3-5
Calls for tender incl. RfS	Number of calls published incl. RfS	8-12 (incl. 5-6legacy)
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	100%
	Time to inform applicants	100 % applicants informed within 6 months from submission deadline
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	Less than 8%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	Less than 8%
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	65-75 (incl. 35-40 legacy)
	Time to grant	100 % grants signed within 9 months from submission deadline
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	+/- 8-11 (incl. 3-6 legacy)
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	45
Payments	Time to pay	100% payments executed within the legal time limit

SMP SME pillar performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age
Specific objective: More European SMEs have access to cross-border business by digital means (DG GROW)
From 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Main outputs in 2024([16])		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	9 (8 from WP 2024 and 1 from WP 2023) 85% of calls for proposals in SMP SME annual work programme 2024 published by 31/12/2024.
Calls for tender	Number of calls published	6 (2 from WP 2024 and 4 from WP 2023). 50% of calls for tender in the SMP SME annual work programme 2024 published by 31/12/2024.
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	9 evaluations for call for proposals (5 from WP 2024 and 4 from WP 2023) and 8 evaluations for calls for tenders (2 calls for tenders from WP 2024 and 6 from WP 2023) by 31 December 2024.
	Time to inform applicants	100% of applicants informed within 6 months (183 days) after the call deadline.
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	Less than 3% of evaluated proposals.
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	Max. 0.5% of evaluated proposals.
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	26 SMP SME grant agreements (8 from WP 2024 and 18 from WP 2023) signed by 31 December 2024. 90% of grant agreement preparations (GAPs) initiated before 30/09/2024, signed by

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([16]) the table includes also COSME legacy actions

		31/12/2024.
	Time to grant	100% of grant agreements signed within 9 months (274 days) after the call deadline
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	6 contracts (two from WP 2024 and four from WP 2023).
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	At least 50 final reports assessed. 100 % of the final reports submitted before 31st October 2024 assessed.
Payments	Time to pay	100% of payments within legal deadlines
Event (Enterprise Europe Network Annual Conference)	Number of participants (onsite)	700
SME Assembly	Number of participants (onsite)	400
European Cluster Conference	Number of participants (onsite)	400

SMP Internal Market and support to standardisation performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age

Specific objective: More business opportunities are generated in the Single Market (DG GROW)

From 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	5 (3 ESOs calls, 1 Annex III call, 1 EUTF call)
Calls for tender	Number of calls published	1
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	100%
	Time to inform applicants	100% informed within 6 months from submission deadline
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	Less than 8%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	Less than 8%
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	35-45
	Time to grant	100% signed within 9 months from submission
Contracts	Number of contracts signed	1
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	26 Standardisation: 3 on-paper legacy grants; 12 in e-Grants Market surveillance: 11 grants
Payments	Time to pay	100% executed within the legal deadline

Interregional Innovation Investments performance table

General objective: A Europe fit for the digital age
Specific objective: Innovative and smart economic transformation across the EU (DG REGIO)
From 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Main outputs in 2024:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Calls for proposals	Number of calls published	3
Evaluation sessions	Number of evaluation sessions implemented	3 (moving from one two steps evaluation to one step evaluation for Strands 1/2a)
	Time to inform applicants	100 % applicants informed within 6 months from submission deadline
	% of evaluated proposals challenged under the evaluation review procedure	<5%
	% of evaluated proposals re-evaluated following review requests	<3%
Grant agreements	Number of grant agreements signed	20 for calls I3-2023-INV1, I3-2023-INV2a and Cap2b 2023
	Time to grant	85 % within 9 months
Final reports of concluded Grant Agreements and Contracts	Number of final reports assessed	0
Payments	Time to pay	100% payments executed within the legal time limit
Info days	Number of participants	1000 for two info days (Strands 1/2a 2024 and Cap2b 2024)

