



**INNO-
-NEXT** | The Next
Generation
Innovation
Talents' Initiative

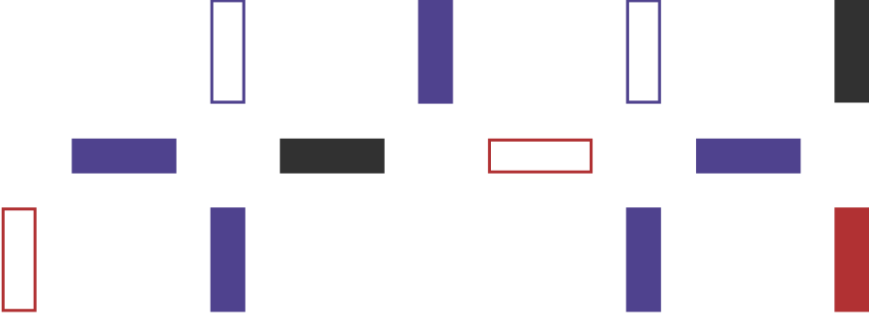
InnoNext Guide for Hosting Companies

Version n°1

European
Innovation
Council



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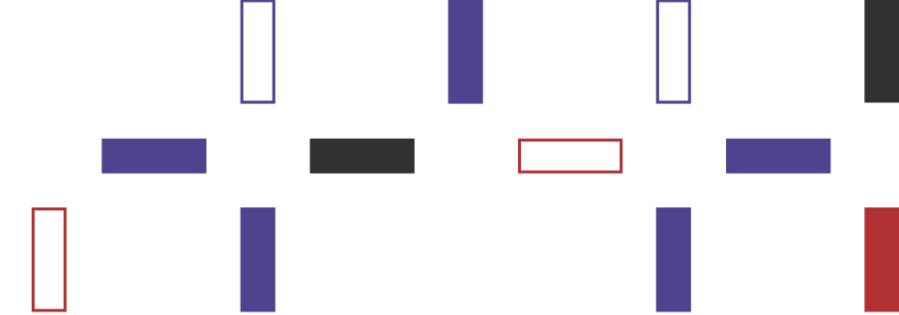
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**Why should
you apply?**

What is InnoNext



InnoNext's mission is to **foster the development of an entrepreneurial mindset** by welcoming **researchers and innovators to work with startups** of member states operating in their areas of expertise by facilitating the matching, providing acceleration programs, and leveraging the EC network.

Boost the competitiveness of startups and SMEs

Mobilise individuals with **specific skills, knowledge, and competencies** developed in the excellence EU Programmes.

Develop Entrepreneurial Mindset

Enable researchers and aspiring innovators to **gain practical experience** and understanding of the processes required to take research ideas beyond invention and fostering an **entrepreneurial mindset** through a specific **mentorship**.

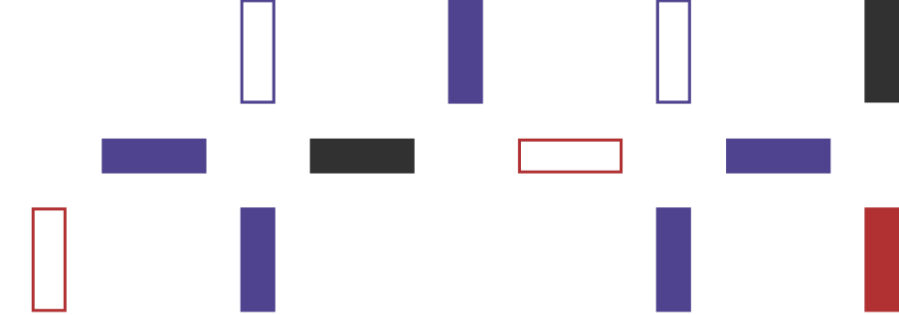
Facilitate Knowledge Transfer

Provide innovative startups and SMEs with **access to cutting-edge research insights and ideas**, thus accelerating the development of their breakthrough products and services.

Enhance and promote Equal Access to Research Talent

Innovative startups and SMEs supported by EU-funded Programmes will have improved **access to research talent**, potentially leading to more innovative products and services.

