



OPEN INNOVATION AMARSUL | VALORSUL 2026

CONTEST SPECIFICATIONS OF THE OPEN INNOVATION AMARSUL and VALORSUL CONTEST

Article 1 Promoter

Amarsul – Valorização e Tratamento de Resíduos Sólidos S.A. and **Valorsul - Valorização e Tratamento de Resíduos Sólidos Regiões Lisboa e Oeste S.A.** are the promoters and organizers of the 2nd edition of the Open Innovation contest. Amarsul has headquarters in Estrada Luís de Camões - Apartado 117, 2861-909 Moita, hereinafter referred to as “**Amarsul**” and Valorsul has headquarters in Plataforma Ribeirinha da CP, Estação de Mercadorias da Bobadela, 2696-801 São João da Talha, hereinafter referred to as “**Valorsul**”. This edition is hereinafter addressed as **Open Innovation 2026**.

Article 2 Specifications

This document, along with the contest website, contains the specifications, conditions and the terms applicable to access and apply to the **Open Innovation 2026**, as well as the rules for the award of the prizes.

Article 3 Main Purposes

1. The purpose of the contest is to identify, recognize and support innovative projects that address the challenges defined in Article 4 and to promote the development of pilot projects in collaboration with selected 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 the sustainable economic and social development of the regions served by Amarsul and Valorsul.

Article 4

Categories for Competition – challenges covered

1. The pilots must be aligned with the activity developed by Amarsul and/or Valorsul, namely the treatment and valorization of urban waste.
2. The Open Innovation 2026 will consist of three challenges:
 - a) Challenge 1: Connected Safety and AI for Waste Management Operations
 - b) Challenge 2: Industrial IoT for Predictive Maintenance
 - c) Challenge 3: Modular Pre-Treatment Systems for Unsorted Municipal Waste

Article 5

Eligible Participants

1. National or international participants, which aim to initiate pilots with Amarsul or Valorsul, can compete for the Open Innovation 2026.
2. Participants must have reached at least **TRL 4**, according to: 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.
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 Amarsul and Valorsul are not eligible to participate in this competition.
5. Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right to exclude applications to the program from entities that do not meet the requirements contained in its code of ethics¹ and, in any case, whenever a situation of conflict of interest is identified.

¹https://www.egf.pt/media/0qvpkfxn/codigo_etica_conduta_23_pt.pdf

6. Amarsul and Valorsul will not consider any solution that has already been totally or partially implemented in their facilities, has already been tested or formally assessed by Amarsul or Valorsul, or is subject to an ongoing evaluation process within the Group.

7. Participants must be legal entities duly incorporated and in good standing under the applicable law. Natural persons are not eligible to participate. Applications may be submitted individually or by consortia, provided that a lead entity is identified in the application, which shall act as the sole interlocutor with Amarsul and Valorsul and as the recipient of any prize or funding awarded under the contest.

Article 6

Program Process

1. Applications for the Open Innovation 2026 must be submitted through the online application form available at <https://openinnovation.egf.pt/>.

2. The stages of the Open Innovation 2026 are the following:

2.1. Submission Phase: 2 November 2026 to 25 January 2027

2.2. Q&A Webinar: 27 November 2026

2.3 Submission Review and Doubts Clarification: 1 February to 14 March 2027

2.4 Announcement of the Selected Participants for Pitch Day: 21 March 2027

2.5 Pitch Preparation: 22 March to 9 April 2027

2.6 Pitch-day Event, Winner Selection and Announcement: Day to be announced (Second half of April/2027)

3. English shall be the official language of Open Innovation 2026. All applications and communications relating to the contest shall be submitted in English. Applications that do not comply with this requirement may be excluded from the evaluation process.

4. By submitting the registration, the Participants agree with to all the terms and conditions set out in this Specification.

5. The Participants warrant to Amarsul/Valorsul that the technology and solution to be used in the pilot does not infringe third party rights according to Article 16 below.

6. There is no limit on the number of applications submitted by each participant.

7. Applications that are incomplete or contain formal irregularities may be subject to a request for correction, within the timeframes exposed in clause 2 of this Article 6.

