

Participation Rules 2025

Watts up ?

These participation rules are considered known, understood, and accepted by anyone taking part in the “Watts up?” call for projects.

1. Introduction and objectives

EnovArk is launching a call for projects aimed at addressing concrete challenges related to energy networks. It encourages collaboration and the sharing of ideas, knowledge, and resources beyond traditional organizational boundaries. The goal is to solve issues faced by energy stakeholders using innovative ideas or technologies.

This call for projects is organized by EnovArk (hereinafter “the Organizer”), OIKEN, and the Ark Foundation.

2. Participation conditions

Participation in this call for projects implies full and unconditional acceptance of these rules.

Open to international applicants, the call is directed at all companies, start-ups, institutions, or project holders involved or wishing to be involved in the energy sector. Proposed solutions must be feasible for deployment with the challenge owner, with a genuine intention to develop, implement, and sustain them over time.

3. Project call process

The call for projects is structured in two phases:

- A design phase
- A development phase for the selected winning projects.

The first phase focuses on project ideation. Participants submit a concept in the form of an application file. Finalist projects will be invited to pitch their concept to a jury, which will select the winners.

The winner commits to developing their proposal — with the support of EnovArk — into at least a prototype, proof-of-concept, or first-customer offer, ideally within 6 to 12 months after the award ceremony. The challenge owner provides test infrastructure and project monitoring.

The organizer and its partners will support the winning team in exploring future commercialization strategies (e.g., business model, technical expertise).

The organizer and its partners also reserve the right to recontact non-winning project holders.

4. Deadlines and application submission

The full schedule is available at: <https://enovark.ch/watts-up/>. The organizers may revise it at any time. Applications must be submitted exclusively online via the website. Applicants must respect the specified deadlines for submission.

5. Project holder commitments

By participating, project holders commit to:

- Submit the project form before the deadline;
- Provide any additional information requested by the organizer;
- Share materials and content needed for communication following the call for projects.

Applicants pledge on their honor that the information provided is accurate and truthful. Any misleading or missing information that could affect evaluation may result in disqualification. In the event of proven misconduct discovered later, the jury may revoke any awarded prizes.

The winner also commits to:

- Develop their proposal into at least a prototype, proof-of-concept, or initial offer ideally within 6–12 months;
- Ensure co-financing of the development beyond the awarded prize;
- Present the results of their work publicly.

6. Application file

The application process will be simplified to reduce administrative burden. It will consist of a form available on <https://enovark.ch/watts-up/>, which may be supplemented with relevant documents. Project holders must provide all necessary elements for evaluation.

7. Jury

The jury is composed of a maximum of 6 members independent of the challenge owners. Jury decisions are confidential, final, and not subject to appeal. Results will be communicated directly to applicants, usually via email.

8. Evaluation criteria

The jury will assess submitted projects based on:

- Alignment with the identified need
- Relevance and added value of the solution
- Level of innovation or creativity
- Technical feasibility
- Economic and development potential
- Quality of the application
- Team's capacity to carry the project through implementation

9. Award

The prize includes:

- A cash grant of CHF 10,000 for solution development
- Support by EnovArk worth CHF 10,000
- Access to test infrastructure and project monitoring by the challenge owner

The cash grant will be disbursed in two parts: the first upon jury selection, the second after the POC is realized.

Note: Even non-selected projects may receive support from the organizer through other programs.

10. Participation fees

Participation is free. Costs related to travel, project concept development, or application preparation are the sole responsibility of the participants. No reimbursements or compensations will be provided by the organizer.

11. Image rights

Participants agree that their work may be featured in the organizer's and partners' media. Photos and video recordings of participants may be taken for reporting purposes¹.

12. Intellectual property

Each project holder and their team confirm they lawfully own the intellectual property rights related to their submitted project.

13. Organizers' Responsibility

The organizer and its partners reserve the right to modify, shorten, extend, or cancel the call for projects if required by circumstances. The organizer cannot be held liable for such changes.

Sion, April 2025

¹ In the event that a patent is filed, the Organizer commits to not compromising the future patentability and to adapting the communicated message accordingly.