The Programme of the Global Development Public Policy Youth Innovation Contest

Food security (i.e., everyone has access to safe and nutritious food) is fundamental to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is explicitly stated in Sustainable Development Goal 2 ("Zero Hunger") and is interwoven throughout all the goals. Eliminating extreme poverty, addressing climate challenges, and building community resilience are all inseparable from the task of ensuring food security.

Eliminating hunger is central to the work of the FAO and a core goal for all nations. United Nations member states are committed to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger worldwide by 2030. FAO is assisting countries in achieving this by developing and implementing evidence-based poverty reduction policies, strategies, and programs that promote inclusive growth and sustainable livelihoods.

The theme of this competition centers around food security and poverty elimination. Based on the 20 key areas of the FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-2031, the topics are set as follows:

Brief Introduction

The "Global Development Public Policy Youth Innovation Contest" invites young university students from renowned global institutions to delve into typical issues, practical challenges, and vivid practices in the field of global development public policy theoretically and practically. Teams are invited to propose innovative solutions for current policies from youth perspectives. This contest serves as a cutting-edge platform for young students to explore theoretical and practical aspects of sustainable development, aiming to cultivate their perspicacious issue awareness and innovative ways of thinking. It enhances their ability to analyze and solve practical problems using theoretical knowledge and fosters the development of globally competent governance as future leaders.

The year 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the 10th anniversary of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The "Global Development Public Policy Youth Innovation Competition" gathers students from well-known universities worldwide to contribute youth wisdom and solutions to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. This reflects the mission and responsibility of universities in China, represented by Renmin University of China, and global youth, including Chinese university students, to jointly promote global development and build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Organizing institutions

1. Guiding and Technical Support Organizations

Guiding Organization: All-China Youth Federation

Support Organization: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

2. Organizers

Renmin University of China, Universities Alliance of Young Ambassadors

3. Organizing Committee

The Youth League Committee of Renmin University of China organized and coordinated the relevant institutions to form the organizing committee of this contest. The member institutions within Renmin University of China include: The Chenghai Institute of Global Development and Security, School of Global and Area Studies, International Office of RUC, School of Agricultural Economies and Rural Development, School of Global Governance, Language Center for International Communication and International Competence, Youth League Committee of Renmin University of China, etc.

The Youth League Committee of Renmin University of China assumes the function of the secretariat.

4. Academic Support

Under the guidance of Renmin University of China's Intramural Alliance for Global Studies, this contest is based on the research team and scientific research achievements of research platforms such as Center for Global Catchwords, Center for Global Development and Public Policy, Center for Global Public Opinion Survey, Center for Global Dynamics Analysis, and the journal --- Global Development Strategy Review. We invited important teaching and research institutions such as School of Agricultural Economies and Rural Development, School of Global and Area Studies, National Academy of Development and Strategy, Center for National Security Studies, Language Center for International Communication and International Competence, and others to provide academic support for the contest.

The Scope and Format of the Contest

The contest adopts the approach of invitation-only. The organizer will invite global well-known universities with a strong disciplinary foundation in world politics, public policy, and food and agriculture to participate in this contest. Each university selects one team to participate and form a policy proposal.

The Theme of this Contest: Food Security and Poverty Alleviation

The current state of food security and poverty in the world has changed dramatically since FAO began reporting on the issue of hunger in the world in 1974 for the first time. A series of pressures, including rapid population growth, urbanization, wealth growth, and accompanying changes in consumption patterns, are challenging our food system's ability to provide nutritious food. The global trend of food security is very worrying - multiple forms of malnutrition require us to rethink food security and poverty eradication issues. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) declares in its 2022-2031 Strategic Framework that food and agriculture are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and agriculture is the most inclusive tool for eradicating poverty and ensuring food security for all. It also proposes to build a more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agricultural food system, achieving better production, better nutrition, better environment, and better life, and providing organizational principles for achieving Sustainable Development Goals 1 (zero poverty), 2 (zero hunger), and 10 (reducing inequality), as well as supporting the broader agenda of sustainable development goals. Food security (i.e., everyone has access to safe and nutritious food) is fundamental to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is explicitly stated in Sustainable Development Goal 2 ("Zero Hunger") and is interwoven throughout all the goals. Eliminating extreme poverty, addressing climate challenges, and building community resilience are all inseparable from the task of ensuring food security.

