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Basque Open Innovation Platform

BIND GovTech - 2026 Edition

Terms and Conditions of Participation

GRUPO spri TALDEA

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1. Objectives of the initiative

As part of the BIND program, a line of work has been established with the goal of **promoting collaboration between startups and public entities of the Basque Government.** This pilot initiative, **BIND Govtech**, aims to open up new opportunities for all participants by fostering innovation and the transformation of processes and services.

Public entities will participate in a collaborative process using design methodologies applied to research and facilitation, resulting in a publishable technological challenge to be shared with the program's startups, thereby enabling them to propose solutions that address the problems these entities face in carrying out their work.

2. Terminoak eta baldintzak onartzea

The following terms and conditions are intended to establish the conditions for participation in the BIND GOVTECH initiative. Participation in this initiative's call for proposals implies **acceptance of these terms and conditions**, without exceptions or conditions, as well as any decision that the SPRI and/or the BIND program management team may make.

3. Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this initiative, the following definitions shall apply:

- **SPRI-BASQUE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY,** a public entity governed by private law attached to the Department of Economic Development, Sustainability, and the Environment.
- **BIND Team:** The program management team composed of technical staff from the SPRI Group, the Basque Government, and the CEEIs.
- **Coordination and Evaluation Committee:** A working group composed of members from both SPRI and the participating Basque public entities, whose primary function will be to organize the initiative, coordinate the various stakeholders involved, and monitor activities.
- **Startup:** A newly created company seeking a scalable business model through the development of innovative products and/or services aimed at a target market.
- **Public Entity:** An organization or corporation wholly or partially owned by a public administration.
- **Workshop:** A workshop, or participatory working session, is where the public entities participating in the initiative carry out various collaborative actions to achieve common results.

- **Pitches:** Joint sessions with public entities and startups, where participants present their proposals through a presentation and pitch an idea or business at a specific time and place.

4. Characteristics of Candidate Startups

BIND GOVTECH focuses primarily on the following types of startups:

- Startups that develop innovative **new technologies for the public sector,** have already completed their technological development, and are ready to implement their service or product. In other words, they must have a product or service that can be seen, tested, demonstrated, or is already available on the market.
- Startups **no more than 8 years old** that propose the use of new technologies to improve the delivery of public services.
- Startups operating in the **areas of the challenges** proposed by the participating public entities.

5. Startup Commitments

Participating startups agree to:

- **Accept and comply** with the terms and conditions of the initiative.
- **Attend and actively participate** in the activities proposed as part of the initiative and complete the assigned work and tasks.
- **Devote** the necessary time and effort to the project's development once a collaboration agreement between the public entity and the startup has been signed.

6. Privacy Policy

The content of the applications submitted by startups to BIND GOVTECH, as well as the content related to the various phases of intervention and information sharing by public entities, shall be considered **confidential and restricted**, and will be treated as such by the organizers of the initiative.

7. Protection of Personal Data

In accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (hereinafter, the GDPR) and other applicable regulations regarding the protection of personal data, you are hereby informed that the data provided will be processed for the purpose of managing the file related to the requested action, and the legal basis for the processing of personal data is the founding statutes of SPRI as the Basque Business Development Agency.

This information may be shared with partner companies, government agencies with jurisdiction over the matter, and companies within the SPRI Group (see http://www.spri.eus/es/quienessomos/sociedades-del-grupo-spri). All data subjects may exercise the rights granted to them under data protection regulations with respect to SPRI by writing to lopd@spri.eus. They may also contact the organization's Data Protection Officer by email at dpd@spri.eus.

For additional and detailed information on Personal Data Protection at SPRI, please consult the Privacy Policy available at www.spri.eus/privacidad .

The supervisory authority to contact if you need to file a data protection request is the Basque Data Protection Agency ([http://www.avpd.euskadi.eus] www.avpd.euskadi.eus).

8. Content

All startups participating in the initiative shall ensure that the work and content voluntarily submitted (including summaries or presentations) do not infringe upon any third-party rights of any kind and that they have all the necessary **authorizations** to participate in this initiative.

They must not be offensive or derogatory, incite violence or racism, violate fundamental rights or public freedoms recognized by current legislation—including laws protecting children and youth—constitute or imply an intrusion into the personal or family privacy of individuals, violate a third party's right to honor or the confidentiality of communications, or be contrary to current legislation. Likewise, the projects submitted must ensure the non-sexist use of language and images.

Furthermore, the startup authorizes the organizing entities to use its name and image in **promotional material** related to the initiative, in any medium or format, without receiving any financial compensation.

