

## **OPEN INNOVATION CHALLENGE**

### **Annex 1 – Regolamento Challenge (Challenge’s Rules)**

## **“Smart Energy for Industry 5.0”**

The present document is compliant with the **REGULATION 2018/1046 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 18 July 2018 - articles 206 e 207, Title IX**

#### **Art.1- Open Innovation Challenge - Framework**

The Open Innovation Challenge is structured as following:

1. Call’s launch;
2. Collection of Proposals for Innovative Solutions;
3. Selection of the six finalists for the training and co-design phase;
4. Awarding of the best solution (or solutions);

#### **Art.2 - Applications and requirements**

Proposals for Innovative Solutions TRL market ready consistent with the challenge launched by Geoside can be submitted by the following:

- Startups;
- SMEs (Small and Medium-sized Enterprises);
- Spin-offs from University and research centres.

#### **Art.3 - Exclusion criteria**

Applications will be rejected for any of the following reasons:

1. if requirements herein contained in article 2 are not satisfied;
2. if the application is submitted without using the dedicated Challenge’s Landing Page;
3. if the application is submitted later than the deadline indicated in article 6.

#### **Art.4 – Topics and scope of the Challenge**

The present regulation concerns the challenge “Smart Energy for Industry 5.0” launched by Geoside. The Challenge focuses on solutions and technologies for energy efficiency in the industrial and tertiary sectors.

Geoside is looking for innovative solutions in the following areas:

- Solutions that exploit 4.0 technologies, such as IoT, Big Data analytics, AI, for the optimization of energy and energy-intensive systems (Air Handling Units & HVAC, Cogeneration - CHP, Compressors and Pumps).
- Plant technologies and equipment for improving energy efficiency of industrial assets, such as high efficiency electric motors, innovative cooling systems, innovative high temperature heat pumps, heat recovery systems, smart valves, and smart meters.
- Solutions for the optimization of energy assets thanks to the use of digital twins and simulation platforms of the energy system and assets of the building or plant. These solutions should enable to

simulate improvement scenarios leveraging on heterogeneous data sources, such as IoT data, energy consumption data, BIM data, etc.

- Data-driven solutions that leverage on data analysis methodologies, such as AI-based predictive analytics, can support plant owners to set up a predictive maintenance of energy and energy-intensive systems (Air Handling Units & HVAC, Cogeneration - CHP, Compressors and Pumps), in order to minimize maintenance problems.

### **Art.5 - Guarantee and indemnity**

Each applicant, by submitting the application, declares and guarantees the truthfulness of every document, declaration and guarantee issued pursuant to this regulation and in particular that the project proposal:

1. is an original work, for which the participant has the relevant rights of intellectual and industrial property and economic exploitation;
2. does not contain any trademark, logo or other element protected by industrial property rights or copyright owned by third parties, or that, where third-party rights exist, the participant has previously obtained all necessary authorizations and licenses from the relative owner;
3. does not violate any other third party rights, including, but not limited to, patents, trade secrets, rights under contracts or licenses, rights of publicity or privacy rights, moral rights, or any other rights worthy of protection;
4. does not constitute the subject matter of a contract with a third party;
5. does not contain any defamatory content, representations, outrageous remarks or any other content that could damage the name, honour or reputation of Lazio Innova and its partners or any other person or company;
6. does not contain any content of a pornographic or sexual nature, or content that is discriminatory in any way (including specifically discrimination based on race, sex, sexual orientation, religion and/or political beliefs of individuals or groups), or content that promotes violence or injury against any living being or any other content that is offensive, obscene or inappropriate;
7. does not contain any threats or any content intended to intimidate, harass, or abuse the privacy of any individual;
8. does not constitute a violation of any applicable law and does not contain content that encourages unlawful conduct.

Participants expressly declare for themselves and their assignees to fully indemnify and hold harmless Lazio Innova and Seaside/Italgas from any claim, demand for compensation, or request for damages made by any third party, for violation of any of the provisions of Article 5.

### **Art. 6 - How to submit applications**

Applications must be submitted through the Challenge Landing Page created by Lazio Innova. Applications will be collected through the F6S platform. The deadline for submitting the Innovative Solution Proposals is October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 12.00 AM.

