



RESPONSE

Integrated Solutions for Positive Energy
and Resilient Cities

Integrated Solutions for Positive
Energy and Resilient Cities

Dijon 3rd Open2Horizon Innovation Challenge

GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS



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1 Introduction

The RESPONSE project, funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 957751, foresees as an eligible activity the provision of financial support to third parties to achieve its own objectives. This document provides a set of information and rules regarding the 3rd Open2Horizon Innovation Challenge of Dijon Métropole in the framework of the RESPONSE project (hereinafter referred to as the "Guide for Participants").

1.1 RESPONSE in a nutshell

Funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, RESPONSE is a 60-month project (1st October 2020 to 30th September 2025) that aims to establish a strategic vision for Smart Cities Energy Transition: Climate-neutral cities by 2050.

RESPONSE aims to turn energy sustainability into a doable vision by solving the energy trilemma (security, equity/affordability, environmental sustainability) at building, block and district levels in smart cities. The project builds upon intelligent integrated and interconnected energy systems coupled with demand-oriented city infrastructures, governance models and services that foster energy sustainability.

RESPONSE supports the lighthouse cities of Dijon (FR) and Turku (FI) and their fellow cities, Brussels (BE), Zaragoza (ES), Botosani (RO), Ptolemaida (GR), Gabrovo (BU), and Severodonetsk (UA) to facilitate them deliver positive energy blocks and districts. It attracts the interest of various stakeholders by generating innovative business models, enabling the upscale and replication of the solutions forming a validated roadmap for sustainable cities across Europe and beyond. The overall focus of the project is to create resilient and safer cities whilst increasing the quality of life and lowering the impacts of climate change.

The consortium of RESPONSE is led by the European Institute for Energy Research (EIFER) Germany and comprises a total of 54 partners.

More information can be found on the project's website: www.H2020Response.eu or on social media: @H2020RESPONSE.

2 Innovative challenge in Dijon

2.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this Guide for Participants (and the Sub-Grant Agreement, where relevant), terms beginning with a capital letter have the following definitions:

- "Organizer(s)": means individually or jointly the City of Dijon and Dijon métropole municipality, supported by Cap Digital cluster.
- "Event": means this Open2Horizon Innovation Challenge organised by the city of Dijon, which is the subject of this Guide for Participants.
- "Proposals": means the solutions submitted by the Participants to the City of Dijon in accordance with **Section 2.5**, in order to respond to the challenge submitted in the context of the Event.
- "Participant(s)": means any SME or start-up that has submitted its application and Proposal in the framework of this Event.
- "Winner": means the winning Participant, which will receive a grant to develop and test its solution, in accordance with **Section 2.7**.
- "Sub-Grant Agreement": means the sub-grant agreement that the Winner will sign with the City of Dijon to determine the conditions of financial support for the implementation of the winning solution and their mutual rights and obligations. A model of this agreement is provided at the following link: <https://h2020response.eu/hackathons/3rd-innovation-challenge-dijon/>.

2.2 Description of the challenge, date, place

Innovation challenges are organized by Dijon Métropole within the open innovation scheme of RESPONSE. They aim at identifying and selecting innovative projects related to the objectives of the RESPONSE project in terms of climate transition as well as smart and resilient city transformation. The best project will be supported financially in order to develop and test the solution in real conditions in Dijon.

The third Open Innovation Challenge will address the following issue:

How can biodiversity be monitored on a territorial scale to meet the strategic objectives set out in the territorial climate, air and energy plan, which includes a biodiversity section and covers all nature-based solutions?

Dijon Métropole, via the *Museum d'Histoire Naturelle* de Dijon (Dijon Museum of Natural History), has observation data from field surveys and observational data from natural heritage collections. Targeted inventory campaigns have been carried out in the area in recent years by experts and the general public, with the aim of gaining a detailed understanding of local biodiversity conservation issues. The aim is to adapt the management and development of areas to take account of this information and to share insights widely to raise public awareness of the challenges of the local biodiversity conservation in the territory. In spring 2024, an urban nature study ("*Nature en ville*") has been started to characterise the habitats in over 60 representative sites on the Dijon territory. Delivery is scheduled for December 2024.