Part 4 – Modernising the administration: main outputs for 2024

A. Human resource management

Objective: EISMEA employs a competent and engaged workforce and contributes to gender equality at all levels of management to effectively deliver on the agency's priorities and core business.	
Indicator 1 [mandatory]: ([17]) **Number and percentage of female representation in middle management** ([18]) **Source of data: DG HR**	
Baseline (female representation in middle management) 58% (7 out of 12)	**Target** 50 % by end 2024 ([19])
Indicator 2 [mandatory]: EISMEA staff engagement index **Source of data:** Commission staff survey	
Baseline: 58% (2023 EU Staff Survey)	Target 65% (next European Commission staff survey)
Indicator 3: Occupation rate of the establishment plan **Source of data:** EISMEA/ Establishment Plan	
Baseline: 81% (end 2023)	**Target (2024)** 90%

Main outputs in 2024:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
BUILDING UP AND REACHING OUT		
Follow up of 2023 Staff Survey	Action Plan	Implementation by December 2024
Retention activities	Action to be identified based on the Staff survey and the perception of the FTEs reductions	June 2024
Induction Day	Number of sessions – one every 4 months.	3 completed by December 2024
CREATING A NEW ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE		

([17]) Seconded middle managers are part of the seconding DGs' staff: The responsibility for achieving the targets is at DG level. The agency is responsible for providing with a regular overview to its parent DGs of the gender representation in middle management within the agency and coordinate between them.

([18]) The functions of head of unit and head of department are hereby defined as middle management functions.

([19]) 50% by 2024, in line with the Gender Equality Strategy 2020–2025.

Output	Indicator	Target
Re-launch of idea lab	Number of targeted campaigns Engagement of staff	2 in 2024 Ideas received from all three departments
Away day	Satisfaction level of staff	70% satisfaction
IMPLEMENTING A MODERN HR SERVICE		
Awareness raising on ethical rules	Ethics training for management HR-Awareness raising each quarter (by email or newsletter) Whistleblowing training session for all staff	Twice per year by December 2024 3 reminders by December 2024 2 times/ year by December 2024
PROMOTING GENDER BALANCE		
Performance management: Agency will roll out a full women talent programme (WTP)	Inter-Agency programme is available for EISMEA staff	2024 edition of WTP

B. Sound financial management

Objective: The authorising officer by delegation has reasonable assurance that resources have been used in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and that cost-effective controls are in place which give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of underlying transactions.
Indicator 1: **Estimated risk at closure**
Source of data: EISMEA AAR 2023

Baseline (2023)	Target (2024)
1,45%	< 2% of relevant expenditure

Main outputs in 2024:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Effective controls: Legal and regular transactions	Risk at payment	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure (HE and SMP) remains as close as possible to 2% (H2020)
	Estimated risk at closure	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure (HE and SMP) remains: as close as possible to 2% (H2020)
	Threshold of administrative budget error set at 0,5%	Administrative budget error below 0,5%
Efficient controls	Budget execution Timely payments	remains 100% of payment appropriations on time remains 99% within legal deadlines (administrative and operational budget).
Economy of controls	Overall estimated cost of controls	remains under 4% of funds managed
Implementation of annual audit plan for non-Horizon programmes	Total number of audits to be closed within the year ([20])	COSME EEN: 10 COSME Actions: 10 Consumer Programme: 3

([20]) on-going audits contracted 2021-2023.

C. Fraud risk management

Objective: The risk of fraud is minimised through the application of effective anti-fraud measures and the implementation of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS) ([21]) aimed at the prevention, detection and correction ([22]) of fraud		
Indicator: Implementation of the actions included in the agency's anti-fraud strategy over the strategy's lifecycle		
Source of data: EISMEA Annual Activity Report, EISMEA anti-fraud strategy, OLAF reporting		
Baseline	**Interim milestone**	**Target**
2023 (year of the strategy's adoption)	2024 (December)	2026 (last year of the strategy's lifecycle)
0% of action points implemented	50%	100% of action points implemented in time

