'Volunteering for Sustainability' Ideathon
Information Session

Organized by

EMIRATES FOUNDATION
مؤسسة الإمارات

In collaboration with

International Association for Volunteer Effort

In partnership with

وزارة التغير المناخي والبيئة
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

هيئة البيئة - أبوظبي
Environment Agency - ABU DHABI

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Ideathon

In line with the 2023 year of sustainability and under the theme of "**Volunteering for Sustainability**" and in support of COP28 efforts, Emirates Foundation aims to run a virtual Ideathon covering areas in volunteering and recognizing pioneers making an impact in the environment sector. The Ideathon will highlight how volunteers can challenge issues, take ownership and responsibility, identify novel solutions and give leadership to transformational change.

This year's sustainability theme will focus on volunteering in three areas:

Disaster Relief	Protect Nature, Land & Oceans	Youth Education & Skills

Objectives

To **create awareness** amongst the society on the importance of volunteering towards sustainability	To support the UAE's sustainability agenda and **deliver impact at scale**	To contribute towards **UN Social Development Goals**

Event details

📅 Dec '23 – Mar '24	🕐 3 Days	👥 12 - 15 participating teams	🏆 3 winners

Target audience:

- Global, MENA Region, and National Volunteer Organizations' Leaders
- IAVE-affiliated and prominent volunteering leadership organizations
- NGOs or third sector organizations who have a volunteering mandate across the world

Scope:

- 12 - 15 Participating teams
- 3 Actionable idea

Wining teams:

- Grant funding their project - $25k each
- Recognition as Sustainability Champions

Important Dates

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Launch

Dec 5, 2023

Jan 29, 2024

Close Registrations

Announce shortlisted teams

Feb 23, 2024

Mar 4 – 5, 2024

Ideathon & Workshops

Event Pitch & Winners announcement

Mar 6, 2024

Ideathon Program

MONDAY, MARCH 4

Orientation & Guidelines Day

Orientation Session for Participating teams

Official Opening of the Ideathon and introducing the teams

(Keynote Speech) - Intro "Volunteering towards Sustainability"

Inspiring Talks (short successful stories relevant to the Ideathon's themes delivered by different speakers)

Announcing the Ideathon Challenges

Expert Workshop 1 **Disaster Relief**	Expert Workshop 2 **Nature, Land & Oceans**	Expert Workshop 3 **Youth Education & Skills**

Coaching & Ideation Begins by each team
(Teams with their coaches will be working on their solution proposal until the next day (24 hrs))

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Challenge & Ideation (24 hr)

Teams continue Coaching & Ideation and arrange their own schedule with their Coach

Expert Workshop 4 for all teams
Topic to be confirmed

Teams Continue Coaching & Ideation and arrange their own schedule with their Coach

Expert Workshop 5 for all teams
Topic to be confirmed

Deadline for Solutions' proposals Submission

Teams Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Pitching, and Winners Announcement

Welcome note

Pitch – **Disaster Relief**	Pitch - **Nature, Land & Oceans**	Pitch - **Youth, Education & Skills**

Judges discuss and choose winner

Winners Announcement

Closure Ceremony

Judging Process

- The pitch day will be on 6 March 2024.

- A global expert judging panel comprised of judges from diverse backgrounds in sustainability and volunteer management from local and global organizations and institutes will be supporting in judging the ideas submitted by the participating teams on the last day of the Virtual Ideathon.

- A judging panel of nine specialized judges will be divided into three groups of three per the themes, and each group will be assigned to judge all teams competing under one of the three themes.

- Judges of each theme will select only one team with the best idea to be announced as the winner.

Judging Session

9 specialized judges from national and global organizations

Each team (5 min)+
Q&A (10min) = (15 min)

3 Judges	3 Judges	3 Judges
Health, Recovery & Peace	Nature, Land & Oceans	Youth Education & Skills
5 Teams	5 Teams	5 Teams

Best Idea from each theme will be awarded a prize fund

Teams' ideas will be judged based on the below main criteria supported by detailed rubrics:

- Originality of the volunteering idea
- Clear Scope of Work, objectives, vision and mission
- Feasibility of implementation
- Ability to accomplish long term, measurable, sustainable impact
- Show high-level outline plan to implement the volunteering project if awarded
- Structured Partnership plan
- Well-defined budget
- Innovative use of Technology
- Ability to scale
- Organized presentation and confident approach

Eligibility

- Registration is open for all IAVE-affiliated and prominent volunteering leadership organizations, NGOs or third sector organizations who have a volunteering mandate across the world.

- Registrations and submissions will be reviewed and only 15 teams will be selected where five will be from each category challenges to participate in the Virtual Ideathon based on complying with registration requirements, the organization profile, and the rationale for their participation, plan to implement the solution if awarded and how this will better help them serve the community.

Language

- **English language** will be the official language for registration, participation, idea submission, and pitching in this Virtual Ideathon. All participating teams must arrange and guarantee their own interpretation support if needed.

Registration

- Online Registration will be open from **Dec 5, 2023, to Jan 29, 2024**. Shortlisted teams will be announced on **Feb 23, 2024**.

- Individual registrations will not be accepted.

- An organization appointed focal point must initiate the registration in the Ideathon registration system and he/she will be considered as the main focal point of contact.

- Each organization can register and participate with **one team only** to compete in only one of the themes.

- Teams will be comprised of members from volunteering organizations (volunteers and/or organization staff).

- Each team must be made of **three members**.

- All team members **18 years of old and above**.

- If any of the team members fails to attend/participate during all or any of the three days of the Virtual Ideathon, he/she will not be considered as part of the team.

- An organization will be disqualified from participation in the Ideathon if on the event days their team has less than three members.

- An organization can't participate in the Ideathon with any team member who were not preregistered.

- Judges and Coaches can't be registered as part of the participating teams.
- Judges who are part of a participating organizations will not be assigned on the theme where their organization is participating to avoid conflict of interest.
- The focal point must confirm that his/her organization will confirm and commit to provide adequate internet access and guarantee the needed digital literacy for all team members to be able to use the virtual communication tools needed all through the days of the Virtual Ideathon.
- Each organization/team must nominate **a coach to support** the team during the Virtual Ideathon.
- Accepted teams must join workshops on the 1st and 2nd days of the Ideathon on **4 and 5 March 2024.**
- Each team will have **24 hours** to finalize and submit their idea.
- Any team fails to submit their idea in (PowerPoint and PDF format) before the deadline will be disqualified.
- All teams will pitch their ideas to the judging panel for their theme on the 3rd day of the Virtual Ideathon, **6 March 2024.**
- Judges of each theme will select only one team with the best idea to be announced as the winner of that theme of the Ideathon.
- Awards will be announced at the end of the 3rd day of the Virtual Ideathon on **6 March 2024.**

Any Questions?

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