

WMF opens 3 new competitions for innovative startups. Partners include Esa - European Space Agency and Pegasus Tech Ventures.

The WMF, International Trade Fair and Festival on Tech and Digital Innovation opens three new calls for startups and innovative companies working in the fields of Artificial Intelligence and generally applying their innovative projects to create a positive impact in society. The calls are made in collaboration with high-profile partners such as ESA - European Space Agency and Pegasus Tech Ventures. The startups selected by the calls will have the opportunity to participate in WMF 2023-June 15-17 at the Rimini Fairgrounds-to access the expo area, present their projects to a highly profiled audience of VCs and industry players and plan B2B meetings with investors and expanding their network. To participate in the calls, it is only possible to apply until May 7.

Bologna, April 6th 2023

After the closing of applications for the 11th edition of the WMF Startup Competition, the largest international competition for startups, [WMF - We Make Future](#) opens three more calls aimed at Italian and international startups and innovative realities eager to present and promote their business projects within the Festival. The calls, respectively carried out in collaboration with **Esa - European Space Agency** and **Pegasus Tech Ventures** - venture capital based in Silicon Valley - aim to identify innovative startups able to bring, with their projects, a significant impact in their reference industries. Selected startups will have the opportunity to compete in the **International Trade Fair and Festival on Tech and Digital Innovation**, where investment funds, VCs, and major players in the digital-tech sector will gather **from June 15 to 17**, at the Rimini Fiera. Startups interested in the calls made by the WMF have the opportunity to **apply** by filling out the forms on the appropriate pages **no later than May 7**.

"WMF has been supporting the development of startups and innovative business projects for years, organizing opportunities such as the Startup Competition, the largest international competition for startups, which this year reaches its 11th edition" **Cosmano Lombardo**, CEO of Search On Media Group and creator of the WMF" *considering the thousands of applications arrived from over 85 countries, this year we decided to implement, also thanks to the support of partners of international relevance, vertical calls for specific innovation sectors aimed at startups that operate in areas such as AI and respond to the 12 Challenges of the Future identified by WMF"*

Call STARTUP WORLD CUP - The Italian Stage

Among the opportunities arranged this year by WMF for the world of innovative startups is the chance to participate in the **regional stage of Startup World Cup**, thanks to the partnership with **Pegasus Tech Ventures**. The startup selected from the call will compete with the finalists in WMF's Startup Competition to win the chance to enter the Pegasus Tech Ventures Startup World Cup Finals, scheduled to take place in San Francisco, USA, next fall, with a **prize of \$1 Million in direct investment up for grabs**. All selected startups and innovative companies will also have the opportunity to share their projects or services with the WMF ecosystem and digital - tech innovation players such as VCs and investment funds from around the world. The **call is open until May 7** and you can apply by filling out the form [on the dedicated page](#).

The WMF is also promoting **two new calls** related to the field of **artificial intelligence**: the [AI4EO](#) and **AI FOR FUTURE** calls, to which you can apply **by May 7**. Both calls are among the many initiatives inscribed in the "WMF FOR AI" project, the training, dissemination and information project carried out by the WMF - We Make Future which, since 2016 has been promoting culture in the field of Artificial Intelligence and its applications.

AI4EO Call - Artificial Intelligence 4 Earth Observation

AI4EO, born from the long-running collaboration between WMF - We Make Future and **Esa** - European Space Agency, is aimed at innovative **business projects that use AI** and its components in functional data processing applications to facilitate monitoring and care of the Earth's ecosystem. Also up for grabs, in addition to the opportunity to join the networks of the two entities, are two opportunities offered by ESA: access to the **EO Commercialization Days** event and participation in the pitch event within it; and access to **business and technical coaching on EO**. You can **apply no later than May 7** by [filling out the form on the dedicated page](#).

Call AI FOR FUTURE

Also on the topic of artificial intelligence, WMF is organizing the [AI FOR FUTURE](#) call, aimed at startups and projects that, through the use of Artificial Intelligence, are able to generate a positive impact on society by responding to one or more of the **12 challenges of the future**. The competition offers a **dual opportunity** to participate in the WMF, **June 15-17, 2023** at the Rimini Fiera, and in the **AI Festival**, the event organized by WMF for training and cultural dissemination on AI, scheduled for **October 5 and 6, 2023** at the **MiCo Fiera in Milan**. Selected startups will have the opportunity to give visibility and make their project known within the innovative ecosystem of the WMF and the AI Festival, where they will be able to get in touch

with **investors, companies, startups**, stakeholders and industry players and schedule **b2b meetings** and business matching. Selection will take place in two phases: the first, which will end on May 7, will give selected startups the opportunity to access the WMF and the AI Festival; startups that apply from May 8 to July 23, if selected, will have access to the AI Festival.

All initiatives related to the world of innovative entrepreneurship will fit within **World Startup Fest**, the international benchmark event for startups, scaleups and investors, scheduled for **June 15-17 within the WMF**. One of the **10 pavilions of the Rimini Fiera** will in fact be entirely dedicated to the sector, and the largest International Startup Competition, the Startup District, B2B meetings with investors from all over the world, business matching, vertical stages and many other activities that involved **more than 1,300 startups and investors from 49 countries in the past edition will return**.

Useful Link

- [WMF - We Make Future](#)
- [Call AI4EO](#)
- [Call Startup World Cup](#)
- [Call AI FOR FUTURE](#)
- [World Startup Fest](#)

WMF - We Make Future - International Fair and Festival on Tech and Digital Innovation

The next appointment with WMF, the international event entirely dedicated to the innovation ecosystem, is scheduled on June 15, 16, 17, 2023, at the Rimini Expo Centre. Once again, the event will bring together the very best of digital and social innovation, leading market players, startups and investors, institutions, universities, and non-profit associations. With more than 36,000 attendees in 2022, more than 700 speakers and guests from around the world, 1,000 startups, and 77 educational stages, now towards its 11th edition the WMF is a reality with a global identity, a catalyst for innovation for concrete, collective improvement. The event is created and produced by Search On Media Group

Search On Media Group

Since 2004, the company has aimed to spread digital culture by managing and coordinating communities, supporting sharing activities, and carrying out strategic and operational consulting, with the Search On Consulting Department, in the field of Digital Marketing and Digital Transformation for large companies. From the experience and professional assets of Search On Media Group, were later born the Education Business Unit, which organizes and curates the WMF and other training events, and the ibrida.io platform, which hosts online, hybrid, and offline events in a highly customizable and flexible environment.

For information and materials

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