



NIRDA
National Industrial
Research and Development
Agency



FAQ

- ✓ ***Do I have to already have a physical solution to apply?***

No.

- ✓ ***Is the competition open to all, regardless of gender, religion, academic background or geographic location in Rwanda?***

Yes. We believe innovation and creativity are equally distributed.

- ✓ ***Is the competition open to innovators from outside Kigali or Rwanda?***

Yes. But only local transport/ticket after event and food during event only will be covered.

- ✓ ***Will the transport and food be covered during the duration of the event?***

Yes. Food will be offered on site, whereas transport shall be reimbursed after the event

- ✓ ***Can I apply as a sole participant?***

No. You need at least one more person in your team to be eligible.

- ✓ ***Is this competition more about software or hardware solution?***

Both. We believe that the way to meeting the Government of Rwanda ambition in terms of high-value job creation is by building advanced physical products.

This competition aims at bringing our humble contribution to the wider effort. Software without hardware solution is not allowed.

- ✓ ***Do I need a computer to hack during the event?***

It is recommended, but not mandatory. One person with a laptop per team could do; more is better. It is as you feel is best.

- ✓ ***If my team is among the winning ones at the end of the competition, can I only cash in the prize and decline the incubation period that follows?***

No. The point of the support provided AFTER hackathon is to help entrepreneurs and makers in transforming their winning ideas into actual prototypes or products at the end of the incubation period. Why not, even having paying customers ;) The prize can help teams achieving this by supporting their expenses during this STEM-based capacity building and skills development programme.

- ✓ ***Can we hack overnight?***

Not at the event venue, at least. Doors close at 6:30 PM , it shall give you the time to get some rest so you are fresh for the next day.

- ✓ ***Does NIRDA fund startups?***

Not exactly. Prizes can support product development and related expenses in the startup lifecycle. But long term, dedicated fundraise will be needed.

- ✓ ***Do I need to be registered with RDB?***

No