

WORTH Partnership Project is funded by the COSME Programme of the European Union for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.



# THE THIRD CALL IS OPEN APPLY NOW

### **Context**

<u>WORTH</u> aims to create cross-border and cross-discipline collaborations between **designers**, **crafters**, **SME manufacturers**, **tech-firms and start-ups** across <u>EU-28</u> and <u>COSME</u> countries, to develop unique and highend products in the following sectors: *fashion* and *textile*, *footwear*, *fur* and *leather*, *furniture* and *home* decoration, accessories and jewellery.

WORTH is about creating **transnational** partnerships and supporting design-driven projects/ideas, wherein the **added value strongly lies in design concepts** by integrating disruptive techniques and/or technologies in a creative way.

90 innovative projects were awarded in the previous calls and up to 150 projects will be supported until 2021.

WORTH is funded by the European Union through the programme EASME-COSME.

# Who can apply?

Every creative person, designer, artisan, startup, technology company and SME manufacturer from the fashion and lifestyle industries consumer goods industries including *fashion/textile*, *footwear*, *furniture/home decoration*, *leather/fur*, *jewellery and accessories*, who is actively looking for new opportunities to exploit ideas and fashionable concepts with a high degree of innovation, disruption, integration of new technologies and design, could <u>apply</u> to be a part of WORTH Partnership Project by submitting their idea or project proposal.

Applicants, will need to show a keen interest to **connect, create and innovate** on a transnational basis. The submitted ideas and projects will be valued based on their quality and operational capacities of the partnership members to successfully implement the project.



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The WORTH Partnership Project application call will be on going throughout 4 years, with different windows of opportunity

# How to apply?

To enter the application process, applicants must complete the following three steps:

- Fill out the registration form and request the eligibility check. Apply now!
- Find a partner to work with (partnerships must be formed of at least two partners, maximum three from at least two different EU-COSME countries).
- Submission of a partnership project proposal.

# The third call opens in mid-April 2019. Stay tuned for news!

Once applicants have registered and passed the eligibility check, they gain access to the WORTH Gallery, which is currently formed of more than 1.500 creative fashion designers, artisans, SMEs manufacturers and disruptive tech firms from across Europe that are willing to enter into transnational partnerships.

Applicants can request support from the WORTH Team to find a partner and/or shape a project/idea and advice on the project proposal submission process. The helpdesk area with specifications of the call, guidelines and selection criteria is available here.

A <u>Steering Board</u> of renowned experts from the high-end fashion, design and consumer goods industries will support the successful partnership projects. Steering board members include international design specialists in disruptive processes such as 3D printing or flexible electronics, curators, design brands owners, founders of international fashion networks and directors of fashion institutions.

Feel warmly invited to learn more about the call in the FAQ document here.

## **WORTH Benefits**

IF YOU ARE SELECTED YOU WILL BENEFIT FROM AN INCUBATOR PROGRAMME VALUED AT €60,000 CONSISTING OF:

- Media kit including international media relation activity, advertising and social media marketing
- **€ 10.000** seed money
- International product showcase through the participation in two international design events
- A tailored-made mentoring programme
- Cross-sector collaboration and participation in networking events
- Professional links
- Visibility of your professional profile on the WORTH gallery

### **WORTH Partnership Project:**

A European Commission initiative supporting collaborations between SME and start-up designers, manufacturers and technology firms to create innovative and design-driven products and ideas. The initiative is implemented by a consortium across Europe with the core belief that creative industries (SMEs and start-ups) are key drivers of economic growth in Europe.

**Press Contact** 

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