

Terms and Conditions of the Call for Applications

Second 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 **Second edition of GoZero - the Climate and Circularity Accelerator for Mediterranean SMEs** (the “Programme”), aimed at companies in the food sector 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. PROGRAMME PURPOSE

The Programme is designed to provide up to **twenty (20) selected food companies** with expert guidance and practical tools to integrate circularity principles into their business models and calculate their carbon footprint and decarbonization potential.

2.1 Benefits for Participating Companies

- Gain a comprehensive assessment of your organization’s circularity, decarbonization, and environmental sustainability through the calculation of Scope 1 and 2 emissions, as well as Scope 3 emissions based on economic emission factors.
- Develop a decarbonization plan with prioritized action lines and key follow-up indicators.
- Gain access to a comprehensive suite of tools for evaluating environmental impacts and defining sustainability and decarbonization strategies and action plans, along with a one-year license for [èdit](#), an online carbon footprint measurement tool.
- Participate in a **fully funded 3-day in-person Bootcamp —held in Morocco on 24-26th of November 2026—** where you’ll learn about the latest trends and regulations on circular economy and decarbonisation, connect with key stakeholders from across Europe and the MENA region, and visit leading companies.
- Access tailored services from a pool of experienced experts from the Barcelona-based consultancy, [inèdit](#).

3. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The Programme will be carried out in a hybrid format and will require a dedication of approximately 60 hours.

3.1 Core Programme

The Programme combines mentoring sessions, in-person activities and back-office work and it's divided into three (3) phases:

- **Phase 1: Sustainability Diagnosis**

An initial assessment of each participating company's performance in sustainability, circularity, and decarbonization will be conducted through the development of an **organizational Life Cycle Perspective diagram**, the definition of new **key performance indicators (KPIs)**, and the calculation of a simplified **organizational Carbon Footprint** for 2025.

- **Phase 2: Mapping Opportunities**

Participants will take part in a **3-day, in-person, sector-specific Bootcamp** covering key topics such as regulatory trends, circular business models and strategies, eco-design principles, successful case studies and transparent environmental communication. In addition, companies will be equipped with both theoretical and practical tools to support the development of decarbonization plans.

- **Phase 3: Decarbonization Plan**

Companies will identify and prioritize **actionable steps** toward their sustainability goals and **decarbonization plan**. These actions will be selected based on their decarbonization potential and feasibility of implementation.

An **Advisory Hours Package (up to 10 hours)** is included in the Programme and may be used throughout its three Phases to address the company's specific technical and strategic needs related to sustainability and decarbonisation.

3.2 Implementation of action plans & Follow-Up

After Phase 3, participating companies will autonomously 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.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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

- Operate manufacturing activities in the food sector.
- Be a small-to-medium sized company that employs between six (6) and two hundred (200) individuals.
- Be legally registered and operating in one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.
- 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.
- 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 2026 and January 2027.
- Have access to a computer and a reliable internet connection.
- Be available to travel and attend a three-day in-person Bootcamp in Morocco on 24th-26th November 2026.
- 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:

- a) **Company's profile:** operational years, number of employees, share of women workers, main markets, steps(s) of the value chain in which the company is involved.
- b) **Environmental criteria:** existence of environmental objectives, monitorization of environmental impacts namely emissions, degree of familiarization with the concepts and practices of circular economy and decarbonisation, and existence of sustainability-related projects or plans.
- c) **Motivations:** level of interest to improve environmental performance and participate in the Programme.
- d) **Participant profile:** fluency in English, availability to commit to 60 hours of workload over the course of four months, ability to travel and participate in the 3-day Bootcamp abroad.

Some questions will be of exclusionary character. 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-minute interview to further assess eligibility, motivation and alignment with the Programme's objectives.

5.3 Final Selection and Commitment

Selected and non-selected companies will be notified before July 31st, 2026. Selected companies must sign a formal **Letter of Commitment** to confirm their participation.

5.4 Programme Timeline Summary

- **Application Deadline:** July 6th, 2026
- **Pre-selection Interviews:** between July 13rd and July 26th, 2026
- **Notification of Acceptance:** before July 31st, 2026
- **Programme Duration:** September 14th, 2026 – January 15th, 2027
- **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

Powered by:



Implementing partner:



Under The Switchers Support Programme that creates an enabling environment for entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) pursuing circular economic and sustainable business models in the Mediterranean.