



European  
Commission

**HIGH-TECH FOR  
HUMANITARIAN AID**

EIC • HORIZON  
**prize**



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# RULES OF THE CONTEST

Version 1.0  
30 November 2017



## 1. OBJECTIVES PURSUED

The challenge of this Prize consists in developing proven innovative and more cost-effective solutions to be used in a humanitarian aid<sup>1</sup> context, based on frugal application of advanced technologies. This initiative is in line with the objectives of the last World Humanitarian Summit<sup>2</sup> to find ways to better tackle humanitarian needs in a fast-changing world, develop strong partnerships and seek innovative solutions to current and future challenges. It will contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>3</sup>.

The European Union and its Member States are the world's leading humanitarian aid donor. Humanitarian crises and disasters have increased in number, complexity and severity over the last 25 years, challenging the resilience of people living in areas subject to recurrent emergencies. Humanitarian aid can be an urgent intervention following a disaster or conflict and addressing critical situations of large numbers of people affected, often displaced and concentrated in the same place. But humanitarian aid can also help people and communities be better prepared, and more resilient, in order to reduce the impact of disasters and avoid loss of lives and livelihoods. The humanitarian aid can additionally yield new market opportunities, including for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), unleashing new possibilities to exploit technologies or products and heighten their contribution to solving societal challenges.

Given the scale of today's crises and disasters, funding to cover humanitarian needs cannot keep up. At the same time, the humanitarian system is being challenged to do more, for more people, and at greater cost<sup>4</sup>. In addition, the delivery of humanitarian aid faces some specific challenges e.g. related to time, localisation (often in remote and difficult-to-access areas) and security.

Introducing innovative and more cost-effective technologies-based solutions for the delivery of humanitarian aid could help enhance the humanitarian response. The advanced technologies are multidisciplinary and include notably nanotechnologies, advanced materials, industrial biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, photonics and micro and nano-electronics. They are an essential enabler of innovative solutions and recent examples of "frugal" use of advanced technologies have demonstrated their added value.<sup>5</sup>

Solutions should be novel (at the time of the submission) demonstrating the added value and potential of one or more advanced technologies (but should not involve only Information and Communication Technology (ICT<sup>6</sup>)). They should serve the needs of and be designed in close cooperation with the affected populations, in particular of those in a most vulnerable situation (taking age, gender, disability and minority status into consideration). Solutions should be developed through a frugal innovation approach<sup>7</sup> and enable cooperation between international organisations, NGOs, end-users, local actors, the private sector, but also research and innovation communities.

Solutions can be understood as products or product-service combinations, that are of direct benefit to the affected population ("beneficiaries" of the solution), but also to humanitarian aid organisations and workers.

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<sup>1</sup> Humanitarian aid should be understood as assistance to save and preserve life, prevent and alleviate human suffering and safeguard the integrity and dignity of populations affected by natural disasters and man-made crises.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.agendaforhumanity.org/summit>.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

<sup>4</sup> The United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimates that, in 2017, at least 128 million people will need humanitarian assistance. The amount of aid requested by UN agencies increased six fold, from USD 3.8bn in 2005 to expected USD 22.2bn in 2017.

<sup>5</sup> Examples include shelters based on advanced materials, portable water filtration and purification based on nanotechnologies catalysts, off-grid energy supply such as organic photovoltaic or customised humanitarian supplies made in the field thanks to 3D printing technology

<sup>6</sup> Solutions only based on ICT or digital applications ("apps") are not part of the scope of this Prize

<sup>7</sup> The frugal innovation process is a problem-oriented, creative approach to problem solving which starts from user needs (including their economic and social/cultural context) and works from the bottom up to develop contextually appropriate cost effective solutions. It tends to be frugal both in ends and means, i.e. relying on the recombination of existing knowledge and technologies from previous efforts rather than substantial, dedicated R&D investments. See final report of the study on "Frugal Innovation and reengineering of traditional techniques" <https://publications.europa.eu/fr/publication-detail/-/publication/20d6095a-2a44-11e7-ab65-01aa75ed71a1>

