

## ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION FACILITY

# SOCIAL INNOVATION COMPETITION

**CROATIA  
2015**

## COMPETITION GUIDELINES

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This competition is held under the “Social Innovation” project in Croatia, implemented in partnership between the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Croatia and the OECD

## COMPETITION GUIDELINES

The Social Innovation Competition in Croatia (hereinafter referred to as “the Competition”) is being organised by the OECD in partnership with the Ministry of Economy of Croatia (Competition organisers). The competition is held under the scope of the “Social Innovation Project” which is funded by the European Union as part of the Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility - EDIF (<http://www.wbedif.eu/>).

Please refer to these competition guidelines for all terms and conditions before you submit your application. By submitting an application, you accept these terms and conditions and agree to be bound by them.

### 1. Competition objectives

The Social Innovation Competition in Croatia aims to bring key stakeholders in Croatia to jointly develop innovative projects that can help solve societal needs and challenges. Projects are expected to be generated in close collaboration between government institutions, researchers, businesses and civil society representatives. Each of these actors plays an important role in developing and implementing social innovation.

The Competition will support local actors in establishing these partnerships and developing their ideas, while preparing them for future financing opportunities. The Ministry of Economy will be implementing structural funds for supporting Social Innovation projects in the future and the Competition will help identify potential projects for financing and help develop the ideas so that the intake of the upcoming structural funds is conducted as efficiently as possible. The three prize winners will be able to associate their projects with the Competition.

### 2. Timeline

The competition timeline is the following:

- July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015 – launch of the competition (these guidelines presented to a wide audience at event in Zagreb);
- **15 September 2015 – deadline to submit first stage project proposals** (proposals submitted by this date will be able to benefit from initial feedback from the Competition organisers to further improve their applications or to establish partnerships with other local stakeholders);
- October 2015 – meetings with first stage applicants to further develop project proposals and facilitate partnerships between actors;
- **30 November 2015 – deadline to submit final project proposals (proposals submitted after this date will not be considered);**
- 1 December 2015 to 30 January 2016 – review of submitted proposals by the Competition committee and Committee decision on three winners;
- February – announcement of Social Innovation competition winners (exact date and venue for the event will be announced in January);
- February to April 2016 – provision of technical assistance to competition winners.

### 3. Eligibility and general conditions

The following categories of organisations which are established in Croatia are eligible to apply as **project leaders**:

1. Government institutions (this includes central and local government as well as schools, hospitals or other institutions established by the Government);
2. Research institutions/research teams/individual researchers (in this case, research teams or individual researchers who are units of or are working in research institutions are also eligible to apply. They should state their affiliation-research institution. Research institutions include both Higher Education Institutions, Scientific Institutes and all other public or private organisations which have been accredited as research institutions according to the law in Croatia);
3. Businesses (all companies which are registered in the official Business Registrar of Croatia are eligible);
4. Civil society organisations ( this includes all civil society organisations such as associations, foundations, non-profits and co-operatives which are registered according to local legislation);

**Project partners** can be anyone who is established or resident in Croatia (individuals, organisations, groups). However, as projects will be evaluated based on the partnerships which are established (please refer to section on selection criteria), additional points will be given to projects which include partners of all four types of organisations listed above.

The same applicant (individual or organisation) can participate in an unlimited number of projects.

Entries must not invade publicity rights or privacy of any person, living or deceased, or otherwise infringe upon any individual's personal or proprietary rights.

Contestants should also undertake all measures to prevent any risk of conflict of interests which could affect the Competition. In particular, if you are a member of Competition organisers staff (either permanent or temporary, current or former), intern, contractor, sponsor, or an immediate family member of any of the foregoing, you may participate, but are not eligible to win. Any attempt by a Contestant to influence the result or subvert the Competition will lead to immediate disqualification.

Contact information provided in the application form may be used by the Competition organisers to contact the project leader or project partners at any point during the Competition.

By submitting the application, the project leader and project partners agree to allow the Competition organisers to use their name and general description of their project for the Competition website, in publications or other means of communication.

