

ELIIT- European Light Industries Innovation and Technology Project

Weaving technology innovation around Europe

The initiative European Light Industries Innovation and Technology (ELIIT) is a project funded by the COSME Programme of the European Union for the competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs).

ELIIT aims at supporting **European cooperation** to promote the use of **disruptive technology-ready solutions** to improve productivity, value chain integration, resource efficiency and to create new high added-value products and services in the [textile](#), [clothing](#), [leather](#) and [footwear](#) (TCLF) industries.

ELIIT will support TCLF [SMEs](#) in implementing the excellent research results achieved in many technological areas by providers and/or owners of **novel and innovative technologies** throughout the launch of different **calls for proposals**. SMEs could benefit this way of incorporating in their business disruptive technologies such as KETs ([Key enable technologies](#)), digital technologies, artificial intelligence, internet of things, etc.

The collaboration between different key players within the EU economy, is a unique aspect of the ELIIT project, as it **facilitates hands-on support** to foster **collaborations** that enable innovation and cross fertilisation and that otherwise may not have occurred organically. This will allow TCLF SMEs to overcome obstacles in the integration, implementation and use of advanced technologies and to enter niche-markets for new products and services.

ELIIT will also work to improve knowledge and skills in TCLF sectors related to technology, manufacturing processes, materials, business strategy, access to finance and marketing and improving cross-sectoral networking skills.

Through different calls for proposals, **ELIIT will select 25 partnerships between TCLF SMEs and providers and/or owners of novel and innovative technologies**, which will benefit from:

- **Financial support of 70.000 EUR** to develop products or prototypes with high-added value and profitability
- **A tailor-made coaching and advice programme** on technical and/or soft skills to elevate the relevance of projects and increase their capabilities
- Facilitating **market-positioning and professional links** between members of partnerships and other key players by organising networking activities and attendance at relevant workshops, conferences and exhibitions
- SME tailored support to strengthen **intellectual property rights protection**

The ELIIT Project is implemented on behalf of the European Commission by a consortium formed by: AITEX-Textile Industry Research Association, INESCOP-Footwear Technology Center, CARSA-Strategic Consultancy Services, GOPA Com. and Anna Maria Stein with the support from Avvocati Associati Franzosi Dal Negro Setti.

For further information: <https://ec.europa.eu/eliit>

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