It has been decided by the City Council of Dijon métropole to integrate the biodiversity challenge in the Climate Plan update and the climate objectives of Dijon. To this end, a Dijon métropole Climate and Biodiversity Observatory is currently under consideration. Dijon métropole now requires a tool to manage the biodiversity actions and indicators in line with its Climate Plan¹ and to complement a toolkit already under development in the RESPONSE project which covers other Climate Plan indicators.

The tool to be developed in the scope of the Open Innovation Challenge should:

- Make the best use of the raw data derived from existing and future biodiversity studies;
- "Tell the story" of biodiversity in Dijon métropole's territory for a variety of audiences: political decision-makers, private players involved in the Climate Plan, city servants and the general public;
- Report on the evolution of biodiversity in the city and of the impact of actions to protect biodiversity on the basis of historical data provided by the Natural History Museum;
- Support Dijon métropole in monitoring the biodiversity objectives of the Climate Plan, in order to help with reporting and taking actions.

Participants of the Open Innovation Challenge also have to:

- Develop indicators that summarise the raw data and are compatible with relevant regional and national indicators;
- Define impact indicators on the effects of actions performed by local stakeholders to protect the area's biodiversity;
- Document the methodology used to calculate the above indicators.

All local datasets and regional and national indicators will be made available by the Natural History Museum to all participants.

¹ <https://www.dijon-metropole.fr/actualites/plan-climat-air-energie-territorial-de-dijon-metropole/> ; https://www.dijon-metropole.fr/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2024/02/Synthese_contribution-Plan-Climat-2024-Codev.pdf ; <https://www.dijon-metropole.fr/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2024/04/Livre-blanc-de-la-concertation-sur-le-plan-climat.pdf>

2.3 Schedule

I - SELECTION PHASE	
09.09.2024	1.1 Release of the call for project
	<i>Online</i>
16.09.2024	Webinar “Question-answer session”
	<i>Online</i>
25.10.2024, 22:00h CET	1.2 Deadline for application
	<i>Online</i>
Early November 2024	Analysis of the applications
12.11.2024	Preselection committee and announcement of the 3 selected projects for the Pitch Day
06.12.2024	1.3 Pitch Day
	<i>In-person in Dijon or online</i>
II - IMPLEMENTATION PHASE	
Early December 2024	2.1 Sub Grant Agreement
	The Winner will sign a Sub-Grant Agreement with the City of Dijon to determine the conditions of financial support for the implementation of the winning solution and their mutual rights and obligations.
January 2025	Kick-Off Meeting
	<i>In person.</i>
January-March 2025	2.2 Prototyping
	<i>Progress report meeting every two weeks Online. Schedule and modalities to be agreed during the kick-off meeting</i>
April - June 2025	2.3 Experimentation
	<i>The developed solution will be tested in real conditions. Note: the experimentation phase may start earlier if the prototype is ready and validated before March 24. Progress report online meeting every two weeks. Schedule and modalities to be agreed during the kick-off meeting.</i>
June-July 2025	2.4 Final Meeting – analysis and feedback
	<i>In person</i>

2.4 Who can join?

This challenge is open to SMEs and startups (staff headcount < 250 and turnover < 50M€) registered in EU Member States or H2020 Associated Countries.

Registration link: <https://openinnovationchallenges.h2020response.eu/#/auth/login>

2.5 Where, when and how to apply?

Application must be submitted in English or in French on [the registration platform](#) by **25 October 2024 at 22:00h CET**.

Participants must provide:

- An executive summary (max. 1 page)
- The description of the company (max. 2 pages), incl. VAT number;
- The signed Declaration of Honour;
- The description of the solution proposed and the way the participants intend to reach the specifications (max. 5 pages). This description must in particular detail the following points: functionalities; targeted users; relevance of the solution to foster the empowerment of inhabitants; relevance of the solution to provide to the community useful tools to monitor the carbon reduction path of the territory; technical features; UX/UI; possible versioning of the solution to provide additional features;
- The presentation of the participant's team who will work on the project (max 2 pages);
- Some references of similar projects led by the team members (max 2 pages).

