

ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

KOSOVO

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5

SUMMER 2026

Connecting Kosovo businesses with European
knowledge, partners and opportunities



THIS QUARTER

INNOVATE

EEN2EIC and Investment Readiness

CONNECT

B2B matchmaking across Europe

GROW

Selected EU funding opportunities

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Welcome to Issue 5

Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo Quarterly Newsletter | Summer 2026

Summer 2026 has been an active period for Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo, combining renewed support for innovative SMEs, practical guidance on European funding, international matchmaking opportunities and new cooperation with educational institutions.

During this period, Prishtina REA and its partners within Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo continued helping businesses and organisations prepare for European funding, investment and international partnerships. Key developments include the extension of EEN2EIC and Investment Readiness Services, a practical EU funding session at Tech Park Prishtina, support for an educational institution exploring Erasmus+ cooperation, and preparations for upcoming international B2B events.

This edition also presents selected cascade-funding opportunities that can help innovative SMEs, startups, research organisations and other eligible actors test new ideas, adopt technologies and expand their activities.

Whether you are seeking to scale an innovative solution, enter new markets, identify international partners or strengthen your investment readiness, Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo is here to help you navigate the next step.

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Two Contract Extensions Strengthen Support for Innovative Companies

Renewed EEN2EIC and Investment Readiness Services will help Kosovo's innovative SMEs and startups prepare for European funding and investment.

A significant development this summer is the extension of two contracts secured by Prishtina REA, reinforcing its role in supporting innovative companies in Kosovo and connecting them with European funding and investment opportunities.



EEN2EIC

Helping ambitious innovators prepare for the EIC Accelerator and European investment opportunities.

EEN2EIC: continued support for EIC Accelerator applicants

Under the first contract extension, Prishtina REA will continue serving as Consortium Leader and the Kosovo Local Node for the EEN2EIC Project for another year. Through this role, it will support ambitious startups and SMEs preparing for the EIC Accelerator 2026, particularly companies developing breakthrough innovations with strong growth potential.

Support will focus on helping companies understand EIC Accelerator requirements, strengthen their applications and prepare more effectively for the European funding process. The renewed activities will also maintain a particular focus on breakthrough innovators, women innovators and applicants from Widening countries, contributing to a more inclusive European innovation ecosystem.

Investment Readiness Services: preparing innovative SMEs for investors

A separate contract extension will enable Prishtina REA to continue delivering Investment Readiness Services (IRS). Through practical guidance, dedicated tools, advisory support and workshops, innovative SMEs will be able to strengthen the commercial and financial foundations needed to engage credibly with investors.

Investment readiness goes beyond having a strong technology or product. Companies also need a clear business model, evidence of market potential, a credible growth strategy and a convincing investment proposition. The continued IRS support will help companies assess and strengthen these areas before entering discussions with investors and other funding stakeholders.

Two complementary services, one integrated support pathway

Together, the two contract extensions reinforce Prishtina REA's commitment to supporting Kosovo's innovative companies across the growth journey, from positioning breakthrough innovations and preparing for the EIC Accelerator to strengthening business and investment readiness.

Are you considering EIC Accelerator 2026 or looking to become investment-ready? Stay connected with Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo and Prishtina REA for upcoming workshops, advisory support and opportunities.

INTEGRATED SUPPORT PATHWAY

01

Breakthrough innovation

Clarify innovation potential and EIC fit.

02

Application readiness

Strengthen the EIC Accelerator application.

03

Investment readiness

Assess business, market and financial foundations.

04

Investor engagement

Prepare for credible discussions with funding stakeholders.

EU Funding Moves Closer to Kosovo's Innovation Community

Prishtina REA and STIKK bring practical European funding guidance to 20 participants at Tech Park Prishtina.



European funding opportunities took centre stage on 30 July 2026, when Prishtina REA, in cooperation with STIKK - Kosovo ICT Association, organised an informative and practical session at Tech Park Prishtina through Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo.

The session brought together 20 participants from Kosovo's innovation and business community to explore how European programmes can support innovative ideas, new technologies and business growth. Participants were introduced to Horizon Europe, the EIC Accelerator, Digital Europe, the Single Market Programme (SMP) and EIT opportunities.

