

 **RawMaterials**
Connecting matters

Raw Materials Battery Challenge

Prize: € 30 000

Deadline: 30 November 2018



 This activity has received funding from the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, under the Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

Raw Materials Battery Challenge

Rules of the Challenge

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1. Raw Materials Battery Challenge

1.1. Objectives

As our society moves towards a New Energy and Mobility Age, strongly driven by digitalisation, the resources we depend on fundamentally change. Europe's dependence will expand from global players delivering fossil fuels to those capable of delivering raw materials and advanced materials needed in new energy technologies. The transition to sustainably designed and sourced new energy technologies comes with challenges but also promising innovation and business opportunities and a pivotal role for innovators in the raw materials value chain.

To boost sustainable raw materials design, sourcing, processing and recycling for batteries, EIT RawMaterials launches an idea competition, **Raw Materials Battery Challenge**.

Its objectives are:

- To secure the supply of sustainably sourced raw materials into the electrification of mobility;
- To promote raw materials focused radical innovation in the battery value chain;
- To bring in new players into battery raw materials development from other professions e.g. exploration, metallurgy, advanced materials.

1.2. Topics of interest

EIT RawMaterials calls for ideas to radically change raw materials sourcing, processing and design for energy storage in electric mobility. In the **Raw Materials Battery Challenge**, solutions in the following themes are expected:

- Responsible sourcing of battery raw materials, including exploration, mining and extraction
- Processing and recycling of precursors, active materials, cathode and anode materials
- Substitution of critical, toxic, low performance materials: advanced materials for batteries

2. PRIZE AMOUNT: UP TO 30 000 EUR

The support scheme will be as follows:

1. Financial **award of 30.000 EUR** lump sum for the **first prize**;
2. Financial **award of 15.000 EUR** lump sum for the **second prize**;
3. Financial **award of 5.000 EUR** lump sum for the **third prize**.

Additionally, the first prize laureate will receive business support service (e.g. access to financing, business development support)

3. DEADLINE & ADMISSIBILITY

- Deadline for submitting business ideas: **30th November 2018 at 23:59 CET**
- Selection of ideas and notification to acceptance/rejection: **during December 2018**
- Preparation for pitching contest: **from December 2018 to 3rd of March 2019**
- Deadline for submitting your pitch presentation: **3rd of March 2019**
- Pitching contest: **March 2019**
- Award ceremony: **March 2019** (exact date to be communicated later)

 SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL	 CLOSING OF THE CALL	 SHORTLIST	 PITCHING CONTEST	 AWARD CEREMONY
From 19 th October 2018	30 th November 2018, at 23:59:59 CET	December 2018	During mid-March 2019 in Berlin	During mid-March 2019. In Berlin
Submit an online application form + 5 pager plan	Pre-selection process will start	Notification will be sent by email	Final selection by a jury panel	1 st : €30.000 2 nd : €15.000 3 rd : €5.000

Applications must be submitted by the contact person of the company via the registration link:

https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/Battery_challenge_7930

Applications must be readable, accessible and printable. Incomplete applications may be considered inadmissible if essential elements are missing.

For more information, please contact the Innovation Hub staff (e.g., Business Developers) at the end of this document.

4. ELIGIBILITY

All EIT RawMaterials activities are governed by the rules set out in the Framework Partnership Agreement as well as the yearly Specific Grant Agreement (see Contractual Models¹) with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), under the Horizon2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (see also the Annotated Grant Model²).

4.1. Eligibility Criteria

The contest is open to any legal entity (including natural persons) or group of legal entities established in an EU Member State or in a country associated to Horizon2020³.

Typically, the following entities may apply:

1. **SMEs** (according to European Commission's definitions) having innovation projects relevant to the challenge topics defined above;
2. **start-up or spin-off** companies at least registered at the time of the application;
3. **Natural persons or group of natural persons** resident in an EU Member State.

