FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – FAQ (EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW)

1. **What is a I4C BIOHACKATHON?**

    I4C BIOHACKATHON aims to involve young innovators with ideas aligning with the concept of the **COW IN THE CAR** project and with potential to be converted into marketable products and technologies. This constitutes NIRDA's contribution to promote entrepreneurship and to bridge the gap between job market and the unemployed youth.

    I4C BIOHACKATHON will solve some of the pressing problems we face in our daily lives, and thus inculcate a culture of product innovation and a mindset of problem-solving. This competition will drive to a sustainable innovation to address real life problems and social issues. Thus, we can inculcate a culture of product innovation and mindset of problem solving into the aspiring student community.

2. **Who can participate?**

    Student, graduate, university staff or other innovators working in life sciences and STEM with cow product and by-products related innovations and with an interest technology in cow value chain, at most 35 years old.

3. **How can I get involved?**
    Apply by visiting Nirda website https://www.nirda.gov.rw for more information

4. **What is in for me?**
    winning teams will be awarded with prizes and given an opportunity to be incubated for 12 weeks (at STEM 4 Industry hub(S4I) or Huye research center) and develop/refine their prototypes prior to large scale production and commercialization

5. **How are the winners selected?**
    Teams will apply and there will be preliminary selection based on selection criteria set, the pre-selected participants will have opportunity to pitch their idea to the Jury for the final selection.

6. **Who will be judging?**
    The panel expert with different background and from different institution.

7. **How many people should a Team be?**

Applicants should be in team of 2 or 3 members with at least one female and 2 out of 3 team members should be enrolled in university or university graduate

8. **What are the costs of participating?**
   The application is free of charges
9. **Is there reimbursement for travel?**
   No
10. **Can we use any language in the application process?]**
    No, only English is permitted

11. **Are there any online platforms where I could share my ideas prior to the event?**
    Yes, on the NIRDA website https://www.nirda.gov.rw

12. **I have a question or concern what should I do?**
    Reach out on toll free number 1055 or email: biohackathon@nirda.gov.rw

13. **Where will the Hackathon take place?**
    It will take place at Kigali, the venue will be communicated prior to the event

14. **Can i also join remotely?**
    Yes, a link will be shared upon request

15. **Do all team members need to be present in person?**
    At least two members should be present

16. **I have another question that is not answered in your FAQs, what should I do?**
    For more information, Reach out on toll free number 1055 or email: biohackathon@nirda.gov.rw