Rather than providing only a general overview, the session focused on practical preparation: how to identify relevant opportunities, understand eligibility requirements, develop a strong project concept and find suitable international partners. These are essential steps in moving from an initial idea towards a competitive European funding proposal.

For innovative businesses in Kosovo, understanding the European funding landscape is increasingly important for accessing new resources, building international partnerships and expanding beyond the local market.

Horizon Europe

EIC Accelerator

Digital Europe

Single Market Programme

EIT opportunities

Through activities such as these, Prishtina REA and its Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo partners continue to bring European funding information and advisory support closer to Kosovo's innovation community, helping businesses move from ideas to international opportunities.

Education Meets European Cooperation

Prishtina REA supports the British Gymnasium of Technology in shaping its Erasmus+ project ambitions.



European cooperation is not limited to businesses and entrepreneurs. Educational institutions are also increasingly using European programmes to strengthen capacities, build international partnerships and create opportunities for innovation and exchange.

On 9 July 2026, Prishtina REA facilitated a project-development workshop for the British Gymnasium of Technology focused on Erasmus+ Capacity Building. The session brought together management, academic staff and administrative personnel to explore how institutional needs and ideas could be translated into a structured European project concept.

The workshop, “Erasmus+ Capacity Building for British Gymnasium of Technology, Proposal Conceptualisation and Consortium Development”, focused on two practical dimensions: identifying needs and objectives that could form the basis of a future proposal, and identifying international partners with complementary expertise and experience.

FROM INSTITUTIONAL NEED TO EUROPEAN COOPERATION		
01 Identify needs Define institutional needs and objectives.	02 Build the concept Translate needs into a coherent project concept.	03 Shape the consortium Identify partners with complementary expertise.

Participants were encouraged to view Erasmus+ not simply as a source of funding, but as a framework for long-term institutional cooperation, knowledge exchange, organisational development and new approaches to education and innovation.

For an educational institution, successful European cooperation begins well before an application is submitted. It requires a clear understanding of institutional needs, a coherent project concept, defined objectives and the right partnership to turn those objectives into meaningful results.

The workshop strengthened the institution’s readiness to engage in future European cooperation and reflects Prishtina REA’s broader commitment to helping organisations in Kosovo move from local ideas to sustainable European partnerships.

Upcoming B2B Matchmaking Opportunities

Turning international meetings into new business opportunities

B2B matchmaking is one of the practical tools through which Prishtina REA, within Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo, supports the internationalisation of Kosovo businesses. Structured one-to-one meetings allow companies to connect with potential buyers, distributors, suppliers, commercial partners and partners for joint projects based on specific interests and cooperation needs.

For SMEs seeking to enter new markets, matchmaking offers a more targeted approach than general networking: companies can present products and services directly to relevant counterparts, discuss concrete cooperation possibilities and begin building relationships that can develop into longer-term partnerships.



Interfresh & Interfood Eurasia 2026

8-9 September 2026 | Izmir, Türkiye

Prishtina REA, as a co-organiser, invites Kosovo companies from the fresh produce and food sectors to participate in Interfresh & Interfood Eurasia 2026. The event will include B2B brokerage meetings connecting producers, exporters, importers and distributors with potential international buyers and business partners.

The event also features a Hosted Buyer Programme for approved buyers, including accommodation, transfers, VIP access and other benefits.

[More information / registration](#)



EEN@it-sa 2026

26-27 October 2026 | Nuremberg, Germany

Kosovo's cybersecurity SMEs, startups, ICT companies, research organisations and experts are invited to participate in EEN@it-sa 2026, an international matchmaking and networking event held alongside it-sa Expo & Congress.

The event offers B2B matchmaking, networking, company presentations and international cooperation opportunities with organisations from across Europe. Kosovo experts may also apply to become speakers in programme sessions focused on cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

[More information / registration](#)

WHY PARTICIPATE?			
TARGET	MEET	TEST	FOLLOW UP
Identify relevant international counterparts.	Use structured one-to-one meetings.	Discuss concrete cooperation possibilities.	Turn contacts into longer-term partnerships.

Cascade Funding Opportunities

Selected European opportunities for innovative SMEs, startups, research organisations and other eligible actors.

Cascade funding, also known as financial support to third parties, can provide access to EU-supported opportunities through comparatively streamlined application and implementation procedures. These smaller grants and prizes can help organisations test new ideas, adopt technologies, validate solutions and scale promising innovations.

