1. European Innovation Academy (EIA) 2023
Porto
Portugal

Our team, representing the BreastScreening-AI project, achieved remarkable success at the European Innovation Academy (EIA) 2023 in Porto, Portugal, which took place from the 14th of July to the 7th of August 2023, spanning almost four weeks. We were honored to be selected as the top first team among the elite top 10 finalists. The EIA 2023 was a highly competitive and prestigious event featuring around 100 innovative startup teams. These teams were meticulously evaluated by expert investors and mentors, making our achievement particularly noteworthy. Our project, BreastScreening-AI, stood out, securing first place in the top 10. This recognition was based on our project's innovation, execution, and potential impact on medical imaging and AI technology. The finals of the EIA 2023 were attended by approximately 1000 people, adding to the significance of our accomplishment. Being recognized in such a large and distinguished gathering underscores the relevance and potential of our project.

Participation award winners:

CEO - Francisco Maria Calisto, Instituto Superior Técnico
CTO - Mastan Vejdannia, Solent University
CFO - Kyle Lee, Villanova University
CMO - Livia Ferreira, Universidade da Maia - UMAIA
COO - André Fadiga, Universidade de Coimbra

External advisory board:

CMedO - Dr. João Maria Abrantes
Computer Vision Advisor - Prof. Jacinto C. Nascimento
User Research Advisor - Prof. Nuno J. Nunes
Lead Artificial Intelligence - Carlos Santiago

Press news:

https://www.inacademy.eu/blog/top-startups-2023/

https://tecnico.ulisboa.pt/en/news/tecnico-students-awarded-at-european-innovation-academy-event/

https://www.inacademy.eu/blog/harnessing-ai-for-health/

https://eco.sapo.pt/2024/07/15/porto-junta-450-alunos-de-todo-o-mundo-na-maior-academia-de-empreendedorismo-da-europa/

https://noticias.up.pt/2023/08/09/european-innovation-academy-2023-premeia-estudantes-da-u-porto/

https://www.leca-palmeira.com/european-innovation-academy/?doing_wp_cron=1732391632.3450689315795898437500

https://canalportugal.pt/o-projeto-breastscreening-ai-dos-universitarios-portugueses-vence-premio-da-academia-europeia-de-inovacao/

More media:

https://youtu.be/4ZjgjJL4nT0

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2. Digital with Purpose Global Summit Startup Portugal Stage Pitch Competition

BreastScreening-AI was honored to be selected as one of 16 innovative finalist startups to participate in the Startup Portugal Stage Pitch Competition at the Digital with Purpose Global Summit 2023, held from September 27–29, 2023, at the Altice Arena, Lisbon. The summit, attended by over 4,000 participants and 200 speakers, focused on advancing Biodiversity, Education, and Smart and Sustainable Cities as part of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While the team did not advance to the finals, the event provided unparalleled opportunities for networking, visibility, and collaboration with global leaders in sustainability and innovation. This participation highlighted BreastScreening-AI's dedication to leveraging AI for impactful healthcare solutions.

More information here:

https://startupportugal.com/digital-with-purpose-global-summit-2023-en/

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3. Entrepreneurship Awards 2023
Youth Entrepreneurship Award
Startup Lisboa

In the Entrepreneurship Awards 2023, hosted by Startup Lisboa, our project, BreastScreening-AI, achieved significant recognition in the Youth Entrepreneurship Award track. The selection process, conducted from the 4th to the 21st of September, saw us emerge as one of the top pitches until the semi-final. This was a notable accomplishment given the competitive nature of the event, which featured over 350 participants. Our selection among the top pitches highlights the innovative and impactful nature of BreastScreening-AI, demonstrating its potential in the entrepreneurial landscape. This recognition at such a prestigious event, focused on gathering the ecosystem to celebrate the success of outstanding entrepreneurs and startups, underscores our commitment to excellence and innovation in the HealthTech sector.

More information here:

https://www.startuplisboa.com/entrepreneurship-awards-2023

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4. NetZero Health Systems
Lisbon
Portugal

Our project, BreastScreening-AI, was distinguished as one of the top 30 finalists among 70 NetZero Health Systems program contenders hosted by Startup Lisboa. This prestigious acceleration program, which focuses on HealthTech startups committed to reducing the healthcare sector's carbon footprint and enhancing sustainability, held its selection process from the 3rd until the 16th of October, 2023. Our selection in this competitive program highlights the project's innovative approach to healthcare, aligning with global sustainability goals. Participation in this program underscored our dedication to environmentally conscious HealthTech solutions. It provided valuable opportunities for collaboration with leading experts and startups in the field, amplifying our project's impact on sustainable healthcare.

