Introduction

The Global MDP Cross-Institutional 'Global Challenge' **is an innovative, first-of-its-kind, competition designed to leverage the expertise, creativity, and passion of Master of Development Practice (MDP) students across the globe**. Led by the **Student Advisory and Alumni Council (SAAC) of the Global MDP Association,** this Challenge aims to produce actionable solutions to critical global development challenges, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under the supervision of a distinguished Panel of Overseers from the Global MDP Association partner universities, this fully virtual challenge offers participants an unparalleled opportunity to collaborate across institutions with their fellow MDP peers, apply their academic knowledge in alignment with their programs, and engage with global development practitioners in designing a field-ready solution to a complex global issue.

The Challenge

Participants will work in teams to design innovative solutions to address one of five key thematic areas that reflect urgent global challenges, leveraging the MDP curriculum in their programs, and simultaneously uniting the regions of the Global MDP. The challenge encourages interdisciplinary collaboration, innovative thinking, and practical solutions, with a focus on real-world impact.

Thematic Areas

These themes have been designed in alignment with the five thematic areas of the United Nations' *Pact of the Future,* the World Health Organization's (WHO) core priorities, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Participants must choose one of the following themes, each linked to specific SDGs and targets:

1. **Climate Resilience and Environmental Crisis Management**
2. **Sustainable Economic Development and Finance**
3. **Global Health and Well-being**
4. **Youth and Skills for Future Generations**
5. **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion**

What's in Store for Participants

- **Gain Global Recognition & Showcase your Impact**
  - **Official e-Certificate of Participation** issued by the [United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)](#), the Global MDP Association, and your Partner University.
  - **Showcase Your Solutions to a Worldwide Audience** of academics, as practitioners, organizations, and policymakers.
  - **Publication by the UN SDSN, SDG Academy, and the Global MDP** for the 3 Finalists and the Winner.
- **Enhance Your Skills**
  - **Develop Valuable Skills in *real* Development Planning**, project management, proposal writing, innovation, and execution.
  - **Get Feedback and Guidance from Industry Experts and Professionals** to inform your work.
- **Expand Your Network & Experience Collaborative Learning**
  - **Work with Hundreds of Students across 22 countries in 35 universities** to experience shared learning, cross-cultural collaboration, and global connections.
  - **Get the chance to attend an Official United Nations Conference** as the Global Challenge Winner
  - **Get constant features on the Global MDP Social Media,** as the Challenge moves along we will be publicizing the milestone and work of teams.
  - **Mentorship Moments** from across the Global MDP student base, offering you the ability to meet new students, get their feedback and guidance, and form a community.
- **Unique Global Learning and Innovation**
  - **Gain a truly *global* and *diverse* education** through this unique cross-institutional, purposefully collaborative project to **leverage your regional interests and knowledge** to create and propose truly innovative, and global, solutions.
  - **Realize Real-World Impact** where students can develop solutions that are truly innovative, SMART, impactful, and could gain further institutional support.

Eligibility and Team Composition

- **Eligibility:**
  - Must be a current MDP student, or recent alumni, in any of the 35 MDP Partner Universities globally. Your student status will be verified with your University.
  - Participants can be from any year of study, or recent alumni (must have graduated no earlier than 2014).
- **Team Composition:**
  - Teams must consist of 3-5 members, ideally from different institutions to encourage cross-institutional collaboration.
  - Registrants will answer a set of questions in their Registration and our team will carefully match teammates, using an Ai algorithm for best suitability, for thorough global distribution and personality alignment.
  - Teams will be placed into Miro workgroups to facilitate coordination.

Challenge Timeline

- **Call for Participation Launches:** September 4, 2024
- **Registration Deadline:** September 27, 2024 at 11:59PM EDT
- **Team Matching & Announcements:** Sept 29, 2024
- **Challenge Start Date:** October 1, 2024
- **Check-in Reports:** October 18, 2024 and November 8th, 2024
- **Challenge Period:** October 1 – November 20, 2024 (approx. 8 weeks)
  - Teams will be able to gain points in mini-challenges on Linkedin.
  - Teams can also participate in 'Mentorship Moments.'
- **Submission Deadline:** November 17, 2024 at 11:59PM EDT
- **Judging Period:** November 18 – November 24, 2024
- **Announcement of Winners:** November 28, 2024 (*Award Evening is slated for Dec 5*)

