



iPRODUCE Competition #2

Open and collaborative innovation competition

General competition guidelines

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1. Introduction

The Open and collaborative innovation competition (hereinafter referred to as “the competition”) is organised by the iPRODUCE project (hereinafter referred to as “iPRODUCE”), funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement no. 870037.

1.1. Overview of iPRODUCE

iPRODUCE – A Social Manufacturing Framework for Streamlined Multi-stakeholder Open Innovation Missions in Consumer Goods Sectors – is an innovation-oriented project funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. The project, consisting of [20 organisations from nine European countries](#), runs from January 2020 to December 2022.

The iPRODUCE project [aims to deliver](#) a novel social manufacturing platform to enable multi-stakeholder interactions and collaborations to support user-driven open-innovation and co-creation.

Part of the platform is an open digital space (OpIS) that facilitates co-creation ventures and is composed by a set of innovative tools that support matchmaking, secure interactions, generative product design, process orchestration, co-creation, usability evaluations and lifecycle management.

The platform will be deployed in local ‘ecosystems’ (composed of SME associations, manufacturing and specialist SMEs, Fablabs, Makers spaces, and others) under the concept of [collaborative manufacturing demonstration facilities \(cMDFs\)](#).

These cMDFs are established in several of the project’s countries – France, Spain, Italy, Germany, and Greece – and will address various sectors, including furniture, automotive, medical, electronics and microelectronics.

The platform will support knowledge and resource sharing across cMDFs, which are diversely equipped, and will help shape the social manufacturing processes and scale collaborative production activities.

1.2. Objective of the competition

The objective of the competition is to foster stakeholder engagement by allowing for creative ideas and innovative solutions to be explored and implemented within the framework of the iPRODUCE project following the principles of open and collaborative innovation.

Participants are invited to submit their entries to one of the specific competitions organised within the project’s cMDFs, as detailed in section 1.4.

The competition welcomes ideas and solutions that address the challenges and topics defined for the specific cMDF competition, which may be at different stages of development. The competition aims to support the development of submitted ideas and solutions (e.g. project/ product) in an open and collaborative way by providing the applicants with the tools and support to materialise them.

As part of the submission process, contestants will be required to describe the idea or solution they are submitting to the competition, the expected impact, and motivation to develop and implement their idea or solution. Other information specific to each cMDF competition may apply.

Awarded contestants will also be provided with visibility of their ideas or solutions and, depending on the maturity of the solutions, marketing and commercialisation support may be provided (e.g., matchmaking services, funding opportunities).

Prizes are defined within the specific cMDF competition.

1.3. Competition period

The competition runs from 7 February 2022 to 31 May 2022. The delivery of the prize will run until the end of June 2022. Specific deadlines may apply to each cMDF competition. Please consult specific cMDF competition guidelines.

1.4. Competition challenges

Challenges and objectives have been defined for the different cMDF competitions. Participants are invited to submit their ideas or solutions to one of the challenges detailed below (Table 2).

Table 2. Competition challenges

cMDF competition	Challenge description
France	<p>iPRODUCE MyMobility</p> <p>The objective is to help with “collaborative innovation” by helping to design and test an idea and product with experts in the field and future informed customers, and to provide early feedback to better target innovation and its future market.</p>
Germany	<p>Products for the future</p> <p>The objective is to address current challenges related to sustainability, environmental protection, social inequality, and globalisation, among others. Applicants are invited to submit product ideas that tackle these challenges and address future needs.</p>
Greece	<p>3D Collaborative Manufacturing in Education & Culture</p> <p>The objective is to contribute to the cultural education of elementary or middle school students, through 3D collaborative manufacturing activities; and to encourage the participation of schools/students, allowing for creative ideas and innovative solutions to be explored and implemented, by following the principles of co-design and co-development.</p>
Italy	<p>i-NOVATION</p> <p>The objective is to foster stakeholder engagement by allowing for creative ideas and innovative solutions to be explored and implemented following the principles of co-design and co-development. Participants are requested to submit a project concerning the development of a solution/product in the following main fields: mechanics; mechatronics; electronics; consumer products; design; or others.</p>
Spain	<p>INNOVAMOBEL</p> <p>The objective is to promote innovation in the habitat sector, therefore choosing the most innovative product idea, in the basic project phase, and will tutor it so that it becomes a physical prototype.</p>

1.5. Prizes

Each cMDF competition has defined the number of winners and its own prizes, which may include services (e.g., training to help develop the submitted idea or solution), access to infrastructure, or others.

