

WOMEN TechEU



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FINAL EVENT

4 March 2026

Brussels

Welcome to the Event



Angele Giuliano

Dissemination & Communication Leader
AcrossLimits Managing Director

Agenda

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13:30 **Welcome to the Event** –
Angele Giuliano

13:35 **Address by Roberta Metsola,**
EP President (recorded)

13:40 **Overview of the project and its successes**
– Teresa Hernandez

14:00 Videos of success stories

14:05 **Panel 1:** Women TechEU Behind the scenes
Videos of success stories

14:35 **Panel 2:** The Deep Tech Success Stories

14:40 Questions from the floor (including
15:10 internet)

15:20 **How EIC supports early stage deep tech**
companies – Michiel Scheffer (President
EIC Board)

15:30 **Coffee Break** (and exhibition of winning
companies)

16:00 Welcome back & Video of Success Story

16:05 **Women TechEU in the EU policy context** –
Elena Martines, Cabinet DG RTD

16:20 **Distilling the learnings** – the WTEU policy
papers – Angele Giuliano

16:45 **Panel 3:** Wider support in EU & Associate
countries for Women Led Businesses &
Deep Tech

17:15 Questions from the floor (including internet)

17:30 Success story video

17:35 **The Future of Women TechEU** –
Francesca Doria (Head of Unit in EISMEA)

17:45 **Closing remarks** – Cristina Russo,
Deputy Director General DG RTD

17:55 Thanks to all

18:00 **Networking drinks** (and exhibition of
winning companies)



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Welcome Address (Recorded Message)



Roberta Metsola

President of the European Parliament



Project Overview



Teresa Hernández Martín

Project Coordinator
EIT Manufacturing West



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In Numbers

The Meaning of Success



160

Winners



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80

Badges of Honor



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Behind the Scenes

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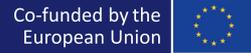
Coordinator



13



Partners





51

Professionals

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43

Mentors



65

PoS Facilitators

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104+4

Evaluators

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115

Allies



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8

EISMEA Representatives

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390

Humans-in the-project

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The Unfinished Work

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3792

Applications

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1

Personal Reflection

Thank you!

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Success Story Video:

Naomi McGregor - MoveTru

Call 1 Winner



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Panel 1:

Women TechEU Behind the Scenes

Panel 1:

Women TechEU Behind the scenes



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Natalia Nowinska

EISMEA, Women TechEU Project Officer



Moderated by:

Valeria Gasik

Trainer



**Mary
McKenna**

AwakenHub



**Miguel Garcia
Gonzalez**

Sploro



**Rebecca
Zammit**

AcrossLimits



**Antoni
Pijoan**

EIT Manufacturing

Success Story Video:

Lucy Lyons - Kestrix Ltd

Call 1 Winner



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Panel 2:

The Deep Tech Success Stories

Panel 2:

The Deep Tech Success Stories



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**Aneta
Ozierańska**
Oligofeed



**Ozlem Barut
Selver**
LimbuStem



**Jekaterina
Romanova**
PrintyMed



**Mariam
Elgabry**
Bronic

Moderated by:



Anna Maria Darmanin
Policy Expert Acrosslimits; General Secretary European Tugowners Association

Questions?

[including internet]

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How the European Innovation Council supports early stage deep tech companies



Dr. Michiel Scheffer

President of the European
Innovation Council (EIC) Board

30 min Coffee Break

[and exhibition of
winning companies]



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Welcome Back

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Success Story Video:

Katarzyna Koba - SensiVR

Call 2 Winner





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Women TechEU in the EU policy context



Elena Martines

Senior European Union official and
Member of the Cabinet of Ekaterina
Zaharieva, the European Commissioner
for Startups, Research and Innovation

Distilling the Learnings: The Women TechEU Policy Papers



Angele Giuliano

Dissemination & Communication Leader
AcrossLimits Managing Director

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May 2025

**The Role of Venture
Capital in Advancing Deep
Tech in Europe:**

Challenges, Opportunities, and
Future Directions

Policy Paper



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February 2025

**Addressing the Deep Tech
Gender Funding Gap:**

Toward Inclusive Innovation

Policy Paper



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February 2025

Women TechEU: The Blueprint

How-to build successful gender focused
support programmes for deep tech business

Policy Paper





Policy Paper

1 The Role of Venture Capital in Advancing Deep Tech in Europe: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions

- Providing **long-term patient capital** to bridge the funding gap
- **Government-backed** venture capital programmes and **corporate partnerships** should be expanded
- Offering **de-risking mechanisms**, financial support, and **market access** to emerging startups.
- Introducing **R&D tax credits** and **equity-matching grants**
- Structured **co-investment frameworks** between regional development agencies and VCs





