

LINKS'UP CALL FOR PROJECT

ACCELERATION & SOFTLANDING PROGRAMS

2 actions of the European Projects LINKS UP led and implemented by Castres-Mazamet Technopole & FundacióBIT



Win your access to the LINKS UP ACCELERATION and SOFTLANDING programs

Boost your ACCESS TO MARKET
Get OPEN INNOVATION opportunities and collaborations with corporates
Expand your business ABROAD

ABOUT LINKS UP

LINKS'UP is a European Projects (Interreg SUDOUE funded) aiming at supporting the competitiveness and growth of E-Health and E-Tourism SMEs from the SUDOUE transnational region (Spain, Portugal, Occitanie and Nouvelle Aquitaine south west regions of France). <http://www.linksup-project.eu/fr/>

The partners of the projects are all professionals of innovation that help and support start'ups.

Among the different activities implemented, some are fully dedicated to start'ups and SMEs of the transnational region as an open innovation acceleration program and a softlanding program through a combined call for projects.



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AWARDS

Two rounds of selection will be operated with two levels of awards (see full program and guidelines attached).

Round 1: For 6 finalists

Go to Market premium coaching session in Castres (France)

6 companies (3 E-Health and 3 E-Tourism sectors) will be first selected during a selection committee scheduled on May 29th.

The 6 selected companies will be invited to a premium training and coaching session where there will be able to pitch and get feedback, advice and maybe business or financing opportunities from a talent-pool of experts comprised of business development consultants, corporates and professional of innovation. **The workshop will be access to market, open innovation and internationalization oriented, with all pitches and discussions in English.**

Round 2: For 2 final laureates

Acceleration program with individual action-plan, 6 months open innovation support service and Softlanding business-trip

At the end of the workshop, 2 companies, 1 of each sector, will be selected as final laureates of the Links Up call for project, and will benefit from a **6 months customized acceleration program** including support and collaboration with corporates and a **5 days softlanding business trip** in others regions of the SUDOE area (Spain, Portugal, South west of France).

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS*

Cut off date

The Call will be opened **Monday, April 23d to Friday, May 18th 2018**

Deadline for sending applications: May 18th 5:00 PM

Selection criteria

Any entrepreneur, regardless of age, nationality or professional situation, whose start'up complies with the eligibility requirements, may participate in this call for proposals.

The applicants will be selected based on the 6 following criteria:

1. Status

- Start'up or innovative SMEs incorporated in the Links'up transnational region

2. Activity

- Related to the following industries: E-Health or E-Tourism

3. Maturity

- Advanced Business model and plan financing plan
- Market or partnerships in the Links'up area (first clients and revenues or strong partnerships)
- First level of revenues or fundraising

4. Innovation

- Solution provided or developed
- Value proposition

5. Interest in open innovation activities

- Strong interest in developing partnerships and collaborations with corporates
- Identified corporates or programs
- Knowledge of open innovation processes

6. Interest in internationalization

- Strong interest in expanding activities to the other countries of the Links'up and in dedicating time to find potential opportunities and partners

- Skills and capacity to communicate in English

How to apply

To apply please send back to the organization/ person you received the Call for project information, before May 18th 2018 5:00 PM

- The attached application form completed in English
- A one pager presentation of you company in English
- A PPT presentation (10 slides maximum) or an executive summary (4 pages WORD format) with the following information in English
 - Product / Service description
 - Market
 - Team, skills & partners
 - Activity and financial forecast