

# OPEN INNOVATION CHALLENGE



Co-funded by the  
European Union



# Benefits of Open Innovation Challenges



## For Companies

### Explore innovations

Connect with a **network of innovative startups** and experts to explore **emerging technologies** for your business needs

We help you **sustain innovation** and achieve quantifiable results for your applications

### Innovation Management

**Increase corporate innovation capacities** and allocate resources according to innovation strategy

**We provide flexibility** to adapt to your use case



## For Applicants

### Collaboration

**Connect with experts** and entrepreneurs in the raw materials community

Opportunity for **long-term collaboration with industry leaders** to validate the solution

### Visibility

**Opportunity to pitch** or showcase in front of renowned industry leaders.

Receive the **recognition of experts** and **meet potential customers**.



# Optional Target Groups

## IMMEDIATE APPLICABLE SOLUTIONS, HIGH TRL

### Start-Ups & SMEs

- **Network of Innovative Startups**  
Connect with a global network to access cutting-edge solutions.
- **Concrete Application of Solutions**  
Quickly test and implement innovations in real-world settings.
- **Explore Emerging Technologies**  
Stay ahead by scouting disruptive technologies aligned with your business needs.
- **Innovation Management**  
Boost your internal innovation capabilities and align resources with strategic goals.

## MID-TERM SOLUTIONS, LOWER TRL

### Universities & RTOs

- **Access to Subject Matter Experts**  
Collaborate with top researchers in raw materials and related fields.
- **Long-Term Project Collaboration**  
Build sustained partnerships for research and development.
- **Collaboration with Faculty**  
Engage with experts in Materials Science, Sustainability, and Engineering.
- **Support for Academic Research**  
Fund Master's theses and PhD projects through idea competitions.

# Benefits of working with EIT RawMaterials

## STARTUP POWERHOUSE

EU Wide & Focused on the  
Raw Materials Value Chain



### 800+ START-UPS

*supported through our Booster /  
Accelerator programs*

High maturity solutions ready for  
implementation in the RM sector

Shaping future market: sustainability,  
electrification, digitalisation, traceability...

Matching strategic partners: pilot customers,  
suppliers, investors, experts...

## SECTOR KNOW-HOW

Combined expertise  
tech trends & business creation



### DEDICATED TEAM

*of Business Developers and  
Thematic experts*

Accumulated sector specific expertise,

Coverage of the entire value chain,  
scouting & coaching expertise, technical watch,  
conference attendance, expert forum,

Skilled in running large portfolio of innovation  
projects towards commercialization

## ECOSYSTEM

Ability to mobilize, outreach to  
relevant solution providers



### 300+ PARTNERS

*of Leading Businesses, Universities and Research  
& Technology Organisations throughout EU*

Large network of innovation ecosystems and  
investors Add another section on

### +5000 Alumni members

Rapid growing community coming from labelled  
Masters, cross value chain, trained on latest  
developments, used to work on real industrial  
challenges



# Partners And Clients





# Tailored Open Innovation Challenges to Support your Business

## Challenge Design Aligned with Your Needs

*Topics, formats, and timelines tailored to your innovation strategy.*

## Access to Multidisciplinary Expertise

*Leverage EIT RawMaterials' internal experts and partner network.*

## Flexible Scope & Geographic Reach

*Run local, regional, pan-European, or global challenges.*

## Custom Partner & Stakeholder Engagement

*Involve startups, SMEs, universities, and RTOs based on your goals.*

## Bespoke Communication & Visibility Plan

*Co-branded outreach and media support to attract top applicants.*

## Tailored Evaluation & Follow-Up

*Custom KPIs, judging criteria, and post-challenge collaboration options.*

## Collaborative Models for Associations & Industry Groups

*Design joint initiatives that align with shared interests, distribute costs, and maximize collective impact.*

# Examples of Open Innovation Challenge Topics

## Responsible Mining

- Environment friendly exploration
- Water management
- Mine rehabilitation and biodiversity
- Traceability of RM

## Safety

- Hazard detection and prevention system
- Safety in transport and logistics
- Safety of lone workers

## Decarbonization

- Beneficiation for DRI usage
- CCU and CCS solutions
- New production technologies

## Circular Societies

- WEE recycling solutions
- New technologies for sorting and recycling composite materials
- Battery& catalysts recycling technology

## Usage of low-grade iron ore

- Innovative process for ore reduction
- Valorization of waste
- CO2 off-gas treatment and usage

# Possible Options for the Open Innovation Challenge for Talent

All selected candidates will be invited on site to work and pitch their solution/idea

A first list of candidates is built, they will work on their solution, in groups upfront the event

...

