Clarification Note #2
EUSPA internal reference: 282895

Cassini Challenges Prize Contest

Question #1: If we apply and win the idea stage, does this prevent us from applying for the prototype phase if we manage to develop one till the prototype deadline?

Answer #1: According to the published Terms of Reference (Section 2.2), teams with an awarded idea are eligible to apply again in the other tracks (i.e. prototype or product) within the relevant deadlines.

Question #2: We previously won a prize within myEUSpace competition with a different project, does that affect our eligibility for this prize contest?

Answer #2: Participants of previous EUSPA prize contests or any other prize contest funded by the European Union who were awarded a prize for a certain action are not eligible to participate in the present prize contest should they wish to apply with the same action (see the section 2.5 “Exclusion criteria” of the Terms of Reference: “the contest is not open to [...] beneficiaries of other European Union funding for the same action”). Participants having been awarded a EUSPA or other EU-funded prize wishing to apply to Cassini Challenges should demonstrate that the solution they propose is not the same as the one previously subject to an award. The assessment of the “same action” will be performed by the evaluation committee for each track after the submission deadline.

Question #3: Is participation in the Cassini Challenges open to all nationalities?

Answer #3: According to Section 2.4 (Eligibility criteria) of the published Terms of Reference, participation in the contest is open to individuals and/or teams, composed by economic operators (including legal entities and natural persons). Participation in this prize contest shall be open on equal terms to all economic operators (natural and legal persons) established in the territory of the Member States of the European Union and Norway. Participation is further open to economic operators (natural and legal persons) established in Switzerland only for what concerns solutions involving the Galileo component and to economic operators (natural and legal persons) established in Iceland only for what concerns the Copernicus component. For more information please refer to Section 2.4 of the published Terms of Reference.

Question #4: What type of funding is a prize considered to be? Does an EU prize affect other applications to public state funding?

Answer #4: According to Article 2 (48) of the Financial Regulation¹ ‘prize’ means a financial contribution given as a reward following a contest. With regards to your second question we can’t provide an answer on other applications which does not relate to the Cassini Challenges 2023.

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¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
Question #5: Can you elaborate on the rules regarding how many applications each person/company can submit?

Answer #5: There is no restriction to the number of applications an individual or team can submit. Please also refer to Answer #1 and to the published Terms of Reference.

Question #6: Is the idea of developing and installing an improved system to prevent wildfires eligible?

Answer #6: For more information on the eligibility and on the scope/content of the Challenges, please refer to Section 2.4 (Eligibility criteria) and to Section 2.2 (The Challenges) of the published Terms of Reference.

Question #7: Is it possible for an individual to participate with its own idea?

Answer #7: Participation in the contest is open to individuals and/or teams, composed by economic operators (including legal entities and natural persons). For more information on the Eligibility criteria please refer to Section 2.4 of the published Terms of Reference.

Question #8: What is it meant with "Ideas’ Track"?

Answer #8: In this track, as per Section 2.3.1 of the published Terms of Reference, applicants shall present a theoretical idea and the pain points that are addressed. The application shall also provide a description of the typical use case of the idea and the customer need/s that it will address. The expected TRL of applications in this track is TRL1-TRL3.

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