Registration Process

- **Step 1: Submitting the Registration.**
  - Students must register by submitting a completed registration form available at https://tally.so/r/mDDqjj. The Application opens on September 4th and closes on September 27th, at 11:59PM EDT.
  - In the Application, the Student will fill out basic personal information, fill out a personality questionnaire for matching fit, and respond to 2 brief questions, about their expectations and their anticipated project.
  - The Student will also agree to a set of Consent, Release, and Indemnity Forms and validate their active participation.
- **Step 2: Team-matching and Announcements.**
  - After the registration has closed, the Global SAAC team will undertake a thorough process of matching participants, leveraging an Ai algorithm and personal insights.
  - Announcements to Registrants will go out on September 29, 2024.
- **Step 3: Challenge Launch on October 1st, 2024**
  - The first week of the Challenge launch will serve as an opportunity for any team issues to be highlighted.
  - The teams will be solidified on October 6th, 2024, with no further changes permitted.

Selecting a Theme

Teams must select **one** target from one of the SDGs below, in alignment with our thematic areas. For instance, if your project is aimed at addressing Climate Resilience and Environmental Crisis Management, your team would submit a proposal under SDG 13 or SDG 14, with the proposal targeting a specific target under each of those SDGs (e.g. 14.1 Reducing marine pollution with a new innovative technology or process). Teams cannot choose the same theme area twice but can choose **1 other** thematic area and target. Selections can be region or country-specific, if teams wish.

Each theme will require teams to develop a **SMART** solution that is specific, measurable, implementable/achievable, relevant, time-bound and sustainable.

See next page for the themes.

1. Climate Resilience and Environmental Crisis Management (SDG 13, 14)

This theme is focused on developing strategies to enhance resilience to climate-related hazards and manage environmental crises. This includes solutions for climate adaptation, pollution reduction, and sustainable ecosystem management.

- **SDG 13: Climate Action**
- **SDG 14: Life Below Water**

2. Sustainable Economic Development and Finance (SDG 1, 8)

This theme is focused on strategies for poverty alleviation and economic growth, incorporating innovative financing models, and sustainable development practices. This theme addresses creating economic opportunities, enhancing financial inclusion, and implementing policies for sustainable development.

- **SDG 1: No Poverty**
- **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

3. Global Health and Well-being (SDG 3, 4)

This theme addresses health and well-being challenges with a focus on improving overall health outcomes and ensuring access to quality healthcare. This theme includes strategies for reducing health disparities, enhancing health services, and promoting well-being across populations.

- **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being**
- **SDG 4: Quality Education**

4. Youth and Skills for Future Generations (SDG 4, 8)

This theme focuses on educational innovations and skills development to prepare future generations for the evolving job market. This theme addresses improving educational access, enhancing skills training, and ensuring that youth are equipped for future challenges, with training and meaningful opportunities.

- **SDG 4: Quality Education**
- **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

5. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (SDG 5, 10)

This theme focuses on promoting gender equality and social inclusion, addressing issues such as gender-based discrimination, violence, and inequalities. This theme includes strategies for empowering marginalized groups and ensuring equitable opportunities for all.

Linked SDGs:

● **SDG 5: Gender Equality**
● **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities**

The Challenge and the Submission Guidelines

● Teams are required to submit a **Global Proposal** for an actionable, **SMART** initiative that addresses an SDG target(s), aligning with the selected themes. This challenge offers **MDP students** the opportunity to create and respond to a real-world Request for Proposal (RFP), judged by a distinguished panel, mirroring professional expectations in the field and with potential for international implementation.
● **Final Submission Requirements:**
   ○ **Comprehensive Project Report:** A comprehensive report (maximum 20 pages, excluding appendices) that includes:
      ■ Problem analysis
      ■ Solution design
      ■ Implementation strategy
      ■ Expected impact
   ○ **Optional Video Submission:** For extra points, Teams may elect to submit a quick 2-4 minute video. We suggest in the fashion of a story-telling narrative to encourage MDPers to be advocates for their cause, practice their presentation skills, and compliment written work with visual support.
● **Final Submission:** All submissions must be uploaded to the Global MDP Challenge Submission Portal by November 17th, 2024 at 11:59PM EDT.

