

## 2017 European Social Innovation Competition

Questions received and answers provided

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*– This table will be updated with answers as questions come in: check it frequently –*

No.	Date	Title	Full Question	Answer
17	30 March 2017	Horizon 2020 support	Can an organisation apply to this grant if we are already recipients of a Horizon 2020 grant?	Double-financing for the same action/activities from the EU budget, including Horizon 2020, is not allowed.
16	29 March 2017	Supporting information and project representation	<p>Can we submit relevant links in the application process? Will they be looked upon? For example, we have benchmarked our most relevant competition and it is easier to explain why our idea is unique via an infographic.</p> <p>The other individuals listed on the project should be the ones that are most available to attend the sessions or the main co-founders of the project?</p>	<p>Regarding the first question, the selection of semi-finalists throughout the first phase of the Competition is only based on information submitted in the online entry form. However the entry form may include references to existing material and hyperlinks for instance.</p> <p>Regarding the second question, the voluntary information about the names of up to two other individuals involved in the project should be the information about the main project partners.</p>
15	28 March 2017	Maturity of the project	At what stages of development are ideas/projects eligible to enter the competition? We are at the stage of developing a Minimal Viable Product, so we are already moving past the stage of prototype.	<p>As long as the solution is not fully developed and implemented yet, it meets Competition's objectives. However note that, ultimately, the decision on entries is made by the jury and the European Commission, on the basis of the information submitted in the entry form.</p> <p>Please also refer to answer no</p>



				13 from the document Questions and answers - 2017 European Social Innovation Competition.
14	28 March 2017	Public information related to the project	I would like to know what part of the application is going to be public in relation to the rules of contest: Summary (point 3), Innovative idea (point 4) or other?	As stated in the rules of contest p. 7: "...the Commission may post the summary of any entry – exactly as it has been submitted by contestants in the entry form – on Competition webpage or on Commission's social media. In addition the Commission will carry out promotional activities and communicate the results of the Competition. The Commission will publish the name of the semi-finalists, finalists and winners, their locality, the purpose of their project and, in case of the winners, the amount of the prize." This refers to the point 1, 2 and 3 of the application form. The information entered under points 4 to 7 of the application form will not be published.
13	27 March 2017	Maturity of the project	Our concept is developed but still requires an R&D phase of several months to make it operational and demonstrable. Is that compatible with your competition? Isn't it better to wait until the technological demonstration is completed before applying (next year for example)?	As stated in the rules of contest p. 2: "All ideas are welcome, even if they are not mature yet. The Competition aims to induce new solutions and help them reach the stage of prototyping and implementation."
12	26 March 2017	Age of entrants	I am writing to ask whether minors (more than 16 years old) can participate in the challenge. I am a 16-year-old from Spain, am I eligible to participate?	Participating in the Competition implies to have the legal capacity to act, notably because contestants have to certify that they meet eligibility criteria and make other commitments. The





				preparation of an entry by underage persons is nonetheless possible as long as they are represented by an eligible person of age or by an eligible organisation for the sake of entering the Competition and, should the entry win, of receiving the prize.
11	23 March 2017	Country of project implementation	I have a question about eligibility. Our pilot project will start in Amman, Jordan and after which we will be scaling up in other places, including in Europe. Are projects that are implemented outside of the EU (but in EU partner countries) eligible to apply? Or does the country of implementation have to be in the EU (or Horizon countries).	The rules of contest state that "the Competition is open to natural persons or legal persons established in EU Member States or Associated countries to Horizon 2020" (p. 2). Solutions proposed within the Competition are expected to be implemented in eligible countries.
10	22 March 2017	Possibility to submit more than one entry	I read the rules and they state that one can submit more than one idea to the Competition and even be involved in more than one group. However, is it possible for me to submit four different project ideas to the competition and also get involved in the four groups of these respective submitted ideas? The rules state that it is possible to submit more than one idea but do not explain if this can also include more than two, or more than three ideas.	Yes, it is possible to submit or be named as a partner in several entries. There is no limit on possible number of entries. "Contestants may submit more than one entry and be named as a partner in more than one entry.", as stated on p. 5 of the rules of contest.
9	15 March 2017	Jury	I would like to ask to what degree we have to explain different technologies that we are going to use on our project? For example, do we have to elaborate on how our solution works and what it does? Can we assume that the jury will be familiar with IT technologies and frameworks?	The application form gives a clear idea of the type and length of information you are asked at this stage of the Competition. The jury appointed for the 2017 edition of the Competition was nominated accordingly to the theme. Therefore the judges have sufficient knowledge allowing them to assess the entries. "At





				all stages, entries will be assessed by an external jury appointed by, but independent from the Commission, composed of various profiles and originating from various countries." (the rules of contest, p. 4).
8	21 March 2017	Scope of the Competition	I would like to know if the planet's sustainability and environmental solutions are taken into account in this competition.	<p>The 2017 edition of the Competition is focused on digital inclusion, connectivity, and skills development.</p> <p>The rules of contest on p. 2 state the following: "The 2017 Competition is entitled "Equality Rebooted" and will support entrepreneurial ideas that can contribute to make technological change and digital transformation more inclusive. Further background on the theme of the Competition is available on the Competition webpage."</p> <p>Judging criteria for the ideas will be the following three: degree of innovation; impact; sustainability and scale. Please have in mind, that sustainability and scale are understood: "(i) as the potential of the proposed idea to turn into a project which can be sustained and (ii) as the potential of the proposed idea to be transferred to another area in Europe or scaled up at a national and/or European level." (p. 8 of the rules of contest).</p>
7	16 March 2017	EU prizes	I have a question related to the rules of the contest and would like to check the eligibility of our startup because I have some uncertainties regarding the following: "Contestants that have	You cannot receive a second EU or Euratom prize for the same activities. Therefore you might apply for the Competition but with a different idea than the one