Main outputs in 2024:		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Anti-fraud awareness training sessions	Number of training sessions organised within the year	twice per year - as per EISMEA's anti-fraud strategy
Reports on the state of play of the implementation of the Anti-fraud Strategy	Reporting to management on the state of play of implementation of the action plan included in the AFS	twice per year – as per EISMEA's anti-fraud strategy
Reports to OLAF on implementation of recommendations following OLAF cases	Reporting on the implementation of recommendations issued by OLAF following their investigations	On a case-by-case basis (max. 6 months after the issuance of OLAF report) + upon request by OLAF, in the context of the yearly monitoring exercise

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([21]) Communication from the Commission "Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy Action plan – revision 2023: COM 2023 405 of 11 July 2023 – 'the Communication on the 2023 revision' – and the accompanying revised action plan, SWD 2023 245 – 'the revised Action Plan'.

([22]) Correction of fraud is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.

D. Digital transformation and information and information management

Objective: EISMEA is using innovative, trusted digital solutions for better information management and administrative processes to become a truly digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven Agency

Indicator 1: Degree of implementation of the digital strategy principles by the most important IT solutions ([23])
Source of data: EEN and EIC

Baseline (2020)	Interim milestone (2023)	Target (2024)
31% EEN	80% EEN	90% EEN
40% EIC	80% EIC	95% EIC

Indicator 2: Percentage of implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for EISMEA's key data assets
Source of data: EISMEA

Baseline (2020)	Interim milestone (2022)	Target (2024)
20%	50%	80%

Indicator 3: Percentage of staff attending awareness raising activities on data protection compliance
Source of data: DPO and HR

Baseline (2018)	Interim milestone 2023)	Target (2024)
40% ([24])	83% of staff in post for 6 months or longer	100% of staff in post for 6 months or longer

Main outputs in 2024:

Output	Indicator	Target
Data protection awareness events, training sessions	Number of activities organised per year	four times per year
Review of the agency's Data protection Action plan	Reporting to Director on the implementation of the agency's Data protection Action plan	once per year

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([23]) The European Commission Digital Strategy (C(2018)7118) (https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/3/2018/EN/C-2018-7118-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF) calls on Commission services to digitally transform their business processes by developing new innovative digital solutions or make evolve the existing ones in line with the principles of the strategy. At the beginning of the year N+1, the Solution Owner and IT Investments Team will assess the progress made for the selected solutions. For each of the 3 solutions, a table will reflect – per principle - the progress achieved during the last year.
([24]) Estimated value at the entry into force of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 in December 2018.

E. Sound environmental management

Objective: EISMEA takes full account of its environmental impact in all its actions and actively promotes measures to reduce the related day-to-day impact of the administration and its work		
Main results and outputs in 2024:		
I. More efficient use of resources (energy, water, paper)		
Output	**Indicator**	**Target**
Paperless working methods at EA level (such as paperless working: e-signatories, financial circuits, collaborative working tools) and staff awareness actions to reduce office paper use in line with the EMAS corporate action on resource efficiency (March) and/or raise awareness about EA's office paper use in collaboration with OIB where appropriate. Participation in the end of the year energy saving action, by closing down EA's buildings during the Summer and the Christmas and New Year's holiday period. Number of buildings participating, % of DG buildings participating	Number or % of staff informed Number of actions % reduction Number of. new actions introduced	Address all staff 1 action Reduce paper consumption (10%) *compared with previous year* 2 actions per year
II. Reducing CO₂, equivalent CO₂ and other atmospheric emissions		
Gradual increased use (and number) of VC meeting rooms in the EA, in collaboration with DG SCIC. Staff awareness on digital pollution and gradual change of behaviours avoiding heavy emails, encouraging the use of ICT platforms, avoiding unnecessary storage of data.	Number of VC meeting rooms Number of events organised	23 1
III. Reducing and managing waste		
Implement the EC Guidelines for sustainable meetings and events, e.g. reduce/eliminate single-use plastics, gadgets/gifts	Number of. events	100% of events following guidelines

