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## Press release

# 56 countries gather online in their quest to fix climate change

Green entrepreneurs across the globe continue to create positive climate impact and economic opportunities

Amsterdam, August 5 – Despite the current crisis, green entrepreneurs across the globe continue to create positive climate impact and economic opportunities. A record number of 3,000 start-ups from 56 countries entered this year's edition of ClimateLaunchpad, the global green business ideas competition. The 7th edition of its Global Grand Final will be an entirely digital 3-day event (September 30 and October 1-2).

#### Global Grand Final will be hosted online

ClimateLaunchpad is part of the entrepreneurship offerings by EIT Climate-KIC, the EU's main climate innovation initiative. Its mission is to unlock global cleantech potential and to accelerate innovations that address climate change.

Due to COVID-19 the 2020 competition is now digitally available. Boot Camps, coaching sessions, national and regional have all been brought to virtual environments. ClimateLaunchpad is now preparing to do the same for their annual Global Grand Final. No small feat as it is the largest green business event around. There will be 65 cleantech start-ups pitching, live keynotes, interactive masterclasses, networking, fun sessions, inspirational talks & live discussions.

The fully virtual event will be accessible to all and is unconstrained by time, space, travel, or CO<sub>2</sub>. An interactive event platform is being set up to facilitate the three days. More information about the programme will be made available shortly on the dedicated event website.

### 2020: bigger than ever with 3,000 business ideas to fix climate change

The competition is experiencing its most successful year to date. Over 3,000 ideas across the globe were submitted. In 56 countries selected teams with promising cleantech potential are currently competing in national and regional finals. The 65

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and all teams usually receive a lot of media exposure.

#### Business success to create real and scalable impact

Seeing these start-ups pitch during the Global Grand Final is like stepping into the future where big data eliminates crop failure, clean water is cheaply available to all, and livestock agriculture is obsolete. ClimateLaunchpad offers all its participants the knowledge, tools, and experience to grow and scale their businesses, and to achieve real positive climate impact on a global scale.

Most ClimateLaunchpad alumni continue to be successful with their start-ups, 85% of the previous participants are still in business. ClimateLaunchpad alumni that are leading the charge include <u>Multus Media</u> (enabling competitive prices for cultivated meat), <u>Capricorn Power</u> (turning waste heat into power), <u>Rens</u> (sneakers made from coffee grounds) and <u>many more</u>.

## The green business event of the year

This first digital edition of the Global Grand Final promises to be the green business event of the year. It offers a global conversation on fixing climate change with leading minds, policy makers, and corporates attending. The 3-day event will be packed with the world's best green start-ups pitching, thought provoking keynotes and interactive master classes.

Full programme and this year's speakers will be confirmed as soon as possible. An impression of previous speakers <u>can be found on the website</u>.

#### ClimateLaunchpad. Fixing climate change, one startup at a time

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#### Note to editors:

For more information about ClimateLaunchpad, the 2020 Global Grand Final, press and interview requests please contact:

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### **Contact ClimateLaunchpad**

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#### **About ClimateLaunchpad**

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entrepreneurship. A green future demands thousands of innovations challenging the current business models. The competition supports aspiring and promising cleantech entrepreneurs with training, coaching and networking opportunities.

ClimateLaunchpad operates on a global scale, currently in over 56 countries.

ClimateLaunchpad was established in 2014 and is part of the Entrepreneurship offerings of EIT Climate-KIC.

#### **About EIT Climate-KIC**

EIT Climate-KIC is one of the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) established in 2010 by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), the EU body that creates sustainable economic growth in Europe, tackling the global challenges of this time. <a href="https://www.climate-kic.org">www.climate-kic.org</a>

### About the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

The EIT is an independent body of the European Union set up in 2008 to spur innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe to overcome some of its greatest challenges. It brings together leading higher education institutions, research labs and companies to form dynamic cross-border partnerships – Knowledge and Innovation Communities, KICs – that develop innovative products and services, start new companies, and train a new generation of entrepreneurs. https://eit.europa.eu









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