In case of joint applications by a group of participants, the participants must appoint a '**lead participant**' to represent them towards the EIT RawMaterials. The participants will be jointly responsible and must all fulfil and respect the conditions set out in these Rules of the Challenge. Applications must be submitted by the (lead) participant.

¹ <https://eit.europa.eu/eit-and-innovation-community-contractual-relations>

² http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/amga/h2020-amga_en.pdf

³ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf

4.2. Exclusion Criteria

Consulting service companies without tangible product will be excluded, including one-person company.

Participants that will receive an EIT RawMaterials funding of maximum 60 000EUR in 2019 cannot participate for the same activities.

Participants will be excluded if they (or one of them):

- are subject to an administrative sanction (i.e. exclusion)
- are in one of the following situations:
 - bankrupt, being wound up, having their affairs administered by the courts, entered into an arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or subject to any other similar proceedings or procedures under national law (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts)
 - declared in breach of social security or tax obligations by a final judgment or decision (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts)
 - found guilty of grave professional misconduct by a final judgment or decision (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
 - convicted of fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
 - shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under a procurement contract, Prize agreement or prize decision financed by the EU or Euratom budget (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
 - found guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95 (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
- have misrepresented information required for participating in the contest or fail to submit such information
- were involved in the preparation of the prize documents and this entails a distortion of competition.

5. AWARD CRITERIA

Each application will be scored on the criteria listed in the following table and with the score in relation to each criterion based on the following guidelines:

CRITERIA	EXPLANATIONS
1. TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE, TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL (TRL) AND IP STATUS	The innovation should be relevant to the topics mentioned in section 1.2. Strong IP protection/potential protection will be positively evaluated as well as the technology development stage.
2. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION, MARKET NEEDS & INTEREST FROM OR CONTACT INITIATED WITH INDUSTRY	Large market size and customers willingness to buy are positively evaluated (e.g. initial discussion with potential customer(s)).
3. QUALITY OF THE TEAM	The capability of the utmost importance since it all comes down to execution. Show relevant expertise and track records of the team members.
4. QUALITY OF THE DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP	Roadmap with clear milestones and estimate efforts will be evaluated.
5. OTHER	Other criteria are listed below.

“Other” criterion includes various impact factors that are relevant for the EIT RawMaterials and Horizon2020 program, such as:

- New products or services introduced in the market within 3 years;
- New jobs created in raw material sector;
- Private investment and other funding to be attracted;
- Women in the staff or/and management staff;
- Number of employees from developing countries.

6. DOCUMENTS

The mandatory supporting documents are set out in the 2-pager application form (downloadable from the registration web site: .

Participants may be asked at a later stage for further documents (for legal entity validation, bank account validation, ethics review, declaration of honour on exclusion grounds, etc).

7. PROCEDURE

The application procedure is the following:

1. **Online application:** Applicants must present by **November 30th 2018** an on-line application form and a 2-page idea description where they should illustrate: the problems they address (market needs), technological solution, novelty, team composition and expertise, estimate time to market.
2. **First screening phase performed by an expert panel selected by EIT RawMaterials** to assess the alignment of the application with the underlying objectives of the challenge: the **5** best applications passing this screening will be invited to pitch their idea to the Jury. Notification to shortlisted candidates will be sent during **December 2018**.
3. **Pitching contest:** shortlisted candidates will pitch to the Jury panel composed of selected EIT RawMaterials staff, external experts from industry and investor. The jury panel will rank the pitched ideas according to the evaluation criteria described in next section. The pitching ceremony will be held in Berlin in **March 2019** (venue and exact date to be communicated later to selected candidates).

If there are less than **6** applications, there will not be a pre-selection phase: all the applications will pass directly to the pitching contest (phase 3).

The pre-selection panel and jury usually have a different composition, but jury members may participate in the pre-selection panel.

The pre-selection panel/jury will evaluate each application against the **five award criteria** and score them as follows (half marks are possible decimals are not):

0: Non-existent, 1: Very poor, 2: Poor, 3: Fair, 4: Good, 5: Excellent.

