



101035892 – REC-N-COMP- COS-CLOSINT-2020-3-01-1



CALL FOR PITCHES

JAPAN MISSION

Publication date: 28 February 2023

REC-N-COMP CALL FOR PITCHES

Ready, Steady...Explore!

Within the REC-N-COMP project, co-funded by the COSME programme of the European Union, we are launching a Call For Pitches in order to select a group of SMEs that will take part in an international mission to Japan.

We welcome SMEs from selected sectors and Countries to take part in the Call and present their Pitch in the specified time frame. The REC-N-COMP Call For Pitches is a unique opportunity for the selected SMEs to participate in an international mission and expand their internationalization strategy, offering networking and business opportunities.

Submissions are open from Tuesday 28 February to Monday 20 March 2023.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The REC-N-COMP project, co-funded by the COSME Programme of the European Union, will support the internationalization of European SMEs having recently set-up, fine-tuned and consolidated their business in the production of recycled-based composites and/or sustainable recycled materials and their manufacturing technologies, using as input materials end-of-life waste coming from different sectors as Textile&Clothing, Automotive and Furniture. The project partnership will implement and test a joint internationalization strategy for SMEs of recycled-based composites value chain towards specific third markets: the USA, Japan and Singapore (hereinafter: the destination countries). **This call is specifically opened for the mission in Japan.**

The partners of the projects are:

- Next Technology Tecnotessle (Italy)
- Cluster Legno Arredo e Sistema Casa FVG (Italy)
- Techtera (France)
- Flanders Make (Belgium),
- PGM - Polska Grupa Motoryzacyjna (Poland)

and they are hereby referred as the Organizing Partners.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The REC-N-COMP Call For Pitches is open to all SMEs having or planning to set up their activity in the field of recycled-based composites and/or sustainable recycled materials and related technologies using end-of-life materials from the sectors of Textile&Clothing, Automotive or Furniture and with headquarters or a branch office in either Italy, France, Belgium or Poland. We are going to select SMEs looking for an opportunity to take part in an international mission to Japan. The objective of the mission is to develop networks and

relationships between companies and other stakeholders to create new business opportunities in the field of recycled-based and sustainable materials for composite. The mission will take place from 15 May 2023 till 19 May 2023 (travel excluded).

The companies submitting an application must be SMEs according to the EU legislation and have headquarters or a branch office in one of the Partners countries (Italy, France, Belgium or Poland). Being a member of one of the Organizing Partners' clusters will be considered a rewarding criteria in the selection.

THE MISSION TO JAPAN

While in Japan, the REC-N-COMP team will provide the participants with a series of activities to bring together SMEs and other stakeholders, with the high potentiality of collaboration in technological innovation and technology transfer.

The official mission will contain the following activities:

- B2B meetings with local companies
- Individual meetings with local stakeholders
- C2C meetings (cluster to cluster) and agreements signature
- Visit to companies, research labs, incubators or agencies/associations
- Visit to the fair [Highly-Functional Material Week – Plastic Japan](#)

The draft agenda of the mission is the following:

Day 1 – Tokyo Monday 15 May 2023	Day 2 – Tokyo Tuesday 16 May 2023	Day 3 –Tokyo Wednesday 17 May 2023	Day 4 – Osaka Thursday 18 May 2023	Day 5 – Osaka, Friday 18 May 2023
Icebreaking workshop and lunch Meeting with the company PANECO	Collective B2B meetings Social Dinner with the METI.	B2B meetings with the JCFA – Japan Chemical Fiber Association - Travel to Osaka Social dinner – presentation of the Highly-functional material week	Meeting with the company Kuraray Visit of the Highly-Functional Material Week – Plastic Japan	Visit of the Highly-Functional Material Week – Plastic Japan - Final mission wrap-up

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The applications submitted shall be approved according to the following criteria:

- **Being a Small or Medium Enterprise** as defined in the **EU recommendation 2003/361** https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition_en
- **Having the headquarters or a branch in one of the Organizing Partners' countries: Italy, France, Belgium or Poland**

- Having set up or planning to set up their **activity in the field of recycled-based composites and/or sustainable recycled materials and related technologies using end-of-life materials from the sectors of Textile&Clothing, Automotive or Furniture.**

For any questions concerning eligibility, please contact leonardo.marchetti@tecnotex.it before the proposal submission.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

In order to be eligible for the Call, the following documents must be submitted starting from Tuesday 28 February 2023 and before the deadline of Monday 20 March 2023:

- The correct and complete filling of the following “Application Form”:
<https://forms.gle/1xGMGyev2y8KJV4t5>
- **3 Slides** to be prepared in accordance with the prefilled model including:
 1. Slide of company presentation explaining the key features of the company.
 2. Slide explaining the potential offer within the recycled-based composites and/or sustainable recycled materials sector for the selected country and the potential impact for the company applying; the quality level and ambition of the offer will also be assessed.
 3. Slide explaining the needs within the sector addressed to the selected country.