Awarded applicants will also receive from iPRODUCE a gift bag with project merchandise.

Note: iPRODUCE reserves the right to adjust the manner in which the prizes are distributed and used. Any changes will be communicated to the winners.

2. General information

2.1. General conditions

By entering this competition, participants agree to abide by the terms of these competition rules and guidelines and by the decision of iPRODUCE and the cMDF competition judges, which will be final and binding on all aspects related to this competition.

2.2. Submissions of entries

All entries must be submitted via submission form or manner as indicated in the guidelines of the specific cMDF competition the participant is entering. Any entry submitted through other platforms or channels may not be considered.

Any additional information that is requested by the iPRODUCE project for the purposes of this competition must be submitted via a dedicated channel that will be indicated to participants.

2.3. 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 the local language of the cMDF (i.e. French, German, Greek, Italian, or Spanish).

3. Eligibility

3.1. Contestant criteria

The competition is open to any legal entity (or natural persons) or group of legal entities established in EU Member States or Associated countries to Horizon 2020.¹ Natural persons, participating solely, must be at least 18 years old.

Submissions from all types of organisations (including for-profit, not-for-profit, or private companies) are welcome. Submissions that involve several organisations and/or from various eligible countries are possible.

The defined eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the competition.

Specific conditions may apply to each cMDF competition.

3.2. Entry criteria

In general, the following criteria must be considered for all entries, although specific entry criteria are defined for the specific cMDF competition:

¹ The list of Associated Countries is available at:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-listac_en.pdf

- Entries should prioritise ideas and solutions that promote open and collaborative innovation as defined within the framework of [iPRODUCE](#).
- Each entry, submitted to one of the specific cMDF competitions, must clearly address the proposed challenges of the competition.
- All contestants, regardless of their result in this competition, will be eligible to participate in future competitions and activities organised by the project.

4. Competition procedure

4.1. Submission of entries

The general timeline for the iPRODUCE competition is between 7 February 2022 and 30 March 2022. Specific deadlines for submissions may apply to each cMDF competition.

The competition will run between the dates indicated and is supported by the following information and documentation:

- General competition guidelines and rules, the current document.
- Specific competition guidelines, available via the iPRODUCE website.
- Submission form (online or in document format), specific to each cMDF competition, that must be filled in and submitted (online) or sent (document format) to the designated e-mail.

In submitting your entry, please consider the following:

- Mandatory questions included in the submission form are required to be eligible.
- Terms and conditions for participation in the competition are accepted to be eligible.
- Information provided in the entry is specific and concise and respects the defined limits.
- Entries are submitted before the cMDF competition deadline. If the participant identifies an error in their entry, and provided the deadline has not passed, the contestant may request for a re-submission of their entry.

4.2. Evaluation of entries

Evaluation of entries will be done at the cMDF level and carried out by the defined jury.

4.2.1. Phase 1. Eligibility check

After the competition deadline has closed, all submitted entries will be checked against the contestant and entry criteria. Entries identified as non-eligible will be contacted with this justification. No additional feedback on the process will be given.

4.2.2. Phase 2. Internal evaluation of entries

All eligible entries will move on to the internal evaluation phase, which will be carried out by the jury defined in the cMDF competition guidelines. Each entry will be evaluated by a jury of cMDF representatives with knowledge in the challenge the entry addresses.

Unless otherwise defined in the specific cMDF competition guidelines, all entries will be scored against the following criteria (Table 4).

Table 4. iPRODUCE competition #2 evaluation criteria

Criteria	Description
(1) Presentation of the candidate <i>Weight: 5%</i>	Description of the candidate, whether natural or legal person, including background and types of activities.
(2) Description of idea/ solution <i>Weight: 25%</i>	Description of the idea/ solution to be implemented in the framework of the competition, supported by figures or diagrams as necessary.
(3) Target market <i>Weight: 20%</i>	Description of the market to which the idea/ solution is targeted to.
(4) Value and impact <i>Weight: 20%</i>	Description of the value that the idea/ solution has and the expected impact (e.g., societal and economic). Describe any of the disruptive aspects of your idea/ solution.
(5) Status of the idea/ solution <i>Weight: 15%</i>	Description of the current level of maturity of the idea/ solution.
(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.

Unless otherwise defined in the specific cMDF competition guidelines, all entries will be scored between 0 and 5. For each criterion, score values will indicate the following assessments (Table 5).

Table 5. Scoring guidelines

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.

