



PODIM

Program 2023

Monday, May 15th

	MARIBOX 01	MARIBOX PODIM TERRACE	NARODNI DOM KIBLA
15:00	[REGISTRATION] Registration of Conference Participants		
16:00	15:00–20:00		[PITCHING] Semifinals of the Podim Pitching Competition 2023 Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, METS, ERDF 3-minute presentations and a Q&A session with 10 semifinalists of the Podim Pitching Competition THIS IS A CLOSED SESSION. ONLY JURY MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE. JURY Aleš Pustovrh , Fil Rouge Capital, Croatia Bánhalmi Bence , Portfolion, Hungary Bogdan Iordache , Underline Ventures, Diana Koziarska , SMOK Ventures, Poland Francois Mazoudier , Fundraising Bootcamp, UK Grega Potokar , ABC Accelerator, Slovenia Konstantin Gnyp , Runa Capital, Luxemburg Krešo Gotovac , Silicon Gardens Fund, Slovenia Max Gurvits , Vitoshka Venture Partners, Bulgaria Nina Urbanič , Slovene Enterprise Fund, Slovenia Stanislav Sirakov , Launchub Ventures, Bulgaria Tilen Šarlah , Feelsgood Capital, Slovenia Tunya Irkad , 500 Global & Emerging Europe, Turkey Vedran Blagus , South Central Ventures, Croatia
19:00		[NETWORKING] Investors, Partners & Speakers Meetup Powered by Amazon Web Services. Co-hosted by Credo Ventures and South Central Ventures Welcoming networking of investors, partners and speakers in the relaxed atmosphere of Podim Terrace. Perfect place to meet the most active investors, conference partners and amazing speakers. Invitation only event.	[NETWORKING] Podim Get-together Networking Powered by: Municipality of Maribor Join us for a dynamic networking event at Podim! Whether you're reconnecting with old colleagues or making new business connections, this event is the perfect way to kick off your conference experience. Don't miss this opportunity to meet fellow startup and technology enthusiasts, exchange ideas, and build relationships that can take your career to the next level. See you there!
20:00		Welcome speech by: Nikita Kharchenko , Amazon Web Services, Germany Tatjana Zabasu Mikuž , South Central Ventures, Slovenia Karolina Mrozkova , Credo Ventures, Czech Republic Urban Lapajne , Podim & Venture Factory, Slovenia	
22:00			

Tuesday, May 16th

	MARIBOX 01	MARIBOX 02	MARIBOX 03	MARIBOX – PODIM TERRACE	MARIBOX – MARKETPLACE	NARODNI DOM – DEALROOM
7:30	<p>[REGISTRATION] Registration of Conference Participants Registration & Coffee</p>					
9:00	<p>[OPENING] Welcome to Podim 2023 – The Heart of the Emerging Ecosystem Our region is on the move and gaining momentum. A welcoming reflection with key stakeholders from in and outside of the region about key factors and forces that are propelling our region towards the most developed ones. Urban Lapajne, Podim & Start:up Slovenia, Slovenia Gregor Rebolj, Silicon Gardens Fund, Slovenia Miryana Joksovic, BlitzzIO now Arcion Labs, Croatia & USA John Hill, Techstars, USA Host: Daniel Cronin, AustrianStartups, Austria</p>	<p>[LIVE STREAM] Streaming of the program from the Maribox Hall 01</p>				
9:30	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Confessions of a Founder Powered by: Silicon Gardens Fund FIRESIDE Miryana Joksovic, BlitzzIO now Arcion Labs, Croatia & USA Host: Daniel Cronin, AustrianStartups, Austria</p>					
10:00	<p>FIRESIDE Steve MacDonald, MacDonald Ventures, USA Host: Max Gurvits, Vitosha Venture Partners, Bulgaria TALK: “10M or 10B: Hard Choices in Building for Scale” Manoj Agarwal, DevRev, USA</p>				<p>Group A Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, ERDF 10:00 – 13:00</p>	
11:00				<p>[TERRACE NETWORKING] Refreshment Break</p>	<p>[MARKETPLACE NETWORKING] Refreshment Break</p>	<p>[DEAL ROOM OPENING] Energizing Break</p>