Eliminating hunger is central to the work of the FAO and a core goal for all countries around the world. United Nations member states are committed to eliminating extreme poverty and hunger around the world by 2030. The Food and Agriculture Organization is helping countries promote inclusive growth and sustainable livelihoods by developing and implementing evidence-based poverty alleviation policies, strategies, and programs. The theme of this contest centers around food security and poverty elimination. Based on the 20 key areas of the FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-2031, the topics are set as follows:

Participants can choose topics that include, but are not limited to, the following areas. The chosen topics should allow for comprehensive discussion of the issue from multiple perspectives while avoiding overly broad scopes. The contest seeks case studies that effectively integrate narrative storytelling with sufficient data, showcasing participants' solid policy knowledge and exceptional analytical skills.

Key Areas of the Plan	Outcome Statement	Specific Numbers for Sustainable Development Goals
Better Production	Establish efficient and inclusive food and agriculture supply chains at local, regional, and global levels, ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, and enabling food systems to remain resilient and sustainable in the face of changing climates and environments.	
Better Production 1: Promoting innovation for sustainable agricultural production	With favorable technological and policy support, establish sustainable, high-yield, resilient, innovative, and competitive crop, livestock, and forestry production systems, while creating integrated entrepreneurial and business opportunities, including for small-scale and vulnerable producers.	2.3, 2.4, 6.4, 15.2
Better Production 2: Blue Transformation	Improve policies and plans to promote integrated scientific management, technological innovation, and private sector collaboration, fostering a more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable blue food system.	2.1, 2.2, 14.2, 14.4, 14.6, 14.7, 14.b, 14.c
Better Production 3: One Health	Enhance pest and disease prevention, early warning systems, and national and global health risk management, including antimicrobial resistance. Strengthen and improve the functioning of national and international "One Health" integrated systems to promote the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment.	1.5, 3.d, 15.8
Better Production 4: Fair Access to Resources for Small-scale Producers	Refine policies, strategies, and plans to ensure that small-scale producers and family farmers have strengthened and equitable access to economic and natural resources, markets, services, information, education, and technology.	1.4, 2.3, 2.4, 9.3
Better Production 5: Digital Agriculture	Facilitate the use of digital information and communication technologies to enhance market opportunities, production levels, and resilience. Integrate these into agrifood system policies and plans, with a focus on ensuring affordability and equitable access for rural poor and vulnerable populations.	1.4, 5.b, 9.c, 17.8
Better Nutrition	Eliminate hunger, achieve food security, and improve all forms of nutrition, including promoting nutritious foods and increasing access to healthy diets.	
Better Production 1: Healthy Diets for All	Create an integrated institutional, policy, and legal environment to ensure and incentivize the participation of consumers and the private sector, with a focus on realizing the right to adequate food for all citizens and facilitating the transition to healthy diets.	1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, .4, 12.8 14.b
Better Production 2: Ensuring Nutrition for the Most Vulnerable	Countries should develop and implement targeted policies, strategies, and plans, with a particular focus on identifying and addressing all forms of food insecurity and malnutrition among the most vulnerable individuals.	1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2
Better Production 3: Safe Food for All	Governments should develop and implement comprehensive, multi-sectoral food safety policies and legislation covering the national agrifood system, while enhancing the capacity and awareness of value chain operators and consumers.	2.1, 2.2, 3.2
Better Production 4: Reducing Food Loss and Waste	Governments and intergovernmental organizations should formulate and implement clear, specific, and locally tailored roadmaps to promote and mobilize stakeholders in the food supply chain, food environments, and at the consumer level to reduce food loss and waste.	2.1, 2.2, 12.3
Better Production 5: Market and Trade Transparency	Promote policy coordination and capacity building for individuals and institutions to enhance evidence-based decision-making, thereby improving market transparency and promoting fair participation in markets, global value chains, and international trade.	2.b, 2.c, 10.a, 17.11

