



Awards ceremony: Europe Accelerathon Euroregion Alentejo-Algarve-Andalucía for Covid-19 challenges and climate change

- An open innovation programme to promote innovative technologies in the **Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion**.
- The final webinar, organized by Finnova, will take place next Thursday, May 6, 2021.
- A presentation webinar was in support of the Portuguese **Presidency of** the Council of the European Union, as indicated in its priorities: **"It is time to act: for a fair, ecological and digital recovery"**.
- Initiative co-financed by the Ministry of the Presidency, Public and Interior Administration of the Junta de Andalucía.

Seville, XX.XX.2021. The "**Accelerathon Spain-Portugal: innovation and cooperation against Covid-19 and climate change**" seeks to address the challenges **facing the Alentejo-Algarve-Andalucía Euroregion (Euroregion AAA)** on issues related to Covid-19 and climate change. Next Thursday, **06 May 2021 at 17:00 Brussels time**, the final ceremony of this open innovation programme (www.accelerathon.eu) will be held to boost innovation in the **Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion** in the fight against Coronavirus and climate change. **This initiative is co-financed by the Ministry of the Presidency, Public and Interior Administration of the Junta de Andalucía.**

During the event, in webinar format, the name of the three finalists of the Accelerathon Spain-Portugal will be announced. The jury has evaluated a total of 15 initiatives presented, of which the 5 with the highest score will be disseminated through the Finnova communication channels and the Firefighting Open Innovation Lab – CILIFO. The jury will choose the best proposal, which will receive advice and be mentored for a possible presentation of their project to a European call. The remaining four initiatives

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will benefit from the financial aid information service provided by Finnova, the finalists will participate in the final webinar in which they will make a pitch of 5 minutes.

- The first finalist proposal will be mentored and advised by Finnova for the search for European financial opportunities of interest.
- Proposals remaining in second and third positions will receive partial mentoring, benefiting from a financial aid information service provided by Finnova.
- The top five proposals will be always disseminated - respecting the protection of business secrecy - to help its dissemination and increase the chances that entities interested in investing in them will know them.

The final webinar envisages the participation of the entities that collaborate with Finnova in this initiative (University of Evora, IrRADIARE and the Intermunicipal Community of the Algarve-AMAL) for the realization and implementation of the tasks included in the celebration of the "Accelerathon Spain-Portugal: innovation and cooperation against Covid-19 and climate change".

Webinar registrations at:

<https://form.iotform.com/finnova/Final-Accelerathon-EuroAAA>

About Startup Europe Accelerathon (www.accelerathon.eu)

Startup Europe Accelerathon aims to identify innovative ideas capable of obtaining funding from the European Union, such as the LIFE, Green Deal, Horizon 2020 or NextGenerationEU programme. Startup Europe Accelerathon follows the directions of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals contributing from each challenge to the proposed STO objectives; in the framework of the European Commission's DG CONNECT Startup Europe Awards methodology that has been born since DG Research and Development in 2020 with the pan-European [Hackthevirus campaign](#). It has successfully carried out with governments such as that of the Valencian Community with the challenge of industrial polluting waters or Junta de Andalucía with the challenge of combating climate change, forest management and innovation in the prevention, firefighting and regeneration of burned spaces.

About Startup Europe Network

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Startup Europe is an initiative of the European Commission, DG CONNECT, to connect and promote high-tech startups, scaleups, investors, accelerators, corporate networks, universities and media.

Learn more about Startup Europe: [Startup Europe | Shaping Europe's digital future \(europa.eu\)](https://startup-europe.eu)

About Startup Europe Awards (HIS) (www.startupeuropeawards.eu)

It is a methodology of dg CONNECT of the European Commission, implemented by the Finnova Foundation since 2016. SEUA is an open innovation tool to identify disruptive startups, promote public-private collaboration and raise awareness of the importance of self-priming as an employment-generating engine. In addition to building partnerships to help meet the United Nations SDS and the actions of the European Green Pact, thus contributing to the circular economy, the fight against climate change and sustainable tourism. The winners get support to turn their projects into large projects financially supported by the EU (between 500,000 euros and 17.5 million euros), international legal support and lobbying, strategic mentoring, international networking, investor access and support for internationalisation worldwide.

About CILIFO – Collaborating Project (www.cilifo.eu)

The Project The Iberian Centre for Forest Fire Research and Combat (CILIFO) is funded by the Interreg V-A Spain – Portugal – POCTEP Cross-Border Cooperation Programme (2014-2020), has a total budget of 24.6 million euros and is the Most Funded Interreg project in the history of the forest fire programme. It focuses on the fight against forest fires and their consequences for the adaptation and mitigation of climate change; in a framework of cross-border cooperation for risk prevention and improvement of the management of the natural resources of Spain and Portugal in the area of the Alentejo - Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion. The project follows the indications of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal [13](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/climate-action/): Take urgent action to combat climate change and its effects.

About Firefighting Open Innovation Lab – CILIFO (www.innovation.cilifo.eu)

The CILIFO Project through its Firefighting Open Innovation Lab – CILIFO (accelerator – incubator managed by Finnova) supports the initiatives of entrepreneurs and companies in the field of prevention and fight against forest fires. There are currently 18 companies affiliated to the accelerator and are being mentored and guided to initiatives in the search for European funding.

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Finnova opens (www.finnova.eu)

European foundation for the financing of innovation whose headquarters are in Brussels and with offices in Andalusia (Seville), the Basque Country (Vitoria), Valencia (Valencia), Madrid, the Canary Islands (Fuerteventura, Santacruz and Gran Canaria), and with branches in Romania, Panama and Chile, whose objectives are to promote public-private cooperation through innovation to address social challenges such as employment, training, entrepreneurship, the United Nations SDGs, the circular economy, health, digitalisation, water and renewable energies. One of its priorities is the training of young talent in European affairs management in Brussels.

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