



MITdesignX Venice 2024

MITdesignX Venice is a Competition of ideas created through the collaboration between the renowned MIT of Boston and SerenDPT, a Benefit Company based in Venice. The best 10 ideas of every year will join a free Acceleration Program, conducted by MIT faculty, supporting students, professionals, developers and entrepreneurs who are creating new startups dedicated to solving real-world problems. SerenDPT provides incentives for startups that choose to establish their headquarters in Venice, contributing to the repopulation of the lagoon, creating jobs of high quality for people of all ages and Venetians of all origins.

We are looking for **practicable ideas** for **realistic problems**, that are able to be financially self-sustainable and to grow into a full-fledged company creating dozens of jobs of high quality.

For the 2024 edition of the programme MITdesignX Venice, the chosen themes are:

- Conservation and enhancement of artistic and architectural heritage
- Tourism of the future: housing and mobility
- Water, Energy and Environment
- Tools and services for Cities and Citizens of all ages

<u>Candidature</u> will be open from **May to July 2024**. Teams of 2-5 people of any age and background can apply.

Preparatory Events:

Open Submissions May 13, 2024
Open Day June 11, 2024
We Make Future 13-15 June 2024
Close Submissions July 31, 2024

An **Open Day** is scheduled for June 11, led by the director of the MITdesignX program, <u>Gilad Rosenzweig</u>, who will explain the different phases; he will try to understand which direction potential startuppers are leaning towards, helping them in defining the details of those who intend to present the application.

The deadline to submit the ideas will be on July 31, 2024; after that, the **Top 10 teams** will be selected to participate in the full program, supervised by **MIT faculty**, according to the following calendar:

Schedule:

#1 Understand September 27-28
#2 Solve October 18-19
#3 Envision November 8-9
#4 Deploy November 29-30

Pitch Day December 16th (Monday)

In each workshop, a different dimension of building a solid and successful startup will be analyzed.

During the first one, participants will go through the phase of *Understanding*: they will talk about the desirability of the service/product sold, how to improve it, the impact it has on the public.

For the second workshop it will be the turn of **Solve**, about feasibility and concreteness, in order to define a concrete dimension to each project.

During the third workshop the focus will be on the *Envision* of each startup, based on its environmental impact and on its ability to be economically sustainable in a long lasting perspective.

The fourth workshop will be *Deploy*, focused on the perspective of the impact that the product/service offered after the introduction in the market.

We will close with the **Final Pitch** in December, in which the final projects will be presented. An external jury will evaluate the projects and, thanks to their votes, will establish the final ranking and the winners of the edition.

All workshops will be held in presence, in **English** at **Fabbrica H3** (Giudecca 624, 30133, Venice), headquarter of the SerenDPT incubator.