

VII OPEN CALL FOR DEEP TECH STARTUPS

Date: 10, 11 and 12 March 2027

Venue: Transfiere, FYCMA – Trade Fairs and Congress Centre of Malaga (Malaga, Andalusia, Spain)

Format: hybrid – virtual attendance is reserved for exceptional cases, which will be reviewed individually by the organisation

Language: English

Registration: until 2 December 2026 at 23:59 h.

TRANSFIERE

The leading R&D&I event in Southern Europe for sharing scientific and technological knowledge, promoting innovation and connecting science and business. A key professional and multisectoral forum for knowledge transfer, improving business competitiveness and generating business and networking opportunities.

Website: <https://transfiere.fycma.com/>

DEEP TECH

Deep Tech refers to technologies with high barriers to entry that require a high level of scientific knowledge to be developed and significant investment to be transformed into products or services capable of reaching global markets, with a major impact on society. The major challenges for Deep Tech startups are to bridge the gap between science and innovation and to reduce uncertainty regarding the future returns on investment. The term Deep Tech encompasses both Deep Tech and Digital Techs as its main subgroups.

STARTUP

For the purposes of this call, a startup or emerging company shall be understood as a newly created or recently created, independent legal entity that develops an innovative entrepreneurial project with a scalable business model, under the terms set out in Law 28/2022, of 21 December, on the promotion of the startup ecosystem.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this call is to showcase Deep Tech startups that help transform scientific and technological knowledge into innovative solutions with real market application and the capacity to generate an impact on society and/or the environment.

Transfiere, as a meeting point for science, technology, business, public administration and investment, promotes this Open Call to foster knowledge transfer, collaboration among stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem and the visibility of business projects with a strong technological component and growth potential.

AWARD

Transfiere Award for Best Deep Tech Startup

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The evaluation committee is made up of representatives of the following entities:¹

- Asociación Andaluza Business Angels Network (AABAN)
- Asociación de Parques Científicos y Tecnológicos de España (APTE)
- Ayming
- Bullnet Capital
- Clave Mayor
- Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía (CTA)
- Deloitte
- ENISA
- Enterprise Europe Network - Andalucía Trade
- Finnova
- Finnovating
- Fundación General del Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Fundación CSIC)
- Fundación Unicaja
- Indraventures
- LINK by UMA-ATECH
- Polo Nacional de Contenidos Digitales
- Solvere Capital
- SPAINCAP
- Tecnalia Ventures

¹ The Transfiere organisation reserves the right to update or add members to this evaluation committee for organisational reasons.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Each of the following requirements must be met:

1. Be seeking investment
2. Have a maximum age of 5 years from registration in the Commercial Registry (7 years for biotechnology, energy, industrial or strategic sectors) as of 1 January 2026, pursuant to the Spanish Official State Gazette (Law 28/2022)
3. Correctly complete the registration form and provide the information required for the evaluation of the application
4. Not have been a winner of the Transfiere Open Call for Deep Tech Startups in any previous edition with the same project.
5. If selected as a finalist, attendance in person at Transfiere will be an essential requirement, except in exceptional cases approved by the organisation.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each member of the evaluation committee will individually assess the applications submitted, applying the following indicative criteria to determine their quality and suitability, without these criteria being exclusive or limiting. The following will be assessed:

- **Deep Tech level and scientific-technological basis: the scientific-technological component of the solution, as well as its barriers to entry and its capacity to be transformed into a product or service.**
- **Market viability: the potential for the proposal to be developed, implemented and consolidated in the market.**
- **Scalability: the capacity of the solution to grow, be replicated or adapt to different markets, sectors or contexts.**
- **Impact on society: the contribution of the solution to addressing social, economic, scientific, health, industrial or technological challenges.**
- **Environmental impact: the contribution of the solution to sustainability, resource efficiency or environmental improvement, whenever this concept applies.**
- **Suitability of the team: the suitability, experience, complementarity and capacity of the team to drive the project forward.**
- **Knowledge transfer: collaboration with universities, research centres, technology centres or other knowledge-generating entities.**

SELECTION PROCESS

REGISTRATION PHASE (from 7 September to 2 December 2026 at 23:59 h.)

