

SECOND NATURE TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION GRANT

The Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation is launching the Second Nature Technological Innovation Grant, focusing on the three main concepts of the Second Nature Initiative:

- Marine Plastic Pollution
- Blue & Circular Economy
- New Technologies

The winning proposal will be considered by the panel as “industry changing”

1. OBJECTIVE

This grant programme applies to projects that create a new “industry changing” technology in which will be included the three concepts of the Second Nature Initiative as mentioned above.

The successful project will receive a grant of 35,000 USD

2. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

The Second Nature Technological Innovation Grant is intended for individual researchers or research groups from all over the world, from 18 to 45 years old. University affiliation is not a prerequisite.

3. EVALUATION CRITERIA

What the judges will be looking for / What the participants will need to demonstrate

- Why their research is important and industry changing
- What is the new technology that they have created and how is it expected to be implemented
- What will the funding go against
- Readiness level (see below) – Maximum Level 5

The TRL scale is a metric for describing the maturity of a technology. The scale consists of 9 levels. Each level characterises the progress in the development of a technology, from the idea (level 1) to the full deployment of the product in the marketplace (level 9). The TRL definitions used for the Second Nature Innovation Grant are:

1. Level 1 - Basic Research: basic principles are observed and reported
2. Level 2 – Applied Research: technology concept and/or application formulated
3. Level 3 – Critical function, proof of concept established
4. Level 4 – Laboratory testing of prototype component or process
5. Level 5 – Laboratory testing of integrated system
6. Level 6 – Prototype system verified

7. Level 7 – Integrated pilot system demonstrated
8. Level 8 – System incorporated in commercial design
9. Level 9 – System ready for full scale deployment
10. Level 10 – Market introduction

The members of the Judging Committee will be soon announced at the web address <https://www.secondnature.gr/grant-1> .

3. GUIDELINES

3.1 The applicants must read carefully the guidelines provided before filling the application form. Applications which do not meet the eligibility criteria will be automatically opted out from the process.

3.2 The applicants can submit one or more projects for the grant. Each project should be submitted through a different application form. The application form can be found at <https://www.secondnature.gr/grant-1> or at www.laskaridisfoundation.org.

3.4 The applicants must submit the application form and the requested material as described in the form until 15 November 2018.

3.5 All the fields and requests of the application form must be filled and typed in English. The applications should be submitted by e-mail only at snaward@laskaridisfoundation.org, using as “Subject” the applicant’s name in CAPS followed by SN GRANT. Please, include the total number of attachments in the body of the e-mail.

3.5 Regarding the personal information included in the application form, the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation is totally complying with EU GDPR legislation.

3.6 The applicant declares automatically the acceptance of the Second Nature Innovation Grant’s Terms and Conditions submitting the application form.

6. TIMELINE

- Calls open July 2018
- Calls close 15 November 2018
- Circulation of applicants’ projects by the Foundation to the judging committee until 20 December 2018
- First selection: 15 January 2019
- Final selection of winning project: 10 April 2019
- Winner announced May 2019 from the Foundation

For information/clarifications, please contact the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation by e-mail to secondnature@laskaridisfoundation.org.