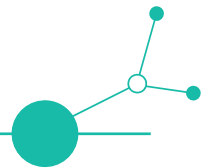


D.3.2.2 GREENE 4.0 Call for proposals Guidelines

A.3.2. GREENE 4.0 Innovation Contest





Document Control Sheet

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A. Executive summary

A.1 Project overview

The GREENE 4.0 project aims at facilitating and supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the manufacturing sector in the adoption and use of green production methods and digital technologies. Creating an Innovation Contest for solution providers is crucial in generating, testing, and piloting smart and green manufacturing value chain models across seven sectoral clusters. The goal of the Greene 4.0. Innovation Program is to pilot and test 7 solutions within 7 sectors on national level and EU level. The Greene Innovation Contest supports small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), startups and individuals offering innovative solutions in industrial digital transformation and the green economy. The Program aims to facilitate cooperation with manufacturing companies seeking modern technological solutions in these fields. The aim of the Greene 4.0. Innovation Program is to identify solution providers and their products that will most effectively contribute to initiating or expanding collaboration between them and Solution seekers in the field of digitalization and green transformation. Solution seekers were identified by project partners in the previous activities undertaken within A.3.1.

Activity A3.2 focuses on the collaboration between partners (PP8, LP, PP2, PP3, and PP7) to develop the Innovation Contest Regulation based on the Sectorial Terms of Reference (TORs) established under Activity A3.1.

D3.2.2. – Technical document detailing the specific conditions that must be accomplished by the solutions and technologies proposed by potential participants to meet the specific requirements and needs for each manufacturing sectorial cluster. This is an additional document for applicant and must be read together with Innovation Contest regulation D.3.2.1.

Innovation Contest Regulation works closely with D3.1.1 (Methodology for screening and selecting solution seekers), D.3.1.2 Selection Report and with D3.1.3 (Sectorial TORs) Terms of References document which will define the requirements and conditions that must be accomplished by solution providers or developers in order to match the needs of each sectorial cluster.

A.2 Scope of the document

Technical document detailing the specific conditions that must be accomplished by the solutions and technologies proposed by potential participants to meet the specific requirements and needs for each manufacturing sectorial cluster. This is an additional document for applicant and must be read together with Innovation Contest regulation D.3.2.1. This document/regulation establish the rules for the recruitment and participation of solution providers in the Greene 4.0 Innovation Programme, co-financed by the Interreg Central Europe Programme.

This document describes the innovation contest, application form, criteria and evaluation phase. Additionally, the document includes a detailed analysis of solution seekers needs from various regions involved in the project and conclusions that will influence further project actions.



A.3 Audience

The audience of this document includes the partners of the GREENE 4.0 project, including all parties involved in the implementation of Work Package 3 (WP3) and Task A3.2. This is an internal document prepared to summarize the results of the company selection process and to prepare for further actions. The document may also be used by the lead partner (LP) and supporting institutions to monitor progress and implement any necessary adjustments.

A.4 Change control

KPT/PP8 created this document, and it is subject to the standard project change control where PPs are requested to provide feedback on the stated definition or tools in writing to the deliverable responsible (in this case KPT/PP8) in a timely manner (within 8 working days after each edition).

B. Introduction

B.1 Project overall flow

The Central European manufacturing industry is facing significant disruptions. Global supply chains are increasingly unstable, and the green transition demands the development of more sustainable and smarter value chains. The GREENE 4.0 project aims to assist manufacturing companies in piloting innovative value chains. It also encourages the co-creation of new products and services through open innovation methods. To achieve this, the project connects businesses with educational institutions, research organizations, and policymakers.

GREENE 4.0 is divided into four work packages, each with a distinct goal:

WP1 focuses on identifying the needs and challenges of SMEs in adopting green technologies and mapping available enablers across different CE regions. The findings will inform the development of the UAM (Universal Adoption Model), which will guide companies in implementing new technologies and link them to tools identified in WP2.

WP2 works on creating solutions to address the identified challenges and connect them with existing innovations. The aim is to build a robust innovation ecosystem to help SMEs adopt sustainable practices. WP2 will also lay the foundation for the Transnational Open Knowledge Box, a repository of tools supporting innovation and capacity building.

WP3 consolidates data from WP1 and WP2 to develop three innovation programs that will test the Transnational Open Knowledge Box. The programs will ensure the results are transferable and will link seven sector-specific manufacturing clusters with solution providers to co-create sustainable supply chain models.

WP4 emphasizes policy learning and enhances the transferability of the project outcomes through a quadruple helix approach, engaging SMEs, solution providers (businesses and research organizations), and policymakers.

