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ANNEX

Memorandum of Understanding for the Co-programmed European Partnership 'Innovative Advanced Materials for the EU (IAM4EU)'

The Innovative Advanced Materials Initiative (IAM-I) ¹ AISBL (non-profit international association under Belgian law), the registered offices of which are at Rue de Ransbeek 310, 1120 Brussels, Belgium (hereinafter referred to as the 'Partners other than the European Union'), and the European Union, represented by the European Commission (hereinafter jointly referred to as 'the Partners'),

Considering that:

- Parts of Horizon Europe – the framework programme for research and innovation ('Horizon Europe') ² – may be implemented through co-programmed European Partnerships, on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding between Partners drawn up to support the development and implementation of strategically important research and innovation activities that will enable the European Union to address global challenges and maintain its competitiveness in line with EU priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The second Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027 ³ and the Commission Communication on Advanced Materials for Industrial Leadership ⁴ have identified a candidate for a co-programmed European Partnership on Innovative Advanced Materials for the EU (IAM4EU), which is considered instrumental to deliver scientific, economic and societal impact in line with the general and specific objectives of Horizon Europe.
- The Advanced Materials 2030 Initiative⁵ (inspired by the Materials 2030 Manifesto⁶) and the Graphene Flagship⁷ joined forces⁸, to establish the partnership with an open and systematic approach addressing the whole advanced materials innovation cycle and all

¹ Constituent entities are the members of the association IAM-I AISBL.

² Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1-68), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/695>.

³ Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027 - European Commission (europa.eu)

⁴ Communication on Advanced Materials for Industrial Leadership (europa.eu)

⁵ <https://www.ami2030.eu/>

⁶ <https://www.ami2030.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/advanced-materials-2030-manifesto-Published-on-7-Feb-2022.pdf>

⁷ <https://graphene-flagship.eu/>

⁸ <https://graphene-flagship.eu/materials/news/graphene-flagship-and-the-advanced-materials-2030-initiative-present-partnership-proposal/> and https://www.ami2030.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/20230609_AMI2030_Graphene_Flagship-Joint_Statement_FINAL-2-1.pdf

types of innovative advanced materials (IAMs), aiming for the widest participation across Europe.

- The proposal received from the Partners other than the European Union has been positively assessed by the European Commission in that it fulfils the new ambition and the selection criteria referred to in Article 10 of and Annex III to Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹ ('Regulation (EU) 2021/695').
- The implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the European Partnerships will comply with the criteria referred to in Annex III to Regulation (EU) 2021/695, including an alignment with the Horizon Europe monitoring and evaluation provisions set out in Article 50 and Article 52, as well as Annex V on Key Impact Pathways.
- The multiannual strategic research and innovation agenda (SRIA) agreed by the Partners will provide the basis for developing cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding, and for setting the annual priorities in line with the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027.
- The SRIA remains a living document, open for further inputs and contributions from newcomers joining the private association IAM-I AISBL.
- Regulation (EU) 2020/852¹⁰ sets out the general framework for determining whether an economic activity qualifies as environmentally sustainable for the purposes of meeting the sustainable investment criteria. It creates a common reference that investors, banks, industry and researchers can use when selecting projects and economic activities to invest in that offer a substantial positive impact on climate and the environment, and no significant harm to either. It is the reference for green investments in the EU.
- Funding sources other than the Horizon Europe programme (other EU programmes as well as external funding sources, including those from Member States¹¹) will be explored to contribute to achieving the objectives of this co-programmed European Partnership in line with the general and specific objectives of Horizon Europe.
- The European Partnership IAM4EU is directly related to the following EU strategies and policies:
 - the European Green Deal
 - a Europe fit for the digital age
 - the circular economy action plan
 - the Green Deal industrial plan
 - the Chips Act
 - the Critical Raw Materials Act

⁹ Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1-68), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/695>.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 13), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/852/oj>.

¹¹ E.g. on 27 November 2024, the high-level meeting of the Joint European Forum on the Important Projects of Common European Interests (IPCEI) has adopted an opinion, stressing that Circular Advanced Materials for Clean Technologies are a candidate technology for a future IPCEI and interested Member States will further work in this field.

