SUPER SAPIENS
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2026

Super Sapiens Europe 2026: the **European Call4Ideas**

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IREFI
INSTITUT POUR LES RELATIONS ÉCONOMIQUES FRANCE - ITALIE
ISTITUTO PER LE RELAZIONI ECONOMICHE FRANCIA - ITALIA

scientifica
Venture Capital

Summary

Overview

What is

It is a **Call4Ideas** that aims to select innovative, technology-intensive ideas and projects

Mission / Purpose

- Strengthen the joint **innovation ecosystem** between Italy and France, **involving all stakeholders** in the innovation value chain
- Generate **deal flow** and scout for fundable **projects** in the **pre-seed, seed and early-stage** phases within and through the implemented ecosystem

Core Technologies and Application Domains

The **4 Core Technologies** are:

- SMART MATERIALS & CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS
- AI & SOFTWARE ENGINEERING
- ADVANCED MANUFACTURING & INDUSTRIAL SENSING
- QUANTUM & PHOTONICS

The **9 Application domains** are:

- ENERGY TRANSITION & CLIMATE TECH
- CIRCULAR ECONOMY
- HEALTHTECH
- SPACE TECHNOLOGIES
- SMART CITIES, MOBILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE
- ROBOTICS & AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS
- CYBERSECURITY & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
- MARITIME & UNDERWATER TECHNOLOGIES
- AGRI-FOOD TECHNOLOGIES

When

Application window open from
March 2nd until May 15th

The phases

Phase I
Application window
2 Marc. - 15 May 2026

Phase II
Evaluation Process
16 May 2026 - 19 June 2026

Phase III
Projects Selection
September

The chain of innovators - Partners

Institutional Partners

Institutional Partners play a pivotal role in fostering an innovation-friendly ecosystem while promoting strategic collaborations and synergies that drive project growth.

Venture capital

Venture capitals provide not only the necessary **funds** but also valuable **expertise** in terms of **business strategy**, in order to guide the project towards success.

Corporate

Corporates are essential for **validating** both the **technology** and the business aspects of the project.

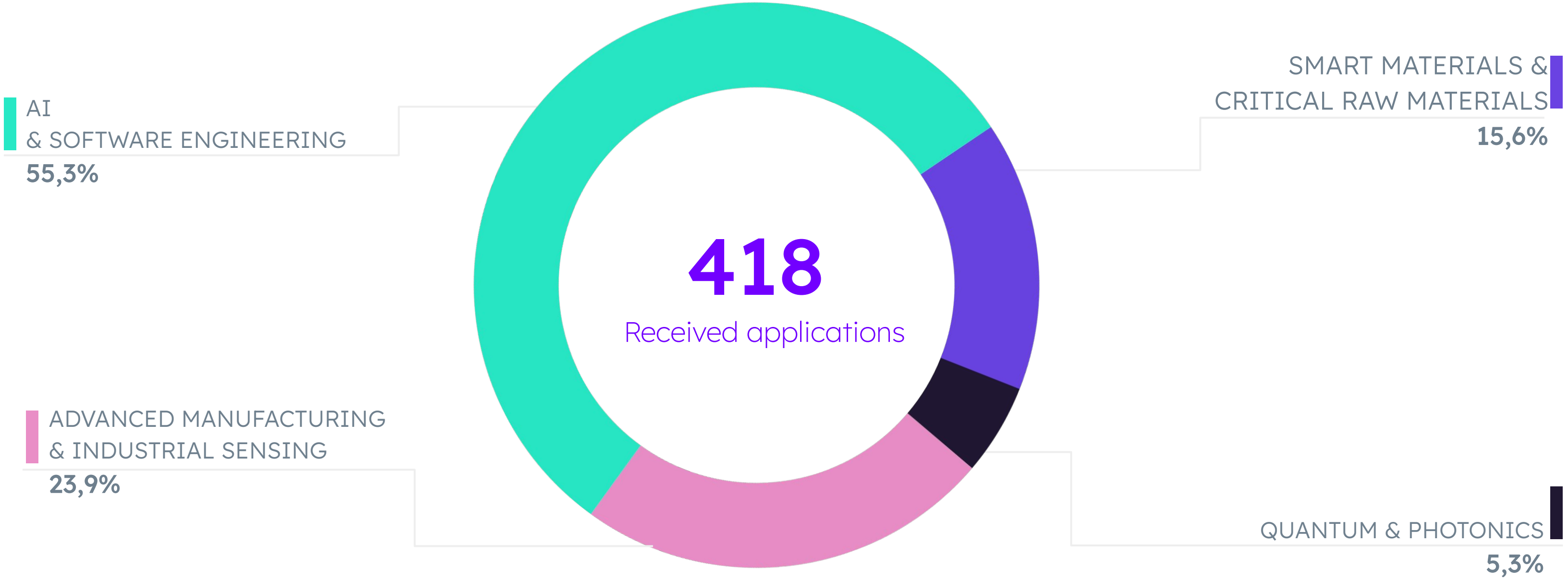
Innovation Hubs

Innovation hubs, including accelerators, incubators and venture builders, play a crucial role in nurturing and developing start-ups. By integrating start-ups into their structured growth programs, innovation hubs **facilitate the transition from innovative ideas to viable businesses**.

