

TISSONS LA SOLIDARITÉ, FONDATION AG2R LA MONDIALE, AND SCIENCES PO TEAM WIN THE TOCQUEVILLE CIVIL SOCIETY CHALLENGE 2015

Paris - June 4, 2015 – A team of four Masters students from Sciences Po and the Association Tissons la Solidarité in partnership with La Fondation AG2R LA MONDIALE won the second edition of the Tocqueville Civil Society Challenge on Thursday 21 May. The event was held at the Philharmonie de Paris. After more than three hours of presentations and defending their projects in front of a panel and 150 guests, an international and distinguished Jury selected the winner of this edition of the Tocqueville Challenge among seven finalist teams after a pre-selection from 17 teams.

The Tocqueville Civil Society Challenge is an initiative that forms partnerships between student teams from Sciences Po, HEC and ESCP, non-governmental organizations, and leading companies and representatives from international organizations as co-creation mentors. The associations identify a social problem that they need to address in an innovative manner. The students are invited to devise a strategy and action plan in collaboration with their mentor company or international organization and association partners within the framework of the Challenge.

This co-creation process brings new perspectives and a range of professional competencies required to address the challenge. Last year, the team supporting Association des Paralysés de France with Alstom was declared the first winner of the Tocqueville Civil Society Challenge. Over a third of last year's projects are in the implementation phase.

"I am extremely proud of the participation of all the teams and partners this year. The level of social innovation, of creativity, and of collaboration was once again raised, and I believe firmly that all the teams and projects have benefited from the process of co-creation throughout the Tocqueville Challenge," said Jean-Guillaume de Tocqueville, founder of the Tocqueville Foundation and President of the Jury of the Tocqueville Challenge, following the 2015 awards announcement Thursday evening.

"We are proud to have been part of the Tocqueville Challenge as it enhances the ability of students, companies, foundations, associations and the public sector to work together," said Delphine Lallu, General Secretary of the Foundation at AG2R LA MONDIALE. "Tissons la Solidarité's project will greatly benefit from this experience, and thanks to the wonderful team of four bright and convincing students, women in jail will have a better chance to receive training and find a job in the food and catering industry."

Caroline Portes, Managing Director of Tissons la Solidarité agreed, "The beauty of the Tissons project is that we see the personality and contribution of every person who helped to construct it."

The students see this as just the beginning: "As members of the Tocqueville Active Citizens Network we will continue to deepen our relationships with all stakeholders, incorporate elements of transparency and accountability to generate trust, funding and future alliances while designing, implementing and evaluating our project in the next five months," said Adolfo Arguello Vives, team leader for the Sciences Po student team.

This year, the students and associations also voted to award a Student Choice and Action Partner (Association) Choice award. The students chose to recognize the team supporting Simplon mentored by SAP, and the Associations chose to recognize the team supporting Les Toits de l'Espoir together with Engie (formally known as EDF Suez).

For information on this year's Tocqueville Challenge Jury, as well as more information on the projects, company partners and associations, please see attached briefing sheet or visit the Tocqueville Foundation website: www.tocquevillefoundation.org.

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The Tocqueville Foundation is an international grant-making, prize-awarding and operating foundation registered in France under the auspices of the Institut de France. Its mission and vision are deeply rooted in Alexis de Tocqueville's social and political thought, and particularly his belief in the fundamental contribution of civil society to democratic and economic development. The Tocqueville Foundation fosters a dynamic civil society through learning, innovation and engagement. By promoting strategic philanthropy and social investing, building bridges across borders and generations, the Tocqueville Foundation promotes a well-developed and effective civil society where individuals, acting together, address common problems and build sustainable social equity for future generations. www.tocquevillefoundation.org.