## 2. EXPECTED RESULTS

More cost-effective, more sustainable and higher-quality innovative solutions, based on advanced technologies (and not involving only Information and Communication Technology), leading to an optimised use of humanitarian funding and an enhanced response to urgent needs in humanitarian aid settings, notably those in a most vulnerable situation (taking age, gender, disability and minority status into consideration), in the following categories<sup>8</sup>: a) shelter and related assistance; b) water, sanitation and hygiene; c) energy; d) health and medical care; and e) open category<sup>9</sup>

### 3. PRIZE AMOUNT(S): 5 M EUR<sup>10</sup>

Five prizes of EUR 1 million will be awarded, one in each of the following categories a) shelter and related assistance; b) water, sanitation and hygiene; c) energy; d) health and medical care; and e) open category.

## 4. DEADLINES & ADMISSIBILITY

Deadlines	
Opening of the submission:	30 November 2017
Deadline for registration of interest:	15 September 2019
Closing date for submission:	15 January 2020 at 17:00:00 CET <sup>11</sup>
Award of the Prize	Q3 2020

Joint applications by a group of participants are admitted. In this case, the participants must appoint a 'lead participant' to represent them towards the Commission. The participants will be jointly responsible and must all fulfil and respect the conditions set out in these Rules of Contest.

Applications must be submitted by the (lead) participant via the [Participant Portal Submission Service](#).

Applications must be readable, accessible and printable. Incomplete applications may be considered inadmissible if essential elements are missing (see [General Annex B to the Main Work Programme](#)).

The page-limit for your prize application (Part B) is: 70 pages.

Participants are invited to declare their intention to participate by registering their interest via [EC-TECH4AID-EIC-PRIZE@EC.EUROPA.EU](mailto:EC-TECH4AID-EIC-PRIZE@EC.EUROPA.EU) by the above-mentioned deadline.

Sample application forms will be available on the [Participant Portal Reference documents page](#).

## 5. ELIGIBILITY

### 5.1 Eligibility criteria

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<sup>8</sup> The Commission may re-attribute, with the agreement of the concerned applicants, the submitted solutions to a most suitable category

<sup>9</sup> Excluding a) solutions which would fit under one of the four other categories and b) ICT-only solutions

<sup>10</sup> In accordance with the budgetary procedure set in the Financial Regulation No 966/2012, the award of a prize must be preceded by the adoption of the respective budget and the adoption of the financing decision. Since the prize amounts are only to be foreseen in the 2020 budget, they are subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2020 after the adoption of the budget by the budgetary authority or, if the budget is not adopted, as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

<sup>11</sup> Central European Time = Brussels local time

The contest is open to all legal entities (i.e. natural or legal persons, including international organisations) or groups of legal entities.

Please note however that special rules may apply for entities from certain countries (see [General Annex C to the Main Work Programme](#)).

Please also be aware that participants that have already received an EU or Euratom prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activities.

## 5.2 Exclusion criteria

Participants will be excluded if they (or one of them):

- are subject to an administrative sanction (i.e. exclusion)<sup>12</sup>
- are in one of the following situations<sup>13</sup>:
  - bankrupt, being wound up, having their affairs administered by the courts, entered into an arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or subject to any other similar proceedings or procedures under national law (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts)
  - declared in breach of social security or tax obligations by a final judgment or decision (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts)
  - found guilty of grave professional misconduct<sup>14</sup> by a final judgment or decision (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
  - convicted of fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
  - shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under a procurement contract, grant agreement or grant decision financed by the EU or Euratom budget (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
  - found guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95 (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control)
- have misrepresented information required for participating in the contest or fail to submit such information
- were involved in the preparation of the prize documents and this entails a distortion of competition.

## 6. AWARD CRITERIA

The prizes will be awarded to the entries that best address the following cumulative criteria applicable to all the five categories:

1. New solution tested successfully and safely in a real environment, with a demonstrated potential of adaptability and scalability under different humanitarian aid settings

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12 See Articles 131(4) and 106(1) Financial Regulation.

