

The III Circular Innovation Hackathon mobilises VET talent to tackle six real-world circular transition challenges

Palma, 30 September 2026. On 3 and 4 November, the **III Circular Innovation Hackathon** will bring together up to 150 vocational education and training (VET) students from across the Balearic Islands for 24 hours of intensive work on solutions to six real-world challenges set by island-based companies.

The initiative is jointly organised by IMPULSA BALEARS and the Regional Ministry of Education and Universities, through the Balearic Islands Centre for Vocational Education and Training, Innovation and Development (CFINFP-IB), and this year takes place within **re^N · Balear Circular Hub**.

This third edition brings together, for the first time, the experience and track record of the Circular Innovation Hackathon and Hackató InnovaFP, previously run as separate initiatives. Bringing the two together strengthens connections between talent, VET and business, while increasing the capacity to address specific challenges in the Balearic Islands' circular transition.

■ From the Roadmap to real-world challenges

The Circular Innovation Hackathon is one of the ways **re^N · Balear Circular Hub** activates co-creation around challenges linked to the circular transition.

In this edition, **Angel24, Bongrup, Estel, HBX Group, Melchor Mascaró** and **Sampol Ingeniería y Obras** will set six challenges drawn from their own operations, inviting participating teams to explore fresh approaches and turn them into creative, viable and practical proposals.

The challenges will span the six priority areas of the **Roadmap for the transition towards a circular tourism system in the Balearic Islands**: water, energy, food, materials, mobility and land-sea.

In this way, the hackathon turns shared circular-transition priorities into concrete challenges on which businesses, students, teachers and professionals can work together.

Antoni Riera, Technical Director of IMPULSA BALEARS, said:

The III Circular Innovation Hackathon allows us to keep activating re^N in a very tangible way: bringing talent, business and knowledge together around real-world challenges and channelling those capabilities into new solutions.

■ Talent and capabilities to create new solutions

The competition will take place at the Playa Garden Selection Hotel in Platja de Muro, with Garden Hotels as Boost Partner, and will bring together up to 30 multidisciplinary teams representing a wide range of VET fields.

Over 24 hours, teams will be supported by teacher-mentors and professionals from the participating companies. The aim is to combine technical expertise, creativity and collaborative working to analyse the challenges, test ideas and develop proposals with real-world potential.

At the end of the hackathon, teams will pitch their solutions to a jury. The best proposal for each of the six challenges will receive a €1,000 prize, a certificate of recognition and support to promote the solution developed.

Beyond the competition itself, the **Circular Innovation Hackathon** is designed as a mechanism for mobilising collective intelligence, connecting capabilities and exploring solutions that can grow into new lines of work, collaborations or pilot projects.

Under the theme «**Vocational education and training talent for the circular transition**», this third edition puts VET capabilities to work on challenges shaping the competitiveness and transformation of the Balearic Islands economy.

Registration is individual, places are limited, and applications will remain open until 7 October 2026.

The rules, registration form and full details of the **III Circular Innovation Hackathon** are available on **re^N · Balear Circular Hub**.

About re^N · Balear Circular Hub

re^N · Balear Circular Hub connects stakeholders, knowledge and capabilities around the Balearic Islands' circular transition, using the circular Roadmap as its main framework for direction and implementation. Its offer is structured around action spaces, resources, participation, monitoring, training, events and community.