

Open Call for Applications

economic Accelerator 2026

Guide for applicants

1. Mission

At Green Brother, our mission is to accelerate the transition towards a sustainable future by driving innovation at the intersection of clean energy, mobility, circularity and related industries.

Through our **economic** accelerator, we work with a limited number of carefully selected startups to increase their probability of commercial success, long-term survival and successful fundraising. Rather than offering generic mentoring, economic focuses on business validation, execution readiness and investor confidence, enabling founders and investors to make informed, high-quality decisions.

Our goal is to empower entrepreneurs to develop transformative solutions that minimize environmental impact, promote resource efficiency and contribute to a regenerative economy. Through close collaboration with cities, industry, academia and the research and innovation community, we foster synergies that create a positive impact on nature, climate and human well-being, ensuring a cleaner, more resilient world for generations to come.

Our approach is based on the model of "we cry together, we laugh together," meaning there are no fixed fees in advance. Depending on the program variant, participants compensate the Accelerator in the form of equity participation or a success fee in the event of a successful investment.

Key Benefits of the Program

- Increased probability of successful fundraising
- Structured, milestone-based business validation
- Honest, evidence-based feedback on fundability
- Decision-focused investor readiness preparation
- **Fast Track option** for startups demonstrating exceptional progress

Access to a European investor, corporate, city, and industry ecosystem **once readiness is demonstrated**.

2. Program Structure

A) Standard Equity Path (suitable for early-stage companies)

eonic's 2-Stage Journey to Success

The eonic Accelerator is a milestone-driven European startup accelerator programme that guides startups from business and solution validation through to investor readiness and successful fundraising

eonic is **not a general mentoring or support programme**. We work with a **small number of teams we believe can realistically raise capital or secure strategic partnerships**, and the programme is structured to test this assumption early.



Stage 1: Business & Solution Validation

Stage 1 focuses on validating whether a startup has a **credible, fundable business and solution logic**. The objective is **not mentoring for its own sake**, but to determine whether the startup can realistically progress toward investor readiness.

Key focus areas include:

- Business model, pricing & unit economics
- Financial modelling and financial management fundamentals
- Customer definition, value proposition & USP articulation
- Go-to-market and market entry strategy
- Market growth strategy and sales funnel design (metrics & KPIs)
- Product and solution validation (business & technical)
- Impact and regeneration principles

Advancement to Stage 2 is **selective** and driven by **demonstrated progress**, not participation, with decisions made by a committee of economic executives and strategic investor partners.

Stage 2: Team, Fundraising & Investor Readiness

Stage 2 prepares startups for **credible investor engagement** by reducing perceived investment risk and increasing decision confidence. The goal is to ensure founders are ready for **real investment decisions**.

Activities include:

- Analysis of team structure and guidance on building complementary teams
- Refinement of pitching and presentation skills
- Preparation of investor documentation (pitch deck, financial materials, narrative)
- Preparation for investor interviews and due diligence

Graduation

Graduation marks the successful completion of **Stage 2**, as confirmed by the economic committee, and signals that the startup has reached the required level of **business clarity and investor readiness** for fundraising.

All graduating startups are presented to partnering investors at the official **economic Demo Day on 30 June 2026**.

economic does not guarantee funding. Any investment decision is made solely by the respective investors.

To qualify for graduation, startups must fulfill the following criteria:

1. Business and Financial Readiness:

- a. A validated and scalable business model with clear revenue streams.
- b. Solid financial projections demonstrating sustainability and growth potential.
- c. A well-defined go-to-market strategy with key traction indicators, such as customer acquisition, partnerships and revenue milestones.

2. Product and Market Fit:

- a. Evidence of product-market fit through customer validation, traction metrics and user feedback.
- b. A comprehensive competitive analysis showcasing market differentiation and positioning.
- c. Demonstrated demand through pilot projects, strategic partnerships or initial sales.

3. Investor Readiness:

- a. A refined and compelling investor pitch deck with clear storytelling.
- b. Data-driven insights to support valuation and funding requirements.
- c. Readiness for due diligence, including financial audits, legal compliance and operational transparency.

