

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spain's Top Climate Tech Talent to Expand to the UK

Immersion programme helps Spanish tech scale, raise capital and internationalise in the UK

Cambridge, United Kingdom, 8th November 2023 – Cambridge Cleantech, one of Europe's leading climate tech innovation enablers, is to host the second cohort of the UK immersion programme to help Spain's most innovative cleantech startups to scale, secure investment, and expand to new international markets.

Desafia London brings together Cambridge Cleantech with delivery partners University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL), one of the world's leading sustainability, executive training, and acceleration units, and Oxfordshire Greentech, a dynamic cleantech innovation network for the rapidly expanding Oxford technology cluster.

Desafia is a public initiative, sponsored by ICEX and Red.es (the Spanish Government's agencies for the internationalization of businesses and for executing and deploying Spain's Digital Agenda), that helps tech start-ups from Spain accelerate growth and expand overseas.

It does this via immersion programmes, already successfully rolled out in San Francisco, Berlin and Singapore, amongst others. Startups participating in the Desafia immersion programmes have so far raised more than \$230M in funding and have created over 3000 jobs.

The unique immersion programme will run for a total of two weeks during November and will include extended visits to both the Cambridge and Oxford technology clusters to maximize immersion in the UK's most dynamic innovation centres.

Spanish startups will also have the opportunity to pitch to the UK and international investment community in London through Cambridge Cleantech and CISL's investor networks, to be held at Sustainable Ventures, at County Hall, London on the 23rd November.

For more information on Desafia London or to apply for the immersion programme, please visit <https://www.london.desafia.gob.es>

Sam Goodall, CEO of Cambridge Cleantech, said: "The Golden Triangle super cluster of Cambridge, Oxford, and London is only matched by the Bay Area in the US in terms of scale as a global innovation and investment ecosystem. We're beyond excited to bring our second cohort of Desafia London, to the UK."

Hannah Scott, CEO of Oxfordshire Greentech, explained: "Desafia London provides the perfect backdrop for knowledge transfer between the thriving technology clusters of the UK

and Spain. This will help facilitate the acceleration and faster adoption of technical innovation and cleantech solutions to help tackle climate change. We look forward to welcoming the Spanish cohort to our Oxfordshire Greentech ecosystem.”

James Cole, Chief Innovation Officer, CISL added: “CISL has unrivalled experience in designing and delivering startup acceleration programmes for global reach and impact. We’re thrilled to partner with Cambridge Cleantech to run Desafia’s UK immersion programme for Spanish cleantech startups.”

Álvaro Nadal, Head of the Economic and Commercial Office of the Spanish Embassy in London, said. “In Spain, we already have more than 750 startups specialising in cleantech that are part of a growing ecosystem. Our commitment to the internationalisation of the sector is reflected in projects such as Desafia London, an executive training and immersion program that brings together London’s digital, financial, and creative muscle with Oxford and Cambridge, the UK’s two main innovation and technology clusters. The expertise of Cambridge Cleantech, Cambridge University’s Institute for Sustainability Leadership and Oxfordshire Greentech will provide a formidable growth platform for participating Spanish startups.”

Cohort 2

Teimas is specialised in waste value chain digitalisation and the reintroduction of waste back into the production chain.

EV Charge help organisations launch, operate and scale electric vehicle smart charging businesses.

Citibox is disrupting the last mile delivery, through their smart locker system for at home deliveries.

Esave enable process efficiency and digitization, in the energy and telecommunications sectors.

Wattson provide the most powerful ultra-fast mobile charger for electric vehicles on the market.

Bechained enable their clients to make energy consumption efficient, reduce CO2 emissions, and get income from energy flexibility and CO2 credits.

Recircular give a second life to companies’ waste, by-products and excess materials, helping to reduce costs for both waste management and the purchase of secondary raw materials.

H2Vector has developed a green hydrogen battery adaptable and directly pluggable to final applications.

Build to Zero is decarbonising the production of thermal energy.

Uali, combine robotics, IoT, and AI, in their drone technology to remotely monitor operations in the energy sector.

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About Cambridge Cleantech

Cambridge Cleantech is a hub for international climate technology clusters which all share a unified goal of reaching net zero. As an innovation enabler, it fast-tracks the growth of sustainable, clean technology companies by connecting start-ups in energy, water, transport, the built environment and circular economy with investors, public sector bodies and multinational conglomerates. With the world transitioning to more stringent environmental standards, the clean technology sector is poised for exponential growth. Cambridge Cleantech helps transform smart climate concepts into commercial applications through its global network of innovation partners.

About Oxfordshire Greentech

Oxfordshire Greentech is the business network for a low-carbon future. With innovators, funders, academics, local authorities, professional services and more supporting the growth of the low-carbon sector in Oxfordshire, the membership organisation hosts a range of professional networking events to encourage innovation, collaboration, and knowledge transfer.

About University Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership

The University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) has been a pioneer in enabling leading businesses and aspiring change-makers to identify and implement commercially viable solutions to this challenge, and to achieve the transitions that will be required across industries, value chains and economic systems. For over three decades we have built the leadership capacity and capabilities of individuals and organisations, and created industry-leading collaborations, to catalyse change and accelerate the path to a sustainable economy.

About Desafia

DESAFIA is a public initiative to help Spanish technology companies scale faster and globally. It is sponsored by ICEX (the Government of Spain's agency for the internationalization of businesses) and Red.es (the Government of Spain's agency responsible for executing and deploying Spain's Digital Agenda). DESAFIA LONDON aims to introduce the participants to the UK's tech ecosystem, so that they can benefit from lessons and networks that allow them to grow as successful entrepreneurs, and to help them to make global connections.

About Economic and Commercial Office of the Spanish Embassy in London

The Economic and Commercial Offices are integrated in the Spanish Diplomatic Missions and are the specialized instrument of the Spanish Administration for the internationalization of our economy and the provision of services and assistance to Spanish companies and entrepreneurs abroad. They are also responsible for institutional economic and trade relations and for generating economic information on the countries in their demarcation.



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