- the Net Zero Industry Act
- the EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities
- the Ecodesign for Sustainable Product Regulation
- the Commission Recommendation on establishing a European assessment framework for ‘safe and sustainable by design’ (SSbD) chemicals and materials.
- This co-programmed European Partnership will be of relevance to all EU strategies and legislation dealing with the four priority areas: energy, mobility, construction, and electronics, and other areas of strategic interest for the EU. It will also address cross-sectoral enabling technologies for the design, development and deployment of innovative advanced materials (IAM), which can also be of broader relevance.
- Pursuant to Article 3 of the Articles of Association of the ‘Innovative Advanced Materials Initiative’ (IAM-I) AISBL (a non-profit international association under Belgian law), the Partners other than the European Union are engaged in the European Partnership IAM4EU with the European Commission to promote, facilitate and carry out the research, innovation, dissemination and other activities aiming at market, regulatory and societal uptake, including workforce training, that are required to achieve the objectives specified in Section 1 below.
- This Memorandum of Understanding constitutes a non-binding instrument in which the Partners undertake all efforts necessary to achieve the objectives of the European Partnership IAM4EU. It is not legally binding and does not, and will not, create any contractual or pre-contractual obligations under any law or legal system. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding will be construed as creating any liability, rights, waiver of any rights or obligations for any partner or as releasing any partner from its legal obligations. Neither partner should be liable under this Memorandum of Understanding towards the other partner.

Have agreed the following:

1 Establishment, general, specific and operational objectives

The co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU is agreed between the Partners, to be implemented in an open, transparent, efficient and flexible way.

This Memorandum of Understanding sets out a cooperative relationship for the duration of the co-programmed European Partnership with a long-term common vision, and the Partners pledge to pursue this common vision throughout the duration of this partnership. It will contribute to the objectives of Horizon Europe and the Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027.

The general objective (GO) of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU is to:

Secure and strengthen **European technology sovereignty, industrial leadership and competitiveness in innovative advanced materials (IAMs)** in strategic markets for the twin green and digital transition.

The specific objectives (SOs) are:

SO1 – Deliver the innovative advanced materials (IAMs) and associated technologies needed for the twin green and digital transition.

SO2 – Exploit innovative technologies to accelerate the innovation cycle while responding to new requirements.

SO3 – Enable a dynamic innovation ecosystem for IAMs.

The operational objectives (OOs) are the following:

OO1 – Design and develop IAMs and associated technologies enabling resilient and circular value chains.

OO2 – Foster the uptake by industry of IAMs and associated technologies.

OO3 – Support the scaling up of innovative SMEs.

OO4 – Cooperate with relevant digital, research, technology and industrial infrastructures, and produce and implement a joint strategy.

OO5 – Develop tools and methods to accelerate the design, development and integration of ‘safe and sustainable by design’ (SSbD) ¹² IAMs along industrial value chains.

OO6 – Implement a user-friendly SSbD approach for IAMs.

OO7 – Create an IAM stakeholder community covering all types of IAMs across and along industrial value chains with the necessary skills to lead innovation.

OO8 – Facilitate the use of all IAMs to enable the creation of new circular business models.

OO9 – Contribute to standards and norms.

2 Contributions and activities by the Partners

Any EU contribution, provided through the Horizon Europe programme to the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU, will be used to fund research and innovation activities, implemented as indirect actions following open calls for proposals and contests for prizes. These activities will be subject to the Horizon Europe rules for participation and dissemination set out in Regulation (EU) 2021/695.

The European Commission plans to allocate up to EUR 250 million from Horizon Europe to actions within the scope of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU¹³.

The Partners other than the Union will provide input and advice to the European Commission on identifying the priorities for research and innovation activities, and for defining call topics to be included in the Horizon Europe work programmes, **within the scope of the co-programmed European Partnership’s activities.**

¹² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reco/2022/2510> including any follow-up actions to this Recommendation.

¹³ [Communication on Advanced Materials for Industrial Leadership \(europa.eu\)](#). The maximum EU contribution may be increased in duly justified cases (e.g. with contributions to Horizon Europe from third countries if available) and when agreed by the Partners and matched by contributions from the Partners other than the European Union.

Furthermore, **the Partners other than the European Union plan¹⁴ to allocate at least EUR 250 million** over the 2025–2030 period¹⁵ on research, innovation and other activities covered by the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU, engaging their constituent and affiliated entities¹⁶ to make such investments. These contributions will complement and at least match the EU contribution.

