

# **H2O & SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATION HUB**



## **H2O & SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATION HUB**

### ***CALL FOR PROJECTS***

**3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION**

**2025**

**REGULATION**

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## Article 1.

### Scope

1. ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (H2O INNOVATION HUB)*** is a joint initiative of partner entities (promoters) that aims to promote, among Researchers, University Students, Professors and STARTUPS, the development and implementation of innovative projects with local, national and international impact, stimulating:
  - a) Technological and Digital Innovation with focus on Water, Sustainability, ESG and Circular Economy;
  - b) Knowledge transfer between Universities, Research Centers and H2O INNOVATION HUB partners (public and private entities/organizations);
  - c) Development of new business models, new products, new services and solutions aimed at the sectors of Water, Sustainability, ESG and Circular Economy innovation, including areas such as Digital Transformation, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Metaverse, IoT, Business Intelligence, etc. applied to Water and Wastewater, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies, Waste Management, Zero Waste, Sustainable Tourism, Sustainable Finance, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), and others.
2. The promoters of the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** are PremiValor Consulting in articulation with other partner entities.

## Article 2.

### Objective

1. The objective of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** is to stimulate minds from different education backgrounds to collaborate on the development of projects with focus on the sectors of Water, Sustainability, ESG and Circular Economy, while awarding the most innovate and entrepreneurial projects and STARTUPS on each of the following categories:
  - **Students Category:** projects developed by Master, Postgraduate, and Undergraduate students from national and international Universities and Institutes;

- **PhD and Researchers Category:** projects developed by PhD, Researchers and PhD students from national and international Universities, Institutes and Research Centers;
  - **STARTUPS Category:** STARTUPS that are developing innovative products, services and/or solutions with high potential of growth / internationalization.
2. The participants with the best projects of each category will have the opportunity to present the project or STARTUP on the **Pitch Ceremony** that is integrated in the **H2O & SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2025**.

### Article 3.

#### Regulation of H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

1. The ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** is governed by the present regulation in which the Monitoring Committee and the Jury are sovereign in their interpretation, application, and gap integration.
2. The selection criteria and decision grounds, including the attribution of the awards to the winning projects and STARTUPS, are exclusive competence of the promoters of the initiative. The decisions of the Monitoring Committee and the Jury cannot be object of complaint or appeal, being always and in any circumstances unquestionable and definitive.
3. The promoters of the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** are reserved the right to not select finalist projects in a given category if they conclude that there are no projects in the current edition that fit the minimum distinction requirements.

### Article 4.

#### Duration, main phases and deadlines

1. The ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** will take place between January and May 2025.
2. The participation in ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** comprises the following phases according to the calendar presented on the number 3 of this article:

**a) Registrations Phase**

**b) Project development**

**c) Follow-up questionnaire:** During the project development phase, the participating groups will have to answer a brief follow-up questionnaire concerning the project development process;

**d) Evaluation:** The projects and STARTUPS evaluation process will begin after the Project and Pitch Deck Submission deadline of the second semester. The evaluation and selection of the projects and STARTUPS that will attend the Pitch Ceremony is responsibility of the jury;

**e) Pitch Ceremony:** The Pitch Ceremony is the event where the selected groups of the Students Category, the PhD and Researchers Category and the selected STARTUPS are invited to present their projects to the Jury in an Elevator Pitch format. The winning groups and STARTUPS of each category will only be selected during the Pitch Ceremony.

3. ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** has the following schedule:

**Students Category and PhD & Researchers Category**

**Registrations Opening:** January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Registration deadline:** February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Submission deadline of follow-up questionnaire:** May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Project Submission deadline:**

- Students Category: April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- PhD & Researchers Category: April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**STARTUPS Category**

**Registrations Opening:** January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Pitch Deck Submission deadline:** March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Article 5.

### Topics/themes of projects

1. **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition** aims to promote the development of innovative projects with local, national and international impact, leveraging the capacity for innovation with focus on the areas of Water, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Tourism and Circular Economy.
  