13 See Articles 138(2) and 106(1), 107 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 218, 26.10.2012, p.1)

14 Professional misconduct includes: violation of ethical standards of the profession, wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility, false declarations/misrepresentation of information, participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition, violation of IPR, attempting to influence decision-making processes or obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage

2. Quality and sustainability of the solution based on the frugal application of advanced technologies
3. Affordability and cost-effectiveness (for beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises)
4. Engagement with end users and solution responding to the needs of those in a most vulnerable situation (taking age, gender, disability and minority into consideration) and perspective of a business case

## 6.1 Evaluation guidance

This section provides a clarification on the award criteria that will be used for evaluating the applications. Please note that the second award criterion contains a sub-criterion ("Frugal application of advanced technologies") in order to underline its importance in the context of this prize. Upon submission, information and documentation regarding the proposed solution must be provided in the application - Part B. A prototype of the solution will only be required at the hearing for the pre-selected solutions.

### **1. New solution tested successfully and safely in a real environment, with a demonstrated potential of adaptability and scalability under different humanitarian aid settings**

- **New solution**

The solution developed by the participant shall be novel at the time of the submission. The novelty shall consist either in the first use of the given advanced technology or its application (i.e. an existing advanced technology that is being used in a novel manner in a specific humanitarian aid context).

Method of measurement: the extent to which the solution differs from existing practices in humanitarian aid and demonstrates innovation (technology, design, cost-effectiveness, sustainability etc.).

- **Tested successfully and safely in a real environment (or a similar environment)**

The solution shall have been successfully and safely tested in one or several humanitarian settings (or a similar environment) at a sufficiently large scale during the submission period (December 2017-January 2020). A coherent strategy to mitigate the potential safety risks associated with the solution shall be elaborated. Such strategy will include at minimum a comprehensive risk assessment with a risk intensity rating (low, medium and high) and a risk management plan for the risks rated as medium- and high-level.

Method of measurement: the participant has to a) provide information on the conditions and the actual number of beneficiaries having already benefited from the proposed solution, and an assessment of its effectiveness (quality of the response) and affordability against international humanitarian standards and from the perspective of humanitarian actors and beneficiaries; b) report any safety issues encountered when implementing the solution and describe adopted response measures; and c) provide a risk management strategy including at least a risk assessment and a risk management plan.

- **Potential of adaptability and scalability**

The solution shall be easily adaptable to different humanitarian settings and easily deployable and usable by different potential beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises. The participant shall develop a realistic and robust strategy for uptake and scaling-up.

Method of measurement: the participant has to provide a) a description and test data about the real life implementation of the solution in different humanitarian settings (or similar environment) and / or demonstrate the scalability of the proposed solution in the various intended settings; and b) the strategy for uptake and scaling-up the solution (included in the business case).

### **2. Quality and sustainability of the solution based on frugal application of advanced technologies**

- **Quality and robustness**

The solution shall demonstrate an improvement in terms of quality and robustness compared to existing practices, and improve the quality of the response for the beneficiaries and the organisations responding to crises.

Method of measurement: the participant has to provide information and data on the quality and robustness of the solution, notably its resistance over time and when used in extreme conditions, compared to existing practices.

- **Sustainability and lifecycle assessment**

The solution shall be a creative response to scarcity of resources and take into account environmental and social impacts. The lifecycle assessment<sup>15</sup> shall be comprehensive and include the supply of raw materials, manufacturing, processing, transport, distribution, use, as well as end-of-life waste management.

Method of measurement: the participant has to a) demonstrate the resource-efficiency of the solution and its adequacy with regard to the scarcity of resources in the various settings of intended use; b) provide a life-cycle assessment of the solution; and c) demonstrate the potential of the solution to be produced, supplied and repaired locally.

