

# IGNITE CLIMATE INNOVATION CHALLENGE

We are seeking passionate Ethiopians with ideas to address food security, agricultural sustainability, and climate challenges in the Amhara and Afar regions.



## Rules and Regulations

### 1. Context and aims

The IGNITE Innovation Hub for Eastern Africa is the first of its kind for the World Food Programme (WFP), established in partnership with CARE Denmark to address challenges across climate resilience and food systems. It aims to foster climate-resilient, inclusive and locally-led sustainable food systems. The hub is committed to leveraging local solutions to address local challenges, nurturing entrepreneurial ecosystems, and adding value to WFP and CARE's programs.

The Innovation Hub; in partnership with WFP Ethiopian Office, CARE Ethiopia and Iceaddis, is launching the first innovation programme in Ethiopia with the aim of identifying entrepreneurs solving challenges on the nexus of food systems and climate resilience.

### 2. Publicity

The partners reserve the right to publish details of the entrants, shortlisted candidates, finalists, and/or accepted SMEs of the accelerator program on their website and in other promotional and publicity material as they consider appropriate. By entering, entrants agree that they will be willing and available to participate in publicity and promotional activities and events and/or press conferences and that the organizers shall be entitled to use entrants' names, photographs, and other relevant information in publicity throughout all media, free of charge.

### 3. Terms and conditions of entry

Entry is open to Ethiopian teams or companies with innovative ideas/products addressing climate resilience and food security in the Amhara and Afar regions.

Applicants must meet the following requirements at the date of the application to be eligible:

- Should have proof of legally registered documents of formation and establishment in Ethiopia
- Been in existence for at least 3 years
- The minimum age of founders is 18yr
- Must be able to commit and attend accelerator program activities.
- Have a proof of a revenue-generating business of at least the equivalent of 200,000 Birr per annum.



Female entrepreneurs and women-led SMEs are strongly encouraged to take part in the accelerator.

By entering the program, the participants agree to the rules and regulations of the stream accelerator program.

## 4. Definitions

### The IGNITE Climate Innovation Challenge

The challenge aims to empower and scale innovative startups, MSMEs, and cooperatives that offer commercially viable solutions to address critical gaps in food production, climate resilience, and nutrition. Specifically tailored to the needs and circumstances of vulnerable communities, we invite applications from micro and small-enterprises, as well as cooperatives in Ethiopia, Amhara and Afar regions. These entities should be actively developing and implementing commercially sustainable solutions to address pressing issues in food and livestock production, processing, distribution, and nutrition. It's crucial to note that these challenges are further exacerbated by the effects of climate change, making the need for innovative solutions even more urgent.

All solution providers are encouraged to apply, priority will be given to solutions that:

1. Enhance climate resilience through:
  - Promotion of climate-smart practices.
  - Utilization of clean energy for food production, processing, storage, and consumption.
  - Promotion of efficient water access and utilization for agri-food production and processing.
2. Improve food production, processing, and distribution through:
  - Public Private Partnerships, Community-driven and sustainable approaches.
  - Targeting the needs of the most vulnerable populations.

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3. Addressing nutritional challenges by:
  - Prioritizing the prevention of deficiencies.
  - Focusing on transformative behavioral change.
  - Promoting locally produced specialized nutritious foods
  
4. Using local clean energy sources and efficient technologies:
  - Leveraging solar system and/digitization to Improve community access to services, food and resources, as well as marketing and farm processing systems
  - Leverage locally sourced materials and manufacturing/processing techniques.
  - Demonstrate significant engagement at the district level, fostering community involvement and development.

## 5. Submission

The submission deadline for the **IGNITE Innovation** is August 5th, 2024.

Applications can only be submitted through the relevant online form provided (Please visit: <https://www.iceaddis.com/ignitehubet/> ) and at local WFP and CARE Offices (Applicants can collect forms and drop them off at the mentioned regional offices). The submissions should include a detailed description (through the application form)

Selection criteria:

- **Innovation:** The degree of innovation demonstrated by the proposed solution, including its uniqueness, creativity, and potential to disrupt existing paradigms.
- **Impact:** The potential impact of the solution in fostering climate-resilient, inclusive, and locally-led sustainable food systems, as well as its contribution to addressing food security challenges within the stated regions.
- **Feasibility:** The feasibility of implementing the proposed solution, including its technical viability, scalability, and sustainability over the long term.
- **Alignment with Objectives:** The alignment of the application with the goals and objectives of the IGNITE Innovation Hub, as well as its ability to contribute to the overall mission of fostering sustainable food systems in Ethiopia.
- **Local Context:** The extent to which the proposal demonstrates a strong understanding of local contexts, cultures, and needs, and its ability to leverage local solutions to address local challenges.

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## 5.1 Languages for Submission

The applicants can submit their entries in English and Amharic.

## 5.2 Special provisions

Compliance of submitted projects with these criteria will be verified as far as possible prior to presentation to the selection jury.

Partners cannot be held responsible for late submissions due to technical problems.

## 6. Selection Jury

The selection of the SMEs will be undertaken by the Selection Jury to be put forward for consideration by the Partners.

- The finalists will be selected based on stringent judging criteria.
- The Selection Jury reserves the right to take external advice and guidance from such other experts as they consider appropriate, including but not limited to advice relating to the originality of the submission and whether the submission infringes the intellectual property rights of a third party.
- The Jury's deliberations will be documented. The decision will be determined by a simple majority. The Jury's decisions are made independently, are supreme and beyond dispute.
- Members of the Selection Jury and the Jury shall disclose to the prize administration team if they (a) have personal or financial interests in or be an employee, officer, director, or agent of any entity that is a registered participant in the Prize (including but not limited to a sponsor or financier of any such participant); or (b) have a familial or financial relationship with an individual who is a registered participant or participant sponsor, whereupon such members will be recused from reviewing, assessing, or voting on any matter relating to the relevant participants.
- The selecting jury's decision shall be final and non-appealable.

For further information please visit: <http://www.iceaddis.com/ignitehubet>