			<p>already received an EU or Euratom prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activities."</p> <p>Our startup received a grant from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) within Finish accelerator.</p> <p>And we have also received a prize from the same accelerator.</p> <p>I would like to know whether this prize and grant don't apply to the rules of the call for the application.</p>	<p>that has already been awarded with a prize financed with the EU budget.</p> <p>The rules of contest on page 5 state the following: "Contestants that have already received an EU or Euratom prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activities.". Please also note that: "The contestants must demonstrate the novelty of their solution, in comparison with those already developed/implemented by themselves or by others in their context." (as stated on page 5). Therefore your solution should not be already implemented.</p>
6	14 March 2017	Language	<p>I would like to participate in "European Social Innovation Competition" but I don't speak English. This lack of knowledge excludes me, although I have got an idea and fulfil the eligibility criteria. I would like to get all the necessary information regarding this project in my language in order to be able to fill the application form and apply.</p>	<p>The rules of contest and the online entry form are available in English but applications for the Competition may be submitted in any of the EU official languages and therefore in your language as well. It would however be difficult to provide you with a legally-sound translation of the rules of contest in your language before the end of the application period, which is set on April 7th. Nevertheless we stand ready to answer your questions in your language at any time. Please send them to <a href="mailto:info@socialinnovationprize.eu">info@socialinnovationprize.eu</a></p>
5	13 March 2017	Intellectual property	<p>I'm going to suggest an already existing digital method, patented by another company, but I think that it is still, in the context of [...]. There is not such a method in [...] nor in [...]. It is something different from what is commercially available. The point is that this digital method is not mine but has been patented by another</p>	<p>The European Commission is not in a position to assess individual situations as regards innovativeness and intellectual property, before the end of the application period. This must be explained in the entry form.</p> <p>The rules of contest on page 9</p>





			company. Can I apply to the social innovation competition?	<p>state the following: <i>"By submitting an entry, contestants declare that they have obtained, or will obtain, all authorisations, consents and permissions necessary to submit their entry, carry out their proposal and comply with these rules of contest and, to the best of their knowledge, that their entry will not infringe any intellectual property or other third party rights or breach any contractual obligation.</i></p> <p><i>The Commission assumes no responsibility for disputes between persons claiming copyrights on any sort in relation to an entry submitted for the Competition.</i></p> <p><i>Where industrial and intellectual property rights, including rights of third parties, exist prior to the Competition ("pre-existing intellectual property rights"), contestants shall establish a list which shall specify all rights of ownership and use in the pre-existing intellectual property rights and may be asked to disclose it to the Commission – should they be proposed as winners – at the latest prior to the commencement of implementation of their idea".</i></p>
4	10 March 2017	Definition of sustainability	<p>After reading the Rules of Contest and the Q&amp;A document, we didn't find an answer to what is a sustainable project, how it is defined and judged by the jury.</p> <p>More specifically, do the following</p>	<p>The rules of contest do not prescribe any preferred source of revenue to allow a project or a business to sustain its activity and its impact in the long-term.</p>







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			meet the competition's criteria of a sustainable business model: revenue from corporate donations, private donations, sale of services, governmental grants and foundation grants?	The type of revenue(s) raised by a project may vary according to the country, the sector, the target groups or clients, and the chosen business model itself.
3	9 March 2017	Non-European individuals	Is the European Social Innovation Competition open to individuals studying in Europe (non-Europeans) or should they be permanent residents or passport holders of EU Member-States?	We confirm that the European Social Innovation Competition is open to individuals studying in the European Union or in one of the other eligible countries, regardless of their nationality.
2	9 March 2017	Public authorities	Could you make sure that a local public authority is eligible to submit an idea?	We confirm that, as per the rules of contest, a local public authority may submit an idea.
1	3 March 2017	Relevance of my application	<p>I am writing this email to clarify whether we can apply for the above mentioned competition.</p> <p>I am setting up a [...] to help [...]. Our beneficiaries are [...].</p> <p>Are we eligible to make an application?</p>	<p>The decision on entries is made by the European Commission, upon recommendation from an external jury and on the basis of the information submitted in the entry form.</p> <p>This evaluation takes place after the application period has come to an end on 7 April 2017. It assesses the eligibility of your entry as per the rules of contest (see section 4 notably) and how far it relates to the theme '<i>Equality Rebooted</i>' and aims to make technological change/digital transformation more inclusive (see judging criteria in section 5).</p> <p>No prior assessment is performed by email or other bilateral communication channels, before the end of the application period.</p>