The average of the evaluators will be used to produce the ranking list. The Jury's decisions are unappealable.

CRITERIA	THRESHOLD	MAXIMUM POINTS
1. TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE, TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL (TRL) AND IP STATUS	3	5
2. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION, MARKET NEEDS & INTEREST FROM OR CONTACT INITIATED WITH INDUSTRY	3	5
3. QUALITY OF THE TEAM	3	5
4. QUALITY OF THE DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP	3	5
5. OTHER	3	5
TOTAL	15	25

For applications with the same score, the pre-selection panel/jury will determine a priority order according to the following approach:

The score for the **criterion No 3** will be given a **weight of 3** and the score for criterion **No 2** will be given a weight of **1.5**.

If two or more applications tie for the first rank, the prize will be equally divided and awarded to all.

On the basis of the evaluation by the jury, EIT RawMaterials will decide on the award of the prize.

All participants will be informed by **December 2018** on the outcome of their application.

8. OTHER CONDITIONS

8.1. Payment and arrangements

The prize money (up to EUR 30 000) will be paid to the selected applicant in one instalment after the announcement of the final selection by bank transfer, provided all the requested documents have been submitted.

1. payment will be performed within 30 days from the signature date of the Prize Agreement;

8.2. Publicity – Promoting the Prize – Visibility of the EU Funding

Publicity by the winner(s)

The winner(s) must promote the EIT RawMaterials Battery Challenge and its results, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public) in a strategic and effective manner.

Unless EIT RawMaterials requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, any communication activity related to the action (including in electronic form, via social media, etc.) must:

- a) display the **EIT RawMaterials logo with the EU emblem** and
- b) include the following text:

*“This activity was winner of the **EIT RawMaterials Battery Challenge**, funded by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, under the Horizon2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation”.*

When displayed together with another logo, the EIT RawMaterials logo and EU emblem must have appropriate prominence.

For the purposes of their obligations, the selected companies may use the EIT RawMaterials logo and the EU emblem without first obtaining approval from EIT RawMaterials.

This does not, however, give it the right to exclusive use.

Moreover, they may not appropriate the EU emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

Publicity by the EIT RawMaterials

EIT RawMaterials may use, for its communication and publicising activities, information relating to the action, documents notably summaries for publication as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material that it receives from the participants (including in electronic form).

EIT RawMaterials will publish the name of the winner(s), their origin, the amount of the prize and its nature and purpose — unless they have requested to waive this publication (because disclosure risks threatening its security and safety or harm its commercial interest).

Photos and videos taken by EIT RawMaterials during the pitching ceremony where the selected applicants will feature are the sole property of EIT RawMaterials.

8.3. Dissemination and Exploitation of Results

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. By submitting their application applicants warrant that they hold ownership or have legally secured the right to use all elements of the innovative product or service and that the provided materials and information do not infringe any intellectual or other property rights, including patents, of any other persons, companies or other entities. Elements of the submission that are based on rights held by others, such as patents, shall be marked as such in the submission.

The EIT RawMaterials and their authorised representatives in the program undertake to ensure the confidentiality of the projects presented and developed under the support of EIT RawMaterials.

By submitting the application within the program, applicants consent that EIT RawMaterials and its Innovation Hubs (also called Co-location Centres - CLCs) will collect, transfer, process, store and delete your data under above-mentioned conditions.

The selected companies agree that their data, the receipt of prize, non-confidential information about their project, may be used by EIT RawMaterials and their authorised representatives without compensation for promotion of their activities. Non-confidential information related to the project will be only provided after authorisation of the applicants or the one marked with “public summary”.

8.4. Processing of personal data

Processing of personal data by the EIT RawMaterials

Any personal data will be processed by EIT RawMaterials in accordance with the EIT Rawmaterials privacy policy⁴ notice(s).

⁴ <https://eitrawmaterials.eu/privacy-policy/>

All selected applicants consent that EIT RawMaterials publishes the following information:

- name
- Member State of origin (address or NUTS 2 region)
- their activities in relation to the award of the Prize (via the summary for publication they provided)
- prize amount

in whatever form and medium.

