



Press Release, October 2022

THE ENGINE FOR SOUTH EUROPEAN DEEP TECH LAUNCHES ITS FIRST OPEN CALL

The EU funded project South3E aims at accelerating Deep Tech projects and solutions coming from research teams, start-ups and SMEs that can impact social development and economic growth for a more sustainable future.

The consortium of **S3E – The Engine for South European Deep Tech** is pleased to announce the launch of its First Open Call as part of the development of an **engine of growth** that will improve the connectedness and efficiency of the entrepreneurship ecosystems in Southern European countries.

Through the **Open Call #1**, S3E supports the development of disruptive solutions built around unique, protected or hard-to-reproduce breakthroughs, and embodies products, processes or services capable of fulfilling currently unmet (or ill-met) market needs. This new engine will unlock the **untapped innovation potential of Southern European Deep Tech**, targeting scientific and technical excellence in the fields of **agricultural, life and physical sciences, engineering and technology**.

The potential of Deep Tech



Deep Tech accounts for over a quarter of Europe's start-up ecosystem, with European deep tech companies now valued at a combined €700 billion and counting. S3E focuses on supporting Deep Tech projects and solutions for its potential to grow and **contribute to a more sustainable future**.

S3E alignment with the UN SDGs

S3E First Open Call is aligned with the UN **Sustainable Development Goals** and therefore applicants must tie into one or more of the SDGs:



Funded by
the European Union



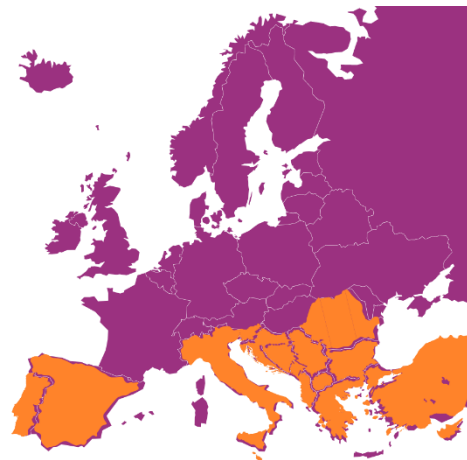
Why we are focusing on Southern Europe?

All Southern European countries are Moderate and Emerging Innovators¹. The divide North-South is rooted both in the origin and the funding of the startups, that is why the S3E Open Call #1 welcomes applications from the following **European countries**:

Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Republic of Cyprus, Romania, Slovenia and Spain.

And the following **Associated countries**:

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.






What's the S3E offering?

S3E will provide skills to researchers and technology transfer actors in science-based entrepreneurship and technology commercialization, supporting growth stage start-ups in business development and in procuring investment, and providing technology brokerage for corporates and scale-up stage start-ups and SMEs.

¹ European Innovation Scoreboard 2021

S3E Open Call #1 is built around around **three tracks** of bespoke services tailored to start-ups' varying levels of maturity (i.e., early, growth, and scaling stages):

S3E START	S3E CHARGE	S3E REVERSE
		
For research teams and tech transfer offices , S3E offers a hands-on training program to hone their commercial skills and secure early funding for development	For growth start-ups , S3E provides mentoring and networking to develop an investment-ready business plan and facilitate access to non-dilutable and dilutable funding	For scaling start-ups and SMEs , S3E will set up an Open Innovation ecosystem to broker, connect and match corporates to scaling start-ups through a challenge-solution duality

The S3E Open call is open from **7 November 2022 (12pm CEST)** to **10 February 2023 (17h CEST)**.

S3E will support 150+ Deep Tech ventures throughout its complete run, so do not miss the chance to be part of the South European Deep Tech revolution!

More information about the project and the open call is available on the S3E [website](#).

South3E is an ambitious joint initiative granted by the European Commission as part of the Horizon Europe Program. During its 30-month run, 4 partners from Portugal, Greece, Ireland and Spain will join forces to make S3E a reality. The team includes experts from the research, innovation and acceleration ecosystem, together with policy and community building experts.



Institute for Sustainable Development



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IRELAND



JOIN THE SOUTH EUROPEAN DEEP TECH REVOLUTION!



south3e.eu



[@south3e](https://twitter.com/south3e)



[/south3e](https://www.linkedin.com/company/south3e)



Funded by the European Union