Mini-Challenges and Mentorship Moments

- **Optional Mini Challenge Points:** Throughout the 8 weeks of the Challenge, there will be a series of Mini Challenges that will populate across the [MDP Linkedin Group](#) and [social media](#) to allow for extra points consideration in the judging, should teams wish to participate.
- **Mentorship Moments:** We all have experience and competency to leverage for one another. A project of this size can sometimes be overwhelming and we want to assure everyone has community support. We will be creating a large Whatsapp Group for all to community, and we will also have the opening of two forms throughout the Challenge:
    - **Feedback Loop:** You may want some feedback on your MDP work, maybe you need some help with a job application or something else going on that is outside of this Challenge, sign up to this to be matched with a student where you can both offer one another peer-to-peer support.
    - **Meet & Greet:** Sign up for this to be matched to another student who is not in your team, to get to know them, leverage their expertise and network. We will coordinate the meeting and assure the outcomes.

Judging Criteria

The Panel of Overseers will evaluate submissions based on the following criteria:

1. **Relevance to Theme and SDG Targets (20%)**
    - How well does the solution align with the chosen theme and related SDGs?
2. **Innovation and Creativity (20%)**
    - Does the solution demonstrate original thinking and innovative approaches?
3. **Feasibility and Implementation Strategy (20%)**
    - Is the solution practical, implementable, and scalable? *SMART*?
4. **Impact Potential (20%)**
    - What is the potential of the solution to create meaningful and measurable impact? Is there real-world impact and longevity?
5. **Collaboration and Teamwork (10%)**
    - How effectively did the team collaborate across institutions and disciplines?
6. **Presentation and Communication (10%)**
    - Quality of the final report, assessing for in-the-field Request for Proposal (RFP) quality.
7. **Participation in Optional Mini-Challenges (Extra 10%)**

Virtual Awards Evening

The Virtual Awards Evening, tentatively scheduled for December 5th, 2024, will be the culmination of the challenge. This event will feature keynote speakers from global development organizations, presentations from the top teams, and the announcement of winners. All participating teams are encouraged to attend.

Sponsorship and Support

We are actively seeking partnerships with leading development organizations (e.g., UNDP, UNESCO, ILO, World Bank) to support the challenge through funding, mentorship, or offering post-challenge implementation opportunities. Sponsorship details will be updated through email and social media.

Outcomes

A successful Global Challenge will see at least 60-70% participation of the Global MDP (students across 21-25 universities), with at least 5 project proposal submissions across the length of the Challenge period.

Contact Information

For further details, registration assistance, or inquiries, please contact your Student Advisory and Alumni Council (SAAC) Leader, found on the next page.

SAAC Leaders for Each University

AFRICA (Contact Sope Afolayan **SAAC AFRICA Chair,** sopeafolayan@gmail.com**)**
- University of Botswana; Université Cheikh Anta Diop; University Federal Otuoke; University of Ibadan; University of Pretoria.

ASIA AND OCEANIA (Contact Anoushka Sharma **SAAC ASIA/OC Chair,** anoushka.sharma@terisas.ac.in**)**
- BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGC), BRAC University; James Cook University; Tata Institute of Social Sciences; TERI University; Universiti Sains Malaysia; University of Peradeniya; Al-Farabi Kazakh National University; Monash University; Sunway University; National Taiwan University; Royal University of Bhutan; Tsinghua University.

CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA (Contact Dr. Lucia Rodriguez **SAAC CLA Chair,** lucia.rodriguez@unsdsn.org**)**
- Claribel College; Universidad de Los Andes; Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro.

EUROPE (Contact Dr. Lucia Rodriguez **SAAC EUROPE Chair,** lucia.rodriguez@unsdsn.org**)**
- Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Jerusalem's Institute's Milken Innovation Center; Sciences Po - Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA); Lund University; Trinity College Dublin.

NORTH AMERICA (Contact Max Genin, SAAC NA Chair, mag0011@g.harvard.edu**)**
- Auburn University; Columbia University; Emory University; Harvard University; Regis University; University of California Berkeley; University of Florida; University of Minnesota; University of Waterloo; University of Winnipeg; University of British Columbia; Claribel College.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the Global MDP Cross-Institutional 'Global Challenge'? The Global MDP Cross-Institutional 'Global Challenge' is an international competition for MDP students to develop actionable solutions to global development challenges, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. Who organizes the Challenge? The Challenge is organized by the Student Advisory and Alumni Council (SAAC) of the Global MDP Association, with oversight from a distinguished Panel of Overseers across the MDP Faculties and support of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and its SDG Academy, under which the Global MDP is hosted.

3. What are the key dates for the Challenge?

- **Registration Deadline:** September 27, 2024
- **Team Matching Announcements:** September 29, 2024
- **Challenge Start Date:** October 1, 2024
- **Submission Deadline:** November 17, 2024
- **Winners Announcement:** November 28, 2024

4. Who is eligible to participate? Current MDP students and recent alumni (graduated no earlier than 2022) from any of the 35 partner universities.

