

Contest Conditions – EIT Digital Challenge, 2016/05/10

1. Scope

EIT Digital organizes the EIT Digital Challenge, a pan-European innovation contest in five thematic categories aiming to reach out, identify and support the best digital startups in Europe, that are focused on fast growth of their business in Europe and worldwide. Entrants are invited to submit a short outline of their business to be evaluated by a panel of experts. Based on the evaluation up to 10 teams per category shall be invited to pitch their business in front of a jury. This jury comprised of expert evaluators and representatives of EIT Digital and its partner organizations shall then select three winning teams. The three winning teams per category gain access to EIT Digital's pan-European innovation network with more than 130 partners as well as free publicity and greater visibility through EIT Digital's network channels. In addition, the three winning teams per category are invited to an exclusive two-day event in Berlin in order to personally work with Business Developers as well as Finance experts and pitch in front of potential investors and clients during a networking event. The winning teams also have the chance to join the EIT Digital Accelerator for a full year. Furthermore, the first prize winners of each category receive a cash prize of €50,000.

The EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH is responsible for the central coordination of the contest, and acts as the managing partner in coordinating the application and evaluation process.

2. Topics

The EIT Digital Challenge seeks innovative companies in the realm of Digital Technologies. In particular, submissions shall be classifiable in one of the following five categories:

- Digital Industry
- Digital Cities
- Digital Wellbeing
- Digital Infrastructure
- Digital Finance

The evaluation of the submissions shall be done by experts from these specific fields, both from within EIT Digital and external partners.

3. Timeline

Submissions for all five categories will be accepted from May 18, 2016, 09:00 CET until July 15, 2016, 23:59 CET. The submissions must be finally submitted through the online submission tool before the above-mentioned deadline to be accepted for the contest. The submission deadline can only be extended, not shortened.

The finals will take place in October and November 2016. The exact dates will be announced on the contest website (www.challenge.eitdigital.eu). All finalists will also receive an email with the detailed timing of the respective final at least two weeks prior to the event.

4. Participants

The EIT Digital Challenge invites digital startups in Europe, that are focused on fast growth of their business in Europe and worldwide to submit an outline of their innovative product or service. The startups must be legally incorporated in a member country of the European Union (EU 28) to be eligible.

In addition, the startups have to meet the following criteria:

- must have evidence of market traction, customers and revenue
- must be growing at a double digit pace or more
- must be ready to scale internationally

Startups that have already received financial support from EIT Digital based on a long-lasting written agreement are excluded from participating. Exempt from this restriction are one-time grants, e.g. travel grants to visit conferences or events. Startups that have signed the term sheet of the EIT Digital Accelerator are in any case excluded from participating.

Startups can apply in one category only. In case of multiple entries by the same startup, only the first completed application will be considered.

Contest language is English, i.e. **all submission material has to be handed in in English and the startup has to pitch in English** at the final event.

5. Evaluation and selection process

The evaluation and selection process of the EIT Digital Challenge is designed to create an open, accountable, multi-step selection process based solely on the merit of the submitted products or services. All submissions shall receive the same opportunity. No quotas shall be established except that the number of participants selected for any one final will not exceed 10 teams.

Each eligible submitted application shall be evaluated by a board of expert evaluators, both from within EIT Digital and external partner organizations, nominated by the organizer. The main selection criteria are the demonstration of an innovative product or service which in the view of the evaluators holds the most promise to be successful on an international scale and a good fit with the focus areas of the categories of the EIT Digital Challenge (which are described here: <http://www.eitdigital.eu/challenge/categories/>).

6. Finals

The finalists as determined by the organizers shall be invited to pitch their business in front of a jury in one of the five finals. The jury is comprised of the expert evaluators, EIT Digital executives and external experts invited by the organizers.

At the conclusion of the pitches the jury shall convene and decide on the three winning startups. The winners shall be announced before the end of the event. If the jury does not reach a consensus, the responsible Business Community Leader has the decisive vote.

Eligible finalists will receive €1,000 as contribution to the costs for their participation in the final. Personal attendance of the finals is required to be eligible for the prizes. No costs of the entrants shall be covered by the organizers.

7. Prizes

The three winning teams per category shall gain access to EIT Digital's pan-European innovation network with more than 130 partners as well as free publicity and greater visibility through EIT Digital's network channels. In addition, the three winning teams per category shall be invited to an exclusive two-day event in Berlin in December 2016 in order to personally work with Business Developers as well as Finance experts and pitch in front of potential investors and clients during a networking event. The winning teams shall also have the chance to join the EIT Digital Accelerator for a full year. Furthermore, the first prize winners of each category shall receive a cash prize of €50,000.

