

## Terms and Conditions

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1. By entering the 2017 UNECE Sustainable Development StartUp Event (hereafter referred to as the “Competition”), you warrant that all information submitted by you is true, up to date and complete. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE, “the Organizer”) reserves the right to verify the eligibility of all participants.
2. By entering the Competition, you accept the present Terms and Conditions.
3. No purchase or payment of any kind is required to participate in this Competition.
4. The Competition is open to: a. companies and non-profit organizations founded on or after 1 January 2015; b. teams of individuals planning to launch a start-up company or a non-profit organization and; c. teams of graduate students and/or researchers interested in partnering with an existing company to develop a new product or service.
5. Participants must be resident or headquartered in a member State of UNECE.
6. Entries must be submitted electronically by filling in the entry form.
7. The individual submitting the electronic entry form must be a legitimate representative of his/her company, organization or team. The organizers reserve the right to determine what constitutes legitimate representation. Such determination shall not be subject to recourse.
8. The Organizer does not provide any equipment or technical/communication infrastructure necessary to create and submit an entry to the Competition.
9. Participants must not be staff members of UNECE or members of a UNECE staff member’s family or household, nor have been offered future employment with UNECE.
10. Participants may submit more than one entry, provided that entries submitted by the same participant are not substantially similar. The Organizer reserves the right to determine what constitutes ‘substantial similarity’; such determination shall not be subject to recourse.
11. The deadline for initial submissions is 12 March 2017 (24.00 CET). No submissions will be accepted after this deadline.
12. All entries must be submitted in English.
13. Entries should describe innovative ideas and new solutions for sustainable development in a wide range of fields directly related to the work of [UNECE](#). The Organizer reserves the right to decide if a submission is related to and aligned with the fields of interests of UNECE; its decision shall be final and not be subject to recourse.
14. All entries, must: a. respect the intellectual property rights of third parties; b. be compliant with applicable national laws; c. not depict, or incite, hatred; defame; abuse; harass; threaten a specific person or social or religious group, or incite violence or conflict. fully respect the legal rights of third parties.
15. Ideas which are not submitted in English or which the Organizer considers to be off topic, spam, advertisements for unrelated projects or otherwise to violate the rules or spirit of the

UNECE Sustainable Development StartUp Event will be removed. Any decision to remove an entry is final and not subject to appeal.

16. The best entries in the Competition will be invited to develop and submit a full proposal between 1 and 10 April 2017 (24.00 CET). They will be invited by the Organizer to the 2017 Session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, which will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, during 25-27 April 2017. The selection of finalists will be made by a Jury appointed by the Organizer, based on a number of substantial criteria (primarily based on the quality of the solution, innovativeness, business potential, social impact potential, and likelihood of success). Decisions of the Jury are final and not subject to appeal.

17. The Organizer will pay for the travel and a daily subsistence allowance for the finalists for the purpose of attending the 2017 UNECE session in Geneva during 25-27 April in accordance with UN rules. Upon notification that a finalist is invited to the 2017 UNECE session, acceptance must be confirmed within 72 hours by the finalist. If confirmation is not received within the aforementioned period, the Organizer reserves the right to withdraw its invitation, by notifying the finalist accordingly. Finalist who do not attend 2017 UNECE session will be disqualified and not be considered for the Award.

18. Finalists must hold a valid passport for the duration of the travel and, where applicable, a valid visa to enter Switzerland. The Organizer will provide invitation letters which finalists may use in support of their visa applications.

19. Award: Finalists will be invited to present their proposals at the UNECE Ideas for Change Award at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Participants in the 2017 UNECE Session, together with the Expert Jury, will vote for the winning proposals and an official award ceremony will be held during the session. Winners will receive official Award Certificates during the 2017 UNECE session.

20. All participants will retain the intellectual property rights on the contents of their submissions. However, by entering the Competition, each participant grants the Organizer a limited, non-exclusive, universal, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, communicate, demonstrate, make available for public display and distribute the content of his/her submission for the Organizer's promotional, informational and educational or awareness purposes, via printed or digital or online media, including the Organizer's website. The participant hereby warrants that he/she is legally entitled to grant such license to the Organizer.

21. Finalists shall allow the Organizer to use their names and/or photographs for promotional and awareness purposes in any media, worldwide, at no cost to the Organizer and without remuneration for the participants.

22. By entering the Competition, participants agree to release and hold harmless the Organizer from and against any and all claims, expenses, and liability, including but not limited to, negligence and damages of any kind to persons and property, infringement of trademark, copyright or other intellectual property rights arising out of or relating to their participation in the Competition and the contents of their submissions.

23. The Organizer reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify any submission which does not comply with the present Terms and Conditions.

24. The Organizer is not responsible for lost, late, corrupted, mutilated or misdirected submissions, or submissions not received within the deadlines specified above

25. No substitution or transfer of an Award by the winners is permitted.
26. Participants in the competition are not allowed to use the UN name and emblem or other branding elements on material that was produced by them.
27. The Organizer shall have the right, at its sole discretion, to abbreviate, modify, suspend, cancel or terminate the Competition without any future obligation, by notifying the applicants via an announcement at [www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org).
28. Nothing in the present Terms and Conditions shall be deemed a limitation or a waiver, explicit or implicit, of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations.