



RAK Energy Innovation Competition

2nd SME EDITION

Put your start-up in the spotlight; find new partners and demonstration opportunities. Join forces with Ras Al Khaimah Municipality to create a clean energy future!

INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES

The Ras Al Khaimah Integrated Sustainability (RIS) Strategy 2050 as part of Ras Al Khaimah's Vision 2030 sets a comprehensive framework for transforming the emirate's energy and environment sectors in support to UAE's net zero commitments. Building on the Energy Efficiency & Renewables Strategy 2040 (EE&R Strategy), RIS Strategy expands and deepens its scope to address decarbonisation, energy security, environmental protection, and industrial competitiveness.

As part of the capacity building efforts of this strategy, Ras Al Khaimah Municipality is organising an innovation competition for start-ups and SMEs whose solutions will support in shaping our clean energy future! The competition provides a platform to showcase innovative solutions and connect with key government and industry players in the UAE.

The objective of the competition is to attract leading start-ups and SMEs to propose their solutions addressing specific energy challenges in Ras Al Khaimah applicable to the broader MENA region.

CHALLENGES

Digitisation

This challenge seeks to address the digitisation gap in energy efficiency in the region. This can be addressed through the use of software and/or hardware to visualise or control resources or processes associated with energy, water and fuel, resulting in behaviour change and resource efficiency.

Applicability

Can span across various sectors such as residential, industrial, commercial, government or transport.

Suitable solutions

May include, but are not limited to; data visualisation tools, IoT, real-time monitoring, artificial intelligence, smart monitors, smart control and mobile applications.

Decarbonisation

This challenge seeks to address decarbonisation of hard to abate industries, with a focus on the prevalent industrial sectors in RAK.

Applicability

Is specific to the industrial sector with a focus on cement, ceramics, glass, and mining especially from an energy efficiency and reuse standpoint.

Suitable solutions

May include, but are not limited to; measures ranging from resource efficiency, waste heat recovery, to carbon capture.

Decentralisation

This challenge seeks to address the limited uptake in deployment of distributed renewable technology and storage in the region with an aim to minimise reliance on centralised fossil fuel systems and addressing the challenges of intermittency often associated with renewable energy.

Applicability

Can span across various sectors such as residential, industrial or commercial.

Suitable solutions

May include, but are not limited to; solar PV, hydrogen, solar thermal, colocation (generation and storage), and standalone storage.

PRIZES



Exemption of company set-up fees including visas, for 2 years, under benefit packages provided by RAK Economic Zone (RAKEZ)



Monetary prize worth USD 27,000 (AED 100,000)



Opportunity for individual sales pitch meetings with leading government entities and businesses



Opportunity to join a closed door round-table with selected local government entities and businesses to explore potential collaboration opportunities



A commercial pilot project in Ras Al Khaimah, upon agreement on scope and terms

All benefits are subject to the founders of the winning company committing to establishing and maintaining operations of the company in Ras Al Khaimah for at least three years.

Apply for the RAK Energy Innovation Competition (2nd SME Edition)

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Ras Al Khaimah Integrated Sustainability Strategy 2050 ↗

RAK Energy Innovation Competition (2nd SME Edition) ↗

Terms and Conditions:

Ras Al Khaimah Municipality reserves the right, at its own discretion and without any obligation towards participating companies, to update the design of RAK Energy Innovation Competition (2nd SME Edition) including among others, the challenges, the prizes, the eligibility, evaluation criteria and the senior executive board composition.

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2024 SME EDITION – COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

The 2024 edition of the RAK Energy Innovation Competition SME Edition brought together some of the most promising SMEs from around the world with more than 75 applications from over 25 countries. Below are the winners and their ongoing collaborations in Ras Al Khaimah.



Energy Management

Winner: i2Cool Limited

Country: Hong Kong, China

Now collaborating with:

RAK Ports & RAK Hospitality



Decentralised Energy Systems

Winner: SolarisKit Ltd

Country: Scotland, UK

Now collaborating with:

RAK Ports, RAK Hospitality & RAK Ceramics



Industrial Efficiency

Winner: Blue Snow Consulting & Engineering

Country: Malaysia

Now collaborating with:

RAKEZ, RAK Hospitality & RAK Ceramics



ARE YOU A START-UP OR SME?

The RAK Energy Innovation Competition is an opportunity to get market exposure and strategic partnerships in the power, water and industrial market in the UAE. The evaluation board comprises leading government and private sector entities in energy, water and industry.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Your start-up or SME is eligible for the competition if:

- ✓ It has a product, service, or solution in the energy, water or mobility sector, that addresses one of the challenges mentioned above faced by Ras Al Khaimah;
- ✓ It has existing project references for its product, service or solution;
- ✓ It is incorporated and has a public website; and
- ✓ Its annual revenue is less than USD 20 million

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Relevance**
 Relevance of the submission to the challenge statements, potential contribution to Ras Al Khaimah's sustainability and energy efficiency objectives and potential marketability in the region
- Disruption**
 Innovative nature of the product or solution in the region
- Merit**
 Coherence of the business plan of the company and existing project references
- Team/Resources**
 Readiness of team members and resources to establish company operations in Ras Al Khaimah, and start developing the local market

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

Complete your application by submitting the required documentation by **February 28, 2026**, on this [link](#). Winners will be announced in Q3 of 2026.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE BOARD



H.E. Eng. Esmaeel Alblooshi
Director General,
RAK Transport Authority



H.E. Khaled Fadel Alali
Director General,
Public Services
Department,
Ras Al Khaimah



H.E Mohamed Al Nuaimi
Chairman,
RAK Chamber of
Commerce and Industry



**H.E. Munther
Mohammed bin Shekar**
Director General,
Ras Al Khaimah Municipality



H.E. Eng. Yousif Al Ali
Chief Executive Officer,
Etihad Water and
Electricity (EtihadWE)



Abdullah Al Abdooli
Group Chief
Executive Officer,
Marjan



Abdulla Massad
Group Chief
Executive Officer,
RAK Ceramics



Ahmed Hawas
Executive Vice President
- Head of Corporate
Banking, RAKBANK



Andrea Di Gregorio
Executive Director,
Sustainable Energy Sector
(Reem), Ras Al Khaimah
Municipality



Asad Assaf Ruiz
Head of Sales,
Ras Al Khaimah
Economic Zone (RAKEZ)



Benoy Kurien
Group Chief
Executive Officer,
Al Hamra



Manu Verma
Chief Executive Officer,
RAKGAS

SENIOR EXECUTIVE BOARD



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Economic Consultant,
Department of
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Ras Al Khaimah



Nitin Johar
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Development Office,
Ras Al Khaimah



Paul Dawalibi
Chief Executive Officer,
Innovation City



Phillipa Harrison
Chief Executive Officer,
Ras Al Khaimah Tourism
Development Authority
(RAKTDA)



Roy Cummins
Chief Executive Officer,
RAK Ports



Sameh Al Muhtadi
Chief Executive Officer,
RAK Properties



Stefan Hanekom
Chief Financial Officer,
RAK Hospitality

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