The opportunities below are presented as an editorial snapshot for Summer 2026. Applicants should always check the official call page for the latest eligibility conditions, funding rules and deadlines before applying.

OPPORTUNITIES 1-9 OF 26				
Opportunity	Focus	Maximum funding	Eligible applicants	Deadline
C4B - Open Call for Pilot Projects	Pilot projects demonstrating, tailoring and assessing circular bio-based business models in forestry, agri-food and peatland value chains.	€60,000	SMEs; startups; research organisations; NGOs; universities; large companies; mid-caps; public authorities; other eligible entities	14 August 2026
UPSTREAM - OC#2 Prevention and Zero-Waste	Local and regional public authorities testing zero-waste and plastic-prevention solutions for rivers and connected water systems.	€70,000	Public authorities	17 August 2026
AI-BOOST - AI Challenge Competition (Challenges 1 & 2)	Prize-based competition for generative-AI solutions addressing robotics and engineering challenges.	€128,500	Individuals; SMEs; startups; universities; research organisations; NGOs	25 August 2026
HEDGE-IoT - OC#2	IoT-based services and applications for smart energy management and grid solutions.	€60,000	SMEs; startups	25 August 2026
FS4Africa - Open Call 2	Support for innovation hubs delivering training and mentoring around FS4Africa use cases and OC1 projects.	€40,000	SMEs; universities; startups; mid-caps; large companies; research organisations; public authorities; NGOs; other eligible entities	31 August 2026
NEB Academy - Skills Infrastructure	Regional skills infrastructures and lifelong-learning programmes supporting sustainable transformation under New European Bauhaus principles.	€600,000	SMEs; startups; public authorities; mid-caps; large companies	31 August 2026
NEB Academy - Fashion Shift	Collaborative projects developing and scaling circular, regenerative and responsible fashion business models aligned with New European Bauhaus values.	€500,000	SMEs; startups; research organisations; public authorities; mid-caps; large companies; NGOs	31 August 2026
TRAILS4SOIL - Open Call for Providers of Innovative MRV Technologies	Innovative monitoring solutions for soil-health indicators in Living Labs testing regenerative and conservation agriculture.	€200,000	SMEs; startups; large companies; mid-caps; research organisations; universities; NGOs	31 August 2026
SWIM - Open Call for Associated Regions	Activities improving freshwater ecosystem health, fish migration and habitat connectivity through adaptation of SWIM solutions.	€60,000	Local and regional public authorities	31 August 2026

Cascade Funding Opportunities

Selected Summer 2026 opportunities continued. Always verify the official call page before applying.

OPPORTUNITIES 10-18 OF 26				
Opportunity	Focus	Maximum funding	Eligible applicants	Deadline
EFCSN - Temporary Call for Protection Grants	Rapid protection grants for fact-checking organisations facing harassment, threats, legal attacks or security incidents linked to their work.	€20,000	Eligible fact-checking organisations and related entities	1 September 2026
EVITA - OC#1 Modular Training Materials	Development of high-quality modular training materials in High-Performance Computing aligned with the EVITA Competence and Qualification Framework.	€4,000	SMEs; startups; universities; research organisations; NGOs; large companies; mid-caps; public administrations	7 September 2026
EIT Urban Mobility - RIS Education Open Call 2027	Education and training projects building innovation and entrepreneurship capacity in urban mobility in RIS countries.	€300,000	SMEs; universities; startups; research organisations; NGOs; public authorities	8 September 2026
AI-BOOST - AI Challenge Competition (Challenges 3 & 4)	Development and validation of generative-AI solutions in robotics and engineering design.	€128,500	Individuals; SMEs; startups; universities; research organisations; NGOs	8 September 2026
EIT Culture & Creativity - Skills-based CPD Courses	Development and delivery of professional CPD courses in the audiovisual sector, including IP, AI and digital storytelling.	€75,000	Universities; NGOs; startups; SMEs; mid-caps; large companies	14 September 2026
SMART ERA - 2nd Open Call for Followers Micro-Pilots	Micro-pilot projects replicating SMART ERA methodology and Smart Innovation Packages for rural socio-economic and environmental challenges.	€90,000	SMEs; startups; universities; NGOs; research organisations; public authorities; mid-caps; large companies	15 September 2026
PowerUp Net Zero - Open Call for Innovation Projects	SME consortia developing and demonstrating innovative net-zero technologies through pilots, testing and proof-of-concept projects.	€120,000	SMEs; startups	15 September 2026
EIT Health - Innovation Opportunities	Four opportunities: Innovation Uptake Call; Biotech Certified Innovation Path; Transformative Healthcare Instrument 2026; Entrepreneurship & Innovation Micro-Credentials Call.	Up to €650,000	Eligibility varies by instrument	16 September 2026
RIV Circular - Cascade Funding for Innovation Projects	Interregional innovation projects developing and deploying circular-economy technologies, products and services.	€2,000,000	SMEs; mid-caps; large companies; startups	17 September 2026

