



Regulation

Article 1 Scope

1.1. StartupNano is an initiative promoted by INL (International Iberian Laboratory of Nanotechnology) and Centre for Nanotechnology and Smart Materials (CeNTI), in partnership with Startup Braga, co-financed by Norte 2020 Program under the reference NORTE-02-0651-FEDER-000026, with the objective of promoting new business based in nanotechnology.

1.2. StartupNano is composed of four (4) stages that will support the different levels of development of nanotechnology-based startups, from project idea to market penetration: Innovate, Launchpad, Acceleration and Incubation.

Article 2 Stages and Timeline

2.1. The present StartupNano initiative has two (2) cycles, with the first cycle starting in 2016 and the second in 2017. Each cycle comprises four (4) stages:

- Stage 1 - Innovate: Participation in a series of ignition workshops (1-2 days duration) dedicated to support individuals on exploring business models for nanotechnology based project ideas and also to create teams with complementary interests and skills. From September to December (2016 and 2017, for the first and second cycle respectively).
- Stage 2 – Launchpad: Participation in the pre-acceleration stage for 6 nanotechnology based business project ideas. This stage will be dedicated to validate the technology and business opportunity with the support of experts, during three (3) weeks. Awards will be given to the three (3) best project ideas. From November to December (2016 and 2017, for the first and second cycle respectively).
- Stage 3 – Acceleration: a four (4) months-acceleration stage targeted to nanotechnology based startups to get support on strategies for product and

business development for market penetration. From January to May (2017 and 2018, for the first and second cycle respectively).

- Stage 4 – Incubation: access to a shared office space and to unique laboratories, services and mentoring schemes for nanotechnology based startups. Starting in 2016, up to 3 years with a quarterly re-evaluation.

2.2. Each stage is subject to a prior selection process. Participation at each stage is free of charge.

2.3. Dates and complete timelines for each stage within each cycle are available online. StartupNano promoters may change this timeline if needed. Updated information will be provided on the website: www.startupnano.eu.

Article 3 Eligibility Criteria

3.1. The initiative is open to the following participants:

- As individuals, adults (age higher than 18 years), from any nationality, as individuals or as teams. A team entering the program must designate one person as the representative, which will be the sole proxy with StartupNano regarding the project and team, and each individual of the Team must agree to these Rules.
- As legal entities with an annual sales revenue below €10.000 in the last fiscal year.

3.2. In the Launchpad stage, legal entities are not eligible to apply. Teams and individuals should not have already a legally company created for the proposed idea/technology.

3.3. Ideas or projects submitted will be considered eligible based on the following criteria:

- a) The product proposed is a solution using nanotechnology based concepts.
- b) Market oriented application in one of the following areas (but not restricted to):
 - Health and Food
 - Environment, Energy and Security
 - Smart and Functional Materials
- c) The participant should have full rights to explore the technology for the proposed application.

Article 4 Innovate - Definition

4.1. Innovate stage comprises ignition workshops of 1 to 2 days' duration dedicated towards capacity building of individuals to explore nanotechnology based business and possibly to join teams with complementary interests.

Article 5

Innovate - Ignition Workshops

5.1. Within this stage four (4) workshops are organized with international speakers under the following topics:

- a) Nanotechnology Opportunities for Industry – 1-day workshop
- b) Finding Technology Opportunities – 1-day workshop
- c) Technology Business Models – 1-day workshop
- d) Kickstart a Business Idea – 2-days workshop

5.2. Participation in the workshops is individual and free of charge but registration is mandatory before the event.

Article 6

Launchpad - Definition

6.1. The Launchpad stage focuses on the pre-acceleration of nanotechnology based business ideas. The stage is dedicated towards the validation of a technology and/or a business opportunity before the creation of a company. For this specific stage, companies that were already legally created are not eligible.

6.2. This stage comprises four (4) steps:

- a) Step 1 - Idea Submission: participants submit their nanotechnology based business project ideas. Submission online via the www.startupnano.eu.
- b) Step 2 – Bootcamp: participants are invited to join a two (2) full day bootcamp to structure and work on their business project ideas, join other team members, get feedback on their projects and be selected by a jury panel to join the Launchpad stage.
- c) Step 3 – Launchpad: six (6) project ideas will be selected to be further developed and have free access to a network of renowned mentors and coaches which will support each team to validate their technology and market potential. Training on how to pitch their project idea will also be provided. During ten (10) weeks, each team will be fully dedicated to meet with potential clients and nanotech experts to validate their ideas.
- d) Step 4 - Pitch Day: participants will pitch their project to a jury panel that will then select the three (3) best ideas entitled to receive the StartupNano prizes.

