

## LOOKING FOR THE MOST PROMISING CLEANTECH-BUSINESS IDEAS

**Until May 28, the registration period is open for the world's largest cleantech start-up competition. Last year, 25 countries participated and in Switzerland the third most business ideas were handed-in. This year's main sponsor is Mibelle Group Home Care – Frenkendorf!**

ClimateLaunchpad, an initiative of Climate-KIC, is the most important initiative of the European Union for the development of innovations within the climate area. Last year, the competition was carried out in Switzerland for the first time by the Startup Academy. The aim is to win many candidates with compelling business ideas at home. In 2015, Switzerland achieved a respectable result and scored with 35 applications the third best result of all 25 European countries. From the 35 cleantech ideas a shortlist with 12 teams was created. Their business ideas have then been developed and refined during six coaching sessions and a two-day boot camp at Stellwerk in Basel. The coaches and business experts that formed the jury members were put together from the Startup Academy and Climate-KIC network.

### **Looking for new Business Ideas**

Everyone in Switzerland who has an idea of how to better deal with the current environmental challenges can apply. These ideas can but do not need to be defined in detail. The ClimateLaunchpad competition is here for professional assistance. We are looking for the best cleantech business ideas – no matter if it is a sustainable solution for energy, water, waste, transport, behavioral change or an urban development. Whatever the business idea is, it is important that the challenges of climate change are tackled.

### **This year's most important dates**

- 28<sup>th</sup> May 2016 - Application deadline for all Swiss business ideas
- 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016 - Official Kick-off in Basel with the ClimateLaunchpad 2-day Bootcamp
- 27<sup>th</sup> August 2016 - Swiss Final in Basel
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - European Semi-Final and Final in Tallin, Estonia

### **The Startup Academy takes over the National Lead in Switzerland**

The Startup Academy is Climate-KIC's official national partner in Switzerland. It is a nonprofit association that supports start-ups from all kinds of industries (except for Life-Science) with their national mentoring programme. The innovative voluntary-based approach of linking people with business ideas with mentors, experts and coaches has already existed for five years. At the moment, more than 50 startups are registered in the programme.

The Startup Academy is convinced that the ClimateLaunchpad is a powerful program that helps to detect and develop relevant business ideas that deal with today's most important challenges.

### **Further Information:**

<http://climatelaunchpad.org/application-form/>

<http://climatelaunchpad.org/countries/switzerland/>

<http://startup-academy.ch/climatelaunchpad/>

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