



Italian cMDF competition description

i-NOVATION

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1. Introduction

The Italian Open Competition i-NOVATION is organized as part of the H2020 EU iPRODUCE project and aims to explore and implement creative ideas and innovative solutions following the principles of co-design and co-development.

Participants are invited to submit their applications - in the form of ideas for products, services - in one or more of the fields indicated in the following sections.

The competition is open to all ideas, in particular those in the concept or initial prototyping phase and looking for improvements in design and functionality. The competition aims to support the winners in collaborative design and development of new and early stage solutions in one of the proposed fields, helping them to reach further stages of development and implementation of the prototype.

The iPRODUCE project is focused on two main cornerstones:

1) the creation of co-creation communities (companies, makers, do-it-yourselfers, professionals who collaborate with each other to create products-solutions);

2) the development of a platform to support them, called OpiS (“Open Innovation Space”). OpiS provides open software tools (generative design and design thinking), innovative digital tools (e.g. marketplace, matchmaking, AR/VR tools allow agile synchronous and asynchronous collaborations, apps for involving community collaborations, smart contracts for the protection of intellectual property rights, interactive training tools, etc.).

The competition is organized within the Italian cMDF (“collaborative Manufacturing Demonstration Facilities”) of iPRODUCE, a group of Italian public and private labs that collaborate to each other in prototyping and co-creation activities.

1.1. Why participate?

The three top ranked entries will be supported with coaching, training activities, will have the possibility to get a guided tour through the Italian cMDF facilities and will access Italian cMDF facilities for the prototyping of their product/solution.

1.2. Is this competition for me?

Who?

The competition is open to any legal entity or natural persons (students, professionals, citizens, enthusiasts, etc.) or group of natural persons.

Legal entities (startups, SME's) must be established in EU Member States or Associated countries to Horizon 2020.

Natural persons must be at least 14 years old.

What?

The Italian cMDF challenge: the participants are requested to submit a project idea (one per participant) concerning the development of a solution/product in the following main fields:

- mechanics;
- mechatronics;
- electronics;
- consumer products;
- design;
- other (specify)

involving the prototyping technologies typical of fablabs and the world of makers (by way of example, but not limited to: 3D printing, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, co-design, etc.).

The solution/product must be able to be made according to existing manufacturing technologies. Software can be part of the solution/product but it cannot be the entire solution/production.

Participants must describe their own project both technically (including how they would like to use OpiS platform tools for the creation of their solution/product) and in terms of social/entrepreneurial/market impact, relevant to iPRODUCE. Motivation behind the idea and the participation to the competition must be addressed, too.

Why?

All the participants, before the submission deadline will be invited to participate in an online maximum two hours' workshop dedicated to introducing the features and use of the OpiS platform tools.

After the completion of the evaluation and selection phases, iPRODUCE will inform all participants of the result of their entry. The three top ranked entries will receive the same prize.

The prizes will concern training, coaching, prototyping support.

1.3. Competition period

The competition runs from 4 April 2022 to 31 May 2022. In details:

- Opening date for submissions: 8 April, 2022
- Closing date for submissions: 31 May 2022
- Selection/ notification of competition winners: 10 June 2022

1.4. Prizes

- Training: specific online training about the iPRODUCE tools tuned to their solution/product
- Promotion: promotional video about the solution/product
- Guided tour to the Italian cMDF facilities, professional support by prototyping experts
- Use of iPRODUCE facilities: 8 hours of use of the Italian cMDFs labs (one facility, to be chosen upon agreement with the single cMDF partner)

- Coaching about entrepreneurial idea linked to the solution/product: 4 hours business model canvas coaching with cMDF experts

2. Application

The application must be done online after registering at <https://agora.trentinosviluppo.it> and choosing "iPRODUCE" item.

2.1. Contact details of the applicant/s

In case of persons/groups of persons:

- contact details
- identity documents;

In case of legal entities:

- contact details of the legal representative/owner
- identity documents of the legal representative;
- registration details of the company.