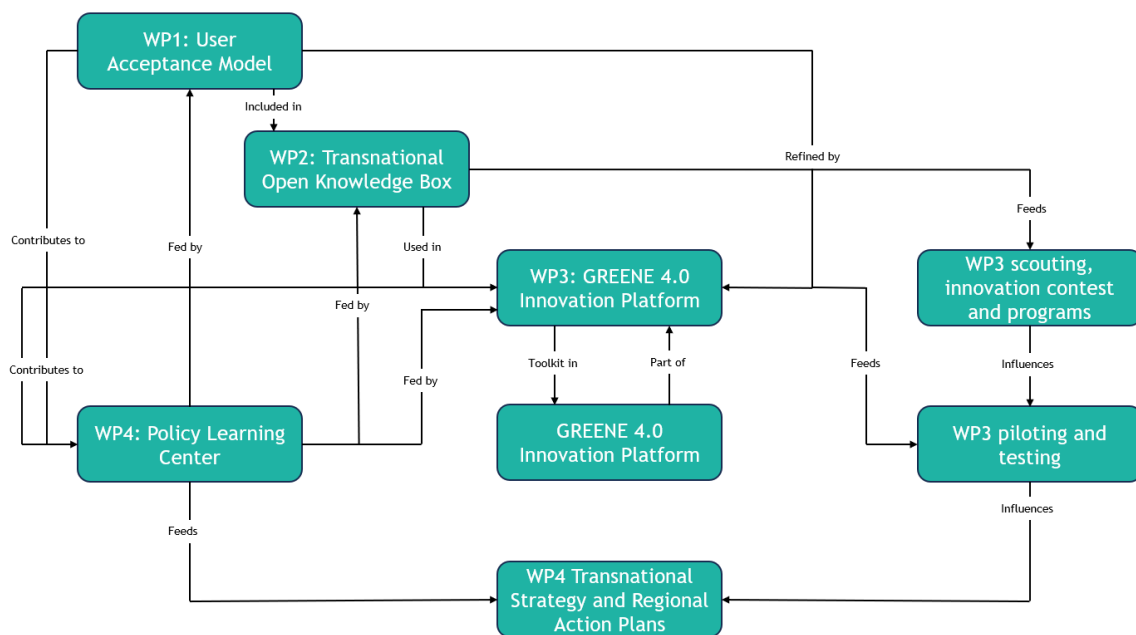


Figure 1: The project flow and the synergies and linkages between the WPs and their deliverables are shown in

B.2 Activity 3.2 and its place in WP3

Activity 3.2 (A3.1) within Work Package 3 (WP3) focuses on elaborating the Innovation Contest Regulation based on the Sectorial TORs developed under A.3.1. Activity A3.2 focuses on the collaboration between partners (PP8, LP, PP2, PP3, and PP7) to develop the Innovation Contest Regulation based on the Sectorial Terms of Reference (TORs) established under Activity A3.1

This is the second step of WP3 aimed at recruiting solution providers from seven regions and match them with concrete solution seekers identified by partners within A.3.1. Under A3.1, project partners were tasked with identifying companies from various industrial sectors with specific needs for the development of innovative solutions in the context of digital and green transformation. Each partner was required to identify at least 10 companies in their region, evaluating them based on defined criteria, such as company size, industry sector, readiness to implement innovations, and technological needs. These companies were then assigned to seven sectoral clusters, enabling further collaboration with technology providers within WP3. A3.1 forms the foundation upon which the subsequent stages of WP3, such as creating innovation programs (A3.3) and piloting new solutions (A3.4), are built.

C. Methodology

C.1 Process description

The process under **Activity A3.2** was coordinated by **PP8**, with the support of all project partners.

As part of **Deliverable D.3.2.1**, the **Innovation Contest Regulation** was developed, along with the application form, evaluation criteria, and the assessment process. To further support applicants during the submission phase, a separate document – the **Guide for Applicants** – was prepared as



Deliverable D.3.2.2. This guide is a concise and well-structured document addressing frequently asked questions that applicants may have during the application process.

Based on the feedback received from the **External Advisory Board (EAB)** on **April 10th, 2025**, the final version of the **Innovation Call package**, including the **Guide for Applicants**, was completed and published on the **project website** on **April 16th, 2025**, as well as on the **Greene4.0 LinkedIn account** (see screenshots below).



Greene 4.0 Innovation Contest – International Call for Green and Digital Innovators

Date: 16.04.2025

By: [GREENE 4.0](#)

Are you developing a solution that can accelerate the green or digital transformation of the manufacturing industry? The **Greene 4.0 Innovation Contest** is your opportunity to showcase it on an international stage – applications are open until **31 May 2025**.

Selected participants will receive **tailored support** depending on the maturity of their solution. This includes **expert mentoring**, **access to testing environments**, **matchmaking** with industrial partners, and visibility through the B2GreenHub platform and international communication channels. The programme also encourages cross-border collaboration and helps scale promising technologies toward market readiness.

Who can apply?