2. The projects may focus on the following strategic areas related with the areas of Water, Sustainability, Circular Economy and ESG:
  1. Digital Transformation, IoT and Artificial Intelligence applied to Water and Wastewater areas;
  2. Marketing/ Communication Plan for promoting water savings among population and organizations;
  3. Algorithms/models for Water Consumption and Waste production forecasting;
  4. Smart Cities: efficient use of Water, Energy and Waste Management;
  5. Plastic pollution and Microplastics on oceans;
  6. Impact of climate changes on the water cycle and adaptation to water problems (water stress, droughts, floods) and waste production;
  7. New services or business models based on the concept of Circular Economy;
  8. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies;
  9. Circular Economy and Zero Waste;
  10. Sustainable Tourism;
  11. Sustainable Finance;
  12. ESG – Environmental, Social and Governance innovative projects;

13. Public health in the environment (mosquitoes, algae) and impacts on water quality;
  14. Synergy between energy efficiency and water efficiency;
  15. Bridging the future desalination with civil society.
3. The projects may focus on the following strategic areas related with Sustainable Tourism, Hotels and Resorts:
16. Hotel of the Future;
  17. How can AI help manage networks better to address the shortcomings of Human Resources.
  18. Lighting system inside buildings;
  19. Lighting system outside buildings, especially in common areas and circulation areas between buildings;
  20. Considering Photovoltaic system for generating electricity;
  21. Air conditioning system for central buildings;
  22. Air conditioning system for the villas;
  23. Solar support for sanitary hot water;
  24. Water conservation (toilettes, irrigation systems...);
  25. Sustainable Waste management, recycling and circular economy;
  26. Intelligent platform for system management and monitoring.



## Article 6.

### ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB promotion***

For a better understanding of the scope and objectives of *H2O & SUSTAINABILITY Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition* a set of actions take place to communicate the project to Universities, Institutes, Research Centers and STARTUPS during the academic year 2025.

Participants can also contact PremiValor Consulting team to obtain more information or clarifications and access the *H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB website*: [www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com](http://www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com)

Contacts:

*H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB* – [h2o\\_sustainability\\_hub@premivalor.com](mailto:h2o_sustainability_hub@premivalor.com)

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## Article 7.

### **Application requirements**

The conditions to participate in each category of the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** are the following:

#### **1. Students Category:**

1.1 Students interested in participating in the *H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition* can **apply individually** or join a **group of up to five members** if they meet the following requirements at the time of the application:

- a) Attend a Master, Postgraduate or Undergraduate course in the academic year 2025;
- b) Have completed a bachelor, postgraduate or master's degree in the academic year 2023/2024 or 2022/2023;

1.2 Participants in the previous editions of **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects** may reapply to this edition if they fulfil the requirements established in paragraph 1.1, a) or in paragraph b) of this article;

- 1.3 The groups can be composed by elements from different universities, levels of graduation (Master, Undergraduate or Postgraduate) and from different areas of knowledge to foster multidisciplinary and complementarity;
- 1.4 The individual applications or groups can include up to three professors as supervisors/advisors with knowledge and skills in the areas covered by **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB**. The absence of a professor as supervisor/advisor is not an exclusion factor.
- 1.5 It is not allowed to Students to participate in more than one application.
- 1.6 Professors providing mentorship as supervisors/advisors are allowed to participate in more than one group.

## **2 PhD and Researchers Category:**

- 2.1 The requirements to participate in PhD and Researchers category are:
  - a) To have a PhD/Doctorate degree; or
  - b) To attend in the present academic year (2025) a PhD program; or
  - c) To be a researcher in a University, Institute or Research Center.
- 2.2 Applications can be individual or in group up to five participants.
- 2.3 Participants are not allowed to participate in more than one application.

## **3 STARTUPS Category:**

- 3.1 STARTUPS at different levels of development / TRL can apply to **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition** if they focus the areas covered by the Sector of Water, Sustainability, Circular Economy and ESG according to Article 5, paragraph 2.
  - 3.2 Early stages STARTUPS can apply to **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition** but they need to have a clear market orientation and the vision to have a commercial product/service in a maximum time frame of 2 or 3 years.
- 4 Participants are not allowed to compete simultaneously in Students Category, PhD & Researchers Category and STARTUPS Category with the same project.

