



കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ജൈവവൈവിധ്യ ബോർഡ് KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

A statutory and autonomous body, Government of Kerala

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Notification Inviting Applications for the Biodiversity Ideation Challenge 2025

The Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) invites innovative thinkers to participate in the Biodiversity Ideation Challenge 2025. This initiative aims to develop effective solutions for significant challenges in biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and benefit sharing. We encourage youth and the public to engage in innovation, critical thinking, and problem-solving, fostering environmentally friendly solutions to sustainability issues in Kerala.

Objectives:

1. Provide a platform for college students, startups, and public to propose innovative solutions in the following themes:
 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Value Chain Development
 - Nature-based Climate Adaptation
 - Application of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ML (Machine Learning) Tools in Biodiversity Conservation across Food, Agriculture, and Health Sector
2. Facilitate the creation of bioresource-based startup
3. Cultivate a culture of product innovation and problem-solving.

Eligibility:

Open to college students, startups, and public.

Each team may consist of a maximum of 4 members.

General Guidelines:

Identify major challenges within the selected themes and develop problem statements and solutions.

Solutions may be proposed on any platform.

A panel of mentors will provide expert guidance, and all submissions will be evaluated by domain experts.

Submission Guidelines:

Shortlisted participants must attend an orientation and submit the following by **September, 2025:**

Team Introduction Video: A two-minute video in English or Malayalam where all team members introduce themselves creatively and explain their unique advantages.

Idea Submission:

- Multiple solutions may be submitted for various problem statements.
- College submissions must include a letter from the institution signed by the principal or director, stating the work is original.
- Public/startups must include a self-declaration affirming originality and no breach of intellectual property rights.
- Solutions should utilize advanced technologies, data, and analytics and be scalable into a prototype or business model.

Submission Document Format:

Title: Title of your Idea

Category:

Sector:

Problem Statement:

Overview: Brief description of your idea

Relevant Past Experience:

Mentors (if any):

Details: Background, how the idea solves the problem, design (sketches, screen designs, etc.), advantages, beneficiaries, benefits to people/nature, future prospects, scaling and sustainability plans, approximate budget.

Potential Difficulties: Challenges such as marketing or practicality.

Pitch: How you would present your idea to reviewers/judges.

The document should not exceed 10 pages and can be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF format in English or Malayalam. Use charts, diagrams, and tables to enhance clarity. Submissions will be screened by domain experts for final round qualification.

Final Stage Presentation Guidelines:

- Shortlisted participants must present their solutions/prototypes to a jury of professionals.
- Attendance of all team members during the presentation is mandatory.
- Prepare a 15-minute presentation covering all key aspects, starting with team details and followed by problem statement, proposed solution, advantages, benefits to the local community, future prospects, budget, and marketing plan.
- No travel allowance will be provided for the final round, and a photo ID is required for participation.
- Judges may cancel the event if insufficient participants qualify in a category.
- In case of a tie, judges will make the final decision.
- All submitted ideas must be original and not previously presented elsewhere.
- The team representative is responsible for distributing any prize money among team members.
- The judges' decision is final.
- Participants qualifying for the third round will receive a participation certificate.

Prizes:

1st Place: ₹25,000 + memento + certificate

2nd Place: ₹15,000 + memento + certificate

3rd Place: ₹10,000 + memento + certificate

Examples of Problem Statements Under Each Theme:

(The examples provided below are meant as models; participants can choose other relevant problem statements that fall under each particular theme.)

Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Value Chain Development:

- v. Promoting conservation while generating economic benefits.
- w. Community-based conservation to enhance livelihood opportunities.
- x. Developing metrics to assess biodiversity and sustainable management of natural resources.

Nature-based Climate Adaptation:

- v. Mitigating climate change impacts.
- w. Climate-smart agriculture and improving resilience.
- x. Restoring coastal habitats and integrating indigenous knowledge into adaptation strategies.

Application of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ML (Machine Learning) in Biodiversity Conservation:

- v. Technologies for species identification and mapping ecosystems.
- w. Hazard assessment using internet-enabled sensors.
- x. Addressing wildlife trafficking and species response to climate change.

Timeline:

Stage I - Registration: Register online by **August 20th, 2025**, at <http://www.keralabiodiversity.org> and upload a synopsis (max 300 words).

Stage II - Orientation: Qualified teams will receive mentorship during **September 2025** to refine their ideas.

Stage III - Submission: Shortlisted teams must submit their solutions by **October 2025**.

Stage IV - Final Presentation: Presentations will take place on **December 2025**.

For more information, please contact the KSBB (Phone: 0471-2724740).

Member Secretary