

Terms and Conditions of the Call for Applications

First Edition of GoZero – the Climate and Circularity Accelerator for Mediterranean SMEs

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

MedWaves, the Regional Activity Center for Sustainable Consumption and Production of UN Environment – Mediterranean Action Plan, within the framework of the [Switchers Support Programme](#) announces the first edition of **GoZero - the Climate and Circularity Accelerator for Mediterranean SMEs** (the “Programme”), aimed at companies in the textile and food sectors seeking to strengthen their sustainability and decarbonisation strategies through the adoption of circular economy practices.

Participation in the Programme constitutes full and unconditional acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.

2. PROGRAMMEMEME PURPOSE

The Programme is designed to provide up to **forty (40) selected companies** — twenty (20) from the textile and fashion sector and twenty (20) from the food sector — with expert guidance and practical tools to integrate circularity principles into their business models and reduce their carbon footprint.

2.1 Benefits for Participating Companies

- Gain a comprehensive diagnosis of your organization’s circularity, decarbonization, and environmental sustainability by calculating Scope 1 and 2 emissions along with other key environmental indicators.
- Develop a sustainability and decarbonization plan with prioritized action lines and key follow-up indicators.
- Gain access to a comprehensive suite of tools for evaluating environmental impacts and shaping sustainability and decarbonization strategies—including EcoPulse, a diagnostic tool for assessing circularity maturity, and Èdit, a premium carbon footprint calculator available for two years.
- Participate in a fully funded 3-day in-person Bootcamp—held in Tunisia for the textile sector and in Barcelona, Spain for the food sector—where you’ll learn about the latest trends and regulations on circular economy and decarbonisation, connect with key value chain stakeholders from across Europe and the MENA region, and visit leading reference companies.
- Access tailored services from a pool of experienced experts from [inèdit](#) to calculate your Scope 3 emissions, apply eco-design to your product, or implement a new business model.

3. PROGRAMMEMEME STRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The Programme will be carried out in a hybrid format and it’s structured in two Tracks, which together will require a dedication of approximately 60 hours:

3.1 Core Track

The ‘Core’ part of the Programme combines mentoring sessions, in-person activities and back-office work and it’s divided into four (4) phases:

- **Phase 1: Sustainability Diagnosis:**

An initial evaluation of how each participating company performs in terms of sustainability, circularity, and decarbonization will be conducted using a tailored diagnostic tool. Based on the results, specific circularity performance indicators will be defined for monitoring progress.

- **Phase 2: Defining the Sustainability Vision**

Participants will receive sector-specific training during a 3-day in-person Bootcamp covering the following topics: regulatory trends, circular business models and strategies, principles of eco-design and successful case studies. Guidance will also be provided on transparent environmental communication and how to avoid greenwashing. Based on the knowledge gained, the sustainability visions of the companies will be defined.

- **Phase 3: How to Get There?**

Following the assessment and the sustainable vision drafting, companies will define and prioritize actionable steps toward their sustainability goals. These actions will be selected based on their decarbonization potential and feasibility of implementation.

- **Phase 4: Implementation and Follow-Up**

Participating companies will proceed with the execution of their sustainability action plans. Three follow-up checkpoints will be held at three (3), six (6), and twelve (12) months after the conclusion of the Programme to assess implementation progress.

All participants are expected to complete key modules outlined in each Phase. Yet for companies aiming to fully leverage the tools and knowledge provided by the Programme, a set of complementary, optional modules will be available to them to explore independently.

3.2 Deep Dive Track

Once companies have completed the Core Track of the Programme, they will receive customised support to advance their sustainability goals and actions outlined in their personalized action plans. Up to 10 hours of technical support will be provided in the following areas:

- **Metrics:** Support in calculating or reviewing the organization's carbon footprint (Scopes 1–3).
- **Eco-Design:** Support in applying eco-design principles in a product or packaging.
- **Business Model Innovation:** Support in rethinking the business model (e.g., remanufacturing, servitization, take-back systems).

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for participation, companies must meet the following requirements:

- Operate in the textile or food sectors.
- Be a small-to-medium sized company, social enterprise, cooperative, non-profit cooperative or similar entities, that offer products or services in the market.
- Employ between six (6) and two hundred (200) individuals.
- Have an annual turnover between €100,000 and €15,000,000.
- Be legally registered and operating in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Spain and Tunisia.
- Have a minimum operational history of three (3) years.