- 5 Projects and STARTUPS that received an award in previous editions are not eligible to participate again in the same category of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects***.
- 6 Exceptions are for projects and STARTUPS that participated in previous editions and were awarded but in the current edition **evidence a strong and robust evolution compared to the previous editions**. The Jury for these participants will be more demanding in terms of evolution of the projects or STARTUPS to assess if they qualify to be again in the short list to be selected to participate in the Pitch Ceremony.

## Article 8.

### Application procedures

Candidates who fulfil the conditions required in the previous article must formalize their applications by completing the Application Form available on the website of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB*** - [www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com](http://www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com)

Along with the Application Form, participants should provide to the email address of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB*** ([h2o\\_sustainability\\_hub@premivalor.com](mailto:h2o_sustainability_hub@premivalor.com)) the following documents:

#### **Students and PhD & Researchers Category:**

- 2.1 For those who fit in article 7, paragraph 1.1 a) should provide a document proving attendance of a university/institute in the academic year 2024/2025 (e.g. student card).
- 2.2 For those who fit in article 7, paragraph 1.1 b) should provide a document proving attendance of a university/institute in the academic year 2023/2024 or 2022/2023.
- 2.3 For those who fit in article 7, paragraph 2.1 a) or 2.1 b) should provide a copy of the certificate/document of the PhD degree or a document proving attendance at a PhD program.
- 2.4 For those who fit in article 7, paragraph 2.1 c) should provide a document proving their condition from University, Institute or Research Center.

#### **STARTUPS Category:**

2.5 Interested STARTUPS should apply via the F6S platform, whose registration link can be found on the H2O & Sustainability INNOVATION HUB website - Call for Projects: [www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com/callforprojects](http://www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com/callforprojects).

2.6 The Monitoring Committee may request additional information.

3. The formalization of the application means the acceptance, without reservation or conditions, by the interested parties of the terms and regulation of this competition, as well as the express authorization to verify the authenticity of the respective documents made available.

## Article 9.

### Monitoring process

1. The monitoring process aims to assist the participants during the development of the projects.
2. The follow-up process includes the fulfilment of a questionnaire provided by the **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition** Monitoring Committee to the participants.
3. The follow-up questionnaire is available on the website of **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB** ([www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com](http://www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com))
4. The submission of the follow-up questionnaire should be done in accordance with the number 3 of article 4 of the current regulation.
5. Within an estimated period of two weeks following the follow-up questionnaire submission deadline, the Monitoring Committee will provide feedback to all participants.
6. If necessary, the Monitoring Committee may request the participants to submit additional information or to provide some clarifications regarding the project they are developing.
7. The participants may contact the Monitoring Committee during the project development period to obtain any clarifications (important note: The Monitoring Committee will not provide any reserved or non-public information or information that may affect the competitiveness and independence of the competition).

## Article 10.

### Project submission procedures

1. Participants of all categories must submit a report presenting their project.
2. The report must be delivered in PDF format.
3. The report can be written in English (preferably), Portuguese or Spanish. If the report is written in Portuguese or Spanish, it should include a detailed abstract in English.
4. It is suggested that the reports submitted by participants of the **Students Category** and **PhD and Researchers Category** do not exceed 30 pages (Word format) or 50 slides (PowerPoint format), excluding appendixes such as graphic material, videos, market research studies/analysis, programming code or other relevant elements.
5. The report to be submitted by STARTUPS should follow the **Pitch Deck Template guidelines** made available to the participants. It is suggested that the projects do not exceed 50 slides (PowerPoint format), excluding appendixes such as graphic material, videos, market research studies/analysis, programming code or other relevant elements.
6. The projects submitted can include one or more videos.
7. The report and any content related to the project should be submitted to the following email: **h2o\_sustainability\_hub@preivalor.com**. Files should be sent in non-editable format such as PDF format. If the project is composed by several documents, the participants should send a ZIP file containing all the documents.
8. If the uploaded files exceed 5 Mb they can be placed on online platforms (e.g. WeTransfer, google drive, etc.) and an email should be sent to **h2o\_sustainability\_hub@preivalor.com** sharing the link for download.
9. With the project's submission, participants from all categories must send the Final Project Summary, available on the **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB** website ([www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com](http://www.h2o-sustainability-hub.com)).
10. Any questions or doubts regarding project submission procedures should be emailed to **h2o\_sustainability\_hub@preivalor.com**.
11. The projects and the Final Project summary should be delivered according to the deadlines stipulated in Article 4 of the present regulation.