Contributions by the Partners other than the European Union¹⁷ will take the form of:

- a. **In-kind contributions to the actions funded by the EU**, consisting of eligible costs that comply with Horizon Europe rules, minus the EU contribution.
- b. **In-kind contributions to additional activities** that are in the scope of the SRIA and addressed in the additional activities report, approved by the Partnership Board. In-kind additional activities are those contributing to achieving the objectives of the co-programmed European Partnership, including R&I (research and innovation) at higher technology readiness level (TRL); and/or ensuring demonstration, market, regulatory and societal uptake in the scope of the SRIA, but not covered by EU funding.
- c. **Financial contributions to additional activities**, to ensure demonstration, market, regulatory and societal uptake.

For the in-kind contributions generated in actions with funding rates below the maximum funding rates for Horizon Europe, the funding rate will be set individually per call topic in the Horizon Europe work programme. This will range from the standard funding rate for R&I actions, to reduced funding rates for certain R&I actions and for innovation actions in line with Article 34 of Horizon Europe of Regulation (EU) 2021/695. The selection of topics with reduced funding rates will be discussed in the Partnership Board.

In addition, the Partners other than the European Union intend to make **investments in operational activities** that go beyond the work set out in the SRIA, which contribute to achieving the objectives of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU, and where there is a clear link between the investment and the activities of the co-programmed European Partnership. Examples include investments in the construction of production facilities, in training programmes for workers, and in other activities necessary to produce and place on the market the product or service resulting from the R&I carried out as part of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU. Those Partners may consider the ‘do-no-significant-harm principle’ pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 and take into account the provisions of that Regulation to improve access to sustainable finance, where relevant. These investments in operational

¹⁴ The undertaking and contribution by the Association covers only those in-kind contributions to be provided by its constituent entities and their affiliated entities (and not any contributions to be provided by its non-constituent entities or by a non-affiliated entity).

¹⁵ The longer timeline for contributions from Partners other than the European Union takes into account the fact that the contributions will materialise over a longer period.

¹⁶ Entities are affiliated when they have a link with the beneficiary, in particular a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, in accordance with Article 187(1) of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union.

¹⁷ In line with Annex III to Horizon Europe and referred to as co-investment in Annex V to Horizon Europe. Where applicable, funding from state resources must be compliant with State aid rules.

activities are not, however, included in the above-mentioned contributions planned by the Partners other than the European Union, but they should be taken into account as leverage.

3 Governance

The Partners should convene in the form of a Partnership Board, which is the main forum for dialogue and steering to reach the objectives set out in this Memorandum of Understanding. Through the Partnership Board, the Partners' representatives should agree on all issues involving the cooperation for this co-programmed European Partnership. The Partners, through their participating representatives, are considered as members of the Partnership Board.

The Partners agree on the composition and size of the Partnership Board, while respecting the following principles:

- adequate representation of the European Commission, including through acting as a co-chair when meeting in the format of the Partnership Board
- adequate representation of the relevant R&I communities
- adequate representation of SMEs
- adequate gender balance.

Participation in the Partnership Board may be on a rotating basis, except for the representatives of the European Commission.

The Partnership Board may agree to invite or nominate the following to its meetings as observers: representatives of Member States and countries associated to the Horizon Europe programme; representatives of other European Partnerships; civil society organisations; standardisation bodies; certification bodies; regulators; public procurers; and experts in the areas covered by the co-programmed European Partnership.

The Partnership Board will be co-chaired by the European Commission, represented by the lead department in charge of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU, together with a co-chair from the Partners other than the European Union, selected from their members on the Partnership Board.

The Partnership Board may adopt its rules of procedure, based on a harmonised template provided by the European Commission that includes rules on confidentiality, transparency, and avoidance of conflicts of interest.

In order to address strategic issues, the Partners may also convene at a higher level¹⁸ to review the work of the Partnership Board; to take stock of progress made by the co-programmed European Partnership towards its objectives; to adjust priorities and activities according to changing market or policy needs or based on results from monitoring and evaluation activities; and to discuss further ways to enhance collaboration between European Partnerships and synergies with other EU

¹⁸ For example, between the President of the Association and a Director-General from the European Commission.

programmes. The implementation of results and proposals from such high-level meetings may be subject to approval by the Partnership Board.

The partnership will use existing structures and configurations to reach out to Member States and associated countries to keep them informed and gather their guidance.

The Partners other than the European Union may arrange their own governance structures, if these do not contradict this Memorandum of Understanding. They may invite a European Commission representative as observer to meetings of their governance structure on subjects related to the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU. European Commission departments may participate as observers in meetings of technical groups set up by the Partners other than the European Union that are relevant for the co-programmed European Partnership.