All documents must be provided in PDF format.

2.6 Evaluation process

The evaluation process will be held in two phases:

- A preselection will be done on the basis of the application file in order to select the 3 participants who will be invited to present their project to the final jury during the Pitch Day.
- The 3 selected participants will present their project to the final jury either in person in Dijon or in videoconference (the precise address and video link will be provided to the selected candidates after the preselection committee). Each presentation will be held in English or in French and will last ½ hour (15 minutes of presentation + 15 minutes of Q&A). Participants are allowed to present a slideshow, video, demo and/or any other presentation media during their pitch.

Applications will be ranked according to the same criteria for preselection and selection phases:

Company: 40 pts

- Technical capacity: 10 pts
- Financial capacity: 10 pts
- References: 10 pts
- Specific expertise: 10 pts

Team: 20 pts

- Skills experience and qualifications: 10 pts
- Relevance with the project: 10 pts

Project: 40pts

- Comprehension of the needs and issues: 10 pts

- Relevance of the proposed solution: 10 pts
- Comprehensiveness of the solution to fulfil the needs: 10 pts
- Ability to develop the solution during the time of the challenge: 10 pts

Potential of implementation of the solution after the experimentation (technical capacity, business model, etc.): 20 pts

The jury will be composed of:

- Representatives of Dijon Métropole and the dedicated municipality department
- Representatives of the RESPONSE local consortium
- Representatives of the local businesses and/or the higher education

In accordance with **Section 2.8** on confidentiality, the jury members will be bound by an individual confidentiality agreement.

2.7 Awarding of prizes

In accordance with the modalities defined in the Sub-Grant Agreement, the winner will be awarded 25 000€ to develop and test the solution.

The prize will be paid in three instalments:

- 10 000€ at the beginning of the prototyping phase
- 10 000€ at the beginning of the experimentation phase (a prototype will be provided: a video presentation or a slideshow presentation of the prototype to grant the payment)
- 5 000€ at the end of the experimentation phase (the demonstrator with its documentation will be provided as deliverable to grant the payment)

2.8 Confidentiality

The term "Confidential Information" means any information or knowledge of any kind whatsoever (and in particular financial, commercial, technical, scientific), disclosed in any manner whatsoever (and in particular, without limitation, by oral, visual, written or electronic means) by the city of Dijon (or by any entity mandated by it to take part in the Event) to one or more Participants in the context of the Event, and identified as being confidential.

Proposals sent by Participants to the Organizers for the purposes of this Event are also confidential information, subject to the provisions of **Section 2.8 a)**.

The Confidential Information of the Organizers remains its exclusive property, and the Proposals remain the exclusive property of the corresponding Participant. Without prejudice to **Section 2.9**, the transmission of Confidential Information shall in no way be construed as a license, assignment or transfer of any intellectual Property Rights, patents, trademarks, copyrights, designs, trade secrets or know-how, nor as a waiver by the Organizers (or by the Participant, as appropriate) of any Intellectual Property Right in the Confidential Information transmitted. The Organizers only grants a simple right of use to the Participants for the purposes of the Event.

However, the following shall not be considered Confidential Information:

- Any information known to the Participant prior to its disclosure by the Organizers, as well as any information known to the Organizers prior to the receipt of the Proposal concerned;
- Any information that the Participant (or the Organizers, as appropriate) can prove was or became publicly available without any breach of confidentiality on his part;

- Any information that the Participant (or the Organizers, as appropriate) obtained from a third party without, to the knowledge of the Participant (or the Organizers, as appropriate), that third party owing a duty of confidentiality to the Organizers (or the participant concerned, as appropriate);
- Any information that has been independently developed by the Participant (or the Organizers, as appropriate) without relying on the confidential information disclosed by the Organizers (or by the Participant, as appropriate).