## Article 11.

### Monitoring Committee and Jury

1. The whole process of launching, processing, interpretation of the Regulation, awarding and implementation of the **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition** is responsibility of the Monitoring Committee, composed by members of PremiValor Consulting and other partner organizations of **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB**.
2. The members of the Monitoring Committee and the Jury are responsible for analysing all the candidate projects and selecting the best projects of each category to attend the Pitch Ceremony.
3. The Jury has sole authority, and decides sovereignly, according to the most appropriate criteria considering the objectives of **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition**, which is outlined in article 12.
4. The Jury is responsible for the final decision of the award attribution in each category. It is composed of the members of the Monitoring Committee, joined by at least three other members.

## Article 12.

### Evaluation Criteria

1. The evaluation of the projects developed under **Students Category** and **PhD and Researchers Category** is based on the following criteria:
  - a) Methodology applied in the development of the project (technical development and scientific component) – 25%
  - b) Innovation of the project / solution – 35%
  - c) Business Model (including economic viability of the project) – 25%
  - d) Project presentation (report) – 15%
2. The evaluation of the participating STARTUPS on the **STARTUPS Category** is based on the following criteria:
  - a) Innovation of the product, service, solution, or process – 35%
  - b) Business Model (including economic viability of the project) – 35%

- c) Potential of scalability/growth – 30%
- 3. The presentation performed at the Pitch Ceremony is also a component of the Evaluation Criteria for all categories that will be considered by the jury members.
- 4. If a project submitted by a participating group or STARTUP in the **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition** has already been selected as a Finalist of the Pitch Ceremony in a previous edition, it will be taken into consideration as evaluation criteria the **advancements of the project** since the previous edition, in addition to the evaluation criteria presented in paragraph 1 and paragraph 2.

## Article 13.

### H2O & SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2025

The **H2O & SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2025** constitutes an **international event** that features a **conference** and a **fair event** focusing on **Water, Sustainability, Circular Economy and ESG**. The Pitch Ceremony is integrated into the H2O & Sustainability Summit 2025.

At the **conference**, internationally renowned speakers will discuss critical topics and challenges related to **water sector, sustainability, energy efficiency, sustainable tourism, circular economy and ESG**, with a special focus on **technology, digital transformation, data science, and innovative devices**.

At the **fair event**, **Companies, Organizations, Universities, and STARTUPS** will have the opportunity to showcase their innovative solutions, focusing on the **water sector, sustainability, energy efficiency, sustainable tourism, circular economy and ESG**. The event provides a platform for participants to network, explore business development opportunities, present products and services, share knowledge, and recruit top talent.

## Article 14.

### Pitch Ceremony

- 1. The Pitch Ceremony is the event in which the best projects (finalists) from each category will be presented publicly in an Elevator Pitch format:
  - a) **Students Category**: A maximum of 10 projects will be selected for the Pitch Ceremony

- b) **PhD and Researchers Category:** A maximum of 10 projects will be selected for the Pitch Ceremony
  - c) **STARTUPS Category:** A maximum of 10 STARTUPS will be selected for the Pitch Ceremony
2. At the Pitch Ceremony, the jury will evaluate the finalist projects and STARTUPS and will decide the winners of each category of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.***
  3. At least one group member must attend the Pitch Ceremony. Groups without a representative at the ceremony will be excluded.
  4. The Pitch Ceremony is an event integrated on the **H2O & SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2025.**
  5. The procedures regarding the participation in the Pitch Ceremony will be made available to the finalist groups.
  6. The groups invited to the Pitch Ceremony expressly commit to the disclosure of their image and data regarding the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** promotion, the beneficiaries themselves, their Academic Institutions, and the Promoters of the event.