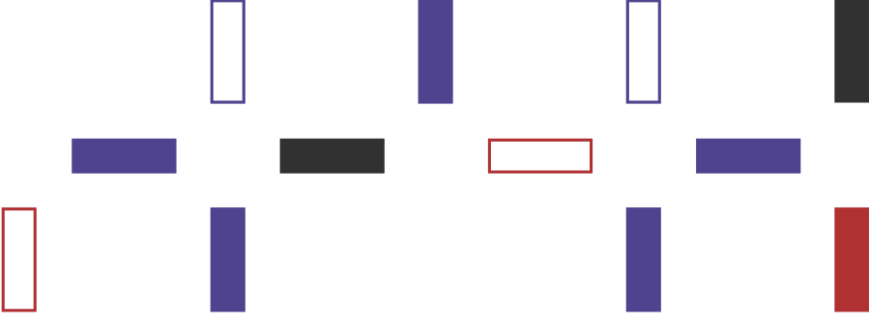
What can you obtain







By being a Hosting Company you will access to:





- A **dedicated platform** that facilitates the creation of **internship vacancies**, enabling the company to access **cutting-edge research** and highly skilled researchers.
- A **hybrid matchmaking process** based on an AI-based algorithm will find the best candidates for the company, processing the internship description (task, competencies, outcomes) and applicants' needs and ambitions.
- Internships **financially supported** by the affiliated **EU partner programme/Innonext**.
- A comprehensive **mentorship plan** to offer and share knowledge and tailored support to nurture the entrepreneurship potential of participants. Innovation-oriented skills will be deepened in workshops for Talent and Enterprises.
- **Integrate high specialised skills to improve the competitiveness** on a wider scale.
- **An Agreement kit** including all the administrative information and legal documents needed in order to start the internship and regulate the intellectual property.

What type of internships



InnoNext supports 2 main streams:

 Deep Tech Talents	
 What	Research-focused internships entailing hands-on experience with cutting-edge projects where interns collaborate with the Hosting Company to solve complex technical challenges.
 For who	PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers currently working in ERC, EIC Pathfinder, MSCA, EIT and RI actions.
 How long	3-6 months.

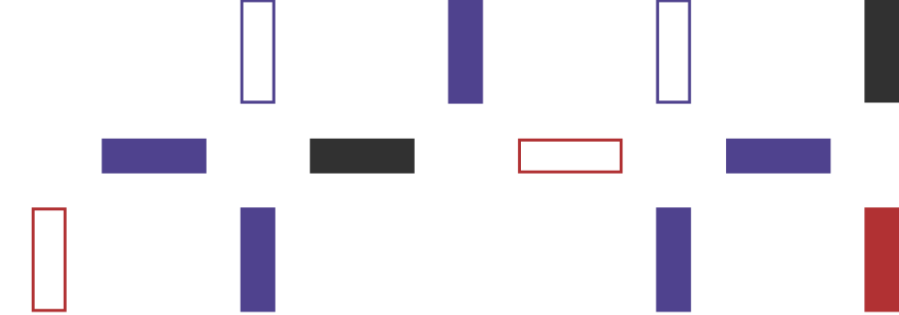
 Aspiring Innovators	
 What	Entrepreneurship-focused internships where aspiring innovators develop business attitude and competences through expert mentoring, while gaining practical insights into innovative companies.
 For who	Students in (and graduates from) EIT label Master and Doctoral programmes, EIT Alumni, EIT Jumpstarter.
 How long	Up to 6 months.

