

ENRICH in LAC

European Entrepreneur
Expedition: Open Call



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1. Call Description

The European Network of Research and Innovation Centres and Hubs in Latin America and Caribbean (ENRICH in LAC) is a project funded by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020 programme.

The project aims to develop and enhance innovation collaborations between Latin America and Caribbean (LAC), and Europe by promoting both regions' capacities for international cooperation.

This document provides details of the Open Call for the project's **European Entrepreneur Expedition**. This is an immersive expedition to Porto's (Portugal) innovation ecosystem. It includes visits to technology centres and business hubs, for **5 LAC entrepreneurs** to be selected through this Open Call.

More details on the immersive expedition activities are provided in the Annex 1.

2. Eligibility

To qualify for the above-mentioned opportunity, applicants should follow the parameters below:

- 1) The applicant must come from Latin America and Caribbean (i.e., Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay), and should be involved in the investment, business, research, and development ecosystem in LAC.
- 2) The applicant should have knowledge and focus on one or more of the following industries:
 - ICT - Digitalization/Industry 4.0.
 - Renewable energy.
 - Sustainable urbanization.
 - Bioeconomy.

Note: Individuals are invited to submit their applications and must state the organisations which they are related with, and that will benefit from the Expedition. Possible organisation types include Startups, SMEs, companies, universities, research organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other public bodies.

Current and previous partners of CEBRABIC and the ENRICH in LAC project **can apply**.

3. Submission and Timetable of Application

Applications must be submitted through the following [Application Form](#), by **20/11/2023, 17:00 CET**.

The form must be filled thoroughly.

4. Evaluation and Selection

A team from ENRICH in LAC Project will conduct the evaluation of the applications. In addition to the eligibility requirements, the applicant's completeness, justification, and preparedness for international cooperation will be taken into consideration.

The selected applicants will be informed by **22/11/2023**.

5. Reimbursement Procedure

ENRICH in LAC will offer **reimbursement** for the flight to and from Porto, Portugal, accommodation at Porto, Portugal, transportation to and from the airports and food expenses between the 3rd and 7th of December 2023, with a **cost cap of 2200€ per selected entrepreneur**.

Important Note:

To be refunded, the re-imbursement form, which will be provided by ENRICH in LAC, and all original expenses must be sent through **registered mail** with the **date of the receipt of the registered mail order** set at the latest **21/12/23**. It is required to submit a **digital copy of every expense, as well as the form through email until the same date**.

6. Agreement

By no later than **24/11/2023**, approved applicant will be required to sign an agreement with ENRICH in LAC. The grant period begins when the agreement is signed and ends on **7/12/2023**.

Annex 1

This call aims to offer an expedition to grasp Porto's Innovation Ecosystem for 5 LAC entrepreneurs, through technology centre and business hubs visits, between the **4th and 6th of December**. The final version of the agenda will be provided for the participants.

Activity – Visits

1. IRIS

IRIS is an incubator that supports the creation and development of social innovation projects, which are new ideas to solve serious social and environmental problems. It emerged in 2017, in the Tâmega and Sousa region, as part of a partnership for impact, promoted by the Institute of the European Investment Bank and PortusPark, with co-financing from Portugal Inovação Social. In 2020, to continue the work developed, the non-profit association IRISOCIAL Incubadora de Inovação Social was created.

They believe that social innovation is a key factor in driving a strong global economy and a better world and its mission is to create the ideal ecosystem for the development of impactful initiatives.

Scope of the visit: IRIS stands as an investor in social initiatives like few organisations do, moreover it is a relevant organisation to ENRICH in LAC and its network partners and their Social Responsibility projects. There is a major opportunity for NGOs, and for-Profit organisations to connect and nurture a longstanding relationship.

2. Lionesa Business Hub

Lionesa Business Hub has been growing and diversifying its portfolio, with a strong focus on art and culture. In 2016 they acquired the Monastery of Leça do Balio and it was then that their vision started to become clearer about the way they see our intervention in the territory. The word group started to make sense. Lionesa Group. Which is nothing more than the accomplishment of the vision that Lionesa Business Hub has always had - to attract and retain talent in this territory.

They believe it is crucial to combine entrepreneurship with culture and art, invest in attracting global ventures and importing cultural agents. They believe that

diversity fuels creativity and allows us to build together a unique way of being and of doing things. That is their mission: to make Porto and the North of Portugal a happier and more innovative territory.

Scope of the visit: Lionesa demonstrates the diversity of Porto's Innovation Ecosystem, and offers ENRICH in LAC and its members an opportunity to delve into the cultural economy.

3. CEiiA

CEiiA are the Centre of Engineering and Product Development that designs, develops, and operates innovative products in the mobility industries, namely Automotive and Urban Mobility, Aeronautics, Ocean and Space.

They are one of the 10 largest R&D investors in Portugal. Currently, they are an international reference in the sustainable mobility area and recognized in the aeronautical world for our skills in structural engineer.

Scope of the visit: CEiiA is a household Technology Centre in Porto that provides great connections with multiple sectors and industries. CEiiA already has some partners in LAC already. For instances CEiiA has partnered in EMBRAERs projects previously.

4. UPTEC

UPTEC fosters the creation and development of business projects in arts, science and technology, through knowledge sharing between universities and marketplace.

They are driven by the vision of becoming a world-class Science and Technology Park that contributes to the development of a new economic paradigm, more transparent, ethical, and sustainable.

Following a clustering strategy and resources sharing between startups, innovation centres and anchor projects, UPTEC now offers its projects the specific support they need, engaging them into a broader and transversal network of national and international partners and mentors.

Scope of the visit: UPTEC is a Technology Centre connected to the University of Porto and its many fields of study and offers Soft-Landing Services to entrepreneurs and organisations looking to settle in Porto.

A.1. Timetable

Table 1 – Call Actions Timetable

Activity	Date
Call opening	14/11/2023
Deadline for Submission	20/11/2023 17:00 CET
Selection of Grantees	22/11/2023
Signature of Agreement	23/11/2023
European Entrepreneur Expedition	4/12/2023-6/12/2023
Reimbursement & closing of the accounts	10 01 2024

A.2. Contact

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