

2019 EIT RawMaterials Project Idea Competition

Sustainable Resource Use – Tailings, Wastes, Slags

1. How is the competition structured?

EIT RawMaterials with its Regional Center Leoben invites to the RawMaterials Project Idea Competition 2019 (“Competition”), an innovation contest aiming to identify and support the best ideas from researchers, professionals and start-ups, with a potential impact on the sustainable use of raw materials resources.

The Competition is divided into four phases:

Phase 1 & 2: Submission of Ideas & Screening

- To participate in the Competition, the applicants must present a brief description of their idea of the innovative product or service proposed, answering pre-determined questions. A template is available which includes the questions and guidelines. The applicants should put emphasis on:
 - » innovative concept,
 - » competitive advantage,
- **Ideas submission deadline: September 15th, 2019.**

The best ideas will be selected by a jury of EIT RawMaterials and the Montanuniversität Leoben, to go to the next phase

Phase 3: Final Pitching

- The selected finalists will be invited to pitch their ideas in front of the Jury, composed of experts from EIT RawMaterials and the Universities of Zagreb and Leoben. This will take place during the 11th ESEE Dialogue Conference in **Zagreb, Croatia on 4th October, 2019.** (travel costs for participation of finalists will be covered)
- The top 3 winners will be selected from the Jury and awarded:
 - » 1st prize: €3,000
 - » 2nd prize: €2,000
 - » 3rd prize: €1,000

Phase 4: Project Development and Submission

The winning ideas of the project idea competition shall be matured into a EIT RawMaterials project by establishing a project consortium with support from EIT RawMaterials staff, that develops the idea further and submits a KAVA proposal at the next Call for Proposals (expected deadline 15.02.2020).

2. Who can participate?

The competition is open to physical persons: Researchers, PhD students or research groups from universities and research organisations or professionals in the mining industry, who have an idea/solution that is targeting the sustainable use of raw materials resources.

The applicants must be permanently settled in countries within Europe, preferably Eastern and South-Eastern Europe (ESEE region).

Applications can be submitted either by a single idea holder or by a team of persons represented by a contact person. There is no a pre-set number of members in a team. The participation of a team is welcome and appreciated in the evaluation.

EIT RawMaterials will not be responsible for any division or distribution of any prize awarded in the Competition among or between team members.

3. Which topics are relevant?

EIT RawMaterials aims at supporting new solutions in the fields of exploration, mining, and processing of raw materials as well as their manufacturing into products, recycling, and integration into a Circular Economy.

Metals and minerals are the main target of the EIT RawMaterials innovation community. Bio-based materials (energy, agricultural, polymers) are excluded.

This Competition covers the following thematic categories of primary and secondary production of raw materials from tailings, wastes and slags

1. Mining
2. Processing
3. Resource Efficiency
4. Recycling
5. Substitution
6. Circular Economy

4. How to submit your idea?

To participate in the first phase of the Competition, the applicants must fill in the application form. (use document "Application template and guidance")

The deadline for the submission of the idea is: September 15th, 2019, at 17:00 CET

Only proposals submitted in English will be accepted; proposals submitted in other languages will not be considered.

Pitch presentations at the Final Ceremony will be also in English.

5. How are the prizes given?

Prizes are considered per project team and independently of the number of attendants. The lump-sum prizes will be issued within 30 days after the completion of the final ceremony, upon signing a Prize Agreement with EIT RawMaterials.

Winners commit to maturing their idea into a EIT RawMaterials project by establishing a project consortium with support from EIT RawMaterials staff (see description of phase 4 above).

The use of the final prize is linked to the willingness to carry the project idea forward to submission of a KAVA proposal.

The jury will consider the commitment of the team to the development of the idea as one of the priority evaluation factors.

The distribution of the prize will be an internal matter of the participating project team. All prizes will be subject to withholding tax as determined by current legislation.

6. How are ideas judged?

The evaluation of the ideas proposed shall be carried out in each phase of the Competition by a board of expert evaluators from within EIT RawMaterials and partner organizations. The ideas will be evaluated based on the demonstration of an innovative product or service which in the view of the evaluators holds the most promise to be successful and a good fit with the focus areas of the categories of EIT RawMaterials. Each idea will be judged on the criteria listed in the following with the weight applied to each criterion in the evaluation:

Criteria / weight

- Technical Excellence, Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and IP Status / 20%
- Topic Relevance and Identification / 30%
- Quality of the Team / 20%
- Further Development and Planning / 30%

Each evaluator will give a score in relation to each criterion based on the following guidelines and a weighted average will be calculated:

0	N/A	The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information
1-3	Poor	The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
4-5	Fair	The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
6-7	Good	The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
8-9	Very good	The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
10	Excellent	The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

The average of the evaluators will be used to produce the ranking list.

The Jury's decisions are unappealable.

7. How are IP rights and confidentiality undertaken?

Applicants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. The organizer and their authorized representatives in the programme undertake to ensure the confidentiality of the ideas and projects presented and developed throughout the Competition.

Only for the purposes of the execution of the competition applicants will provide name, postal address, email address and telephone number (“personal data”). Personal Data will only be collected and stored to proceed with the evaluation, contracting and awarding during the Competition. The organizer will process the submitted material according to Austrian law. Terms and Conditions and Privacy policy of the platform used to collect and store data are available at www.esee-dc.eu

The organizer will only publish data of the finalists and winners: names and affiliations, the receipt of any Prize, non-confidential information related to the idea. Pictures, videos and sounds may be used for such purposes by EIT RawMaterials and its partners without compensation for the promotion of the Competition.

YOUR CONSENT TO THE USE OF PERSONAL DATA

By submitting your application within this competition you consent that EIT RawMaterials GmbH and the Montanuniversität Leoben will collect, transfer, process, store and delete your data under above-mentioned conditions.

8. Key dates

- Ideas submission deadline: September 15th, 2019.
- Final and awards: October 4th, 2019 in Zagreb, Croatia

Dates could change, but the organization will report them appropriately.

9. How to get in touch?

To get in touch, contact the organization team under esee-dc@unileoben.ac.at, or visit www.esee-dc.eu