Who are the Visiting talents you can host

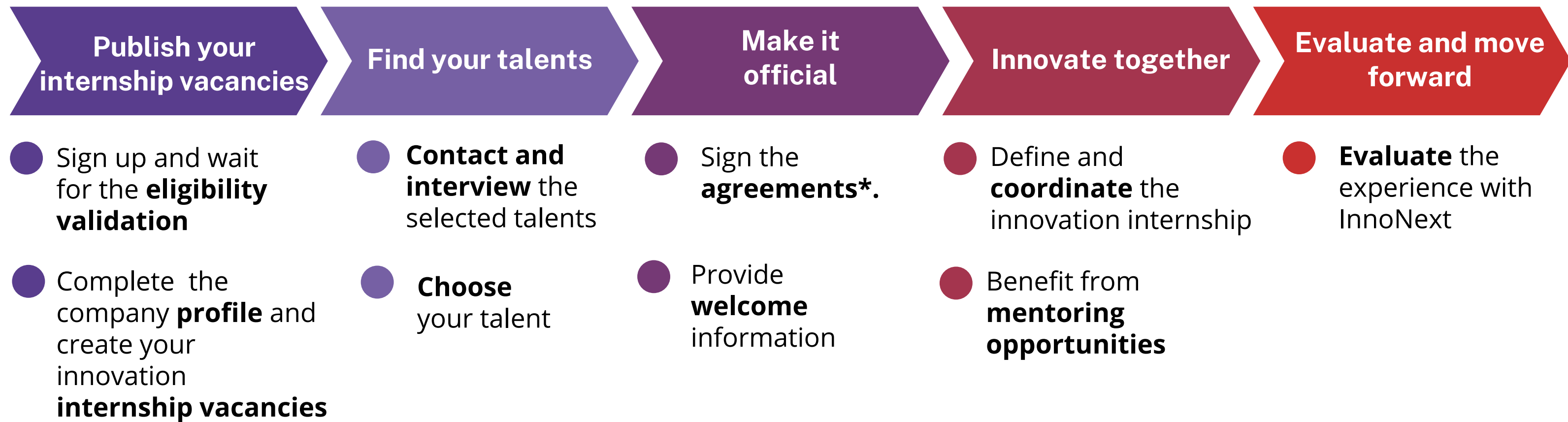


- PhDs and postdoctoral researchers participating in **EIC Pathfinder** postdoctoral fellowships
- PhDs and postdoctoral researchers participating in projects funded by the **European Research Council (ERC)**
- Fellows participating in **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** Doctoral Networks
- Fellows participating **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** Postdoctoral Fellow
- Fellows participating **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** COFUND
- PhD and postdoctoral researchers participating as consortium members in a project funded by the **Research Infrastructures part of Horizon Europe**
- Students in (and graduates from) **EIT Label Masters and Doctoral** programmes
- **EIT Alumni** members
- **EIT Jumpstarter** beneficiaries
- Participants from other postdoctoral training programmes supported by the **EIT KICs**

The journey in InnoNext



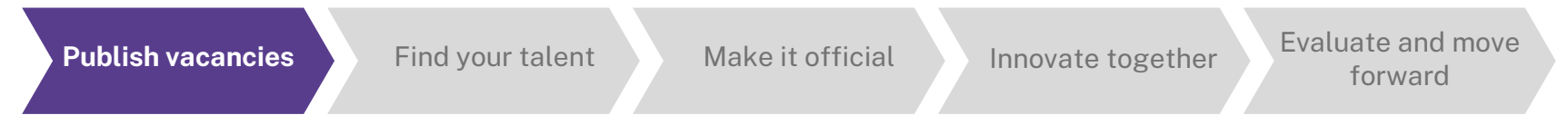
Your journey as a Hosting Company in InnoNext, step by step:



! The Hosting company will not provide any direct payment to the interns. The costs of the internships will be covered by the EU Partner Programme the researcher is affiliated with or by InnoNext.

