



Press Kit: ClimateLaunchpad EU Finals

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About ClimateLaunchpad



What are we?

ClimateLaunchpad is the world's largest cleantech business idea competition. Our mission is to unlock Europe's cleantech potential that addresses climate change. The competition creates a stage for those ideas. ClimateLaunchpad is part of the entrepreneurship offerings of [Climate-KIC](#).

Who are we?

We are people determined to address the negative impacts of climate change on a global scale with innovation and invention.

Why are we passionate about ClimateLaunchpad?

Here's the thing. We are dead serious about tackling climate change. And we're convinced that investing in ideas and entrepreneurs is the way to go about it. A green and clean future demands thousands of innovations challenging the current business models. That's why.

Project Lead Frans Nauta sums it up this way:



“It's incredibly inspiring to see the next generation of entrepreneurs come up with solutions for climate change, all across Europe. These startups are creating a green wave that will turn climate change into the biggest economic opportunity of the 21st century.”

What do we do?

There are a lot of great ideas out there for improving lives and reducing emissions. Some of them remain in the idea stage, never taking the next step and becoming viable. Some of them need an extra push. They need mentoring, training, the benefit of experience. They need lessons from entrepreneurial failures and successes. With that a number of ideas become realities.

This is where we come in. The team at ClimateLaunchpad supports new cleantech ideas. We do this with partners in 30+ countries. We offer training, coaching, and support.

What do our participants say about us?

[Panagiotis Drakoulis](#) of the startup Urban Farmers says that ClimateLaunchpad training gives them an edge over their competitors:

“We have something those companies don't. We attended ClimateLaunchpad.”

[Sara West from Wavetube](#) had this to say about participating:

“Our main learning outcome is the constant questioning of the business idea and the underlying technology. We've met critics and have been forced to constantly improve and refine our concept.”

[William Janssen from Desolenator](#) (named [The Guardian's](#) 2014 startup of the year) told us this:

“ClimateLaunchpad goes beyond any normal competition. It's not a competition to participate in for some money prize. What we got is the support we wanted and needed: coaching, mentors, training, office space and financial support for our venture. A priceless experience and opportunity.”



The 2016 EU Finals

Around 90 national finalists will gather in Tallinn, Estonia, Europe's very own Silicon Valley, to pitch their ideas for sustainable cleantech businesses. Ten will make it through to the Climate-KIC accelerator program. The top three also win cash awards.

This event is a great opportunity to glimpse the future of cleantech. Come and you might just find the next cleantech unicorn.

Former Competitors

This will be our third European-wide competition. Former success stories include:

- [Desert Control](#), which uses a patented process to increase water retention in depleted soil, making it possible to use dramatically less water for crops (Read more: [The Engineer](#))
- [Desolenator](#), a portable solar-powered desalination device (Read more: [The Guardian](#))
- [The Sexy Plant](#), a plant that controls pests without pesticide using sex pheromones to confuse predatory insects (Read more: [The Sexy Plant](#))

This year's competition will feature startups that address the most important challenges we face. Food, water, and energy.

Meet a few of our 2016 competitors

These and other very promising ideas in our current competition are on their way to create global impact. Meet them in Tallinn:

[BugBox & Oil](#) (Estonia) addresses the high demand for protein with its insect powders and oils. Their process has a dramatically smaller carbon footprint than for other animal proteins.

[CreChar](#) (Scotland) feeds plants. They do this by turning difficult to recycle paper-plastic composite cups into carbon-rich char.

[Sponge](#) (Turkey) cleans oil-based contaminants from the ocean. It soaks it right up while leaving the water behind.

[KAKI's](#) (Slovenia) offers waterless toilets for public and private use.



[E-Home](#) (Bulgaria) creates sustainable bricks from compressed earth right on the building site.

We're not sure how they do it, but [MAGPLANTEX](#) (Poland) makes textiles from seedlings that are later upcycled for use in agriculture.

[Salcape Carbon Capture](#) (Norway) offers a lower maintenance and highly effective product for capture CO2 emissions.

Did you know that standby power can account for 25% of all home energy usage? [Smart Home Technology](#) (Switzerland) has a device that puts an end to standby power use.

[Sunny Water](#) (Romania) developed a precision agriculture technology that uses solar energy to deliver water for irrigation where it is most needed, when it is not needed.

The Judges

Our judges come from academia and the business world, from research labs and accelerators. They have experience in sustainable technology, entrepreneurship, and science. Like us, they are committed to addressing climate change.

More information will be available closer to the date.

Venue

Please note that there are two different venues for the event.

October 7

Energy Discovery Centre / Energia avastuskeskus
Põhja pst 29, Tallinn, Estonia

October 8

Tallinn Creative Hub / Kultuurikatel
Põhja pst 27a, Tallinn, Estonia

Program

We've got two days of programming excitement for you to enjoy. The details are being continually updated.



Day 1, October 7, 2016: Thematic Competition

13.30 – 14.00

Registration

14.00 – 15.45

Kickoff and opening entertainment, hosted by ClimateLaunchpad Project Lead Frans Nauta. This will be followed by the keynotes and opportunities for networking.

15.45 – 18.45

The startup teams compete for thematic awards.



Schedule Day 2, October 8, 2016: Finals

08.30 – 9.30

Registration, throughout the day exhibition booths will be open and there will be a number of opportunities to network, meet participants and partners, and share ideas.

09.00 – 13.30

Mari Vavulski from Startup Estonia kicks off the day's events. By lunch, the Semi-Finals will be completed and the Finalists announced.

14.00 – 19.30

The afternoon includes the exciting final rounds of the ClimateLaunchpad 2016 event. In the evening the winners are announced and toasted.

About Tallinn

We're excited to host the 2016 EU Finals in Tallinn. Here's why:

Tallinn is a city that looks forward as well as back, which might be one of the reasons that it's the birthplace of Skype, which has become so ubiquitous that it's now a verb. Estonia

has been at the forefront of ICT education in Europe, and its methods for teaching at the are being copied by countries all over Europe.

The country's IT sector has its own hashtag, #estonianmafia. The hashtag is used to post jobs, as IT-related questions, and promote its startups.

On top of that, it's a great place to visit.

[Lonely Planet](#) calls Tallinn "one of Europe's most beguiling walled cities."

"Increasingly sophisticated without being overly sanitised, forward-focused while embracing the past, Tallinn is a truly fascinating city."

The Telegraph tells us [25 incredible things you didn't know about Estonia](#)

And if that's not enough, Estonia is a country filled with unicorns.





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Photos

The Dropbox Link will take you to a folder with selected photos from the various national teams:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/rtuo4tpbo36tw4g/AAC8zFESvLN3Whj3GgYAqDZoa?dl=0>

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