The respective confidentiality obligations of the Participants and the Organizers are as follows:

a) With regard to the Proposals submitted by Participants to take part in the Event, the Organizers undertakes, for a period of 5 (five) years from the date of their receipt:

- to keep the Proposals strictly confidential and not to disclose them to third parties;
- not to use them, in whole or in part, for any purpose other than the realisation of the Event;
- not to make any copy, reproduction or duplication of the Proposals without the written consent of the Participant concerned, and to take all measures to avoid any unauthorised disclosure.

As an exception, the Winner accepts that the Organizers may communicate on the winning solution in accordance with the provisions of **Section 2.11**. Specific confidentiality obligations will however be agreed in the Sub-Grant Agreement, so as to protect the information considered confidential by the Winner in the context of the development of its winning solution.

The Organizers also undertakes to have each member of the jury sign individual confidentiality agreements whose confidentiality obligations will be as binding as those contained in this agreement.

b) With regard to Confidential Information disclosed by the Organizers (or any entity mandated by it) for the purposes of the Event: each Participant undertakes, for a period of 5 (five) years after the end of the RESPONSE project (i.e. until September 30, 2030):

- to keep strictly confidential the Confidential Information made available to it during the Event, and not to disclose it to third parties;
- not to use, in whole or in part, the said Confidential Information for any purpose other than the realisation of the Event;
- not to copy, reproduce or duplicate such Confidential Information, and to take all measures to avoid any unauthorised disclosure.

2.9 Ownership of the results

In accordance with **Section 2.8**, the Proposals submitted to the Organizers by the Participants in the framework of the Event remain their exclusive property.

In accordance with the Sub-grant Agreement, the results that will be generated by the Winner during the development of its solution and for which the grant is awarded (hereinafter the "Project Results") will be its exclusive property.

The Winner will however grant the City of Dijon a licence to use the Project Results for the purpose of their implementation on the territory of the City of Dijon. This licence of use will be granted free of charge for a period of twelve (12) months, for the needs of the experimentation (Phase 2 of the challenge, see **Section 2.3**). It will be non-exclusive, non-transferable and without any right of sub-licence (unless otherwise agreed). After the expiry of this period,

the City of Dijon may request, if it so wishes, a licence to use the Results of the Project under normal commercial conditions, for the duration requested by it and for the purposes of implementing the Project Results on its territory.

Non-infringement of third-party rights: Participants must ensure that their ideas and solutions do not infringe any third-party rights, such as patents, trademarks, or copyrights. The Organizers are not liable for any infringement by the participants.

2.10 Data protection

The personal data of the Participants (including those of their employees who take part in the Event) such as first name, surname, date of birth, corporate name, address, email address and possibly photos, video and sound recordings (in accordance with **Section 2.11**) are collected, processed and stored by the Organizers at the time of registration and during the course of the Event.

The purposes of this processing are:

- To meet the needs of organizing the Event
- To communicate about the event, according to **Section 2.11**.

This processing excludes any commercial use or trading of personal data.

The Participant gives its consent to the processing of its personal data as defined in this section, and authorizes the Organizers to send it information about the Event and similar events that could be organized in the future by the City of Dijon.

In accordance with the regulations in force, resulting from “*la loi n°78-17 du 6 janvier 1978 modifiée*” and the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of April 27, 2016, known as “*RGPD*”, the Participants have a right to access, rectify, and delete their personal data, as well as a right to the limitation of the processing and to the portability of data. They also have the right to be forgotten, the right to object on legitimate grounds to the processing of data concerning them, and the right to withdraw their consent at any time.

- To exercise any of these rights, the request must be made in writing to the Organizer at the address mentioned in **Section 2.16**.
- It is reminded that Participants may lodge a complaint with the *Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés* (CNIL) concerning the processing of their personal data in the framework of the Event.

The personal data of the Participants will be collected and kept for a period of two (2) years from the registration to the Event, and then deleted, except for data that have been publicly disclosed.

