

Challenge sheet

ELIKA

How could **inroads be made into surpluses of food not for human consumption, by facilitating their identification and classification, and generating data in order to take action or to measure their economic value?**

Sub-challenges:

- How could economic value be given to food waste so that operators that generate surpluses can see a return on their use?
- How could circularity-based changes be made to the production processes to reduce food waste?
- How could the food value chain operators that generate surpluses be connected with operators that can use them not for human consumption to reduce food waste?
- How could we raise awareness about the economic potential of the surpluses for their reuse, by incentivising new business models or business activities?

Background:

Elika provides specialist knowledge to achieve safer, healthier and more sustainable food in the Basque Country, by facilitating collaboration among all the stakeholders of the Basque food ecosystem.

A programme with a clear strategy to reduce waste throughout the food chain has been run in the organisation since 2018. The strategy includes recovering food surpluses for their reuse outside human nutrition. The challenge focuses on this part of the strategy and not on other such as awareness-raising or the reuse of surpluses for human consumption where work is already underway.

Operators that generate surpluses do not currently quantify them; it is therefore important to identify their source, amount and location in order to assess them and find operators that put them to use.

The solution must focus on the point where the surplus management is a problem facing companies, must alleviate the problem by being able to identify, measure, classify, locate, accrue and prioritise the food surpluses to make them viable to be used and to see a return.

Compliance with food legislation and the future waste act must be taken into account.

Goals:

We are seeking solutions that comply with at least one of these goals, namely to:

- Pinpoint and highlight the food surplus.
- Gain a comprehensive view of its characteristics as per the classification requirements.
- Obtain an up-to-date picture of the surpluses regularly and in a streamlined and active way.

What are we looking for?

The following aspects will be considered:

- Interoperability between the operators generating surpluses and those that can put them to use.
- The solution must take into account that economic transactions will take place between the operators in the future.

Process and key dates:

Register using this link to take part in the challenge. [still pending].

- The deadline to receive the response to the proposal is: 23:59 hours on 02/05/2024
- The semi-finalist startups will be notified on 10/05/2024.
- The finalist startups will be notified on 24/05/2024.
- The winning startup will be notified on 13/06/2024.

The selection process consists of 3 phases:

1. **Phase 1:** semi-finalists' pitches with the company. Three startups will be shortlisted as finalists. They will take place from 16 to 24 May 2024.
2. **Phase 2:** round of finalists' interviews with the company. They will take place in the week starting 27 May 2024.
3. **Phase 3:** final meeting with finalists to select the winning startup for the pilot scheme with the company. It will be held between 11 and 12 June 2024, during the acceleration programme.

What are the rewards?

Finalist startups (3)

- **2-day govtech** acceleration programme. It will be held in-person in Bilbao on 11 and 12 June.

Winning startup

- **Presentation of the solution at the 2024 BIND GovTech Demo Day**, in-person in Bilbao.
- **Remunerated pilot** up to a maximum of €15,000. The pilot to implement the winning solution will begin in July 2024 and will last 5 months.