Processing of personal data by the participants

The participants must process personal data in compliance with applicable EU and national law on data protection (including authorisations or notification requirements, if any), see the GDPR⁵ recommendations.

8.5. Ethics

The activities must be carried out in compliance with:

- a) ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity) and
- a) (b) applicable international, EU and national law.

No funding will be awarded for activities carried out outside the EU, if they are prohibited in all Member States.

The participants must ensure that the activities have an exclusive focus on civil applications.

The participants must respect the highest standards of research integrity — as set out, for instance, in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity⁶.

⁵ <https://eugdpr.org/>

⁶ European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity of ALLEA (All European Academies) and ESF (European Science Foundation) of March 2017 http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics_code-of-conduct_en.pdf.

8.6. Security

The activities must be carried out in compliance with Commission Decision 2015/444, i.e. security-sensitive information must be EU-classified, if its unauthorised disclosure could adversely impact the interests of the EU or of one (or more) of its Member States. Applications that are too security-sensitive cannot be awarded a prize.

8.7. Conflict of Interest

The participants must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective award of the prize is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest ('conflict of interest').

They must inform EIT RawMaterials without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The EIT RawMaterials may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

8.8. Liability for damages

The EIT RawMaterials cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the participants or to third parties as a consequence of the prize, including for gross negligence.

The EIT RawMaterials cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the participants in the context of the prize.

8.9. Check, Audit and investigations

The EIT RawMaterials European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Court of Auditors may carry out checks, audits and investigations in relation to the prize.

8.10. Withdrawal of the Prize – Recovery of the undue amounts

The EIT RawMaterials may withdraw the prize after its award and recover all payments made, if it finds out that:

- a. false information, fraud or corruption was used to obtain it
- b. a winner was not eligible or should have been excluded
- c. a winner is in serious breach of its obligations under these Terms & Conditions.

8.11. Administrative sanctions

If a participant has committed irregularities or fraud or has made false declarations, the EIT RawMaterials may also:

- a. exclude the participant from all future contracts, prizes and contests financed from the EU or Euratom budget for a maximum of five years (or 10 years in case of repetition) and/or
- b. impose a financial penalty between 2% and 10% of the value of the prize (or between 4% and 20% in case of repetition).

8.12. Cancellation of the contest

The EIT RawMaterials may cancel the contest or decide not to award the prize — without any obligation to compensate participants —, if:

- a. no applications are received
- b. the jury does not find a winner
- c. the winner is not eligible or must be excluded or
- d. the objective of the contest has already been achieved.

8.13. Complaints

By submitting their application form, applicants agree to the Terms and Conditions, which form part of their submission. EIT RawMaterials reserves the right to make reasonable amendments to these Terms and Conditions. Amendments and additions to these Terms and Conditions shall

be valid if communicated in writing on the EIT RawMaterials website or otherwise made available to the applicants.

These Terms and Conditions are governed by the laws of Germany. Any disagreement or dispute which may arise in connection with these Terms and Conditions which cannot be settled amicably will be brought before the courts of Berlin, Germany.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, under no circumstances and under no legal theory whether in tort (including negligence) contract or otherwise shall EIT RawMaterials and the CLC legal entities be liable for any special indirect, punitive, incidental or consequential damages, including loss of profit.

You may withdraw your application any time by informing us by email or withdrawing your registration any time.

9. CONTACT

Organiser: Olli Salmi	
EIT RawMaterials/ Baltic Sea Maarintie 6 FI-02200 ESPOO FINLAND	Tel. +358 40 734 2154 Email: olli.salmi@eitrawmaterials.eu Web : eitrawmaterials.eu

Call web page:	https://eitrawmaterials.eu
Online Application link:	https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/Battery_challenge_7930
Partners of EIT RawMaterials:	https://eitrawmaterials.eu/about-us/partners/