



Guidelines

ISCES Global Student Environmental Solutions Challenge

The theme for World Environment Day on 5 June 2023 will focus on solutions to plastic pollution under the campaign **#BeatPlasticPollution**.

The world is being inundated by plastic. More than 400 million tonnes of plastic is produced every year, half of which is designed to be used only once. Of that, less than 10 per cent is recycled. An estimated 19-23 million tonnes end up in lakes, rivers and seas. Today, plastic clogs our landfills, leaches into the ocean and is combusted into toxic smoke, making it one of the gravest threats to the planet. World Environment Day 2023 will showcase how countries, businesses and individuals are learning to use the material more sustainably, offering hope that one day, plastic pollution will be history.

The 2023 Global Student Environmental Solutions Challenge, with a focus on **Solutions to Plastic Pollution** aims to provide a platform for young students from all over the world to exchange and discuss major environmental issues, improve the ability of young people from different countries to deal with and solve practical problems, and enhance students' innovation ability and environmental awareness. To provide students who are interested in environmental protection career with a cross-professional, cross-field and cross-border learning opportunity.

1. Topics

Considering that the theme of the World Environment Day in 2023 is “Solutions to Plastic Pollution”, the challenge this year offers four topics. They are **Human Health, Circular Economy, Climate Change, and Zero-Waste City**. Participants can choose the topic they are interested in and sign up in group. Every team can **only choose 1 topic**, and there is a maximum of 100 teams per topic. The challenge will follow the principle of “**First-come, First-serve**”, which means the first team to register **has the right to choose topics first**.

2. Registration

There are two ways to get involved in this challenge.

- 1) Registration as a **participant** in this challenge. Participants can compete for final prizes and scholarships provided by the organizing committee. The challenge only accepts registration as a team. The challenge is open to groups only so that participants are required to form their own teams.
- 2) Registration as an **observer** in this challenge. Observers have the right to vote for their favorite team.

2.1. Registration as a participant

- Qualification:
 - This challenge is open to students of all ages or nationalities from all over the world. **Students in colleges and universities** (including vocational students, undergraduates and postgraduates) can all participate in the competition.
- Specific requirements:
 - Participants need to form their own teams, with each team including 2-4 members.
 - Participants should ensure that the registration information is accurate and valid. If the information of any participant in a team does not meet the

requirements, the organizing committee has the right to cancel the qualification and reward of the whole team.

- Specific registration method:

Team leaders register in the official registration system first, then the system automatically generates an invitation link. The team leader needs to send it to the team members. The team members must click the invitation link to complete the registration process **within 3 days**. Otherwise, the registration will be regarded as **unsuccessful**. The team leader can check the progress of team member registration on the personal page of the system.

2.2. Registration as an observer

- Qualification: Anyone interested in environmental issues can register as observer.
- Vote: After registration, observers can log in to the registration system to vote within the specified time.

2.3. Registration deadline

- For participants: 18:00, April 15, 2023 (UTC+8)
- For observers: 14:00, June 3, 2023 (UTC+8)

2.4. Registration website

Official registration system: <https://isces.tongji.edu.cn/>

Participants and observers need to register on this website.

3. Rules and Guidelines

- 3.1. All topics of the ISCES Global Environment Solutions Challenge will be unveiled by committee.
- 3.2. Teams need to log in the registration system for confirmation before April 15, 2023. Working as a team to come up with solutions to plastic pollution and submit entry in the system.

- 3.3. The deadline for team registration and submission is 18:00 (UTC+8) April 15, 2023.
- 3.4. From April 15 to April 24, 2023, the committee will check the qualification of the teams, conduct the preliminary evaluation of each group's entries, and announce the final team list at 18:00 (UTC+8) on April 24.
- 3.5. From April 24 to May 10, 2023, The selected entries will be evaluated by experts and scholars from international organizations, private sectors and NGOs. The judges will mark the performance of each team by topic relevance (25%), innovation (25%), feasibility (25%), and replicability (25%). The final score of every team will be the average score from all the judges.
- 3.6. The committee will announce the final list of winning teams on the IESD website and send it to each winning group by email before 18:00 (UTC+8) May 20, 2023.
- 3.7. On June 5, 2023, the winning team will make a presentation about their solution at the International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability (ISCES).

4. Award Setting

- 4.1. There will be ONE Champion Team, TWO Second Prize teams and THREE Third Prize teams , which will be selected by the judging committee.

① The champion team will get 10000 RMB scholarship (before tax).

Special note: In addition to the scholarship, the champion team will also be invited to attend the 2023 International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability (ISCES) in Tongji University on 5 June to present their solution, with travel and accommodation sponsored(Maximum 4 days).

② The second prize team will get 6000 RMB (before tax).

③ The third prize team will get 4,000 RMB (before tax).

The reward will be distributed directly to the team leader of the winning team, and then distributed among team members themselves.



4.2. The challenge also generate ONE **Most Popular Team** award winning a scholarship of 3,000RMB (before tax), according to online voting. ISCES website will open the voting page from 15:00 April 24 to 15:00 June 3 (UTC+8). The team with the highest number of votes will win this award. In order to ensure the fairness and justice of the competition, the voting link on the official website will block all kinds of malicious vote-swiping software. We also call on the participants to follow the rules of the challenge and prevent illegal vote-swiping.

5. Submission Requirements

After the topic release, every team is required to record a presentation video (no longer than 7 minutes) regarding your discussion and solution. The contents of the presentation video include but are not limited to overall programme introduction, implementation path, feasibility analysis, potential to be translated into commercial entrepreneurship and innovation. The language for text and presentation is **English**. You can use an online meeting room to record your presentation, and other creative ways are also welcomed. The video should be horizontal, whose size should be no bigger than 100MB.

6. Marking Criteria

Every team will be marked by three to four judges, who are experts from international organizations, private sectors and NGOs. The list of experts will be posted on the conference website in advance. The judges will mark the performance of each team by topic relevance (25%), innovation (25%), feasibility (25%), and replicability (25%). The final score of every team will be the average score from all the judges.

7. Intellectual Property Rights

The content of the submitted presentation video must be original and should not have been published in any forms before, such as in newspapers, magazines, or on websites. Plagiarism in any form will result in disqualification. Relevant prizes and rewards will be recalled, and the team shall assume all legal responsibilities.



2023 Global Environmental Solution Challenge Statement:

1. In order to ensure the smooth and fair progress of the whole challenge, and to guarantee the legitimate rights and interests of the participants, the participants should read and confirm the entry agreement on the official website and conscientiously abide by the provisions of the agreement.
2. International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability (ISCES) Organizing Committee reserves the right of final interpretation of this challenge.

**SPECIAL NOTE: ISCES DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE.
PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BEWARE OF FRAUD.**