5. How are teams formed? Teams of 3-5 members will be matched based on a personality questionnaire and AI algorithm to ensure cross-institutional collaboration.

6. What are the submission requirements? Submit a comprehensive project report (max 20 pages) and optionally a 2-4 minute video.

7. What are Mini-Challenges and Mentorship Moments?

- **Mini-Challenges:** Optional tasks during the Challenge for extra points.
- **Mentorship Moments:** Opportunities for peer-to-peer feedback and networking.

8. How are submissions judged? Judging criteria include relevance to the theme and SDG targets, innovation, feasibility (is it SMART?), impact potential, teamwork, and presentation quality. Participation in Mini-Challenges can earn extra points.

9. What happens at the Virtual Awards Evening? The event will feature keynote speakers, presentations from top teams, and the announcement of winners.

10. How can organizations support the Challenge? Organizations can support through sponsorship, mentorship, or post-challenge opportunities.

11. Where can I get more information or assistance? Contact your Student Advisory and Alumni Council (SAAC) Leader for details or assistance.

12. Can teams choose themes related to different SDGs? Teams are to pick one theme to stick to, but if their initiative touches on another theme, or SDG, it must be a different SDG and target, up to a maximum of two targets to address in total. Teams can target initiatives to specific regions, or countries, should they wish.

13. How are the Mini-Challenges structured? Mini-Challenges are short, specific tasks that align with the main themes of the Challenge. Details will be posted on the MDP Linkedin Group and social media, throughout the Challenge period.

14. What kind of feedback can teams expect from Mentorship Moments? Mentorship Moments provide opportunities for receiving feedback on project work, career advice, and peer-to-peer support. Specific guidance will be offered based on participants' needs, in discussion with your peer Mentor.

15. How will the AI algorithm used for team matching work? The AI algorithm considers personality traits and academic background to match participants with complementary skills and perspectives, aiming for balanced and effective teams. We will also review the matches personally to ensure functionality and alignment.

16. What kind of recognition will be given to the top teams? Top teams will receive global recognition, their solutions will be published by the UN SDSN and Global MDP, and the winners will have the chance to attend an official UN Conference.

17. Can participants update their project submissions after the initial deadline? No updates can be made to the project report after the final submission deadline of November 17, 2024.

18. How is the optional video submission used in the evaluation? The video submission is used to provide additional context and visual support for the project. It can enhance the overall presentation and help in the evaluation of creativity and communication, alongside provide the team with additional points.

19. What happens if a team cannot resolve internal issues during the first week? Teams will be solidified on October 6, 2024, and no further changes will be allowed. It's important for teams to address any issues and establish effective communication early on and let us know of any issues.

20. Will there be opportunities for networking with global development practitioners? Yes, participants will have the chance to engage with global development practitioners through webinars, feedback sessions, and potentially during the UN Conference.

21. How will the Challenge impact the development of real-world solutions? Teams are encouraged to create solutions that are not only innovative but also actionable and scalable, with the potential for real-world implementation and further institutional support.

22. What specific skills training will be provided through the Challenge? Participants will receive training in development planning, project management, proposal writing, and innovation through exclusive webinars hosted by experts from the UN SDSN SDG Academy.

23. Are there opportunities for further institutional support after the Challenge? The Challenge aims to create solutions with potential for further support. Winning or highly ranked proposals may receive additional attention and opportunities for implementation support.

Terms and Conditions

Effective Date: September 1, 2024

These Terms and Conditions ("Agreement") govern your participation in the Global MDP Association SAAC's Global Challenge ("Challenge") organized by the Student Alumni and Advisory Council (SAAC) of the Global MDP Association ("Organizer"). These Terms and Conditions are complemented by the published document, [MDP-SAAC] The Global Challenge - Guidelines ("Guidelines"). By registering for and participating in the Challenge, you agree to be bound by these terms. If you do not agree to these terms, do not participate in the Challenge.

1. Eligibility

1.1 To participate in the Challenge, you must meet the eligibility criteria specified by the Organizer in the Guidelines, 'Eligibility and Team Composition.' Proof of eligibility may be required. Failure to meet the eligibility requirements, or provide documentation to attest to one's student status, could see a Participant prevented from joining or removed.