More information here:

https://www.startuplisboa.com/net-zero-health-systems

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5. Portugal to Take OFF Program by AICEP

Our BreastScreening-AI project successfully advanced through Round 1. It reached the finals in Round 2 of the Portugal to Take OFF Program by AICEP Portugal Global (Agência para o Investimento e Comércio Externo de Portugal), a prestigious initiative to accelerate the growth of Portuguese companies in California. The selection for this program was held from the 21st until the 30th of October, highlighting our project's potential in the HealthTech sector. This program provides valuable mentorship and networking opportunities, enhancing our go-to-market strategy and connecting us with key industry leaders and potential customers in the Californian market.

More information here:

https://www.portugalglobal.pt/PT/InvestirPortugal/Paginas/portugal-Take-off.aspx

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6. Prémios ULisboa RedeSAÚDE
Reitoria da Universidade de Lisboa

Our project, BreastScreening-AI, was selected for the finals as one of the top 6 ideas in the Health Systems/Entrepreneurship/Digital Transformation track of the Prémios ULisboa-RedeSAÚDE. This selection, from more than 50 participating ideas, was made through a rigorous process from the 23rd of October until the 11th of November. Our project was presented in a poster format and stage presentation at the final event, which took place on the 14th of November. This recognition by the University of Lisbon through its RedeSAÚDE network underscores our project's innovative approach and potential impact on digital health transformation and entrepreneurship.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://www.ulisboa.pt/info/premios-ulisboa-redesaude

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7. BfK Ideas 2023
ANI
Pavilhão do Conhecimento
Lisbon, Portugal

In the BfK Ideas 2023 program, a combined accelerating program and competition organized by ANI at the Pavilhão do Conhecimento in Lisbon, Portugal, our project BreastScreening-AI stood out for its exceptional innovation and potential. Selected on October 10th, 2023, from an array of competitive entries, we engaged in an intensive acceleration program beginning on October 25th. The program reached its celestial point at the final event on November 16th, where BreastScreening-AI was distinguished with second place in the Healthcare, Biotechnology, and Food track, among 22 innovative concepts. This recognition in a challenging and dynamic environment highlights our project's significant impact and potential in the realms of science and technology.

For more information, please follow the link:

http://bfk.ani.pt/pt/iniciativas/bfk-ideas/

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8. AIIA 2023
Altice Labs
Convento do Beato
Lisbon, Portugal

As one of the top 3 finalists in the Academy track of the Altice International Innovation Award (AIIA) 2023 from Altice Labs, our BreastScreening-AI project distinguished itself among 116 eligible participants from an initial pool of 160. This prestigious recognition by Altice Labs emerged from a rigorous selection process held from the 18th of September until the 8th of November. Being chosen as a top finalist for an event held on the 21st of November 2023, amidst a highly competitive field, highlights the innovative approach of BreastScreening-AI in medical imaging and AI technology. The opportunity to present our project at this significant event to industry leaders and potential investors underscores the substantial potential of BreastScreening-AI to advance healthcare technology.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://www.alticelabs.com/aiia/winners-and-finalists-2023/

Media:

https://alticeinnovationaward.sabado.pt/altice-entrega-95-mil-euros-a-tres-projetos-inovadores/

https://tek.sapo.pt/noticias/negocios/artigos/ja-sao-conhecidos-os-vencedores-dos-premios-altice-international-inovation-award-2023

https://www.jornaldenegocios.pt/comunicados-de-imprensa/detalhe/conheca-o-grande-juri-e-os-9-projetos-finalistas-do-premio-de-inovacao-da-altice-portugal

https://alticeinnovationaward.sabado.pt/the-7th-edition-of-the-altice-international-innovation-award-is-giving-out-almost-100-thousand-euros/

https://youtu.be/T6f9z7-IOTA

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9. PhD Open Days
Instituto Superior Técnico
Lisbon, Portugal

At the 9th edition of the PhD Open Days, hosted by Instituto Superior Técnico in Lisbon, Portugal, our project, BreastScreening-AI, achieved significant recognition. From a group of 20 participants, we secured the second place in the Pitch Competition on the 29th of November 2023. This event, held from November 27 to 29 at the Assembly Hall (Salão Nobre) of Instituto Superior Técnico, provided a platform for us to showcase the innovative aspects of our project. Our success in this competitive environment, where we stood out among numerous talented participants, underscores the impact and potential of BreastScreening-AI in the academic and scientific community.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://phdopendays.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/

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10. Santander X 2023 Launch 5.0