The contest is open to participants based in Poland, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, and Slovenia. Applications are welcome from small and medium-sized enterprises, start-ups, universities and individual innovators. To apply, fill out the application form available here: <https://tiny.pl/sowy1n2z>

What kind of solutions are we looking for?

Eligible solutions should contribute to green transformation or digitalisation in the manufacturing sector and address one or more of the following **technological areas**:

- Green and sustainable materials
- Waste reduction and recycling technologies
- Energy-efficient technologies
- Renewable energy technologies
- Data analytics and artificial intelligence
- Automation and robotics
- Digitalisation and connectivity

Solutions should also be applicable to at least one of the following **industry sectors**:

- Electronics
- Food and beverage
- Pharmaceuticals and chemicals
- Metal
- Plastics and rubber
- Machinery and equipment
- Building materials and furniture

Guide for applicant is available here: [Greene FAQ](#)

The regulations are available here: [Greene Innovation Contest Regulation](#)

The contest is part of the **Greene 4.0 project**, co-financed by the **Interreg Central Europe programme**, and is designed to foster collaboration between technology providers and manufacturing stakeholders across the region.

To learn more about the GREENE 4.0 Innovation Contest, we kindly invite you to listen to our podcast episode, available [here](#).

In case of any questions please contact us.



Greene 4.0

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Are you working on a solution that could accelerate the green or digital transformation of the manufacturing industry?

The **Greene 4.0** Innovation Contest is now open for applications – and this is your chance to gain international exposure, expert support, and connect with industrial partners. Apply by 31 May 2025!

Depending on the maturity of your solution, selected participants will benefit from:

- 👤 mentoring with industry experts
- 🔧 access to testing environments
- 🤝 matchmaking with manufacturing companies
- 🌐 visibility through the B2GreenHub platform and international channels

We welcome innovators from Poland, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, and Slovenia – including start-ups, SMEs, universities, and individual innovators.

We're looking for solutions in areas such as:

- ➡ green & sustainable materials
- ➡ waste reduction and recycling
- ➡ energy-efficient technologies
- ➡ renewable energy technologies
- ➡ data analytics and artificial intelligence
- ➡ automation and robotics
- ➡ digitalisation and connectivity

Your solution should target sectors like:

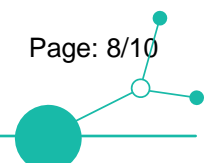
- ➡ electronics
- ➡ food & beverage
- ➡ pharma & chemicals
- ➡ metals
- ➡ plastics and rubber
- ➡ machinery and equipment
- ➡ building materials & furniture

- 📄 Apply now: <https://tiny.pl/spwy1n2z>
- 📄 Contest rules: <https://tiny.pl/x8ghx0fj>
- 📄 Guide for applicants: https://tiny.pl/0m_1cq1j

Don't miss this chance to accelerate your innovation and scale it internationally. Let's shape the future of sustainable and digital manufacturing together!

D. Guide for applicant

This section provides **Deliverable D.3.2.2**. This guide is a concise and well-structured document addressing frequently asked questions that applicants may have during the application process the rules for the recruitment and participation of solution providers in the Greene 4.0 Innovation Programme, co-financed by the Interreg Central Europe Programme.





Guide for applicants

Looking to make your green or digital idea a reality? You're in the right place! Here's a quick and friendly guide to the Greene 4.0 Innovation Contest - what it's about, who can apply, and how to get started.

1. What is the Greene 4.0 Innovation Contest?

The Greene 4.0 Innovation Contest is an international call for innovative solutions that can accelerate the green and digital transformation of industry.

2. Who are we looking for?

We're searching for creative minds and bold innovators who have a solution that supports green transformation or digitalisation in the manufacturing industry. Whether you're a startup, an SME, a student, or an academic researcher - we want to hear from you!

3. Who can apply?

You're welcome to apply if you operate in Poland, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, or Slovenia, and have a solution related to sectors like electronics, food & beverage, pharmaceuticals, metals, plastics, machinery, or construction and furniture. We're looking for innovations in green materials, recycling, energy efficiency, renewables, AI, automation, and digital connectivity. Join us if your work aligns with these fields!

4. How do I apply?

Applying is simple: fill out the online application form, available [here](#).



5. When can I apply?

You can submit your application until 31.05.2025.

6. What kind of support can I get?

Depending on your idea's development stage, you can receive expert mentoring, tailored support programs (from Proof of Concept to Investment & Market Readiness), and matchmaking with industrial partners. You'll also gain visibility through the B2GreenHub platform and other channels.

7. Who selects the winners?

Your application will be evaluated by the Innovation Expert Panel - a team of professionals from partner organizations, industry experts, and private equity specialists. They will check whether your application meets the formal criteria and assess your solution in terms of its innovativeness, potential, and relevance for the industry.

8. Where can I learn more?

Check out the official contest regulation, where you'll find everything about eligibility, evaluation, and support options, available [here](#).

We're here to help you bring your innovation to life!