

## Stone Soup Award on Research in Social Innovation 2018

### REGULATION

#### Objectives

Stone Soup Consulting has, since its beginning, developed an ethics and social responsibility policy that led to the creation of a fund that is applied in actions of social interest.

The fund is a percentage of the income of projects in which Stone Soup Consulting is involved. **It was created to support post graduate research initiatives on social innovation. This year it is dedicated to research on new ways of integrating diversity in organizations.**

Stone Soup Consulting is a [certified B-Corporation](#) and is a member of the [Portuguese Diversity Charter](#).

#### Definition

For the purpose of this award, “**diversity**” is understood as the acknowledgement, respect and appreciation of the difference(s) between people, including particularly the differences related to gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, faith and beliefs, country of origin, culture, language, nationality, birthplace, ancestry, age, political, ideological or social orientation, marital status, family structure economic situation, health, disability, personal style and training.

And “**social innovation**” is defined as new ideas that solve existing social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges for the benefit of people and the planet.

#### Scope

The award will recognise a research project already being developed or a research project proposal confirmed/approved for development linked to innovative strategies and actions for the integration of diversity in organizations from all sectors, either at the local, national or international level. We are looking for research projects that study the trends in integration of diversity in organizations, be them in terms of (statistical data,) good practices, public policies, impact on organisations and systemically, amongst others.

#### Applicants

Applicants must be post-graduate students that are undertaking a dissertation on issues related to diversity issues in organisations. Applicants from all over the world are invited to apply, providing their research project is carried out in English, Spanish, Portuguese or French. Only individual submissions will be accepted.

## Process and deadline

Applicants must submit their application until October the 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The application form is available at [www.stone-soup.net](http://www.stone-soup.net).

Phases:

1. Submission of application form. The form must be duly filled and submitted until October the 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 10 p.m. GMT.
2. Selection of semi-finalists (10 to 20 top projects)
3. Delivery of further information and documentation. Semi-finalists must answer the selection panel's questions and provide further information or documentation if asked.
4. Selection of finalists (5 to 10 top projects)
5. Final decision
6. Delivery of the Award

## Selection panel and decision

The selection panel is made up of Stone Soup Consulting's founding partners. The decision of the selection panel is final and cannot be disputed.

The winner of the award will be announced on December the 3<sup>th</sup> 2018, International Day of People with Disabilities, on Stone Soup Consulting's website. All semi-finalists will be informed of the outcome of their applications by e-mail.

## Award

The award is the recognition of a deserving research project or research project proposal in social innovation. The recipient of the award will be mentioned in all Stone Soup Consulting communication instruments and will be conveyed to the media. The winner will also present the research project during a webinar in English and organised by Stone Soup in the following months of the resolution.

The award also has a prize money of 3.000 € (three thousand Euros) which will be given in one lump-sum once the winner is announced.

## Selection Criteria

- Existence of co-funding for the research project
- Quality of the research proposal
- Uniqueness of the research theme studied (i.e. little or no studies have been done around this subject or using the focus proposed in the research project)
- Relevance of the research theme for the social innovation sector
- Academic excellence of the applicant (applicants with a bachelor or master and with excellent academic achievements)
- Research done in partnership between several entities
- Priority will be given to research proposals that are already being developed or that will start in the first semester of 2019.

## **Documentation and contracts**

All applicants must provide documentation that supports the veracity of their statements, namely diplomas, approval of research project and research information. The winner of the award will sign a formal contract with Stone Soup Consulting which states formal conditions on both sides in terms of information, application of prize money, deliverables and deadlines.

## **Research project**

When the final report of the research project is available, Stone Soup Consulting will publish it on its website.