



## **VERDEINMED**



# CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF

# **INTEREST**

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## 1. Introduction

The VERDEinMED project, co-funded by the EU Interreg Euro-MED programme under the Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission, aims to foster sustainable practices and innovation across the Mediterranean region in the textile and clothing sector. By addressing the full value chain, the project seeks to minimise textile waste, encourage sustainable production and consumption, and foster innovation in recycling practices.

This Call for Expression of Interest (CEI) seeks to engage professional local mentors who are aligned with these objectives, contributing to the realization of the project's overarching goals.

# 2. Purpose and scope

This Call for Expression of Interest regulates the terms and procedures for the submission of applications by consulting companies, research institutes, and natural persons seeking inclusion in the list of local mentors for the VERDEinMED project. The aim is to create a dedicated list of experts (local mentors) capable of delivering tailored technical assistance and highly specialized services to support sustainability and circularity within the textile and clothing sector.

The local mentors included in the list will work in collaboration with transnational mentors drawn from VERDEinMED Project Partners and Associated Partners, and they will provide qualified services to companies/businesses participating in the VERDEinMED project initiatives, thereby enhancing their capacity for innovation and sustainability.

The VERDEINMED project team seeks local mentors for the following categories:

- Private/Group Consulting: offering professional advisory services on specific sustainability challenges within the textile and clothing sector.
- Coaching: providing structured guidance to companies or professionals to enhance their knowledge and implementation of circular economy principles.
- Training: delivering structured educational programs, workshops, or courses to equip businesses and individuals with the necessary skills and expertise.
- Mentoring: supporting businesses and professionals through long-term advisory relationships to facilitate sustainable innovation and best practices adoption.

The types of qualified services for which applications may be submitted include:

A. Support services for product sustainable innovation (ecodesign practices, introduction of second-life products, material innovation to reduce environmental impacts during the product lifecycle).



- B. Support services for process sustainable innovation (circular innovation approaches, recovery and reuse of materials, recycling systems implementation, production waste management and waste minimization strategies).
- C. Product/process sustainability certifications (Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), EcoLabel, and Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)).
- D. New international legal and regulatory standards and labelling (Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), OEKO-TEX Standard 100, and Fair-Trade certifications).
- E. Climate Change Services (carbon accounting, development of net-zero strategies, and climate risk assessments tailored to the textile sector).
- F. Circular Economy Services (designing closed-loop systems, developing strategies for waste reduction, implementing EPR systems and implementing take-back schemes).
- G. Certifications and Policies Services (drafting sustainability policies, ensuring compliance with local and international laws, and providing training on certification requirements).
- H. Manufacturing Systems Optimization (implementing lean manufacturing techniques, upgrading machinery for energy efficiency, and integrating advanced monitoring systems to reduce resource consumption).
- I. Energy Management Services (conducting energy audits, recommending renewable energy installations such as solar panels, and optimizing energy use through advanced analytics).
- J. Environmental Legislation Compliance (providing legal audits, preparing businesses for environmental certifications, and ensuring adherence to international trade standards).
- K. Sustainable Business Models Development (developing corporate sustainability strategies, engaging stakeholders in co-creation processes, and designing innovative value propositions aligned with green principles).

#### Remuneration

All local mentors will be compensated with an hourly rate from €50 to €125 (Daily Rate from €400 to €1000) for their services rendered to the selected beneficiaries. This rate applies to hours spent on activities such as Private/Group Consulting, Coaching, Training, Mentoring.

#### Timeline

Their services will be required during the implementation phase of the program between 1 May 2025 – 30 October 2025.





# 3. Terms and procedures for submission of applications

In order to be included in the list of service providers, consulting companies, research institutes and natural persons must submit their applications in compliance with the terms outlined below.

Applications are open to entities that meet the following eligibility criteria:

- a) Demonstrated experience of at least 5 years in consultancy or support services for sustainability.
- b) Evidence of having provided at least one support service in the last 3 years for each service typology in which the applicant seeks inclusion.
- c) Proven English language proficiency at a minimum C1 level of the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), demonstrated through a recognized certification or documented experience.

All applicants can submit applications for different service typologies offered under this call.

Applications must be submitted exclusively via email to the designated address <u>verdeinmed@interreg-euro-med.eu</u> with the subject line: "Request for inclusion in the list of VERDEinMED local mentors". Submissions must include the following:

- A completed application form provided by the VERDEinMED project team, duly signed by an authorized representative.
- Documentation verifying the applicant's eligibility and qualifications, including:
  - Company / institutional profile, or personal CV.
  - Proof of expertise in the relevant service categories.
  - Examples of prior experience and achievements related to sustainability and circularity in the textile sector.
- A declaration of compliance with the eligibility criteria, signed by an authorized representative, and indicating the specific services the applicant intends to offer.

