

## ECO's Green Initiative Competition Guidelines

### **Problem Statement:**

As the consequences of climate change continue to be at the forefront of our Earth's challenges, the University of Miami and its student organizations stand by a message of urgency to develop solutions that build a sustainable planet for generations both present and future. Climate Change is not simple. The consequences of climate change reach far out, impacting all sectors of industry and the economy including Electricity, Agriculture / Food / Land Use, Industry, Transportation, Buildings, Engineered Sinks, Health and Education, Coastal and Ocean Ecosystems, and Land Ecosystems.

### **The Challenge:**

The Student Government ECO Agency is challenging the University's student body to develop an on-campus initiative, given a budget of \$7,000, that creates a solution for issues related to climate change while addressing the United Nation's Sustainability Development Goals.

### **The Specifics:**

- *This project is limited only to Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshman students.*

Students will enroll their teams (2-4 members, with one appointed team leader) by **April 9<sup>th</sup>**, along with the submission of a 5-page project manual outlining your plans to implement an on campus sustainable initiative that contributes to the environment. *Manuals are not limited to 5 pages.*

**Team Registration Form:** [https://umiami.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eLPEQOuxhClsei2](https://umiami.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eLPEQOuxhClsei2)

**Manual Submission Form:** [https://umiami.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8kNGS5LZ9SK7exE](https://umiami.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8kNGS5LZ9SK7exE)

*It is recommended (but not required) that each team seeks out a mentor who is part of the University faculty to serve as an advisor to its initiative. Teams can benefit highly from the knowledge, contacts, and insights of a faculty advisor.*

The judging panel will review the manuals to determine which team project models are the most sustainable and feasible based on the "Judging Rubric" criteria. Judges will then select the top 6 teams for the final round. Here, teams will be responsible for creating a 10-minute presentation of their project with approximately a 5-minute question session. The final 6 teams will be announced one week after the submission of their manual on **April 16<sup>th</sup>**. Presentations will be held virtually the week of **April 26<sup>th</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>**. The Judge panel will be comprised of ECO members, GreenU, Office of Sustainability, and University administration.

### **Tips for Your Manual:**

Along with consideration for the Judging Rubric, below are examples of sections you may wish to include in your manual. With an exception to the “Challenge Question,” these sections are recommended but not required. Feel free to be creative with your manual and add your own flavor, so long as it is effective in addressing the Judging Rubric.

*All manuals must answer the challenge question and address at least 2 of the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).*

- **Introduction** (Purpose and description of the initiative, climate change issue it aims to address)
- **Project Rationale** (Reasoning and benefits of the project for the community and the University)
- **Scope** (Who is the project targeting? Who are the stakeholders? Where on campus will it be executed? What is the timeline? Will more team members be needed for implementation?)
- **Research** (Description of the industry sector, Climate challenges that the industry sector faces, Rationale of research that supports why the project is an essential solution to the climate change battle)
- **Implementation Roadmap** (Outline of the operation, Budget allocation, Plan to ensure the sustainability and longevity of the project, Communication Strategy for marketing, Internal communication strategies to ensure accountability and follow up amongst team members, Frequency of team meetings throughout the implementation stage)
- **Challenge Question:** If your team were awarded \$1M, could you utilize these funds to implement this same project on a grander scale while creating more benefits to the environment? Briefly explain how.

### **The Prizes:**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Place Team**

- Each team member will receive a pair of Adidas ULTRABOOST Sneakers, Parley Collection
- The team’s leader will be appointed the position of ECO board’s Green Project Chair, while the other members will serve as the Green Project Subcommittee.
  - The ECO Board will create a chair position dedicated to your green initiative for the 2021-2022 semester. This position will serve as the liaison between the subcommittee and the ECO Board for communications and project approvals.
- A budget of **\$7,000** will be reserved for the Green Project Committee to execute the project in the **2021-2022 semester**.
  - The Green Project Subcommittee will serve alongside the Green Project Chair

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team**

- Each team member will receive a **\$100** gift card to an approved sustainable vendor of their choosing.

### **Important Dates:**

**April 9<sup>th</sup>:** Team Registration and Manual Submission Deadline

**April 16<sup>th</sup>:** Final 6 Teams Selected for Presentations

**April 19<sup>th</sup> – April 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Week of Presentation Prep

**April 24<sup>th</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>:** Week of Presentations

**May 7<sup>th</sup>:** Final Winner Announced