

Innovate Green Competition

“Achieving the SDGs through Entrepreneurship and Innovation”



Target Group:

Individuals or groups of up to 3 university students with innovative solutions addressing environmental challenges, in any commercial stage (from concept to established business). Female students are strongly encouraged to apply (all applicants must be at least 18 years of age).

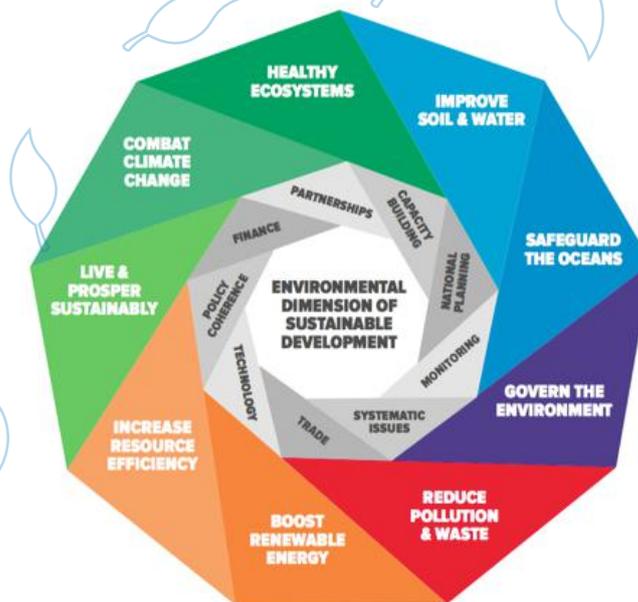
Deadline For Submission: February 9th, 2019

Competition Background:

The Innovate Green Competition (IGC) is a cooperative initiative that aims to stimulate and unleash entrepreneurship and innovation within university students in the Middle East and North Africa. The competition will provide the students with an opportunity to make a positive impact on society by addressing environmental issues through social and technological innovation, whilst contributing to their own economic benefit.

Organising Committee

The competition is jointly organised by the United Nations Environment West Asia Regional Office and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Investment Technology and Promotions Office (ITPO) Bahrain, and through the sponsorship of The First Energy. The competition aims to focus on;



- **Environmental sustainability**, outlined by the UN Sustainable Development Goals: 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
- **Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**, as highlighted on SDG 9
- **Gender Equality in Manufacturing** and the role of women entrepreneurship (SDG 5)
- **Green Chemistry**, to eliminate or reduce the use or generation of hazardous substances across the life cycle of a product
- **Circular Economy**; through practices such as, designing waste out of products, using waste as a resource, or through the repair, reuse, remanufacture, refurbishment of products and materials to maintain value in the economy

Competition Objectives:

The Competition will incentivise university students regionally (Middle East & North Africa) to participate in submitting their innovative ideas and businesses through a Business Plan Template, with the opportunity of having it reviewed and recognised by designated experts. The Competition, through its sponsors and partners, will award students for their efforts and play an active role in inspiring and unleashing the spirit of innovation to tackle global environmental challenges while facilitating the provision of support services to convert these ideas into action.

Competition Criteria:

The following criteria will be the main points of focus, upon which the application will be judged. It is important to adequately address each of these factors, in order to successfully present a well-rounded business plan. Criteria details:

Impactful Business Idea

- Environment Impact
- Social Impact
- Economic Impact

Innovative Product or Service

- Technologically Innovative
- Uniqueness
- Disruptive Innovation
- Appeal Factor

Marketable

- Defined target market
- Relevant to the market
- Clear marketing strategy
- Feasible & Realistic start-up costs

Process Efficiency

- Energy efficiency
- Water efficiency
- Reduced emissions
- Resource management

Zero-Waste Policy

- Waste management practices
- Biodegradable or Upgradeable Product
- Increased longevity (shelf-life)
- Eco-friendly Packaging



Prizes & Award Ceremony:

One member from each of the top three teams will be awarded during the 4th UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from March 11th to 15th 2019. *(For more information on the UNEA-4, see Appendix 1 below)*

The top three winners will receive the following prizes:

1st Place: A cash prize of USD 10,000

2nd Place: A cash prize of USD 7,000

3rd Place: A cash prize of USD 3,000

In addition to that, a team member from the top three teams/applicants will be sponsored (Economy ticket and Accommodation) to attend and take part in the 4th UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya.

All three winning teams/applicants will additionally be rewarded with:

- An official certificate from the UN Environment and UNIDO ITPO Bahrain
- Increased visibility for their initiative through the various partners and supporters
- Access to UNIDO ITPO Bahrain's EDIP program and entrepreneurs

The top 25 teams/ applicants will be provided the following:

- An online EDIP boot camp run by UNIDO ITPO Bahrain (AICEI).

IMPORTANT:

Before applying, please make sure you are able to adhere to the following requirements and responsibilities.

