

# TRANSFORM4EUROPE BOOTCAMP

Turning societal challenges into entrepreneurial solutions

April 27 – 30, 2026  
Saarbrücken, Germany

INVITATION & AGENDA

The T-Lab Entrepreneurship is inviting you to participate in the upcoming T4EU Bootcamp, taking place from April 27 – 30, 2026 on the Campus of Saarland University in Saarbrücken, Germany.

The thematic focus of the event is how societal challenges can be turned into entrepreneurial solutions. In order to have a hands-on experience, participants will go through a founding lifecycle during those four days in Saarbrücken (see agenda below for details).

The Saarbrücken T-Lab aims to bring together young researchers and students, as well as staff members from the Transform4Europe universities studying, specializing, or having a deep interest in this field and to learn and practice on this topic.

To extend the networking possibilities, we're also inviting academics and stakeholders from the Transform4Europe Alliance working in this field – such as researchers, (soon to be) founders, businesses, NGOs etc. to discuss challenges and opportunities in the area as a foundation for further collaboration within the Alliance and T-Labs network.

The event is open to all members of the Transform4Europe community.

We're very much looking forward to see you in Saarbrücken!

*PS.: At the same time, the T-Lab Fair (Entrepreneurship Transformation Lab) and a Science Café will take place, which participants are welcome to join as well. At the Science Café, Prof. Simone Kustec from the University of Primorska will represent the [BIKE-HEI](#) project, and Assoc. Prof. Stéphane Foliard from the University Jean Monnet will represent the [B!KINETIC](#) project.*

*Please note: It won't be possible to attend the Fair and the Bootcamp, but either of those two formats plus the Science Café (see agenda below).*

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRANSFORMATION LAB DESCRIPTION

The Entrepreneurship Transformation Lab at Saarland University is the institutional anchor of the Transform4Europe (T4EU) Alliance's „Entrepreneurship“ thematic line. The Lab fosters entrepreneurial mindsets focused on societal and knowledge-based transformation. It links interdisciplinary academic innovation with regional socio-

economic ecosystems through co-creative, challenge-based formats. Saarland University, coordinated under its central entrepreneurship centre [Triathlon](#) embeds the T-Lab in a broad startup and transfer ecosystem within the T4EU framework.

## GENERAL BOOTCAMP DESCRIPTION

The Bootcamps are one of the main components of the Transformation Labs, which aims to:

- Engage and expand the involvement of young researchers and graduate students in the outreach life of the Alliance.
- Stimulate interdisciplinary research in the thematic areas of the consortium.
- Create conditions for improving the research capacity and potential of the Alliance through problem-oriented training.
- To create opportunities for various forms of collaboration with stakeholders.

## BOOTCAMP LEARNING OUTCOMES

The aim of the Bootcamp is to provide opportunities for participants to gain theoretical and practical knowledge and skills when it comes to startup eco systems and founding startups.

The programme itself is a fast track of a founding journey, where participants will gather in teams and – in theory – found their own startup, which at the end of the Bootcamp will be pitched in front of a (invertors) jury.

Apart of that, participants will have the chance to enhance and improve their skills in:

- Interdisciplinary Teamwork
- Presentation Skills
- Design Thinking Techniques
- Public Speaking Skills
- Financial Modelling Skills

## VENUE

Saarbrücken is a city with approximately 180,000 inhabitants and hence a pleasant size. Picturesque rural attractions and places of historic interest offers the perfect destination for a hike or a daytrip in or around the area; or even within the town itself. The cultural palette attracts visitors from far and wide.

Saarbrücken has experienced a diverse past in its over 1,000-year history. In 999 Emperor Otto III gave the royal seat “Sarabrucca” to the bishops of Metz as a gift. This was the first documented evidence of the town now known as Saarbrücken.

The 18th century buildings designed by the architect Friedrich Joachim Stengel were erected during the hayday of the Baroque period. His constructions moulded the face of the town and set the scene for its consequent architectural development.

Saarland has frequently changed hands between France and Germany during the last 200 years. Since 1957 the region has been an integral part of the Federal Republic of Germany, but the common passion for all things French is unmistakable. A certain “savoir vivre”, a “live and let live” mentality permeates the region’s atmosphere.

This is reflected by the local hospitality and predilection for food and drink. The proximity to France can also be detected in the region’s cuisine; for many years, renowned food critics have granted restaurants here distinguished awards.

More about the city of Saarbrücken [here](#).

## AGENDA

 **26 April 2026 – Arrival Day** **27 April 2026 (Societal challenges and ideation)**  
Venue: Innovation Centre, Building A2.1 (click [here](#) for a Campus overview)

09:00–09:30 Arrival and Check-In, Welcome &amp; Procedures

09:30–11:00 Workshop: From Problem to Opportunity – Entrepreneurship  
in the Face of Societal Challenges

11:00–11:15 Coffee &amp; Networking Break

11:15–12:30 Workshop: Tools for Creative Ideation (Design Thinking, Lean  
Startup, etc.)

12:30–13:30 Lunch

13:30–14:00 (guided) Networking Walk

14:00–16:00 Stakeholder Input Session – Visit from a local startup

16:00–17:00 Reflection Round: Key Insights &amp; Early Problem Definitions

 **28 April 2026 (Solution of Problems, Target Group & Business Model)**  
Venue: Innovation Centre, Building A2.1 (click [here](#) for a Campus overview)

09:00–09:30 Welcome, Coffee, Reflect Day 1

09:30–12:00 Workshop: How to define my target group?

12:00–13:00 Lunch

13:00–13:45 Networking Walk

13:45–15:30 Workshop: How to build a business model &amp; Finance

15:30–16:00 Group/Team formation &amp; first practical steps

16:30–17:00 Reflection of Day 2

 **29 April 2026 (Prototyping, Validation & Pitch Story)**

**Venue:** Innovation Centre, Building A2.1 (click [here](#) for a Campus overview)

**09:00–09:30** Welcome, Coffee, Reflect Day 2

**09:00–12:00** Group 1: Workshop: Prototyping / Group 2: Free Time/Campus Tour

**12:00–13:00** Lunch

**13:00–13:30** Networking Walk (Group 1)

**13:00–15:30** Group 2: Workshop Prototyping / Group 1: Free Time/Campus Tour

**15:30–16:00** Coffee Break

**16:00–17:00** Impulse: The legal view of founding a company

**17:15** Science Café

**Venue:** Innovation Centre, Building A2.1 (click [here](#) for a Campus overview)

**17:15–17:30** Arrival, Welcome & Intro

**17:30–18:00** Interview Session #1 – Assoc. Prof. Stéphane Foliard, University of Jean Monnet/Saint Etienne, [BIKINETIC](#) project

**18:00–18:30** Interview Session #2 – Prof. Simone Kustec from the University of Primorska, [BIKE-HEI](#) project

**18:30–19:30** Networking

***The event will also be livestreamed. The link to attend will be send out to online participants prior to the event.***

 **30 April 2026**

**Venue:** Innovation Centre, Building A2.1 (click [here](#) for a Campus overview)

**09:00–09:30** Welcome, Coffee, Reflect Day 3

**09:30–10:30** Presentation: How to pitch my idea

**10:30–11:00** Coffee Break

**11:00–12:30** Workshop: Let's build a pitch deck, part 1

**12:30–13:30** Lunch

**14:00–16:00** Workshop: Let's build a pitch deck, part 2

**16:00–16:30** Coffee Break and Preparation for Pitch

**16:30–19:00** Final Pitch Session

 **01 May 2026– Departure Day**

**Optional:** Visit Luxembourg (self-guided)