2. Registration

2.1 Registration for the Challenge must be completed by the specified deadline in the Guidelines. The Organizer reserves the right to reject incomplete or late registrations.

3. Participation

3.1 Participation in the Challenge is voluntary and not compensated. Participants understand that there is no guarantee of any specific outcome or benefit from participating in this Challenge.

3.2 Participants must actively engage in all required activities and adhere to the scheduled timelines. Non-compliance may result in disqualification.

4. Team Structure

4.1 Participants may form teams as outlined in the Guidelines. Any changes to team composition must be approved by the Organizer.

4.2 Team assignments may be changed up until the date specified in the Guidelines, 'Registration Process, Step 3.' However, any further changes after that day, will be subject to the sole approval of the Organizer.

5. Conduct, Attendance and Responsiveness

5.1 Participants agree to adhere to the Code of Conduct set forth by the Organizer, treating all individuals with respect and professionalism. Inappropriate behavior, including but not limited to harassment, discrimination, or disruptive conduct, will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the Challenge.

5.2 Participants are expected to attend all scheduled team meetings, workshops, and other Challenge-related events as outlined in the Challenge timeline. If a participant is unable to attend a meeting, they must inform their team, and the organizers in advance (where applicable), providing a valid reason for their absence. Failure to attend team meetings without prior notice or a valid reason may result in disciplinary action, including potential removal from the Challenge.

5.3 Participants are required to respond to communications from the organizers and their team members in a timely manner. Delayed responses can affect team dynamics and the overall progress of the Challenge, especially during the check-in periods. If a participant is unresponsive or fails to complete assigned tasks within the agreed deadlines, the organizers may issue a formal notice. Continued lack of responsiveness may result in disciplinary action, including potential removal from the Challenge. Participants are expected to work collaboratively with their team members, contributing equally to team tasks and respecting differing viewpoints.

6. Work Submission

6.1 All work submitted must be original and adhere to the requirements of the Challenge. Plagiarism or submission of work not created by the participant is grounds for disqualification.

6.2 Failure to submit work on time and/or in alignment with the expectations provided in this document, could see an automatic suspension or withdrawal of a team. Failure to meet deadlines may impact the participant's standing in the Challenge and could lead to disqualification.

7. Intellectual Property

7.1 Participants retain ownership of their intellectual property. However, by participating, you grant the Organizer a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, and display your work for promotional, educational, and any other purposes related to the Challenge.

7.2 If your team secures a prize amount or institutional funding for their project, intellectual property rights and protections will be governed by separate agreements with the organizing parties.

8. Confidentiality

8.1 Participants must maintain the confidentiality of any proprietary or sensitive information shared during the Challenge amongst team members, the organizers, or other affiliates. Disclosure of such information without authorization is prohibited.

9. Health and Safety

9.1 Participants are responsible for their own health and safety. The Organizer is not liable for any health or safety issues arising from participation in the Challenge.

10. Dispute Resolution

10.1 Any disputes arising from participation in the Challenge should be resolved through the established dispute resolution process, as outlined in 10.2. Participants agree to address conflicts fairly and constructively. By participating in this Challenge, you agree to this process.

10.2 Dispute Resolution Process

This will first involve an informal discussion between the Participant and Organizer, regarding a dispute or concern either party has. They should first attempt to solve it informally through discussion. For any challenges, participants should contact their SAAC Leaders as found in the 'SAAC Leaders for Each University' section of this Document. If a dispute or concern cannot be resolved informally, participants may elect to go onto the second stage by submitting a formal written complaint to their SAAC Leader, which will be processed by the Organizers, the SAAC, and the MDP Secretariat. The complaint should include a detailed description of the issue, any supporting evidence, and the resolution sought. Formal complaints must be submitted within [14] business days of the occurrence of the issue or the final attempt at the informal resolution for consideration. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the organizers will acknowledge receipt and begin an internal investigation, if warranted. This may involve gathering additional information from all relevant parties, including any witnesses if necessary. After such an investigation, if warranted, the organizers will provide a written decision of the resolution of the complaint within [14] business days. The decision will be final and binding.

10.3 Any disputes and the resolution process will be handled confidentially. Participants agree not to disclose details of the dispute or resolution process to third parties without the consent of the organizers.

11. Modification and Cancellation

11.1 The Organizer reserves the right to modify or cancel the Challenge at its discretion. Participants will be notified of any changes or cancellations through email.

