

This Challenge is organised by BAIF Development Research Foundation (BAIF) (the “**Organiser**”) in collaboration with International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

The aim of these Rules is to set out the terms and conditions governing your participation in the Challenge. By participating in this Challenge, you fully and unconditionally agree to comply with these Rules. If you do not agree with any of these Rules, do not register for this Challenge and do not submit an entry.

## **Definitions**

“**Organiser**”: BAIF Development Research Foundation

“**Challenge**”: Circular Bio-Economy Innovation Challenge

“**Participant**”: any eligible person/team of maximum 4 members who has registered to participate in the Challenge.

## **1. TERM**

This Challenge begins on **August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8:00 IST** and ends on **October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 IST**. The Registration and Innovation submission Phase (Online) will run from **August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8:00 IST** to **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 IST**. The Boot camp and Grand finals will take place on **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2024** at Pune (Offline). The Challenge will be accessible 24 hours a day on the dedicated website operated under at <https://baif.org.in/innovation-challenge#>, subject to IT maintenance operations.

## **2. AGREEING TO THE RULES**

Any eligible person/team who enrolls to participate in the Challenge (“Participant”), is required to review and accept these Rules. By accessing and accepting these Rules, Participant:

- acknowledge that the registration for and enrolment into the Challenge does not create any other relationship between the Organiser and the Participant other than participation in the Challenge, and
- fully and unconditionally agree to comply with these Rules. Participants express their agreement by checking a virtual box while enrolling for the Challenge.

In case of non-respect or breach of these Rules, the Participant will be immediately disqualified from the Challenge and no prize will be awarded to such disqualified Participants.

## **3. REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE CHALLENGE**

To take part in the Challenge, the Organiser must receive your completed registration and Deliverables for Round 1 by **10<sup>th</sup> September, 2024, 23:59 IST**

To register, the Participant must first have duly filled the registration form shared through the invitation or the Website, have received a confirmation mail from the Organiser and must have truthfully and accurately completed the required information.

Any registration based on inaccurate, false or incomplete information will result in the Participant's disqualification.

The Participant is solely responsible for the information he/she provides when registering. Any intentional or unintentional mistake, anomaly or inconsistency, regarding this information, may result in the Participant's disqualification.

**Registration for and participation in the Challenge is free, with no purchase or payment obligation.**

#### **4. ELIGIBILITY**

This Challenge is open and offered solely to:

- Students regardless of their subject background who are currently pursuing their Graduation, or Post-graduation from any university registered in India
- Any individual or team of students that meet the following conditions are eligible to participate:
  1. Has an interest in developing innovative circularity solutions around
  2. Is not a member or directly involved in any private commercial enterprise

All the documents that may confirm the Participant's eligibility may be required prior to awarding any prizes (e.g. identity document, student ID from the institute etc.).

All participants **must** submit their Deliverables in **ENGLISH**.

#### **5. PURPOSE OF THE CHALLENGE AND PARTICIPATION**

The purpose of organizing a Challenge around the topic of circularity models for bio/organic waste is to foster innovation and creativity in tackling one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time. By engaging young minds in this event, we aim to inspire a deeper understanding of the principles of circularity—where waste is not just disposed of, but transformed into valuable resources, creating a closed-loop system. This Challenge will provide a platform for students to brainstorm, collaborate, and develop novel solutions that can effectively manage and repurpose organic waste. Through this process, participants will gain hands-on experience in sustainability practices, enhance their problem-solving skills, and potentially uncover ground breaking approaches that can be scaled and implemented in real-world scenarios. Ultimately, this initiative will not only contribute to environmental sustainability but also cultivate a generation of environmentally conscious innovators.

Participation in the Challenge must be as a Student.

- Student participants can enter the Contest individually or in teams.
- During the registration process, Students participating as a team must designate one individual who is part of the team for contact purposes with the Organiser. This person will be responsible for registering the team at the Challenge and communications will be to this person's email id.

## 6. DELIVERABLES

During the Challenge, Participants may upload any documents or other materials (such as texts, presentations, videos, etc.) relating to their innovation to the Challenge Website/mail in response to the Organiser's requirements for evaluation (the "**Deliverable**").