Article 7

Launchpad – Submissions

7.1. Step 1 - Submission of project ideas: calls for applications will be open according to deadlines defined at the StartupNano's website. The submission forms for each StartupNano cycle are available at www.startupnano.eu.

7.2. Each participant may only submit one project idea per cycle, and team members cannot be part of more than one submitted project.

Article 8

Launchpad – Selection Criteria

8.1. The selection process will be made by a jury comprising representatives of the StartupNano promoters, and based on the following criteria:

- a) Participant profile and, if applicable, composition and quality of the team.
- b) Project quality and innovation potential.
- c) Technological readiness level.
- d) Market potential and scalability.
- e) Fit to the program ecosystem and network.
- f) Participant's interaction during the bootcamp.
- g) Participant's performance during the bootcamp pitch.

Article 9

Launchpad – Selection and Evaluation

9.1. Eligible ideas submitted on step 1 (Submission) will be invited to join step 2 (Bootcamp). The invitation will be limited to the capacity defined by the promoters and may be subject of a preliminary selection process by the selection jury.

9.2. Within step 2 (Bootcamp), only six (6) teams will be selected to move with their projects into step 3 (Launchpad).

9.3. During the selection process participants may be required to provide additional documents in order to support the information provided at the submission step.

9.4. Selected ideas to step 3 and onwards will be formally accepted upon signature of a written agreement binding to StartupNano's regulation.

9.5. In step 4 (Pitch Day) projects will be evaluated by a multidisciplinary jury, including representatives of each promoter and external experts gathering business and technology perspectives (national and international).

9.6. Evaluation is based on the score given by each jury member under each selection criteria provided under Article 8. Awards will be given to the three (3) highest scored projects within the first and the second cycle of StartupNano.

9.7. Commitment and participation of at least one team member on Bootcamp, training and mentoring and Pitch Day is mandatory to be selected and evaluated.

Article 10

Launchpad – Prizes and Awards

10.1. Cash prizes will be awarded respectively from the highest to the lowest ranked team:

- 1) 1st Team – 5000€ (five thousand euros)
- 2) 2nd Team – 3500€ (three thousand and five hundred euros)
- 3) 3rd Team – 2000€ (two thousand euros)

10.2. Incubation award to the three (3) winning projects of each StartupNano cycle:

- a) Direct access to StartupNano Acceleration Program.
- b) Six (6) months of free incubation at INL facilities with shared office space up to three (3) members by participant.
- c) Extended access to INL's and CeNTI's facilities and services with discounts up to 30% from general prices during incubation period.
- d) 10.000€ (ten thousand euros) in kind budget, to be used at INL's services, valid for up to two (2) years.
- e) Technology consulting: Forty (40) hours of free Science and Technology consulting by an interdisciplinary community of researchers from INL and CeNTI.
- f) International Roadshow: participation of two (2) people per project on an international roadshow aiming to pitch to customer and investors.

10.3. Prizes are only awarded after the creation of a legal Portuguese entity for the project in North region. Awards are conditioned to project continuity after the Launchpad stage and upon agreement to join the acceleration stage.

10.4. Access to cash and incubation awards are conditioned to a physical or virtual incubation with StartupNano (see Article 15), but not limited to work with any third party in any circumstance.

10.5. Access to labs, services and consultancy is made by prior request and is subject to INL's and CeNTI's availability.

10.6. Incubation and service awards are exclusive to be used with StartupNano promoters' own services and resources.

10.7. Participation on the Roadshow is limited to the format and dates established by StartupNano in articulation with the awarded participants. Under the impossibility of participating in the roadshow, the winning participant cannot benefit from the award by other means.

Article 11

Acceleration - Definition

11.1. Acceleration stage is dedicated to the acceleration of startups focused on nanotechnology based business projects. This stage comprises four (4) steps:

- a) Step 1 - Startup Application: Startup teams submit their project application on-line.
- b) Step 2 – Startup Screening and Selection: Startups are invited to an interview with StartupNano team.
- c) Step 3 – Acceleration: three (3) startups will be selected directly to join the three (3) startups selected from the Launchpad stage, and during four (4) months these six (6) startups will work further in defining their product, build it, grow their business and pitch to clients and investors. Access for free to StartupNano workshops, network, mentors, and experts.
- d) Step 4 - Demo Day: Startups will pitch to an audience of partners and investors.

11.2. Acceleration stage runs in parallel with Startup Braga's Acceleration Program. Selected startups will have access to Startup Braga acceleration program and will have the chance to work and interact with other startups.