ANNEX 2: Resources: staff and budget

Administrative budget

EISMEA Operating Budget 2024	Title 1 (EUR million)				Title 2 (EUR million)				Title 3 (EUR million)				TOTAL				Grand Total (EUR million)
	EU budget (C1)	EU budget (NGEU)	EFTA/EEA	Third countries contrib.	EU budget (C1)	EU budget (NGEU)	EFTA/EEA	Third countries contrib.	EU budget (C1)	EU budget (NGEU)	EFTA/EEA	Third countries contrib.	EU budget (C1)	EU budget (NGEU)	EFTA/EEA	Third countries contrib.	
Horizon Europe, Pillar III																	
European Innovation Council (EIC) European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)	23,862	3,210	0,958	1,814	4,232	0,569	0,170	-	1,589	0,214	0,064	-	29,682	3,993	1,192	1,814	36,682
Subtotal	**23,862**	**3,210**	**0,958**	**1,814**	**4,232**	**0,569**	**0,170**	**0,000**	**1,589**	**0,214**	**0,064**	**0,000**	**29,682**	**3,993**	**1,192**	**1,814**	**36,682**
Single Market Programme																	
COSME pillar	7,139	-	0,256	-	1,266	-	0,045	-	0,475		0,017	-	8,881	-	0,318	-	9,199
Internal Market and support to Standardisation	2,476	-	0,089	-	0,439	-	0,016	-	0,165		0,006	-	3,080	-	0,110	-	3,190
Consumers	0,259	-	0,009	-	0,046	-	0,002	-	0,017		0,001	-	0,322	-	0,012	-	0,334
Subtotal	**9,874**	**0,000**	**0,354**	**0,000**	**1,751**	**0,000**	**0,063**	**0,000**	**0,657**	**0,000**	**0,024**	**0,000**	**12,283**	**0,000**	**0,440**	**0,000**	**12,723**
European Regional Development Fund																	
Interregional Innovation Investments	1,069	-	-	-	0,190	-	-	-	0,071	-	-	-	1,330	-	-	-	1,330
Subtotal	**1,069**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,190**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,071**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**1,330**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**0,000**	**1,330**
Total per source of financing within each Title	34,805	3,210	1,312	1,814	6,172	0,569	0,233	0,000	2,317	0,214	0,087	0,000	43,295	3,993	1,632	1,814	50,734
Total per Budget Title	41,142				6,974				2,618				50,734				50,734

Human resources

Programmes	Number of FTEs	% of FTEs	Staff (EU budget)					Staff from other fund sources		Total all staff
			TAs	Of which seconded officials	CAs	SNEs	Total staff EU budget	EFTA/EEA. Third countries contributions	NextGeneration EU	
Horizon Europe. Pillar III										
European Innovation Council (EIC): DG RTD and DG CNECT	212.9		57.6	24	154.3	1	212.9	17 (out of which 4 TAs and 13 CAs)	36.5 (out of which 11 TAs and 25.5 CAs)	266.4
Subtotal operational staff for EIC	176.7	83%								
Subtotal management & administrative support staff for European Innovation Council	36.2	17%								
European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE): DG RTD and DG CNECT	13.6		4.1	4	9.5		13.6			13.6
Subtotal operational staff for EIE	11.3	83%								
Subtotal management & administrative support staff for EIE	2.3	17%								

Single Market Programme										
SME pillar: DG GROW	90.1		22.5	5	67.6		90.1	2 (out of which 2 CAs)		92.1
Subtotal operational staff for SME pillar	74.8	83%								
Subtotal management & administrative support staff for SME pillar	15.3	17%								
Internal Market and support to standardisation: DG GROW	6.6		1.7	2	4.9		6.6			6.6
Subtotal operational staff for Internal Market and support to standardisation	5.5	83%								
Subtotal management & administrative support staff for Internal Market and support to standardisation	1.1	17%								
Consumers: DG JUST	10.5		2.6	1	7.9		10.5			10.5
Subtotal operational staff for Consumers	8.7	83%								
Subtotal management & administrative support staff for Consumers	1.8	17%								

