Student Challenge Urban Greenhouse





What does it take to participate in the Challenge?



Time investment

The participation in the Challenge requires significant time investment, spread over the entire duration of the Challenge. This depends on your role in the team, number of the members in the team and your level of ambitions. More is not always the better, however there is a certain minimum that is necessary to ensure a decent quality of the entry. Please mind that guidelines below are just a suggestion:

- → Regular team member: 8 hours per week
- → Team member with additional responsibilities: 12-16 hours per week
- → Core team member (e.g. Team Captain): 16 hours per week and more

Those are average numbers. This means that some periods might be significantly more busy whereas other more relaxed. The most busy periods are:

- → December beginning January (1st milestone deadline)
- → End February (site visit)
- → May beginning June (2nd milestone deadline)
- → End June (Grand Finale)

We expect that in those periods (some) team members might get full-time busy with the Challenge.

Expertise

Your team needs to be able to cover all 5 aspects of the urban greenhouse challenge: Architecture, Circularity, Food production system(s), Business mode and Social impact. This means that you might need to look beyond your study programme and even beyond your university to find the team members. The important is that your team is able to cover each of the five aspects with a relative depth.

We strongly advise you to mobilize experts from your university and beyond to support your team with their knowledge and experience. Do not rely on the input from our experts only!

And try to find a coach- someone with experience in this kind of project to guide you through this process. It is invaluable to have someone to lean on in a difficult moment. Please, mind that you might look for a person who not only focuses on the content that you produce but also on a team process.

Budget

There is no fee for participating in the Challenge and you do not need to contribute financially to the organization. Still, your team will need a budget along the way. Here is the overview of the costs you need to consider:

- → Travel to the site visit in China. One member per team can travel to China on our cost, however additional people need to cover the tickets from their own pocket. The accommodation, food and transportation for up to two team members per team are paid by us.
- → Travel to the Grand Finale in Wageningen (The Netherlands). All the finalists are required to show up at the Grand Finale with at least one team member. It is not possible to attend this event on a distance. We ensure accommodation, food and transportation for the finalists but do not cover the travel costs to the Netherlands.
- → Urban Greenhouse model at the Grand Finale. The finalists need to present the models of their urban greenhouses at the Innovation Market during the Grand Finale of the Challenge. The costs of production and transportation of the model are on the team.
- → Prototypes, experts, etc. While developing your ultimate urban greenhouse you might need to prototype and test your solutions. Likewise, you might want to consult some experts on your ideas. You might organize a trip to visit an interesting project that might serve as your inspiration. Or decide that you want to purchase a project management software to keep an overview of all the tasks. Make sure to reserve some budget for any of those!
- → Team building. Good coffee and cookies makes meeting more efficient. Evening-long work session begs for pizza. And it is great to celebrate reaching a milestone with something special. Therefore our advice: keep some budget also for small pleasures.

We advise you to check with your university if they want to support your team financially. Often there is a budget available for special student initiatives, such as this student competition. Furthermore, we encourage you to look for sponsors. Be clear about what you need and do not shy out from asking - you might be surprised how easy fundraising can be.

Will you bring urban farming to the next level? www.wur.eu/GreenhouseChallenge





