

Regulations and additional information

The objective of the Global Biobased Businessplan competition (G-BiB) for students is to stimulate entrepreneurship and innovation in the field of development of a biorenewable chemical, material and/or fuel product. Students are being stimulated to participate in mixed teams.

1. Participants

- 1.1. Students from universities, universities of applied sciences and technical universities in Germany, Finland and the United Kingdom can participate in this competition in teams of 2 to 6 students.
- 1.2. During this competition (from October 2021 to February 2022) participants must be registered as students, enrolled in a Bachelor, Master or PhD program, or must provide a written proof of their work on a PhD thesis. Students who have finished their bachelor or master degree in summer 2021 are also allowed to participate.
- 1.3. Students from all programs can participate, there is no restriction in topic or area. Participants are in fact encouraged to establish teams with students from different areas since a business plan requires a multidisciplinary approach.
- 1.4. Participants must work with a Professor or PostDoc from their university. This mentor should be clearly identified when subscribing to participate in the competition and in the final submission (but cannot be a participant).
- 1.5. To participate in the competition, the team must register, free of charge, by filling in the online form on the website: <https://www.bigc-initiative.eu/gbib-registration.php>. Information required includes name and email of the participants, Bachelor/Master/PhD program including the university where the participants are registered, the name and email of the university mentor and a short, non-confidential description of the business idea. Applications that are (i) submitted in any manner other than as specified; (ii) submitted after the

deadline; (iii) incomplete, forged, defective, or irregular in any way or not in compliance with these regulations will be disqualified.

- 1.6. The organisers will select a maximum of ten teams per country to participate in the competition. Criteria for selection are the evaluation criteria stated under 2.5 and based on the short description of business idea given in the registration. The selection will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the selection.
- 1.7. After entering the competition (article 1.6) teams will have to participate in the kick-off meeting, the masterclass, and the semi-final presentation of the business plans.
- 1.8. The winning teams of the semi-finals will have to participate in the final.

2. Jury, evaluation, award

- 2.1. In each participating country one semi-final will be organised to award the national winner, who will be participating in the international final.
- 2.2. The teams should attend the semi-finals and final in person. If a personal presence is not possible, the pitch can also be held live via video chat.
- 2.3. A professional jury will be appointed by the organisers per country. Jury members cannot be involved, in any way, in any of the submissions that the jury will evaluate.
- 2.4. The composition of the jury will not be disclosed before the submission deadline.
- 2.5. The jury will evaluate all complete final submissions on the following aspects:
 - viability of the business plan
 - quality of the proposed design
 - originality of the proposed business idea
 - sustainability (including environmental, economic, and social factors) performance
 - quality of the read deck
 - quality of the pitch.

- 2.6. The jury's evaluations will be final, and binding and no correspondence will be entered into regarding results and the awarding of the prize.
- 2.7. A travel budget is available per national winning team, containing economy class transport. The actual, reasonable costs of travel and stay will be reimbursed, based on receipts, with a maximum of 250 EURO per team.
- 2.8. The final award must be used to further elaborate the proposed business idea and/or further develop the entrepreneurship of the involved participant(s). The presentation or video pitch mentioned in article 2.2 must have a specific proposal how the award will be used.
- 2.9. The final award is provided "as is". Award winners are responsible for paying applicable taxes, if any.
- 2.10. Award winner(s) will permit organisers and sponsors of the competition to use, free of charge, any received personal data, any photos or any contributions linked to the competition to be used in promotional activities relating to the competition and in relation to the announcement of the winner through all media. All IP and know-how in the submitted materials or acquired through the competition remain the property of the original owners and cannot be communicated to the public without prior written consent by one of the team members.
- 2.11. The final award winning team will cooperate in promotional activities to the extent that can be reasonably expected, including publicity regarding the announcements of the winner(s) across all media and regarding the deployment of the award (as mentioned in article 2.8). For cooperating with these promotional activities no financial compensation will be paid.
- 2.12. The final award is personal and not transferable or exchangeable. In case of refusal or non-acceptance of the prize or conditions that are inherent to the competition, the prize will not be awarded. In that case, the organisers are entitled to select another winner.

3. Submission

3.1. The final submission consists of three elements:

- **A read deck.** A template for the read deck will be provided for registered teams.
- **An executive summary.** This is a condensed description of the essence of the business plan, the bottom line of what the business idea is all about. This summary should have a clear business proposition, a section on the costs (investment, payback time, etc.), benefits (including social and environmental benefits) and (business) risks. The executive summary cannot exceed 1 page (A4).
- **Proof of studentship.** For each participant, a verifiable proof of studentship or PhD studies should be included (see also article 1.2).

3.2. The final and complete submission must be submitted per email to the corresponding national organiser before the deadline. Submissions received after the deadline or incomplete submissions will be excluded from the competition. All relevant deadlines will be communicated to the teams in written form.

3.3. All elements of the submission must be written in English and must be provided in commonly used, easily accessible (unsecured) file types, such as PDF.

3.4. The submission should be original and recent work, carried out by the participants themselves.

4. General

- 4.1. Only the organisers and jury of the competition have access to the complete submissions and only for purposes directly related to the competition.
- 4.2. All IP and know-how in the submitted materials remain the property of the original owners, submission will not result in any transfer of ownership to the organisers, jury, and sponsors of the competition.
- 4.3. The organisers of this competition are entitled to, at its discretion and without notice, change or modify these regulations and without giving a reason to discontinue, modify or adapt the competition for reasons of its own without any obligation to compensate any damages on behalf of the participant. Any changes or adaptations within the competition will be communicated to registered participants.
- 4.4. Any participation in the competition implies unreserved acceptance of these regulations by the participant.
- 4.5. Participants can be disqualified when it is believed they are not acting in conformity with the regulations of the competition or if the participant is otherwise fraudulently accessing the competition or unfairly influencing the course of the competition.