2.2. Presentation of the candidate/s

500 words maximum

2.3. Description of the project

1000 words maximum

2.4. Current status of the project

500 words maximum

2.5. Exploit of OpiS Platform Tools

500 words maximum

2.6. Target market/Entrepreneurial potential

1000 words maximum

2.7. Value and impact of the project

500 words maximum

2.8. Willingness/ motivation to develop the project

500 words maximum

2.9. Pictures, schemes about the idea

2.10. Language

English is the official language for the iPRODUCE project. However, in light of the scope of each cMDF's activities, submissions will exceptionally be accepted in English and in Italian.

3. Submission of entries

3.1. Agora

All entries must be submitted via the iPRODUCE page on the Agora platform (<https://agora.trentinosviluppo.it>). Any entry submitted through other platforms or channels will not be considered.

Any additional information that is required or requested by the iPRODUCE project for the purposes of this competition must be submitted via the Agora platform itself.

The application form must be submitted to Trentino Sviluppo S.p.A. through the online platform <https://agora.trentinosviluppo.it>, after registering on the same site. At the following link, the detailed instructions for using Agora: <https://cloud.trentinosviluppo.it/index.php/s/g5okOBAV5kcwNfw>

4. Evaluation procedures

4.1. Administrative eligibility check

After the competition deadline has closed, all submitted entries will be checked against the contestant and entry criteria by an administrative commission.

Entries identified as non-eligible (for not meeting one or more of the eligibility criteria) will be contacted by email with this justification. No additional feedback on the process will be given.

4.2. Internal evaluation

All eligible entries will move on to the internal evaluation phase, which will be carried out by an Evaluation Jury made up of representatives of the iPRODUCE Italian cMDF project. The evaluation can be done remotely, using appropriate software tools.

All entries will be scored against the following criteria (Table 1).

Table 1. Evaluation criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Reference information
Criterion 1 PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE/TEAM <i>Weight: 5%</i>	Description of the candidate/s, whether natural person/s or legal person, including background and types of activities.
Criterion 2 DESCRIPTION OF THE IDEA/ SOLUTION <i>Weight: 25%</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description of the idea/ solution to be implemented in the framework of the competition, supported by figures or diagrams as necessary• The intended use of OpiS tools to create the proposed idea/solution.
Criterion 3 TARGET MARKET/ENTREPRENEURIAL POTENTIAL <i>Weight: 20%</i>	Description of the target market.
Criterion 4 VALUE AND IMPACT <i>Weight: 20%</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level of novelty and innovation of the proposed idea/solution, or method to develop and/or improve existing solutions. Describe any of the disruptive aspects of your idea/ solution• Description of expected impact (e.g., societal and economic).• The collaborative nature of the proposed idea/solution¹.
Criterion 5 STATUS OF THE IDEA/SOLUTION <i>Weight: 15%</i>	Description of the stage of maturity of the proposed project idea.

¹ In case of applicants submitting a proposal as single natural persons, they should explain how the collaboration is pursued. OpiS platform offers the possibility to find out possible partners to co-operate with.

Criterion 6 MOTIVATION <i>Weight: 15%</i>	Description of the motivation to implement the project and what additional activities will be carried out soon as part of the development of the idea/solution.
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Each criterion will be scored between 0 and 5. Half point scores will not be given. For each criterion, score values will indicate the following assessments (Table 2).

Table 2. Scores

Score	Assessment
0	The entry fails to address the criterion or cannot be judged due to incomplete or missing information.
1 - Poor	The criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
2 - Fair	The entry broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
3 - Good	The entry addresses the criterion well, but several shortcomings are present, and improvements are necessary.
4 - Very Good	The entry addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present, and improvements are possible.
5 - Excellent	The entry successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

A final weighted average score will be calculated taking into account the respective weights of the six criteria.

The overall score threshold, considering this final weighted average score, is 2. This indicates that if an entry overall (weighted) scores less than 2, the entry is automatically rejected.

The evaluation will be carried out collectively by the Evaluation Jury made up of members of the Italian cMDF iPRODUCE. Each entry will be scored against the defined criteria and using the presented scale.

5. Awarding and announcement

The announcement will be made the 10 of June 2022, individually to the winning candidates/teams/companies by email and publicly, during the week after, on the Trentino Sviluppo Platform website and on the iPRODUCE website.

6. Promoting the competition and giving visibility to EU funding

6.1. Promotion by the winner(s)

All competition winners, regardless of the cMDF competition in which they participate, must promote their entry idea, the prize and results, as well as link to the iPRODUCE project, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public) in a strategic and effective manner.

