

Making Europe the world leader
in the emerging Smart Textiles market

SMART X

EUROPEAN SMART TEXTILES ACCELERATOR

is a 3-year (2019-2022) collaborative project that has received funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme to support the establishment of a smart textiles manufacturing value chain in Europe through acceleration funding & coaching of SMEs and start-ups.

- € 2.4 million in grant money to fund up to 40 innovative projects to reach early market stage
- Over 10,000 free coaching hours to raise the smart textile market readiness of funded innovators
- A series of knowledge-sharing and partnership-building events and workshops all over Europe
- a growing community of smart textile businesses and technology leaders across Europe.



Smart Textiles Market Potential & Target Markets

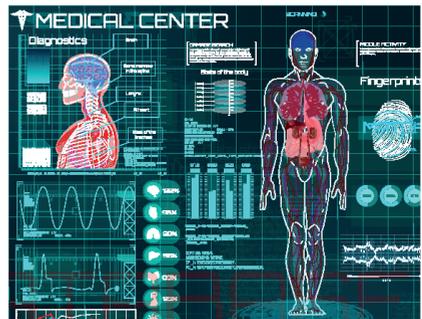
The timing is right. According to independent research, the global market for smart textiles and soft wearables is entering a rapid growth phase. Estimates point to a value increase from nearly \$1.5 billion by 2021 to almost \$3 billion in Europe alone in 2024.



Therefore, there is a significant potential for market development and innovation in smart textile applications, especially in three main fields where SmartX funding will be focused:

- (1) Protection & Sports
- (2) Health & Well-being
- (3) Industrial Applications.

European SMEs in particular are well-suited to offer niche market and customised solutions that could have a value chain impact across sectors and provide opportunities for scaling up. However, in order to reach the full market potential and meet the end market demand for smart textile solutions,



the industry needs to develop a robust manufacturing value chain in Europe. The SmartX programme intends to facilitate that change, while funding projects with a high technological readiness level and a clear market potential to fill critical gaps and accelerate demand.

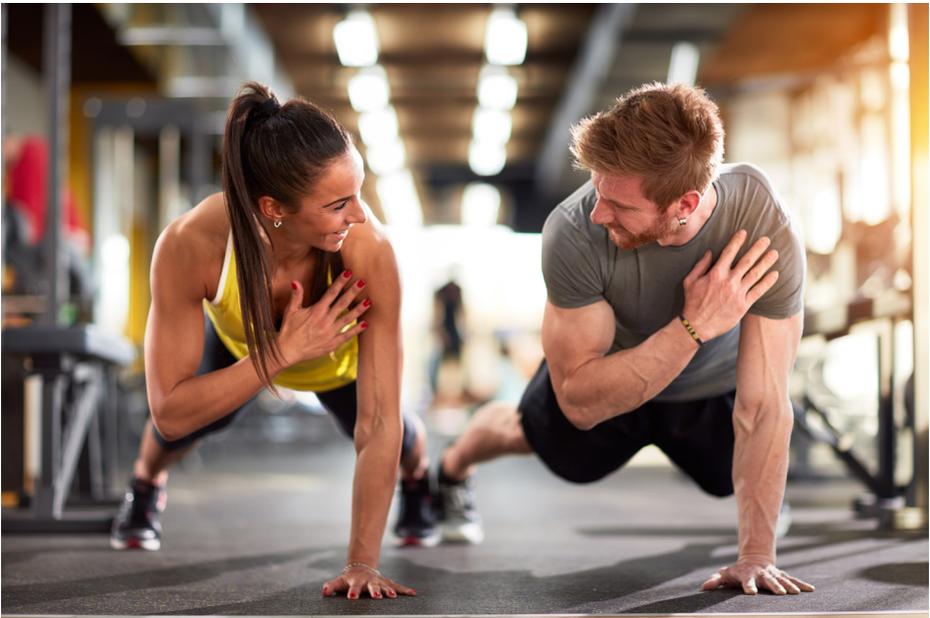
Funding & Coaching Opportunities

Funding

Funding will be provided after rigorous selection of applications received in three open call rounds. Successful applicants can receive a maximum of € 60,000 per company. Projects composed of 3 or more SMEs can receive a maximum total grant of € 150,000. Project must be implemented within 10-12 months.

