



**MDIA Award for  
Innovative Technologies in  
Response to COVID-19**

# MDIA Award for Innovative Technologies in Response to COVID-19

6 April 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic caught the World off-guard rendering it unable to stop the spread due to lack of global counter measures being in place. The immediacy of the threat means that response has to be deployed fast to be effective, and it is crucial that we see the quick implementation and deployment of innovative technologies to ease the social and economic impact of COVID-19. The Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA) is launching an award to encourage the fast deployment of innovative technology to address this societal challenge and which can be used in similar future scenarios.

The MDIA Award for Innovative Technologies in Response to COVID-19 is aimed at encouraging the development and deployment of such technologies in a timely manner. Whether it is a mobile app, a device or a website, whether it is an educational tool, a monitoring tool or a means of easing social distancing or any other innovative technology initiative deployed to support society during covid-19.

Developers of such innovative technologies which have an impact on the local situation are being invited to submit their application to be considered for this award by 18 May 2020. The only constraint is that the technology must already be deployed by the submission date and must be shown to be addressing the COVID-19 situation and possibly other such future scenarios easing their impact on the individual and society. The short timeline is to ensure that the technology does have an immediate impact on the COVID-19 pandemic.

The entries will be judged by an evaluation team of health and technology experts. The best-chosen entry for Innovative Technologies in Response to COVID-19 will receive €7,000, whilst the second will receive €3,000. Technologies already deployed but are still being extended in response to the current crisis are also eligible to be considered for the award.

Timeline of the Award:

- 6 April 2020: Launch of the MDIA Award
- 18 May 2020 at noon: Submission of applications to be considered for the Award
- 15 June 2020: Announcement of Award winners

More information, including eligibility criteria, the application form, submission procedures and evaluation criteria, can be found on the MDIA website <http://www.mdia.gov.mt/covid19>.