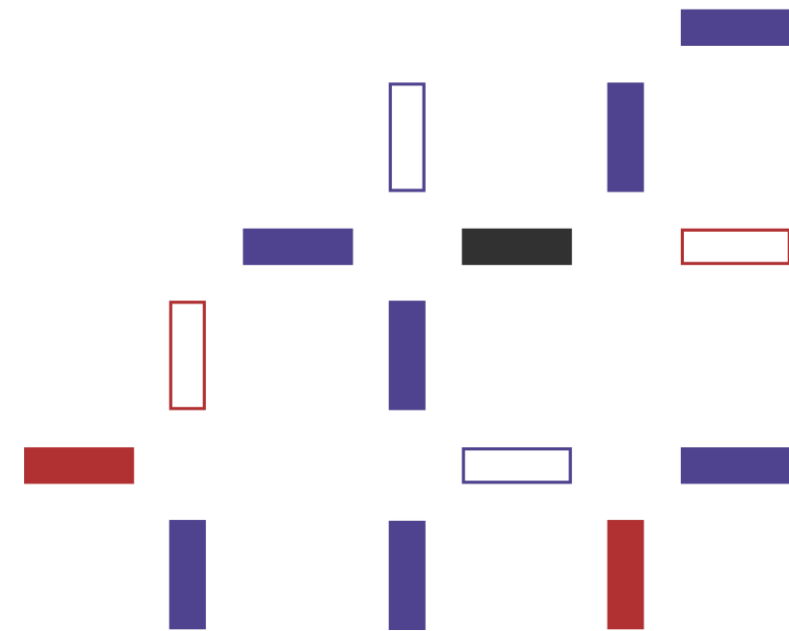
Can you apply?

Can your company apply



Your company is eligible to become a **InnoNext Hosting Company** if it is:

- A Start-up/SME supported by the **EIC Accelerator** (including H2020 SME instrument)
- An **EIC** awarded **Seal of Excellence** company
- A Start-up/SME supported by **EIC Transition**
- A Start-up/SME supported by **EIT KIC innovation and business creation services**
- A Start-up/SME created as a result of receiving support from **EIT KICs**
- A Startup/scaleup/SME that has been a partner of **KICs for Innovation activities**.
- A Startup/scaleup that has at least one co-founder who is an **EIT Alumni member**



**How do you
apply?**

How do you apply: steps



1 - Explore website

Discover everything about InnoNext opportunities on the website.

www.innonext-project.eu



2 - Sign up

Complete the form on the [InnoNext website](#) to register your company. You will receive the confirmation of your request and the instructions to provide the [Letter of Commitment](#) that declare your eligibility.



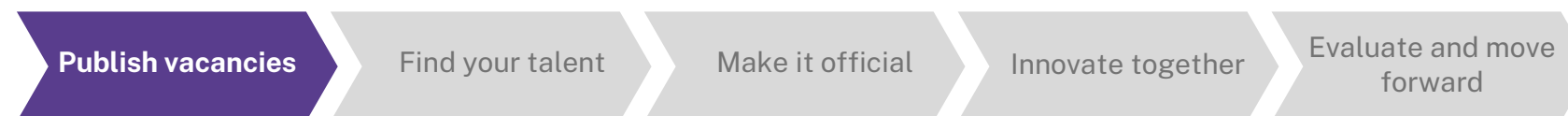
3 - Complete the company profile

After the validation of your request, you will receive via email the instruction to access the [matchmaking platform](#).

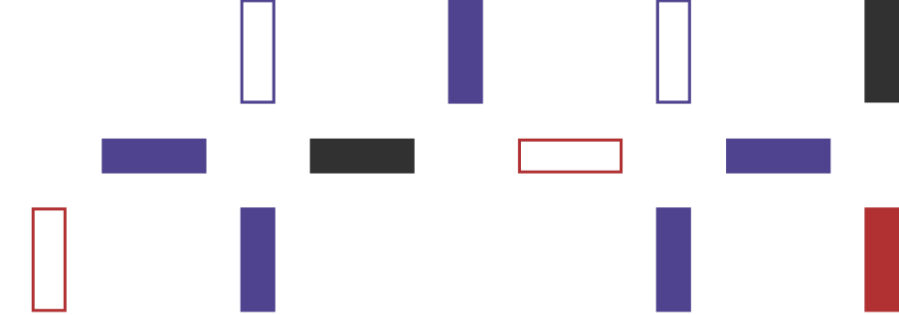


4 - Vacancies

Everything is ready now to start **posting the Innovation Internship vacancies**.



How do you apply: details



1 - Explore the website Look at the overall InnoNext schema at www.innonext-project.eu



2 - Sign up

Fill in the form on the [InnoNext website](#) to register your company. You'll be required to enter the **PIC number, the EU programme you are affiliated with**, and (if applicable) the project ID funded by the selected programme. You will also be required to enter the **email of the reference person** coordinating the Innovation internship for your company. You will receive an email confirming your request and informing you how to provide the [Letter of Commitment](#), with this document you will declare your eligibility for the InnoNext initiative.