European Regional Development Fund										
Interregional Innovation Investments: DG REGIO	10.2		2.5	1	7.7		10.2			10.2
Subtotal operational staff for Interregional Innovation Investments	8.5	83%								
Subtotal management & administrative support staff for Interregional Innovation Investments	1.7	17%								
Total	343,9		91	37	251,9	1	343,9	19	36,5	399,4

Delegated operational appropriations

EISMEA OPERATIONAL BUDGET 2024		COMMITMENT appropriations (€)				PAYMENT appropriations (€)			
		EU Budget (MFF)	Next Generation EU	EFTA/EEA	TOTAL	EU Budget (MFF)	Next Generation EU	EFTA/EEA	TOTAL
Horizon Europe, Pillar III									
01.020301	European Innovation Council (EIC)	600.369.528	0	21.253.081	**621.622.609**	834.944.799	288.671.925	29.557.046	**1.153.173.770**
01.020302	European Innovation Ecosystems (EIE)	83.649.610	0	2.961.196	**86.610.806**	71.905.349	0	2.545.449	**74.450.798**
Subtotal Horizon Europe		**684.019.138**	**0**	**24.214.277**	**708.233.415**	**906.850.148**	**288.671.925**	**32.102.495**	**1.227.624.568**
Single Market Programme (SMP)									
03.020107	Market Surveillance	9.396.602	0	336.398	**9.733.000**	3.671.736	0	131.448	**3.803.184**
03.020200*	SME pillar	105.207.717	0	3.766.436	**108.974.153**	97.838.930	0	3.632.684	**101.471.614**
03.020301	Support to Standardisation	15.895.000	0	0	**15.895.000**	15.601.370	0	0	**15.601.370**
03.020401	Consumers	18.806.719	0	673.281	**19.480.000**	15.598.811	0	558.437	**16.157.249**
Subtotal SMP		**149.306.038**	**0**	**4.776.115**	**154.082.153**	**132.710.847**	**0**	**4.322.569**	**137.033.417**
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)									
05.020100.08	Inter-regional Innovation Investments	80.440.173	0	0	**80.440.173**	53.081.797	0	0	**53.081.797**
Subtotal ERDF		**80.440.173**	**0**	**0**	**80.440.173**	**53.081.797**	**0**	**0**	**53.081.797**
Pilot Projects / Preparatory Actions (PPPA)									
03.200100.P032302	Pilot project - European network of gender...	p.m.							
03.200100.P032301	Pilot project - Building Capacity for Tourism...	p.m.							
03.200100.P012202	Pilot project - Establish new common methodologies, ...	p.m.							
Subtotal PPPA		p.m.							
Completion - Legacy									
01.029901	Completion - H2020	0	-	0	**0**	57.510.101	0	1.725.303	**59.235.404**
03.029901	Completion - COSME	0	-	0	**0**	12.630.295	0	17.682	**12.647.978**
03.029903	Completion - Consumers	0	-	0	**0**	51.304	0	1.539	**52.843**
03.029904.02	Completion - Standardisation	0	-	0	**0**	2.306.418	0	0	**2.306.418**
Subtotal Completion - Legacy		**0**	**-**	**0**	**0**	**72.498.118**	**0**	**1.744.525**	**74.242.643**
Total of the operational budget managed by the Executive Agency:		**913.765.348**	**0**	**28.990.393**	**942.755.741**	**1.165.140.910**	**288.671.925**	**38.169.589**	**1.491.982.424**

(*) Payment appropriations for this line are still provisional and based on the draft budget 2024 exercise.

