Global Challenge Lab 2024

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Become a Mentor for the Global Challenge Lab 2024

We are looking for driven professionals and climate change enthusiasts to support a student team as a mentor during Global Challenge Lab 2024! Sign up HERE by June 1st, 2024

Global Challenge Lab is a virtual entrepreneurship programme run by Imperial College London's Enterprise Lab in partnership with Tsinghua University's x-lab in Beijing and Technical University of Munich. In the third year running, we are working with 19 global university partners to bring together over 800 students to grow their international network, gain new skills and create new ideas that help achieve UN SDG#7: Affordable and Clean Energy, UN SDG #11: Smart Cities and #13 Climate Change.

1. THE CHALLENGE

Teams will be asked to generate a well-rounded business idea (technical prototype not required) to one of the 2 tracks:

A. SMART CITIES

Challenge 1: Climate Resilience in Cities
Challenge Statement: How might we integrate climate resilience into urban planning to address challenges related to extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and other climate change impacts?

Challenge 2: Smart Mobility for Inclusive Cities
Challenge Statement: How might we leverage smart technologies to enhance urban mobility, making it more inclusive for all residents, including people with disabilities, elderly individuals, and those with low incomes?

B. CLIMATE ACTION

Challenge 1: Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions for Rural Communities
Challenge Statement: How might we provide sustainable energy solutions that can be implemented in rural or off-grid areas?

Challenge 2: Carbon Footprint Reduction
Challenge Statement: How might we create solutions that empower individuals and communities to reduce their carbon footprint through sustainable lifestyle choices?

2. HOW DOES MENTORING WORK?

To ensure that the students' projects are genuinely impactful, teams will need the support and guidance of professionals from different backgrounds and expertise. There will be a mentoring

overview session on July 2 to go over the process, network with your fellow mentors, and answer any questions you may have. All mentoring will take place online via Zoom, Slack, and other video conferencing platforms you wish to use. We will use Slack for most communications during the entire program and you will be invited to join the Global Challenge Lab Slack channel in the beginning of July.

Mentoring will take place on 3 days for 1 hour each day: July 8th, 10th, and 12th .
Each participating team will be allocated to one Mentor. This will be your primary team for the entire program. We will try our best to match you with a team working on an idea in your area of expertise, however that may not always be the case. You will be notified late night on Friday July 5th of your team by being allocated to your team's Slack group. You can use Slack to easily communicate with your team as well as share ideas and video call or other platforms (WhatsApp, WeChat) of your choice. The link to join Slack will be shared with you towards the end of June.

You pick 1 out of 4 slot times for each day. You will be provided a Zoom link in your calendar invite. You will be placed in a breakout room with your team. We recommend signing up for the same time slot on all three days. The time slots are:

- 08:00-09:00 GMT+1
- 09:00-10:00 GMT+1
- 16:00-17:00 GMT+1
- 17:00-18:00 GMT+1

3. MENTOR GUIDELINES

- Offer your knowledge, insight, experiences with the team
- Guide and support the team (rather than being their leader) and offer recommendations
- Suggest paths for exploration and widen the thinking or redirect/narrow the focus
- Offer contacts/connections/information and suggest goals for progress for the team
- Mediate in case of team conflict or report any concerns to the program organizers
- Refer teams to another contact or mentor if you think they would be better suited to advise on certain topics.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- Let the organisers and team know well in advance if you are going to be late to your mentor meeting or need to reschedule.
- Be active on our Slack channel. Ensure you have the app downloaded and notifications on as we will use this as our primary source of communication during the programme.
- Mentors may not join a team. Mentorship is about providing perspective, knowledge and advice, not actively participating in the work that the team is doing.
- If participants make Confidential Information available to you during the programme, you undertake to maintain the confidentiality of such information, and will not disclose it to third parties or members of its staff outside the team(s) you are working with.
- All intellectual property rights (including, without limitation, patents, copyright and related rights) and inventions arising from the programme rests with the teams.
- The Mentor role is voluntary. No monetary or equity payment of any kind should be expected. We will send you a certificate and social media flier as a token of our appreciation and a chance for you to showcase your involvement across socials.