The evaluation will be carried out by a jury specific to each cMDF competition. Each entry will be scored against the defined criteria and using the presented scale. The final score of each entry will be the average weighted scores received from evaluators.

4.3. Entry ranking and selection

At the end of the internal evaluation process, all entries will be ranked in a single list. Unless otherwise defined in the specific cMDF competition guidelines, the criteria for the ranking of the entries will following the rules below:

- Rule 1: The entries will be ranked based on their overall score (summary of all criteria scores).
- Rule 2: If a tie-break is required, the ranking will sequentially priorities the highest scores attributed to the different criteria, in the following order:
 - (2) Description of idea/ solution.
 - (4) Value and impact.
 - (3) Target market
 - (5) Status of the idea/ solution
 - (6) Motivation
 - (1) Presentation of the candidate

The cMDFs reserve the right to organise interviews with the contestants to clarify questions regarding the entries and to support in the evaluation and scoring process.

4.4. Awarding and announcement

Upon the completion of the evaluation and selection phases, iPRODUCE through the specific cMDF competition representatives, will inform all participants of the result of their entry. iPRODUCE will communicate on its website and social media channels information about participation and the winners.

4.5. Prize Acceptance Agreement

With the communication of the winners of the competition, winners may be requested to sign a Prize Acceptance Agreement, which formalises the prize to be awarded, the conditions for the delivery of the prize, and rights and responsibilities of the winner.

The agreement will be signed by the submitting legal entity (or natural persons) or the leader of the group of legal entities.

If requested, the agreement must be completed, signed, and returned to iPRODUCE after notification of the award, or the prize may be forfeited and awarded to the next best classified participants.

4.6. Delivery of the prize

The delivery of the prizes established in the cMDF competitions will be done according to the type of prize and the defined timeline. The target end date for the delivery of all prizes is no later than December 2022.

5. Other competition conditions

5.1. Termination

iPRODUCE or individual cMDF competitions reserve the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, suspend or terminate the competition for any reason whatsoever.

In such cases, the winners will be awarded by judging the eligible entries received up to the date/ time of the suspension and to the extent possible.

5.2. Promoting the competition and giving visibility to EU funding

5.2.1. 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.

5.2.2. 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).

5.3. 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.

5.3.1. 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.

5.3.2. 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.

5.3.3. 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).

5.4. Ethics and security

5.4.1. 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.

5.4.2. 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.

5.5. 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

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

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.

5.6. 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.

5.7. 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.

5.8. 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.

5.9. 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.
- 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.

6. Proprietary and ownership rights

6.1. Proprietary rights

By entering this competition, and unless otherwise defined in the specific cMDF competition, contestants confirm that their entry is original and that they have all ownership rights over the idea, design, and work, as applicable. By submitting an entry, you guarantee that the proposed idea and related text, design and images submitted are original, that it does not infringe upon the rights of other persons or entities, and that no other person or entity has ownership interest. If relevant, iPRODUCE advises that any relevant rights from other persons or entities are obtained before submitting an entry.

iPRODUCE reserves the right to disqualify any submission if it is inconsistent with these warranties or is copied; if it infringes upon the existing rights of other persons or entities; or if it is incomplete, offensive, or unsuitable.

iPRODUCE is not liable for any property, copyright, or trademark infringement on the part of the contestant. The contestant(s) agree to indemnify, hold harmless and non-responsible iPRODUCE from any claim arising out of the misuse of the contents included in the entry submitted.

6.2. Ownership rights

The participants own the intellectual property rights of the original idea they submit in their entry to the competition. iPRODUCE will not own the rights or the ideas submitted to the competition, regardless of the idea being awarded or not. iPRODUCE does have the right to publicise and promote the idea as part of the competition.

iPRODUCE and its partners, independently of the type of involvement in and contribution to the implementation of the idea, will not own any part of the idea or design, unless a written agreement or transfer of rights is implemented by the contestants and all parties, including those of iPRODUCE. Data, know-how, or information provided by iPRODUCE (and its partners) to the winners of the competition during the delivery of the prize and required to support the implementation of the idea can only be used during the competition and remains the property of iPRODUCE (and its partners) after its termination.

7. Contacts

For the entry form and competition guidelines, please download the files available at the iPRODUCE website: <https://iproduce-project.eu/open-competition-2/>.

Please check the iPRODUCE [website](#) and follow the project's [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) accounts for information related to the competition.

Contact us for general support about the competition: info@iproduce-project.eu.



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