

## **OACP IE LTD SELECTED FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORLD CUP GLOBAL SEMI-FINALS**

- Top 25 startups selected from 175,000 entrants from 200 countries
- Semi-finalists to compete for cash prizes totalling US\$1 million; mentoring, networking and in-kind prizes valued at US\$85 million

18 October 2020 Cork - Ireland – OACP IE LTD a business that produces reagents that reduce times (-97%) and costs (-50%) of DNA tests for cancer diagnosis has been selected as one the best 25 startups at The Entrepreneurship World Cup (EWC) Global Finals, that are taking place during the Misk Global Forum from 18-20 October.

Later today, OACP IE LTD will compete against the other semi-finalists for a place in tomorrow's final event, where the remaining 10 entrants will pitch against each other to become the overall winner.

The EWC is one of the world's largest and most diverse pitch competitions and support programs for the next generation of entrepreneurs – with 175,000 entrants applying from 200 countries in 2020.

The EWC semi-finalists are competing at the Global Finals for a share of US\$1 million in cash prizes – US\$500,000 for first place, \$250,000 for second place and \$100,000 for third place. In addition, a cash prize of US\$50,000 will be awarded to one top scoring startup from each of the following categories: idea stage; early stage; and growth stage. There is also a new social entrepreneurship category for this year's competition. Each of the EWC semi-finalists will also receive a package of in-kind services valued at US\$850,000 each.

The EWC is hosted by the Misk Global Forum, Global Entrepreneurship Network and The Global Education & Leadership Foundation. It is supported by a range of global partners, including GSVlabs, Entrepreneurs' Organization, TechCrunch, the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, WebCongress, Endeavor, and organizations that hosted the EWC National Finals.

All 175,000 global participants gained access to free training materials from experienced mentors and US\$25,000 worth of perks from dozens of partners including Zoom, Amazon Web Services and Shopify. Already, more than US\$3.5 million worth of perks have been claimed by EWC 2020 contestants.

**ENDS**

### **About the Entrepreneurship World Cup**

- One of the world's largest and most diverse pitch competitions and support programs for the next generation of entrepreneurs – with startups at all stages from more than 200 countries.
- Despite the global COVID-19 pandemic, EWC 2020 has attracted over 175,000 applications this year from 200 countries. This is up from 102,000 entrepreneurs in 2019.
- US\$1 million in cash prizes will be up for grabs at the EWC Global Finals in October. One Grand Prize Champion will receive US\$500,000, (US\$250,000 for second place, US\$100,000 for third place). Separately, a cash prize of US\$50,000 will be awarded to one top scoring startup in the following categories: idea stage; early stage; and growth stage. The top 100 global finalists will receive a package of in-kind services valued at US\$850,000 each.
- All participants have immediate access to free training materials from experienced mentors and US\$25,000 worth of perks from dozens of partners like Zoom, Amazon Web Services and Shopify.
- National Finals took place from June – September 2020.
- The EWC is an initiative of the Misk Global Forum, Global Entrepreneurship Network and The Global Education and Leadership Foundation. A diverse collection of partners ran national competitions.

- Website: <https://entrepreneurshipworldcup.com>

### **About the Misk Global Forum**

The Misk Global Forum (MGF) is the flagship international platform of the Misk Foundation, a non-profit philanthropic foundation established by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to discover, develop and empower Saudi youth to become active participants in the future economy. Since its launch in 2016, MGF has extended Misk's mission to young people across the globe. Through international events, research and global initiatives, MGF brings together emerging and established leaders, innovators, and creators to explore, experience and experiment with ways to meet the challenge of change. MGF focuses on three core areas across its activations: skills for the future economy; entrepreneurship and employment; and active global citizenship. Website: <https://miskglobalforum.com/>

### **About the Global Entrepreneurship Network**

The Global Entrepreneurship Network operates a platform of projects and programs in 170 countries aimed at making it easier for anyone, anywhere to start and scale a business. By fostering deeper cross border collaboration and initiatives between entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and entrepreneurial support organizations, GEN works to fuel healthier start and scale ecosystems that create more jobs, educate individuals, accelerate innovation and strengthen economic growth. Website: <https://www.genglobal.org>

### **About The Global Education & Leadership Foundation**

The Global Education & Leadership Foundation (tGELF) is a non-profit that seeks to identify and nurture leadership skills in individuals who are rooted in the values of ethics and altruism, and have a bias for action. tGELF was officially inaugurated in 2008 by the then Prime Minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh. In the last decade, tGELF's flagship school curriculum on ethical leadership and entrepreneurship has expanded from just six schools in India to over 3000 schools across 14 countries touching more than 3 million students. tGELF's community of future leaders and change-makers have also undertaken numerous high impact projects that have collectively impacted the lives of over 500 million people and raised over \$6.38 bn dollars in commitments from governments, philanthropists, corporations and multilaterals for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Website: <http://www.tgelf.org>