



the Learning Network
on Sustainability



With the support of the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

LeNSin Student Award

Competition Information Package

2018



LeNSin Student Competition

LeNSin Project

LeNSin, the International Learning Network of networks on Sustainability (2015-2018), is an EU-supported (ERASMUS+) project involving 36 universities from Europe, Asia, Africa, South America and Central America, aiming at the promotion of a new generation of designers (and design educators) capable to effectively contribute to the transition towards a sustainable society for all.

LeNSin ambitions are to improve the internationalisation, intercultural cross-fertilisation and accessibility of higher education on Design for Sustainability (DfS). The project focuses on **Sustainable Product-Service Systems (S.PSS) and Distributed Economies (DE)** – considering both as promising models to couple environmental protection with social equity, cohesion and economic prosperity – applied in different contexts around the world.

LeNSin connects a **multi-polar network of Higher Education Institutions** adopting and promoting a learning-by-sharing knowledge generation and dissemination, with an open and copyleft ethos.

For more information, please visit: www.lens-international.org

Student Competition

The **LeNSin Student Design Competition** invites student teams to design a Sustainable Product-Service System (S.PSS) applied to Distributed Economies (DE) that addresses key environmental and social issues in the global and local context. We welcome students that attended the LeNSin pilot courses as well as students from other HEIs.

The competition opens on the 1st January 2018 and is open to any group of students. The competition closes on the 31st October 2018.

For more information on this competition, go to:

www.lensin-competition.net

Contact information and enquiries:

lensin-io@tudelft.nl

Competition information package

This information package contains detailed information about the competition.

LeNSin competition mechanics

The students are expected to form design teams (preferably with a maximum number of 6). The team must show an understanding and use of S.PSS and DE tools that are available on the LeNSin platform (www.lens-international.org) in their project. It needs to address sustainability issues preferably in their own local context (with broader applicability being optional).

Design Brief

To design a Sustainable Product-Service System that addresses key environmental and social issues [e.g. food production/consumption, clothing care, public spaces safety, mobility, education/learning, sanitation, sheltering or home activities]. The concept should be focussed on one or more of the LeNSin Distributed Economies themes: Distributed Manufacturing, Distributed Energy, Distributed Information, and Distributed Design.

The two models of S.PSS and DE, as well as their combination, can potentially couple multiple sustainable benefits: economic, environmental, and socio ethical. In this framework, the focus is on extending the access for those people/communities who do not have yet access to these types of services and improving the offer for those who already have access to it, possibly integrating gender equity issues. Finally, the concept has to be focused on the proper configurations of the socio-economic actors (appropriate partnerships alongside with appropriate technologies) to locally produce, deliver and maintain the systems involving any possible stakeholders in the value production system, including final users.

Entries should be a Sustainable Product-Service System concept demonstrating a clear understanding of the specific context identified and the stakeholders involved, highlighting the environmental and socio-ethical benefits compared to the existing system. The entry may address low-income, emerging and/or industrialized contexts, and could clarify if or how this local solution may be scalable.

Assessment / evaluation criteria:

a) S.PSS applied to DE concept – the concept should clearly be a Sustainable Product-Service System applied to Distributed Economies shifting the business focus from the design and selling of physical products only, to the offer of an integrated mix of products and services, delivered by a system of actors, with the aim of fulfilling a specific demand of satisfaction.

b) Environmental and socio-ethical sustainability – the S.PSS concept should demonstrate how exactly it promotes sustainability in environmental and social or socio-economic respect. Underneath some criteria are listed which you could consider to assess and communicate the sustainability benefits of your design.

Environmental criteria:

- > system life optimization
- > transportation/distribution reduction
- > resource reduction
- > waste minimization/valorization
- > conservation/biocompatibility
- > toxicity reduction

Socio-ethical criteria:

- > improve employment/working conditions
- > improve equity and justice in relation to stakeholders
- > enable responsible and sustainable consumption
- > favour/integrate the weaker and marginalized
- > improve social cohesion
- > empower/enhance local resources
- > Gender

Economic criteria:

- > affordable for end-user
- > profitable (or at least no losses) for provider
- > competitive pricing compared to current alternatives

c) Overall quality

- > level of innovation
- > clarity of the content
- > the quality of the presentation and the illustrations
- > a thorough analysis of the assumptions on which the product-service system is based, and if possible which of these assumptions have already been verified
- > the feasibility of the concept with regard to processes and/or implementation costs
- > technology – the kinds of technological or system innovations created
- > social acceptance of the product-service system idea and support provided for this
- > demonstration of understanding of applications of the LeNSin tools for designing Product-Service Systems applied to Distributed Economies

Specifications for the entries

The competition is open to all students in design and engineering Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The students will have to be familiar with S.PSS and DE materials, which are available at www.lens-international.org

Each team can produce **up to 2 entries for the competition**. Teams can have a maximum of 6 members. Entries must then be sent to the LeNSin Design competition email address (lensin-io@tudelft.nl) by the 31st October 2018. Attachments must not exceed the maximum size of 15 MB, or should be sent by “wetransfer”.

A single entry should contain the following information:

1. Competition entry **email subject text** should be the following:

> LeNSin Competition: [Concept title] (e.g., “*LeNSin Competition: Green Carpool*”)

2. The **email body text** should include team names and the project information in the following manner:

> Concept title: [Concept title – again] (e.g., “*Concept title: Green Carpool*”)

> Team members: [Team member names] (e.g., “*Team members: Jake Doe, Jane Doe, Jill Doe, John Doe*”)

> University/ies: [Institute name(s)]

> Faculty: [Faculty name(s)]

> Country: [Country of residence]

> City: [City of residence]

...and the following attachments:

1. Word document based on the template (see end of this document) - including the problem addressed and a short description of the developed S.PSS solution, with team participants' names and nationalities and contact information.

