Questions & Answers

Our city does not host a Climathon, can we still apply for the Cities Award?

Yes; any city or individual/group can apply on behalf of a city as long as the project aligns with the selection criteria outlined in the knowledge pack (page 8) and is endorsed by local city authorities.

Who should submit an application for the Cities Award?

A local city authority can apply with a systemic action plan of what they would like to do, whether alone or with local partners (see knowledge pack for more info on systemic change). One contact on the application form should be from the local city authority, such as the mayor, a city official or city administrator.

What do you mean when you say "city authorities"?

City authorities are any officials who represent the local government, such as the mayor, a city official or city administrator. This could also include a county or regional authority as 'city' can be defined differently worldwide.

Can city authorities apply with an innovative project derived from a local Climathon?

Yes; any city or individual/group can apply on behalf of a city for long as the project aligns with the selection criteria outlined in the knowledge pack (page 8) and is endorsed by local city authorities.

What type of projects can cities apply with?

The Crowther Lab brings world-leading knowledge on systems ecology to this year's Cities Award, and for that reason we are integrating a nature-based solutions theme into the competition. While cities are not required to include this theme, we highly encourage proposals from visionary cities that can address climate change by effectively integrating nature-based solutions holistically within policy and economic priorities.

Examples of areas where cities could be introducing change: Nature-based infrastructure and ecosystem regeneration, zero emission mobility service systems, deep building retrofitting, clean energy supplies, circular resource loops, urban food production and nutrient recycling, growing fair, prosperous and sustainable local economies; and healthy, vibrant, creative and accessible public spaces.

How long is the application?

The application contains 32 questions, 20 of those are logistical and 12 of those being substantive questions about the project. We estimate the application short answer questions to be roughly 1500 words across those 12 questions.

Is there a deadline for implementing our project if successful?

Yes and no; projects must identify a minimum of one year milestone to demonstrate progress, however that one year milestone does not necessarily need entail full completion of the project. For example, a one year milestone could be the passage of a new city policy and secured financing.

Can we submit a project we successfully implemented two years ago for the Cities Award?

No; projects must be in the proposal phase. Projects can leverage existing projects with similar goals that incorporate the enablers of action. For example, your submitted project could be a new extension of an existing city plan or program.

Must my application address all four enablers?

No; in the application, we encourage you to elaborate on how your project addresses one or more of the EIT Climate-KIC four enablers of action. You do not necessarily need to connect the project to all four enablers.

What is the Bootcamp and why is it important?

On 30 January 2020, the day before the Climathon Global Awards, there will be a 1 day mandatory bootcamp for the top 5 finalists of the cities track. This bootcamp will be an opportunity for the finalists to craft a professional and compelling pitch deck on their project, refine it with technical experts, and prepare for their presentation the following day at the Global Awards. The bootcamp is a unique opportunity for cities to enjoy one-on-one coaching from technical experts in the fields of science, communications, urban planning, etc.
More information on the pitch deck requirements will be shared with finalists in mid-December.

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