Applicants submitting a request for registration on the list, under penalty of ineligibility, must provide the required documentation fully completed, as outlined in this Call for Expressions of Interest.

All communications regarding the procedure outlined in this call will be sent by the VERDEinMED coordination body exclusively via email to the address provided in the application. The coordination body declines any responsibility for communication failures caused by malfunctioning or inaccessibility of the certified email account provided by the applicant.







The application must be completed using the templates made available by the VERDEinMED project coordination team (Annex I). These templates can be downloaded from <a href="https://verdeinmed.interreg-euro-med.eu/">https://verdeinmed.interreg-euro-med.eu/</a>.

The application process will be open from 18/03/2025 to 18/04/2025 at 12.00 CET. Applications received after the deadline or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

## 4. Definition of the list

Upon the closure of the application period, as stated in article 3 of this call, the VERDEinMED project team will review submissions and compile the list of selected service providers based on the properly completed and submitted applications.

The list will be published on the VERDEinMED project's official website, ensuring transparency and accessibility.

For each service provider, the following information will be made available:

- 1. In the case of consulting companies and research institutes:
  - a) Name of the company/research institute.
  - b) Head office.
  - c) VAT number.
  - d) Contact information (email, phone, website).
  - e) Legal representative's name and surname, and Tax Identification Number (TIN).
  - f) Contact person' name and surname, email and phone number.
  - g) Description of the qualified service(s) offered, including areas of expertise and years of experience.
  - h) Links to relevant resources or documentation supporting their declared competencies.
- 2. In the case of natural persons:
  - a) First name and surname.
  - b) Academic title / Profession.
  - c) Email address and PEC.
  - d) Telephone number.
  - e) VAT number.
  - f) Description of the qualified service(s) offered, including areas of expertise and years of experience.







The VERDEinMED project team reserves the right to update the list periodically to reflect changes or new additions. Service providers may also request updates to their published information by submitting a formal request to the project team via the designated email address.

## 5. Controls

The VERDEinMED project team reserves the right to carry out verifications and controls on the information and documentation submitted by the service providers. These controls may include:

- a) Verification of the accuracy and authenticity of the submitted documentation.
- b) Random checks on the services provided by the listed entities/persons to ensure compliance with the declared expertise and quality standards.
- c) Follow-up reviews and audits during or after the provision of services to evaluate performance and adherence to the project's objectives.

Any discrepancies, false declarations, or non-compliance identified during these controls may result in the removal of the provider from the list, and, if necessary, legal actions may be pursued in accordance with applicable regulations.

# 6. Data protection

In accordance with applicable data protection laws and regulations, the VERDEinMED project team will process the personal data provided by applicants exclusively for the purposes of managing this call and subsequent service agreements. By submitting an application, the applicant consents to the processing of their personal data as outlined in this section.

Personal data will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and will not be shared with third parties outside the scope of the VERDEinMED project. Applicants have the right to access, rectify, or delete their personal data at any time by contacting (Data Protection Officer, pkafasis@diadyma.gr).

The VERDEinMED project team will keep personal data for the duration of the project and for any additional period required by applicable legal or contractual obligations.





## 7. Additional Information

This Call for Expression of Interest supports the overarching goal of the VERDEinMED project in fostering a circular economy within the Mediterranean's textile sector, and it aligns with the mission of promoting sustainability and innovation across the entire value chain.

For further information about the VERDEinMED project and this call, applicants are encouraged to visit the official project <u>website</u> or contact via email at <u>verdeinmed@interreg-euro-med.eu</u>

List of Annexes to this call:

• Annex 1: Application Form Template

## 8. Disclaimer

Participation in this call does not guarantee selection or assignment of tasks. All assignments will depend on the needs of the project and the specific requirements identified during the selection process.



