

Do you have an innovative digital based idea that has the potential to address a specific societal challenge?

Would your idea benefit from the receipt of financial support for further development?

Do you consider yourself an expert in a specific domain where you would be willing to evaluate the ideas of other Social Entrepreneurs from across the EU?



Then join the CHEST Community by registering at www.chest-project.eu

Mission

CHEST (Collective enHanced Environment for Social Tasks) is a 30 month EU R&D project to promote the development of digital based innovations that have the potential to address key societal challenges. In addition to the online community platform that will facilitate the sharing and exchanging of ideas, CHEST will also invest up to €2.5 Million in seed finance for highly innovative ideas through the launch of two open funding rounds. Social entrepreneurs will be invited to propose new ideas for evaluation and if successful will receive financial support. The CHEST community will also evaluate and discuss the ideas of others.

Objectives

- To facilitate the generation of community derived ideas that address societal challenges, supporting knowledge exchange, the development of best practices, discussion and collaborative research and innovation activity.
- To invite social entrepreneurs from across Europe to submit their best ideas through two open funding calls for proposals, which will then be evaluated by both the crowd community and by external independent evaluators. The highest rated proposals will receive support for continued development and realisation.

- To transform the novel ideas selected into viable added value social initiatives.
- To communicate the results of the project across the EU and to engage with key communities, investors and incubators with an active interest in digital social innovation.
- To ensure the sustainability of the programme with the potential to facilitate crowd funding to finance future projects and ideas.



Who can apply?..... You as a Social innovator

Individuals, companies, Public organisations, in fact anyone who could not only benefit from financial support for the realisation of their idea but who would like to have their ideas evaluated for their potential value by other entrepreneurs from within the crowd community.

Who will participate in the CHEST community? Any organisation who has an interest in addressing key societal challenges including higher education institutions, foundations, venture capital firms, business incubation and creativity networks, idea management companies, crowdsourcing software providers and many more.

What we are looking for? Any IT based innovations that have the potential to address societal challenges. This could be a solution to key economic, social and environmental challenges or even ideas that have the potential to change the way communities share data to improve their everyday life. Applications will be assessed by both the crowd and external independent evaluators for potential societal impact.

Call 1 - Call for Ideas and Partners

The first call opens on the 31st January 2014 with two strands:

Strand 1 Call for Ideas: Award of up to €6K to investigate an innovative idea.

Activities could include:

- market research
- market testing and competitor analysis
- intellectual property position
- initial planning to take the project to prototype, including assessing costs, timescales and funding requirements.

Applications will be submitted via the CHEST platform and assessed by the Community with a crowd-sourcing approach.

Strand 2 Call for partners: Award of up to €200K to develop a technologically innovative 'market ready' product, service or process.

Activities could include:

- advanced prototype development and evaluation (resulting in a market ready deliverable)
- market testing
- marketing strategies

Applications will be submitted via the CHEST platform and will be assessed by independent expert assessors, according to the EC rules. This category of funding will seek to support social innovations which are considered strategically important both in the type of social challenge targeted and in potential impact.

Call 2 - Call for applications

The second call which opens on the 31st July 2014, will seek to support the best projects that were derived from Strand 1 (Call for ideas) with up to €60K available per project. Activities should aim to advance the innovative idea through to the development of a prototype/demonstrator of a technologically innovative product, service or process. Successful applicants will also be requested to complete a short business plan indicating routes for future exploitation.

Applications for Call 2 will be submitted via the CHEST platform and will be evaluated by independent external experts, according to the EC rules and guidelines.

Why participate?

- Potential to receive up to 12 months seed finance to advance a digital social innovation concept
- Successful applicants will have the opportunity to apply for further finance through crowd funding within the CHEST Community
- An opportunity to evaluate and contribute to the ideas of other social entrepreneurs across the EU



How to join the community?

Please visit www.chest-project.eu Information and competition guidelines can also be accessed here.

Contact us

Visit our web site www.chest-project.eu

Or write to info@chest-project.eu



CHEST Project Partners



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The European Institute for Participatory Media (EIPCM) www.eipcm.org



