

## **Hackathon on Plastic Free Future and Water Saving Solutions**

### **1 Mission LiFE**

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India at the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP26). This mission focuses in bringing individual behaviours at the forefront of the global climate action narrative. LiFE mission primarily strives to achieve replacing the 'use-and-dispose' economy, which is most widely practiced currently and characterized by thoughtless and destructive consumption, by a circular economy model, which would be defined by mindful and deliberate utilization.

The Phase I of mission LiFE mainly focuses on creating a Change in Demand by nudging individuals, communities, and institutions to practice simple environment friendly and climate conscious choices in their daily lives. A comprehensive list of actions under mission LiFE are categorized based on the outcome as follows

1. Energy Saved
2. Water Saved
3. Single Use Plastic Reduced
4. Sustainable Food Systems Adopted
5. Waste Reduced
6. Healthy Lifestyles Adopted
7. E-waste Reduced

### **2 Hackathon for Water and SUPs**

In line with the mission LiFE, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) in coordination with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) plans to conduct a Hackathon to identify new ideas and innovations under the categories Water Saved and Single Use Plastic Reduced.

The Hackathon shall invite ideas or innovative measures to address issues relating to the two categories from Students, Research Scholars, MSMEs and Startups, which shall

provide implementable and scalable solutions to the problems relating to water scarcity and single use plastic consumption.

### **3 Eligible applicants**

Applications shall be received from the participants based on the qualification criteria mentioned below

1. Applicants should have a minimum of a graduate degree or currently pursuing it, regardless of the stream (However, TNPCB will reserve the rights to reject or select any candidate whose proposal is exceptionally good irrespective of qualifications of the applicant/s)
2. Applicants can participate as teams or as individuals
3. Maximum size of the team shall be 3
4. Multiple nominations from individuals or teams are not allowed

The applications shall be invited from the following categories of entrants

1. Students/ Research Scholars/ Environmentalists
2. Individuals
3. Startups/ MSMEs
4. Education/ Research Institutes
5. Industries/ For-Profit and Non-Profit Organisations/ Government/ Non-Government Organisations

Participants are encouraged to submit specific and measurable ideas or concepts that provide solutions for promoting climate friendly and sustainable practices.

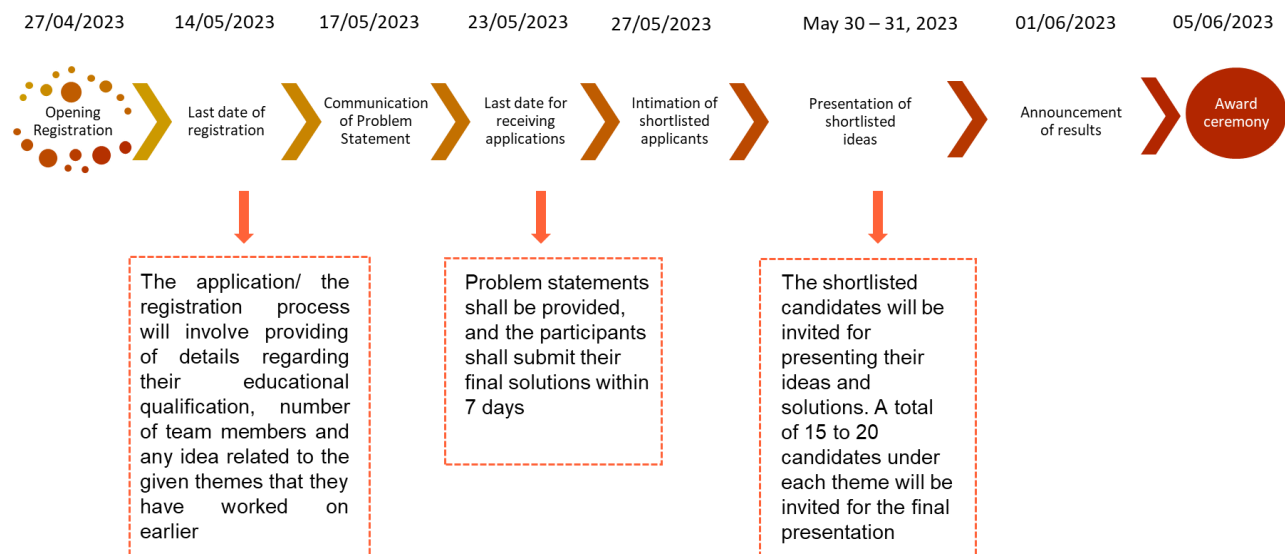
### **4 Application Process**

The preliminary applications shall be submitted under one or both of the themes namely, SUP Reduced and Water Saved. The initial application will be submitted with eligibility requirements like Aadhar and a short note (100 words) on the selected themes. The preliminary evaluation of the applications will be done based on the short note and the eligibility of the applicant. The applications that pass the eligibility criteria will be given a

set of problem statements via email for their selected theme from which the applicants can choose a problem statement for the week-long Hackathon.

## 5 Timeline

The sequence of events related to the Hackathon along with tentative dates for each activity has been provided below



## 6 Hackathon event

1. TNPCB shall host the Hackathon and invite applications from participants across the State.

Link for initial application google form- <https://forms.gle/3dQQZKDSwQ8nHuJ76>

2. The interested candidates and participants will have to apply through the online google form. The preliminary application will include details regarding their
  - a) Educational qualification
  - b) A short note on any idea/ innovation related to Single Use Plastic Reduced and Water Saved
  - c) Number of team members, other details and their age proof (preferably Aadhar card)
  - d) The project theme that the team will work towards (Plastic/ Water)

3. The received applications shall be screened to include applications that meet the eligibility criteria.
4. All the eligible applicants will receive their respective problem statements via email on the start day (17<sup>th</sup> May 2023) of Hackathon. The applicants will have to choose their problem statements from a list given for their themes. The evaluation of the ideas/ solutions/ innovations for the problem statements will be done by an internal expert committee. A total of 15- 20 participants (based on the response) will be shortlisted from all the applications that are submitted.
5. The shortlisted candidates will be requested to present their solutions in person at the presentation to be conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2023. Selected applicants will be informed a week in prior to the presentation/ Hackathon event.
6. The presentation for the Hackathon event shall be organized in the TNPCB head office and winners shall be announced after completing the evaluation for all applications by the expert committee based on relevant scoring guidelines which shall be detailed out separately. Each participant will be given a presentation time of 10 minutes and grace time of 5 minutes for presenting their ideas and solutions.  
*(Exact date, venue and time of the event will be communicated to the participants 5 days prior to the event)*
7. The winners shall be facilitated on World Environment Day – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## **7 Evaluation Criteria**

The evaluation of ideas/ solutions/ innovations will be evaluated on the following criteria;

- a) Originality
- b) Relevance
- c) Innovation
- d) Scalability
- e) Affordability
- f) Replicability
- g) Practicability and feasibility
- h) Sustainability

## **8 Award Ceremony**

The winners in each category shall be facilitated on World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The participants shall be provided with certificate of participation. The winners shall be awarded with mementos and cash prizes. There shall be 5 prizes for each category (Water Saved & SUP Reduced) as mentioned below;

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Prize- Rs. 3 Lakhs
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize- Rs. 2 Lakhs
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize- Rs 1 Lakhs
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize- Rs 1 Lakhs
5. 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize- Rs 1 Lakhs

The winners shall be featured on digital publications of TNPCB such as Meendum Manjappai website and Manjappai mobile application