

## Code the Climate Hackathon:

Deadline for entry: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 12:00PM

Code the Climate Hackathon (the "Hackathon") Official Rules

NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OR PAYMENT WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.

SUBMISSION OF ANY ENTRY CONSTITUTES AGREEMENT TO THESE OFFICIAL RULES AS A CONTRACT BETWEEN PARTICIPANT (INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF PARTICIPANT), THE HACKATHON SPONSOR, UNISA and SCADCO.

ONLY UNISA STUDENTS' MAY SUBMIT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE CODE THE CLIMATE HACKATHON. A UNISA EMAIL ADDRESS MUST BE USED FOR AN ENTRY TO BE CONSIDERED AS AN ENTRY INTO THE CODE THE CLIMATE HACKATHON.

### 1. Dates and Timing:

Submission Period: Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (17:30 PM) – Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, (12:00PM) (Hence forth the "Submission Period").

Winners Judging Period: Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, till Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (Hence forth the "Judging Period").

Winners Notified: On or around Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

Code the Climate Hackathon Winners Announced: Closing of the Global Voices Climate Change Summit on Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### 2. Administrator

Administrator: Scadco, Unit 11, 10 Macmillan Road, Glenferness, South Africa

Host: UNISA international.

### 3. Eligibility

#### The Hackathon IS open to:

- Individuals who are in a higher education/tertiary education space.
- Single individuals or teams of no more than 4 individuals.
- Participant who meets:
  - All pre-requisite requirements.
  - What to build and what to submit requirements.
  - IS A UNISA STUDENT and created an account with a UNISA or Microsoft Email.
- Individuals who are residents of, or Organizations domiciled in, a country, state, province or territory OUTSIDE of South Africa.

#### The Hack-A-Thon IS NOT open to:

- Organizations involved with the design, production, paid promotion, execution, or distribution of the Hackathon, including the Host Staff, Sponsor, Administrator ("Promotion Entities").
- Employees, representatives and agents\*\* of such Promotion Entities, and all members of their immediate family or household\*
- Any other individual involved with the design, production, promotion, execution, or distribution of the Hackathon, and each member of their immediate family or household\*
- Any Judge (defined below), or company or individual that employs a Judge
- Any parent company, subsidiary, or other affiliate\*\*\* of any organization described above
- Any other individual or organization whose participation in the Hack-A-Thon would create, in the sole discretion of the Sponsor and/or Administrator, a real or apparent conflict of interest

*\*The members of an individual's immediate family include the individual's spouse, children and stepchildren, parents and stepparents, and siblings and stepsiblings. The*

*members of an individual's household include any other person that shares the same residence as the individual for at least three (3) months out of the year.*

*\*\*Agents include individuals or organizations that in creating a Submission to the Hack-A-Thon, are acting on behalf of, and at the direction of, a Promotion Entity through a contractual or similar relationship.*

*\*\*\*An affiliate is: (a) an organization that is under common control, sharing a common majority or controlling owner, or common management; or (b) an organization that has a substantial ownership in, or is substantially owned by the other organization.*

#### 4. How To Enter:

Complete the Microsoft Cloud for Sustainability on the Microsoft Learn Website.

Submit a screen shot of the completed assessment/badge given after completion and upload it accordingly.

Must complete the topic and rubric and submit a Hack\* in any way which the participant deems is best to represent their hack. The Rubric can be found here: <http://bit.ly/45eoRqv>

\*Note that all participants of a team (No greater than 4 members) must submit the same Hack on their own individual application page. Each individual group member must have the same submitted Hack in order of the team to count. Should a member note submit they would be disqualified from the team and the Code the Climate Hackathon. Please see *Financial or Preferential Support* for more information.

#### Multiple Submissions:

There are no multiple Submissions per Individual/team. Only one project may be submitted. You may edit your submission as per request.

#### Language Requirements:

All Submission materials must be in English or, if not in English, the Participant must provide an English translation of the demonstration video, text description, and testing instructions as well as all other materials submitted.