Key Areas of the Plan	Outcome Statement	Specific Numbers for Sustainable Development Goals
Better environment	Protect, restore, and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems through a more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agricultural food system, while addressing climate change (mitigating impacts, reusing, recycling, and managing residues).	
Better environment 1: Climate change mitigating and adapted agrifood systems	Develop and implement climate-smart agricultural practices, policies, and programs to drive the transformation and resilience of agricultural food systems, achieving sustainable development and the goals of *the Paris Agreement*.	2.4, 13.1, 13.2, 13.b, 14.3
Better environment 2: Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture	Utilize technological, organizational, and social innovations to formulate and implement comprehensive, evidence-based micro and macro policies and practices that promote the bioeconomy while balancing economic value, social welfare, and environmental sustainability.	12.2, 12.4, 12.5
Better environment 3: Biodiversity and ecosystem services for food and agriculture	Adopt targeted policies and practices to maintain food and agricultural biodiversity and promote the sustainable use, protection, and restoration of marine, terrestrial, and freshwater ecosystems and their services.	2.5, 14.4, 15.1, 15.3, 15.4 15.6
Better life	Reduce inequalities (between urban and rural areas, rich and poor countries, and among genders) and promote inclusive economic growth.	
Better life 1: Gender equality and rural women's empowerment	Ensure that women have equal access to and control over resources, services, technologies, institutions, economic opportunities, and decision-making through the promotion of gender-equal policies, strategies, programs, and legal frameworks. Eliminate discriminatory laws and customs.	2.3, 5.4, 5.a, 5.c
Better life 2: Inclusive rural transformation	Implement targeted policies, strategies, and programs to accelerate inclusive rural transformation and rural revitalization, ensuring equal participation and benefits for the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized groups	1.1, 8.3, 8.5, 10.1, 10.2, 10.7, 14.b
Better life 3: Achieve a sustainable urban food system	National and local stakeholders should adopt supportive policies and programs to initiate and expand actions and investments, driving the transformation of more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban and peri-urban agricultural food systems. This will address urban poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition, promote healthy diets, and facilitate inclusive and sustainable rural transformation.	1.1 2.1, 11.a, 12.1
Better life 4: Agriculture and food emergencies	Provide emergency livelihoods and nutrition assistance to countries facing or at risk of acute food insecurity, focusing on humanitarian-development nexus initiative and their contributions to peace. This will empower communities to better withstand shocks and manage risks in the future.	1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 16.1
Better life 5: Resilient agrifood systems	Deepen the understanding of multiple risks, improve effective governance mechanisms, and promote the implementation of measures to reduce vulnerability, thereby enhancing the resilience of agricultural food systems and livelihoods against socioeconomic and environmental shocks and pressures.	1.3, 1.5, 2.4
Better life 6: Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Initiative	Through analysis and partnerships, target the poorest and hungriest populations, implement localized strategies, and bring together all stakeholders of agricultural food systems to accelerate agricultural transformation and sustainable rural development.	1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.a, 10.1, 10.2
Better life 7: Scaling up investment	Increase public and private investments and improve the capacity to make effective use of future investments, thereby accelerating the transition to sustainable agricultural food systems and exerting a broad impact on reducing inequality and eliminating poverty and hunger.	1.b, 2.a, 10.1, 10.2, 10.b, 17.5

Proposal Requirements

The proposal should revolve around the theme and be based on the principle of "one proposal for one case". Feasible proposals should be proposed accordingly through solid research and case analysis that combines theory and practice. The main body of the proposal should include the parts of **a brief introduction of the proposal, issue analysis (integrating research findings), policy design, and feasibility analysis.**

Notes:

①Proposals should be based on practical research, with specific issues analyzed in depth; the topics should be representative, valuable for discussion, and offer room for further study;

②Proposals should offer innovative and feasible policy suggestions or solutions;

③Research on the chosen topic can be conducted through various methods, including material collection, field research, and thematic interviews.

