

# FUTUREGRID

THE  
INVESTTECH  
HACKATHON

1-3  
JULY

BY FUNDRAISING  
UNIT OF NCSR  
DEMOKRITOS

FUTUREGRID  
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INNOVATION SPRINT FOR AI, SMART CITIES, CLOUD & DATA, INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FOR INCLUSION

UNITING STUDENTS & YOUNG INNOVATORS TO SHAPE A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

TACKLE REAL-WORLD CHALLENGES THROUGH ADVANCED DIGITAL TOOLS



Co-funded by  
the European Union

## ABOUT FUTUREGRID

FutureGrid is a collaborative hackathon designed for students and young innovators who want to turn ideas into impactful solutions. The hackathon focused on designing, prototyping, and pitching technologies that address real-world challenges through advanced digital tools. Participants will work in teams, receive expert mentoring, and develop innovative solutions.

Participants will develop projects focused on:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Smart & Sustainable Cities
- Green Energy
- ICT for Inclusion
- Cloud Technologies
- Data & Digital Systems

## WHO CAN JOIN?

- University students (students from STEM, environmental, design, and business-related fields are encouraged to apply)
- Young developers & designers
- Early-stage innovators and creators
- Participants must be 18+

## EVENT DETAILS

**Location:** NCSR Demokritos Premises

**Dates:** 1–3 July 2026

**Time:** Daily program between 09:00–17:00

**Application Deadline:** 20 June 2026

**Available places:** 30

\*Full schedule to be announced soon.

## INDICATIVE TOPICS OF INTEREST



### Urban sustainability

Energy, mobility, and waste solutions



### Climate resilience

Environmental monitoring & adaptive technologies



### ICT for inclusion

Accessible and inclusive digital technologies



### Circular economy innovation

Digital tools supporting sustainable production & consumption



### Data-driven sustainability

Resource efficiency through analytics and smart systems



### Behavioral change technologies

Technology that encourages sustainable habits and decision-making

## SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS

Each team is required to submit a final presentation (pitch deck) before the final demonstration day. The presentation will be delivered in front of the judging committee and evaluated based on the innovation, feasibility, impact, and overall quality of the proposed solution.

The presentation should clearly describe:

- The problem/challenge addressed
- The proposed solution and its innovation
- The technology or methodology used
- Potential impact and application areas
- Future development potential and scalability
- Team members and their roles

Suggested presentation length: 5–10 slides.

Applicants are not required to have a fully developed project idea at the time of application. Submission of a topic, challenge, or early-stage concept will be requested only after the application deadline (20th of June).

## TOOLS YOU CAN USE

Participants are free to use any tools, platforms, or technologies that best support their solution. Open-source tools, public datasets, or proprietary platforms are allowed, provided usage complies with licensing terms.

## APPLICATION

Participants will be grouped into teams based on their preferred area of work. If you do not already have a team, the organizing team will assign you to a group that aligns with your selected topics.

If you already have a pre-formed team, you may include your teammates' email addresses in the designated section of the application form. In this case, your team composition will be considered as proposed during the application process.



Registration closes at 20th of June 2026

Available places: 30

Location: NCSR Demokritos, Athens, Greece

[Register Now](#)



## SCHEDULE OVERVIEW (TBC)

### 1st July: Welcoming

- Registration
- Guidelines for the Hackathon & the basics of pitching
- Guided visit within Demokritos premises

### 2nd July: Mentoring

Participants will:

- Present their initial concept or challenge idea
- Receive structured feedback from mentors and experts
- Refine their project direction and presentation
- Connect with teammates and collaborators

### 3rd July: Presentation Day & Closing Event

- Participants will present their projects to the judging committee.
- The judging committee will provide feedback and evaluate the final solutions.
- The winning teams will be announced.
- The event will conclude with a networking celebration, including food and drinks for all participants.

## NEXT STEPS

Following the registration deadline - 20/06/2026, the organizing team will review all applications and notify applicants of their eligibility and selection for the next phase. All the information will be shared with you at your registration email.

Stay up to date by visiting our [website](#)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### DEMOKRITOS & THE INVESTECH PROJECT

The FutureGrid Hackathon is part of the [INVESTech](#), a project co-funded by the European Union, including five European countries: Slovakia, Greece, Bulgaria, Cyprus, and Lithuania. INVESTech aims to support the creation and growth of a transnational cooperation platform bringing together Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) across these countries. The [Fundraising Unit](#) of NCSR Demokritos is a key project partner and the host of the FutureGrid Hackathon.

[NCSR Demokritos](#), Greece's largest multidisciplinary research centre.

Learn more about NCSR Demokritos' work in this short video:



Have questions?

Contact us here:



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<https://fundraising.demokritos.gr/>