#### Intellectual Property:

Your Submission must: (a) be your original work product\*; (b) be solely owned by with no other person or entity having any right or interest in it; and (c) not violate the intellectual property rights or other rights including but not limited to copyright,

trademark, patent, contract, and/or privacy rights, of any other person or entity. A Participant may contract with a third party for technical assistance to create the Submission provided the Submission components are solely the Participant's work product and the result of the Participant's ideas and creativity, and the Participant owns all rights to them. A Participant may submit a Submission that includes the use of open-source software or hardware, provided the Participant complies with applicable open-source licenses and, as part of the Submission, creates software that enhances and builds upon the features and functionality included in the underlying open-source product. By entering the Hackathon, you represent, warrant, and agree that your Submission meets these requirements.

Please see [Data\\_Ethics\\_Curriculum\\_Complete.PDF](#) For more Information.

*\*Note that is there is a team of participants that there must be a designated representative. No one person holds the rights to any ideas or concepts created or shared during this Hackathon experience.*

#### Financial or Preferential Support:

A Project must not have been developed, or derived from a Project developed, with financial or preferential support from the Sponsor or Administrator. Such Projects include, but are not limited to, those that received funding or investment for their development, were developed under contract, or received a commercial license, from the Host, Sponsor or Administrator any time prior to the end of Hackathon Submission Period. The Host, Sponsor or Administrator has sole discretion, may disqualify a Hackathon submission, team or individual, if awarding a prize to the Hackathon would create a real or apparent conflict of interest as well as any other conduct that would violate the Law of South Africa, Does not meet submission requirements or has conducted action seen as harmful to them self or others, vaguer, obscene, insensitive or inappropriate.

#### 5. Submission Modifications:

You may submit a request before Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 12:00PM to make any changes or modifications to your submission before closing date. NO EXEPTIONS will be made for late submissions or changes after the date of Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 12:00PM.

## 6. Judges & Criteria:

Eligible submissions will be evaluated by a panel of judges selected by the Host, Administrator. Judges may be employees of the Host, Administrator or Sponsor or third parties, may or may not be listed individually on the Hackathon Website, and may change before or during the judging period. Judging will take place in one round with one panel of Judges, at the discretion of the Administrator.

Stage One) Will be judged on completion of all steps of the "How to enter" section that meet the requirements. They will then be judged by a panel of judges decided by the Host.

### Judging Criteria:

Participants will receive a rubric, once the prerequisite has been completed. Participants must adhere to the judging criteria and ensure that all AI tools are Microsoft created tools. \*

*\*These tools include but not limited to Microsoft Copilot, ASURE Labs, GitHub and Microsoft 365.*

### Tie Breaking:

For each Prize listed below, if two or more submissions are tied, the tied submission with the highest score in the first applicable criterion listed above will be considered the higher scoring submission. In the event any ties remain, this process will be repeated, as needed, by comparing the tied submissions' scores on the next applicable criteria. If two or more Submissions are tied on all applicable criteria, the panel of Judges will vote on the tied submissions. \*

*\*Note that this applies for all stages of Judging during the Code the Climate Hackathon.*

## 7. Intellectual Property Rights:

All Submissions remain the intellectual property of the individuals or organizations that developed them. By submitting an entry, participants agree that the Host, Administrator or Sponsor will have a fully paid, non-exclusive license to use such entry for judging the entry. Participants agree that the Host, Administrator or Sponsor shall have the right to promote the Submission and use the name, likeness, voice and image of all individuals contributing to a Submission, in any materials promoting or publicizing the Hackathon and its results, during the Hackathon Period and for three

years thereafter. Some Submission components may be displayed to the public. Other Submission materials may be viewed by the Host, Administrator or Sponsor and judges for screening and evaluation. By submitting an entry or accepting any prize, participants represent and warrant that (a) submitted content is not copyrighted, protected by trade secret or otherwise subject to third party intellectual property rights or other proprietary rights, including privacy and publicity rights, unless participant is the owner of such rights or has permission from their rightful owner to post the content; and (b) the content submitted does not contain any viruses, Trojan horses, worms, spyware or other disabling devices or harmful or malicious code.

