

Diogo Vasconcelos

Diogo Vasconcelos was a person of outstanding energy and charisma.

He never stopped thinking ahead, developing and connecting ideas and engaging with new people. He always had one main objective in mind: *to work for a better future for everyone.*

His vision was that people could always learn something from one another, and through social innovation people could transform social needs and challenges into new technologies and economic opportunities. Vasconcelos' vision will be remembered and revelled.

This competition is dedicated to his memory.



Definition of a prize competition

A prize competition offers a reward to whoever can first, or most effectively, meet a defined challenge






Prescribes the what but not the who or how



For responding to the challenge rather than for past achievements

Unlocking potential creating new work

The EU Commission is offering a prize to social innovations that have a *real impact on helping more people move towards work or into new types of work*. These could include radical ideas that find new opportunities in current social challenges that:

-  **Unlock or tap people's talent.** For example, adapting new technology platforms to stimulate demand for local services; connecting individuals to work; or offering job placements or training. Examples might be individuals with specific needs, such as senior citizens who require care in their homes; or innovative work patterns.
-  **Create or shape new markets.** For example, ideas that support the creation or expansion of new markets, often by influencing behaviour. These could include new solutions in growth sectors such as green economy, medical technologies, complementary currencies and vouchers to mobilise capital.
-  **Enable people to start and grow successful new businesses.** For example, encouraging sole traders or one-man businesses to take on a young person, supporting franchising, minimizing the risk and providing support for people as they make transition from being out of work into starting a new business.

Design of the challenge

President Barroso launched officially the prize on the 1st October 2012 in Lisbon

1

Competition open for entries

Entries accepted 1 October – 21 December 2012

The deadline for receipt of entries is 12 noon Central European Time on 21 December.

2

Selection of semi-finalists

January - February 2013: Assessment of received entries and selection of up to 30 entries as semi-finalists.

3

Mentoring for the semi-finalists

March 2013: Shortlisted entries invited to attend a two day mentoring session to support the development of their ideas.

4

Submission of updated entries by semi-finalists

Re-submission of shortlisted entries based on the lessons learnt from the mentoring session.

The deadline is 12 noon Central European Time on 12 April 2013.

5

Up to 10 finalists invited and 3 winners selected

At the award ceremony in May 2013, up to 10 semi-finalists will attend to discover if they are among this year's winners. The winners each receive a prize of €20,000 euros to implement his or her idea.

6

Mentoring of the finalists and winners

June 2013: Winners and finalists invited for an extra one-day mentoring session.

Eligibility and judging criteria

Eligibility Criteria

The competition is open to everyone legally established or resident in the EU member states – or in those countries that established an agreement to participate in the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme – including individuals, organisations or unconstituted groups.

We are open to ideas and proposals from all sources and sectors and all types of organisations including for-profit, non-for-profit, or private companies.

Judging Criteria

Innovation: We are looking for new approaches, or ideas combined or implemented in new ways.

Potential for Systemic Change: Impact - The winner(s) will need to demonstrate potential measurable impact on helping your target group moving towards/into work.

Scale - We are looking for ideas that can be replicated or transferred to another EU Member State or more.

Potential for sustainability: We are looking for ideas that can be sustained to continue to have significant positive impacts on helping the target groups moving towards/into work over several years.

How to apply

Complete the online entry form at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/social-innovation-competition>

Submit the form by the deadline of 12 noon Central European Time on 21 December 2012

We will assess the content of the entry form against the eligibility and judging criteria to decide whether to invite you to the next stage. At the first stage we want you to capture our imagination with your idea.

Questions: prize2013@eusocialinnovationcompetition.eu



Visit the competition pages at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/social-innovation-competition>

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