Interested startups must complete the pre-registration process on the official Transfiere website. After pre-registration, they must access the private area of the platform using the access credentials received, where they must complete the specific form with the project information within the established deadline.

EVALUATION PHASE (from 3 December 2026 to 17 January 2027)

The evaluation committee will review and assess all registrations that have correctly completed the form and meet the participation requirements. This evaluation will determine the 10 selected startups. The organisation will contact the 10 startups regarding the online pitch from 18 January 2027, and they must confirm or decline before 21 January 2027.

SELECTION PHASE (27 January 2027)

The 10 selected startups with the highest scores will meet with the committee online on 27 January 2027, from 10:00 to 12:00 h. In this session, each startup will have 5 minutes for a brief presentation and 3 minutes to answer questions from the evaluation committee.

The committee will then select the 5 startups that will give their presentation within the framework of Transfiere 2027.

COMMUNICATION PHASE (from 28 January 2027)

The organisation will contact the 5 finalist startups from 28 January 2027. To retain the right to the benefits obtained, they must confirm or decline before 1 February 2027. If any of the selected startups is unable to participate or does not confirm before the deadline, it will lose this right and the organisation reserves the right to contact the next highest-ranked startup(s).

FINAL EVALUATION PHASE (11 March 2027)

The selected startups will give a 3-minute pitch followed by 3 minutes for questions within the framework of Transfiere, on 11 March 2027. This pitch will be attended by a specialist audience made up of the evaluation committee, investors, business angels, corporates and members of Enterprise Europe Network, who will vote on site for the best startup of Transfiere 2027. The winning startup will be announced on the same day, 11 March, during the awards ceremony of the Deep Tech content block.

PARTICIPATION BENEFITS

	REGISTERED	10 SELECTED	5 FINALISTS	WINNER
Professional visitor pass	1	2	2	2
Professional visitor pass + networking agenda		1	1	1
Online 5' pitch + 3' Q&A		✓	✓	✓
On-site 3' pitch + 3' Q&A			✓	✓
Visibility/promotional package as finalist			✓	✓
Visibility/promotional package as winner				✓
Featured participation in next edition				✓
Cash prize of €1,000				✓

REGISTERED STARTUPS

All startups registered for the call that meet the requirements will benefit from one access pass.

10 SELECTED STARTUPS

- Two professional visitor passes for Transfiere 2027
 - o Attendance included at the Meet & Greet – Investor ecosystem networking event, which will be held in cocktail format on 11 March from 14:30 to 16:00 h.
- One professional visitor pass with access to the networking agenda: a tool that enables users to request more than 30 B2B meetings with other visitors, potential partners and investors within the framework of the event
- 8-minute online presentation before the evaluation committee (5-minute pitch + 3 minutes of questions)

5 FINALIST STARTUPS

In addition to the above, they will receive:

- 6-minute presentation before investors and experts specialising in the search for Deep Tech solutions (3-minute pitch + 3 minutes of questions)
- Visibility and promotional actions package:
 - o Mention as a finalist in the official event press release
 - o Inclusion on the Transfiere website as a finalist startup
 - o Presence in the digital participant catalogue

WINNING STARTUP

In addition to the above, it will receive:

- Cash prize of €1,000²
- Visibility and promotional actions package:

² Subject to applicable withholding taxes



- Visibility on social media as the winning startup of Transfiere 2027
- Mention in a press release.
- Inclusion of its logo on the official event website.
- Participation in Transfiere 2028:
 - Presence in the exhibition area (academia zone) with an information point.
 - 6 professional visitor passes, with access to the exhibition area and forums.
 - One professional visitor pass with access to the networking agenda: a tool that enables users to request more than 30 B2B meetings with other visitors, potential partners and investors within the framework of the event.
 - 10-minute presentation in the content programme to share the experience and continuity of the project.