2.11 Communication, right to name, image and sound recording

Subject to the confidentiality obligations of **Section 2.8**, the Participant acknowledges and agrees that the Organizer may, for the whole world and for a period of two (2) years from the registration to the Event, use the Event (including the winning solution) for communication purposes, whatever the format, the means and the support (website, social networks, newsletter, press release, etc.).

To do so, the Participant gives their consent and authorizes the Organizer - and any person acting under their control - to use their corporate name (including its commercial name, if any), name, first name, and to publish all photographs, images and videos taken during the Event. For this purpose, the Participant entity undertakes to collect the corresponding rights from its employees who will participate in the Event.

This use does not give right to any remuneration and does not require any additional consent from the Participant.

2.12 Warranties and liability

Participants are solely responsible for any damage caused by them, their employees or their equipment to property or persons during the Event and are responsible for their own insurance coverage accordingly, as well as the insurance coverage of their own employees for any damage of injury they may suffer during their participation to the Event. Participants are solely responsible for their hardware and software, of which they retain custody, and for any damage that may occur to their hardware and software during the Event. It is expressly reminded that the Internet is not a secure network. The Organizers declines any responsibility for the consequences of the Participants' connection to the Internet. The Organizers cannot be held responsible for any damage caused to Participants, their computer equipment and the data stored there. In case of loss or theft of an object, the Organizers declines all responsibility.

The Participants waive any recourse against the City of Dijon concerning the conditions of the organization of the Event, its progress and its Results. The decisions taken by the jury are final and are binding on all Event Participants. The Participants have no right to a justification of these decisions.

The Participant undertakes to provide, in his registration form for the Event, real and serious information about himself. The City of Dijon reserves the right to exclude from participation in this Event any person who disrupts its progress.

2.13 Compliance with European Commission requirements

The Winner is an indirect beneficiary of European Commission funding under the RESPONSE project. As such, it must comply with the obligations arising from the specific requirements of the European Commission. In particular:

- *Conflicts of interest:* The Winner must not have any potential conflict of interest;
- *Confidentiality:* The Winner must keep confidential the Confidential Information brought to its knowledge in the framework of the Event for a period of five (5) years after the end of the RESPONSE project;
- *Visibility of the EU funding:* Publicity of the prize by winning teams must include the EU emblem, the RESPONSE project logo and the sentence acknowledging that: "The prize was awarded by RESPONSE project, which has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 957751".
- *Financial audits:* The European Commission may, at any time during the implementation of the RESPONSE project and up to five years after the end, organize financial audits. The Winner may be required to make directly available to the EC all detailed information and data that may be requested by the EC or any representative authorized by it.

2.14 Acceptance and modifications of this Guide and the Sub-Grant Agreement

a) The submission of the application form implies the full acceptance of this Guide for Participants and the Sub-Grant Agreement by the Participant.

b) The Guide for Participants and the Sub-Grant Agreement are accessible on the website <https://h2020response.eu/hackathons/3rd-innovation-challenge-dijon/>

c) The Organizers may extend, shorten or modify this competition if required by the circumstances, for whatever reason, without compensation for any moral or financial damage for the Participants.

This Guide for Participants and the Sub-Grant Agreement may be modified or supplemented at any time without prior notice by the Organizers.

Any possible modification of this Guide for Participants and/or the Sub-Grant Agreement will be communicated to all Participants in the competition via <https://h2020response.eu/hackathons/3rd-innovation-challenge-dijon/> within a maximum period of 5 working days following the modification and will be automatically applied to the Participants from the date of its deposit.

Any Participant will be considered to have accepted it by the simple fact of their participation in the competition, from the date of entry into force of the modification. Any Participant refusing the modification(s) made must stop participating in the competition.

The Organizers reserve the right to take any decisions they may consider useful for the application and interpretation of the Guide for Participants.

The Organizers may inform the Participants by email.

2.15 Applicable law

The Innovative Challenge and the Guide for Participants are subject to French law. In case of dispute concerning the Guide for Participant, the competent court is the one of Dijon, France.

2.16 Contact

For any questions regarding this Innovation challenge, please contact: openinnovation@capdigital.com.



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