

PRESS RELEASE

PORTUGAL HOSTING WORLDWIDE PURPOSE DRIVEN DIGITAL INNOVATORS

On special invitation of the City of Cascais, Nova SBE Campus will turn into a global hub for purpose driven digital innovation. In a three days event, ICT-experts, start-ups and governmental representatives join together to discuss how digital innovation can make a real impact at WSA Global Congress from March 11-13.

Salzburg, Lisbon | 06/03/2019

Digitalization and its manifold consequences are a matter that concerns us all. To disrupt negative pre-conceptions and the trend to believe that profit is the biggest motivator behind digital innovation, it needs a worldwide exchange and knowledge transfer.

If digital innovation is driven by purpose, digital content and technology have the potential to create more equal, just, and above all, sustainable societies. The focus on solving local challenges enables a positive added value for societies globally.

WSA Chairman Prof. Peter A. Bruck: *"By building a unique global network of national and corporate experts, NGOs, governments and professional associations, WSA presents quality content and digital innovation from over 180 UN-member states and supports a global movement for sustainable digital solutions. At the WSA Global Congress you will participate in a transformative learning journey and join a global, multi-stakeholder community. You will discuss the possibilities of purpose driven innovation and see best-practice from around the world. Engage in and share the power of smart, digital and social solutions."*

To discuss and engage into the possibilities of purpose driven innovation, WSA and its Portuguese partners APDC, City of Cascais and Tourism Portugal bring together a worldwide network.

45 award-winning teams will present their apps and solutions, carefully selected in a three-stage jury process by international experts.

Among them the outstanding Portuguese products Body Interact and Via Verde mobility Digital Ecosystem, who will pitch their innovative solutions at the Congress in front of an international audience. Furthermore, the pitches will include agricultural support systems from Bangladesh and Kenya, block chain solutions for refugees, new ways of virtual healthcare and health education through AR technology from Portugal, Ireland and India, presented side by side with IoT solutions for the disabled from Slovenia, Georgia and Qatar; and projects from South America that transform labour market access.

Those outstanding digital innovations will be honoured at the festive Gala ceremony on March 13th. Guests of honor will be H.E. Manuel Heitor, Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education and H.E. João Correia Neves, Secretary of State of Economy.

Luís Goes Pinheiro, Secretário de Estado Adjunto e da Modernização Administrativa states: *"...we welcome the World Summit Awards and signal that we embrace its spirit of celebrating diversity and innovation to solve common problems – because by making the lives of our citizens better, by improving the business environment and by making public services more efficient through the implementation of the once-only principle, by sharing and reusing information, and by being able to implement predictive tools, we are building the foundations for a more sustainable and prosperous future for all."*

About the WSA

The World Summit Award (WSA) was founded in 2003 by Austria as part of the UN World Summit on Information Society as a global initiative to award local digital content with high social value and presents it worldwide. Through close cooperation with the United Nations agencies and strategic alignment with the UN SDGs, the WSA is a globally recognized quality seal for digital innovation.

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