To be eligible, Deliverables must (i) address the specific issue set out in the Brief, (ii) be in a common digital format, such as PDF, MP4, and (iii) be in English

If a Deliverable cannot be downloaded, is not in the right format or is incompatible, illegible, or unintelligible, the Deliverable will be disqualified.

When submitting a Deliverable, the following must be complied with:

- The Deliverable includes contributions that are exclusively from the participant or participant team
- Otherwise, if content from a third party has been used in the development of the Deliverable, proper referencing must be adopted
- No other individual and/or entity is entitled to claim any rights from the use of the Deliverable

## 7. CHALLENGE PROCESS

**Challenge Rounds.** The Challenge consists of two rounds:

- **Round One - Qualifiers.** Registration and Innovation submission will be accepted from **August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 8:00 IST to September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 IST**. At the end of this Round, participants will be selected to proceed to Round Two based on adherence to the Challenge objectives and score as per the judging criteria.
- **Boot Camp and Grand Finals - October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (tentative).** The final round and boot camp will be held at Pune.

Physical boot camp - **October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (tentative).** The participant will be required to attend the Physical boot camp at Pune as part of the Finals. Participation in boot camp is compulsory for all selected participants. Failure to participate will result in disqualification. All participants will be notified directly with any updates related to the final round. **Travel and lodging for the participants will be covered by the Organiser.**

**Deliverable.** If a Participant does not upload a Deliverable on the Challenge Website/email before the deadline, this will be considered as a withdrawal from the Challenge.

**Selection Criteria.** Deliverables will be judged according to the Selection Criteria, described below. You agree and acknowledge that the Challenge relies on your creativity, capacity, ability, and ingenuity to solve difficult problems. The Challenge does not depend, even partially, on chance or luck, and therefore should not be considered as a lottery. Under no circumstances are factors such as appearance, religion, political opinions or sexual orientation considered.

Notification to Participants. Once selection has been completed, Participants will be notified by email of the results of each Round. The Organiser will be free to alter the dates on which results are released should this become necessary due to the number of projects to be assessed.

## **A. Round One - Qualifiers**

All Round One Deliverables must be submitted by **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 IST**. Deliverables must meet the specifications set out in Section 6, above, and include:

1. Registration of the Individual/team as per the registration form
2. A presentation of their innovative solution, in English and produced in PDF format with up to 15 slides to explain their Innovation.
3. A short video of maximum 3 minutes explaining the Innovation
4. Presentation and video needs to be submitted along with the registration form

Selection phase following Round One will proceed as follows:

“Criteria based” scoring will take place from **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 IST**

The Judges (the “Judges”) may evaluate and select the Deliverables based on their content and the following criteria:

- 20% - Conceptual Clarity
- 20% - Technical Depth
- 20% - Technical & Financial Feasibility
- 10% - Level of Innovation
- 10% - Social Impact
- 10% - Environmental Impact
- 10% - Presentation

Up to **[5-10]** participants with the highest score will be selected to proceed to the next round.

Participants will be informed of the results of the Round One by **September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 23:59 IST**

## **B. Round Two- Boot Camp and Grand Finals**

The Organiser will notify Participants who have been selected to participate in the Boot camp and Finals directly by email to the address provided during registration. In the event a Participant does not confirm his/her attendance for the Finals, the Organiser reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify this Participant. This disqualification shall not entitle the Participant to claim any kind of compensation from the Organiser and the participant will not be eligible for any prizes.

The Boot camp and final round will take place from **October 7th to October 8th, 2024 at Pune**. Venue will be communicated later.

Final Round of the Challenge: The top 5 participants will present their innovations in person to a panel of domain experts.

Format: 20 minutes for presenting their innovative solution, 10 min Q&A (LIVE).

The Top 2 participating teams will be selected at the end of the final round.

## **8. PRIZE**

The prizes are awarded to the winners of the Challenge as per the following sequence.

Grand Prize – Top Innovative solution– Rs 50,000/-

1<sup>st</sup> Runner up – Rs 30,000/-

Other three finalists – Rs. 10,000/-

*\*The prize will be awarded to the team or individual responsible for developing the winning innovative solution. In the case of a team, the prize will be presented to the team as a whole, rather than to individual members of the team.*