

## **VALORSUL OPEN INNOVATION 2024**

### **CONTEST SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION OF THE OPEN INNOVATION VALORSUL 2024**

#### **Article 1 Promoter**

Valorsul - Valorização e Tratamento de Resíduos Sólidos Regiões Lisboa e Oeste S.A. is the promoter and organizer of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 with headquarters in Plataforma Ribeirinha da CP, Estação de Mercadorias da Bobadela, 2696-801 São João da Talha, hereinafter referred to as “Valorsul”.

#### **Article 2 Specifications**

This document [along with the contest website] contains the specifications, conditions and the terms applicable to access and apply to the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 contest, as well as the rules for the award of the prizes.

#### **Article 3 Main Purposes**

1. The contest's purpose is to award solutions presented for 3 different areas (defined as challenges in Article 4) and to promote and implement a pilot acceleration program with competitive participants.

2. In this regard, the current contest aims to:

- a) Promote an innovative culture grounded in science and technology;
- b) Stimulate entrepreneurship and the transfer of knowledge and technology generated within academic, research, and development activities;
- c) Contribute to sustainable economic and social development of Valorsul.

#### **Article 4 Categories for Competition – challenges covered**

1. The pilots must be aligned with the activity developed by Valorsul, namely the treatment of urban waste.

2. The Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 will consist of three challenges:

- 2.1. Challenge 1: New digital solutions and AI in waste management
- 2.2. Challenge 2: Next-Gen Waste Packaging Sorting
- 2.3. Challenge 3: Unlocking the Potential of Incineration Bottom-Ash

### **Article 5** **Eligible Participants**

1. National or international participants, which aim to develop pilot tests with Valorsul, can compete for the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024.
2. Participants should be above TRL 3, according to the following classification: TRL 1 – basic principles observed; TRL 2 – technology concept formulated; TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept; TRL 4 – technology validated in lab; TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies); TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies); TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment; TRL 8 – system complete and qualified; TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies; or in space).
3. Applications that do not classify into the mentioned categories and challenges referred to in Article 4 will not be accepted.
4. The directors or employees (and family members) of Valorsul are not eligible to participate in this competition.
5. Valorsul reserves the right to exclude applications to the program from entities that do not meet the requirements contained in its code of ethics<sup>1</sup> and, in any case, whenever a situation of conflict of interest is identified.
6. Valorsul will not consider any solution that has already been totally or partial implemented in its facilities.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.valorsul.pt/media/k2ththix/codigo\\_etica\\_conduta\\_23\\_pt.pdf](https://www.valorsul.pt/media/k2ththix/codigo_etica_conduta_23_pt.pdf)

## **Article 6**

### **Program Process**

1. Applications for the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 must be applied in an appropriate form, available at <https://www.valorsul.pt/open-innovation-2024-en/>.
2. The stages of the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 are the following:
  - 2.1. Submission Phase: since June 19<sup>th</sup> until August 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 2.2. Q&A Webinar: July 9<sup>th</sup>
  - 2.2 Submission Review and Doubts Clarification: June 19<sup>th</sup> – August 30<sup>th</sup>
  - 2.3 Participant Selection and Communication: August 30<sup>th</sup> – September 13<sup>th</sup>
  - 2.4 Pitch Preparation: August 30<sup>th</sup> – September 24<sup>th</sup>
  - 2.5 **Pitch-day Event**, Winner Selection and Announcement: September 26<sup>th</sup> (to be confirmed)
3. By submitting the registration, the Participants agree with the all the terms and conditions set out in this Specification.
4. The Participants warrants to Valorsul that the technology and solution to be used in the pilot does not infringe third party rights according to Article 14.
5. There is no limit on the number of applications to be submitted by each participant.
6. Applications must be submitted in English.

## **Article 7**

### **Applications Deadline**

1. Applications for the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 contest can be submitted from June 19<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. Applications sent after the deadline defined in the previous clause will not be accepted.

