

Smart City World Congress 2025

November 5th - Innovation Playground Stage at 12:30

Cities' Challenges

Welcome

*Ms. Ana Simón, Open Innovation and Disruption Manager
ACCIÓ Business Competitiveness Agency
Government of Catalonia*



What is ACCIÓ?

- Catalonia Trade & Investment / ACCIÓ is the Catalan Government's Agency for business competitiveness. Since 1988, the agency promotes trade, investment and innovation between Catalonia and the world.

About ACCIÓ..

Global and Local

- **40 international offices** covering over 100 global markets
- **7 delegations** in the territory

Consolidated Career, Experience and Talent

- ACCIO has represented Catalan businesses worldwide, leveraging **40 years of expertise** in business projects and innovation

At Key Moments

- Supporting businesses in **innovation** and **internationalization**, now guiding **digital and sustainable transformation** and fostering **industrial RDI**

Open Innovation Challenges

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How does it work?

-  Choose an event
-  Register your solution
-  Select the challenges
-  Request a meeting

Discover the Open Innovation Challenges



Advanced Factories

The Advanced Factories congress is our industry 4.0 event par excellence which is synonymous with cutting-edge technologies, automation and all the industrial solutions you can imagine.



Alimentaria

Alimentaria, the international food, beverage and food service fair, is the major meeting point for professionals from a key industry in Catalonia that focuses on showcasing the latest trends in the sector.



Health Revolution Congress

The Health Revolution Congress is the leading European congress that addresses digital health. It provides a chance to pool knowledge, opportunities and the major technological trends in the field of health.



Integrated Systems Europe (ISE)

The audiovisual sector organizes an event that's not to be missed: the ISE. You'll be able to find and offer solutions related to content creation and learn more about technologies based on virtual reality, 3D mapping and big data.



Mobile World Congress

The MWC is the most influential technological event in the world. It's a meeting point where you can find out more about the latest innovations in areas such as connectivity, industry and artificial intelligence.



Smart City Expo World Congress

The SCEWC is the congress where you can imagine the cities of the future and turn them into real places. It's an event where you can find out more about the latest mobility-related innovations and the major challenges when it comes to building smarter and more sustainable cities.

Results 2022-2024



16
Open Innovation Challenges



350
Challenge owners



390
Challenges & Innovation Procurements



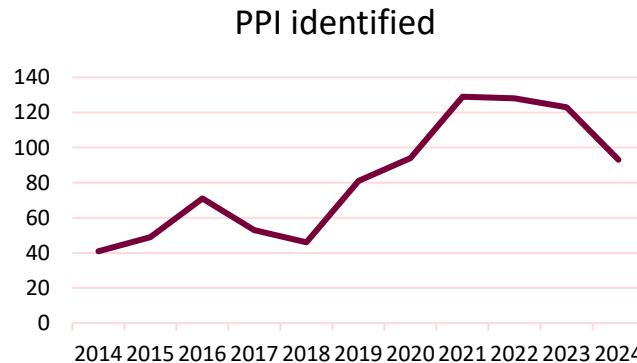
35
Success stories



ACCIÓ's Support for Public Procurement of Innovation (since 2014)

7

-  908+ innovation procurements identified
-  450+ companies advised
-  70 training courses delivered
-  3,071 people trained
-  9 years of PPI events at Smart City Expo World Congress



ACCIÓ's PPI annual Metrics

100-150 Innovation Procurement initiatives identified

30-50 Companies receiving Advisory support

10-25 Submitted proposals for Innovation procurement

3-5 Winning bids



Cities' Challenges

*Miss. Diana Loayza, Innovation Consultant at the ACCIÓ Milano office
ACCIÓ Business Competitiveness Agency*



ACCIÓ

 **Generalitat de Catalunya**
Government of Catalonia

enterprise
europe
network
Business Support on Your Doorstep





4 November 2025 - 6 November 2025
08908 Barcelona - Hospitalet del Llobregat, Spain
Avinguda Joan Carles I, 64
Fira de Barcelona

