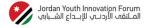




# Join the YouthLivingLabs Innovation Challenge 2025















# 1. What Is YouthLivingLabs

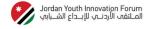
YouthLivingLabs is a transnational project funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ Programme. It brings together organizations from Spain, Cyprus, Greece, Jordan, and Egypt to empower young people — especially those Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEETs) — through innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainability.

The project establishes a network of Youth Living Labs where young people and companies cocreate solutions to real business and community challenges, using open innovation and design thinking methodologies.

Our mission is to build bridges between youth and the business sector, creating pathways for employability, sustainability, and social impact.















## 2. What We Have Achieved So Far

Over the past year, the YouthLivingLabs partners have conducted several preparatory activities to ensure the open call reflects real needs and opportunities.

#### **User Research**

Through in-depth interviews with young NEETs in the five participating countries, we identified major barriers to employment:

- Lack of work experience and access to paid internships.
- Mismatch between education and job market needs.
- Limited professional networks and mentorship opportunities.
- Financial constraints and low motivation due to job market uncertainty.

The findings emphasize the importance of collaboration between youth and businesses to co-design practical and sustainable solutions.















#### Peer Learning 1 (Spain)

The partners designed the living lab programme based on the results of the user research to align methodologies and share best practices for inclusive innovation and digital learning.



#### Peer Learning 2 (Cyprus)

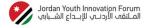
The second meeting focused refine and finalize the living labs structure and programme for the experimentation



















#### Co- creation workshop(Egypt)

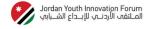
Engaged with partners, users, and key stakeholders to collaboratively establish selection criteria, define the roles of judges, and outline the application process for the open call.

Utilize interactive and participatory design techniques to ensure that the selection process is inclusive, transparent, and aligned with the project's objectives.

















# 3. Why We're Calling on Companies

This open call aims to engage 10 companies per country in a cross-border innovation experience.

# By joining the YouthLivingLabs network, companies will gain:

- 1. Access to skilled youth innovators trained in open innovation, digital tools, and design thinking.
- 2. Gain tailored, design-driven solutions to real business challenges, developed by youth teams trained in open innovation and design thinking.
- 3. Access a pool of motivated, skilled young talents ready to join your team through short internships or mentorships.
- 4. Gain visibility and recognition within the YouthLivingLabs international network.
- 5. Networking opportunities with international organizations and peers.

Together, we build an ecosystem where business challenges become opportunities for youth learning, creativity, and sustainability.













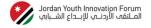


### 4. Who Can Join and How We'll Choose You

- 1. Legally registered company, start-up, or SME in one of the partner countries (Spain, Cyprus, Greece, Jordan, and Egypt).
- 2. Active in sectors open to innovation and willing to collaborate on youth empowerment.
- 3. Agreement to follow the project's inclusion, equality principles.
- 4. Capacity to assign one representative to liaise with project partners and mentor youth teams.













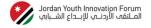


# Each application will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- <u>1.Alignment with YouthLivingLabs curriculum:</u> The challenge connects with themes of the skills that participants have acquire through the academy.
- 2.Clarity of challenge description: The problem is clearly defined and feasible for youth-led solution design.
- 3. Relevance to business needs: The challenge addresses a real issue or opportunity within the company's sector.
- 4. Willingness to offer internships: Commitment to mentoring or hosting participants post-challenge.
- <u>5.Feasibility and scalability:</u> Solutions proposed by youth teams can be implemented or scaled.















# 5. Who Will Tackle Your Challenge? Meet Their Skills.

Before collaborating with companies, participants will complete four inclusive and digital training programmes designed to strengthen their employability and innovation capacity.

Each programme blends one live session with three days of self-paced learning

Introspective Skills
Self-knowledge and

emotional resilience



academy.youthlivinglabs.eu

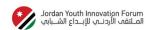
Interactive Skills
Communication,
storytelling, co-creation

Extrospective Skills
Opportunity mapping and
employability

Technical Skills
Tools for entrepreneurship
and project planning















# 6. How to Apply & Key Dates to Remember

Apply here: https://forms.gle/HA6TGWwtm3vE7oiW7

















## 7. Contact & Further Information

Stay connected with us on our social media channels!

