



## SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CHALLENGE

ACCELERATING INNOVATION IN SUSTAINABLE FINANCE



### FAQ

## APPLICATION

### Who can participate?

All penultimate year to postgraduate students from any academic programme of Nanyang Technological University (NTU), National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Management University (SMU) are welcome to participate.

### Who can be in my team?

You can form a team with other students from your same university, regardless of the year or programme you are in. The team should consist of 3 to 5 students.

### Can I join more than one team?

No, please join one team and pick one problem statement only.

### Is there an entry fee for this challenge?

No, participation for this challenge is completely free.

### How do I register for the challenge?

To register, fill in the registration form available on the challenge [website](#) and send it to [sfchallenge@asia.bnpparibas.com](mailto:sfchallenge@asia.bnpparibas.com) by 28 August, 2023. Please only send one document per team.

### When is the deadline for registration to the challenge?

The deadline for registration is 28 August, 2023.

### When is the deadline for the submission of my solution?

The deadline for submission is 11 September, 2023.

### Does this challenge require my physical presence?

You will be asked to present your solution in-person at the grand final, which will take place at the BNP Paribas office. Other events will be held online or have an option for you to join virtually. The kick-off webinar on 22 August will be recorded and we will be sharing the replay of the session.

### What is the level of engagement expected for this challenge?

We designed this challenge with your school's academic calendar in mind, to give you and your team the flexibility to decide how much time to spend in this challenge. You will have 3 weeks between the kick-off session and proposal submission to develop your solution. While not mandatory, we highly encourage you to join the kick off and Q&A sessions to get the most out of this challenge. For teams shortlisted for the finals, there will be mentoring sessions in the 4 weeks leading up to the final presentation. The timing and frequency of these mentoring meetings are entirely up to your team.

## CONTENT GUIDELINES

### Do I have to choose one of the problem statements proposed?

Yes, you need to present a solution to one of the proposed problem statements. These problem statements are carefully selected by our panel of seasoned bankers and sustainability experts. When registering your team for the challenge, please specify which problem statement you will work on. Teams shortlisted for the final presentation will be supported by a mentor who can offer advice and guidance leading up to the final presentation.

### Can I work on a different problem statement that the one I choose and put in registration document?

We would prefer you to stick to the same problem statement you initially picked. But if you really want to change, please indicate clearly when submitting your proposal.

### What is the expected format of the proposal?

For the qualification phase, we are looking for a short slide deck in pdf format. You can also include research materials such as excel tables. For the final presentation, teams are expected to present in form of a pitch presentation (with supporting materials).

### Can I submit the proposal in a language other than English?

No, we expect your brochure and pitch to be delivered in English.

## SELECTION OF THE FINALISTS & NEXT STEPS

### What happen if my team is selected as a finalist?

As a finalist your team will be invited to present your solution to a panel of jury from BNP Paribas management. You will have 4 weeks to further develop your idea with the support of your senior mentor. The objective is to leverage this time to refine your solution, and prepare a compelling pitch presentation for the grand final event.

### When and where the final will take place?

The final will take place on 20 October, 2023 at the BNP Paribas office.

### What is the prize for the winners?

There will be a \$10,000 cash prize to be shared across the 3 winning teams. Winning students will have the opportunity for a fast-track recruitment process for their application to the BNP Paribas internship and graduate programme. In addition, the challenge offers a great platform to expand your professional network, learn from seasoned bankers and differentiate your resume.

## OTHER

### Where can I find more about BNP Paribas' commitments and engagements in sustainability?

At BNP Paribas, sustainability is at the core of our vision and company purpose. In the global context of climate crisis, banks play a major role in the provision or capital to finance the investment in renewables, new technologies and the transition to a circular economy. You can find out more here: <https://group.bnpparibas/en/our-commitments/transitions#>

### Where can I find the replay of the kick-off sessions?

Replay of the kick-off session will be emailed to students who have signed up for the webinar. Please ensure you sign up for the session even though you may not be able to attend at the scheduled time.

### Is there any email to contact for support?

You can contact us through the dedicated email address [sfchallenge@asia.bnpparibas.com](mailto:sfchallenge@asia.bnpparibas.com)

Find out more about BNP Paribas' sustainability commitments and updates on this programme here:

<https://apac.bnpparibas/en/our-solutions/sustainable-finance/university-challenge>

Still got a question? Email us at: [sfchallenge@asia.bnpparibas.com](mailto:sfchallenge@asia.bnpparibas.com)