## **Article 8**

### **Evaluation of Applications**

1. The Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 contest will have two evaluation phases:

- 1.1. The applications submitted on the website (Article 6) will be subject to prior eligibility analysis by a selected team of Valorsul, which will then communicate to the participants whether they will or not move to the next phase of the contest, the Pitch-Day event.
- 1.2. The applications selected to the **Pitch-day event** will be evaluated by a jury appointed by Valorsul specifically for that event, which will then communicate which participants were selected to develop their solution/technology at Valorsul's industrial installations and with Valorsul's investment.
2. Whenever the formal analysis of the process results in the identification of situations of non-compliance with the rules set out in this Specification, the application will be excluded.
3. Additional information from the Participants may be requested (clarification of doubts, videos, presentations, technical information, etc.) if relevant for the correct identification of the pilot or to the analysis of the application, being the additional information an integral part of the submitted application.
4. The assessment criteria list indicated in Article 10 will be used in both evaluation phases (8.1.a and 8.1.b).
5. Valorsul is not obligated to disclose the evaluation of the pilots and will only communicate if the participants were selected for the **Pitch-day event** or not.
6. If, for a given challenge, none of the participants is selected to move to the next phase (present on the Pitch-Day event), Valorsul reserves the right to eliminate that challenge from the Pitch-Day event.
7. During the Pitch-Day event if, for a given challenge, none of the participants is selected to develop a pilot test at Valorsul's industrial installations, Valorsul reserves the right not to award any monetary prize and not to proceed with any pilot test.

## **Article 9**

### **Pitch-Day event Jury**

1. The Pitch-Day event Jury includes representatives from Valorsul and other external experts invited by Valorsul.
2. The President of the Jury will be Inês Baeta Neves, Head of Innovation at EGF group.

3. The Jury will evaluate the applications as described in Article 10 of this Specifications.
4. The Jury will guarantee the confidentiality, rigor and transparency of all procedures and information presented by the participants related to the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024's contest.

### **Article 10** **Assessment Criteria**

1. Applications will be evaluated considering the following criteria:
  - 1.1. Understanding of the Problem: Demonstrate a clear and thorough understanding of the issue you intend to address.
  - 1.2. Contribution to Meet Recycling Targets: Potential to help achieve the recycling goals.
  - 1.3. Innovation: Creativity and originality of proposed solutions.
  - 1.4. Efficiency and Effectiveness Impact: Potential to enhance operational efficiency, reduce costs, and improve resource management.
  - 1.5. Environmental Impact: Consideration of environmental benefits, such as reduced energy and resource
  - 1.6. Feasibility: Practicality and implementation potential of the proposed
  - 1.7. Scalability: Ability to expand the solution to the next scale and across production facilities.
  - 1.8. Market Understanding: The depth of the solver's research and understanding of the market, including customer needs, competition, and trends.
2. The Participants are responsible for providing all the information to comply with Article 10.1, and Valorsul might request additional information or clarifications to better understand the solution and the participant.

### **Article 11** **Awards**

1. The winners of each challenge will receive a monetary prize of €3,000 (three thousand euro) and the opportunity to develop and test their solution on a pilot scale in Valorsul facilities, funded by Valorsul.
2. The prize referred to in clause 1) will be paid by Valorsul by bank transfer to the account of the winning participants, excluding any fees or taxes applicable under the law.

3. The participants awarded during the **Pitch-Day event** will have access to the development of their solutions/technologies at Valorsul's industrial installations, and Valorsul will have a €150,000 (one hundred and fifteen thousand euro) budget available for the pilot development.
4. By submitting an application for the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024, the awarded participant commits itself to develop and implement its proposed solution on a pilot test at Valorsul facilities ("Pilot").
5. For solutions that cannot be developed in Valorsul's facilities, the pilot may be carried out outside Valorsul's facilities if the operational conditions are similar to Valorsul's facilities and the results of the pilot would be same as if the solution was developed at Valorsul's facilities.

## **Article 12**

### **Confidentiality**

1. The Participants must clearly and expressly identify and distinguish between non confidential and confidential information of the application, which means that confidential information, know-how and trade secrets in any form shall be marked as confidential.
2. Valorsul team responsible for organizing and promoting the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 contest warrant to the Participants not to disclose any of the confidential information regarding the applications presented throughout the procedure to third parties.

