

PRESS RELEASE

Mouse4all, awarded with the 'Impact Prize 2018' European Social Innovation Competition by the European Commission

- **Mouse4all from Spain has been awarded with the Impact Prize 2018 for being the project that showed the most impact over the last year.**
- **The project consists of an accessibility solution aimed at the millions of people with physical disabilities that cannot use the touchscreen of tablets and smartphones.**

9 November 2018- Mouse4all (Spain) has been selected as winner of the Impact Prize in the 2018 edition of the European Social Innovation Competition (EUSIC), organized by the European Commission. This €50.000 prize is awarded to the project that showed the most impact over the last 12 months.

The 2017 edition of the competition, Equality Rebooted, looked for ideas to ensure everyone in Europe benefits from the opportunities created by technological change.. Mouse4all was selected as one of the ten finalists out of the almost 800 entries. Every year the jury looks back to the previous edition to select the Impact Prize winner from a shortlist of 30 semi-finalists.

Mouse4All is an assistive technology that enables people with severe physical disabilities to access an Android tablet or smartphone without touching the screen. It allows the connection of standard alternative input devices required by users such as switches, adapted mouse, trackball or joystick. It boosts independence and autonomy by making all installed applications accessible.

The user as the protagonist

Mouse4all was proposed as the winner of the 2018 Impact Prize by the judges as they noted great progress over the last year in terms of implementing the original plan and a clear methodology for impact, with both quantitative and qualitative measures in place, and a range of evidence presented.

The jury highlighted that the report demonstrated that the project is clearly focused on the specific needs that the target group of users with disabilities might have, including well evidenced user stories and feedback. The judges were

impressed with Mouse4All's success in building relationships with the corporate sector, which will support the sustainability of the impact.

Mouse4all was announced as the winner and honoured with the Impact Prize at the Awards Ceremony that took place in Brussels after the EUSIC Funders' Fair, earlier in the day. After receiving the trophy, José Ángel Jiménez, co-founder of Mouse4all, commented: "We are grateful to EUSIC, the European Commission, the jury and all the organization's members. This award gives us a high level of visibility and reputation, and it means an economic boost to help us reach new countries and users."

Digital revolution for everyone

According to Javier Montaner, also co-founder of Mouse4all: "We came up with the idea when we were looking for a project with a real impact on our users' lives. Then, we realized that the digital revolution had left out millions of people who could not use a touchscreen due to motor disabilities such as cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) or neuromuscular diseases."

Mouse4all was launched commercially in Spain in July 2017. It has already changed the lives of its users who, for the very first time, have been able to participate in the digital society, improving their autonomy, privacy and self-esteem.



Image: EUSIC 2018 winners. Photo credit: Grzegorz Drozd

About Mouse4all:

Mouse4all has been designed and developed by two Spanish engineers, José Angel Jiménez and Javier Montaner, co-founders of Mouse4all SL. It is a social start-up which aims to use technology "to make the world a bit better".

The product has been validated with all key stakeholders: end-users, families, therapists, associations, day-care centres and government departments. Mouse4all has also been included in the Catalogue of Assistive Technologies managed by CEAPAT (Spanish Reference Centre for Assistive Technology).

For more information on Mouse4all:

Video presentation (enable English subtitles)
youtube.com/watch?v=UQIZme1P6Tw

Press dossier, photos and clipping: mouse4all.com/es/medios/dossier/

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