

Atlantic Copper partners with EIT RawMaterials for ground-breaking Resource Recovery Open Innovation Challenge.

Master students, graduates and young professionals are invited to register their interest. This is a chance for emerging talents to drive sustainability forward in copper metallurgy with their fresh, innovative ideas.

Berlin, 20.03.2024. EIT RawMaterials announces a new strategic partnership with Atlantic Copper, the third-largest copper foundry and refinery in Europe, by launching the *Atlantic Copper Resource Recovery Open Innovation Challenge for Young Professionals*.

This program seeks to drive forward-thinking in resource recovery and is currently accepting registrations from motivated young professionals until April 19, 2024.

Innovating for sustainability: recuperation of valuable materials

The task at hand is to devise sustainable extraction and utilisation methods for fluorspar and arsenic from the streams of copper metallurgy industry, thereby transforming an environmental challenge into valuable resources. Fluorspar and arsenic have been recognised as Critical Raw Materials (CRM) by the EU in 2023.

“Atlantic Copper, the processing innovation pioneer, is committed to balancing industrial excellence and environmental stewardship. We are pleased to partner with EIT RawMaterials for this Open Innovation Challenge, a fantastic medium to connect businesses with emerging talent and unlock the potential of the next generation of environmental problem-solvers.” Guillermo Ríos, Innovation and Technology Director, Atlantic Copper

“We are excited to partner with industry leader Atlantic Copper for this vital Challenge that will help address Europe’s critical raw materials gap in an environmentally responsible way. EIT RawMaterials is a champion of European innovation, and our Open Innovation Challenge model plays a vital role to engage, inspire and empower the next generation of scientific and commercial talent around the real-world problems facing the industry.” Bernd Schäfer, CEO, EIT RawMaterials .

Master’s students in their final year and young professionals are invited to apply.

Open Innovation Challenges by EIT RawMaterials crucial to European advancements in circular economy. The competition is a part of the Open Innovation services that EIT RawMaterials offers, dedicated to sparking growth and innovation in the raw materials sector. The organisation leverages its extensive network to connect students, universities, companies, and startups throughout Europe, tackling pressing challenges and spurring industry progress.

Key dates

Registration deadline:	April 19, 2024
Selection of the teams:	April 29, 2024
Presentation of the challenge:	May 1, 2024 (TBC)
Selected teams working remotely on developing the challenge:	May 1 – 30, 2024
Final week in Huelva (presentation of each team)	June 4-6, 2024

More information here:

<https://oic-youngtalents.eitrawmaterials.eu/>

Here you can find the application link:

<https://apply.eitrawmaterials.eu/courses/course/9-open-innovation-challenge-young-talents>

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About Atlantic Copper

Atlantic Copper's sole shareholder Freeport-McMoRan is one of the largest copper producers in the World and also a major producer of gold and molybdenum. Atlantic Copper plays a key role in providing crucial metals for decarbonisation and the energy transition. Based in Huelva, Spain, Atlantic Copper operates a metallurgical complex near the Marismas del Odiel, a UNESCO-listed biosphere reserve. This location demonstrates the company's approach to balancing industrial activity with nature conservation. An industry leader in safety, environmental protection, and energy efficiency, Atlantic Copper processes over a million tons of ore yearly at its Huelva plant, producing approximately 300,000 metric tons of refined copper.

www.atlantic-copper.es

About EIT RawMaterials

EIT RawMaterials is the leading European raw materials partnership established in 2015 to advance Europe's transition into a sustainable economy. It is EIT RawMaterials' mission to secure a sustainable raw materials supply for Europe, close materials loops and design products solutions to ultimately develop raw materials into a major strength for Europe by driving innovation, education and entrepreneurship. EIT RawMaterials is the world's largest innovation network for the sector with over 300 members across the entire raw materials value chain.

www.eitrawmaterials.eu