## Article 15

### Communication of the decision finalists

1. After the evaluation of the finalist projects and STARTUPS, the decision on who are the winners of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** will be disclosed and communicated during the Pitch Ceremony.
2. There will be no isolated communications about the projects concerning the evaluation process and evaluations.

## Article 16.

### Intellectual Property of Candidate Projects

1. The intellectual property of the candidate projects belongs to their authors.
2. The reports related to the projects submitted to the contest will not be returned to the candidates, with the management of the contest allowed to disclose them in general terms.



## Article 17. Award Rights

1. Awards will be assigned based on the technical evaluation of the participating projects and STARTUPS of the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** Jury.

### **1.1 Students Category:**

#### **First Place**

The first-place project will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €5,500 (five thousand and five hundred euros), comprised of a monetary amount of €2,500 (two thousand and five hundred euros) and €3,000 (three thousand euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance, business development and marketing.

Of the €2,500 (two thousand and five hundred euros) of the monetary prize, €1,250 (one thousand two hundred fifty euros) will be paid after the creation of a STARTUP in Algarve - Portugal within **6 months** after the date of the Pitch Ceremony.

If the winning group includes one or more supervisors or advisors, a total gross monetary amount of €1,000 (one thousand euros) will be awarded to the supervisor(s) or advisor(s).

The first-place winners will also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

#### **Second place**

The second-place project will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €2,500 (two thousand and five hundred euros), comprised of a monetary amount of €1,000 (one thousand euros) and €1,500 (one thousand and five hundred euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

Of the €1,000 (one thousand euros) of the monetary prize, €500 (five hundred) will be paid after the creation of a STARTUP in Algarve - Portugal within **6 months** after the date of the Pitch Ceremony.

If the group includes one or more supervisors or advisors, a total gross monetary amount of €750 (seven hundred and fifty euros) will be awarded to the supervisor(s) or advisor(s).

The second-place winners will also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

### **Third place**

The third-place project will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €1,000 (one thousand euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

The third-place winners also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

## **1.2 PhD and Researchers Category:**

### **First Place**

The first-place project will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €7,000 (seven thousand euros), comprised of a monetary amount of €2,000 (two thousand euros) and €5,000 (five thousand euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

Of the €2,000 (two thousand euros) of the monetary prize, €1,000 (one thousand euros) will be paid after the creation of a STARTUP in Algarve - Portugal within 6 months after the date of the Pitch Ceremony.

The first-place winners also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

### **Second Place**

The second-place project will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €3,500 (three thousand and five hundred euros), comprised of a monetary amount of €1,000 (one thousand euros) and €2,500 (two thousand and five hundred euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

Of the €1,000 (one thousand euros) of the monetary prize, €500 (five hundred euros) will be paid after the creation of a STARTUP in Algarve - Portugal within 6 months after the date of the Pitch Ceremony.

The second-place winners also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

### **Third Place**

The third-place project will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €1,000 (one thousand euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

The third-place winners also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

## **1.3 STARTUPS Category**

### **First Place**

The first-place STARTUP will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €6,500 (six thousand and five hundred euros), comprised of a monetary amount of €1,500 (one thousand and five hundred euros) and €5,000 (five thousand euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

The first-place STARTUP will also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

### **Second Place**

The second-place STARTUP will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €3,000 (three thousand euros), comprised of a monetary amount of €500 (five hundred euros) and €2,500 (two thousand and five hundred euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

The second-place STARTUP will also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

### **Third Place**

The third-place STARTUP will be awarded a prize of an amount equivalent to €1,000 (one thousand euros) in dedicated mentoring hours from experienced professionals with expertise in business modelling, finance and business development.

The third-place STARTUP will also receive a formal declaration of their achievements for academic/professional CV enrichment purposes.