By participating in the Challenge **Smart Energy for Industry 5.0** each participant accepts the provisions contained in the present document. Applications submitted after the deadline will automatically be excluded from the Challenge.

### **Art.7 - Selection process and the Advisory Board**

Innovative Solutions Proposals will be evaluated by an Advisory Board composed of 3 members appointed by the General Manager of Lazio Innova: 1 member representing Lazio Innova and 2 members representing Geoside.

The Advisory Board will evaluate the Innovative Solutions at its sole discretion and then select the finalists, that can access the co-design path. During the co-design phase, selected applicants will work on the solutions proposed to improve and fine-tune them according with the needs expressed by Geoside.

Both Lazio Innova and Geoside provide experts who will support the Innovators in the process of finalizing the innovative solutions during the co-design path.

The Advisory Board evaluates the Innovative Solution Proposals received based on the following evaluation criteria:

	<b>Maximum score</b>
<b>Team competences</b>  Quality of the Team (and/or company structure) - articulation, skills and experience	40
<b>Company presentation</b>  Business model, market size and economic potential	20
<b>Level of innovativeness</b>  Innovativeness of the idea / of the approach proposed to meet the objectives of the Challenge	40

The first 6 proposals in the ranking will be admitted to the mentorship phase, having reached a minimum score of 60 points, given by the average scores expressed by each member of the Advisory Board. Based on the level of the candidate proposals, Lazio Innova, in agreement with Geoside, as its sole discretion reserves the right to admit to the mentorship phase a number of proposals higher or lower than 6 (among those who have reached a minimum score of 60 points). The decision and the reasons to admit a number of proposals higher than 6 to the mentorship phase will be published by Lazio Innova on its website, together with the publication of the results of the assessments following the decisions of the Advisory Board .

**Art.8 - Commitment of participants**

The selected candidates commit to:

1. participate in the co-design path, structured in at least 4 meetings aimed at focusing on the Innovative Solutions concerning the needs expressed by Geoside;
2. accept what was established on Articles 9 and 10 of the present Regulation;
3. if not yet established in Lazio, selected candidates shall open at least one operational headquarters in Lazio if they are awarded with the prizes according to article 10 of the present Regulation.

**Art.9 - Winner selection**

At the end of the co-design phase, the finalists will present their final Innovative Solution Proposal during the Innovation Day, a dedicated awarding event, where the Advisory Board formed by at least 2 representatives indicated by Geoside and 1 representative of Lazio Innova will evaluate the final Innovative Solution Proposals based on the following evaluation criteria:

	<b>Maximum score</b>
<b>Team</b> Quality of the team and of the corporate structure - skills and experience	10
<b>Medium-long term perspectives</b> Ability of the innovative solution presented to meet the objectives of the Challenge	30
<b>Level of innovativeness</b> Innovativeness of the idea/ of the approach to to meet the objectives of Challenge	40
<b>Level of readiness</b> Time required for implementation and deployment of identified solution	20

According to art. 10 below, the first three proposals scoring an average **equal to or above 70** will be awarded.

**Art.10 – Prizes and awards**

Prizes are financed by the Project "Potenziamento della Rete Spazio Attivo" based on the POR - FESR Measure 3.5.1.

Lazio Innova will assign:

To the 1st classified:

- a 20.000€ cash prize;
- specialized services provided by Lazio Innova Spazio Attivo.

To the 2nd and 3rd classified:

- specialized services provided by Lazio Innova Spazio Attivo.

Lazio Innova's specialized services will be focused on:

- business management and planning;
- intellectual property protection;
- marketing and communication;
- financial engineering tools (access to credit, crowdfunding, national measures, accelerators, etc.);
- product engineering (from MVP to prototype or from prototype to product).

Geoside will assign the possibility of carrying out a pilot project (PoC) for a minimum value of €10,000.

## Art. 11 - Prizes and awards assignment

1. Prizes and awards are given exclusively to established companies as classified in Annex I of Regulation (EU) no. 651/2014 and are financed in accordance with the Regulation (EU) no. 1407/2013 of the Commission of 18 December 2013 on the application of articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union to "de minimis" aid (GUUE L352 of 24/12/2014).

