FUTURE CIRCULAR COLLIDER

Mining the Future® Competition

Fertile soil to grow your idea

We are looking for sustainable reuse solutions for molasse and other excavated materials.

The Future Circular Collider Study (FCC) is examining what could become one of the 21st century's biggest scientific missions. Supported by the Horizon 2020 FCCIS project, a global collaboration is carrying out a study to design next-generation particle colliders for the post-Large Hadron Collider era, to be hosted by CERN.

Building this new research infrastructure at the heart of Europe would unearth about nine million cubic metres of material, mainly molasse. Via this competition, the study is looking to identify technologies and processes for the reuse of these excavated materials in line with a modern circular economy.

Ten renowned jury members from around the world will evaluate proposals judging their innovative and socio-economic potential as well as their technological readiness.

The winner(s) of the competition will together receive support worth up to **€40 000** for further R&D efforts and business planning.

The Challenge

Today, there is no market-ready innovation product or service for the reuse of molasse material. Yet despite the lack of a clear technological pathway for large-scale applications, some reuse cases do exist. Sustainable uses of molasse materials include, for example:

- Novel concrete or asphalt mixtures
- Techno soil for better drainage
- Soil rehabilitation
- Erosion and slope protection
- Rockfill constructions
- Landscape elements

Who can apply?

The competition is open to entities including:

- Non-profit, academic and higher-education organisations
- International European Interest Organisations
- For-profit organisations, companies and industrial consortia
- Individuals

Applicants should present a promising solution for the reuse of excavated molasse materials. At a minimum, the proof-of-concept for the technology should already have been demonstrated in laboratory conditions **(TRL3)**. The technology should also be credibly on track to be turned into a product, service or industrial process by 2030 **(TRL 9)**.

How to apply?

Visit **cern.ch/miningthefuture**

to find out more about eligibility principles, evaluation criteria and the contest proceedings. Submit your application before **31 October 2021**

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CERN

MONTAN UNIVERSITÄT LEOBEN

ZaB ZENTRUM AM BERG

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