For more information, please see The AI Skills Navigator website privacy policy: [Privacy Policy - AI Skills Navigator Online](#)

## 8. Prizes:

### Prize for initial Hackathon:

Prize for 1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the Code the Climate Hackathon:

TBD

Prize for 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner of the Code the Climate Hackathon:

TBD

Prize for 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner of the Code the Climate Hackathon:

TBD

### Judges:

A panel of judges.

Please note we will not be accepting judge applications.

### IMPORTANT NOTES ON MULTIPLE PRIZE ELIGIBILITY:

- A project/participant can only win one (1) space in the designated number of individuals for the Finals.
  - A project/participant can only win one (1) prize for the Code the Climate Hackathon.
  - If there are no eligible submissions for a prize, that prize will not be awarded.
1. Substitutions & Changes: Prizes are non-transferable by the winner. Sponsor in its sole discretion has the right to make a prize substitution of equivalent or

greater value. Sponsor will not award a prize if there are no eligible Submissions entered in the Hackathon, or if there are no eligible Participants or Submissions for a specific prize.

2. Verification Requirement: THE AWARD OF A PRIZE TO A POTENTIAL WINNER IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION OF THE IDENTITY, QUALIFICATIONS AND ROLE OF THE POTENTIAL WINNER IN THE CREATION OF THE SUBMISSION. No Submission or Participant shall be deemed a winning Submission or winner until their post-competition prize affidavits have been completed and verified, even if prospective winners have been announced verbally or on the competition website. The final decision to designate a winner shall be made by Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges.
3. Prize Delivery:
  - The prize for entry to the Code the Climate Winners will be notified on or around Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The deadline for returning the Required Forms to the Administrator is ten (10) business days after the Required Forms are sent. Failure to provide correct information on the Required Forms, or other correct information required for a Prize, may result in disqualification of the Participant, or forfeiture of a Prize.
  - Prizes after the Global Voices Climate Change Summit will be Given to the winners within 7 days after the announcement. The deadline for returning the Required Forms to the Administrator is ten (10) business days after the Required Forms are sent. Failure to provide correct information on the Required Forms, or other correct information required for a Prize, may result in disqualification of the Participant, or forfeiture of a Prize.
4. Fees & Taxes: Winners are responsible for any fees associated with receiving or using a prize, including but not limited to, wiring fees or currency exchange fees. Winners are responsible for reporting and paying all applicable taxes in their jurisdiction of residence (federal, state/provincial/territorial and local). Winners may be required to provide certain information to facilitate receipt of the award, including completing and submitting any tax or other forms necessary for compliance with applicable withholding and reporting requirements. South African residents may be required to provide a completed form. Winners are also responsible for complying with exchange and banking regulations in their respective jurisdictions and reporting the receipt of the Prize to relevant government departments/agencies, if necessary. The Host,

Administrator, Sponsor and Judges and/or Prize provider reserves the right to withhold a portion of the prize amount to comply with the tax laws of the South Africa or other Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges jurisdiction, or those of a winner's jurisdiction.

## 9. Entry Conditions and Release:

A. By entering the Hackathon, you agree to the following:

1. The relationship between you, the Participant, and the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges, is not a confidential, fiduciary, or other special relationship.
2. You will be bound by and comply with these Official Rules and the decisions of the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges and/or the Hack-A-Thon Judges which are binding and final in all matters relating to the Hackathon.
3. You release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Promotion Entities, and their respective parent, subsidiary, and affiliated companies, the Prize suppliers and any other organizations responsible for sponsoring, fulfilling, administering, advertising or promoting the Hackathon, and all of their respective past and present officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives (hereafter the "Released Parties") from and against any and all claims, expenses, and liabilities (including reasonable attorneys' fees), including but not limited to negligence and damages of any kind to persons and property, defamation, slander, libel, violation of right of publicity, infringement of trademark, copyright or other intellectual property rights, property damage, or death or personal injury arising out of or relating to a Participant's entry, creation of Submission or entry of a Submission, participation in the Hackathon, acceptance or use or misuse of the Prize (including any travel or activity related thereto) and/or the broadcast, transmission, performance, exploitation or use of the Submission as authorized or licensed by these Official Rules.

