



The “Innovation for Change” project started today at CERN

50 young talents will apply advanced technology to help finding solutions for social needs

Geneve/Turin, February 1st, 2016. The “Innovation for Change” project started today at CERN in Geneva, promoted by Scuola di Alta Formazione al Management di Torino, Politecnico di Torino and IdeaSquare, a dedicated facility for experimental innovation at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

The project involves 50 post doc students and researchers, with scientific and engineering background, who will be working for the next five months in Geneva and Turin, split in several groups, but with a common goal: to apply the most advanced technology and help facing social challenges, such as how to achieve a better use of water resources both in towns and for farming, how to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions or how to increase power generation’s efficiency.

Several researchers and representatives of institutions and companies assisting the students as mentors attended the kick-off event today. The researchers of CERN and Politecnico di Torino will show the students the potential of some advanced-technology based tools and devices, challenging them to invent prototypes of product or services, which at the end of a testing phase may be launched on the market, laying the basis for the creation of new startups.

Five institutions and companies joined the project and selected relevant social challenges which could benefit from a joint effort, in order to find viable solutions: the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Barilla, ENEL and SMAT.

At the end of the project, scheduled for June 2016, the students will share the outcome of their work with a group of companies and investors, in the occasion of a public pitch attended by the heads of the founding institutions.

For further information:

Ideasquare/CERN

IdeaSquare is a dedicated experimental facility at CERN that hosts detector R&D projects, and facilitates cross-disciplinary MSc student programs. Located next to the Globe of Science and Innovation, it offers ad-hoc meeting space and rapid prototyping facilities for innovation-related projects. The purpose of IdeaSquare is to bring together people to generate new ideas and work

on conceptual prototypes in an open environment, and contribute to Knowledge Transfer Group activities by providing new socially and globally relevant product ideas and innovation. Telephone: +41 22 767 2623 - e-mail: mail-KT@cern.ch

SAFM

The Scuola di Alta Formazione al Management (www.safm.it) is an independent institution for business education bringing to Italy the successful operating model of the Collège des Ingénieurs of Paris, one of the most influential European private institutions in the field of Business Education. SAFM is supported and promoted by the Fondazione Giovanni Agnelli, Fondazione Edoardo Garrone and Fondazione Pirelli, together with the Association of Collège des Ingénieurs from Paris. It is located in Turin, via Pietro Giannone 10. Telephone: +39.011.0268047 and e-mail: segreteria@safm.it

Politecnico di Torino

The Politecnico di Torino (www.polito.it) was founded in 1906 from the roots of the Technical School for Engineers created in 1859. It is one of the most important technology universities in Europe and is a top level research and education center for engineering and architecture studies, strongly committed to collaboration with institutions and companies. The Politecnico di Torino signs every year around 800 agreements for research activities commissioned by international industrial groups, Italian companies and public institutions. It counts around 33,500 students, 16% of which come from over 100 countries. Contacts: Telephone +39 011.0906183/6286 and email relazioni.media@polito.it