4 Activities and commitments of the European Commission

The European Commission undertakes to duly take inputs and advice from the Partners other than the European Union into account when identifying and drafting call topics for R&I activities in the scope of and linked to the IAM4EU partnership to be included in the Horizon Europe work programmes. For this purpose, the European Commission undertakes to consult and maintain a regular dialogue with the Partners other than the European Union during the preparation of the work programmes. The call topics in the Horizon Europe work programme are subject to the Europe comitology procedures.

The European Commission may support and contribute to the regular monitoring of the co-programmed European Partnership, and contributions may include participating in the Partnership Board and in other activities, in line with the Horizon Europe monitoring provisions (Article 50). The European Commission will also carry out the final evaluation of the co-programmed European Partnership in a timely manner, feeding into Horizon Europe evaluations, as specified in Article 52 of Horizon Europe. These evaluations will be fed by a self-assessment, provided by the Partners other than the European Union, on meeting objectives and how their commitments have been fulfilled, and contributions made over the lifecycle of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU.

The evaluations will examine:

- i. how the co-programmed European Partnership is fulfilling its mission and objectives,
- ii. all its activities and evaluate its European added value, effectiveness, efficiency (including openness and transparency),
- iii. the relevance of the activities pursued, and their consistency and/or complementarity with relevant regional, national and EU policies, including synergies with other parts of Horizon Europe (such as EU Missions, clusters or thematic/specific programmes).

The evaluations will take into account the views of stakeholders, at both European and national level and will include, where relevant, an assessment of the most effective policy approach for any future action. They will also cover any potential renewal of the co-programmed European Partnership, from the point of view of overall policy priorities and the R&I support landscape,

including consistency with and complementarity with other initiatives supported through the Horizon Europe programme, in particular the European Partnerships or the EU Missions.

5 Activities and commitments of the Partners other than the European Union

5.1 Activities

The Partners other than the European Union undertake to provide inputs and advice to the European Commission in order to achieve the objectives of the co-programmed European Partnership. This input and advice to the European Commission will help identify priorities for R&I activities and the definition of relevant call topics to be included in the Horizon Europe work programmes. This will be done in view of financial support for indirect actions following calls for proposals and contests for prizes and will not affect the outcome of the Horizon Europe committee decision-making.

The Partners other than the European Union also undertake to make the following in-kind additional activities and investments in operational activities in support of the objectives set out in Section 1 of this Memorandum of Understanding:

- a. Scope of in-kind additional activities. In-kind additional activities may include:
 - i. activities contributing to strategic and operational alignment, coordination and synergies with other partnerships and initiatives at EU, national, regional or international level;
 - ii. activities contributing to the development of the IAM R&I ecosystem at EU, national, regional or international level;
 - iii. communication, networking and outreach activities, including matchmaking and brokerage services for the calls for proposals, and activities ensuring clustering between projects, and dissemination and exploitation of results of R&I activities in the scope of the SRIA;
 - iv. activities promoting, facilitating or accelerating innovation uptake in the market and business supporting services, including via financing opportunities provided by the European Innovation Council, the European Investment Bank or venture capital funds;
 - v. scaling up of technologies at a higher TRL, and uptake of results from partnership projects, such as pre-commercial trials, proof of concept, improvement of existing production lines for upscaling or building new production facilities;
 - vi. activities supporting regulatory and standardisation activities, especially on safety and sustainability aspects;
 - vii. complementary side projects not funded by the EU, including:
 1. low-TRL research activities, feeding into this co-programmed European Partnership projects;
 2. R&I activities within the scope of the SRIA but not funded by this co-programmed European Partnership;
 3. demonstrators.
 - viii. activities addressing training and skills development, including identifying gaps

- and needs, and designing joint training programmes in close collaboration with existing and future EIT academies;
 - ix. uptake of and investments in training programmes for workers, students and early career researchers, and development of curricula that have the potential to be scaled up;
 - x. investments in and access to existing infrastructures (digital, research, technology and industrial), such as open innovation test beds, testing, experimentation, piloting and scaling up facilities, and competence centres;
 - xi. use and support the forthcoming EU digital infrastructure for innovative advanced materials;
 - xii. support the European Commission in monitoring patent and investment landscapes.
- b. Scope of investments in operational activities. Investments in operational activities may include:
- i. investments in the construction of production facilities;
 - ii. investments in other activities required for placing on the market products or services resulting from R&I activities performed as part of the co-programmed European Partnership.

