



System innovation for climate action in the Western Balkans

Annalisa Spalazzi, EIT RIS Programme manager

Virtual Western Balkans Research and Innovation Meeting, 9th September 2020



EIT Climate-KIC is supported by the
EIT, a body of the European Union

Our 10-year track record in climate innovation

1600+
climate-positive
start-ups incubated

€3.4bn+
climate funding
leveraged

595
new products
and services

€550m+
total value of
funds managed



391+
formal partners,
across 28 countries
(including *Linked 3rd*
Parties)

>€1bn
investment attracted
to start-ups

>2300+
full-time jobs created
since 2010

44,000
participants in our
education activities

EIT CLIMATE-KIC REGIONAL INNOVATION SCHEME

Vision

is a prosperous, inclusive, climate resilient society with a circular, net zero emissions economy by 2050 across the whole Europe.

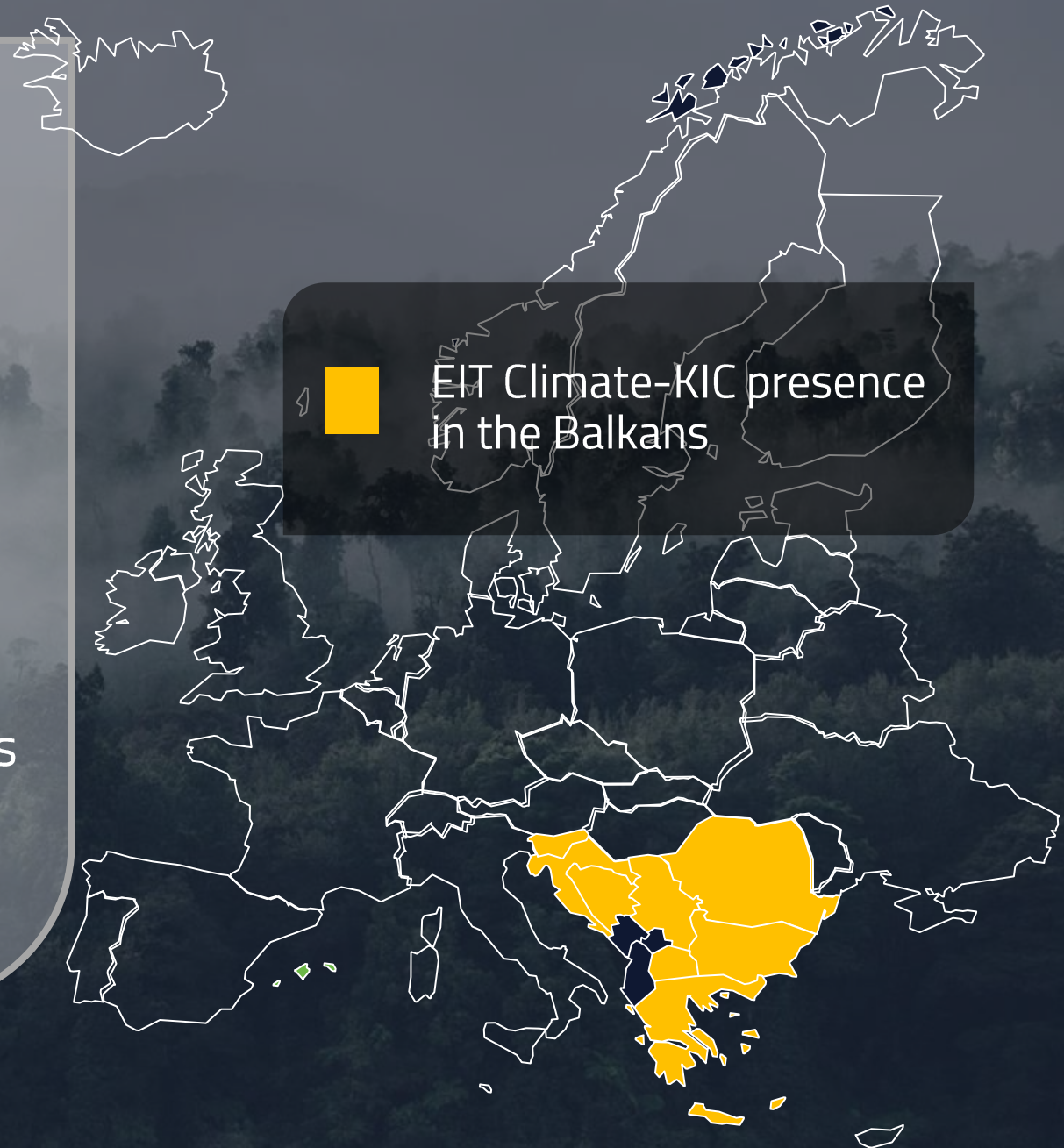
Mission

is to empower communities to catalyse systemic change for climate action for a just and green transition in Southern and Central- eastern Europe.