Article 7

Applications Deadline

1. Applications for the Open Innovation 2026 ´s contest can be submitted from 2 November 2026 to 25 January 2027.
2. Applications sent after the deadline defined in the previous number will not be accepted.

Article 8

Evaluation of Applications

1. The Open Innovation 2026’s contest will have two evaluation phases:
 - a) The applications submitted on the website (Article 6) will be subject to prior eligibility analysis by a selected team of Amarsul and 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.
 - b) The applications selected to the **Pitch-day event** will be evaluated by a jury appointed by Amarsul and Valorsul specifically for that event, which will then communicate which participants were selected to develop their solution/technology at Amarsul or Valorsul industrial installations and with Amarsul/Valorsul 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, such additional information shall form an integral part of the submitted application.
4. The assessment criteria list indicated in Article 10 will be used in both evaluation phases (clauses 1.a and 1.b of this Article 8).
5. Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right not to disclose detailed scoring or evaluation reports. However, general feedback may be provided at their discretion.

6. If, for a given challenge, none of the participants is selected to move to the next phase (Pitch-Day event), Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right to eliminate that challenge from the Pitch-Day event.

7. If, during the Pitch-Day event, for a given challenge, none of the participants are selected to develop a pilot test at Amarsul or Valorsul industrial installations, Amarsul and Valorsul reserve 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 Amarsul, Valorsul and other external experts invited by Amarsul and Valorsul.

2. The Jury will evaluate the applications as described in Article 10 of this Regulation.

3. The Jury will guarantee the confidentiality and rigor of all procedures and information presented by the participants related to the Open Innovation 2026 contest.

4. The decisions of the Jury are final and are not subject to appeal or complaint.

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 consumption.

1.6. Feasibility: Practicality and implementation potential of the proposed solution.

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.

3. Participants shall demonstrate a minimum technology maturity level of TRL 4 and provide evidence supporting the stated maturity level.

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 at a pilot scale in Amarsul and/or Valorsul facilities, funded by Amarsul and Valorsul.

2. The prize referred to in clause 1) will be paid by Amarsul/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 Amarsul and/or Valorsul industrial installations.

4. Amarsul and Valorsul may allocate, at their sole discretion, up to a total budget of €150,000 (one hundred and fifty thousand euro) for the development and implementation of the pilot projects arising from this contest. This amount corresponds to the overall budget available for all pilots combined and does not constitute an individual allocation per pilot.

5. By submitting an application to the Open Innovation 2026, Participants acknowledge and agree that, if selected as winners, they are expected to participate in the development of a pilot project related to the proposed solution. The implementation of such pilot shall be subject to the execution of a separate pilot agreement between the parties.

6. Where a pilot cannot reasonably be carried out at Valorsul facilities, it may be conducted at another location with comparable operating conditions, provided that the results remain relevant and applicable to Valorsul operations. The decision as to whether the alternative site provides adequate conditions for the pilot shall be taken by Valorsul in its sole discretion.

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. The Amarsul and Valorsul teams responsible for organizing and promoting the Open Innovation 2026 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 2026 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 Amarsul and Valorsul.
2. The members of the Jury assigned to the Open Innovation 2026 contest reserve the right to communicate and disclose the results of the Open Innovation 2026 by the means and forms Amarsul and Valorsul deems appropriate, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 12 of these Specifications.
3. 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 2026 (Article 14).

Article 14

Pilot Implementation

1. The award of a prize does not in itself constitute a contract for the execution of the pilot. After the announcement of the results, Amarsul, Valorsul and each winning Participant shall negotiate in good faith and enter into a specific pilot agreement.
2. Should no agreement be reached for reasons not attributable to Amarsul or to Valorsul, both may terminate the process without any liability or compensation and may, at their discretion, invite the next best-ranked Participant of the same challenge.

3. The scope, duration, funding amount and implementation conditions of each pilot shall be defined in the specific pilot agreement and may differ between winners according to the technical requirements, maturity and expected impact of each solution.

