

Press Release
SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON 2025, 12.-15.03.2025

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Innovation Festival brings Technology with Fun to Gran Canaria

The SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON organized by ITQ GmbH is entering its eighth round. Over 600 participants aged between 6 and 66+ can discover the latest technologies with a lot of commitment and fun and advance the digitalization of the future.

The pressing challenges of climate change and the global shortage of skilled labor require creative formats to get young people interested in technology. With the SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON Innovation Festival, ITQ GmbH connects young, international students with companies, opening new avenues in recruiting. Children and young people also can immerse themselves in the world of technology and gain their first programming experience at the Technology Workshops taking place at the same time.

Garching, February 13th, 2025 – [ITQ GmbH](#), together with [Dr Stetter ITQ](#) from the Canary Islands, is inviting around **600 technology enthusiasts** from all **over the world** to the **SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON** in Gran Canaria from **12 to 15 March 2025**. The MAKEATHON is ITQ GmbH's international Innovation Festival with the aim of getting young people excited about technology and promoting innovative, sustainable ideas for Digitalization. While young **students spend four days working on innovative prototypes** together with representatives of renowned Sponsors, the younger generation can put their skills to the test at Technology Workshops. The SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON promotes the technical expertise of all generations for a **Sustainable Future** and, as a **Networking Event**, facilitates dialogue between young talents and companies. This makes the MAKEATHON a special kind of **Recruiting Event**.

This year, **100 Representatives from Industry and Research/Teaching** will meet with **250 students** from a wide range of disciplines at the Infecar de Feria exhibition center. The students come from **46 Universities/Vocational Schools and from 30 nations** (Europe including Africa, Asia and South America as well). Over the course of four days, the participants will turn creative ideas for a more Sustainable Future into initial prototypes. They will receive **Industry Challenges** from the participating Sponsors in the areas of **Smart Green Mobility/Automation/Production/Energy and Smart Green Logistics**. In interdisciplinary teams, they will develop innovative solutions for environmentally friendly logistics processes, intelligent product and waste management and recycling processes with the support of the Sponsors. Among other things, they can develop sustainable packaging made from banana fibers or modular

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water measurement systems for a resource-saving future. The focus is also on challenges relating to **PET recycling** and reuse in industry as well as autonomous driving for waste disposal logistics. The Sponsors' state-of-the-art technologies from the fields of Robotics, Automation and Artificial Intelligence are available to them.

The realization of the SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON is made possible by ITQ GmbH and the financial, content and material support of **23 national and international sponsors**. Special thanks go to the **Platinum Sponsors**: [Government of Gran Canaria \(Cabildo de Gran Canaria\)](#), [MVTec](#), [igus](#) and [Murrelektronik](#). **Gold Sponsors** are the [Gobierno de Canarias](#), [the Fundación Sergio Alonso](#), [OPTIMA](#), [Vishay](#), [Krones](#), [Lorenz](#) and [MEILLER-Kipper](#). **Silver Sponsors** are: [SPEGC](#), [IES El Rincón](#), [MathWorks](#), [Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering IAO](#) and [VDMA](#).

To encourage enthusiasm for technology as early as possible, the MAKEATHON also offers an extensive program for young **Canarian children and teenagers**. This week, more than **300 schoolchildren** will be able to strengthen their knowledge and enthusiasm for technology and take part in **eight different Technology Workshops free of charge**. The workshops are organized by the [Gerda Stetter Foundation 'Technology is fun!'](#) with the [EU-funded research project 'EduDemoS'](#), the [Canarian foundation Fundación Sergio Alonso](#), [Dolde Engineering](#) and participating German Universities. The focus is on **Robotics, Programming and Electronics with an emphasis on Sustainability**.

"The festival enables participants to deepen their knowledge of the latest technologies. And all this in a unique, relaxed atmosphere. We at ITQ GmbH are proud to be able to offer these hands-on experiences for young students and children. In doing so, we are making a valuable contribution to raising a young generation of technology enthusiasts and bringing them into direct contact with companies," says Dr Rainer Stetter, Managing Director of ITQ GmbH.

Why Gran Canaria as the venue for the festival?

With its diverse climate zones, Gran Canaria offers ideal conditions for a sustainable and self-sufficient energy supply from renewable sources. With the **SMART & GREEN Projects** on the island, ITQ GmbH is pursuing the goal of advancing the digital transformation and promoting international networking. This is a decisive step towards counteracting the global shortage of skilled labor.

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Image: With enthusiasm and team spirit, international participants in the SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON develop innovative prototypes for an environmentally friendly future. (Source: ITQ GmbH)

About ITQ GmbH

Founded in 1998, ITQ GmbH is an independent engineering and consulting company with a focus on automation, mechanical and plant engineering. The experienced team of experts specializes in interdisciplinary problem solving related to software and systems engineering. Its core competencies include software engineering (analysis, design, implementation, testing) and process improvement as well as project and crisis management as well as consulting and coaching.

A special concern of ITQ is both requirements-oriented and forward-looking training as well as continuing education concepts, which already start with the younger generations. Therefore, the company promotes young academics in practical study projects as well as technical workshops for children, pupils, and students through their Gerda Stetter Foundation – Technik macht Spass!

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Characters (without spaces): 5.548

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More Information:

[ITQ GmbH](#)

[Dr. Stetter ITQ S.L.U](#)

[SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON](#)

[Gerda Stetter Foundation – Technik macht Spass!](#)

Photo Material:

[SMART GREEN ISLAND MAKEATHON – Impressions](#)

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