Coaching

All applicants will benefit from free coaching hours from SmartX consortium experts throughout the entire application, implementation and results exploitation process. The funded projects will benefit from up to 200 free coaching hours.

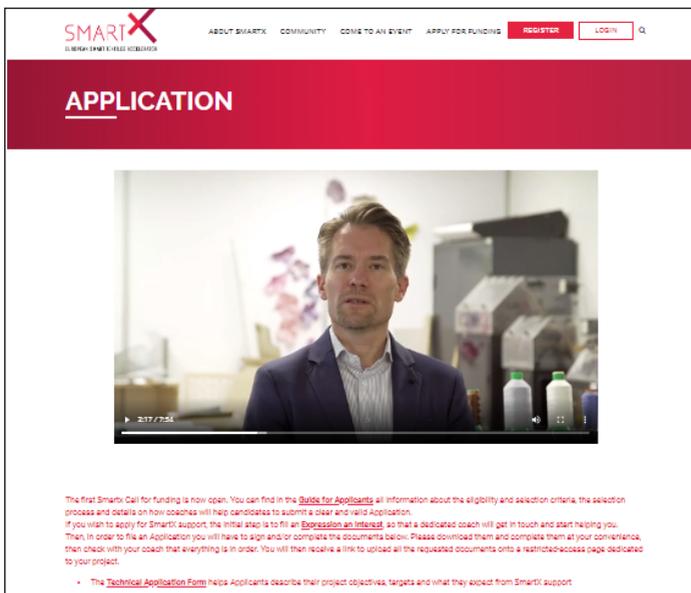


Are you working in textiles and electronics? Is your project on a TRL higher than 6? The SmartX project evaluation is focused on business innovation potential, operational excellence, and European dimension.

Open Calls

The first funding call has opened in December 2019, with two more expected in 2020. A call for Expression of Interest is open through mid-February 2020. Intended as a necessary first step before the formal project application, it will give SmartX coaches a better understanding of each project idea and provide an initial assessment of its eligibility for programme funding.

SmartX partners believe in a careful selection of a limited number of high-potential, innovative projects. They are in search of solutions to tackle well-known bottlenecks in the emerging smart textiles value chain. Therefore, the selected start-ups and SMEs will be given a clear value chain framework and a personalised multidisciplinary coaching approach.



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EUROPEAN SMART TEXTILES COOPERATION

ABOUT SMARTX COMMUNITY COME TO AN EVENT APPLY FOR FUNDING REGISTER LOGIN

APPLICATION

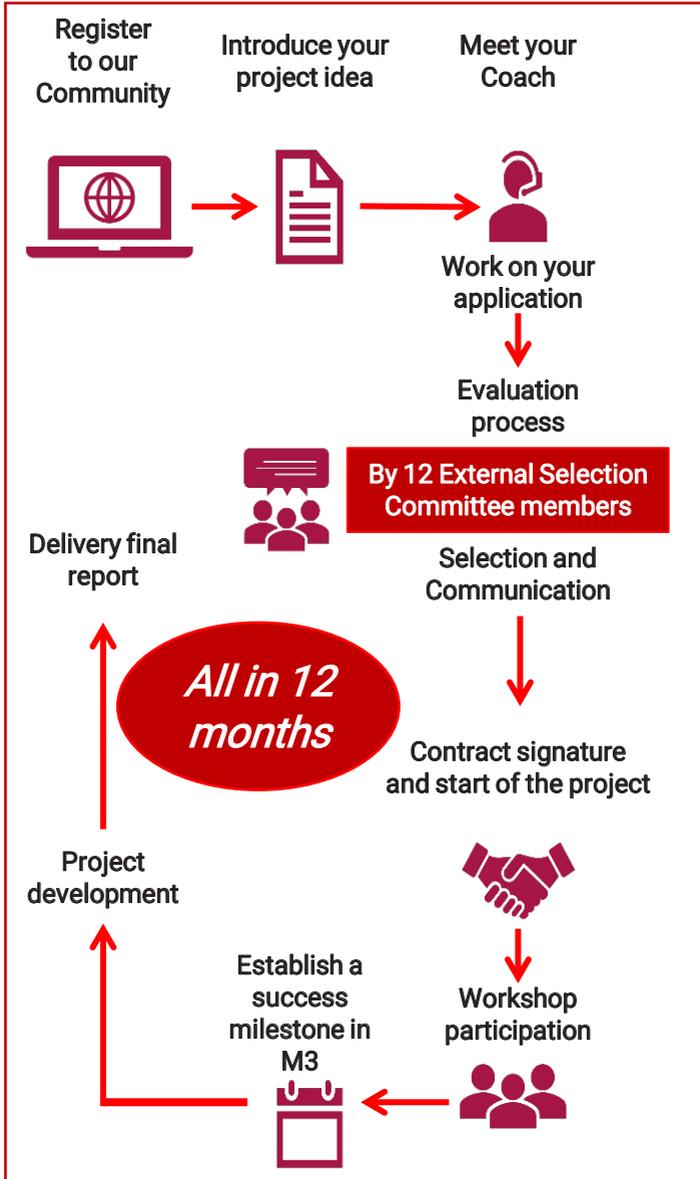
The first SmartX Call for funding is now open. You can find in the [Guide for Applicants](#) all information about the eligibility and selection criteria, the selection process and details on how coaches will help candidates to submit a clear and valid Application.