4. Winning Participants shall comply with:

- Mota-Engil's "safety, Health, Environment and Quality Policy (SHEQ)", available at: https://engenharia.mota-engil.pt/multimedia/motaengil/policy-sheq_21112023_en.pdf;
- Mota-Engil's "Policy for Anti-corruption and Bribe, Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing", available at: mota-engil.com/app/uploads/2023/12/Anti-Corruption-and-Bribery-Prevention-of-Money-Laundering-and-Terrorist-Financing-Policy.pdf;
- Mota-Engil's "Code of Ethics and Business Conduct", available at: mota-engil.com/app/uploads/2025/03/CODIGO_ETICA_CONDUTA_23_EN-1.pdf.

Article 15

Marketing and Content

1. By merely participating in the Open Innovation 2026, the Participants express their full agreement, to freely, definitively and irrevocably give permission to Amarsul and Valorsul the right to use candidate logos and marks to disclose marketing materials in the media, national and international, which Amarsul and 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 fully authorize the collection of images that may be recorded during the Open Innovation 2026 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 2026.

3. Amarsul and Valorsul own the brand, logo and/or other distinctive signs or support materials that may be designed for the Open Innovation 2026 which are protected by copyright. The Participants cannot use the brand and logo of Open Innovation 2026 without the previous written authorization from Amarsul or Valorsul.

Article 16

Intellectual Property

1. All the participants of Open Innovation 2026 authorize the use of non-confidential information regarding their solution/technologies in order to organize and promote the activities referred to in the Articles 13 and 15 of this Specification, and in accordance with Article 12.

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. Amarsul, Valorsul and the technical team involved in the Open Innovation 2026 cannot be held responsible for the violation of Intellectual Property rights, misuse or plagiarism that may occur by any third party.

4. Each party remains the exclusive owner of the intellectual property rights it held before the pilot or develops independently of it (“Background”). Ownership of the results generated during the pilot (“Foreground”) shall be defined in the pilot agreement referred in clause 1 of Article 14.

Article 17

Personal Data Protection

1. Amarsul and Valorsul, acting as data controllers, process the personal data provided by the Participants (namely name, contact details, professional information and the content of the application) exclusively for the purposes of managing, evaluating, awarding and publicising the Open Innovation 2026, on the legal bases of the performance of pre-contractual measures and of the legitimate interest of Amarsul and Valorsul in promoting open innovation.

2. Personal data may be shared with the members of the Jury and with service providers engaged by Amarsul and Valorsul for the organisation of the contest, all of whom are bound by equivalent confidentiality obligations. Participants may at any time exercise their rights of access, rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, portability and objection, and withdraw any consent given.

3. Further information is set out in the Amarsul and Valorsul Privacy Policy, available at: <https://www.mota-engil.com/politica-de-privacidade/>.

Article 18

Final dispositions

1. The Participants acknowledge that the participation in the Open Innovation 2026 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. Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right not to award prizes, not to select any participant, or to declare any challenge void if the submitted applications do not meet the expected technical, operational or strategic requirements.

4. The Participants acknowledge that:

4.1. Amarsul and Valorsul as the entities responsible for organizing and promoting the Open Innovation 2026 will not assume any responsibility for applications that do not meet the requirements specified in this Specification.

4.2. Amarsul and Valorsul as the entities responsible for organizing and promoting the Open Innovation 2026 reserve the right to exclude any applications that do not respect the purposes and values of the Challenge Open Innovation 2026, 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 2026.

4.3. Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right to change, suspend or cancel the Open Innovation 2026 at any time, without this implying any monetary or other compensation to the Participants.

4.4. Participants who act in bad faith and participate in the Open Innovation 2026 using false information, thus tainting the competition, will be excluded from it.

4.5. In the event of fraudulent participation, Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right to exclude the Participant and cancel the respective prize, if the participant in this situation was awarded in the contest. Participations considered fraudulent will be reported to the competent authorities and may give rise to judicial proceedings and to the obligation to compensate Amarsul and Valorsul for any resulting damages.

4.6. Amarsul and Valorsul reserve the right to adopt measures to avoid any conduct that Amarsul or 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.

5. Any issues arising between the parties, relating to the interpretation or application of this Regulation, 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.

6. This Specification is governed by Portuguese law.

7. Any questions or doubts related to the participation in the Open Innovation 2026 must be addressed to our email, openinnovation@egf.pt.