The reporting of in-kind additional activities and investments in operational activities will respect confidentiality requirements of the private association IAM-I AISBL and its members.

5.2 Openness and transparency

An appropriate level of openness is required to achieve the objectives of this co-programmed European Partnership. The Partners other than the European Union therefore undertake to put in place measures that ensure:

- a. an open and transparent process for consulting their constituent entities and other relevant stakeholders as well as Member States and associated countries on the identification of the priorities of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU and the design of its activities, which results in an appropriate involvement of all relevant stakeholders;
- b. a governance structure that results in a high level of openness and transparency, including publishing information on the functioning of the co-programmed European Partnership (composition of partnership structures, decisions made by the Partnership Board etc.);
- c. growth in participation in and contribution to the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU, supported by an open policy on membership of the private association IAM-I AISBL and an appropriate level of information and, if necessary, assistance to all constituent entities of the Partners other than the European Union.

In particular, the Partners other than the European Union undertake to ensure that the in-kind additional activities that they contribute are open, as much as is possible, to participation by non-members of the co-programmed European Partnership (e.g. dissemination and exploitation activities, etc.) that is based on equal treatment.

The Partners other than the European Union also undertake to put in place appropriate measures for informing SMEs, civil society and other relevant stakeholders about the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU and promoting their participation.

5.3 Research security

In line with the 2023 European Economic Security Strategy (JOIN/2023/20 final) ¹⁹ and the 2024 Council Recommendation on enhancing Research Security (C/2024/3510) ²⁰, the European Commission has been working to improve research security in the Horizon Europe programme, to better safeguard and promote EU interests and values. In view of the above, the Commission strongly encourages European Partnerships to take the above-mentioned documents and policy direction into account when evaluating the acceptance of new constituent entities or members of their Association. Additional guidance on mitigating research security risks can also be found in the following documents: ‘Tackling R&I Foreign Interference: Staff Working Document, 2022’ and the factsheet on ‘Research Security: Building Blocks for Risk Appraisal’, 2024²¹.

5.4 Dissemination and communication

The Partners undertake to communicate and disseminate their activities and results broadly and through various channels, to ensure that any necessary information in the area of the co-programmed European Partnership is available to all possible stakeholders for its full duration. The Partners undertake to engage in information, communication, publicity, dissemination and exploitation activities by appropriately applying Article 51 of Regulation (EU) 2021/695.

The communication and dissemination will also ensure the visibility of EU support to the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU.

5.5 Coherence and coordination with other European Partnerships and beyond

The Partners undertake to set up and maintain a clear strategy and plan for the interactions and joint activities of the co-programmed European Partnership with other relevant European Partnerships, as well as with the broader European R&I system and communities.

The Partners other than the European Union will engage in formal and regular collaboration with the following European Partnerships:

- a. European Partnership Processes4Planet
- b. European Partnership Made in Europe
- c. European Partnership on Raw Materials
- d. European Partnership for the Assessment of Risk from Chemicals (PARC)
- e. Relevant, notably sectoral, European Partnerships.

¹⁹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023JC0020>

²⁰ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/3510>

²¹ European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation: Tackling R&I Foreign Interference: Staff Working Document, 2022 ([Tackling R&I foreign interference - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#)); factsheet on Research Security: Building Blocks for Risk Appraisal, 2024 ([c0c0dbae-c7d7-45d8-b59b-413f54aa8983_en \(europa.eu\)](#)).

The SRIA sets out further details, as appropriate, on coherence and collaboration with other European Partnerships, synergies with other EU programmes, EU bodies and national, international, and intergovernmental programmes and policies, and the relevant parts of Horizon Europe (including EU Missions).

The Partners other than the European Union may furthermore engage in formal and regular collaboration with other relevant R&I initiatives to secure an optimum level of interconnections and ensure effective synergies that offer benefits including overcoming potential implementation barriers and increasing cost-effectiveness. The collaboration priorities are to work with the following initiatives:

- a. EIT Academy on Advanced Materials
- b. Materials Commons/ Digital Infrastructure for IAMs
- c. Open Innovation Test Beds
- d. potential IPCEIs (Important Projects of Common European Interest) on IAMs
- e. IRISS, the International Safe-and-Sustainable-by-Design (SSbD) Network
- f. the Malta Initiative
- g. the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs), Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs) and Manufacturing Data Space [under the Digital Europe Programme]
- h. the Smart Specialisation Platform
- i. National and regional advanced materials initiatives as well as networks which bring regions together
- j. M-ERANET, Flag-ERA, relevant implementation groups under the SET-Plan and their respective possible follow-up actions.

