

TIGER HACKATHON 2026
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Data-driven ecosystems for active ageing · Milan, 23–24 November 2026

The TIGER Hackathon 2026 is a 30-hour innovation sprint dedicated to digital solutions for active ageing, eHealth and the silver economy. The event takes place on 23 and 24 November 2026 at the G-Gravity Incubator, Via Legnone 4, 20158 Milan (Italy). It is promoted by Polo Tecnologico Alto Adriatico within the TIGER project, co-funded by the European Union through the Interreg Alpine Space programme, and organised by FermoTech on its behalf (hereinafter "the Organisers").

1. Objectives

The Hackathon aims to:

- bring together startups, SMEs and innovation specialists from the Alpine Space around a shared challenge on healthcare data and active ageing;
- develop technical and organisational solutions that connect patients, healthcare professionals, caregivers, service providers and policymakers;
- validate ideas with expert mentors and potential end users;
- build lasting business and technology relationships across the five partner countries.

2. Eligibility

Participants must meet **all three** of the following criteria:

1. Be part of a startup or SME under the EU definition (founders, staff or collaborators).
2. Come from one of the TIGER partner countries — Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia. A company operating outside the Alpine Space is also eligible if it is registered as an entity within the Alpine Space.
3. Work on the eHealth/silver economy theme, in at least one of these categories: Healthy Longevity, AgeTech & AI, Smart Living, Connected Communities, Future Care, Silver Economy Ventures.

A company may be represented by one or more people; the whole company does not need to take part. Eligibility is verified by the national contact point of the applicant's country before registration is confirmed.

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3. Registration

- Participation is **free of charge**. Travel and any other personal expenses are borne by participants.
- Places are limited to **35 participants** and assigned on a first come, first served basis among eligible applicants.
- Applications are submitted in English through the form at tigerpath.eu/application-form. After the eligibility check, applicants complete their registration on the event management system of Polo Tecnologico Alto Adriatico (ts.ventureintelligence.eu/tiger, ROOM 1).
- Registration is complete only once the slot has been booked on the event management system.
- Technical support for the application form and the registration platform: euprojects@poloaa.it.
- The Organisers may close registrations early once the maximum number of participants is reached.

4. Format and duration

- The Hackathon lasts two days, for about 30 hours of work, including an overnight session.
- Work follows the Design Sprint methodology. The working language is **English**.
- Teams of up to 5 people, mentor included, are formed on the first day by the Organisers. Teams are deliberately mixed across companies and countries, following a "coopetitive" approach.
- The programme includes training sessions, the challenge launch, design and development sessions, mentor checkpoints, pitch preparation and the final presentation to the jury. The detailed programme is published in the Applicant Info Sheet and may be subject to operational adjustments.

5. The challenge

Teams will address the following question:

How can we design simple yet powerful digital tools to connect patients, healthcare professionals, caregivers, providers and policymakers?

Solutions may be technological, digital or process-based, and should address one or more of these objectives: standardisation and integration of healthcare data; timely, personalised recommendations; usability combined with secure data management; use of AI for decision support and for assessing the effectiveness of solutions. The challenge is officially presented at the start of the event.

6. Support and resources

During the Hackathon participants will have access to equipped workspaces, Wi-Fi connection and catering as set out in the programme. Participants must bring their own laptop and any personal tools (software, devices) they need.

7. Mentors

Each team is supported by a mentor trained in the Design Sprint methodology, together with mentors circulating between teams. Mentors are selected among professionals, entrepreneurs and experts, and provide technical, methodological and strategic support throughout the event.

8. Final outputs

Each team must present its project in a **5-minute pitch** to the jury, supported by slides and, where possible, a demonstration of the solution. Projects must be original, developed during the event, and must not infringe third-party intellectual property rights.

9. Jury and evaluation criteria

A jury of experts and institutional representatives will assess the projects according to the following criteria, for a maximum total of 100 points:

Criterion	*Points*
Innovation and technology. *Including effective use of AI and quality of the solution*	30
Sustainability and business model	30
Interoperability	20
Pitch clarity and team cohesion	20

The decision of the jury is final.

10. Prizes

The three best-ranked teams, according to the jury's assessment, will receive the following prizes:

1st prize: €3,000 in vouchers for the purchase of technology;

2nd prize: €2,000 in vouchers for the purchase of technology;

3rd prize: €1,000 in vouchers for the purchase of technology.

Prizes are awarded to the team as a whole, not to individual members. In addition to the vouchers, as special prize, the opportunity to collaborate on a healthcare project with a Luxembourg-based entrepreneur will be offered (details on this will follow). Prizes are awarded during the award ceremony on 24 November 2026. Vouchers cannot be converted into cash.

11. Team organisation

The internal organisation of each team, the distribution of roles and any agreement on the rights to the project are the exclusive responsibility of its members. The Organisers accept no liability for internal agreements or claims between participants.

12. Intellectual property

Participants retain full ownership of their projects and related ideas. They authorise the Organisers, the TIGER project partners and the Interreg Alpine Space programme to describe and disseminate summaries and images of the projects as part of the communication activities of the initiative.

13. Image rights and personal data

Photographs and videos will be taken during the event for communication purposes. By taking part, participants consent to the use of their image in this context by the Organisers, the TIGER project partners and the Interreg Alpine Space programme. Personal data are processed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), solely for the organisation of the event, the reporting obligations of the project and its communication activities, unless otherwise indicated in the registration phase.

14. Code of conduct

Participants must behave correctly and respectfully towards other participants, mentors, jury members, organisers, staff and the hosting venue, and comply with the venue's rules, including during the overnight session. Any breach of these rules or improper conduct may lead to exclusion from the Hackathon.

15. Liability

Each participant is responsible for their own belongings and equipment. The Organisers and the hosting venue are not liable for any damage, loss or theft occurring during the event.

16. Acceptance and changes

Participation implies full and unconditional acceptance of these rules. By registering, participants guarantee the originality of their ideas and release the Organisers from any liability for infringement of third-party rights. The Organisers reserve the right to amend the programme or these rules for organisational reasons or in case of force majeure, informing participants in good time.

17. Contacts

Event organisation
FermoTech — innovation@fermotech.it
General information
FermoTech secretariat — info@fermotech.it
Technical support (application form, registration) and general info about the TIGER project

Polo Tecnologico Alto Adriatico, EU Projects team — euprojects@poloaa.it

More information: tigerpath.eu/hackathon

TIGER Hackathon 2026 is part of the TIGER project, co-funded by the European Union through the Interreg Alpine Space programme.

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