

EU PRIZE FOR WOMEN INNOVATORS: THE CONTEST IS ON!

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The European Commission is launching a contest to reward three women innovators who have achieved outstanding innovations and brought them to market.

Although women are more and more active in research, there are still too few women creating innovative enterprises. This represents an untapped potential for Europe which needs all its human resources to remain competitive and find solutions to the great challenges that we are facing (such as health, climate change, energy and resource efficiency, etc).

The new EU Prize for Women Innovators aims to raise public awareness on the need for more innovation and more women entrepreneurs. Three women will be rewarded for their accomplishment and we hope they will inspire other women to follow in their footsteps.

The awards

In total, three prizes will be awarded.

First prize: € 100.000

Second prize: € 50.000

Third prize: € 25.000

An independent panel of judges from business and academia will examine and select the winners of the contest.

The award ceremony will take place on 5 December 2011 at the Innovation Convention organised by the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium.

Who can apply?

The following conditions need to be fulfilled:

1. The contestant must be a woman residing in an EU Member State or in a country associated to the EU's Framework Programme for Research.
2. The contestant must be the founder or co-founder of an existing and active company.
3. The company must have been registered before 1 January 2009.
4. The annual turnover of the company must have been at least € 100.000 in 2010.
5. Either the candidate as an individual or the company founded/co-founded by the candidate must have received or be receiving EU funding from the EU's Research Framework Programme or from the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP).
6. The contestant must have been involved in the research and innovation activities connected to the origin of the product or service provided by the company she has founded or co-founded.



How to apply?

Contestants can submit their applications electronically starting from 20 July 2011 at www.ec.europa.eu/women-innovators

The deadline for application is **20 September 2011, 5:00 p.m. (Brussels time)**.

The winners will be notified by email before 15 November 2011

For more information

www.ec.europa.eu/women-innovators

Submit your questions [here](#)

Or call **0032 483 506 825**