2. The right to the award is automatically and definitively extinguished, and without the need for any specific formalism, if any of the following occur:
  - a) It is concluded that there is some irregularity in the application of the winning individual(s), group, project or STARTUP;
  - b) There is evidence of the project being carried out by other members other than the members of the awarded group or project;
  - c) Evidence of plagiarism;
  - d) If the prize is not claimed within one year from the date of the Pitch Ceremony;
  - e) If, pending the benefit of the award, the winners are subject to any criminal proceedings instituted by the State or disciplinary proceedings instituted by the institution of attendance of the course, or the winners assume a behaviour regarding the promoters, sponsors or third parties that, due to its severity, determine damage to the image or honourability of the participants or discredit or injury to the entities involved or to themselves.
  
3. The award of the prize presumes a **minimum** of 10 received projects in each category. In case the minimum number of projects is not met in a given edition, the submitted projects are automatically enrolled for the following edition, giving the opportunity to the candidates to work in their development/improvement if they desire.
  
4. To be eligible for the prize, at least one representative from each STARTUP, Student group, PhD project, or research team must attend the H2O & Sustainability Summit in person.

## 5. Monetary prize

5.1. For the winning projects in the **Student category** and **PhD and Researchers category**, the monetary prize will be paid in two phases:

- a) 50% of the monetary prize will be paid after the Pitch Ceremony;
- b) The remaining 50% of the monetary prize will be paid exclusively after the formal establishment of a STARTUP in Algarve within a maximum period of six months following the Pitch Ceremony.

5.2. If the formal establishment of the STARTUP in Algarve is not demonstrated within the stipulated period, the remaining amount of the monetary prize will be automatically forfeited, with no possibility of appeal.

## Article 18.

### Changes to deadlines and dates in this Regulation

1. The deadlines and dates contained in this Regulation may be changed by decision of the promoters of **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition**, who will publicly announce it.

## Article 19.

### Processing of Personal Data

1. Enrolment and participation in the **H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition** implies the collection and processing of personal data of the interested parties, for which PremiValor Consulting and the project partner entities are responsible, with the data to be processed for the purposes of verifying compliance with the conditions of participation, pursuing the due diligence and communications necessary for the participation and development of the projects and the delivery of the award, holding questionnaires, monitoring, development of the project evaluation process and public disclosure of the image and identification data of the interested parties classified for the award. These purposes are based on the consent of the data subject, provided through the application form.
2. The responsible undertake to comply at all times with the legal duties arising from the processing of personal data, including compliance with the appropriate technical and organizational security measures to ensure data protection with a

view to compliance with applicable legislation on the protection of personal data, in particular Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27<sup>th</sup> of April, 2016.

3. The collection and processing of personal data of interested parties is a necessary requirement for entry and participation in the *H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB – Call for Projects – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. Failure to provide or incomplete or incorrect data may make it impossible to participate in the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition***.
4. In cases where the processing of personal data is performed solely on the consent of the holder, the holder has the right to withdraw his consent at any time. The withdrawal of consent, however, does not compromise the legality of the treatment based on the consent previously given.
5. Anyone wishing to participate in the ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition***, by submitting an application identifying a third party's personal data, must first ensure that has provided the third party with the information present in this Regulation and obtained the respective consent of the third party for the communication of their personal data to the responsible for the strict purposes set out in this clause.
6. The personal data of participating students and professors will be retained by the holder until the conclusion of the edition of ***H2O & Sustainability Innovation HUB - Call for Projects - 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*** in which they participated, after which it will be deleted unless, under applicable law or regulation, or due to pending litigation, retention for a longer period is mandatory.
7. To the data holders are guaranteed the rights of access, rectification, deletion and portability of their personal data, as well as the right to object and to limit their processing, under the applicable legal terms, ought the responsible to be contacted through the following contacts: PremiValor Consulting, Avenida 5 de Outubro, n.º 75 - 7.º floor, 1050-049 Lisbon or by the email **[h2o\\_sustainability\\_hub@premivalor.com](mailto:h2o_sustainability_hub@premivalor.com)** .
8. Data holders also have the right to file complaints regarding the processing of their data with the National Data Protection Commission or other competent supervisory authority.