4. Operational and Team Maturity:

- a. A strong and cohesive founding team with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
- b. Operational processes in place to support scaling efforts.
- c. Demonstrated leadership capabilities and a clear vision for the company's future.

5. Program Engagement and Milestone Achievement:

- a. Active participation in mentorship sessions, workshops and other activities.
- b. Successful completion of key program milestones and deliverables.
- c. Consistent progress and commitment to growth as assessed by mentors and program evaluators.

Startups that successfully meet these criteria will have a solid foundation for scaling and attracting investment, positioning them for long-term success in their respective markets.

B) Fast Track (Advanced startups & scaleups)

The Fast Track is designed for advanced startups (seed stage) or scaleups with validated business models and technologies, existing traction, and revenue-generating operations, who are primarily looking for funding, scaling, or market entry support.

Under the Fast Track, only fundraising and/or market entry support is provided. No acceleration services (as described under the Standard Equity Path) are included unless explicitly requested by the startup and mutually agreed.

3. Applicants' eligibility

This Call for Applications is open to for-profit private businesses established in the Europe.

Eligible applicants must have:

- at least 2 founders or employees and no more than 50 FTEs (Full Time Equivalent) employees
- less than 5 years of incorporation.
- [Technology Readiness Level 4+](#) (EU definitions)

Application documents and information must be in English in all its mandatory parts in order to be eligible. If the mandatory parts of the application are in any other language, the entire application will not be eligible. English is the only official language during the whole length of the accelerator process. Additionally, only applications with accurate information and correct attachments in the mandatory fields will be eligible. The application form shall not contain links to external websites, with the exception of the ones explicitly required: information included in external links will therefore be disregarded by the evaluators.

4. Who should apply

Start-ups currently fundraising or preparing to fundraise with the following characteristics:

- **Developing new** product/services/solutions
- **Significantly improving** an existing product/services/solutions for expansion into a new industry sector or a new geographic area.
- **Innovating a product/service** contributing to at least one of the following areas:
 - Active Mobility
 - Sustainable Cities
 - Future and sustainable mobility
 - Transport Infrastructure
 - Mobility and Energy
 - Clean Energy production
 - Energy storage solutions
 - Decentralised energy systems
 - Circular economy solutions
 - Cleantech innovations
 - Related sectors
- Operations, products and/or services contributing positively to at least one of the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); **SDG3** (Good Health & Well-Being), **SDG7** (Affordable and Clean Energy), **SDG8** (Decent Work and Economic Growth), **SDG9** (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), **SDG11** (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and **SDG13** (Climate Action).
- Product/Service demonstrating commercial prospects and track-record.
- Management and technical expertise available.
- **Committed:** Participating startups are expected to actively engage in all programme activities throughout the **Acceleration Phase (1 April – 26 June 2026)**.

5. Application, evaluation and selection

Before applying, ensure that your startup fills all the accelerator's eligibility criteria that can be found in section 3 above.

Applications are submitted via the following link:

<https://www.f6s.com/eonic-accelerator-2026-cohort-1/apply>

The application page is hosted on **F6S**. If you are not yet registered on F6S, you will be asked to create an account before proceeding. Once registered, you can start filling out the application at your convenience. The system allows you to save your progress and return later to complete the application when you have gathered all the required information.

Once the applicants have submitted their applications by the specific cut-off date, the eonic team will proceed to:

- Check eligibility and admissibility of those applications and, if successful
- Initiate the online evaluation of the content by internal and external experts (to be completed by March 6).
- Live jury evaluation: after the online evaluation is completed, the shortlisted applicants will be invited to the live online pitch evaluation event (March 11-13)
- Communication of results to applicants: all applicants will be informed of the status of their applications by March 16.

Note: The sooner you apply the more chance you'll get to have your file carefully analyzed by several experts and get more visibility.

The applications will be evaluated by investment, industrial and business experts from various organizations and companies. Even if your application is not selected, the process will still provide valuable exposure to these experts and enhance the visibility of your startup.