Smart City - Open Innovation Challenge - Catalan Solutions

Register now



Smart City - Open Innovation Challenge - Catalan Urban Solutions

Organized and supported by



SMARTCITY
EXPO WORLD CONGRESS



Smart City Open Innovation Challenge

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Meetings 4-6 November In person and Online

29 Challenge Owners (Private & Public entities) with 40 challenges

The grid displays 29 challenge owners, each with a logo and a list of innovation challenges. The challenges are categorized into various sectors and technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, Green Building, Public Transport, and Cybersecurity. The logos include Infrastructures.cat, ATM, sorigué, DOMUS, BACI, MONTBLANC, INNOVATION DISTRICT, repsol, ZF, HORMICONSA, Alsina, circontrol, repsol, ACCIÓ, Comsa, Cimarsa, Sagatés, ecembes, Port de Barcelona, ATR, PORTOVIAJO, CirLab, and Esclar. Each logo is accompanied by a small image related to the challenge.



Business Support on Your Doorstep

Cities' Challenges Speakers



Anna Simon Villacampa
Open Innovation and Disruption
Manager, ACCIÓ Catalonia Trade
& Investment, Barcelona, Spain



Diana Loayza
Innovation Consultant of Milan
office, ACCIÓ Catalonia
Trade & Investment,
Milan, Italy



Davoud Omarzadeh
Earth Observation Project
Manager, Institut d'Estudis Espacials d
eCatalunya (IEEC), Barcelona, Spain



Hiroyuki Suzuki
Senior Executive Vice President,
Representative Director, ATR -
AdvancedTelecommunications Research
Institute International, Kyoto, Japan



Rita Almela
Head of Innovation, World
Trade Center, Barcelona, Spain



Pauline Boulay
AI and Data Project Manager, The
Greater Paris Metropolis, Paris,
France



Elena López
Project Manager, Ticbiomed,
Murcia, Spain



Leandro Aglieri
President, Roma Smart City Lab,
Rome, Italy



Laura Escot
Biomedical Engineer,
Vall d'Hebron University Hospital,
Barcelona, Spain



Hernán Perin
General Director of Govtech.
Municipality of Córdoba, Córdoba,
Argentina

PCP WISE: Water Management Innovations For Climate Resilience

Who we are? PCP WISE is a Pre-commercial Procurement (PCP) action funded by the European Commission's Horizon Europe Programme.

What do we need? Innovative Earth Observation (EO)-powered intelligence tools to monitor the Soil-Water Vegetation (SWV) system and help predict, prevent, and manage water-related crises such as floods, fires, and droughts.

Key words: Climate Change, Water Management, Climate Resilience, Earth Observation, Space Technology, Innovation Procurement.

What do we offer? Up to €12M in PCP funding through a competitive, phased process supporting the design, prototyping, and field testing of innovative EO-based water management solutions across Europe.

How to apply? All tenders must be submitted in English using the [e-Procurement platform](#).



Target Applicants: Civil engineers, climate services and technologies innovators, EO data specialists and remote sensing companies, AI and data science experts, hydrologists, meteorologists, legal and contracting experts, etc.

Application Deadline: 7 Jan 2026 (17:00 CET)



Use Case 1: Urban Drought

Drought linked to groundwater distribution issues in Northwestern Europe. Aims to limit shortages affecting infrastructure and living conditions.



Use Case 2: Urban Flooding

Excess water in Eastern and Northern Europe, impacting infrastructure. Aims at managing storage and infiltration, aggravated by factors such as rising water levels.



Use Case 3: Rural Drought

Extreme climate variations in Northeastern Europe, affecting agriculture and nature. Aims to mitigate risks of wildfires and production losses.



Use Case 4: Rural Drought & Flooding

In Southern Europe, prolonged droughts and heavy rainfall disrupt agricultural processes. Aims to address major production challenges.