## **Article 13**

### **Pitch Day and Public Disclosure**

1. The announcement of the results and the awarding of prizes to the winning participants in each challenge of the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024's contest will be made in a Public Session – Pitch-Day event, at a place and date to be announced, with the final results also being publicly disclosed after the event on the respective social networks of Valorsul.
2. The attendance mode (physical or remote) of the Participants on the Pitch-Day event will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
3. The members of the Jury assigned to the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 contest reserves the right to communicate and disclose the results of the Open Innovation

Valorsul 2024 by the means and forms Valorsul deems appropriate, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 13 of this Specifications.

4. Participants may disclose and publicize their participation in the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024, and the results achieved, in the form and means they deem appropriate, but must, however, respect the rules regarding the image and advertising of Valorsul and the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 (Article 14).

#### **Article 14**

#### **Marketing and Content**

1. By merely participating in the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024, the Participants express their full agreement, to freely, definitively and irrevocably give permission to Valorsul the right to use candidate logos and marks to disclose marketing materials in the media, national and international, which Valorsul uses or will use, directly or through third parties, to advertise, publicize or promote the respective services and the contest.

2. The Participants also full authorize the collection of images that may be recorded during the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 sessions, such as photographs, videos or images collected through another type of telematic medium, for future disclosure related to the scope of the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024.

3. Valorsul owns the brand, logo and/or other distinctive signs or support materials that may be designed for the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 which are protected by copyright. The Participants cannot use the brand and logo of Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 without the previous written authorization from Valorsul.

#### **Article 15**

#### **Intellectual Property**

1. All the participants of Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 authorize the use of non-confidential information regarding their solution/technologies to organize and promote the activities referred to in Article 13 of this Specification.

2. Without prejudice to this Specification, it is solely and exclusively up to Participants to timely safeguard, using the means of protection they deem appropriate, their proofs of concept.

3. Valorsul and the technical team involved in the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 cannot be held responsible for the violation of Intellectual Property rights, misuse or plagiarism that may occur by any third party.

## **Article 16**

### **Final Dispositions**

1. The Participants acknowledge that the participation in the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 is subject to the full acceptance of the terms incorporated in this Specification.

2. Any situation not covered by this Specification will be duly analysed and considered by the members of the Jury, who will take the measures they deem most appropriate.

3. The Participants acknowledge that:

3.1. Valorsul as the entity responsible for organizing and promoting the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 will not assume any responsibility for applications that do not meet the requirements specified in this Specification.

3.2. Valorsul as the entity responsible for organizing and promoting the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 reserves the right to exclude any applications that do not respect the purposes and values of the Challenge Open Innovation Valorsul 2024, as well as to exclude, at any time, any application and/or Participant (s) that violates the rules and/or adopts prejudicial actions and/or behaviours that might damage the purpose of the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024.

3.3. Valorsul reserves the right to change, suspend or cancel the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 at any time, without this implying any monetary or other compensation to the Participants.

3.4. Any Participants who act in bad faith and participates in the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 using false information, thus tainting the competition, will be excluded.

3.5. In the event of fraudulent participation, Valorsul reserves the right to exclude of the Participant and cancel of the respective prize, if the participant in this situation was awarded in the contest. The participations considered fraudulent claims will be reported to the competent authorities and may be subject to judicial procedures and to compensate Valorsul for any damages in result.

3.6. Valorsul reserves the right to adopt measures to avoid any conduct that Valorsul suspects is intended to or effect any attempt to act fraudulently in relation to this contest or in non-compliance with its rules or to the detriment of other Participants, whose first and immediate consequence will be the exclusion of the Participant and the loss of any and all rights to prize that might have obtained.





4. Any issues arising between the parties, relating to the interpretation or application of this Specifications, will be submitted to the courts of the district of Lisbon, with express waiver of any other, except for mandatory legal provisions that provide otherwise.

5. Any questions or doubts related to participation in the Open Innovation Valorsul 2024 must be addressed to our email, [openinnovation@valorsul.pt](mailto:openinnovation@valorsul.pt).