These slides must be submitted in .pdf format to the following email leonardo.marchetti@tecnotex.it with the subject “REC-N-COMP CallForPitches_ApplicationTitle_Company “

The Applicant form must be already filled when emailing the slides. The email receiving date and time will be considered as the submitting date. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to acknowledge receipt of the application.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

According to the specific provisions of the REC-N-COMP project (GA Number 101035892), the budget available and the countries of the partnership, a maximum of 7 SMEs will be selected and financed divided per country as follow:

- Maximum 3 from Italy
- Maximum 2 from Belgium
- Maximum 1 from France
- Maximum 1 from Poland

The applications submitted shall be assessed and selected according to the following criteria:

	Criteria	Max. Score
1	Quality of the value proposition of the offer/potential offer as expressed in the 2nd slide	20

2	Quality of the value proposition of the needs as expressed in the 3rd slide	20
3	Coherence of the offer proposed with the project's objective	25
4	Quality level and ambition of the offer	15
5	Being a member to one of the Clusters of the Project Partnership: Next Technology Tecnotessile (Italy), Cluster Legno Arredo e Sistema Casa FVG (Italy), Techtera (France), Flanders Make (Belgium), Polska Grupa Motoryzacyjna (Poland)	20
	Total	100

In case of equal score, priority will be given to the application sent first.

Each Applicant can send more than one Application choosing a different destination country. If an Applicant sends more than one Application for the same destination country, the last one sent will be considered for evaluation.

The applications submitted will be evaluated by the REC-N-COMP Steering Committee.

The results are planned to be published on the ECCP website by 22 March 2023.

WHY ENTER?

The Call for Pitches offers a unique opportunity for SMEs to participate in a mission to Japan.

The participants selected on the basis of the score assigned, will receive a lump sum to refund the costs for one person's trip to the destination country. The lump sum available for each single company the mission to **Japan** is 2,660.00 Euros.

In order to receive the lump sum the participants to a mission must provide evidences to have taken part in this activity presenting boarding tickets, hotel receipts and any other documents to able to prove the effective participation.

CALL FOR PITCHES TERMS & CONDITIONS

By submitting an Application to the REC-N-COMP Call for Pitches, you agree to accept and be bound by the following terms and conditions and acknowledge that failure to comply with them may result in disqualification.

Any enquiries relating to this Call for Pitches should be emailed to: leonardo.marchetti@tecnotex.it

DATE

All Applications should be submitted within the specific time frame:

From Tuesday 28 February 2023 00.01 AM (CET/UTC+1) to Monday 20 March 2023 11.59 PM (CET/UTC+1)

APPLICANTS

Each applicant must provide up to date and accurate contact information when submitting the entry to enable the REC-N-COMP partners to contact them for further information or update on the status of the entry before or after the Closing Date.

If there is any dispute as to the identity of an applicant, the Partners reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to determine the identity of the applicant.

ELEGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All the elements requested during the Application must be submitted in English.

The Organizing Partners accept no responsibility for submissions not received for any reason. The Partners reserve the right, at any time, to verify the validity of entrants (including an entrant's identity) and reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any individual who the Organizing Partners have reason to believe has breached any of these Terms and Conditions.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

By submitting to the Call for Pitches, the applicant grants the Organizing Partners the right to make their Applications available to the Steering Committee. By submitting to the Call for Pitches, the applicant grants the Organizing Partners the right to publish their pitch (in the form of 3 slides) as well as submitted application information, in the online platforms.

By applying to the Call for Pitches, the applicant grants to the Organizing Partners a non-exclusive, royalty free, perpetual right to use, publish, reproduce and reprint application images and descriptive text on a worldwide basis through all media (including print, digital, radio and social media).

Without limiting the above, each entrant acknowledges and agrees that this includes:

- Publication by the Organizing Partners (print and/or digital);
- Press releases announcing shortlisted applications and winners.

UNELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS

Applicants submissions received after the Closing Date and/or which are not in accordance with the entrant and entry requirements respectively will not be accepted.

OUTCOME

The Steering Committee's decisions will be final and no correspondence will be entered into in relation to their deliberations or decisions.

Entrants must direct any questions or comments in relation to the Call for Pitches' submissions to leonardo.marchetti@tecnotex.it

LIABILITY

Except for any liability that cannot by law be excluded, the Organizing Partners (including their respective employees and agents) are not responsible for and exclude all liability (including negligence) for any personal injury; or any loss or damage (including loss of opportunity); whether direct, indirect, special or consequential, arising in any way out of:

- any technical difficulties or equipment malfunction;
- any theft, unauthorized access or third-party interference;
- any submission that is late, lost, altered, damaged or misdirected (whether or not after their receipt by the Organizers) due to any reason beyond the control of the Organizing Partners;
- any tax liability incurred by the winner or entrant.

DATA PROTECTION AND GDPR

GDPR compliance: The General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679/EU) guarantee that the processing of data is carried out in compliance with the fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as the dignity of the data subject with particular reference to confidentiality, personal identity and the right to data protection. By applying, the applicant agrees on the storage and use of its personal data for the execution of the REC-N-COMP objectives and work plan.

Submitting an application to the REC-N-COMP Call for Pitches implies full, complete and unreserved acceptance of these regulations.

ORGANIZERS CONTACT DETAILS

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NTT

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