If you wish to apply for SmartX support, the initial step is to fill an [Expression of Interest](#), so that a dedicated coach will get in touch and start helping you. Then, in order to file an Application you will have to sign and/or complete the documents below. Please download them and complete them at your convenience, then check with your coach that everything is in order. You will then receive a link to upload all the requested documents onto a restricted-access page dedicated to your project.

- The [Technical Application Form](#) helps Applicants describe their project objectives, targets and what they expect from SmartX support

The website provides guidance for each Applicant throughout the 3 calls. Technical Application form and supporting documents for funding calls are available on the SmartX website.

Here's an overview of the SmartX Applicant's journey:



SmartX Community Platform

SmartX operates an online collaboration platform for European smart textile businesses, researchers, and technology experts. The community of registered and verified users will have access to several interactive tools for networking, knowledge-sharing, and collaborative project and business development.

The public section of the website lists upcoming events and recaps of past workshops.

The SmartX community platform will remain operational well beyond 2022 and managed by Textile ETP.

Events

Smart will organise numerous events in different formats all over Europe

- Regional workshops
- Project brokerage events
- IoT hackathons
- Project Induction workshops
- Value chain cross-fertilisation workshops
- Regional and national project results dissemination workshops



SmartX is operated by a consortium of 13 partners from 7 different EU countries, reaching out to more than 1,000 smart textile SMEs.

The Textile ETP, the biggest European network of researchers and industry innovators in fibres, textiles, and clothing in Europe; SmartX coordinator, based in Brussels (BE)



Centexbel – a research and technology organisation of the Belgian textiles and plastic industries (BE)



CITC – electronical innovation cluster based in northern France (FR)



Cluster Textil Moda – a textile and fashion innovation cluster in the north of Portugal (PT)



DITF - the largest European research centre for fibres and textiles, based near Stuttgart (DE)



DSP Valley – electronical innovation cluster that stimulates innovation via co-operation and partnerships (BE)



Euramaterials – a textile and advanced materials cluster in the north of France. (FR)



Institut Français de la Mode – an international management school and research centre for fashion, design and management based in Paris (FR)



Po.In.Text – a textile innovation cluster in the Piemonte region (IT)



Smart Textiles – a textile innovation cluster based in the Swedish textile capital Borås (SE)



Sourcebook – a Berlin-based online sourcing and networking platform for creatives and manufacturers in the textile and fashion industry (DE)



Steinbeis – a cross-sectoral innovation support organisation based in the Baden-Württemberg region (DE)



Texfor – a textile and clothing cluster based in Barcelona (ES)



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SmartX Europe is operated by a consortium of 13 partners across Europe from the textile and technology industries, who share a vision of the promising future of European smart textiles. They are focused on manufacturing technology, microelectronics, data processing, and IoT.

Partners include: Textile ETP (Belgium), EuraMaterials (France), Citta Studi (Italy), Höskolan I Boras (Sweden), Texfor (Spain), Citeve (Portugal), DSP Valley (Belgium), CITC EuraRFID (France), Deutsche Institut für Textil- und Faserforschung (Germany), Centexbel (Belgium), Steinbeis Innovation (Germany), Institut Français de la Mode (France), and Sourcebook (Germany).

Get involved by visiting our website
and subscribing to the newsletter.

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