### **2.1 Frugal application of advanced technologies**

The solution leveraged from at least one advanced technology (possibly combined with an ICT component but not exclusively) shall be frugal, fit the requirements and prioritise only those features that are most important to potential beneficiaries. Simplicity in use and re-use and limited need for training should be favoured.

Method of measurement: the participant has to demonstrate that the solution is a frugal application of an advanced technology (as defined in Section 1.1) in a humanitarian context.

### **3. Affordability and cost-effectiveness (for beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises)**

The solution shall be affordable and cost-effective (considering notably the installation, operational and maintenance costs), have a better value for money than existing practices in humanitarian assistance. The solution shall be easy and cheap to repair where applicable.

Method of measurement: the participant has to a) provide a comprehensive cost analysis of the solution and derive from its expected possible cost price, considering notably the installation, operational and maintenance costs, for different volume levels (conservative scenario / best-case scenario); b) provide a cost-effectiveness comparison of the solution with current practices and demonstrate that the difference of cost-effectiveness is sufficiently high to incentivise buyers to replace existing solutions with the proposed one; and c) demonstrate that the envisaged cost price is sustainable for beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises.

### **4. Engagement with end users and solution responding to the needs of those in a most vulnerable situation (taking age, gender, disability and minority into consideration) and perspective of a business case**

- **Engagement with end-users**

The solution shall be developed through a needs-based approach defined in an inclusive manner with local communities, potential beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises, and result as much as possible from a cooperation between the private sector, notably SMEs, the research and scientific community and humanitarian organisations.

Method of measurement: the participant has to a) demonstrate the involvement of local communities and potential beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises in the development of the solution; and b) explain the multi-stakeholder approach followed to develop the solution.

- **Acceptability**

The solution shall be acceptable by the potential beneficiaries and humanitarian organisations responding to crises in the different humanitarian aid settings in which it could be implemented. Acceptability refers notably to the user-friendliness, the ease to operate and maintain it locally and its compliance with cultural habits.

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<sup>15</sup> [http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?page\\_id=43](http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?page_id=43)

Method of measurement: the participant has to provide evidence demonstrating the acceptability of the solution by the potential beneficiaries and humanitarian organisations responding to crises, notably their readiness to replace the existing solutions by the proposed one.

- **Responding to the needs of those in a most vulnerable situation**

The solution shall address a significant humanitarian challenge and respond clearly to an identified need of an affected population. Greater value will be placed on solutions responding to the needs of those in a most vulnerable situation (taking age, gender, disability and minority status into consideration). The solution shall be fully compliant with the humanitarian principles<sup>16</sup> (humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence). In addition, solutions could contribute to more resilience and empowerment.

Method of measurement: the participant has to a) detail their assessment of needs, and explain the rationale of the solution and the expected positive impact on the humanitarian action, in particular to what extent this solution is better than existing solutions; b) explain the positioning of the solution, highlighting notably its potential for those in a most vulnerable situation; and c) demonstrate that the solution is fully consistent with the humanitarian principles.

- **Perspective of a business case**

The solution shall be supported by an argumentation demonstrating the rationale to invest in and scale-up the solution and a strategy to ensure a successful scaling-up. This argumentation shall include a market analysis, the benefits of the solution (in terms of cost, quality, robustness, sustainability, societal and environmental impacts etc.) compared to already existing solutions, the solution positioning strategy, any potential regulatory/IP issue, the strategy for uptake and scaling-up the solution and the investments needed for scaling-up. It could be supported by expressions of interest from public and / or private investors as well as potential buyers, notably humanitarian organisations responding to crises.

Method of measurement: the participant has to provide a well-developed and comprehensive argumentation demonstrating the perspective for a business case.

## 7. DOCUMENTS

The mandatory supporting documents are set out in the application form.

## 8. PARTICIPANTS MAY BE ASKED AT A LATER STAGE FOR FURTHER DOCUMENTS (FOR LEGAL ENTITY VALIDATION, BANK ACCOUNT VALIDATION, ETHICS REVIEW, DECLARATION OF HONOUR ON EXCLUSION GROUNDS, ETC.). PROCEDURE

For each category, if there are more than five applications, there will be a pre-selection phase to select the best five applications to pass to jury review. Otherwise, all applications will pass directly to jury review.