In the 2023 Santander X Launch 5.0 program, our project, BreastScreening-AI, excelled by securing the top spot on the Leader Board, distinguishing itself among more than 40 innovative ideas and almost 70 participants. The application phase for this renowned program, hosted by Babson College, spanned from June 23 to August 21, 2023, followed by an intensive acceleration period from September 4 to November 25. The concluding phase for project submissions took place from November 27 to December 2. This prestigious program provided a prime platform to showcase the innovative features and potential of BreastScreening-AI. Our project's leading status in this dynamic and competitive environment emphasizes its significant influence and bright prospects in the healthcare technology and entrepreneurial sectors.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://app.santanderx.com/calls/santander-x-training-launch-20232

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11. S3E South 2024

Our project, BreastScreening-AI, was selected before February 6, 2024, to participate in the prestigious S3E START 2024 acceleration program organized by HiSeedTech, aimed at propelling Deep Tech research innovations from lab to market. Over an intensive 18-week period, our team—André Fadiga, Francisco Maria Calisto, and Carlos Santiago—engaged in comprehensive training, mentoring, and networking activities. Our dedicated efforts culminated on June 18, 2024, when we achieved significant recognition by advancing to the grand final at the S3E START 2024 Open Days, showcasing the impact and potential of our AI-driven breast cancer screening system.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://south3e.eu/participants/

Media:

https://south3e.eu/2024/09/09/s3e-start-2024-meet-the-research-team-breastscreening-ai/

https://youtu.be/VppWuptBg0I

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12. 2024 WIPO Global Awards Finalist

Recognized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) as one of the 25 global finalists selected from 667 applicants across 107 countries for the WIPO Global Awards 2024, which honor excellence in intellectual property and innovation. BreastScreening-AI's groundbreaking contributions to early breast cancer detection were celebrated at the WIPO Awards Ceremony held on July 12, 2024, in Geneva, alongside other global innovators driving health, sustainability, and technology progress.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://www.wipo.int/global-awards/en/2024/

On the news:

https://www.wipo.int/global-awards/en/news/2024/news_0002.html

https://nuoi.missaoportugal.mne.gov.pt/pt/a-miss%C3%A3o/noticias/start-up-portuguesa-entre-os-finalistas-do-wipo-global-award-2024

https://inpi.justica.gov.pt/Noticias-do-INPI/OMPI-revela-vencedores-dos-WIPO-Global-Awards

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13. EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program 2024

BreastScreening-AI was proudly selected for the prestigious EIT Digital Venture Incubation Program by Building Global Innovators (BGI), officially joining the program on May 31, 2024, following our compelling presentation on May 29, 2024. This achievement granted us invaluable access to EIT Digital's extensive innovation ecosystem. Our participation included an intensive BootCamp in mid-June, where we honed our market strategies and regulatory compliance, and culminated in the highly anticipated Demo Day on August 27, 2024. At Demo Day, we had the opportunity to present our AI-driven breast cancer screening solution to a distinguished jury and numerous investors, positioning BreastScreening-AI at the forefront of global healthcare innovation. This significantly advances our mission to enhance breast cancer diagnostics through cutting-edge technology.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://www.eitdigital.eu/venture-incubation-program/

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14. eAwards 2024 by NTT Data

Our company was selected as one of the six finalists in the eAwards 2024 by NTT Data, a prestigious competition recognizing technological innovation. Among over 60 submitted projects, BreastScreening-AI was honored for its groundbreaking approach to breast cancer diagnostics, integrating AI with mammograms, ultrasounds, and MRIs to improve accuracy and patient outcomes. The Portuguese final was held on September 24, 2024, where we presented our pitch to a jury of representatives from the entrepreneurial, academic, and business ecosystems. Being chosen as a finalist highlights the excellence and potential of our project in advancing healthcare technologies.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://globaleawards.com/pt/portugal/

News on the media:

https://www.pcguia.pt/2024/10/fibersight-e-a-grande-vencedora-da-24a-edicao-dos-eawards-portugal/

https://linktoleaders.com/fibersight-vence-eawards-2024/

https://portugalglobal.pt/noticias/2024/outubro/fibersight-grande-vencedora-da-24%C2%AA-edi%C3%A7%C3%A3o-dos-eawards-portugal/

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15. European Inventor Network Grant

The BreastScreening-AI project was awarded a grant of €4,000 by the European Inventor Network on September 27, 2024, in recognition of its innovative approach to inspiring young students in innovation and entrepreneurship. The project, led by Francisco Maria Calisto (CEO), was selected for its impactful outreach activities aimed at primary and secondary schools, emphasizing creativity, STEM education, and entrepreneurial thinking.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://www.epo.org/en/news-events/european-inventor-award/european-inventor-network

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16. H-INNOVA: HEALTH INNOVATION HUB | 5th edition, 2024