2. Digital images (.pdf/ .ai) based upon instructions

- Pictures / photos representing:
 - Solution
 - Interaction storyboard
- Diagrams representing:
 - Interaction story board
 - Stakeholders system map

Selection by jury:

The selection will take place in two rounds. The first round of selection will be made by a jury consisting of LeNSin partners. Together they will select the best two entries per LeNSin country (China, India, South Africa, Brazil, and Mexico), and the five best for the rest of the world. This will lead to a selection of 15 nominated student team projects for the LeNSin Awards!

For the final selection, an international Grand Jury will be composed, which will decide upon the top 5 and 10 special mentions.

A. National Award China / India / South Africa / Brazil / Mexico

In each of the five LeNSin countries one winning team will be selected. One representative of the team will be invited to the national LeNS conference (<http://www.lensconference3.org>) to present their work and to receive the award. For him or her all cost for travel and accommodation will be covered.

B. Best of National Awards

Out of the five National Award winning teams from the 5 LeNSin countries, one overall 'Best of National Awards' team will be selected. One representative of the team will be invited to the LeNS conference in Milan to present their work and to receive the award. For him or her all cost for travel and accommodation will be covered.

International Award

Participants from all over the world can participate in the International Award. Prizes are awarded for the following categories: 1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th / 5th prizes and 10 Special mentions.

The 5 winners will be announced and awarded in a ceremony during the final conference in Milan as well as in parallel at the satellite conferences in 5 other LeNSin countries. In addition, posters of the 15 selected projects will be exhibited at all the conference locations.

LeNSin student award catalogue

The winning top 5 and 10 special mentions will be published by means of a LeNSin Student Award Catalogue, which will be highlighted on the www.lens-international.org web-site.

In addition,

The 1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th / 5th prizes and the 10 special mentions will receive a certificate and can use the LeNSin Award logo and reference in their curriculum vitae, portfolio, etc.

Submission process and winner announcement

The competition submission process is as follows:

The entries must be in the formats explained in the previous section.

Further questions about the competition can be sent to lensin-io@tudelft.nl.

The announcement of results will be done during the final LeNSin seminar (April 2019).

This will be done formally at the award gala at the LeNSin Conference and exhibition in Milan, as well as the satellite conferences in China, India, South Africa, Mexico and Brazil.

Eligibility of the entries:

- The competition is open to currently enrolled student teams from any HEIs design and engineering schools.

- The entry must be a concept of a new sustainable Product-Service System applied to Distributed Economies that can be implemented.

Announcement of Rights:

LeNSin assumes that all entries are original and are the works and property of the entrant. LeNSin assumes that all images provided with entries are free of any third-party rights. By entering this competition, you grant LeNSin the right to edit, publish, promote, and otherwise use your entry either as submitted or in edited form without further permission, notice, or compensation. All entries submitted will be in CC license.

LeNSin project partners

LeNS Europe

- Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI), Italy (project coordinator)
- Aalto University (Aalto ARTS), Finland
- Brunel University London (UBRUN), UK
- Technische Universiteit Delft (TU Delft), Netherlands

LeNS Brazil

- Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR), Brazil
- Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE), Brazil
- LeNS India
- Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology,
- India Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IIT Guwahati), India

LeNS China

- Tsinghua University, China
- Hunan University (HNU), China

LeNS Africa

- Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT), South Africa
- Stellenbosch University (SUN), South Africa

LeNS Mexico

- Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM), Mexico
- Universidad del Valle de México (UVM), Mexico





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TEMPLATE

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LeNSin Student Competition

TEMPLATE

Name of design proposal

XXXXXXXX

Team members:

Name, Surname. Nationality. University Faculty
Contact info

Problem addressed:

50 – 100 words

Describe the problem you intend to solve with your solution. Include description of your target customers and the context where PSS solution is intended to be used.

S.PSS concept description:

Provide a short description of your project in 250 words

Describe the PSS solution. What problems is your PSS solving and how? What is included in the offer? What is the business model?

Benefits to beneficiaries and society at large:

Socio-ethical benefits: (max 30 words)

Environmental: (max 30 words)

Economic: (max 30 words)

Describe details:

Provider(s): (max 10 words) – Who are the providers involved in the PSS?

Customer(s): (max 10 words) – Who are the final beneficiaries of the PSS?

Service(s) offered: (max 10 words) – What are the service included in the PSS?

Product(s) involved: (max 10 words) – What products are included in the offering?

DE characteristics: (max 10 words) – Which Distributed Economy aspects are involved?

Revenue model: (max 10 words) – How is the financial model structured?

Add images of:

- A. Two images of the problem setting / context (210 * 210 mm 300 DPI)
- B. PSS Solution (210 * 210 mm, 300 DPI): Visualisation of the PSS concept, its elements, and context of use. You can use photos, sketches, and or renderings.
- C. Interaction board (210 * 210 mm, 300 DPI): Visualisation of the main interactions of the PSS, the actors involved, and their roles. Describe a maximum of 9 interactions with images and text.
- D. Stakeholder system map (210 * 100 mm, 300 DPI): Visualisation of the stakeholders involved and their interactions.