9. Work Plan

- The startups' participation in the initiative is expected to **last 6 months**, with support from the SPRI project team.
- However, both public entities and startups agree to keep the organizing team informed of the progress of any projects developed as part of the initiative for **a period of 1 year.**
- The initiative will be conducted primarily in **Spanish**, although the material produced may appear in both Basque and English.

10. Selection Process and Key Dates

1. **Phase 1: Semifinalists' pitches to the company.** Startups must present their solution in 10 minutes. As a result, **three startups** will be selected as finalists. This phase will take place on October 29, 2026.
2. **Phase 2: Interview round for finalists with the company.** Startups must provide further details on their proposal. These interviews will take place November 17–18, 2026.

Key Dates:

- **September 8:** Official announcement of the challenges for the BIND Govtech initiative.
- **October 1, 4:00 p.m.:** Deadline for startup applications.
- **October 20:** Announcement of the semifinalist startups.
- **October 29:** Announcement of the finalist startups.
- **November 19:** Announcement of the startups selected for the pilot program.

*The dates listed are **approximate** and may be subject to **change**. Deadlines and final dates will be proactively communicated by the BIND Team.*

11. Hautaketa-irizpideak

The BIND Coordination and Evaluation Committee will evaluate all applications received through the application form on the BIND website based on the following criteria, assessing how well the startups and their solutions address the published challenges:

Criteria for Evaluating Applications
Alignment with the challenge (45%)
Does the solution address the challenge?
The proposed solution may address more aspects than those listed in the challenge (related additional aspects)
Public Value (5%)
Is the proposed solution innovative in the context of the public sector and compared to what already exists on the market?
Technical Feasibility (30%)
Maturity and Market Traction: Does the solution have sufficient maturity and market traction to be implemented? (all clients, regardless of whether they are public or private)

Previous Experience: Do you have public-sector clients?
Previous Experience: Has the product been implemented in a similar context (even if with a private-sector client)?
Team: Is the team strong and prepared to implement a project with the public administration?
Financial Solvency (20%)
Execution Capacity: Does the startup have the capacity to execute based on the available financial data?
Additional Consideration: Has the startup received funding from investors?
Additional Consideration: Has the startup participated in an acceleration or incubation program?

Selection of Participants:

Once evaluated, the startups will be selected and invited to participate in the first selection phase: the pitching sessions. During these pitching sessions, the startups will present their solutions to the proposed challenges, and this will serve as a starting point for the public entity to select the startups with which it wishes to explore their proposals in greater depth during the second selection phase: the interviews. Subsequent rounds of contact with the organization will focus on further exploring the proposed solution.

Startups that are not selected will be notified of the status of their application.

Project Configuration and Development Phase:

The BIND Team will facilitate **contact** between public entities and the selected startups, without creating any obligation or incurring any liability regarding the commercial relationships that may be established.

Public entities that have identified a technological solution capable of addressing the challenges posed will, where applicable, enter into a **direct contract** with the startups and communicate the main general aspects of the agreements reached; SPRI will play no role and have no involvement whatsoever in the subsequent development of these projects.

The **scope, objectives, duration, and financial terms** under which the joint project will be carried out will be defined and freely agreed upon by both parties in accordance with current public procurement regulations, without the involvement of SPRI.

The content of the contract will be binding only on the signatory parties, that is, the public entity and the startup, as it is a **private agreement** establishing rights and obligations between them. Therefore, compliance with the obligations assumed by the parties (the public

entity and the startup) will be the sole responsibility of the party responsible for such obligation. Specifically, payment of the price agreed upon by the parties (the public entity and the startup) will be made by the participating public entity, and SPRI is expressly exempt from any liability or obligation, both with respect to payment of the price and with respect to any of the obligations agreed upon by the parties (the public entity and the startup).

12. Communication

All notifications regarding the initiative, including challenges and the call for startups, will be posted on the website https://bind.spri.eus/startup-govtech/ or communicated directly by the BIND Team.

Participating startups will receive all communications issued by SPRI via email to the email address of the contact person identified during the registration process.

13. Legal Matters

The participants, formally waiving any other jurisdiction to which they may be entitled, expressly submit to the courts and tribunals of Bilbao for the resolution of any dispute, disagreement, issue, or claim that may arise directly or indirectly in connection with the interpretation or execution of this initiative.

14. Contact Information

Carmen Sánchez, Coordinator of the BIND initiative and head of BIND Govtech at Spri.
info@bindplatform.com