



## 9th edition EURADA Brokerage event

5 June 2024 | Residence Palace, Brussels, Belgium

Rue de la Loi, 155, Brussels, Belgium

Project opportunities for innovation agencies at the European level are numerous. However, it can be difficult to understand the different funding programmes and to find the right partners. Overcoming these hurdles and ensuring the best possible framework conditions for innovation agencies to participate in European funding programmes is the objective of the EURADA Brokerage Event.

This year marks the **9th edition of the EURADA Brokerage Event**. The event will take place on the **5<sup>th</sup> of June** between **8:30 - 13:00 CEST** at **Residence Palace**, Rue de la Loi, 155, Brussels.

EURADA's Brokerage Event brings together experts in regional development, innovation, smart specialisation strategies, high-level speakers from European institutions, and more, to get an overview of current funding opportunities, share best practices, find new partners for ongoing or future European project proposals, and learn from each other.

This year's edition will offer invaluable insights into European funding opportunities of the **Digital Europe Programme**, the **Interregional**

## **Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument, and the European Urban Initiative.**

### **Digital Europe Programme:**

The programme aims to connect digital technology research with market implementation, serving to enhance the prospects for Europe's citizens and businesses, particularly SMEs. Funding allocated through the Digital Europe Programme aligns with the European Union's dual goals of fostering a green transition and advancing digital transformation, thereby reinforcing the Union's resilience and digital autonomy.

In light of the growing relevance of cybersecurity in the digital world, the session will focus precisely on the cybersecurity aspect of the Digital Europe Programme, by addressing the open call "Deploying the Network of National Coordination Centres (DIGITAL-ECCC-2024-DEPLOY-NCC-06)", which allocates €65 million to support National Coordination Centres (NCCs) in fostering the Community of Competence in Cybersecurity. The call aims to contribute to the implementation of EU legislation and strengthening cybersecurity capabilities through the adoption and dissemination of state-of-the-art solutions, especially among SMEs.

### **Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument:**

The I3 Instrument empowers innovation through financial and advisory support, guiding projects in joint smart specialisation areas toward successful commercialisation and scale-up.

It prioritises interregional cooperation in shared smart specialisation domains, fostering the development of European value chains, particularly in less developed regions. The instrument generates good practices addressing regional challenges disseminated through the Smart Specialisation Community of Practice (S3 CoP). New I3 grants will target digital, green transition, and smart manufacturing challenges outlined in the European Innovation Agenda.

During this session, we will provide a detailed overview of two open calls opening on 6 June 2024 to help improve your chances of submitting a successful proposal. The calls we will focus on are the "Financial and advisory support for investments in interregional innovation projects" and the "Financial and advisory support to the development of value chains in less developed regions."

### **European Urban Initiative:**

The European Urban Initiative is an essential tool to support cities of all sizes, to build capacity and knowledge, to support innovation and to develop

transferable and scalable innovative solutions to urban challenges of EU relevance.

In times of rapid urbanisation, Europe is increasingly facing dire urban challenges ranging from the global health crisis and the rise of digitalisation to societal inequalities, demographic changes, climate change and environmental degradation. To face these pressing challenges, EU cities must transform and adapt themselves, pushed to develop their creative and innovative potential, within the limits of their competencies, funding and capacity.

In this transformative perspective for cities, the European Urban Initiative (EUI), funded by the European Union, supports urban areas of all sizes with innovative actions, capacity, and knowledge building, as well as policy development and communication on sustainable urban development. EUI has a total ERDF budget of €450 million for 2021-2027.

In May 2024, EUI launched its [Third Call for proposals](#). With an indicative budget of EUR 90 million ERDF, the third Call for Proposals is targeting innovative projects focusing on two topics: **Energy transition** and **Technology in cities**.

#### Topic 1: Energy transition

Under the topic 'energy transition', the European Urban Initiative aims at supporting the testing of transferable and scalable innovative solutions in real-life settings for economically viable, smarter and more integrated local energy networks, zero carbon and demand-driven while empowering citizens and stakeholders to accelerate the transition.

#### Topic 2: Technology in cities

Under the topic 'technology in cities' the European Urban Initiative aims at supporting the testing of innovative solutions powered by new technologies in real-life settings for better services to citizens and/or for boosting local authorities' capacities to offer these services, via experimentations that could be replicated at a wider scale with the help of the Cohesion policy investments.

Deadline to submit your project proposals: 14 October 2024

## Brokerage Event agenda

<b>8:30 – 9:00</b>	<b>Registration and welcome coffee</b>
<b>9:00- 9:30</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Roberta Dall'Olio</b>, EURADA Director</li> </ul>
<b>9:30 – 10:15</b>	<b>Session I – Digital Europe Programme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC) &amp; Digital Europe Programme Calls</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Tommaso Galli</b>, Programme Officer at the European Commission – European Cybersecurity Competence Centre</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>10:15 – 10:45</b>	<b>First round of pitching session</b>
<b>10:45 – 11:00</b>	<b>Session II – Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lessons learned from previous I3 applications and challenges faced by current I3 projects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Anita Tregner</b>, CEO, STEMwise and Senior Evaluator and Project Reviewer for the European Commission</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>11:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Second round of pitching session</b>
<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>12:00 – 12:45</b>	<b>Session III – The European Urban Initiative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Available opportunities under call 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Romain Turminel</b>, Project Officer at the European Urban Initiative</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>12:45 – 13:00</b>	<b>Wrap-up and closing remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Giacomo Frisanco</b>, EURADA Communication and Membership Manager</li> <li>◦ <b>Roberta Dall'Olio</b>, EURADA Director</li> </ul>