Use Case 5: Rural Drought & Flooding

In Northeastern Europe, extreme groundwater conditions threaten soils and infrastructure. Aims to establish moisture management to prevent oxidation and peat fires.



Davoud Omarzadeh



omarzadeh@ieec.cat



Driving Innovation Together in the Kyoto Industrial Leading Zone and Post-Expo City at Keihanna Science City

Who we are? ATR, a core institute on research and innovation in Keihanna Science City

What do we need? We need innovative solutions that can contribute to the two initiatives — the Kyoto Industrial Creation Leading Zone (Content, Agri-Food, and Health & Sports) and the Post-Expo City — to shape the future together.

Key words: Kyoto Industrial Creation Leading Zone, Post-Expo City, Seamless Society, Innovation Co-creation, Kyoto–Catalonia Collaboration, Innovation talent development and Decarbonization technologies

What do we offer? Access to Industries, Investors, R&D entities and our acceleration program KGAP+

How to apply? Send a company short description to bdo-staff@atr.jp

Target Applicants: Startups, SMEs, Research institutions, and Universities

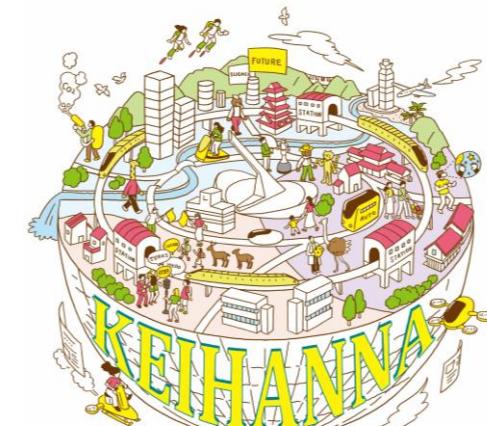
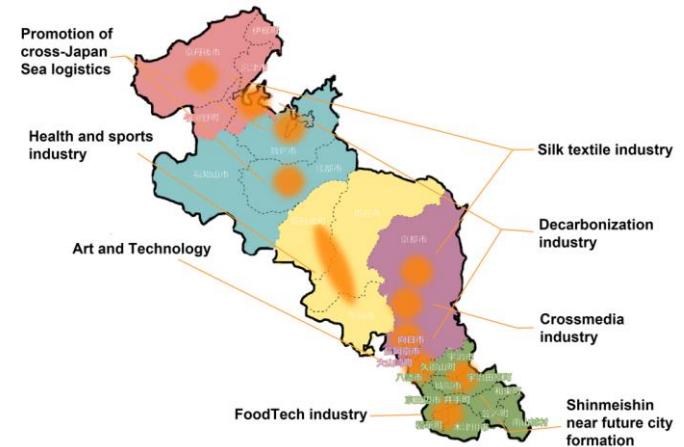
Application Deadline: N/A



Hiroyuki Suzuki



bdo-staff@atr.jp



BlueTechPort. Blue Economy Innovation Hub

Who we are? BlueTechPort is the innovation hub for the blue economy. Driven by the Port of Barcelona and managed by World Trade Center Barcelona.

What do we need? We are looking for startups, technology centres, and innovation hubs from large companies that are seeking synergies, collaborations, and co-development opportunities in the blue economy sector.

Key words: Innovation, technology, marine technology, marine renewable energies, marine biotechnology, sustainable aquaculture, marine tourism, ocean observation and monitoring technologies, robotics, among others.

What do we offer? A collaborative ecosystem and innovation hub where companies can work, connect, and grow. We provide access to testing facilities to validate technologies, innovation programs, financial support, and a vibrant blue economy community.

How to apply? www.bluetechpor.com

Target Applicants: Startups, tech centres and innovation hubs from companies.