The Partners other than the European Union will report specifically on their collaboration with other European Partnerships and initiatives in their biennial reporting.

5.6 Fulfilment of commitments

The Partners other than the European Union undertake to put in place measures that ensure that agreed contributions are provided in full and on time.

The Partnership Board may monitor the contributions reported by the Partners for the full duration of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU.

If the *de facto* contribution reported by the Partners other than the European Union is significantly lower than the committed contribution, the Partnership Board may make recommendations to the Partners other than the European Union on adjustments to be made.

If the action taken is not sufficient to reach the contribution originally agreed, the Partnership Board may recommend that the European Commission adjust its own contribution to match the contribution *de facto* made by the Partners other than the European Union.

6 Monitoring and reporting

The activities of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU will be subject to continuous monitoring and periodic reporting under Article 50 of and Annex III and Annex V to Regulation (EU) 2021/695. The outcomes of monitoring and reporting will feed into the evaluations of the co-

programmed European Partnerships as part of Horizon Europe evaluations and into the biennial monitoring of the European Partnerships in the context of the Strategic Coordinating Process.

The Partners will carry out monitoring and reporting at least every second year for the duration of the Memorandum of Understanding. There will be an additional activities report and a full report, both to be provided together every second year. In addition, the partnership will report in 2025 on the outcome of the survey undertaken to set the baseline and take stock for the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

The full reporting should cover all points listed below.

- a. The progress of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU towards its objectives (based on the KPIs) and the expected scientific, economic and societal impact (following the Horizon Europe Key Impact Pathways). This reporting should also contain a qualitative assessment of the KPIs for the past two years.
- b. Information on the functioning of the co-programmed European Partnership, including openness, transparency, collaboration and synergies with other European Partnerships and initiatives, etc. in line with the implementation criteria for European Partnerships.
- c. Agreed and actually provided contributions.
- d. Investments in operational activities undertaken by the Partners other than the European Union, and leverage including additional public and private investment mobilised to exploit or scale-up partnership results.
- e. Structured and representative ‘impact case studies’²² that will be used to highlight lessons learned from specific projects and activities, their drivers and barriers to impact, and their possible follow-up with the appropriate instruments, including other forms of support outside the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU.

The monitoring and reporting will be done on the basis of evidence provided by the Partners, respecting data confidentiality and avoiding anti-competitive behaviour. To the best of their ability, the Partners will provide monitoring data in close to real-time following Horizon Europe reporting processes, in particular management and implementation data. To the greatest extent possible, the indicators and methodologies used to monitor the progress of the Partnership towards its objectives and scientific, economic and societal impact should be harmonised and aligned with the monitoring framework of Horizon Europe (Key Impact Pathways), and the monitoring criteria of European Partnerships.

With due regard to their respective competencies, institutional settings and operational frameworks, the Partners may regularly inform and consult each other on the results of the monitoring, including to assess the contributions of the in-kind additional activities and investments in operational activities undertaken by the Partners other than the European Union.

²² i.e. high potential project outcomes that can be fast-tracked towards further investment and rapid development.

The monitoring and reporting should allow for an assessment over time of their results and progress towards impact, their visibility and positioning in the international context, and potential need for adjustments.

The Partners other than the European Union commit – if so requested – to providing the European Commission with any additional information needed to assess the achievements of the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU in the context of the overall Horizon Europe evaluation, respecting data confidentiality, and in the context of the strategic coordinating process for European Partnerships (e.g. input to the biennial monitoring of the European Partnerships).

Furthermore, the Partners other than the European Union commit to contributing to data collection for the Biennial Monitoring Report on the performance of European Partnerships, including full membership lists of their respective association IAM-I AISBL.

6.1 General systems

The Partners undertake to set up and implement an effective reporting and monitoring system that allows the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU as well as the European Commission to track progress over time towards the stated objectives and impact, as well as to provide implementation and management data.

The following list sets out what the information provided should include.

