



Euro Mediterranean Innovation Camp

EMIC FAQ

1. Who Can Apply?

Anyone who meets the eligibility criteria:

- ✓ Age: 18-35 years at the time of application;
- ✓ Resident in one of the Euro-Mediterranean countries;
- ✓ With at least a high school diploma;
- ✓ Higher Education Student (under or post-graduate) or on a job;
- ✓ With a novel idea or invention that can eventually be commercialised;
- ✓ Must be the sole owner of the idea or assigned by the co-owners to solely present and develop it;
- ✓ The idea can be converted to a functional prototype in maximum 3 months;
- ✓ Innovation addressing one of these 3 thematic areas:
 - o Health
 - o Renewable Energy
 - o Environment, including Climate Change;
- ✓ Good command of English Language.

2. Which countries are eligible?

EMIC welcomes applications from any resident in one of the Euro-Mediterranean (UfM) States (full list of countries can be found here).

3. Do I have to apply in English?

Yes, English is the official language of the competition and written as well as spoken proficiency is required.

4. Does it cost anything to participate?

No, the entire cost of travel, accommodation and development of each idea is covered.

5. Will applicants over the age of 35 be automatically rejected?

Although we understand that contributions by older individuals are just as valuable and important, this initiative is dedicated primarily to the youth of the Euro-Mediterranean. We believe that incubators and accelerators are a better fit for them. Therefore, applicants who do not fall in the age category of 18-35 at the time of application, to be later validated if they pass the applications' screening phase, will not be eligible to proceed.

6. Why should I apply (Are there any incentives for the winners)?

Apart from the cash prize, there is a bundle of benefits if you succeed in being selected for the EMIC workshop:

- o You will receive extremely valuable capacity building in the form of technical assistance, advice, one-on-one mentoring and coaching to transform your idea into a functional prototype

- o The opportunity for an international exchange and multicultural experience

- o If you pass the elimination phases and are selected as one of the 3-4 finalists, you will be provided with vital connections and links with investors, business angels, incubators, consumers and firms that will increase the potential of commercialising your eventual product

- o The finalists will also be provided with funding for the legal expenses related to protecting their innovation (e.g., drafting the IPR), if applicable. Securing of financial awards is in the negotiation phase right now and cannot be guaranteed at this stage.

7. How will candidates be evaluated?

A team of experts from various scientific, technical and professional backgrounds will review the applications submitted online and assess them based on the following criteria: Novelty, feasibility, applicability of the idea and the candidates' resourcefulness and readiness for the camp and competition.

8. When will the workshop phase start?

The preliminary start date of the workshop is the last week of February 2024.

9. Can the idea still be innovative if it is already present in another country?

We are willing to consider ideas or inventions that improve upon existing inventions or products, or add to them by making them more suitable for the local environment or more sustainable, as long as they do not violate any existing patents related to the original idea or product. However, there must be an added value for the innovative idea or invention and not just a copy of an existing one.

10. Can I apply if my prototype already participated in previous competition?

Yes, application with the innovation that was already competing in previous competitions is allowed.

11. Can I apply with more than one application/idea?

Candidates can submit more than one application for different ideas if they wish. However, keep in mind that in case you were shortlisted, you will be required to work on the selected idea only.

12. If the idea is related to one of the three thematic areas, e.g., innovative pedagogy related to Health., Environment or Renewable Energy, will this still be considered eligible?

Yes, if the final impact is demonstrated to be in one of these fields.

13. I did research but I do not have an innovation yet. Should I apply?

We will consider projects in various stages of development, whether it's in the phase of idea, proof of concept, engineering, prototyping or early design stages. However, if you have a functional product in the phase of commercialisation, then you should approach one of the business development initiatives and not EMIC.

14. I have already submitted my application, but I would like to revise and improve it. Am I allowed to do so?

Yes, you can submit a new application, with the remark that this version is replacing the previous. So, if more than one application with the same idea is submitted, we will consider the latest submitted version before the deadline.

15. If I have any questions or request clarification, what is the contact email?

You can reach us at emic@emuni.si or visit our webpage here.

16. I was not able to submit all the documents related to my application, the file is too big.

In that case, please send the documentation to emic@emuni.si and state that documents belong to already submitted application.

17. Can we apply as a team?

The innovation can be a product of a teamwork; however the team shall appoint one representative who will participate in the competition.

18. I have obligatory study duties during the face-to-face EMIC phases. What should I do?

The EMIC team will be happy to provide a formal letter informing your organization of your participation and requesting them to excuse your absence.

19. When is the final deadline for the application?

The initial deadline that was 13th of November 2023 is now extended until 26th November 2023 @23.59 CET.