The pre-selection panels and juries will be different for each category. For each category, the pre-selection panel and jury usually have a different composition, but jury members may participate in the pre-selection panel.

The jury evaluation is planned to take place between January 2020 and May 2020.

The jury will evaluate each application against the four award criteria and score them as follows (half marks possible; decimals not allowed):

Criterion	Threshold	Maximum points

<sup>16</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/who/humanitarian-aid-and-civil-protection/humanitarian-principles\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/who/humanitarian-aid-and-civil-protection/humanitarian-principles_en)



1. New solution tested successfully in a real environment, with a demonstrated potential of adaptability and scalability under different humanitarian aid settings	12	20
2. Quality and sustainability of the solution based on frugal application of advanced technologies	18	30
2.1 Frugal application of advanced technologies	9	15
3. Affordability and cost-effectiveness (for beneficiaries and organisations responding to crises)	12	20
4. Engagement with end users and solution responding to the needs of those in a most vulnerable situation (taking age, gender, disability and minority into consideration), and perspective of a business case	18	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

For applications with the same score, the jury will determine a priority order according to the following approach: The score for the criterion number 2 will be given a weight of 2. If two or more applications tie for the first rank in a given category, the prize will be equally divided and awarded to all.

The best five applications in each category will be invited as finalists to demonstrate their solution based on a prototype during a hearing by the jury. Upon completion of their work, each jury will sign a jury report of the applications examined, containing an assessment of their quality and identifying those to which the prize may be awarded.

On the basis of the evaluation by the juries, the Commission will decide on the award of the prizes. Five prizes of EUR 1 million will be awarded, one in each of the following categories: a) shelter and related assistance, b) water, sanitation and hygiene, c) energy, d) health and medical care; and e) open category. All participants will be informed by the end of 2020 about the outcome of their application.

## 9. OTHER CONDITIONS

### 9.1 Payment arrangements

The prize money EUR 1 million will be paid to the five (lead) participants in one instalment after the award ceremony by bank transfer, provided all the requested documents have been submitted.

### 9.2 Publicity — Promoting the prize — Visibility of EU funding

#### 9.2.1 Publicity by the winners

The winners must promote the prize and its results, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public) in a strategic and effective manner.

Unless the Commission requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, any communication activity related to the action (including in electronic form, via social media, etc.) must:

- (a) display the EU emblem and
- (b) include the following text:

“This action/activity/person was finalist for/winner of the EIC prize "Affordable High-Tech for Humanitarian Aid" from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme”.



When displayed together with another logo, the EU emblem must have appropriate prominence.

For the purposes of their obligations, the finalists and winners may use the EU emblem without first obtaining approval from the Commission

This does not, however, give it the right to exclusive use.

Moreover, they may not appropriate the EU emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

### 9.2.2 Publicity by the Commission

The Commission may use, for its communication and publicising activities, information relating to the action, documents notably summaries for publication as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material that it receives from the participants (including in electronic form).

The Commission will publish the name of both the finalists and the winners, their origin, the amount of the prize and its nature and purpose — unless they have requested to waive this publication (because disclosure risks threatening its security and safety or harm its commercial interest).

Photos and videos taken by the Commission either in preparation of the award ceremony or during the award ceremony are the sole property of the Commission.

## 9.3 Dissemination and exploitation of results

The winners must comply with the obligations set out in Title III of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013<sup>17</sup>

For more information and best practice, see Articles 23a-31 of the [H2020 AGA — Annotated grant agreement](#).

## 9.4 Processing of personal data

### 9.4.1 Processing of personal data by the Commission

Any personal data will be processed by the Commission under Regulation No 45/2001<sup>18</sup> and in accordance with the [Participant Portal privacy notice\(s\)](#).