In order to receive the prize funds an *EIT Digital Challenge 2016 Prize Agreement* will have to be signed by the winning parties and the EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH. The €50,000 prize money as well as the €1,000 as contribution to the travel costs for finalists will be issued before December 31st, 2016.

Integration into any activities of EIT Digital after December 31st, 2016, including participation in the EIT Digital Accelerator programme, will be decided on a case-by-case basis by the management of EIT Digital and will require an additional agreement and might be subject to additional conditions.

The prize winners shall be responsible for all possible taxes, wire transfer costs and other possible costs related to the payment of prize amounts.

8. Intellectual Property and Publication Rights

Entrants retain full and exclusive ownership of their prior information and intellectual property rights. By submitting their application entrants warrant that they hold ownership or have legally secured the right to use all elements of the innovative product or service and that the provided materials and information do not infringe any intellectual or other property rights, including patents, of any other persons, companies or other entities. Elements of the submission that are based on rights held by others, such as patents, shall be marked as such in the submission.

The entrants shall have the right to further develop, use and license their intellectual property rights for creating, making, marketing and distributing products, services and technology.

By submitting their application forms, the winners and finalists agree to the possible inclusion of their product or service in any media coverage by EIT Digital and its partners, such as press releases or publications. Approval by the teams will be asked for before publication. Also, all winners and finalists agree that their personal data, such as their names and affiliations, pictures, videos and sounds may be used for such purposes by EIT Digital and its partners.

9. Data protection

The sole purpose of the collection of data is to verify the eligibility of the submitted products or services and to identify the best startups. Only for the purposes of the execution of the competition entrants will provide name, postal address, email address and telephone number ("personal data"). EIT Digital will process the submitted material according to German law. Personal data shall be deleted six months after the announcement of the contest winners.

Entrants have the possibility to indicate that EIT Digital may grant access to parts of the submission to trusted investors and partners.

The evaluation of the submitted applications will be done within Submittable (<http://www.submittable.com>), an online submission management tool by Submittable Holdings, Inc.

YOUR CONSENT TO THE USE OF SUBMITTABLE AS SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION TOOL: By submitting your application within this challenge you implicitly state your consent to the Terms and Conditions as well as the Privacy policy of Submittable, available under <http://www.submittable.com/terms> and <http://www.submittable.com/privacy>.

Prior to signing up for the evaluation tool, evaluators must confirm per non-disclosure agreement (NDA) to use the data solely for the purpose of the evaluation of entries and not to share them with any other person or organisation.

YOUR CONSENT TO THE USE OF PERSONAL DATA: By submitting your application within this competition you consent that EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH will collect, transfer, process, store and delete your data under above-mentioned conditions.

10. Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

By submitting their application form, entrants agree to the Terms and Conditions, which form part of their submission. Entrants agree that they have no legal entitlement to a prize. However, each prize winner will have to enter into a subgranting agreement for prizes.

EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH reserves the right to make reasonable amendments to these Terms and Conditions. Amendments and additions to these Terms and Conditions shall be valid only if communicated in writing or otherwise made available to the entrants.

Any deviation from these Terms and Conditions can only be made in writing and signed by an authorized representative of EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH and the entrant.

These Terms and Conditions are governed by the laws of Germany.

Any disagreement or dispute which may arise in connection with these Terms and Conditions which cannot be settled amicably will be brought before the courts of Berlin, Germany. The Terms and Conditions of the *EIT ICT Digital Challenge 2016 Prize Agreements* may be governed by other EU law jurisdictions, which will be specified within the body of these agreements.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, under no circumstances and under no legal theory whether in tort (including negligence) contract or otherwise shall EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH be liable for any special indirect, punitive, incidental or consequential damages, including loss of profit. The liability of EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH shall in any case be limited to 1,000 EUR.

11. Organizer

The EIT Digital Challenge is organized by EIT Digital. The EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH is responsible for the central coordination of the contest, and acts as the managing partner in coordinating the application and evaluation process.

EIT ICT Labs Germany GmbH is the carrier of the German operations of EIT Digital. It coordinates and implements the activities of EIT Digital in Germany, such as the EIT Digital Challenge and others.

Activity lead is:

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