	MARIBOX 01	MARIBOX 02	MARIBOX 03	MARIBOX – PODIM TERRACE	MARIBOX – MARKETPLACE	NARODNI DOM – DEALROOM
11:30	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Sustainable Future Powered by: Feelsgood Capital</p> <p>TALK: “What I Believe Will Save (Or Destroy) Our Planet” Moaffak Ahmed, Cooler Future, Finland</p> <p>TALK AND FIRESIDE CHAT: “Sustainability + Innovation = Key Elements of the Growth Platform” Fernando Sandoval, ENEL Group, Spain Host: Mirna Marovic, VentureXchange, Croatia</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Growth Academy Powered by: Httpool</p> <p>TALK: “What I Learned in 20 Years of Building Global Marketing Campaigns” Maris Naglis, Httpool, Latvia</p> <p>TALK: “Crafting a Compelling Founder Story: Using Personal Branding to Connect with Your Audience.” Nele Sicher, LinkMe Marketing, Austria</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Deep-Tech & R&D Commercialization Powby: EEN</p> <p>TALK: “Key Lessons from over 25 Years in Technolgy sector ” Eran Davidson, Davidson & W Technology Growth Credit, Israel</p> <p>TALK: “Challenges of Deep-Tech Commercialization – Skills Gap Perspective” Tamas Szeker, Scale Hub, Spain</p>		<p>Group A Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, ERDF 10:00 – 13:00</p>	DEAL ROOM
12:30	<p>PANEL: “Building a Sustainable Future: Challenges and Opportunities” Eva Sommer, Fermify, Austria Tilen Travnik, Juicy Marrbles, Slovenia Catalina Giraldo, Halogen Ventures, USA Markus Linder, inoqo, Austria Host: Daniel Cronin, AustrianStartups, Austria</p>	<p>[DEMO STUDIO] Powered by: DSV</p> <p>“Opportunities and endless possibilities of modern Logistics” In this Demo Studio modern concept »Logistics As A Service – LaaS“ will be showcased. Showcase will be presented by: Miha Kožuh, DSV, Slovenia Tomaž Kren, Reusable Technologies, Slovenia</p>	<p>PANEL: “How to Boost Commercialization of Deep-Tech Technologies” Eran Davidson, Davidson & W Technology Growth Credit, Israel Rob Spurrett, Lacuna Space, UK István Sárhegyi, Herius Capital & Remred, Hungary Natalija Stošicki, SID Bank, Slovenia Tamas Szeker, Scale Hub, Spain Sasha Komarevych, Bocconi For Innovation, Italy Host: Nina Dremelj, Business Angels of Slovenia, Slovenia</p>			
13:00				[TERRACE NETWORKING] Lunch Break		
14:30	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Tough Times, Tough Leaders Powered by: Fil Rouge Capital & SBC</p> <p>TALK: “Gods vs Frauds: What separates legendary founders from the notorious ones” Zoltan Vardy, The Launch Code, UK & Hungary</p> <p>FIRESIDE: “Leading [at] Peloton through the pandemic, hypergrowth phase, ups and downs” Rose Hartwig, Marketing Fluency, USA Host: Maris Naglis, Httpool, Latvia</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Digitalization and Digital Transformation Powered by: Infobip & DSV</p> <p>FIRESIDE: “How to Define a Realistic Product Strategy and Enable the Right Conditions for Digital Transformation” YC Sun, IDEO, USA Host: Jürgen Furian, HELLO INSIDE, Austria</p> <p>PANEL: “Beyond Digitalization Hype: Searching for Business Value and ROI” Matija Nakič, Farseer, Croatia Lisa Gutu, Yapily, UK Petra Wagner, Mladinska knjiga Založba, Slovenia Blaž Strle, BE-terna Adriatic, Slovenia Moderator: Remco Veenenberg, The Connector, Netherlands</p>	<p>[DEMO STUDIO] Developing a Winning Ecosystem for Innovation between Corporates, SMEs, and Startups Powered by: Silicon Alps Cluster</p> <p>The main topic of this “Demo studio” is the cooperation between corporates and start-ups (SMEs).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do big Corporates do to co-innovate with Start-ups and how can Open-Innovation help with that? • What benefits can Start-ups expect, when working with corporates? • Why is the EBS-Ecosystem’s approach towards collaboration prospering now? <p>The Panel will be held by: Andreas Mühlberger, Infineon, Austria Viktoria Ilger, AVL, Austria Yasmin Kreiner, EDIH Applied – CPS, Austria Host: Robert Gfrerer, Silicon Alps Cluster, Austria</p>			DEAL ROOM
15:00	<p>PANEL: “Navigating Rough Seas: Lessons from Experienced Founders” Maurizio Rossi, World Economic Forum & ex H-Farm, Italy Gregor Potočar, Infobip, Slovenia Host: Daniel Cronin, AustrianStartups, Austria</p>				<p>Group B Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, ERDF 15:00 – 18:00</p>	

