

PRESS RELEASE**The selection process for the teams of the 1st round of the HEDNO innovation lab on energy and smart grids, Switch_On Innovation Lab has been completed**

On Wednesday February 20, 2019 the [Switch On Innovation Lab](#) Bootcamp for the selection of the teams that will be participating in the 1st round of the innovation lab of the [Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network](#) (HEDNO) was organized.

57 teams responded to the call for proposals and sent their proposals for the following thematic areas: Big Data, Data Analytics, Blockchain, DLT, Peer-to-peer apps, Image Processing, Image Recognition, Drones, Internet of Things, Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning.



The evaluation committee selected, according to the process, the best 15 proposals, which, eventually, participated in the one-day Bootcamp. The lab's aim was to verify the value proposition of their idea with the help of experienced mentors from HEDNO and the energy sector and allow them to work on open innovation methodologies such as Minimum Viable Product and Business Model Canvas, develop their business model and give a complete presentation before the evaluation committee.



In addition, the one-day bootcamp offered the opportunity to evaluate the teams in real working conditions as well as to shape the final ideas in a way that brings them closer to the HEDNO objectives.

Afterwards, the teams presented their idea to all the participants and the evaluation committee, which consists of:

- Nikolaos Chatziargyriou, President of the HEDNO Board of Directors
- Athanasios Misdanitis, Deputy CEO
- Konstantinos Agathakis, General Manager of Support Operations
- Iraklis Menegatos, General Manager of Network Development and Operation
- Konstantinos Gialelis, Manager of the Information Technology & Telecommunications Department
- Yorgos Papoutsis, Manager of the Network Directorate
- Yorgos Hatzipavlou, Manager of the Modernization, Innovation, Quality and Data Safety Directorate
- Asterios Zafeirakis, Management Consultant
- Lamprini Spanou, Board of Directors Member



Teams presenting their proposals before the evaluation committee, the mentors and other teams

The evaluation committee chose the five following teams to participate in the 1st round of Switch_On Innovation Lab.



1. **Community Energy River (CER):** Digital platform supporting the creation, establishment and operation of energy communities.
2. **Sense:** Use of unmanned vehicles to monitor infrastructures and transmission lines.
3. **eNVysoftworks:** Virtual reality application for the training of HEDNO employees that simulates real working conditions and high-risk environments.
4. **4cast:** Integrated system forecasting Renewable Energy Sources production and load demand in real time.
5. **Pragma-IoT:** Automated data analysis and monitoring of the smart energy meters of the power distribution network in order to ensure the timely identification of errors in the smart meters and the readings, their timely maintenance as well as the identification of electricity theft cases.