Additional priority will be given to companies that:

- Are resource-intensive (e.g., use significant energy, water, or raw materials).
- Demonstrate motivation to advance in sustainability, circularity and decarbonization, even if lacking prior experience in the field.
- Involve physical product handling.
- Export products to the European Union (EU).
- Employ a significant percentage of women.

Programme participants must also meet the following staff-related criteria:

- Allocate at least sixty (60) hours to the Programme between September and December 2025.
- Have access to a computer and a reliable internet connection.
- Be available to travel and attend a three-day in-person Bootcamp.
- Fluency in spoken and written English is recommended. However, applicants with a basic level of English communication skills are also welcome to apply.

5. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

5.1 Application Submission

Applicants must complete the [official application form](#) by the deadline announced on the Programme's website. All information submitted must be accurate and complete. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

The application form includes several questions that are structured into the following four (4) criteria and add up to a maximum of 100 points:

- Company's profile:** position in the value chain, operational years, number of employees, number of women workers, annual turnover and main markets, steps(s) of the value chain in which the company is involved (0 to 35 points).
- Environmental criteria:** existence of environmental objectives, monitorization of environmental impacts, degree of familiarization with the concepts and practices of circular economy and decarbonisation, number of sustainability certifications (0 to 25 points).
- Motivations:** level of interest to improve environmental performance, kind of support the company values most, sustainability-related projects in mind (0 to 35 points).
- Participant profile:** women participation (0 to 5 points).

Some questions will be of exclusionary character as outlined in the Eligibility Criteria (Section 4). Others will be scored based on the answers provided. Certain questions will require a short, written response (100–300 words). Finally, some will be mandatory but not be awarded a score.

5.2 Pre-Selection Interview

Companies that pass the initial screening will be invited to a one-on-one virtual 15 minutes interview to further assess eligibility and alignment with the Programme's objectives.

5.3 Final Selection and Commitment

Selected and non-selected companies will be notified before July 31st, 2025. Selected companies must sign a formal **Letter of Commitment** to confirm their participation.

5.4 Programme Timeline Summary

- Application Deadline: June 27th
- Pre-selection Interviews: between July 9th and July 18th, 2025
- Notification of Acceptance: before July 31st, 2025
- Programme Duration:
 - Textile sector: September 15th, 2025 – early January 2026
 - Food sector: September 29th, 2025 – early February 2026
- Follow-ups: 3, 6, and 12 months after the closing call of the Programme

6. PARTICIPATION OBLIGATIONS AND EXCLUSION RIGHTS

Selected participants are required to engage in no less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the Programme's scheduled sessions and tasks and to attend the in-person Bootcamp in full. The Organizing Entity reserves the right to exclude any participant who fails to meet these obligations or otherwise violates the principles and spirit of the Programme.

7. MODIFICATIONS AND ANNEXES

MedWaves reserves the right to modify or amend these Terms and Conditions at any time, provided that such changes are justified, do not materially affect the participants' rights, and are communicated appropriately.

8. DATA PROTECTION

All personal data collected in connection with the Programme shall be processed by MedWaves and its affiliates in strict compliance with the new Regulation (EU) 2016/679, General Data Protection Regulation.

The purposes of data processing include: (i) managing participation and communication; (ii) verifying compliance with Programme requirements; (iii) documenting and promoting the Programme through various media outlets (web, social media, press, etc.); and (iv) maintaining engagement with Programme alumni.

Data subjects may exercise their rights to access, correct, delete, restrict, or object to the processing of their personal data by contacting the Programme Manager (contact information provided below).

9. IMAGE RIGHTS

By participating in the Programme and its events, participants expressly authorize MedWaves, its affiliates, and media partners to capture, reproduce, and publicly distribute their name, image, voice, and/or likeness via conventional and digital channels solely for purposes of documenting and promoting the Programme.

10. CONTACT INFORMATION

For all inquiries regarding the Programme or these Terms and Conditions, please contact:

Anna Ibañez De Arolas
Project Manager, MedWaves
 aibaneza@gencat.cat

Giorgio Mosangini
Team Leader, Green Entrepreneurship and Civil
Society, MedWaves
 gmosangini@gencat.cat