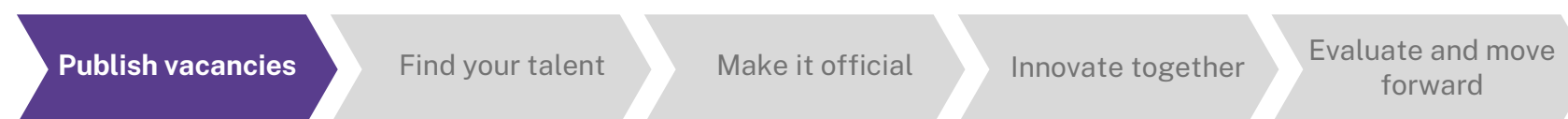
3 - Profile

Once verified the company eligibility, you will receive via email the confirmation and instructions on how to access the [matchmaking platform](#).



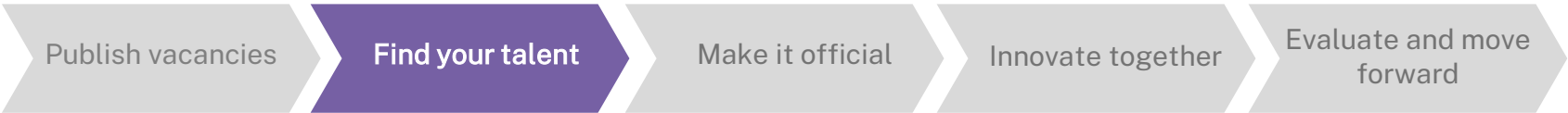
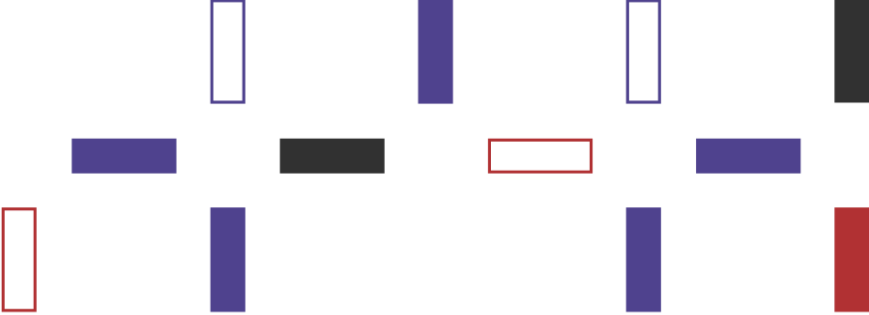
4 - Vacancies

Enter the [matchmaking platform](#) to create all **the Innovation internship vacancies** the company is willing to host. Writing the vacancy, it is recommended to carefully highlight and describe the **scientific goals and tasks** the Visiting talent will perform during the internship. This information is very relevant for informing the talents and their PI/project coordinator who has to authorise the internship.

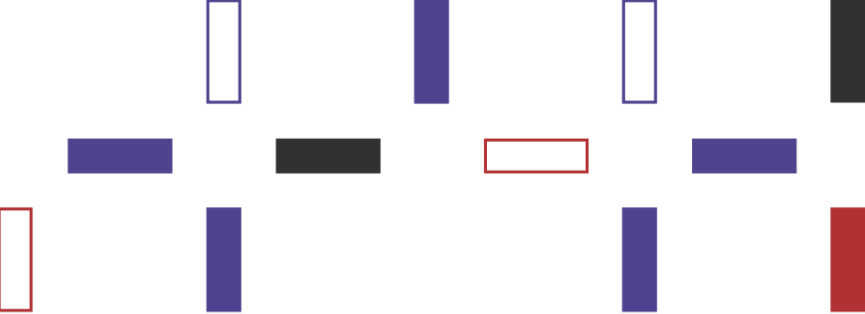


**How does
the selection
process work?**

The selection process



The selection process: details



1- AI-enabled matchmaking and Expert check

The matchmaking platform streamlines the processing of data from internship vacancies and applications, utilising advanced algorithms to generate a curated shortlist of optimal matches, all under the supervision of InnoNext experts. Companies can seamlessly review the suggested applications, as well as any direct submissions, through the platform.



