# Call for applications

# CITT INTERREG Training Programme – I edition

## 1. Introduction

Join a 5-month journey designed to support scientists, researchers, students, innovators, startups, and SMEs interested in translating scientific results, ideas, and inventions into solutions to improve human health.

Running from **October 2026 to February 2027**, the Training Programme will offer lessons, coaching by mentors, support from professionals and key opinion leaders, and hands-on activities to guide participants in preparing a business and technology development plan to present to investors and industry at the Programme Final Event.

## 2. Programme Overview

Selected participants will take part in a programme combining:

- **Residential workshops**, featuring lectures, practical activities, mentoring, and networking with experts from academia, industry, technology transfer offices, and venture capital.
- **Online learning modules**, covering key topics such as IP, technology development, business planning, regulatory pathways, project management, communication, and investor engagement.
- **Mentoring opportunities**, enabling participants to interact directly with experienced professionals and receive guidance throughout their learning journey.
- **Final Pitch Day**, where eligible participants will present their projects to mentors, investors, and industry representatives.

## 3. Eligibility

Applications are welcome from:

- Scientists, researchers, students, technicians, and other early-career innovators interested in translating their research, ideas, and inventions into solutions that will improve human health. Applications from already established teams are welcome.
- Applications from startups and SMEs with R&D and innovation projects are welcome.

Previous entrepreneurial experience is not required. The Programme welcomes participants at different stages of their innovation journey, from those exploring technology transfer for the first time to those already developing translational projects.

## 4. Selection Process

Participation is limited to a maximum of 25 participants.

Applications will be evaluated by the Selection Committee on a rolling basis, taking into account both the quality and potential of the proposed idea or project, as well as the applicant's profile, motivation, and commitment to actively participate in the CITT INTERREG Training Programme.

Selected participants will gain access to the entire CITT INTERREG Training Programme. To be eligible for the final Pitch Day with venture capital representatives (February 2027), participants are expected to attend at least 70% of programme activities.

**Please note:** applicants should not include confidential information that could compromise the patentability or competitive advantage of their idea or project.

## 5. Application requirements

Applications will be accepted until **September 13, 2026**.

To apply, candidates must:

- Complete the **online registration form**;
- Submit a CV;
- Submit a motivation letter introducing themselves (and, where applicable, their team), their area of expertise, motivation for participating, and any relevant experience.
- Submit a pitch deck (maximum five slides) describing their business idea.

Applications and supporting documents should be sent to CITT@fht.org.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received. The organisers reserve the right to close the call before the stated deadline once all available places have been allocated. Applicants are therefore encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible.

## 6. Timeline

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| Call for Applications - Launch | 6 July 2026 |
| Application deadline | 13 September 2026 |
| Notification of selected participants | Rolling basis |
| Programme Launch | 2 October 2026 – online lecture |
| Opening residential workshop | 21-23 October 2026 – Lake Orta |
| Programme period | Running from October 2026 to February 2027 |
| Final Pitch Day | February 2027 |

## 7. Practical Information

Participation in the CITT INTERREG Training Program is free of charge.

For selected participants attending the residential workshop *European Successful Cases* on Lake Orta, accommodation will be provided. Additional logistical information will be communicated before the event.

Unless otherwise specified by the organisers, participants are responsible for arranging and covering their own travel and accommodation costs for all other in-person activities included in the Programme.

Further practical information regarding the Programme will be shared with selected participants before the learning journey begins.

## 8. Contacts

For questions regarding the CITT INTERREG Training Program or the Call for Applications, please contact CITT@fht.org.