Unless the EC or iPRODUCE agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible (requiring a valid justification), any promotion activity related to the action (including in electronic form, via social media, etc.), any publicity (including at a conference or seminar) or any type of information or promotional material (brochure, leaflet, poster, presentation etc.), and any infrastructure, equipment and major results funded by the sub-grant must:

- display the EU emblem.
- display the iPRODUCE logo.
- include the following text:

“This activity/ contestant was a winner of the iPRODUCE ‘Open and collaborative innovation competition’, part of the iPRODUCE project funded under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant no. 870037).”

When displayed in association with a logo, the European emblem should be given appropriate prominence. This obligation to use the European emblem in respect of projects to which the EC contributes implies no right of exclusive use. It is subject to general third-party use restrictions which do not permit the appropriation of the emblem, or of any similar trademark or logo, whether by registration or by any other means. Under these conditions, the beneficiary is exempted from the obligation to obtain prior permission from the EC to use the emblem. Further detailed information on the EU emblem can be found on the Europa web page.

6.2. Promotion by the European Commission

The EC and iPRODUCE shall be authorised to use, for communication and publication activities, information related to the competition and other material, such as pictures or other audio-visual material that it receives from the contestants (including in electronic form).

The EC shall be authorised to publish the names of the finalist(s) and winner(s), their origin, the prize (and amount, if applicable), its nature and purpose (unless a request to waive this right is provided, due to risks threatening the security and safety or the commercial interest of the winners).

7. Data protection and processing

To process and evaluate entries, iPRODUCE will need to collect personal and organisational data that will be used exclusively for the purposes of managing the competition.

7.1. Processing of personal data by the European Commission

Any personal data from contestants and winners will be processed by the European Commission under [Regulation No 2018/1725](#). The data protection notice applicable is available at https://ec.europa.eu/info/dataprotection-public-procurement-procedures_en.

All contestants and winner(s) consent that the European Commission publishes select information, including:

- Name of contestant(s)
- Member State of establishment
- Activities carried out in the framework of the competition.
- Prize received.

7.2. Processing of personal data by iPRODUCE

The purpose of processing personal data by iPRODUCE is the handling of information from participants and individual persons participating in the competition and different activities organised in the framework of the competition.

7.3. Processing of personal data by Trentino Sviluppo

Please refer to the attachment Personal_data_processing file uploaded in Agora.

7.4. Processing of personal data by participants

The participants must process personal data in compliance with applicable EU and national law on data protection (including authorisations or notification requirements, if any).

8. Ethics and security

8.1. Ethics

The activities carried out within the framework of the competition and delivery of the prize must be carried out in accordance with all ethical principles and applicable national and EU laws. No prize will be awarded for activities carried outside of the EU. The participants must ensure that their entry and activities to implement their ideas are exclusively focused on civil applications.

8.2. Security

The activities carried out within the framework of the competition and delivery of the prize must be carried out in compliance with Commission Decision 2015/444². Applications that are too security sensitive cannot be awarded a prize.

8.3. Conflict of interest

The participants must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective award of the prize is compromised, including cases of shared interest ('conflict of interests'). They must inform and/ or question iPRODUCE of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

8.4. Liability for damages

iPRODUCE cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the participants or to any third parties because of the prize awarded. iPRODUCE cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the participants in the context of the prize.

8.5. Withdrawal of the prize

iPRODUCE may proceed with a withdrawal of the prize after its award and recover payments made if it identifies that: (1) false information or fraud was used to obtain the prize; (2) a winner was not eligible or should have been excluded from participation; and (3) a winner is in breach of its obligations under the guidelines and rules of this competition.

8.6. Additional sanctions

If a participant has provided false information or committed irregularities as part of their participation, iPRODUCE reserves the right to exclude the participant (single entity or group) from the participation in future iPRODUCE organised activities.

8.7. Cancellation of the competition

iPRODUCE or any of its cMDFs may cancel the competition or decide not to award the prize, without obligation to compensate any of the participants, if:

- No entries are received.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32015D0444>

- The evaluation process does not return a winner(s).
- The winner(s) is(are) deemed not eligible or must be excluded.
- The objectives of the competition cannot be fulfilled.

9. Contacts

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