2- Companies' invitation for the interviews

Once identified the interesting applications, the company can directly contact the candidates to arrange the interviews.



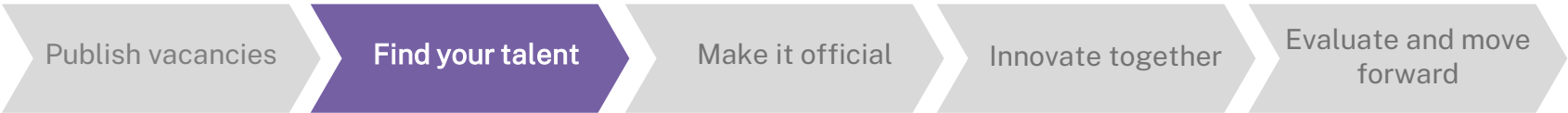
3- Interviews

The interview is a valuable opportunity to introduce your company and provide detailed insights on the internship proposal, while also getting to know the candidates, their research background, and their interests. It is during this conversation that the specifics of the internship, including roles, expectations, and working arrangements, can be discussed and mutually agreed upon, fostering a clear understanding between both parties.



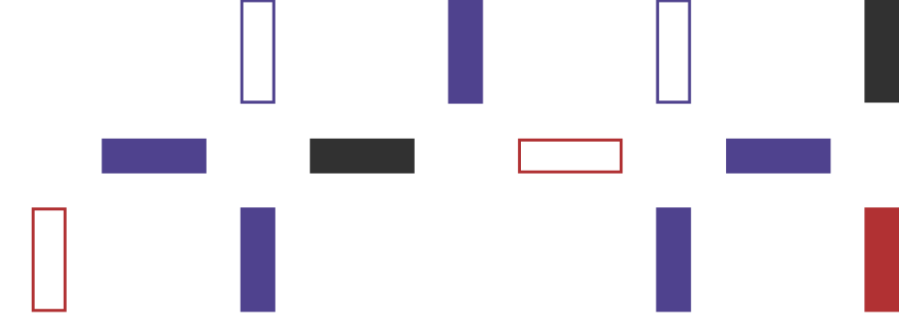
4- Company and Talent express their decisions

After the interviews, both you and the Talent can make your decisions and finalise the administrative details of the Innovation Internship, ensuring a smooth transition into the next phase of the collaboration.



**How does
the innovation
internship work?**

Roles



Within InnoNext, every actor plays a role:

HOSTING COMPANY

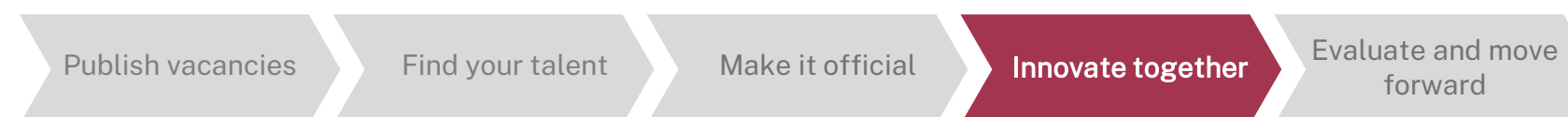
- **Coordinates** the work of the Visiting Talent
- **Provides** opportunities for learning-by-doing
- Participates in the **workshop**
- **Can ask for one-to one mentoring**
- Responds to **monitoring activities**

VISITING TALENT

- **Collaborates** in research and innovation activity
- **Develops** specific entrepreneur internship skills
- Participates in **workshops**
- Responds to **monitoring activities**

InnoNext MENTOR

- Propose a **plan of mentorship activities**
- **Conduct** workshops
- Facilitate the **collaboration** between beneficiaries, if the case
- Get direct **feedback**





THANK YOU

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info@innonext-project.eu | www.innonext-project.eu