B. Without limiting the foregoing, the Released Parties shall have no liability in connection with:

1. Any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges electronic or printing error, or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Hackathon.

2. Technical failures of any kind, including, but not limited to malfunctions, interruptions, or disconnections in phone lines, internet connectivity or electronic transmission errors, or network hardware or software or failure of the Hackathon Website.
3. Unauthorized human intervention in any part of the entry process or the Hackathon.
4. Technical or human error which may occur in the administration of the Hackathon or the processing of Submissions; or
5. Any injury or damage to persons or property which may be caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, from the Participant's participation in the Hackathon or receipt or use or misuse of any Prize.

The Released Parties are not responsible for incomplete, late, misdirected, damaged, lost, illegible, or incomprehensible Submissions or for address or email address changes of the Participants. Proof of sending or submitting the will not be deemed to be proof of receipt by the Sponsor or Administrator. If for any reason any Participant's Submission is determined to have not been received or been erroneously deleted, lost, or otherwise destroyed or corrupted, the Participant's sole remedy is to request the opportunity to resubmit its Submission. Such a request must be made promptly after the Participant knows or should have known there was a problem and will be determined at the sole discretion of the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges.

## 10. Publicity:

By participating in the Hackathon, Participant consents to the promotion and display of the Participant's Submission, and to the use of personal information about themselves for promotional purposes, by the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges and third parties acting on their behalf. Such personal information includes, but is not limited to, your name, likeness, photograph, voice, opinions, comments and hometown and country of residence. It may be used in any existing or newly created media, worldwide without further payment or consideration or right of review, unless prohibited by law. Authorized use includes but is not limited to advertising and promotional purposes.

## 11. General Conditions:

1. Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to cancel, suspend and/or modify the Hackathon, or any part of it, in the event of a technical failure, fraud, or any other factor or event that was not anticipated or is not within their control.
2. Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges reserve the right in their sole discretion to disqualify any individual or Participant if it finds to be actually or presenting the appearance of tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Hackathon or to be acting in violation of these Official Rules or in a manner that is inappropriate, unsportsmanlike, not in the best interests of this Hackathon, or a violation of any applicable law or regulation.
3. Any attempt by any person to undermine the proper conduct of the Hackathon may be a violation of criminal and civil law. Should the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges suspect that such an attempt has been made or is threatened, they reserve the right to take appropriate action including but not limited to requiring a Participant or team to cooperate with an investigation and referral to criminal and civil law enforcement authorities.
4. If there is any discrepancy or inconsistency between the terms and conditions of the Official Rules and disclosures or other statements contained in any Hackathon materials, including but not limited to the Hackathon Submission form, Hackathon Website, or advertising, the terms and conditions of the Official Rules shall prevail.
5. The terms and conditions of the Official Rules are subject to change at any time, including the rights or obligations of the Participant, Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges. The Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges will post the terms and conditions of the amended Official Rules on the Hack-A-Thon Website (AI Skills Navigator Website). To the fullest extent permitted by law, any amendment will become effective at the time specified in the posting of the amended Official Rules or, if no time is specified, the time of posting.
6. If at any time prior to the deadline, a Participant or prospective Participant believes that any term in the Official Rules is or may be ambiguous, they must submit a written request for clarification.
7. The Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Should any

provision of these Official Rules be or become illegal or unenforceable in any jurisdiction whose laws or regulations may apply to a Participant, such illegality or unenforceability shall leave the remainder of these Official Rules, including the Rule affected, to the fullest extent permitted by law, unaffected and valid. The illegal or unenforceable provision shall be replaced by a valid and enforceable provision that comes closest and best reflects the Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges intention in a legal and enforceable manner with respect to the invalid or unenforceable provision.