*Not being selected will not mean in any way that your startup is not as great and promising than the chosen ones; **we'll select the startups we believe we can help the most** and which better fit the strategic challenges defined with our partners.*

6. Onboarding and program start

Selected startups must submit their **certificate of incorporation** and review the provided **Acceleration Agreement** to confirm their participation in the accelerator program. The draft Agreement will be provided on request.

Startups will be required to carefully review and **sign the agreement by March 26** to secure their place in the program.

Failure to submit the required documents or sign the Agreement within the given timeframe will result in **disqualification** and the next startup in the ranking order from the evaluation process will be invited to participate.

The accelerator program will officially commence with an online **kick-off event**, scheduled for **April 1**.

7. Exclusion criteria

Start-ups applying or participating in the program can be excluded at any time (during the assessment, the contracting phase or the implementation phase) if they:

- Are in one of the following situations:
 1. Bankrupt, being wound up, having their affairs administered by the courts, entered an arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or subject to any other similar proceedings or procedures under national law (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts)
 2. Declared in breach of social security or tax obligations by a final judgment or decision (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts).
- Are found guilty of grave professional misconduct by a final judgment or decision (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making, or control).
- Are subject to an administrative sanction (i.e., exclusion).
- Are convicted of fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making, or control)

- Shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under a procurement contract, grant agreement or grant decision financed by the EU or Euratom budget (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making, or control).
- Have misrepresented information required for participating in the accelerator or fail to submit such information.

FAQ

At what company stage can we apply?

Participating startups must **already have a core team and a technical product or service**, with at least an operational prototype and ideally some initial customers or early adopters (TRL 4 and higher).

- The programme is not designed to develop your technical solution but to build and implement effective business strategies for existing products or services.
- Our experts, from various fields and industries, will help refine your solution for new systems, applications, regulations, markets and investment.
- More importantly, they will focus on developing sound go-to-market strategies, managing impact, support the scaling of your company's structure and culture, help you prepare your business plan and financial documents for fundraising.

What are the benefits of taking part in the programme?

eonic is the Accelerator that works as hard as you do.

It is designed for founders who are ready to scale their startups and make an impact. The programme supports you in strengthening business fundamentals, preparing for fundraising and engaging with investors through a structured, outcome-driven process.

What's in it for you?

- **Funding Freedom:** Financial support to grow your business, with up to €1.2 million in investment potential.
- **Industry expertise:** Collaborate with mentors who have walked your path and succeeded.
- **Network with Decision-Makers:** Get direct access to VCs, business angels and corporate leaders across Europe.

- **Validation Opportunities:** Launch pilot projects with support from leading industry organizations like InnoEnergy and EIT Urban Mobility
- **Fast-Track for High Performers:** Advance quickly if you meet key milestones—your growth, your pace.
- **Community of Success:** Work alongside ambitious founders and alumni making global impact.

What sets you apart?

eonic does not aim to work with as many startups as possible. We work with a small number of teams where we believe there is a realistic path to funding or strategic growth. Our role is to help founders and investors make better decisions by reducing uncertainty, validating assumptions, and preparing credible investment cases.

Fast Track for High Performers

Our Fast Track option allows exceptional startups to skip Stages if they meet key milestones, such as validated business models, technical readiness or traction. This ensures high-performing teams can progress faster and maximize their potential.

Funding Focus

We provide tailored funding opportunities, including small scale funding possibilities during Stage 2 (€5-15k) and access to potential funding of up to €1.2 million after graduation.

Early Investor Engagement

Our network of selected venture capitalists (VCs) and business angels is involved from the very beginning, starting with the selection phase. This gives startups early exposure to a diverse group of potential investors. Regular updates throughout the program keep both VCs and business angels engaged and aligned with startups' progress, increasing the likelihood of securing investments.

European-Wide Network

Startups gain access to a robust European network of mentors, investors, and industry leaders, as well as the pan-European industry networks of EIT Urban Mobility and InnoEnergy. These connections open doors to strategic collaborations, project pilots, and funding opportunities from these prestigious organizations.

