



# 2023 Call for Code Global Challenge

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### **Q: How can I find a team?**

**A:** You can create a team profile on the Global Challenge resources site and invite other participants directly, or a participant can request to join an existing team if there is an open position. In addition, you can join the Call for Code Slack workspace to ask questions, meet other participants, and find your team members in the team building channels. When you initially join one of those channels, you'll get a Slackbot message with tips and a form you can complete to help you find your teammates. All of these team building resources are available after you [register for the Global Challenge](#).

### **Q: What is the maximum team size?**

**A:** Teams should have a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 5 members.

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### **Q: How can our team find a mentor?**

**A:** We have mentors ready and available to answer your technical questions or provide feedback on your project ideas. You can find mentors based on expertise and reach out to ask questions or to request a mentoring session for your team. A listing of all mentors is available on the Global Challenge resources site that you will have access to once [registered for the Global Challenge](#), or in the Call for Code Slack workspace.

### **Q: Can I compete in more than one Round of the Global Challenge?**

**A:** Participants can only be part of one team and submit one project per Challenge Round, but individuals and teams can develop and submit new projects during subsequent rounds. All code developed must be “fresh,” meaning that the code that is included in the main source code repository has been developed during the time period for the given Challenge Round and that all existing dependent libraries, including open-source projects, are equally available to all participants at the start of the Global Challenge. Winners from all Rounds will be considered for grand prizes.

### **Q: Can I start on a project in one Round and complete it in another Round?**

**A:** Before the start of a "Call for Code" Challenge Round, participants are permitted to create wireframes, designs, and user flows. However, all code for a submitted project must be written during the duration of the applicable "Call for Code" Challenge Round.

### **Q: Can I reuse a solution I submitted in another hackathon?**

**A:** All code developed for the Call for Code Global Challenge must be “fresh,” meaning that the portion that is included in the main source code repository has been developed during the time period for the given Challenge Round.

### **Q: Do you have data sets we can use?**

**A:** As a participant in the Call for Code Global Challenge, you have exclusive access to APIs, data sets, and toolkits to help you build your solution. Once you have [registered for the Global Challenge](#), you can find these resources on the Global Challenge resources site.

### **Q: What level of technical skills do I need to participate?**

**A:** The Call for Code Global Challenge is designed for developers of all levels. Submissions must include working code, but participants have access to free educational training through the program to learn new skills and strengthen their technical aptitude, and developer resources to help build project submissions.

### **Q: I see there are different team categories. How do I know which type our team is?**

**A:** The “University” team type is for teams where all members are students enrolled in accredited institutions of higher education. “Startup/ISVs” teams must have all members employed by startups or Independent Software Vendors (ISVs). All other teams, where the members may be a mix of freelance, startup or enterprise developers, students, etc., would sign up as “General Developer” teams. See the [Participation Agreement](#) for full details.

### **Q: Can high school students compete?**

**A:** Per the rules of the Participation Agreement, participants of this event must be 18 years old or have reached the age of emancipation in the jurisdiction in which they are submitting their project, whichever is greater.

### **Q: Can my professor be a part of our team?**

**A:** In order to qualify for the University prize category, all team members must be students enrolled in an

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accredited institution of higher education. However, a team which includes a professor can choose to compete in the General Developer prize category.

### **Q: Are all the elements in the submissions checklist required to submit my project?**

**A:** The submission requirements checklist, available once you have [registered for the Global Challenge](#), provides details on all of the deliverables you must submit for your solution be considered complete and valid for judging. This includes a 3-minute solution demo video, a future project development roadmap, and your publicly accessible code repository with working code, and a complete README describing your project and how IBM AI was put to use in your solution. A template for creating your README is provided and should be followed carefully.

### **Q: What if our team's video is longer than 3 minutes?**

**A:** Three minutes is the maximum length. Judges will not watch more than 3 minutes of your video. You can link to additional or longer versions from your source code repository.

### **Q: What are best practices competitive submissions?**

**A:** Be sure your solution is unique. Check the Call for Code web site for details on past finalist and winning solutions to make sure you are not duplicating an existing solution. What your team submits must be an original idea that will have real-world impact to address an issue of sustainability. Your solution must apply to the sustainability theme. Your solution must include working code. It is recommended that you use your submission video to briefly introduce the problem you are trying to solve, but also leave at least 90 seconds to demonstrate your solution interface and/or code. Keep in mind that non-technical judges may rely on the video more than technical documentation. Finally, make sure you are documenting your source code repository and clearly describing how you have used IBM AI in your solution. Make it easy for the judges to understand your solution — the more documentation, the better!

### **Q: Who will be judging my solution?**

**A:** Judges for each Challenge Round and the Global Challenge Grand Prizes will be selected from a diverse set of subject matter experts in the fields of technology, sustainability, and other appropriate areas. The list of judges for the Global Challenge Grand Prizes will be available on [our website](#) before Grand Prize judging begins.

### **Q: What do winners of the Global Challenge competition receive?**

**A:** Complete details on monetary prizes and implementation support for top solutions are listed in the [Prizes section of our web site](#), as well as in our [Participation Agreement](#).

### **Q: How did we determine the 2023 Call for Code Global Challenge theme?**

**A:** Sustainability is a top priority for communities and companies around the world. But innovative solutions are needed to meet the [sustainable development goals set forth by the United Nations](#). To do the most good, sustainability solutions should have global potential, but they also need to benefit local communities, especially marginalized communities that are most often polluted or left out of policymaking. Technology is key, as open innovation can address sustainability challenges effectively and at scale.

### **Q: Who can I contact if I still have general questions about the Global Challenge or Call for Code?**

**A:** [Reach out to the Call for Code team](#) and we can get back to you with help.