Article 12

Acceleration – Applications

12.1. Application to the acceleration stage is made through a submission form available at www.startupnano.eu.

12.2 Apart from the eligibility criteria defined under Article 3.2., startups will be considered eligible to enter the acceleration stage based on the following criteria:

- a) Having a working prototype of the product (be able to demonstrate the core features proposed).
- b) Startups do not need to have a Portuguese legal entity created, but shall be willing to create it within six (6) months upon entering the acceleration stage.
- c) Having at least a one full-time applicant member in the team.

Article 13

Acceleration – Selection Criteria

13.1. The selection process will be made by a jury comprising representatives of the StartupNano promoters and based on the application and interviews, according to the following criteria:

- a) Participant profile and quality and, if applicable, composition of the team.
- b) Project quality and innovation potential.
- c) Technological readiness level.
- d) Market potential and scalability.
- e) Fit to the program ecosystem and network.

13.2. Commitment of participation of at least one team member on training, mentoring and Demo Day is mandatory.

Article 14

Acceleration – Prizes and Awards

14.1. The acceleration stage does not comprise the selection of a winning startup. However, based on evolution on the criteria defined under Article 13, one of the six (6) startups entering the acceleration stage following from the Launchpad will be selected by INL to be awarded with:

- a) 15.000€ (fifteen thousand euros) in kind budget to be used at INL's services, valid for up to two (2) years.
- b) Six (6) months of free incubation at INL facilities with shared office space up to three (3) team members

14.2. As part of the Startup Braga acceleration program, StartupNano startups entering the acceleration stage will be eligible for:

- a) FastTrack to dedicated investment fund of more than 1M euros.
- b) Receive investment by Startup Braga investors network.
- c) Startup Braga International Roadshow.

14.3. Awards at this stage are the responsibility of each of the entities sponsoring them (INL, CeNTI, Invest Braga/ Startup Braga, etc.) and conditioned to their sole discretion, and dependent of acceptance of the condition defined by each sponsoring entity.

14.4. Prizes are conditional to the creation of a legal entity.

14.5. Access to labs, services and consultancy is made by prior request and is subject of INL and CeNTI availability.

Article 15

Incubation - Definition

15.1. Incubation stage is an ongoing support given to startups, allowing participant startups to have their headquarters at Startup Braga, and access to shared office space, labs and services at INL, and labs and services at CeNTI. Incubation can be accessed by the participant startups of Launchpad and Acceleration stages, or accessed directly by other startups. Incubated startups have access to StartupNano network of mentors, experts and partners, as well as special prices for services. Incubation can be physical, if the startup is incorporated and has office space provided by StartupNano, or virtual, if the startup has its own office space.

Article 16

Incubation – Applications

16.1. Application to the incubation stage is made through a submission form available at www.startupnano.eu.

16.2. Apart from the eligible criteria defined under Article 3.2., startups will be considered eligible to be selected to the incubation stage based on the following criteria:

- a) Having at least a full-time participant member.
- b) Have an added value in the access to INL and CeNTI labs and services.

Article 17

Incubation – Costs

19.1. Incubation services are provided at special rates to startups as an investment of StartupNano in the development and growth of startups. The costs will depend on the services and spaces used, as a pay per use base (according to each entity price table):

- a) Shared Office Space at INL (including WIFI, maintenance and utilities) – . This cost is waived for teams that received a free incubation award for the established period that shall be used continuously.
- b) Labs Access – 30% discount on INL and CeNTI prices to the public.
- c) Shared Dedicated Lab at INL – defined as a case by case by INL.
- d) Services – 30% discount on INL and CeNTI prices to the public.
- e) Fiscal Domiciliation and mail reception at Startup Braga – free.

19.2. Startups are required to support at least the cost of one person incubated to benefit from StartupNano incubation, which included those virtually incubated.

Article 18

Communication with participants

20.1. Communication of the results will be made electronically, in written form, to all participants through the e-mail address indicated on the application form. Participants are required to reply this communication. Reply failure may lead to exclusion of StartupNano program.

20.2. Any communication to StartupNano should be made to info@startupnano.eu.

Article 19

Obligations and responsibilities of the participants

21.1. Participants must comply with all provisions laid down in this regulation.

21.2. Participants must provide all the information requested and shall take full responsibility if such information provided is false or incorrect.

21.3. Participants undertake to collaborate with the StartupNano promoters, namely in communicating all relevant activities and developments regarding their participation in the different stages of this initiative, and to actively participate in the events organised by the StartupNano promoters.

21.4. Participants undertake to use their best efforts in the full development of their project.

21.5. Participants shall respect all hygiene and safety rules applicable to the activities developed in the facilities made available for their projects.

21.6. Participants are entirely responsible for managing the office space and/or individual laboratories and also for maintaining them in good working order.

