

REGIONAL COMPETITION FOR ACCESSIBLE EUROPE Innovative Digital Solutions for an Accessible Europe

Open Call for Partnership

As an integral part of the **Regional Forum for Europe on "Accessible Europe: ICTs 4 ALL"** that will take place in St. Julian's, Malta from 4 to 6 December, a **Regional Competition on Innovative Digital Solutions for an Accessible Europe** is launched. Participants will submit their solutions by **15 October 2019** and shortlisted candidates will receive the opportunity to exhibit at the ITU-EC Forum where winners will be announced in presence of high-level institutions representatives.

To enhance the competition's reach and impact, ITU is **seeking a well-established partner in the field of ICT Accessibility to contribute to the organisation of the competition.** Through this collaboration, and considering the relevance of the Regional Forum for Europe as a key platform for discussing ICT Accessibility in the region, **ITU is offering the partner a valuable opportunity to showcase its commitment in fostering ICT Accessibility as a key tool for inclusion of persons with disabilities and specific needs.** This partnership will offer the stakeholder the following visibility opportunities throughout the competition process, during Accessible Europe, when winners will be announced and prizes awarded, and in the months following Accessible Europe 2019. This will include the following:

- Logo and/or web banner on the Accessible Europe 2019 website;
- Social media promotion;
- Blog focusing on stakeholder contribution to ICT Accessibility;
- Recognition of stakeholder in speeches by ITU officials at Accessible Europe 2019;
- Welcome address at the social event of the competition ceremony;
- Exhibition stand with prime visibility;
- Invitation to join the Evaluation Committee evaluating submissions to the contest;
- Reflection of stakeholder in Accessible Europe 2019 outcome report;
- Meeting with ITU elected official at Accessible Europe 2019.

For its part, the partner would contribute by covering the operational costs of the Regional **Competition**. These costs are estimated at CHF 25,000 and include:

- operational costs of evaluation process;
- operational costs of ceremony;
- trophies & certificates;
- travel & accommodation expenses for leaders of shortlisted projects.

The partner would also help, wherever possible, promote the competition through its social media channels. Use of the ITU logo and ITU brand are subject of approval by the terms of the sponsorship agreement.

Details of the collaboration and of financial commitments may be negotiated and clearly defined through the sponsorship agreement. The competition will be launched on **1 August 2019**. Stakeholders are invited to express their interest by email at <u>EURregion@itu.int</u> as soon as possible. Were you to decide to partner with ITU, the document will be amended according to arrangements.

Additional **information about the Accessible Europe 2019 including the Regional Competition** can be found here: <u>http://itu.int/go/Accessible-Europe-19</u>. For any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at <u>EURregion@itu.int</u>.