Cascade Funding Opportunities

Selected Summer 2026 opportunities continued. Always verify the official call page before applying.

		OPPORTUNITIES 19-26 OF 26		
Opportunity	Focus	Maximum funding	Eligible applicants	Deadline
FutureProofTextiles - 1st Open Call Round	Grants for European textile SMEs developing digital-innovation or green-transition projects.	€50,000	SMEs; startups	18 September 2026
RAMP - Joint Transnational Call 2026 (Pre-proposal)	Transnational research and innovation projects addressing the raw-materials value chain for the green and digital transition.	€2,000,000	Universities; research organisations; startups; SMEs; large companies; mid-caps; NGOs; public authorities	22 September 2026
IH-MIE - Open Call 2026	SME-led projects developing and scaling hydrogen-mobility solutions from TRL 6 to TRL 9.	€180,000	SMEs; startups	25 September 2026
Late September Highlights	MANTRA 2nd Open Call for Manufacturing SMEs; ECDI Dual-Use Drones Innovative Programme; SUNDANSE OC#2; EIT Urban Mobility Connect NEB & Co-create NEB.	€15,300- €100,000	Eligibility varies by call	30 September 2026
GRAPPA Innovation Open Call - Cut-off 2	SME projects developing and commercialising innovative upcycled products and technologies for agri-food biomass valorisation.	€90,000	SMEs; startups	20 October 2026
Perform Europe - Open Call 2026-2028	Cross-border touring of existing performing-arts works through international partnerships promoting inclusion and sustainability.	€60,000	Individuals; SMEs; startups; mid-caps; large companies	22 October 2026
RIZA - Call for Proposals Cycle 2	Grassroots projects promoting fundamental rights, equality and democratic participation of migrant and refugee women.	€60,000	NGOs	31 October 2026
Women TechEU 2 EIC - Eligibility Strand	Support for women-led early-stage deep-tech startups through eligibility screening, grants and business-development services.	€75,000	Startups	14 June 2027

BEFORE YOU APPLY

Check the official call page, confirm eligibility and deadline, and contact Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo if you need help identifying partners or preparing your next steps.

How Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo Supports Your Journey

Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo provides tailored support across the core areas of business growth, innovation and internationalisation.

SUSTAINABILITY Supporting companies in the transition towards more sustainable business models.	EU SINGLE MARKET Helping businesses understand EU legislation, policies and Single Market opportunities.	DIGITALISATION Helping SMEs identify and adopt digital solutions suited to their needs.
INNOVATION Strengthening companies' capacity to innovate, grow and develop new products and services.	BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & R&D PARTNERING Connecting companies with suitable commercial, technology and research partners.	RESILIENCE Building business agility and preparedness for future challenges.
INTERNATIONALISATION Supporting companies to enter international markets and pursue new commercial opportunities.	ACCESS TO FINANCE Identifying financing options and strengthening investment readiness.	EU FUNDING PROGRAMMES Identifying relevant European funding opportunities and supporting application preparation.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY Providing guidance on intellectual-property protection and strategy.	STARTUPS & SCALE-UPS Supporting the development and international growth of innovative startups and scale-ups.	WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP Supporting women-led businesses and innovators to grow and succeed.

Connect. Innovate. Grow. Let's Shape the Next Opportunities Together.

Stay connected with Enterprise Europe Network Kosovo for upcoming events, international partnering opportunities, EU funding calls and tailored business support.

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