**Hackathon –** **Innovation as a City Service Łódź 2022**

**RDS Fund Sp. z o.o. in cooperation with Nicholas Coutts and Partners announces a special call for projects "Innovation as a City service - Łódź 2022 - within the BridgeAlfa program "New Promised Land Seed Fund.**

The purpose of the Hackathon – **"Innovation as a City service - Łódź 2022 -** is to acquire and develop innovative projects in the field of NSS 10 - smart networks and information and communication technologies and geoinformation technologies, with special emphasis on:

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| **CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES** |  | **OBJECTIVES** |
| The resources for innovation are located in and around the city but often difficult to find and use. As a result, many such resources are under utilised and the value to the city and the resource owners is reduced while costs and risks for entrepreneurs are higher than they need to be. |  | Finding a system to manage equipment, spaces, tools, finance, competences, knowledge, and methods has mutual benefits: resource owners can provide their resources as services, while innovators and entrepreneurs have an easier time finding and utilising the resources they need. |
| To date, each start-up is hand-crafted, yet core business processes are often similar. Many entrepreneurs duplicate resources in trying to solve standard business problems, unaware of existing solutions. |  | We can structure resources to avoid work being done twice. As a result, start-ups and entrepreneurs can dedicate these means to solve new problems and save time and cost. |
| Start-ups are known to create new jobs but few programmes exist to have a significant long term impact on creating new employment. |  | We will search for methods of creating start-ups that are reliable, scalable and efficient in resource use. Providing a process for capital markets to continually fund a high volume of start-ups is essential in order to continually generate employment at scale. |
| Judging the benefits to the stakeholders of the innovation eco-system (cities, resource owners, residents, employees, entrepreneurs…) is difficult. |  | Ideally, we can create a standard for measuring key attributes that can easily be integrated into various workflows. Such a system would allow strategic planning and increase transparency between investors and entrepreneurs. |

NSS 10 - <https://smart.gov.pl/en/smart-networks-and-information-and-communication-technologies-and-geoinformation-technologies>

The start-up scene is booming, but knowledge, resources, and networks are often unstructured. We want to build a platform that enables entrepreneurs to tap into existing resources and networks, connects investors to promising start-ups, and provides a knowledge base for innovators. A platform that helps innovative ideas become sustainable businesses.

Coordinating team:

Nicholas Coutts - Royal College of Art, CYENS and UNLEASH, Jan Bocian – RDS Fund Sp. z o.o.

VISION to startups ecosystem by Nicholas Coutts:

* **To have a significant impact on the creation of employment by making it easy for global capital markets to invest at scale in startups.**
* **To reduce the risk of failure for startups by making it easy for start- ups to find, configure and re-configure the resources they need for innovation.**
* **To make the creation of startups a repeatable, highly scalable process.**

**Resource owners** will be given a generalised template for describing their resources and terms of access – transforming their resources into services that can be repeated and scaled. Part of the service design framework is to lower or remove barriers to access and use of the resources.

**Innovators and entrepreneurs** can find the resources they need quickly and easily and compare choices. They can reconfigure their resources as their needs change as their venture grows and review different configurations for current and future requirements.

**City managers** and planners can have good overview of the de- mand for resources and the likely return on resource provision as well as the social, economic and environmental impacts and can benchmark their city’s performance with other cities.

**Academics and researchers** have access to a new data on innovation and entrepreneurship. Grant and research proposal preparation and the bridge between the lab and the market for innovation is improved.

**Investors** have reduced risks as time to market is reduced and growth accelerated through the effective access to resources. Creating a system of tracking progress along various metrics facilitates more effective communication between start-ups and investors and provides better information for portfolio management.

Competition dedicated to:

* innovators, scientists, and entrepreneurs,
* teams
* startups up to 5 years from the registration of their activity in the National Court Register.

Prizes:

* 3 PoP analyses of projects up to 50 thousand PLN each
* the possibility of preparing a project for the Investment Committee of BridgeAlfa Project "New Promised Land Seed Fund" and the possibility of obtaining financing up to 1.1 million PLN.

**Agenda**

**13 May 2022 – 11.00** announcement of Hackathon (on-line)

**27 May 2022** up to 23.59 - deadline for submitting Teams and Ideas

Applications may be also submitted by Teams or Innovators looking for teams, partners with specific skills, knowledge, competencies, experience.

**30 May 2022** - **15.00** – Announcement of results of preselection of projects to participate in the Hackathon

**A maximum of 10 teams will be qualified for the HACKATHON**

**30 May – 2 June 2022 -** We will bring together Teams and Mentors/Experts for the most effective work during the hackathon using state-of-the-art tools to define and develop innovative ideas.

**3 June 2022** – Start hackathon 3 June 2022, Friday - 17.00.;

17.00 – 19.00 – First 10 min presentation of projects by the Teams

Hackathon in a hybrid formula - desktop/online.

**4-5 June 2022** - Teamwork with Experts;

4 June 2022 – 17.00 – 19.00; - 5-minute presentations and 5-minute Q&A sessions for each Team

**5 June 2022**  – 17.00 – hackathon finale and project presentation session

5-minute presentations and 5-minute Q&A sessions for each Team

**5 June 2022** – Hackathon results announcement - 20.00

**Location:**

Centrum Kreatywności Fabryka

**Apply using the hackathon registration form (attached) and send it on e-mail:** **info@rdsfund.com**

**Partners:**

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**We invite you to cooperate with us**

12 May 2022