**Challenge Name: ………**

**GENERAL**

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| **Theme** | Financial and Legal Structure |
| **Challenge-owner and Organisation** | Junta de Extremadura, working jointly with AGENEX |
| **Contact person (if different than above)** | Javier Ordóñez (jordonez@agenex.org)Rachel Tully (rctully@agenex.net) |

**Challenge-OWNER DESCRIPTION (background)**

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| The Extremadura Energy Agency (AGENEX) is a public institution, created in 2001 thanks to the EU SAVE programme, which aims to promote renewable energy sources, increase the efficiency and energy savings, and support energy planning at local and regional level. AGENEX has become a key-actor in the development of Extremadura’s energy sector.AGENEX will be supported at all time by the Regional Government (Junta de Extremadura), one of the prime movers for this Smart Specialization Solar Partnership. |

**BACKGROUND / CONTEXT of the Challenge**

The challenge we have identified addresses a complicated and complex problem, how to legally structure the desired Solar Partnership. We must analyse the financial viability to carry through this project (searching for investors in the public or private sector) and clear the legal terms and regulations that will allow this project to move forward.

This challenge is relevant and open ended, it has been chosen according to European needs and will be discussed to find a solution during Innovation Camps. The purpose of these camps is to share potential for innovation and to embrace a real commitment to take results forward.

**DESCRIPTION OF MAIN ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES and OBSTACLES**

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| **Main Issues**The main issue is how to legally structure the Solar Platform Partnership and receive public funds (state aids) without interfering in the market economy. Receiving government support makes a company gain an advantage over its competitors, and it is only allowed if justified by reasons of general economic development.**Underlying Issues**A possible issue that will appear if the project goes through, is how the solar platform will be economically viable (for production or research).**Opportunities**Extremadura is capable and experienced enough to lead solar energy projects, specifically, to work on a hybrid technology that includes Solar Concentrated Power (SCP) and Photovoltaics (PV), increasing the number of profitable hours.Many participating regions are involved and committed to get this project off the ground, and have common energy technology interests.**Obstacles**Both obstacles addressed are related to the land needed to develop a solar platform, dealing with the Environmental Territorial Office and reaching an agreement with the municipality that owns the land and its Territorial and Urban Plan. |

**MAIN CHALLENGE OBJECTIVES**2 or 3 bullet point sentences describing each objective. Describe in more detail If necessary.

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| * Mobilize an investment project offering interaction and participation for interregional cooperation.
* Combine complementary strengths and research capacities to overcome difficulties and obstacles.
* Reach a defined plan or strategy to develop the project as smoothly as possible.
* Find a solution in a legal and financial way to overcome the initially identified problems or issues.

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**Relevant Stakeholders and stakeholder organizations**

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| * Policy makers: to mobilize self-organizing capacities of cities and regions to address the challenges.
* Business/ Entrepreneurs: to join interests, capacities and folders to compete innovatively in a globalized market.
* Academia: to identify research and innovative capacities to be developed.
* Civil Society: to empower citizens to gain ownership and conceive innovative solutions to issues of their concern.

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**CHALLENGE GROUP MEMBERS: Potential participants at the camp**

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| **Group members suggested by Challenge-owner**The Challenge owner should suggest participants who are responsible for / relevant to following through on the results after the Camp. We strongly recommend that *2 people* from the Challenge owner’s organization take part in each Workgroup. |
| **Name** | **Email** | **Position** | **Organization** | **Expertise** |
| <Challenge owner> |  |  |  |  |
| <Facilitator> |  |  |  |  |
| <Challenge stakeholder> |  |  |  |  |
| <Challenge stakeholder> |  |  |  |  |
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| **Other possible group members**  |
| **Name** | **Email** | **Position** | **Organization** | **Expertise** |
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**RELEVANT INFORMATION**Links to videos, reference material (books, scientific papers, annual reports, etc.), photos, organisation website, projects related to the challenge etc.

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**Attachments (if necessary)**

* **Other material relevant to understand the challenge**