

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## 1. What industries are relevant to this competition?

MITEF Greece Startup Competition is a business skills accelerating competition focusing on technology startups. We expect applications for ventures in fields such as:

- Biotechnology & medicine
- Computer & electronics hardware
- Internet & web
- Nanotechnology & materials
- Software
- Telecommunications
- Transportation
- Energy
- Maritime technologies

## 2. Who are the judges of the MITEF Greece Startup Competition?

The competition judges are carefully selected individuals from Greece and abroad with relevant experience and expertise such as venture capitalists, angel investors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, business executives, academics and other successful and knowledgeable business leaders.

#### 3. How many judges will review my application?

3 judges will review each application. They will be selected from the available pool in such a way that their expertise will be relevant to the application's field of interest. Judges are asked to provide unbiased feedback on each application in order to select the teams that will proceed to the 2nd round.

#### 4. What are the key judging criteria when reviewing the applications?

Judges will be looking at a range of criteria including strength of technology usage, proof of concept (working prototype or service), level of innovation, knowledge of the market, market fit, team's background, know-how and abilities and company's growth potentials in the global market. Each judge's score is weighed equally. The overall selection is based on the viability and likely success of the business.

#### 5. Should all team members be scientists or researchers?

Launching a successful startup requires a variety of disciplines and skills. Therefore it is strongly advised to have a sufficiently diversified team with members covering multiple backgrounds. Having team members or Advisory Board members with business backgrounds (marketing, economics, sales etc) will significantly improve your effort and hence your application.

#### 6. Who are the mentors and when can I have access to them?

Each semifinalist (2nd round) will be assigned to 3 mentors, from the business or academic community, to assist in improving the performance of the team prior to the final round of judging. Through their mentoring, semifinalists will refine all aspects of their venture focusing especially in the areas of their business that need more attention to excel. Selected mentors have backgrounds in a variety of disciplines including finance, legal, business operations, communication and marketing and so on.

### 7. What is the content of the workshops and do I have to attend them?

The semifinalists will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of online workshops that will help them develop and refine all aspects of their venture. The workshops will be focusing on business skills and issues such as legal, finance, tax matters, pitching, human resources, communication, and marketing. At least one team member must participate in each workshop.

#### 8. What about securing Confidentiality & Intellectual property?

Please read thoroughly the <u>Rules & Terms of Participation</u> before entering the competition. When you submit your entry to the MITEF Greece Startup Competition, the judges, and mentors who review your materials do not sign non-disclosure agreements. Therefore, you should assume that any information submitted to the competition is not protected, and plan accordingly. This is the same situation as when giving an initial pitch to a VC. VC's almost never sign NDA's for the initial pitch. Therefore, you need to craft your materials to present what you can without revealing any information that would compromise your IP protection strategy. That being said, the judges and mentors are experienced lawyers, entrepreneurs, and VCs who understand the confidential nature of the information presented to them.

## 9. How will I be notified of my application status?

All applicants will receive feedback from the judges electronically through the competition platform. Semifinalists will be notified directly and announced online through the competition platform and MITEF Greece's website mitefgreece.org

#### 10. How can I receive general updates concerning the competition or MITEF Greece?

You are advised to visit <u>mitefgreece.org</u> regularly for all updates about the competition, or join our newsletter list.

For any additional inquiry regarding the competition, please contact us at info@mitefgreece.org