

PARTNER SEARCH

CIRCUIT — Circular IT: extending the useful life of European SMEs' business software

RIVCircular Call — Topic 5: Digital solutions for circular economy

1. The problem

European SMEs pay for digital capacity they do not use. According to Zylo's *SaaS Management Index 2024*, companies use only 49% of the software licences they purchase, and ERP systems run with a large share of their modules never activated. The result is “digital waste” that drains budget, consumes energy and accelerates the unnecessary renewal of equipment — and that SMEs currently have no way to measure. Instead of leveraging what they already own, they keep buying more technology.

2. The proposed solution

CIRCUIT is a self-diagnosis tool that lets any SME find out how much software it is wasting and how much it can save (in money, energy and resources) by reactivating what it already owns. It is circular economy applied to technology: extending the useful life of digital assets instead of replacing them. The diagnostic logic is already validated with real clients (with directly measured savings, up to 4% of annual turnover in one case); the project turns it into a scalable product for the European market.

3. Key facts

Field	Content
Call	RIVCircular — Topic 5: Digital solutions for circular economy
Type and maturity	Innovation Action · technology validated (TRL 6) taken to market-ready product (TRL 8)
Duration	Between 12 and 24 months (Topic 5 maximum). Start: first quarter of 2027
Consortium budget	€200,000 – €700,000 per project (outside this range must be justified)
Funding available for your entity	up to 100% of your participation, depending on region and type of entity
Regional budget (Topic 5)	Funds allocated to each territory for the set of projects: Greece €200,000 · Innlandet €400,000
Deadline	17 September 2026, 14:00 CET

4. The current consortium

Entity	Territory	Profile and role
FLIA Business Control (FL Data Consulting SL)	Extremadura (ES)	Small business analytics and control company. Mandatory SME for Topic 5. Owner of the diagnostic logic and the app. Technical core: leads the diagnostic system (WP3), app development and IP management (WP4), and commercial exploitation (WP7). Runs pilots in Spain.
Escuela21	Vienna (AT)	Training company with experience in coordinating European projects. Consortium coordinator (WP1); leads needs analysis, indicators and the PPI/GPP activity (WP2), and communication and dissemination (WP8).

5. The partner we are looking for

We are looking for a **business support organisation** (chamber of commerce, cluster or association) with direct access to the SME network of its region, in **Greece or Innlandet (Norway)**.

The selected entity will lead two work packages:

- **Pilot coordination and validation in a real environment (WP5):** coordination of the common pilot protocol across the three countries and consolidation of results; each partner runs the pilots in its own territory.
- **Impact, adoption and dissemination to the business community (WP6):** impact evaluation and dissemination of results to the SMEs of its region.

Brings: access to companies for the pilots, knowledge of its regional SME ecosystem and dissemination capacity.

6. Why join

- **European funding:** up to 100% of the eligible budget depending on region and type of entity, charged to the RIVCircular regional fund (Greece €200,000, Innlandet €400,000).
- **Validated technology, not an idea:** the diagnostic logic is proven in a real environment with clients, with directly measured savings. The project takes it from TRL 6 to TRL 8.
- **Formed consortium and defined architecture:** a two-country core is confirmed (the SME that owns the solution and a coordinator with European project experience), the work package distribution is closed and a weekly working cadence is under way.

7. Timeline

Milestone	Target date
Confirmation of joining the consortium	9 August 2026
Proposal submission	13 September 2026

8. Contact

To explore joining the consortium, please get in touch before 9 August 2026:

Findia Leyva · FLIA Business Control · hola@flia.es

Alfredo Hernando · Escuela21 · hola@escuela21.org