Application Deadline: 31/12/2026



Rita Almela



bluetechport@wtcbarcelona.cat



AI solutions for Greater Paris Metropolis

Who we are? The greater Paris is a dense urban inter-municipality representing 130 cities and 7,2 million inhabitants

What do we need? AI solutions to deploy in cities addressing urban policy challenges such as water management, noise pollution, and economic development.

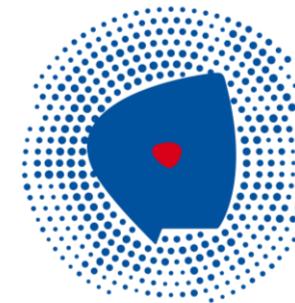
Key words: AI, Big data, Urban, Public policies, Cities, Water, Noise

What do we offer? PoC, Project funding to a 12 months experimentation in cities, with potential to scale across the entire metropolitan area. Opportunity to be featured in the Greater Metropolis AI Solutions Catalogue, accessible to 130 cities.

How to apply? Contact by email for more details.

Target Applicants: Startups, Research institutions

Application Deadline: none



**Métropole
du
Grand Paris**



Pauline BOULAY



pauline.boulay@metropolegrandparis.fr



InnoMatch: de-risking Innovation Procurement

Who we are? European Innovation Council, Innovation Procurement Programme

What do we need? European Innovation Council awardees (EICs) and public and private buyers of innovation to conduct pilots and proof of concepts.

Key words: bottom-up needs, sector agnostic.

What do we offer? For EIC awardees - €60.000 to fund your pilot activities with a strategic buyer in a 12-month programme. For buyers - Address a relevant corporate challenge for free in collaboration with a top-tier supplier.

How to apply? InnoMatch website (QR code)

Target Applicants: Horizon Europe EIC Awardees (EIC Transition, Pathfinder, Accelerator, EIC Prizes).

Application Deadline: 04 February 2026 - 17:00 CET (TBC)



EIC INNOVATION PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME



Elena López

info@innomatchproject.eu



Developing a Smart City platform for Rome – Governance and Citizen Participation

Who we are? Consulta Roma Smart City Lab

What do we need? The goal of the project is to promote the active participation of entities and stakeholders involved in the digital transition process to achieve the objectives of the Rome Smart City Plan.

Key words: Digital Transition, Active Participation, Roma Smart City

What do we offer? The digital platform we want to develop will enable citizens to report issues, submit proposals, and actively engage in public decision-making.

How to apply? We invite submissions of ideas for the Digital Platform from individuals or organizations who have developed similar platforms or anyone with innovative proposals. Please send your ideas to: segreteria.presidente@labsmartcityroma.it

Target Applicants: Stakeholders, Companies, Citizens,



Leandro Aglieri



segreteria.presidente@labsmartcityroma.it



Digital twin disruptive development for complex, congenital care (3Dx3C)

Who we are? Vall d'Hebron University Hospital

What do we need? We seek partners to co-develop digital-twins solutions to offer more personalized treatment in complex and congenital care. We are looking for expertise in mechanistic and AI models, physiological processes simulation, advanced medical image processing, computer vision applied to healthcare.

Key words: Digital Twins, AI, Personalized medicine

What do we offer? Up-to 36 months contract to co-develop and validate digital twins-based solutions in a clinical environment. Access to clinical data, direct collaboration with service-providers and expert healthcare professionals

How to apply? Starting in 2026, Vall hebron University hospital will launch a public tender, which will be published in <https://contractaciopublica.cat/ca/inici>