BreastScreening-AI was selected as a finalist in the STARTUPS Category for the prestigious H-INNOVA: HEALTH INNOVATION HUB – Call for Projects, 5th edition, 2024. The project was recognized for its innovative approach to enhancing breast cancer screening through AI-powered, multimodal imaging analysis. As a finalist, BreastScreening-AI will present at the Digital Health Summit 2024, which will take place in Madeira, Funchal, on November 26th and 27th, 2024, marking a significant milestone in the project's journey towards transforming breast cancer diagnostics.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://www.hinnovahub.com/

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17. Prémio Inovação em Saúde – Todos pela Sustentabilidade

On October 29, 2024, the BreastScreening-AI project was selected as a finalist for the Prémio Inovação em Saúde – Todos pela Sustentabilidade, recognizing the project's commitment to advancing digital health sustainability through innovative breast cancer screening solutions. As a finalist, the project is invited to attend the Cerimónia de Entrega dos Prémios on December 4, 2024, at the Aula Magna, Faculty of Medicine, University of Lisbon. During this event, winners in categories such as Social, Environmental, Economic, and Digital Transformation Sustainability will be announced, celebrating the contributions of leading health innovation initiatives.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://premioinovacaosaude.pt/

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18. University Category of the Santander X Portugal Awards 2024

On November 8, 2024, BreastScreening-AI was honored as a finalist in the prestigious Santander X Portugal Awards in the University Category. Selected from over 400 applicants, BreastScreening-AI distinguished itself for its pioneering use of AI in breast cancer diagnostics, securing a top 10 position and earning a place to pitch at the event's Pitch Day on November 8. After a highly competitive presentation, we achieved second place with a monetary award of €3000. This recognition highlights the project's innovative impact and potential to transform health technology in Portugal.

For more information, please follow the link:

https://app.santanderx.com/calls/santander-x-portugal-award-university-2024

News on the media:

https://executivedigest.sapo.pt/noticias/santander-portugal-premeia-a-inovacao-com-30-mil-euros-e-da-a-conhecer-os-10-finalistas/

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19. Road2WebSummit 2024 Program Selection by Startup Portugal

In 2024, BreastScreening-AI was selected from a large pool of applicants as one of the top 125 startups in Portugal for the renowned Road2WebSummit Program by Startup Portugal. The selection process culminated in October 2024, leading to Web Summit 2024. From this distinguished group, BreastScreening-AI was further honored as one of the top 10 startups invited to pitch at the Official Reception on November 8, 2024, hosted by President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa at Palácio de Belém. The event also featured notable figures such as Paddy Cosgrave, CEO of Web Summit, and Antonio Dias Martins, Executive Director of Startup Portugal. This recognition underscores the project's innovative impact on breast cancer diagnostics. It enhances its visibility within the tech ecosystem, preparing BreastScreening-AI for strategic growth and collaboration at Web Summit 2024, held from November 11-14, 2024.

For more information, please follow the links:

https://websummit.com/appearances/lis24/7212782f-eebb-42e3-a950-dc44a3c07dd8/breastscreening-ai/

https://startupportugal.com/programs/road-2-web-summit/

Press News:

https://tecnico.ulisboa.pt/en/news/campus-community/tecnico-entrepreneurial-community-meets-once-again-at-the-web-summit/

https://tek.sapo.pt/noticias/negocios/artigos/web-summit-2024-com-recorde-de-participacao-de-125-startups-portuguesas

https://jornaleconomico.sapo.pt/noticias/web-summit-portugal-marca-presenca-com-125-startups/

https://tecnico.ulisboa.pt/en/news/campus-community/tecnico-brings-higher-education-and-innovation-to-the-publics-attention-at-the-web-summit-2024/

https://youtu.be/Jp9pnzH1mF0

https://www.rtp.pt/noticias/economia/web-summit-mestre-de-xadrez-jogou-contra-a-ia-e-venceu_v1614868

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20. Santander X Global Awards 2025

BreastScreening-AI earned its place as a finalist in the prestigious Santander X Global Awards 2025, following its recognition as a second-place winner in the University Projects category at the Santander X Portugal Awards 2024. This global competition showcases the most innovative startups, university projects, and scaleups from across eight countries, competing in three distinct categories: Startups, Scaleups, and University Projects. Representing Portugal in the University Projects category, BreastScreening-AI joins 24 other international university finalists with the opportunity to pitch during the online semifinals (December 2–12, 2024) and vie for a spot in the global finals (January 20–24, 2025). Winners will receive equity-free cash prizes and attend the Santander X Global Award Winner's Event in Madrid, fostering strategic growth, investor connections, and international visibility.

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