For detailed proposal writing requirements, please refer to Appendix 2.

Event Schedule and Timeline

(1) Global intra-university selection(November - January of the following year)

Selected universities around the world will be invited to organize their teams of students to conduct research and formulate proposals. By February of the following year, each participating university should select one team to represent the university in the Global Development Public Policy Youth Innovation Contest. The selected teams should submit their team information and proposal designs via email to the contest organizing committee.

(3) Global Intercontinental Selection (January - February of the following year)

The committee will organize the contest into regional divisions based on the geographic location of the participating universities. All submitted proposals will be reviewed in the first round by interdisciplinary experts and scholars organized by the committee, and the advancing teams from each division will be selected according to the scores given by the expert group. Experts' feedback will be provided to the advancing teams and their proposals to encourage further refinement and improvement.

The specific number of teams advancing from each region division is as follows:

a)1 team from Africa, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania region divisions;

b)2 teams from the China division;

c)3 teams from the Asian division.

(4) Offline presentation and visit (early April of the following year)

The shortlisted proposals will be collected and the participating teams will gather in Beijing for demonstration, idea exchanges, and program evaluations, primarily in the form of proposal defenses. Expert committee members will be invited to conduct on-site evaluation and provide guidance. Meanwhile, academic exchanges and institutional visits related to the proposals will be organized. The visit to China is expected to last for 7 days.

The offline demonstration evaluation will consist of two sessions. First, the participating teams will present their proposals (15 minutes), and then the expert panel of the contest will ask questions based on the proposals, and the teams will respond in a defense session (30 minutes).

Time		Event Schedule	Location
Day 1	Afternoon	Team registration and hotel check-in	Tongzhou District, Beijing
	Evening	Welcome Ceremony & Icebreaking Event	
Day 2	Morning	Proposal evaluation and defense (5 teams)	
	Afternoon	Proposal evaluation and defense (5 teams)	
	Evening	Lecture by Global Public Policy Experts	
Day 3	Morning	Team visits to agricultural enterprises (event sponsors)	Beijing
	Afternoon	Visit to the FAO Beijing Office and expert discussions	
	Evening	Dinner and academic exchanges at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse	
Day 4	All day	Visit the Great Wall and the Palace Museum; Optional visit to Chairman Mao Memorial Hall	
Day 5	Morning	Take high-speed train to Xi'an, Shaanxi Province	Xi'an
	Afternoon	Visit the Qinling Giant Panda Breeding Center and interact with China's National Treasure, the Pandas	
	Evening	Visit Datang Everbright City and experience the historical and cultural heritage of Xi'an, the ancient capital of thirteen dynasties	
Day 6	Morning	Visit Xi'an Yangling Agricultural Demonstration Zone (National Agricultural High-tech Demonstration Zone) to experience the agricultural practices on the Loess Plateau; Visit Northwest A&F University	
	Afternoon	The launch of the *Global Public Policy Youth Initiative* and the closing ceremony of the Global Development Public Policy Youth Innovation Contest, with a group photo.	
Day 7	All day	Free time for participating teams, including leaving Beijing or China	

Incentives

The contest will offer winning prizes. The academic transformation of the winning proposals will be encouraged, and expert consultation and research assistance will be provided to winning teams with relevant intentions. For outstanding participants, the board of directors of the alliance will confer corresponding awards and recommend them to apply for the United Nations on-the-job training program.