- a. Detailed information on the relevant calls for proposals in the Horizon Europe work programme; the proposals received; the grants resulting from these calls; the beneficiaries and participants; the results achieved by individual projects and their overall progress towards impact; or any other information deemed necessary for developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating EU policies or programmes. Such access to information is limited to non-commercial and non-competitive use and will comply with applicable confidentiality rules. The primary means of collecting information will be through the European Commission's reporting systems for management of Horizon Europe;
- b. Activities and fulfilment of contributions by the Partners other than the European Union; progress towards objectives, deliverables and KPIs; visibility and positioning in the international context; results, impact and leverage. The primary means of collecting information will be through biennial²³ reporting by the Partners other than the European Union and through the Commission's reporting systems for management of the Horizon Europe programme. Information collection will be based on a common methodology specified by the Commission in consultation with the Partners other than the European Union.

²³ i.e. once every two years.

6.2 Reporting method for In-Kind Contributions to additional activities and Leverage

There are three categories related to contributions and activities that Partners other than the European Union will report on.

- a. In-kind contributions to the actions funded by the European Union²⁴. At the project level, reporting will be done continuously through Commission reporting systems for management of the Horizon Europe programme.
- b. In-kind contributions to additional activities. At the partnership level, reporting will be done biennially by the Partners other than the European Union and continuously through Commission reporting systems for management of the Horizon Europe programme²⁵.
- c. Investments in operational activities planned beyond the SRIA, and leverage including other investments mobilised to exploit or scale-up partnership results. At the partnership level, reporting will be done biennially²⁶ by the Partners other than the European Union and continuously through Commission reporting systems for management of the Horizon Europe programme²⁷.

The value of the in-kind contributions reported by the Partners other than the European Union will be calculated on the basis of a common methodology in line with Annex V to Regulation (EU) 2021/695. The Partners may keep an anonymised record of these contributions from its constituent entities, which will provide the basis for periodic reporting by the Partners other than the European Union of the total value of in-kind contributions to the partnership's activities.

6.3 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The following Key Performance Indicators apply to the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU and will be included in monitoring and reporting. They are to be measured by:

- annual IAM-I surveys, all indicators for IAM-I members to be linked to membership categories (type and size of members, including flagging of newcomers);
- monitoring R&I activities on advanced materials (AMs) in Horizon Europe (HE) Cluster 4 'Digital, Industry and Space';
- monitoring of activities in synergy with other European Partnerships and other relevant initiatives where synergies are pursued.

The baseline (status at end 2024) will be set in reference to:

- a first IAM-I survey at the start of the partnership to take stock based on the activities of EMIRI, EUMAT, MANUFUTURE, SUSCHEM and the Graphene Flagship;
- R&I activities on AMs in HE Cluster 4 'Digital, Industry and Space' (2021-2024 work programmes).

²⁴ Contributions from beneficiaries that are not members or affiliates of the private partners cannot be considered as a contribution from the Partners but these will be considered as part of quantitative leverage effect.

²⁵ E.g. project reporting will include fields on indirect leverage that could be used for the partnership-level reporting.

²⁶ i.e. once every two years.

²⁷ E.g. project reporting will include fields on indirect leverage that could be used for the partnership-level reporting.

General objective (GO): Secure and strengthen **European technology sovereignty, industrial leadership and competitiveness in innovative advanced materials (IAMs)** in strategic markets for the twin green and digital transition.

GO - KPI	What to measure: Contributions from partnership/IAM-I, Numbers (#) and Investments (€)	How to measure, baseline & stocktaking
IAM-I members implementing circular business models	# circular business models implemented by IAM-I members # and category of IAM-I members implementing them € revenues generated # start-ups created and € related venture capital	# and € IAM-I survey, status end 2024
IAMs reaching the market (coming out of the pre- competitive R&I stage)	# IAMs reaching the market # category of IAM-I members commercialising them € revenues generated # start-ups created and € related venture capital	# and € IAM-I survey, status end 2024
Leverage of private funding above Horizon Europe (HE) public investment	€ private investments in line with the SRIA	€ Private investments in AM IAs in HE Cluster 4 € IAM-I survey, status end 2024 (for private investments beyond HE Cluster 4 in line with the SRIA)
IAMs reducing EU strategic dependencies and strengthening technology sovereignty	# cases reducing concentration of supply chains	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024

SO1 – Deliver the innovative advanced materials (IAMs) and associated technologies needed for the twin green and digital transition.

