

Ocean Challenge 2022

Applicant Handbook



Program Overview

The Ocean Challenge 2022 invites applicants between the ages of 15 and 35 to propose creative solutions to ocean issues that use marine science as the key element. Launched in 2019, the Ocean Challenge is a program aims to engage students and young generations worldwide on ocean crisis and to encourage them to become active in the fight against ocean challenges.

The United Nations declared 2021-2030 as Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development On 5 December 2017. This Decade will provide a common framework to ensure that ocean science can fully support countries to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Aligned with the core of the Ocean Decade and co-hosted by the Ocean Affairs Council and the American Institute in Taiwan Kaohsiung Branch, the Ocean Challenge 2022 provides a forum for young people to address pressing ocean issues through scientific approaches. This program is designed to promote young adults' awareness of ocean crisis, mobilize them to take actions, and ensure the leaders of tomorrow are well informed about the intricacies of our oceans.

Eligibility

- The program includes four categories as follows:
 1. **Category A:** Undergraduates and graduates in Taiwan.
 2. **Category B:** Students from upper secondary schools, i.e., senior high schools and senior vocational schools, 5-year junior colleges, and international schools in Taiwan.
 3. **Category C:** Young adults aged 35 and under.
 4. **Category D:** Students from upper secondary schools, i.e., senior high schools and senior vocational schools, and higher educational institutes abroad.
- Each team shall consist of 2 to 8 members, competent in English oral presentation.
- Please include the required information below on the cover page of your proposal, including Team's Name, Title of Proposal, School's Name, Number and Names of Team Members, and Coach's Information.)
- Cross-school teams or a mix of members at different educational levels are permitted.

Application

- **Deadline**

The application opens now and the deadline is **5pm, December 31, 2021, Taiwan Time (UTC+8)**.

Please email your proposal and application form to Ms. Ariel Lai at youthocean@oac.gov.tw (contact number: +886-7-3381810 ext. 261322).

- **Proposal instructions**

1. The proposal must highlight the challenges and crises in marine issues as well as provide solutions through scientific approaches, such as AI, Big Data, APP, and unmanned underwater vehicles (UUV), etc.. The youth-based action plans shall adopt innovative perspectives in a range of areas like marine science, field studies, ecological conservation, creative marketing, cultural preservation and maintenance, etc.. The proposal shall be able to raise public awareness and stimulate self-mobilization and action.
2. In order to enhance international exchanges and achieve the goal of bilingual education in Taiwan, proposals can be written in Chinese or English. The proposal shall be submitted as an action plan (innovative and experimental plans preferred) and include elements, such as explanation of current situation, analysis of the problems, reasons for making proposals, improvements and solutions, implementation strategies, team roles, work plan timeline, budgeting, and target outcomes.
3. English is mandatory for presentations and Q&A sessions in the final round. Presentations can be delivered in multiple ways, such as but not limited to lectures, Ted Talks style, exhibitions, performances, drama, animations, or video presentations.

Awards

A total of 16-20 teams (4 -5 teams from each category) will be selected to proceed to the final round based on the preliminary proposal reviews. Finalists will be awarded as follows:

1. **First Place Award:** NT\$50,000 and certificate.
2. **Second Place Award:** NT\$20,000 and certificate.
3. **Third Place Award:** NT\$10,000 and certificate.
4. **Fourth Place and Fifth Place Award:** certificate.
5. **Best Proposal Award:** The awarded team will receive a grant no more than NT\$100,000 to carry out their proposal based on a reimbursement basis. All of the

outputs and receipts shall be submitted to the designated unit before November 30, 2022.

6. **Free I-Ride tryout:** I-Ride or M-Ride, a 4D dynamic simulation service will be sponsored by the Brogent Technologies Inc. for all the finalists.

Selection Process

The selection will proceed in 2 stages. All proposals will be reviewed by a judging panel of experts and scholars in the appropriate disciplines.

● **Preliminary review**

1. All portions of every eligible submissions will be evaluated by the judges. About 4-5 teams from each category will be selected to progress the finals.
2. Evaluation Criteria
 - (1) Relevance and effectiveness (30%): the extent to which the proposal responds to ocean crisis and achieves the sustainable use of ocean resources.
 - (2) Innovation (35%): the extent to which the proposal uses creative thinking and approaches to make breakthrough out of challenges and difficulties.
 - (3) Feasibility (35%): (A) Steps and methods; (B) Workforce planning and work plan timeline; (C) Integration and connection of resources from government and non-governmental organizations (NGO); (D) A reasonable budget plan.

● **Final round (presentation round)**

1. In this round, each selected team is required to make a presentation in which team members must present the ideas of their proposal.
2. Evaluation Criteria
 - (1) Relevance and effectiveness (20%): the extent to which the proposal responds to ocean crisis and achieves sustainable use of ocean resources.
 - (2) Innovation (25%): the extent to which the proposal uses creative thinking and approaches to make breakthrough out of challenges and difficulties.
 - (3) Feasibility (25%): (A) Steps and methods; (B) Workforce planning and schedule; (C) Integration and connection of resources from government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); (D) A reasonable budget plan.
 - (4) Q&A (30%): (A) Team discussion and interaction; (B)The judges will ask questions, and the entrants must respond accordingly. The team will be evaluated based upon their ability to express and improvise, and the completeness of their responses.

Finalists' Engagements

Finalists are required to participate in the activities below:

- **Workshop**
 - **Advising Session and Youth Dialogue:** will be held in the morning on March 15, 2022 at OAC (address: 4F, No. 25, Chenggong 2nd Rd., Qianzhen Dist., Kaohsiung City).
 - **Interactive Discussion:** will be held in the afternoon on March 15, 2022 at AIT/K.
- **Final Round Presentation:** will be held on June 1-2, 2022, at Brogent Technologies Inc. (address: No. 9, Fuxing 4th Rd., Cianjhen Dist., Kaohsiung City.)

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Important Dates

Application Deadline	December 31, 2021
Finalists Announced	March 1, 2022
Finalists' Workshop	March 15, 2022
Finalists' presentations/Winners Announced	June 1-2, 2022

Please note that the OAC and the AIT/K reserve the right to amend the regulations of this handbook at any time.

Points of contact

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