Policy Paper

2

Addressing the Deep Tech Gender Funding Gap:

Toward Inclusive Innovation

Deep tech firms in Europe



Women take **5+**
months longer

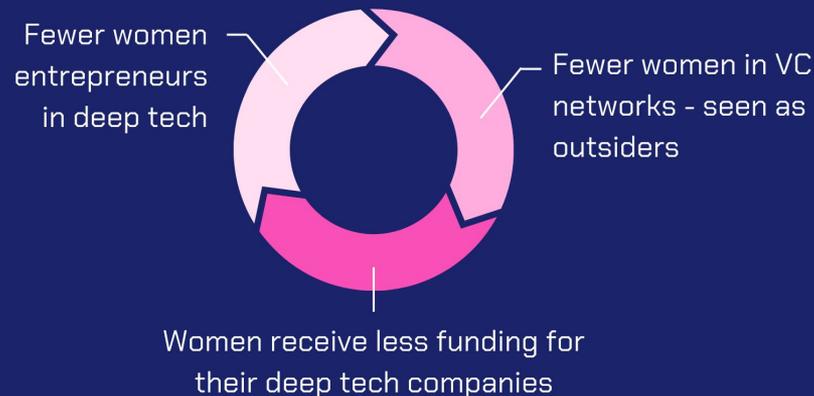
than their men counterparts
to **secure a 1st term sheet.**

For every **1** deal
closed by **women-led** companies,
men-led companies close **3**.



The Challenges Faced By Women When Seeking Funding

- Funding Bias
- Limited Access to Networks
- The Credibility Gap
- Structural Barriers and Societal Pressures
- Intersectional Disadvantages



Recommendations

- Policymakers can **lead by example with public funding.**
- We need to foster an **inclusive ecosystem** from the ground up.
- Addressing the **cultural and structural barriers** requires collaboration between public and private sectors.
- **Innovation in finance** can be part of the solution.





Policy Paper

3

Women TechEU: The Blueprint

How-to build successful gender focused support programmes for deep tech business

The Success of Women TechEU – Multiplying investment in Women-led companies

Funds raised by 3 cohorts of WTEU
until the date of their Final Report:

- Call 1: €14,360,700
- Call 2: €14,426,009
- Call 3: €25,025,816
- **TOTAL = €53,812,525**
(from an input of €9M)

€ € € € € € € € € €

€9M invested

Call 1

€ € € € € € € € € €

Call 2

€ € € € € € € € € €

Call 3

€ € € € € € € € € €

€ € € € € € € € € €

€ € € € € € € € € €

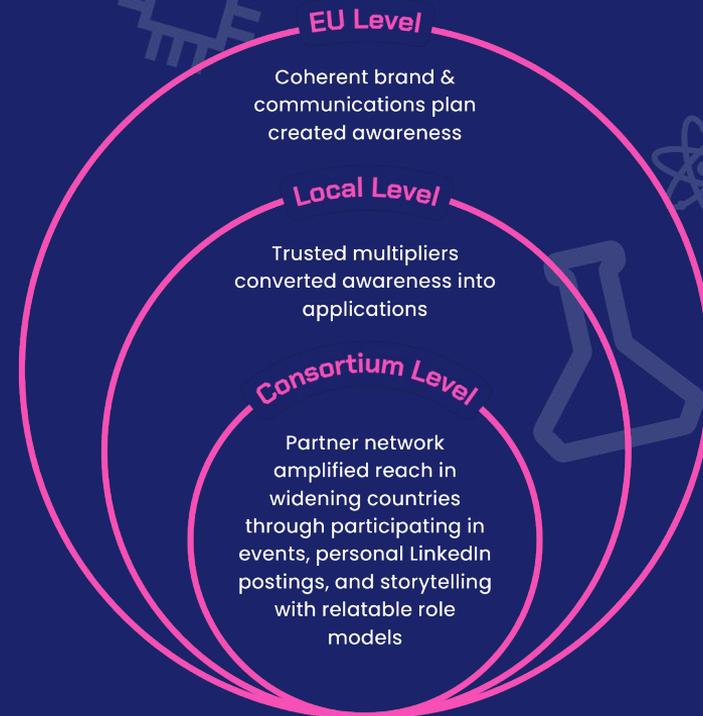
x6

€54M generated

Multiplier = 6 !!