ANNEX 3 Call Planning Tables

Call title	Call identifier			Publication date	Closing date
EIC Pathfinder Open 2024	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDEROPEN-01			27-11-23	07-03-24
EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2024	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDERCHALLENGE-01	Solar-to-X devices for the decentralized prosumption of renewable fuels, chemicals and materials as climate change mitigation pathway	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-01	27-11-23	16-10-24
		Towards cement and concrete as a carbon sink	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-02		
		Nature inspired alternatives for food packaging and films for agriculture	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-03		
		Nanoelectronics for energy-efficient smart edge devices	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-04		
		Strengthening the sustainability and resilience of EU space infrastructure	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PATHFINDERCHALLENGES-01-05		

EIC Transition 2024	HORIZON-EIC-2023-TRANSITION-01	EIC Transition Open 2024	HORIZON-EIC-2024-TRANSITIONOPEN-01		27-11-23	18-09-24
EIC Accelerator 2024 -1 -2	HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATOR-01	EIC Accelerator Open 2024		HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATOROPEN-01	27-11-23	Cut-Off-1: 13-03-24 Cut-Off-2: 03-10-24
		Human Centric Generative AI made in Europe		HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-01		
		Enabling virtual worlds and augmented interaction in high-impact applications to support the realisation of Industry 5.0		HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-02		
		Enabling the smart edge and quantum technology components		HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-03		
		Food from precision fermentation and algae		HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-04		
		Monoclonal antibody-based therapeutics for new variants of emerging viruses		HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-05		
		Renewable energy sources and their whole value chain including materials development and recycling of	HORIZON-EIC-2024-ACCELERATORCHALLENGES-06			

		components		

Call title	Call identifier	Publication date	Closing date
The European Prize for Women Innovators	HORIZON-EIC-2024-PRIZES-01	May 2024	September 2024
The European Capital of Innovation Awards (iCapital)	HORIZON-EIC-2024-ICAPITAL-PRIZE-02	5/03/2024	18/06/2024
The European Innovation Procurement Awards	HORIZON-EIC-2024-EUIPA-PRIZES-03	June 2024	October 2024
The European Social innovation competition: challenge prize	HORIZON-EIC-2024-EUSIC-PRIZES-04	09/04/2024	09/06/2024

Call title	Call identifier	Publication date	Closing date
The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform	HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01-01	11/01/2024	25/04/2024
Startup Europe	HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01-02	11/01/2024	25/04/2024
Expanding Academia-Enterprise Collaborations	HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-02-01	06/06/2024	19/09/2024
Mutual learning and support scheme for national and	HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-02-02	06/06/2024	19/09/2024

Call title	Call identifier	Publication date	Closing date

regional innovation programmes			

Call title	**Call identifier**	**Publication date**	**Closing date**
Regulatory compliance services	EISMEA-PN-2023-000038	April 2024	November 2024
Startup scoreboard	EISMEA-PN-2023-000039	February 2024	September 2024

SMP / CONSUMER PILLAR			
Planning calls for proposals 2024:			

Call title	**Call identifier**	**Publication /opening date**	**Closing date**
BEUC operating grant	SMP-CONS-2025-EU-ORG-OG-IBA	Q1 2024	Q1 2024
Grants to designated qualified ADR and RAD entities	tbc	Q1 2024	Q1 2024
European consumer centres	Second instalment to last years call – no new call SMP-CONS-2024-ECC-IBA SMP-CONS-2024-ECC-IBA-2	n/a	n/a
Grants on debt advice	tbc	Q1 2024	Q1 2024
Grants on consumer education, awareness raising and local advice to consumers	tbc	Q1 2024	Q1 2024
Planning calls for tender 2024:			

Call title	Call identifier	Publication date (2024)	Closing date
Support to CPC MS capacities RfS under FWC in cascade: CPC events Mini Legal Studies Online investigations	tbc	Q1-Q4	tbc
CASP Coordinated activities on market surveillance for dangerous products	tbc	Q3/Q4	tbc
Product safety tests – pilot project	tbc	Q1/Q2	tbc
Content update of Consumer law database	tbc	Q4 (renewal)	n/a
Study and development of the graphic logo for commercial guarantee of durability	tbc	Q1	tbc
Consumer Conditions Survey	tbc	Q1/Q2	tbc
Consumer Summit	tbc	Q1/Q2	tbc
High Ministerial/ Presidency meetings	tbc	Q1-Q3	tbc