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16:00				[TERRACE NETWORKING] Refreshment Break	[MARKETPLACE NETWORKING] Refreshment break Powered by: Nova KBM	DEAL ROOM
16:30	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] AI and Disruptive Technologies Powered by: Silicon Alps Cluster (SAC) & Infineon Technologies</p> <p>TALK: “Machine Vs. Nature-Based AI” John Clippinger, BioForm Labs, USA</p> <p>TALK: “Threat or Opportunity? Navigating the ChatGPT Revolution for AI Startups” Svetlana Kordumova, Pixyle.ai, North Macedonia</p> <p>PANEL: “Navigating the Future: Exploring the Opportunities and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence” Mike Reiner, Acrobator Ventures, Netherlands Robert Gfrerer, Silicon Alps Cluster, Austria John Clippinger, BioForm Labs, USA Svetlana Kordumova, Pixyle.ai, North Macedonia Host: Tunya Irkad, 500 Global & Emerging Europe, Turkey</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Developing a Winning Ecosystem Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, METS, ERDF & Silicon Gardens Fund</p> <p>TALK: “Key Lessons When Building a Startup Community” John Hill, Techstars, USA</p> <p>TALK: “Adriatic Region Through the Numbers” Ada Guštin Habuš, Silicon Gardens Fund, Slovenia Krešo Gotovac, Silicon Gardens Fund, Slovenia</p> <p>PANEL: “Inside and Outside View on Our Region and the Opportunities to Grow” Neda Trifunovic, Digital Serbia Initiative, Serbia Arjan Ymeri, Oficina Innovation Hub, Albania Miryana Joksovic, BlitzzIO now Arcion Labs, Croatia & USA Or Haviv, Arieli Capital, Israel Gregor Rebolj, Silicon Gardens Fund, Slovenia Host: Nina Nikolich, GIZ, Nord Macedonia</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Corporate Innovation Powered by: Nova KBM & TIKOPRO</p> <p>PANEL: “Best Strategies to Cooperate with Startups” Fernando Sandoval, ENEL Group, Spain Nikola Pavesic, Infobip, Croatia Eugenia Forte, Takeoff Accelerator & Plug and Play Tech Center, Italy Andreas Muehlberger, Infineon Technologies, Austria Andreas Gams, EIT Manufacturing, Austria Host: Mark Kalin, Managers’ Association of Slovenia, Slovenia</p>		<p>Group B Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, ERDF 15:00 – 18:00</p>	
18:00	<p>[THE FEMALE FOUNDERS’ GALLERY NETWORKING] Pitching Competition Finals Warming up</p>					

18:30

[PITCHING HALL 1]

Finals of the Podim Pitching Competition 2023

Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, METS, ERDF

3-minute presentations and a Q&A session with 5 finalists of the Podim Pitching Competition in front of renowned investors.

JURY:

Eran Davidson, Davidson & W Technology Growth Credit, Israel

Francois Mazoudier, Fundraising Bootcamp, UK

Grega Potokar, ABC Accelerator, Slovenia

Gregor Rebolj, Silicon Gardens Fund, Slovenia

Julien Coustaury, Fil Rouge Capital, Croatia

Karolina Mrozkova, Credo Ventures, Czech Republic

Rok Huber, Slovene Enterprise Fund, Slovenia

Markus Linder, inoqo, Austria

Nikola Pavesic, Infobip, Croatia

Or Haviv, Arieli Capital, Israel

Steve MacDonald, MacDonald Ventures, USA

Tatjana Zbasu Mikuž, South Central Ventures, Slovenia

PITCHING HOST: **Daniel Cronin**, AustrianStartups, Co-Founder and Member of the Board, Austria

The winner of the pitch competition will be announced by:

Matjaž Han, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, Slovenia

19:30

[TERRACE NETWORKING]

Victory Toast and Dinner

Let's toast to the winner of the Podim 2023 Pitching Competition and grab some food to power up for the party.

21:00

[FENIKS NETWORKING]

Podim 2023 Party

Powered by: Heaven & Hell Gin

DJ will take care of the groovy party on Podim Terrace.