Laboratories

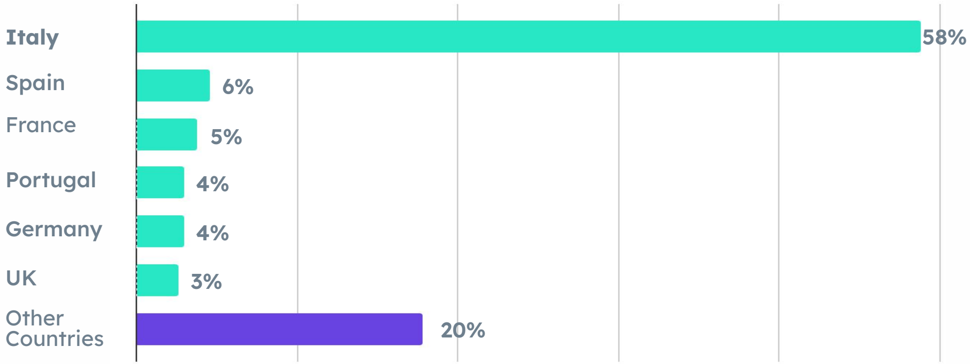
Labs are essential in bridging the gap between theoretical concepts and practical applications. They **serve as the testing grounds** where ideas are put to the test and refined before being implemented on a larger scale.

KPIs - Core Technologies



KPIs - Geographical

% GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN PERCENTAGE



% APPLICATIONS BY LEGAL STATUS

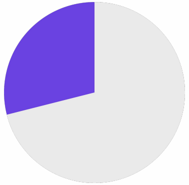
KPIs - Innovation Rate

TRL LEVEL

% NUMBER of PATENTS

29%

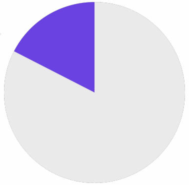
Patent-holding start-up



TOTAL of PhDs

17,5%

PhD count in the Team



AdVenture Program

AdVenture Partners

The AdVenture Program is a training path designed to prepare participants for the professional world. Its goal is to cultivate the next generation of venture capital professionals, starting directly from the university environment.

Participating in the AdVenture Program means becoming an AdVenture Partner i.e., a “hunter of brilliant ideas,” a true “innovation detector” who, within universities and research departments, identifies innovative technological projects and submits them to Scientifica Venture Capital for potential investment evaluation.

Breakout channel

59 Initiatives coming from AdVenture Partners

SSE 2026 - What's next

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1 Process deadline

Scientifica team will grant access to the platform enabling Partners, Corporate and VCs, to **review the start-ups assessment form**.
The corporates will have until June 16 to evaluate and vote for the startups assigned to them based on their business needs.

2 Selection criteria

For each of the following criteria, partners have to assign **a score** ranging from **1 (low)** to **5 (high)**:

- **Consistency with the reference Industry Fields**
  This measures how well a start-up aligns with the **industry field**
- **Degree of innovation**
  It measures the extent to which the start-up introduces new solutions, methods, or technologies with respect to the current **state of Art**
- **Technical Feasibility**
  This evaluates whether the proposed solution can be successfully developed and implemented with the **current technological resources** and expertise
- **Team Quality**
  The evaluation is based on **commitment, academic certifications, scientific publications** and the **team's experience**

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- **Strengthen Italy-France axis**
  Evaluates the proposal's suitability in terms of its potential to strengthen the Italy-France economic axis and assigns a bonus point

The final **evaluation** will be **based** on the **total score**

In addition to these **quantitative evaluations**, Corporates and VCs will have the opportunity to assess the projects from a **qualitative standpoint** within the form

3 Projects selection

September 2026

Selection: Partners will have until June 16 to evaluate the startups, and they are requested to share the list of startups they are interested in by June 19.

During the following week, a meeting is organized with all Contributing Partners to define the next steps.

During the summer, Partners will have the opportunity to go deep in the analysis organising a call.

By September, up to 12 finalists will be chosen.

No award ceremony is planned during the Round Table taking place on July 6–7 at Palazzo Farnese.

The event may eventually be postponed to a later date.

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