

## **CDP VENTURE CAPITAL SGR: LAUNCH OF FUTURED, THE ACCELERATOR DEDICATED TO STARTUPS OPERATING IN THE EDUTECH FIELD**

*A three-year programme supported by total investments of over 3 million euro approved by the Accelerators Fund, with the operational support of H-FARM and leading scientific and industrial partners*

*From today you can participate in the first call for the selection of startups by applying to the site [www.futuredaccelerator.com](http://www.futuredaccelerator.com)*

Rome, 28 June 2021 - Today **FuturED** is established, the acceleration programme dedicated to **operational startups** in the field of **technologies applied to education and training**, implemented by an **initiative of CDP Venture Capital Sgr** through the Accelerators Fund **with an initial allocation of 1.65 million euro and a resolution for a further 1.5 million euro** for subsequent post-acceleration follow-ons.

This programme enhances **CDP's National Network of Accelerators** with another important junction towards the establishment of a network of physical accelerators in Italy, focused on the most innovative districts, to help the growth of startups specialised in areas with high market potential.

**FuturED** was created with the operational support of **H-FARM**, an innovation platform that contributes to the creation of new business models and transformation through the education of young people and Italian companies in a digital perspective and **with the Management Department, 'Ca Foscari University of Venice as a scientific advisor** and the **contribution of industrial partners such as the Angelini Academy – the corporate academy of the Angelini group -, Cisco, European Design Institute (IED) and Vodafone Italy.**

FuturED is aimed at Italian and international startups in the edutech field that are interested in rolling out their business idea in Italy. **The objective of the programme, which will last for 3 years, is to select and accelerate a total of 30 startups, 10 per year, which offer digital solutions, innovative programmes and cutting-edge technologies for teaching** and in general **for digital training dedicated to all age groups**, from children and teenagers, to working adults and pensioners, for continuous training.

Three areas of interest have been identified: school education (from kindergarten to high school), university education (at the post-graduate training, university, master's degree levels), business training and continuing education.

The programme will be managed by H-FARM and will take place within the H-FARM Campus on the outskirts of the Venetian Lagoon, the largest innovation hub in Europe, open to students,

professionals, entrepreneurs and innovation enthusiasts. The campus can accommodate up to 3,000 people.

The selected startups will be involved **in a growth path that will last for 8 months**, of which 4 focus on business acceleration and 4 support commercial development and fundraising activities. Thanks to the collaboration with industrial partners Angelini Academy, Cisco, IED and Vodafone Italia, startups will be able to meet directly with industry experts and have the opportunity to test their solution in real environments.

The call for the selection of startups that will participate in FuturED is open from today until September 8 at [www.futuredaccelerator.com](http://www.futuredaccelerator.com)

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**CDP Venture Capital SGR** is an asset management company (70% owned by CDP Equity and 30% owned by Invitalia) with over 1 billion euro of assets under management. It aims to make Venture Capital a strategic pillar to Italy's economic development and innovation, creating the conditions for a comprehensive and sustainable growth of the Venture Capital ecosystem. It operates through a series of funds that aim to support start-ups in all their life cycle stages, making both direct and indirect investments.

**H-FARM** is an innovation platform that supports the creation of new business models and the transformation and education of young people and Italian companies in a digital perspective. Founded in January 2005 as the first startup incubator in the world, it has been able to regenerate and adapt to market needs without ever losing sight of the core values of seizing the opportunities induced by digital innovation and maintaining a human-centric approach. Today it is the only entity in the world that combines investments, business services and training in a single place. Structured like a campus, on the outskirts of Venice, H- FARM is the most important centre of innovation in Europe on a 51 hectare campus, featuring 20 hectares of forest. It employs more than 600 people working in Italy and is considered to be unique on a global level.

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