Promise

Is transformation, in time, through ecosystems activation and innovation, not leaving anyone behind.

- IPCC identified the Western Balkans as one of the most vulnerable areas in Europe to the effects of climate change.
- The economic growth of the region is dependent on climate-sensitive natural resources, which leads to high costs in regard to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- EIT Climate-KIC, working on system innovation to enhance entrepreneurial mindset and support young professionals careers, aims to boost the local green economy and – ultimately - support regional resilience.



Our Partners in the Balkans

2016 : 4 partners

2018: 8 partners

2019: 14 partners

2020: 21 partners

WESTERN BALKANS



Z:CER
ZAGREBAČKI INOVACIJSKI CENTAR

Zelena Energetska Zadruga

REGIONALNA ENERGETSKA AGENCIJA
NORTH-WEST CROATIA
SJEVEROZAPADNE HRVATSKE
REGIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

CROATIA



Sarajevska regionalna razvojna agencija
SERDA
Sarajevo Economic Region
Development Agency

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA



SEE ICT

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF SERBIA
1857

SERBIA



smartUP

NORTH MACEDONIA



conot **ezavod**

NI National Institute of Chemistry Slovenia

ZUM

SLOVENIA



ATHENA
Research & Innovation Information Technologies

FORTH
Foundation for Research & Technology - Hellas

ERFC

uni.fund
MAKE IT HAPPEN

GREECE



CLEANTECH BULGARIA

BULGARIA



UV Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara

CCIAT TIMIȘ
FONDATA 1850

ASHOKA

ROMANIA

Priorities and activities in the Western Balkans

Cities transformation

Climathon

Future cities of South East Europe

Transformation Financial Mechanism for Communities of South Eastern Europe

Capacity Building

Startups Accelerator

Pioneers into Practise

Young Innovators

Journey

Open online education courses

Circular Economy

Circular Economy Beacons in Western Balkans

Regional Transition

System Mapping for the COVID Regional Recovery

Transition Hub Policy Labs

Community Labs



European Institute of
Innovation & Technology

EIT X-KIC Project Circular Economy in the Western Balkans

Annalisa Spalazzi, EIT Climate-KIC RIS Programme manager



The EIT is a body of the European Union

Circular Economy in Western Balkans

- Circular economy is a priority in the Western Balkans, which is currently performing below average in waste management and tendency to look at recycling rates, instead of boosting a close-the-loop approach.
- The Innovation Communities will support policy makers, universities and businesses to boost the economy, recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic effects, enhancing innovation capacities and fostering knowledge-sharing across Europe.
- The final goal is to enhance jobs creation whilst acting on youth diaspora and guide the Western Balkans towards a circular society transform those places in the ideal ones to live, work and visit.



Climate-KIC



RawMaterials

Connecting matters



Health



Food



Urban Mobility



Manufacturing



ENGAGE POLICY
MAKERS IN SYSTEM
MAPPING AND
STAKEHOLDERS
ENGAGEMENT



WORK WITH
UNIVERSITIES TO
ENHANCE THEIR
INNOVATION OFFER
AND BECOME
ENTREPRENUERIAL



IDENTIFY AND
UPSKILL REGIONAL
TALENTS FOR NEW
BUSINESS
CREATION



ENGAGE AND CO-
CREATE WITH
CONSUMERS AND
COMMUNITIES TO
RAISE AWARENESS
AND DEVELOP
LABS FOR
CIRCULAR
ECONOMY



CONTRIBUTE TO GREEN JOB CREATION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE
ECONOMY IN THE POST-COVID19 TIMEFRAME



WORK WITH POLICY MAKERS AND STAKEHOLDERS TO IDENTIFY THE MOST
IMPACTFUL ACTIONS TO BE CONTINUED AND DEVELOPED IN 2022 AND BEYOND

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