The project leader is responsible in ensuring that all information provided in the application form complies with these general conditions.

### 4. How to apply?

Completed application forms must be submitted by e-mail to [Max.BULAKOVSKIY@oecd.org](mailto:Max.BULAKOVSKIY@oecd.org) and must be written in **English**.

First stage applications must be submitted by September 15<sup>th</sup> 2015 (23:59 CET) or will not be considered in the first stage and will not benefit from the initial feedback of the Organisers.

Final applications must be submitted by November 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 (23:59 CET) or will not be considered in the Competition or reviewed by the Competition Committee.

**Before 30 November 2015, all questions related to the Competition can be addressed to this same e-mail address.**

## 5. Selection process and criteria

The Competition organisers will establish a Competition Committee comprised of various international and local experts who will individually review all submitted projects and will score them based on the following four selection criteria:

1. **Degree of innovation** (the Committee will assess how innovative the proposed idea is in the local context and the context of its proposed application);
2. **Social (societal) impact** (the Committee will assess whether this idea has the potential to respond to a societal need or challenge and to create significant impact in doing so);
3. **Partnerships** (the Committee will assess whether the proposed project team is adequate for implementing the proposed idea, whether project partners have clear roles and adequate expertise to respond to the needs of the project. Those projects which include partners from all four categories listed in the Eligibility criteria section will be scored higher);
4. **Sustainability** (the Committee will assess whether the proposed idea has the potential to be sustainable in the long-term and whether the market need or societal need has been well examined by the project team);

Each of these criteria will be scored equally (with a maximum of 10 points) and the average score of all the assessments will be taken for each proposal.

Proposals which were submitted in the first phase deadline and received initial support from the Organisers will be treated equally as those submitted only in the second phase. The Committee will not be aware of which projects received support.

The three proposals with the highest scores will be declared the winners..

The Competition organisers reserve the right to refuse any entry if it does not comply with the terms and conditions described in these guidelines.

The Committee's decision is final, and neither the Committee nor the Organisers will respond to correspondence requesting them to justify their decision.

The Competition winners will be announced during an event held in Croatia in February 2016

## 6. Prize

The top three projects will not only benefit from the promotional activities throughout the competition and the label that they receive as a winner of an OECD implemented, EC funded initiative, but will also receive support in implementation in the following ways:

- Technical assistance for product/service development;
- Market research to further understand the market needs and potential (including surveys, focus groups, interviews..);
- Analysis of regulatory environment and potential proposals for regulatory measures to support the innovation;
- Business plan development;
- Social impact analysis.

**The winners will receive technical assistance in the the following amounts:**

- **First prize: 5000 EUR**
- **Second prize: 2500 EUR**
- **Third prize: 1500 EUR**

These funds are to be administered by the OECD in accordance with its Financial Regulations and other relevant OECD rules, policies and procedures , and used for the engagement of international or local experts that are needed for the project. The selection of experts will be conducted in agreement between the OECD and the winners. No part of this amount will be paid directly to the winners.

The provision of this technical assistance will be implemented between February and April 2016, subject to the signature, by the OECD, of the relevant agreements with the international or local experts that are needed for the project.

## **7. General**

The Competition organisers reserve the right to modify or cancel the Competition or any of the arrangements, schedules, plans or other items directly or indirectly related to the Competition, at any time and for any reason if deemed necessary in their opinion.

If a winner is unable to be contacted after reasonable attempts have been made to do so, the Competition organisers reserves the right to offer the prize to the next best entry.

Applicants' participation in the Competition, including being selected to receive a prize, in no manner constitutes an endorsement or support by the OECD of your views or aims or of any products or services. Applicants shall not advertise or otherwise claim to have obtained any such endorsement or support. The OECD name and logo are the property of the OECD and should not be used in any manner whatsoever without the prior consent of OECD. The OECD must approve in writing any statement, advertisement, press release or similar communication in any media, relating to Applicants' participation in the Competition.

### **Contacts for further questions:**

- OECD: Max Bulakovskiy, [Max.BULAKOVSKIY@oecd.org](mailto:Max.BULAKOVSKIY@oecd.org)