Wednesday, May 17th

	MARIBOX 01	MARIBOX 02	MARIBOX 03	MARIBOX - PODIM TERRACE	MARIBOX - MARKETPLACE	NARODNI DOM - DEALROOM
9:00				[TERRACE NETWORKING] Wake-up Coffee	Group C Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, ERDF 9:00 – 12:00	
9:30	[PROGRAM BLOCK] Space Economy Powered by: InnOrbit & Dewesoft <u>TALK: "Where Can I Fit-in in the Current Space Economy Ecosystem"</u> Thomas Tanghe, SpaceTec Partners, Germany <u>PANEL: "Opportunities in Space Economy from the Perspective Of: Investors, Founders and Ecosystem Builders"</u> István Sárhegyi, Herius Capital & Remred, Hungary Rob Spurrett, Lacuna Space, UK	[PROGRAM BLOCK] Growth Academy Powered by: ABC Accelerator <u>WORKSHOP: "How to (Not) Screw – And F***-up – Your International Expansion"</u> Florent Coudyser, weGrow International, Netherlands	[PROGRAM BLOCK] The Power of Talent, Leadership & Diversity Powered by: Recrutech <u>WORKSHOP: "7 Mistakes When Hiring Top Talent and How to Fix Them"</u> Jiri Necas, Hiring On Ramp, Czech Republic			DEAL ROOM
10:00	Eugenia Forte, Takeoff Accelerator & Plug and Play Tech Center, Italy Host: Thomas Tanghe, SpaceTec Partners, Germany		<u>WORKSHOP: "The Importance of Workplace Culture and Making the Right Hires"</u> Jair Halevi, Miro, Netherlands			
10:40 10:50	[PROGRAM BLOCK] Sustainable Future Powered by: CMS <u>PANEL: "The Rise of ESG: Reality or Buzz from the Business Perspective"</u> Tijana Koprivica, Delta Holding, Serbia Sonja Radovic-Paul, Codio Impact, Germany Marko Vukelić, BDO, Croatia Moderator: Ronald Filipčić, CMS, Croatia	<u>WORKSHOP: "Crack the Corporate Fortress: How to Close Big Deals as a Small Startup"</u> Zoltan Vardy, The Launch Code, UK & Hungary	<u>WORKSHOP: "How to Hire and Onboard the First Salespeople in Your Team?"</u> Adam Springer, StartupSales, Israel			
11:30				[TERRACE NETWORKING] Refreshment Break	[MARKETPLACE NETWORKING] Refreshment break	

	MARIBOX 01	MARIBOX 02	MARIBOX 03	MARIBOX - PODIM TERRACE	MARIBOX - MARKETPLACE	NARODNI DOM - DEALROOM
12:00	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] The Power of Talent, Leadership & Diversity Powered by: Databox</p> <p>FIRESIDE CHAT Marius Istrate, 3VC & ex UiPath, Romania Host: Daniel Cronin, AustrianStartups, Austria</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Getting Funded Powered by: Carinthian Venture Funds</p> <p>WORKSHOP: "5 Things You Should Change When Fundraising in the Next 2 Years" Francois Mazoudier, Fundraising Bootcamp, UK</p> <p>WORKSHOP: "Small Tricks with BIG Impact When Designing Your Pitch Deck" Sam Eisenberg, Design for Decks, Hungary</p>	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Business and Legal Frameworks Powered by: Nlaw</p> <p>TALK: "Potential Legal Challenges of Using Large Scale Language Models Like" Nejc Novak, Nlaw, Slovenia</p>			DEAL ROOM
12:30	<p>PANEL: "Embracing Diversity in Tech: Assessing the Present and Shaping the Future" Catalina Giraldo, Halogen Ventures, USA Tatjana Zbasu Mikuž, South Central Ventures, Slovenia Diana Koziarska, SMOK Ventures, Poland Moderator: Nele Sicher, LinkMe Marketing, Austria</p>				<p>Group D Powered by: Slovene Enterprise Fund, Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, ERDF 12:30 – 15:30</p>	
13:00	<p>[PROGRAM BLOCK] Health Revolution Powered by: Zavarovalnica Sava</p>		<p>[DEMO STUDIO] The future of Space Entrepreneurship Support in Eastern Europe Powered by: InnOrbit</p> <p>TALK: "The InnORBIT Journey" Apostolos Tsolakis, Q-PLAN INTERNATIONAL, InnORBIT Project Coordinator</p> <p>PANEL: "Piloting space entrepreneurship support activities in Eastern Europe" Maja Brkljačić, Algebra University College Cristina Stancu, ROMSPACE Nektaria Berikou, Corallia Anna Arató, Design Terminal Martyna Krasauskaitė, Startup Division, SUN H2020 project Moderator: Iasmina Cioroianu, Startup Europe Networks</p> <p>FIRESIDE CHAT: "Bridging the Space Gap in Europe" Michal Brichta, Slovak Space Office Tanja Permozer, Slovenian Space Office Iulia Jivanescu, ESA Coordination Officer in Romania Moderator: Thomas Tanghe, SpaceTec Partners</p>			
13:40	<p>TALK: "Next Generation Wearables" Mario Aichseder, HELLO INSIDE, Austria</p> <p>TALK: "Design for Behavior Change?" YC Sun, IDEO, USA</p> <p>PANEL: "Where Are the Biggest Opportunities and Pitfalls in the Future of Digital Help?" Silvia Hecher, Levy, Austria Dr. Magnus Kobel, Yas.Life, Germany YC Sun, IDEO, USA Mario Aichseder, HELLO INSIDE, Austria Moderator: Jazna Stannard, Well4Tech, USA</p>	<p>[DEMO STUDIO] Reach Anyone, Anywhere, on the Right Channel with Infobip Powered by: Infobip Lucija Reič, Infobip, Croatia</p>				
14:30				<p>[TERRACE NETWORKING] Podim Closing with food, drinks and DJ</p>		

Podim 2023 partners

Co-organizers and co-financers



Golden Unicorn Partners



Unicorn Partners



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