# **Annex I - APPLICATION FORM TEMPLATE**

APPLICATION FORM FOR INCLUSION IN THE LIST OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

VERDEinMED Project – Call for Expression of Interest

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION
1.1 Type of Applicant (tick one)
□ Company
☐ Research Institute
□ Natural Person
1.2 General Information
A) For Companies/Research Institutes
Name of the Company/Institute:
VAT Number:
Head Office Address:
Contact Email (incl. PEC if applicable):
Telephone Number:
Website (if applicable):
Legal Representative (Name & TIN):
Contact Person (Name, Email & Phone):
B) For Natural Persons
First Name and Surname:
Academic Title / Profession:
Email Address (incl. PEC if applicable):
Telephone Number:
VAT Number (if applicable):
CECTION 3: CATECODIEC OF CEDVICE DROVIDEDS
SECTION 2: CATEGORIES OF SERVICE PROVIDERS  Please indicate the category of services you are applying for (tick all that apply):  Private/Group Consulting
□ Coaching □ Training
☐ Training ☐ Montaring
□ Mentoring





#### SECTION 3: QUALIFIED SERVICES

Please indicate the type(s) of services for which you are applying (tick all that apply) and provide the relevant details.

Qualified Service	Tick if	Competence possessed	Years of
A C	applying —		experience
A. Support services for			
product sustainable			
innovation (ecodesign,			
second-life products, material			
innovation)			
B. Support services for process			
sustainable innovation			
(circular innovation, material			
recovery, recycling, waste			
management and			
minimization)			
C. Product/process			
sustainability certifications			
(LCA, EcoLabel, EPD)			
D. New international legal and			
regulatory standards &			
labelling (GOTS, OEKO-TEX,			
Fair Trade)			
E. Climate Change Services	П		
(carbon accounting, net-zero			
strategies, climate risk			
assessment)			
F. Circular Economy Services	П		
(closed-loop systems, waste			
reduction, EPR systems, take-			
back schemes)			
G. Certifications and Policies	П		
Services (sustainability			
policies, compliance,			
certification training)			
H. Manufacturing Systems	П		
Optimization (lean			
manufacturing, energy-			
efficient machinery,			
monitoring systems)			
I. Energy Management			
Services (energy audits,			
renewable energy integration,			
analytics-based optimization)			
J. Environmental Legislation			
Compliance (legal audits,			
business compliance, trade	1		1





Euro-MED	the European Ur		
regulations)  K. Sustainable Business  Models Development  (corporate sustainability strategies, stakeholder engagement, green innovation)			
SECTION 4: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA Please confirm that you meet the At least 5 years of experience in At least one support service pro Possess at least C1 level proficie	e eligibility n consultar ovided in th	ncy or support services for sus ne last 3 years for each selecte	tainability.
SECTION 5: REQUIRED DOCUME  Completed and signed application  Company/Institutional profile of Proof of expertise in the selected Examples of prior experience at the textile sector  Signed declaration of compliant	ation form or Personal ed service o nd achieve	categories ments related to sustainabilit	y and circularity in
SECTION 6: DECLARATION I, the undersigned, certify that the complete. I acknowledge that fall may result in exclusion from the	se declarat	ions or failure to comply with	
Additionally, I declare that I am a Completed and signed applicated Company/Institutional profile of Proof of expertise in the selected Examples of prior experience a the textile sector	ation form or Personal ed service o	CV categories	
Name & surname / Legal repres	entative S	Signature	Date





#### **VERDEINMED**



### **PreVEnting and ReDucing** the tExtiles waste mountain in the MED area



#### Consortium

- -Centre for Research & Technology, Hellas (CERTH)
- -Bulgarian Fashion Association
- .-CITEVE
- -Confindustria
- -Consorci de la Ribera
- -Corporación Tecnológica de Andalucía
- -Diadyma S.A.
- -e-Zavod
- -Legambiente
- -Textile Trade Association Textile Cluster (TTA-TC)



verdeinmed@interreg-euro-med.eu



@verdeinmed



@verdeinmed

#### **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

#### **Title**

PreVEnting and ReDucing the tExtiles waste mountain the MED area

#### Start - end date

01/01/2024 - 30/09/2026

#### **Project type**

Thematic project

#### **Programme**

Interreg Euro-MED

#### **Funding**

2.970.502.00 €

#### Coordinator

Chrysovalantis Ketikidis Centre for Research and Technology-Hellas, Greece

#### **Project overview**

The VERDEinMED project is an initiative funded by the Interreg Euro-MED programme to promote the circular economy in the textile sector. VERDEinMED is a thematic project that will provide a support service to boost circularity in the textile value chain for businesses, consumers, policy makers and academia.

The project is part of the Innovative Sustainable Economy mission of the Euro-MED programme, which seeks cooperation between Mediterranean countries to promote smarter and greener business models. It brings together 10 partners and 15 associated entities from Greece, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Slovenia, North Macedonia, Bulgaria, Tunisia, Turkey, Belgium and Lebanon.