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## CoronaSurveys, selected as Finalist in Pandemic Response Challenge

[XPRIZE](#), the world's leader in designing and operating incentive competitions to **solve humanity's grand challenges**, in partnership with Cognizant, one of the world's leading technology and professional services companies, have announced that 48 teams from 17 countries are advancing to the final round of the \$500K Pandemic Response Challenge. Teams competing in Phase 2 will develop artificial intelligence-driven models (courtesy of supporting partner AWS) to prescribe actions for safely reopening society and limiting economic impact while minimizing COVID-19 transmissions (conclusion of the challenge: February 26, 2021).



The Pandemic Response Challenge aims to **harness the power of data and Artificial Intelligence** in equipping policymakers, health officials, and business leaders with insights and guidance necessary to implement public safety measures and **safely deliver the vaccine**, maximizing their ability to keep local economies open while minimizing potential virus breakouts. Additionally, organizers hope the Challenge will advance the use of AI and data in addressing other humanitarian challenges. Finalist teams were selected from **104 semifinalists from 28 countries** following an independent judging panel's assessment of teams' predictions of COVID-19 transmission rates and patterns.

Among these participants, [CoronaSurveys](#), led by [Antonio Fernández Anta](#), Research Professor

at IMDEA Networks and project promoter since March 2020, is one of the 2 only Spanish finalists. CoronaSurveys is a collaborative endeavour from several universities and research institutions, with **data about COVID-19 cases collected via anonymous open surveys**. The results present estimations on the incidence and evolution of COVID-19 (and for vaccinated persons or for those unwilling to be vaccinated) obtained from this data, using the Network Scale-up Method.

Amir Banifatemi, Chief Innovation and Growth Officer of XPRIZE notes: “Within a very short time frame, this challenge has shown encouraging results that leverage Artificial Intelligence at the service of social impact”.

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## **About XPRIZE**

*XPRIZE, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the global leader in designing and implementing innovative competition models to solve the world's grandest challenges. Active competitions include the \$100M XPRIZE Carbon Removal, \$20 Million NRG COSIA Carbon XPRIZE, the \$10 Million Rainforest XPRIZE, the \$10 Million ANA Avatar XPRIZE, the \$5 Million IBM Watson AI XPRIZE, \$5 Million XPRIZE Rapid Reskilling, \$5 Million XPRIZE Rapid COVID Testing, and \$500K Pandemic Response Challenge. For more information, visit [xprize.org](http://xprize.org).*

**Source(s): IMDEA Networks Institute**

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## **About us**

**IMDEA Networks Institute, promoted by the Regional Government of Madrid, is a research organization on computer and communication networks** whose multinational team is engaged in cutting-edge fundamental science and technology. As a growing, English speaking institute located in Madrid, Spain, IMDEA Networks offers a unique opportunity for pioneering scientists to develop their ideas. IMDEA Networks has established itself internationally at the forefront in the **development of future network principles and technologies**. Our team of highly-reputed researchers is designing and creating today the networks of tomorrow.

**Some keywords that define us:** 5G, Big Data, blockchains and distributed ledgers, cloud computing, content delivery networks, data analytics, energy-efficient networks, fog and edge computing, indoor positioning, Internet of Things (IoT), machine learning, millimeter-wave communication, mobile computing, network economics, network measurements, network security, networked systems, network protocols and algorithms, network virtualization (software defined networks – SDN and network function virtualization – NFV), privacy, social networks, underwater networks, vehicular networks, wireless networks and more...

IMDEA Networks Institute  
28918 Leganes (Madrid) Spain  
Avda. del Mar Mediterráneo, 22

+34 91 481 6210  
[mediarelations.networks@imdea.org](mailto:mediarelations.networks@imdea.org)  
[www.networks.imdea.org](http://www.networks.imdea.org)

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