Team Development Support

We help founders build strong, diverse and complementary teams by analyzing team structures and providing actionable guidance for long-term success.

Sustainability at the Core

Aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we prioritize startups creating innovations with significant environmental, social, and economic impact, helping them drive meaningful and sustainable change.

Selection will be solely based on the quality of the applicants' proposals with regard to the impact potential, the alignment with some needs of the society/economy/industry, and the capacity of our experts to help with specific challenges.

What are the main events of the programme?

Some parts of the programme are still under construction (eg. workshops) and the final format will be announced during March 2026.

The main events will be the **Info Session on February 18**, the **Kick-off event on April 1, 2026** and the **Graduation Demo Day on June 30, 2026**. Both will take place online.

Throughout the program, thematic workshops and seminars, as well as regular coaching/mentoring sessions will be organized.

What if I move at a different pace than the standard 2 stage program structure?

No problem! The eonic Accelerator is designed to accommodate startups at various stages of development:

Startups not advancing immediately will:

- Retain access to any learning materials.

- Receive updates and guidance from asset managers.
- Have the option to rejoin a future cohort once key milestones are achieved.

Fast track option: Exceptional startups demonstrating strong progress — such as validated business models, market traction or investor readiness — may qualify for the Fast Track. This allows teams to **advance stages earlier** or re-enter the programme at a later stage, ensuring high-performing startups are not held back.

Is there a fee to apply or participate in the programme?

No, there are **no upfront fees**. eonic operates under a **deferred-value model**, based on equity options (applies to the Standard Equity Path) or Success Fees (Fast Track). As a private accelerator, we are committed to your success and operate under a sustainable model by aligning our incentives with yours.



Part 1: Standard Equity Path

Participation under the Standard Equity Path is based on equity options (not automatic equity) using a **SAFE Note (Simple Agreement for Future Equity)** type of Agreement, a widely used and founder-friendly investment model that defers valuation until a later funding round. Our equity structure is designed to reflect your progress within the accelerator, ensuring that value is exchanged fairly as you advance through the programme. The equity breakdown is as follows:

- **Completion of Stage 1: 0.5%**
Upon successful completion of Stage 1, eonic receives an **option to acquire 0.5% equity** in the company, subject to the Agreement.
- **Completion of Stage 2: 1.0%**
Upon successful completion of Stage 2, eonic receives another **option to acquire an additional 1.0% equity** in the company.
- **Maximum total equity exposure: 1.5%**, structured exclusively as **equity options** (not automatic equity).

*This approach is in line with industry best practices, where accelerators typically take between **5-7% equity**, making our terms highly competitive and beneficial for startups seeking long-term support.*

Part 2: Fast Track

Participation under the Fast Track is structured under an Investor Intermediation Agreement where eonic receives a success fee for facilitating investments (range: 1.25%–7.6% depending on the size of investment facilitated).

Upon successful completion of the programme, graduating startups will be **presented to our network of investors**, providing them with the opportunity to secure typical funding of up to **€1.2 million**. Our investor network consists of leading venture capital firms, corporate partners and industry experts who are eager to support innovative solutions and help scale promising businesses.

How does funding work in eonic and what does “funding opportunities up to €1.2m” mean?

eonic **does not provide capital directly** and does not make investment decisions. Any potential investment is made **independently by partnering investors** within eonic’s

investor network, based on their own evaluation criteria, processes and timelines.
Participation in the accelerator **does not guarantee funding**.

The reference to “funding opportunities up to €1.2m” reflects the **maximum ticket size of an individual investor** within eonic’s network and **under the standard equity track**. It does **not represent a funding cap**. Depending on investor interest and the attractiveness of the opportunity, **multiple investors may participate in the same round**, potentially increasing the total amount raised.

eonic supports startups by preparing them for **credible, investment-ready fundraising** and facilitating structured engagement with investors during and after the accelerator (including at Demo Day). In parallel, eonic provides investors with **recommendations and structured team assessments**, including insights into each startup’s **progress, business readiness and investability** achieved during the programme.

All funding discussions, terms and final investment decisions are handled **directly between startups and investors**, independently or with support of **eonic**.