Support and Guarantees

To enhance the appeal of the contest and ensure the smooth implementation of the research conducted by participating teams, the contest will provide financial subsidies to teams based on the preliminary review scores of their proposals. The teams will be categorized into Category I (10 teams) and Category II (15 teams). Category I teams will receive subsidies for both a round-trip airfare and on-ground reception in China. Category II teams will receive subsidies that cover only the on-ground reception in China. The round-trip airfare subsidy standards for Category I teams in offline exhibition is RMB 7,000 per person for teams from China, RMB 15,000 per person for teams from other Asian regions, and RMB 30,000 per person for teams from other regions.

The Organizing Committee of the Global Development Public Policy Youth Innovation Contest

September, 2024

Proposal Writing Guidelines

Overall Requirements

Please write a proposal on the theme of "Food Security and Poverty Alleviation". With the principle of "one proposal for one case", the proposal is expected to be topic-centered and raised through practical research and case analyses combining theories and practices. The proposal should include the parts of **proposal introduction, issue analysis, program design, and feasibility analysis.**

Word Count Requirement

The main text of the proposal should not exceed 7,000 words (excluding research materials).

Topic Requirements

The topic should address real-world problems and highlight the necessity and feasibility of the issues. Three aspects should be included:

(1) Authenticity: The events, people, and timelines in the case must be real. By reading and analyzing these objective problems, readers can gain practical, problem-related insights and skills that will serve them in future similar situations.

(2) Typicality: A typical case should have significant impact and meaning. Therefore, they are valuable to be discussed and studied, which can provide useful inspirations for the readers' management practice and understanding of social operations.

(3) Conflict: The conflicts within the case should focus on the dilemmas and challenges faced by the parties, as well as the conflicting interests of different stakeholders. These can be reflected in differing viewpoints on the same decision, differing perspectives on an action, or the pros and cons of various decision-making options.

Writing Requirements

The proposal should focus on a real-world case and present it in an objective and impartial manner. The proposal should include the parts of proposal introduction, issue analysis, program design and feasibility analysis.

(1) A brief introduction of the proposal: The proposal is expected to clearly and concisely highlight the key issues of concern and its significance to "Food Security and Poverty Alleviation".

(2) Issue analysis: The proposal is expected to analyze the root causes of the problem based on research findings, highlight the real contradictions and social impacts, and stress the significance of the problem.

(3) Program design: Teams are required to use their background knowledge and professional skills to provide an effective solution to the problem, detailing the rationale and operational logic behind the design.

(4) Feasibility analysis: The proposal needs to evaluate the feasibility of the proposed solutions on the basis of field research.

Evaluation Criteria

(1) Language Use (10%)
 Use of clear, concise language with no errors or redundancies, and clear viewpoints.
(2) Content Quality (40%)
Presentation of case analysis based on authentic and well-researched information, with rich content and well-structured arguments that accurately and clearly reflect the case.
(3) Research Framework (10%)
Application of relevant theories and research methodologies, with a clear and logical structure.
(4) Research and Data Evaluation (20%)
Inclusion of sufficient and authentic research material, demonstrating depth and thoroughness.
(5) Innovation and Feasibility (20%)
Provision of innovative and feasible policy recommendations or solutions.

Formatting Guidelines

The report should be written in English with page numbers and the project title.

The title page should include you and your group members' name, university, design date, and issue area. Set the font of the main title to **20-point Times New Roman**, and that of the subtitle to **16-point Times New Roman**. Center the titles. The outline page should include the theme sentences and the outline.

Set the font to **16-point Times New Roman**. Mark the main outlines in **capital Roman numerals**, and mark the secondary outlines in lower case English letter. Set the font of the main body to **12-point Times New Roman**. Single spaced. Each paragraph should indent 1 each at the beginning.

Reference pages should be appended after the main body on a separate page. Set the font to **12-point Times New Roman** and keep single spaced.

Participation Confirmation Form

University Stamp:

Participating University				
Team Leader's Name		Nationality		
Major		E-mail		
Proposal Title				
Team Members	Name	Nationality	Major	E-mail
Mentor (Optional)		E-mail		