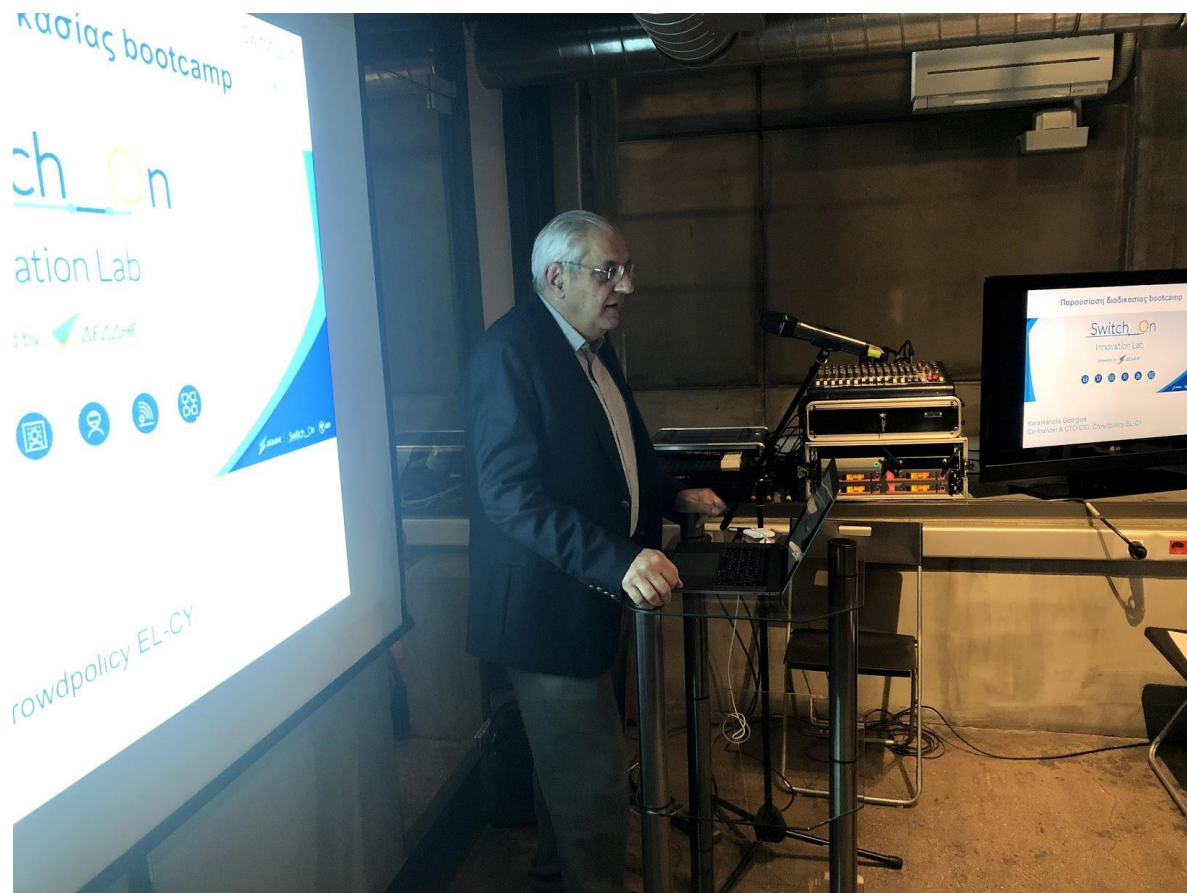


Team mentoring by HEDNO and Crowdpolicy executives. On the right, the HEDNO executives-mentors.

During the 1st acceleration cycle, which will last 6 months, the teams will receive support in order to develop their idea (or their application) into a working prototype (proof of concept – PoC / prototype), which will be implemented across the HEDNO networks to validate the solution.

During the acceleration process, teams will receive guidance on technical and business issues for the development of their ideas, including equipment and software (if necessary) as well as financial support in the form of grants.

The solutions that will be deemed sustainable and efficient will be implemented across the HEDNO networks while the teams will be supported in order to grow into new outward-looking companies seeking foreign customers and markets.



HEDNO's Board of Directors Chairman Mr. Nikolaos Chatziargyriou, Professor at the National Technical University of Athens welcomes the participants before the start of the team's presentations.

Mr. Nikolaos Chatziargyriou, HEDNO's Board of Directors Chairman, said:

"Investing in new technologies and implementing innovative solutions across our networks is a strategic goal for us. The integration of new developing technologies will contribute to the acceleration of the network's digital transformation. True to our commitment, we organized together with Crowdpolicy the first innovation lab on energy and smart grids in Greece and one of the first in Europe to help teams of new engineers and developers develop and implement original and innovative products and services with direct application to the electricity distribution networks of HEDNO. The participation of young people with a very high level of know-how and skills has justified our pioneering action and has shown that our country's human resources are one of the main pillars for sustainable development. We were impressed by the solutions presented and sufficiently implemented by our participants, demonstrating the great potential of cooperating with new teams and startups. We would like to thank them for their participation and the trust they showed us and we assure them that we will continue to support the ecosystem with similar initiatives and actions."



HEDNO will offer support to five teams with money, equipment and services worth up to EUR 60,000 per team, depending on the needs and the solutions.

HEDNO's goal is to create an integrated innovation structure for the digital transformation of the network, which, besides the business acceleration cycles that will be organizing, it will become the platform for the development of synergies between the company and new, dynamic startup companies and companies can offer solutions on energy and networks.

Switch_On Innovation Lab will contribute to the implementation of innovative pilot solutions across the networks and, through the integration of new developing technologies, will contribute to the acceleration of the digital transformation of the network.

Switch_On Innovation Lab is sponsored by the innovation company [Crowdpolicy](#).

Info:

- <https://switchonlab.gr/>
- <https://medium.com/switch-on-innovation-lab>

Athens, February 26, 2019

Press Office