A second pitch event will take place to select a reduced number of candidates for the final event

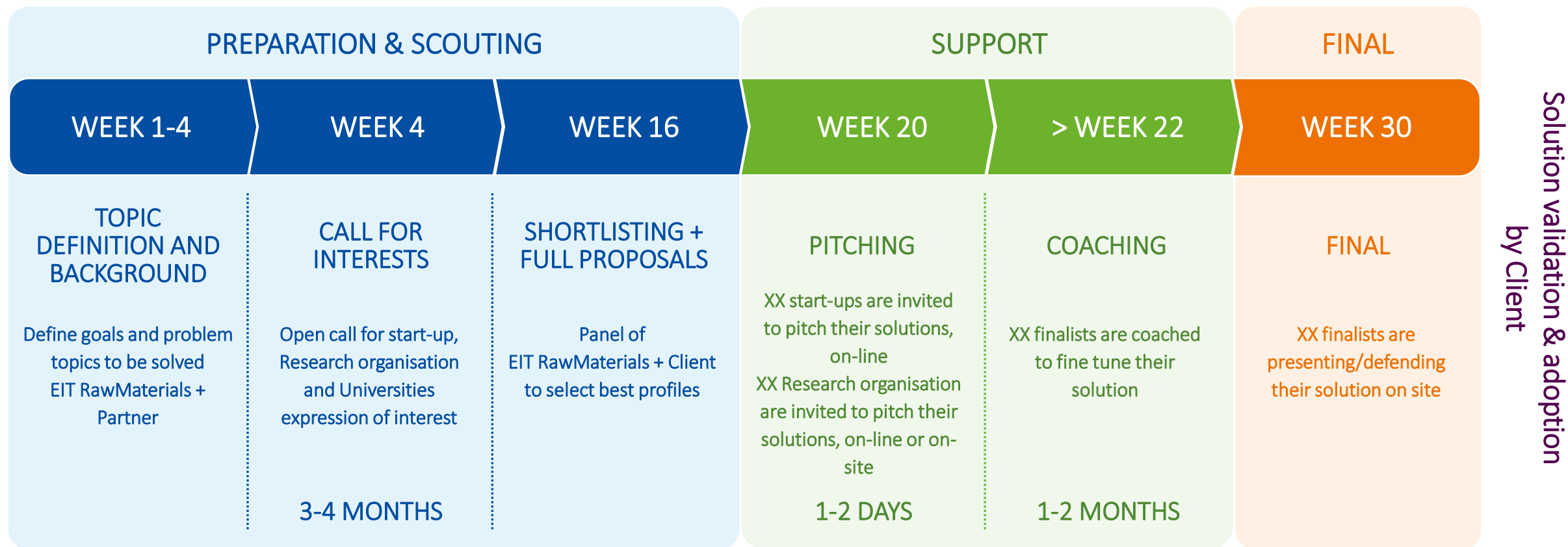
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All candidates will be invited in the final to finalize the work and pitch





# The Concept | Timeline and Steps



# Successful Examples: ERAMET



## Real-time Monitoring challenge (2020)

Winner: **Sisprobe**

noise-based seismic imaging and monitoring of mine tailings



## Responsible Mining Challenge (2021)

Winner: **Bind-X**

biological solution for dust control



## Safety First challenge (2022)

Winner: **Unusuals**

AI solution to support maintenance & minimize incidents in railways



## Water Resource Challenge (2023)

Winner: **Weeefiner**

innovative water treatment solutions to recover metals and nutrients

**Outcome:** Winning team received 50.000€ to test and validate their solution on a dedicated site of Eramet.

# Customer Testimonial

Atlantic Copper partnered with EIT RawMaterials to host an Open Innovation Challenge for Young Talent to develop sustainable methods for extracting and utilizing CRMs like fluorspar and arsenic from copper metallurgy streams, addressing environmental challenges while unlocking valuable resources.

*“This Open Innovation Challenge allowed us to connect with almost 30 new, highly talented students over several days, all keen to apply their knowledge and make an impact. This is the beginning of a very fruitful journey, and we will be sure to re-engage as more innovation challenges arise in the future. Having access to fresh talent gives us a significant competitive edge.”*

Sebastián Prieto Martín

Head of Talent Management, Atlantic Copper



## Atlantic Copper Resource Recovery EIT INNOVATION CHALLENGE FOR YOUNG TALENTS

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