All finalists and winners consent that the Commission publishes the following information:

- name
- Member State of origin (address or NUTS 2 region)
- their activities in relation to the award of the prize (via the summary for publication they provided)
- prize amount

in whatever form and medium.

### 9.4.2. Processing of personal data by the participants

The participants must process personal data in compliance with applicable EU and national law on data

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<sup>17</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in “Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)” (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013 p.81)

<sup>18</sup> Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.01.2001, p. 1).

protection (including authorisations or notification requirements, if any).

## 9.5 Ethics

The activities must be carried out in compliance with:

- (a) ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity) and
- (b) applicable international, EU and national law.

No prize will be awarded for activities carried out outside the EU, if they are prohibited in all Member States.

The participants must ensure that the activities have an exclusive focus on civil applications.

The participants must ensure that the activities do not:

- (a) aim at human cloning for reproductive purposes
- (b) intend to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable (with the exception of research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads) or
- (c) intend to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer.

Research activities involving human embryonic stem cells (hESC) are moreover subject to the conditions set out in the [Statement of the Commission related to research activities involving human embryonic stem cells](#).

The participants must respect the highest standards of research integrity — as set out, for instance, in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity<sup>19</sup>.

For more information and best practice, see the [Participant Portal Online Manual](#), the [Guidance — How to complete your ethics self-assessment](#) and the [Guidance note — Research focusing exclusively on civil applications](#).

## 9.6 Security

The activities must be carried out in compliance with Commission Decision [2015/444](#), i.e. security-sensitive information must be **EU-classified**, if its unauthorised disclosure could adversely impact the interests of the EU or of one (or more) of its Member States. Applications that are too security-sensitive cannot be awarded a prize.

For more information and best practice, see the [Guidance — Guidelines for the classification of information in research projects](#), the [Guidance — Guidelines for the handling of classified information in EU research projects](#), the [Guidance note — Potential misuse of research results](#) and the [Guidance note — Research involving dual use items](#).

## 9.7 Conflict of interests

The participants must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective award of the prize is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest ('conflict of interests').

They must inform the Commission without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The Commission may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be

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<sup>19</sup> European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity of ALLEA (All European Academies) and ESF (European Science Foundation) of March 2017 [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics\\_code-of-conduct\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics_code-of-conduct_en.pdf).

taken by a specified deadline.

### 9.8 Liability for damages

The Commission cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the participants or to third parties as a consequence of the prize, including for gross negligence.

The Commission cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the participants in the context of the prize.

### 9.9 Checks, audits and investigations

The Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Court of Auditors may carry out checks, audits and investigations in relation to the prize.

### 9.10 Withdrawal of the prize — Recovery of undue amounts

The Commission may withdraw the prize after its award and recover all payments made, if it finds out that:

- (a) false information, fraud or corruption was used to obtain it
- (b) a winner was not eligible or should have been excluded
- (c) a winner is in serious breach of its obligations under these Rules of Contest.

### 9.11 Administrative sanctions

If a participant has committed irregularities or fraud or has made false declarations, the Commission may also:

- (a) exclude the participant from all future contracts, grants and contests financed from the EU or Euratom budget for a maximum of five years (or 10 years in case of repetition) and/or
- (b) impose a financial penalty between 2% and 10% of the value of the prize (or between 4% and 20% in case of repetition).

### 9.12 Cancellation of the contest

The Commission may cancel the contest or decide not to award the prize — without any obligation to compensate participants —, if:

- (a) no applications are received
- (b) the jury does not find a winner
- (c) the winner is not eligible or must be excluded

### 9.13 Complaints

Complaints against decisions negatively affecting the rights of a participant or winner can be brought before the General Court — or, on appeal, the Court of Justice of the European Union — under Article 263 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

## 10. CONTACT

For more information, please see the [prize website](#).

In case of questions, please contact [EC-TECH4AID-EIC-PRIZE@EC.EUROPA.EU](mailto:EC-TECH4AID-EIC-PRIZE@EC.EUROPA.EU)