Four themes resonate across both the consortium and the beneficiaries:

- Simple guidelines, clear communications
- Easy quick applications, quick decisions
- Combo of grants & services for growth
- Increased Widening Participation through local multipliers



Recommendations for Similar Programmes

1

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PLAYBOOK

- Two Gate intake
- Guidance assets
- Ethics clarity
- Appeals

2

SERVICES AND MENTORING MODEL

- Mentor/trainers procurement
- Matching logic
- Format mix
- Alumni and chapters

3

INVESTOR PATHWAYS AND BLENDED FINANCE

- Engagement timeline
- Capital stack
- Tracking

Final Thoughts

- Download all our policy papers from our website womentecheuropa.eu
- Send us your feedback on policy@womentecheuropa.eu
- Stay tuned for PP4 coming by end of May 2026

- Help us build similar programmes across Europe !



Panel 3:

Wider support for Women Led Businesses & Deep Tech



Panel 3:

Wider support for Women Led Businesses & Deep Tech

Moderated by:



Orily Pratt

Mentor



Marta

Wysoczyńska

EIC Coordination &
Analytics Team Leader



Yvette Go

Impact Shakers



Ana Barjasic

Connectology CEO;
EIC Ambassador

Questions?

[including internet]

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Success Story Video:

Gayathri Sudhakaran - Melsonic

Call 3 Winner



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The Future of Women TechEU



Francesca Doria

Head of Unit in EISMEA – the EU
Executive Agency for the European
Innovation Council and SMEs

Closing Remarks



Maria Cristina Russo

Deputy Director-General for
Innovation, Prosperity and International
Cooperation, Directorate-General
Research & Innovation

THANK YOU!



Applicants

Winners

Allies

**Evaluators
& Mentors**

**Advisory
Board**

Networking Drinks

[and exhibition of winning companies]

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Subject of slide

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Subject of slide

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**REPLACE
IMAGE**

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Subject of slide



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Subject of slide

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dolor sit

48%

Lorem ipsum dolor sit

18%

Lorem ipsum
dolor sit

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Questions?

[including internet]

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30 min Coffee Break

[and exhibition of winning companies]

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Women TechEU Final Event

04.03.2026 Brussels

Panel 1 : Women TechEU Behind the scenes



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Project Overview



Teresa Hernández

Project Coordinator

EIT Manufacturing West

How the European Innovation Council supports early stage deep tech companies



Dr. Michiel Scheffer

President of the European Innovation Council (EIC) Board

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Women TechEU in the EU policy context



Elena Martines

Senior European Union official and Member of the Cabinet of Ekaterina Zaharieva, the European Commissioner for Startups, Research and Innovation.

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Distilling the learnings - the Women TechEU policy papers



Angele Giuliano

Dissemination & Communication
Leader

Managing Director AcrossLimits

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The Future of Women TechEU



Francesca Doria

Head of Unit in EISMEA - the EU
Executive Agency for the European
Innovation Council and SMEs

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Closing remarks



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Maria Cristina Russo

Deputy Director-General for
Innovation, Prosperity and
International Cooperation,
Directorate-General Research &
Innovation

Do you have any questions?
(including internet)

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2

Addressing the Deep Tech Gender Funding Gap:

Toward Inclusive Innovation

Recommendations

- Policymakers can **lead by example with public funding.**
- We need to foster an **inclusive ecosystem** from the ground up.
- Addressing the **cultural and structural barriers** requires collaboration between public and private sectors.
- **Innovation in finance** can be part of the solution.



Agenda:

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The Success of Women TechEU – Multiplying investment in Women-led companies

- Funds invested in our 4 cohorts = 12 million Euros
- Funds raised by 3 cohorts of WTEU until the date of their Final Report:
 - OC1: €14,360,700.00
 - OC2: €14,426,009.00
 - OC3: €25,025,816.32
 - **TOTAL = €53,812,525.32** (from an input of €9 m)

Multiplier = 6 !!

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Thank you for your attention



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