Prizes and awards will be assigned subject to verification of possession of the following requirements:

- a. be in the full and free exercise of their rights, not in voluntary liquidation and not subject to insolvency (such as, for example, bankruptcy, receivership or extraordinary administration or compulsory administrative liquidation) or liquidation proceedings, to the dissolution of the company, or with an arrangement with creditors without continuity of business or debt restructuring plan.
  - b. not being in the conditions provided for by national law for the opening towards yourself, at the request of your creditors, of one of the procedures referred to in point b) above, according to art. 4 paragraph 3, letter a) of the de minimis Regulation.
  - c. operate in compliance with the provisions on national and territorial collective labor bargaining and contribution obligations, concerning the provisions of art. 4 of the L.R. 18 September 2007, n. 16 and art. 57 of the L.R. 28 December 2006, n. 27.
  - d. have returned or deposited into a blocked account any State aid received which the EU has has been identified as illegal or incompatible.
  - e. not exceed, by reason of the prize, the ceilings established by the de minimis Regulation as a sole undertaking.
2. Prizes and awards will be assigned by Lazio Innova exclusively to established companies with at least one operational headquarters in Lazio. If not in possession of this requirement, the winners of the awards referred to in Article 10 must establish an operational office in Lazio within 60 days from the awarding of the prize to be able to benefit from it.
  3. Lazio Innova provides for the disbursement of the cash prize by bank transfer, net of withholding taxes, to a current account in the name of the winning legal entity. The payment of the cash prize is also subject to the verification by Lazio Innova of the regularity of contributions, through the so called DURC (the Italian official employer certificate of social security contribution), of the non-existence of the grounds for exclusion referred to in Articles 136 and 141 of EU Regulation 1046/2018.
  4. Lazio Innova will provide for the specialized services after a preliminary meeting with the winners, aimed at defining the needs and establishing a formalized work plan signed for acceptance by both parties.
  5. Geoside provides for the disbursement of the cash prize by bank transfer, net of withholding taxes, to a current account in the name of the winning legal entity. The payment of the cash prize is also subject to the verification by Seaside of the regularity of contributions, through the so called DURC (the Italian official employer certificate of social security contribution), of the non-existence of the grounds for exclusion referred to in Articles 136 and 141 of EU Regulation 1046/2018, and the information contained in the anti-mafia declaration.

### **Art. 12 - Policy on revoking prizes and awards**

1. The disbursement of Lazio Innova cash prize is subject to revocation, with the consequent obligation to return any amounts already paid if the prize is granted or paid based on false or reticent data, information and declarations.
2. The revoked Prize must be returned within 60 days of the relative communication, plus the legal interest accrued in the period between the disbursement and the return. Any delays in returning the amount due will result in the reimbursement of legal fees and the application of interest on arrears, for the period following the deadline for the return, to the extent of legal interest plus 500 basis points (5%).

### **Art. 13 - Right of access and confidentiality**

1. The right of access to documents is exercised in accordance with the provisions of art. 22 and following of Law 241/90 and subsequent amendments.
2. The person in charge of the procedure is the General Manager of Lazio Innova.
3. The duration of the procedure cannot exceed the terms provided by art. 5, paragraph 5, of Legislative Decree 123/98.
4. The applicants, in submitting the request for the award, accept the publication, electronically or in other form, of their identification data (tax code and company name or, in the case of individual company, name, surname and possible name of the company) and of the amount of the prize paid, pursuant to art. 26 and 27 of the Legislative Decree. 33/2013 on transparency.
5. Lazio Innova is however authorized to publish, together with the data referred to in the previous paragraph, the brief description of the awarded business projects, required by the aforementioned art. 27 of Legislative Decree. 33/2013. Both in the project collection phase and in examination and selection phase, the Lazio Innova team will operate in good faith, respecting the confidentiality of the information provided by the participants and good professional practices.

### **Art. 14 - Communications**

1. All communications required by the Regulations will take place via e-mail, through e-mail addresses indicated by participants, or as specified in the Regulations.
2. The results of the assessments following the decisions of the Advisory Board will be published on the Lazio Innova website. Communication will be sent by e-mail only to those who will be admitted to the program.
3. Communications and documentation relating to cash prizes will take place, for all legal purposes, through the PEC Lazio Innova spazioattivo@pec.lazioinnova.it and the PEC mailboxes indicated by the winners.