

Industry 4.0 Open Innovation & Acceleration Programme seeks disruptive tech startups from around the world

Summary

Profile type	Company's country	POD reference
Technology request	Spain	TRES20220721019
Profile status	Type of partnership	Targeted countries
PUBLISHED	Research and development cooperation agreement	
Contact Person	Term of validity	Last update
Francisco BUJAN	21/07/2022 21/07/2023	22/07/2022

General Information

Short summary

This is a public-private initiative, an Open Innovation platform launched together with industrial corporates that looks for startups with Industry 4.0 products/services applicable to Intelligent Industry, Clean Energy & Sustainability, Health and Food sectors, which are completed and in a position to access the market. Selected startups will run a paid Industry 4.0 project for one or more of the program's partner corporates during 5 months and received financial support up to €150,000

Full description

The Open Innovation & Acceleration Programme has just launched its seventh edition Open Call to search for the most innovative technology startups around the world, with the aim of creating new disruptive projects in the hands of 70 large collaborating corporate companies of international reference. This seventh edition will accept Industry 4.0 solution proposals with applications in the fields of Intelligent Industry, Clean Energy & Sustainability, Food and Health.

The Acceleration Programme is a public-private initiative launched by the Government of the Basque Country (Spain) in 2016 in collaboration with the main industrial companies in the region acting as Venture Clients. This initiative aims to connect dynamic startup teams with well-established companies, to provide external solutions for their internal digital transformation challenges while promoting the development of commercial skills and encouraging the immersion of startups in the Basque Industry 4.0 Hub, catalysing new business opportunities. The Programme has three Main Objectives: to attract new emerging industrial activity and accelerate digital transformation, to foster the

development and implementation of innovation from startups worldwide and to strengthen the Basque entrepreneurial and industrial ecosystem.

Early stage and “idea phase” projects will not be accepted into this program. The Acceleration Programme is addressed to startups in the industry 4.0 field that have finished their technological development and are ready to launch their product/service on the market. For this 7th edition, the Programme counts with the support of a total of 70 companies of international reference based in the Basque Country implementing emerging technologies and driving the Intelligent Industry, Clean Energy & Sustainability, Health and Food sectors. The startups selected for the Open Innovation & Acceleration Programme will develop a paid pilot Industry 4.0 project in real environments for one or more of these leading companies, while getting the unique opportunity to collaborate and grow alongside them. The startup retains all equity and participation is free.

Research and/or technical cooperation with financial support up to €150,000 is envisaged. While the final amount of the project and the conditions of the possible contract to be signed between the venture client company and the startup will be agreed by the parties depending on the scope and complexity of their project, the program establishes an indicative minimum of €25,000 (excluding VAT). The average contract is €45.000. The corporate partner companies are open to discuss the exact type of cooperation with the potential startup partners.

The 7th edition was launched on 7th July and is open until 8th September 2022. Interested startups will be guided to the Program and website. Applicants will receive a link to submit their proposal after creating an Expression of Interest.

Advantages and innovations

Among other different benefits, selected startups are guided by 40 expert Mentors in business acceleration and new technology market strategies and will participate in networking activities with the Corporate Partner companies and within the Basque Country Industry 4.0 Hub, a highly projected region in Europe. Equally, startups have access to different sources of financing, investment and economic aid, as well as free access to a workspace in the Business Innovation Centres of the Basque Country. Besides, the Programme provides financial aid to foreign startups in order to support their living expenses.

Since the program began in 2016, more than 160 startups have been accelerated and more than 240 innovative projects have been developed, exceeding 7 million euros in turnover.

After five years of steady work, the Acceleration Programme has proven to be successful, capable of promoting the digital transformation of the industry and, in turn, accelerating new initiatives through the validation and incorporation of technologies in customer scenarios. Last year, out of the 750 applications submitted, the Partner Companies selected a total of 31 tech startups and developed 40 pilot projects.

Stage of development

Available for demonstration

IPR Status

No IPR applied

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
- **Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being**
- **Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy**
- **Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation**
- **Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal**

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The Acceleration Program is aimed at startups from all over the world with tech products or services that solve relevant problems in the digital transformation of Intelligent Industry, Clean Energy & Sustainability, Health and Food Industries.

The 70 industry-leading corporations that are on-board in the 7th edition are looking forward to hire innovative start-ups with groundbreaking technological solutions applied to Industry 4.0 that help them to boost innovation and digital transformation. The selected startups will develop a paid real project for at least one of these well-established companies while getting the unique opportunity to grow alongside them. The partner company will function as a customer as well as a resource for new technologies and networks, which the startup can use to develop its business and commercial tools.

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Type of partnership

Research and development cooperation agreement

Type and size of the partner

- **SME <=10**
- **SME 11-49**
- **SME 50 - 249**

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **01004001 - Applications for Health**
- **01004003 - Applications for Transport and Logistics**
- **01004006 - Environment Management Systems**
- **02001 - Design and Modelling / Prototypes**
- **02003001 - Process automation**

Market keywords

- **06011 - Energy for Transport**
- **08002003 - Process control equipment and systems**
- **08002004 - Robotics**
- **06010003 - Energy for Industry**
- **08002005 - Machine vision software and systems**

Targeted countries

Sector groups involved

- **Agrofood**
- **Healthcare**
- **ICT Industry and Services**
- **Intelligent Energy**
- **Environment**
- **Aeronautics, Space and Dual-Use Technologies**