KEY DATES

This call will be carried out according to the following dates:

- **Submission of applications: until 2 December 2026, at 23:59 h**
- **Evaluation: from 3 December 2026 to 17 January 2027.**
- **Notification of the 10 selected startups: from 18 January 2027.**
- **Deadline to confirm participation in the online pitch before the evaluation committee: 21 January 2027**
- **Online presentation before the evaluation committee: 27 January 2027**
- **Notification of the selected proposals: from 28 January 2027**
- **Deadline to confirm participation in the event: before 1 February 2027.**
- **Presentation, final vote and award ceremony: 11 March 2027**

VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION AND EXCLUSION OF APPLICATIONS

1. The promoter is the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos de Málaga, owned by Empresa Municipal de Iniciativas y Actividades Empresariales de Málaga, S.A. (PROMALAGA), with tax ID number A-29233681.

Address for notification purposes: Avda. José Ortega y Gasset, 201 – 29006 Malaga, Spain.

FYCMA organises this call for startups, which is voluntary and free of charge, with the aim of promoting the visibility of participating companies and raising awareness of their services within the framework of the trade fairs organised by FYCMA.

2. Participation in the competition implies that the participant guarantees that it owns the copyright to the content submitted or has the express authorisation of its author for its use, releasing the organising entity from any liability arising from improper use. Likewise, participation entails the free, universal and indefinite assignment to the organisation of the image rights of the speaker and the company, authorising their reproduction, distribution, public communication and dissemination in any medium, format or support, existing or future.

3. The startups will be selected by an evaluation committee that will assess the suitability of each one. The interpretative criterion applicable to any incident or claim shall be that of FYCMA, which will act according to criteria of objectivity and ensure due transparency.

4. **SUSPENSION AND MODIFICATIONS.** The organisation reserves the right to suspend the competition at any time, even without prior notice, for justified reasons. It may also modify the conditions of participation, undertaking to notify participants in due course. In such a case, participants may withdraw their registration or continue in the competition by accepting the new conditions.

5. Employees of the organising entity and, where applicable, of the sponsoring, collaborating and exhibiting companies are excluded from participating in the call. Likewise, relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity of the organisation's employees or partners may not participate, nor may any persons who have any type of legal-commercial relationship or link with it.

However, this exclusion shall not apply to participants that form part of, are investees of or maintain a commercial relationship with exhibiting, collaborating or partner companies of the event, provided that their participation takes place within the framework of that business relationship.

6. The organising entity reserves the right to exclude, at any time and without prior notice, any participants who breach these terms and conditions, violate the applicable regulations in force or use unauthorised, fraudulent means, mechanisms or tools or means, mechanisms or tools contrary to the principles of good faith, without such exclusion giving rise to any right to claim or compensation.

7. The organisation may request additional documentation or information to verify compliance with the participation requirements, authorship of the content, the date of



publication, broadcast or dissemination, professional connection with the field of communication or any other aspect necessary for the proper assessment of the application.

8. DATA PROTECTION.

- Controller: Organiser.
- Purpose: To promote the competition, build loyalty among participating companies so that they take part in the trade fairs, and manage communications between the parties.
- Legal basis: Performance or development of a contract.
- Recipients: Data will not be transferred to third parties.
- Retention period: data will be deleted after the fair; audiovisual content will be retained and may appear on the website or social media for a longer period.
- Rights: Access, rectification, erasure and objection, as well as other rights described in the extended information:

<https://fycma.com/privacidad/https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ffycma.com%2Fprivacidad%2F&data=05%7C02%7Ccontenidos1%40fycma.com%7C94aa7fd322e64ebee8aa08dec2d0b144%7Cbc92870d244247388b87a21a2e94285e%7C0%7C0%7C639162399053079962%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIlwLjAuMDAwMCIslIAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoitWFpbCIsIlIdUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hDedkiADArmoKXMJWw3HZGHnGzDY07dPpcpXwp%2FSfk%3D&reserved=0>

9. ACCEPTANCE OF AND AGREEMENT WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Participation in this competition implies full, express and unconditional acceptance of these terms and conditions by the participants.