Target Applicants: SMEs, Startups and large corporations

Application Deadline: To be defined



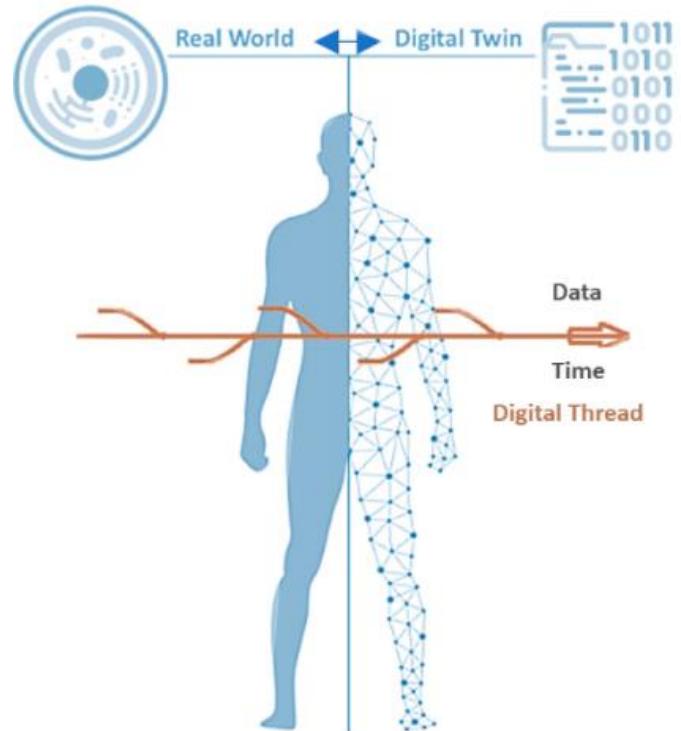
Laura Escot Garcia



laura.escot@vallhebron.cat



/Salut



Fondo CCI: Latin America's First Govtech Fund

Who we are? Corlab, the Public Innovation and Govtech Laboratory of Córdoba's Municipality part of the Secretariat for Smart Cities and Digital Transformation.

What do we need? Innovative govtech startups interested in receiving **investment**, settling in the City of Córdoba and implementing their solutions to solve real public challenges.

Key words: Govtech, public challenges, SDGs, smart city, open innovation.

What do we offer? Equity investment and the opportunity to pilot and scale your solution in one of Latin America's leading smart cities.

How to apply? Through the next "Fondo CCI" open call (QR code).

Target Applicants: Early-stage innovative startups, technology-based ventures, businesses interested in soft-landing in Córdoba.

Application Deadline: Q1 2026



Hernán Perin

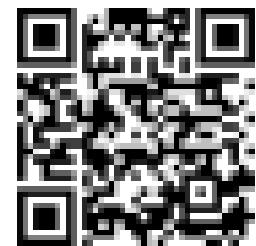


corlab@cordoba.gov.ar

hernanmatias.perin@gmail.com



**Fondo Córdoba
Ciudad Inteligente**



 Secretaría de
Ciudad Inteligente y
Transformación Digital



 Municipalidad
de Córdoba



ACCIÓ: Catalonia Open Challenges



← → 🔍 openchallenges.acciogencat.cat

Catalonia Open Challenges

Home Companies Marketplace Agenda

Online

Catalonia Open Challenges



Challenges, market demands, searches for partners and international trade and innovation opportunities for Catalan companies

Catalonia Open Challenges

Welcome to the Catalonia Open Challenges platform!

This space is the meeting point for those who pose challenges and those who generate opportunities between Catalan and international companies and organizations.

Here you will be able to publish, as well as find and present yourself to different international business challenges and opportunities:

- **Open Innovation Challenges:** challenges from different companies, administrations, and large corporations, Catalan and from all over the world, looking for innovative solutions and proposals.

LOCATION
Online

ORGANISED BY

ACCIÓ
Catalonia Trade & Investment

Generalitat de Catalunya

enterprise europe network

Thank you!

Networking 30'

ACCIÓ Barcelona

 inint.acci@gencat.cat

 International Innovation Program

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

 [@Enterprise Europe Netowrk Spain](https://www.linkedin.com/company/enterprise-europe-network-spain)

 www.een.cat

Contact us!

934 767 206

info.acci@gencat.cat

Passeig de Gràcia, 129
08008 Barcelona

acci.gencat.cat
catalonia.com

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 accio_cat
@Catalonia_TI

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