12. Use of Media

12.1 By participating, you consent to the use of your name, likeness, and any comments or materials submitted by you in connection with this Challenge for promotional, marketing (including but not limited to social media channels), and educational purposes, before, during, or after the Challenge. This may include, but is not limited to, photographs, videos, and other media taken during the Challenge. Consent may be revoked by communicating to your SAAC Lead.

13. Data Collection and Privacy

13.1 You consent to the collection and processing of your personal data as outlined in our privacy policy. Your data will be used solely for the purposes of managing the Challenge and will be stored securely.

14. Conduct Oath

14.1 Participants agree to:

- **Respect:** Treat all participants, organizers, and stakeholders with respect and consideration.
- **Integrity:** Engage in honest and ethical behavior throughout the Challenge.
- **Teamwork:** Work collaboratively and supportively with team members.
- **Dispute Resolution:** Utilize the designated channels for addressing conflicts or grievances.

15. Guidelines Booklet and Timelines

15.1 By participating in this Challenge, the Participant confirms that they have read and understood the guidelines booklet provided for the Challenge. The Participant agrees to abide by the rules and procedures outlined in the booklet.

15.2 By participating in this Challenge, the Participant agrees to adhere to the timelines established for the Challenge. The Participant understands that any changes to teammates or team structure must be done in accordance with the timelines or otherwise approved by the organizers and may affect their participation.

16. Judging Process and Selection of Finalists/Winners

16.1 The Challenge will be judged by a panel of experts ("Panel of Overseers"), including both organizing team members from the SAAC and judges composed of volunteering faculty members from the Global MDP Association set of partner institutions. The criteria for evaluation, including creativity, feasibility, and impact, will be outlined in the Challenge guidelines. The judging panel's decision is final and binding. Participants must not attempt to influence or interfere with the judges.

16.2 Participants must not engage in any behavior intended to influence or intimidate the judges. Unfair attempts to affect the judging outcome will lead to disqualification.

16.3 Based on the evaluation criteria, the panel will select finalists. Finalists will be notified and may need to participate in additional assessments. Winners will be chosen from the finalists and announced through official channels. The judging panel's decision on winners is final.

16.4 Participants may request general feedback but detailed evaluations or individual scores will not be provided. The judging process will be conducted fairly and transparently, with decisions communicated clearly.

17. Termination

17.1 The Organizer may terminate a participant's involvement in the Challenge for violations of these Terms and Conditions or failure to adhere to the rules and guidelines. Termination will be at the discretion of the organizers.

17.2 Withdrawal Process: Participants wishing to withdraw from the Challenge must notify the Organizer in writing as soon as possible. Withdrawal must occur before the official start of the Challenge or within the timeframe specified in the Challenge Guidelines. Upon withdrawal, participants forfeit any rights to prizes or further participation. Late withdrawal can be facilitated, though could see the Participant unable to participate in future events. The Organizer will not be liable for any costs incurred by the participant up to the point of withdrawal.

18. Liability and Indemnity

18.1 The Organizer is not liable for any loss, damage, or injury incurred by participants during the Challenge. Participation is at your own risk. You release and hold harmless the organizers, sponsors, and affiliates from any claims, liabilities, or damages arising out of or in connection with your participation. This includes, but is not limited to, any claims related to personal injury, property damage, or intellectual property disputes.

18.2 The organizers are not responsible for any losses or damages incurred by participants if they seek investments or attempt to grow their projects beyond the scope of the Challenge. Participants acknowledge that any financial or operational risks associated with such activities are their own and that the organizers bear no responsibility or liability for such outcomes, now or in the future.

19. No Guarantee of Outcome

19.1 You understand that participation does not guarantee any particular result or outcome, including but not limited to selection for further opportunities or prizes. This is a purely volunteer venture for the enjoyment and benefit of MDP Students and Alumni.

20. Force Majeure

20.1 The Organizer is not liable for failure to fulfill obligations due to unforeseen circumstances beyond its control, including but not limited to natural disasters, illness, or emergencies.

21. Acceptance

20.1 By submitting the registration form, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the terms and conditions of the Challenge, including the Code of Conduct, privacy policy, and all other relevant documents provided, including the Guidelines. You agree to comply with all requirements, guidelines, and procedures set forth by the organizers.

20.2 Your submission of the registration form constitutes your acceptance of all terms, conditions, and policies associated with the Challenge. You confirm that you are voluntarily participating in the Challenge and accept all risks and responsibilities associated with your involvement. Furthermore, continuing to participate in the Challenge after registration confirms your commitment to adhere to the Terms and Conditions and the Guidelines provided.