SO1 - KPI	What to measure: Contributions from partnership/IAM-I, Numbers (#) and Investments (€)	How to measure, baseline & stocktaking
IAMs for circular value chains	# demonstrators	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024 # AM R&I activities in HE Cluster 4
IAMs for critical raw material (CRM)-resilient value chains	# demonstrators	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024 # AM R&I activities in HE Cluster 4

Associated technologies	# associated technologies developed under IAM4EU (i.e. not supported elsewhere and IAMs-specific) # associated technologies implemented (i.e. supported by other partnerships or programmes)	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024 # AM R&I activities in HE Cluster 4
Involvement of SMEs in industrial value chains relying on IAMs	# of SME	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024
Balance of actors in R&I projects	€ Investments in joint R&I activities (academia-industry) # composition and € budget of R&I consortia	€ IAM-I survey, status end 2024 # and € AM R&I activities in HE Cluster 4

SO2 – Exploit innovative technologies to accelerate the innovation cycle while responding to new requirements.

SO2 - KPI	What to measure: Contributions from partnership/IAM-I, Numbers (#) and Investments (€)	How to measure, baseline & stocktaking
Modelling, characterisation, testing, digital tools & methods implemented	# tools and methods € private investments to deploy tools & methods	# AM R&I activities in HE Cluster 4 # and € IAM-I survey, status end 2024
SSbD & life cycle assessment (LCA) tools & methods	# tools and methods # and category of IAM-I members applying SSbD or LCA € Investments in applying SSbD or LCA	# AM R&I activities in HE Cluster 4 # and € IAM-I survey, status end 2024
Access to, use of and contribution to: digital, research, technology and industrial infrastructures, data spaces, pilot lines, open innovation testbeds (OITBs)	€ Investments in the use and development of infrastructures # (new) users # SME users	€ and # IAM-I survey, status end 2024

SO3 – Enable a dynamic innovation ecosystem for IAMs.

SO3 - KPI	What to measure: Contributions from partnership/IAM-I, Numbers (#) and Investments (€)	How to measure, baseline & stocktaking
IAM-I membership base	# (new) members per category; coverage	# IAM-I members, status start of partnership

Collaboration with other partnerships, initiatives and stakeholders	# Memorandum of Understandings # joint actions	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024
Contribute to standards and norms	# recommendations towards regulators # technical groups covered and contributions	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024
Contribute to skills and training	# contributions to identify needed skills # skills and training activities, internships and fellowships # participants to skills and training activities, internships and fellowships	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024 # monitoring skills and training activities
Public outreach	# activities involving dialogues with the public and information about IAMs to raise societal acceptance	# IAM-I survey, status end 2024

The SRIA sets out further details, as appropriate, on the monitoring framework for the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU.

7 Application of this Memorandum of Understanding

Any issues related to the interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding may be decided upon by the Partners in the Partnership Board. In the event of a final disagreement, any of the Partners may request an early end of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Adaptations to this Memorandum of Understanding may be requested by any of the Partners by a registered letter.

8 Duration and review



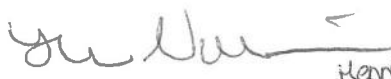
The starting date for the co-programmed European Partnership IAM4EU is 05/06/25..... and its end date is 31.12.2030. The last calls for proposals must be launched before 31.12.2027.

Any of the Partners may at any time communicate its reasoned intention to end its participation in this Memorandum of Understanding by means of a registered letter. In the absence of a renewal, appropriate measures may be taken to ensure the phasing-out of the Horizon Europe's funding according to the conditions and timeline agreed by the Partners before the end of Horizon Europe, without prejudice to possible continued transnational funding by national or other EU programmes, and without prejudice to private investment and ongoing projects. This phasing-out plan may be prepared by the Partnership Board.

The periodic monitoring and reporting will inform the final evaluation of Horizon Europe evaluations referred to in Article 52 of Regulation (EU) 2021/695. The final evaluation will be taken into consideration in the phasing-out or possible renewal of this co-programmed European Partnership.

On the basis of these reviews and the evaluations, any of the Partners may propose adaptations to this Memorandum of Understanding, or propose to end it.

Done in duplicate at Brussels on **05 JUIN** 2025,

FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION	FOR THE INNOVATIVE ADVANCED MATERIALS INITIATIVE (IAM-I) AISBL
 Eliadina Zaharieva Commissioner	Dr Fabrice STASSIN 
 Hanna Virekunen Executive Vice-President	