NOVA impACT! challenges

IMPROVING SOCIETY DURING THE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND
IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS, SOCIAL INNOVATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER!

THE CHALLENGES WE ARE FACING ARE UNPRECEDENTED, BUT SO ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES!
OUR GOAL

Generate **10 groundbreaking solutions** to address **challenges** posed by the new normal expected to arise during and after the coronavirus **pandemic**, putting knowledge and innovation at the service of **society**.
ALL NOVA students, faculty and staff are invited to jump in and contribute with their ideas...

Say **YES** to this challenge!
SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

How can we promote **social inclusion**, while maintaining the necessary **social distancing** until we have a vaccine?

What solutions can help us with our **physical and mental wellbeing** as social and physical distance grows?

How can we **support local hospitals**, community- and home-based **caregivers** in the coming months and be more prepared for the next crisis?

How can we **help local businesses survive** this and future economic disruptions?

How to **better communicate** information to the **underserved and elderly populations**?

How to ensure that the **recovery** won’t make **inequality** even worse than it already is?
How to maintain the planet’s sustainability and reduce climate change while trying to revive the economy?

How can we become more self-sufficient?

How to reduce the waste produced with disposable materials in future epidemics?

Can we take advantage from the evidences of environmental recovery due to the pandemic effects to raise awareness for the human impact on the planet sustainability?

...among other socially or environmentally relevant challenges.
_Submit your idea in 500 words or less by July 3.

_A jury of experts will select up to 10 ideas for implementation.

_Selected innovators must develop a proof of concept/prototype and pitch their solutions in the demo day (July 31).

_Each innovator/team will receive up to EUR 500 for the proof of concept stage. Additional resources will be made available; there will be workshops and progress checkpoints at this stage.

_Solutions can range anywhere from apps and websites, to physical devices (be creative!).

_The winning ideas can receive an additional prize of EUR 2,000. Winners will be announced on the demo day.
• Any students, faculty and staff from NOVA are eligible to submit an idea. Ideas can be submitted individually or in teams. Members outside NOVA University Lisbon are also eligible, if there is at least one member of NOVA’s academic community in their team.

• If the jury select your idea, you/your team will receive up to EUR 500 to support your efforts towards implementing your solution (for the proof of concept – PoC stage).

• You will have 3 weeks to prepare a prototype or proof of concept, using video, photos, diagrams, apps, 3D printing, etc. In some cases, the output can be a business plan (and not necessarily a prototype). At this stage, you will be guided by expert mentors and have access to 5 workshops.

• In the proof of concept stage we strongly encourage individual participants to create a multidisciplinary team to develop the solution (do not forget that NOVA has 9 schools with talents from different specialties and backgrounds!).

• The winning idea will have an additional prize of up to EUR 2,000 (plus 500€ for the PoC stage).

• The most promising ideas will have the opportunity to be further developed, taking advantage of NOVA’s resources and mentors, supported by the Value Creation Office.
**SELECTION PROCESS**

- Jury members will review and assess all the submitted ideas, selecting up to 10 ideas for the proof of concept stage.

- The jury will consider the **feasibility** and **global impact** of the proposed solution, the **relevance** of the addressed question, the relation to the SDG’s and the **applicant’s ability** to execute the idea.

- Applications from **multidisciplinary teams** with at least 2 persons from different schools from NOVA will be valued.
  - **Submission Deadline**: July 3
  - **Proof-of-concept due**: July 30
  - **Demo day**: July 31
RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE

for the proof of concept stage

• One dedicated mentor for each idea/team
• Access to all the mentors from NOVA Mentor Network
• Access to the FCT FabLAB
• Value Creation Office staff
• Access to Digital platforms and other tools
• More coming soon...
THE CALENDAR

The program will be held in **July 2020**, with the solution development stage running over 3 weeks and being completed with the demo day (pitch), where the 2 winners will be announced.

The selected applicants/teams will be assisted through **workshops** enabling and equipping them with concepts and tools to complete the **proof of concept** (PoC) stage, guided by **expert mentors**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Ideas selection stage</th>
<th>PoC - Week 1 [13-19 July]</th>
<th>PoC - Week 2 [20-26 July]</th>
<th>PoC - Week 3 [27-31 July]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 17 – July 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of best ideas &amp; Communication</td>
<td>July 4-10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proof of concept stage</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demo day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Progress checkpoint

- **Workshops 1 & 2**
  - Problem validation
  - Market Analysis
- **Workshops 3 & 4**
  - Marketing
  - Prototyping
- **Workshop 5**
  - Mastering the Pitch