8. Excluding Submissions, all intellectual property related to this Hackathon, including but not limited to copyrighted material, trademarks, tradenames, logos, designs, promotional materials, web pages, source codes, drawings, illustrations, slogans and representations are owned or used under license by the Host, Administrator or Sponsor. All rights are reserved. Unauthorized copying or use of any copyrighted material or intellectual property without the express written consent of its owners is strictly prohibited. Any use in a Submission of Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges intellectual property shall be solely to the extent provided for in these Official Rules.

## 12. Limitations of Liability:

By entering, all Participants agree to release the Released Parties from any and all liability in connection with the Prizes or Participant's participation in the Code the Climate Hackathon. Provided, however, that any liability limitation regarding gross negligence or intentional acts, or events of death or body injury shall not be applicable in jurisdictions where such limitation is not legal.

## 13. Disputes:

A. Except were prohibited by law, as a condition of participating in this Hackathon, Participant agrees that:

1. Any and all disputes and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Hackathon, or any Prizes awarded, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action lawsuit, and exclusively by final and binding arbitration under the rules of the **Arbitration Act 1965**.

2. The **Arbitration Act 1965** shall govern the interpretation, enforcement and all proceedings at such arbitration; and
3. Judgment upon such arbitration award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction.

B. Under no circumstances will Participant be permitted to obtain awards for, and Participant hereby waives all rights to claim, punitive, incidental or consequential damages, or any other damages, including attorneys' fees, other than contestant's actual out-of-pocket expenses (i.e., costs associated with entering this Hackathon), and Participant further waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.

C. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of the Participant and Sponsor in connection with this Hackathon, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the substantive laws of South Africa.

#### 14. Additional Terms:

Please review the Scadco Terms of Service - [ScadCo](#), The AI Skills Navigator Terms of Service - [Privacy Policy - AI Skills Navigator Online](#) and Microsoft's Terms of Service - [Microsoft Services Agreement](#) , Unisa - [Terms and Conditions](#) for additional rules that apply to your participation in the Hackathon and more generally your use of the Hackathon Website. Such Terms of Service are incorporated by reference into these Official Rules, including that the term "Poster" in the Terms of Service shall mean the same as " Host, Administrator, Sponsor and Judges" in these Official Rules accordingly." If there is a conflict between the Terms of Service and these Official Rules, these Official Rules shall control with respect to this Hackathon only.

#### 15. Participant's Personal Information:

Information collected from Participants is subject to Microsoft's Privacy Policy, which is available at [Microsoft Privacy Statement – Microsoft privacy](#), As well as The AI Skills Navigator Website, which is available at [AI Skills Navigator Online](#), Unisa - [Privacy Policy - UNISA](#).

For questions, send an email to [aiskills@scadco.co.za](mailto:aiskills@scadco.co.za) or [adovh@unisa.ac.za](mailto:adovh@unisa.ac.za)

Technical Resources / Documentation

Use Azure for Students, GitHub and Microsoft's AI Tools to complete the hack.

## 16. POPI ACT

The members of the AI Skills Navigator Team at Scadco, knows and acknowledges the right of the **Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013**. During the application process personal information is required for means of communication and will not be used for any purpose other than to communicate and be used for reporting to Microsoft and/or Unisa.

Note that by participating in the Hackathon you are agreeing to all points (1 – 16) including point 10 Publicity which allows for the taking of photos, posting and distribution of photos and work. and collection of personal information for communication, point 16. POPI ACT. For more information please see: [General Data Protection Regulation - Microsoft GDPR | Microsoft Learn](#).

For those agreeing for Microsoft to collect and use personal information, please see the applicable privacy statements below:

- [GitHub Privacy Statement](#)
- [Microsoft Privacy Statement](#)
- [Privacy Policy - AI Skills Navigator Online](#)