Application Participation Criteria

- All team members must be current and enrolled university students (Bachelors, Masters or PhD Students)
- Applicants must be at least 18 of age
- Open to individuals or teams of up to 3 people; teams must include at least one female member
- All teams MUST nominate a team member to represent the team at the UNEA-4 in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Open to students with innovative solutions to environmental problems
- Applications must be made using a Business Plan Template
- The working language for all documents and communication related to the competition must be completed in English

Application Exclusion Criteria:

- The following individuals cannot participate, directly or indirectly, in the competition: Non-university students, Employees of Organisers or its subsidiaries, affiliates, as well as companies wherein above mentioned companies have an equity stake.
- Applications submitted for the competition that potentially conflict with any laws and the Organisers code of conducts will be declined.
- Plagiarism of the business idea and/or elements of the business plan.
- Missing or misleading information in the application may lead to a decline of participation without further explanations.
- Failure to apply or submit the application before indicated deadlines.

Considerations:

- Be able to travel to Nairobi (11th to 15th of March 2019)
- Must possess a passport valid for at least 6 months, with at least 2 blank pages
- Be able to apply for and obtain a visa
- Be able to support themselves financially during the duration of the stay in Nairobi
- Must prepare and deliver a short presentation about their business plan at the award ceremony

Organisers post-selection responsibilities to the winners:

UNIDO ITPO Bahrain and the UN Environment will:

- Provide an official invitation letter
- Purchase travel tickets to and from Nairobi
- Provide health insurance for the duration of stay
- Arrange accommodation



Submission Steps:

All interested candidates will submit their applications online; candidates can register on the below webpage to receive information and download a Business Plan template, or communicate by email.

To apply, please go to:

www.innovategreencompetition.com

For more information, please email:

info@innovategreencompetition.com

Deadline for submission: February 9th, 2019

Further inquiries will **only** be answered from the provided email contact.

Applicants and their applications confirm their agreement to the Competition Terms & Conditions once submitting their applications.*

Process:

A. Submission and Screening

- Received Business Plans (using the business plan template) will be screened based on the exclusion criteria defined and sorted according to meeting the mandatory and optimal requirements, as defined.

B. Evaluation and Shortlisting:

- A technical committee consisting of representatives and business counsellors of Organisers ("Jury") will be assigned to verify and evaluation applications.
- Members of this Jury may vary for each round, and will shortlist applications using the evaluation criteria (listed above), to arrive at the top 25 semi-finalists.
- Jury may require Participants to provide additional information concerning their applications, and will contact such Participants using the contact details included in the submission form (email, telephone number).

C. Final Judging/Jury:

- A panel of technical experts (Judges) will identify the top three finalists from the shortlist.

D. Awarding Ceremony:

- The nominated team member for each of the top three teams will be invited to attend the awarding ceremony, to be held during the 4th Session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) in Nairobi, Kenya from the 11th to 15th of March 2019. The selected finalists will be awarded after their short presentation in Nairobi during UN Environment Assembly.

Further considerations:

- By submitting the application for consideration, the candidate attests that:
 - It is an original self-written business plan by him/her/them.
 - The business plan has not been submitted or published in the past.
- Participants whose contact information changes during the course of the competition are responsible for notifying UNIDO ITPO Bahrain.
- The organising committee reserves the right to disqualify candidates who breach the competition criteria.
- Decisions taken by the judges are final. Entrant agrees to comply with and be bound by the decisions of the panel of judges on all matters associated with the competition.
- Winners allow UNIDO ITPO Bahrain and the UN Environment to use their names, photographs and business plans for promotional and publicity purposes.

Terms of Use:

- The Participants declare that they have the absolute ownership of the Project submitted for the competition and it is not subject to the conflict concerning intellectual and/or industrial property rights (trademarks, patents, copyrights, etc.).
- Participants agree to indemnify and not to hold IGC organisers, its affiliates and partners responsible in the event that a third party initiates any claim, lawsuit or complaint within any forum, whether judicial or administrative agency against IGC organisers, concerning or in connection with the above-mentioned rights.
- IGC organisers, its affiliates and partners shall not be held liable to the Participants or others for the viability or results of projects, or participate in the ownership or management of the Projects.





APPENDIX

Appendix: 1

UN Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly is the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment. It addresses the critical environmental challenges facing the world today. Understanding these challenges and preserving and rehabilitating our environment is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Environment Assembly meets biennially to set priorities for global environmental policies and develop international environmental law. Through its resolutions and calls to action, the Assembly provides leadership and catalyses intergovernmental action on the environment. Decision-making requires broad participation, which is why the Assembly provides an opportunity for all peoples to help design solutions for our planet's health.

Fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly

Theme: "Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production"

The theme for the upcoming session the UN Environment Assembly is the Innovative solutions, covering policies, financing, technologies, partnerships and multistakeholder processes – are key both to solving many environmental challenges, as well as to accelerating sustainable development more generally. This recognition of the need of transformative change to support Agenda 2030, already highlighted in at the 2nd and 3rd sessions of the UN Environment Assembly, directly underpins the choice of the overarching theme for the fourth session of the Environment Assembly by Member States in Nairobi in March 2019.

Events during the UN Environment Assembly

The following events will take place during the 4th session of the UN Environment Assembly:

- Exhibitions
- Science, Policy and Business Forum
- Sustainable Innovation Expo
- Side events