SMP / SME PILLAR			
Planning calls for proposals 2024:			
Call title	**Call identifier**	**Publication date**	**Closing date**
Boosting SMEs' and stakeholders' capacities to participate in renovation projects through the Affordable Housing Initiative European Partnership	SMP-COSME-2023-HOUS	07/02/24	09/04/24
EU-Japan Centre for industrial cooperation	SMP-COSME-2024-EUJAPAN-IBA	21/02/24	21/03/24
EU-Ukraine Cluster Partnership Programme	SMP-COSME-2024-CLUSTERUA	20/03/24	13/06/24
Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs - junior call	SMP-COSME-2024-EYEJR	20/03/24	13/06/24
Enterprise Europe Network	SMP-COSME-2024-EEN	25/04/24	19/09/24 04/02/2025
Agrifood and Retail SMEs – renewable energy communities	SMP-COSME-2024-REC	05/06/24	05/09/24
Stepping up organisational and entrepreneurial capacity of SMEs in social economy	SMP-COSME-2024-SEE	19/09/24	21/11/24

Partnerships for circular value chains between mainstream businesses and SMEs in social economy	SMP-COSME-2024-SEECVC	19/09/24	21/11/24
Joint Cluster Initiatives (EUROCLUSTERS) for Europe's recovery	SMP-COSME-2024-CLUSTER	19/09/24	05/12/24
EU-SME Centre in China	SMP-COSME-2023-SMECC	24/10/24	15/01/25

Planning procurements 2024:

Call title	Call identifier	Publication date	Closing date
Sustainable procurement hubs	GRO/SME/23/13472	Q1/2024	Q2/2024
Stakeholder collaboration platform for the textiles ecosystem	GRO/SME/23/13187	Q1/2024	Q2/2024
European Construction Sector Observatory (ECSO)	GRO/SME/23/13982	Q1/2024	Q2/2024
Boosting Competitiveness and Innovation Capacity of SMEs through creative partnerships and the use of new technologies – WORTH partnership project	GRO/SME/24/13707	Q4/2024	Q1/2025
Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs Support Office	GRO/SME/24/13886	Q2/2024	Q3/2024
SOLVIT – training programme in legal areas of particular relevance for SMEs	GRO/SME/24/13794	Q3/2024	Q4/2024
Observatory for companies/SMEs ('one stop shop' on due diligence)	GRO/SME/24/14006	Q2/2024	Q3/2024

Transition Pathways Stakeholders Support Platform	GRO/SME/24/14104	Q3/2024	Q4/2024

SMP /INTERNAL MARKET STANDARDISATION Planning calls for proposals 2024:			
Call title	**Call identifier**	**Publication date**	**Closing date**
Support to Standardisation activities performed by CEN, CENELEC and ETSI	Call SMP-STAND-2024-ESOS-01-IBA	21/03/2024	16/05/2024
Support to Standardisation activities performed by CEN, CENELEC and ETSI	Call SMP-STAND-2024-ESOS-02-IBA	11/07/2024	21/09/2024
Support to Standardisation activities performed by CEN, CENELEC and ETSI	Call SMP-STAND-2024-ESOS-03-IBA	24/10/2024	09/01/2024
Support to organisations representing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and societal stakeholders in standardisation activities	SMP-STAND-2024-A3-AG-OG-IBA	07/03/2024	07/05/2024
Selection of European testing facilities	SMP-SURV-2024-EUTF-02-AG-IBA	16/05/2024	16/07/2024

Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument Planning calls for proposals 2024:			
Call title	**Call identifier**	**Publication date**	**Closing date**
Interregional Innovation investments Instrument Strand 1	I3-2024-INV1	02/05/2024	02/10/2024
Interregional Innovation investments Instrument Strand 2a	I3-2024-INV2a	02/05/2024	02/10/2024