21.7. Participants undertake to provide information, technical input, as well as to comply with agreed deliverables and deadlines, attend meetings with project Mentors and workshops, and to be available for any presentations required by the StartupNano promoters.

21.8. Participants represent and warrant that all authorizations or legal permissions for the development of their project and for the participation in the StartupNano initiative have been granted prior to the submission of their application. Participants furthermore represent and warrant that the performance of their obligations under this regulation does not infringe any patent, trade secret or other proprietary rights of third parties.

21.9. Participants accept and agree that failure to comply with any official requests by the StartupNano promoters may lead to their exclusion, including, but not limited to, the provision of any additional support activities or funding.

21.10. Participants accept and agree to be contacted by the StartupNano promoters or one of its representatives for follow-up activities related to this Program.

Article 20

Duty of Confidentiality

22.1. All information, in whatever form or mode of communication, whether in tangible or intangible form, which is disclosed by the StartupNano promoters or representatives and by the participants in connection with the execution and participation in the Startup initiative, and which has been explicitly marked as “confidential” at the time of disclosure shall be considered “confidential information” of the disclosing party. When such information is disclosed orally and has been identified as confidential at the time of disclosure and, has been confirmed and designated in writing within fifteen calendar days from oral disclosure at latest, as confidential information, shall be considered “confidential information” of the disclosing party.

22.2. During the duration of the StartupNano initiative, the StartupNano partners and its representatives and the participants undertake:

- a) Not to disclose confidential information otherwise than for the purpose for which it was disclosed.
- b) Not to disclose confidential information to any third party without the prior written consent of the disclosing party.
- c) To ensure that internal distribution of confidential information by a recipient party shall take place on a strict need-to-know basis.

22.3. The above shall not apply for disclosure or use of confidential information if, and in so far the recipient party can show that:

- a) The confidential information becomes publicly available by means other than a breach of the recipient confidentiality obligation.
- b) The disclosing party subsequently informs the recipient that the confidential information is no longer confidential;
- c) The confidential information is communicated to the recipient without any obligation of confidence by a third party who is to the best knowledge of the recipients in lawful possession thereof and under no obligation of confidence to the disclosing party;
- d) The confidential information was already known to the recipient prior to disclosure has evidenced by written documentation.

Article 21 Intellectual Property Rights

23.1. The intellectual property rights concerning technology and applications belong to the respective(s) owners(s).

23.2. Ownership of intellectual property that results from development efforts beyond provided technology consultancy, mentoring, technical services and access to labs of StartupNano promoters is defined case by case before engagement in such activities, in order to protect possible existing intellectual property from each side, and the contribution of each party in the result from that collaboration.

Article 22 Data Protection

24.1. Participants agree that personal data, including, but not limited to, name, email address and phone number may be collected, processed, stored and otherwise used by StartupNano promoters, or any party authorized by the promoters for the purposes of conducting and administering the initiative, including its partners.

24.2. StartupNano promoters may also use personal information or any party authorized by them, including its affiliates, to verify a participant's identity, postal address and telephone number in the event a participant qualifies for a prize, as well as to deliver the applicable prize.

24.3. The participants are informed that its data shall be included on a filing system controlled by the StartupNano which purpose is to maintain, control and perform the provisions of the regulations under which such data have been provided.

24.4. Participants may at any time exercise its right to access, rectify, cancel and object to the data processing, where appropriate, by sending an e-mail to StartupNano promoters.

24.5. StartupNano partners shall be relieved of any liability that may arise as a result of an infringement by the participants of any applicable data protection regulation.

Article 23 Financial Participation

25.1. StartupNano promoters do not take any financial participation, revenue share or fee of any kind beyond those defined as incubation costs for provided services, either for participation in the different stages, either in the awards provided in cash or in kind.

25.2. Eligible investment advertised are based on a financial participation by its sponsors, subject to direct negotiation between the participant and sponsor.

Article 24 Amendments to Regulations

26.1. StartupNano reserves the right to change, at any time, these rules notifying such changes on the official website (www.startupnano.eu). Participants will be immediately subject to the new rules by continuing in StartupNano.

Article 25 Final Provisions

27.1. StartupNano promoters reserve the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify participants that violate these rules, misrepresent themselves or provide misleading information.

27.2. StartupNano promoters reserve the right to, at its sole discretion, not award one or more prizes and awards if due to the rules, or level of the projects, the jury as so deliberate.

27.3. StartupNano promoters reserve the right to change the number of ideas and startups accepted into each stage, at their sole discretion, or change any of the deadlines of submission and application.

27.4. StartupNano is based at the INL, Avenida Mestre José Veiga s/n, 4715-330 Braga, Portugal.

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