

Human Cities Urban Innovation Challenge



Human Cities Urban Innovation Challenge: Life of the Future Citizen

Over the next three decades, billions of human beings will move into cities, joining the half of humanity already living in urban areas today. They will inhabit burgeoning towns, expanding urban centers, and the world's great cities. In this process of transformation and rapid change, how can we ensure that cities become vibrant, healthy, and safe places to live?

The **Urban Innovation Challenge** taps into Stanford's creative potential to address critical social challenges. Stanford students have proven to be great engineers, entrepreneurs, and technologists. When they engage with the world, they can also strive to be kind neighbors, active citizens, and thoughtful designers. By focusing innovation on urban-centered social, infrastructure, and policy questions, we challenge the Stanford community to support the ongoing global effort to imagine and remake cities into more human-friendly places to live, work, play—and to celebrate our common urban future.

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Visit www.humancities.org/challenge and be sure to REGISTER ONLINE to receive the latest updates about the challenge.

A. Phases of the Competition

This competition, which marks the inaugural Human Cities challenge, will take place in three phases:

Phase I: Field Proposals (open to all)

Form teams, generate ideas, and develop a proposal. Each team will submit a project proposal and an optional (highly-recommended) short pitch video illuminating their concept to improve city life. A panel of judges will select finalists to move onto the next phase of the competition.

Phase II: Final Competition (open to finalists)

Each team of finalists will receive feedback on their projects. The teams will then be given a budget to create an interactive exhibit to showcase their project idea, which will be featured at the “Global Cities in an Era of Change 2016” conference, taking place March 30-April 1 at Stanford University.

On March 31, the teams must be present from 12-3 PM to pitch their ideas to conference attendees and the panel of judges, who will evaluate each project. Finalists will interact with thought leaders and professionals in the fields of real estate, urban planning, civic innovation, and city government.

Phase III: Awards (open to finalists)

All finalists will be invited to present their innovations and interface with real estate and urban planning professionals.

After judging by a panel and input from conference participants, the top three finalists will be awarded monetary prizes of \$3000, \$1500, or \$750 and may potentially have the opportunity to travel to Beijing in May to join the Human Cities Expo.

All finalists will also be showcased in a publication by the Stanford Human Cities Initiative.

B. Challenge Theme:

Choose one of the following themes, or come up with your own category:

Democracy & Civic Participation
Mobility in the Future City
Health, Urban Recreation & Public Spaces
The Future of Work
Urban Infrastructure: Building Blocks of Cities

Showcase an idea for how cities could change for the better, what that evolution might look like, and (if applicable) a product or prototype.

C. Submission Details:

Your submission should include the following:

Written Proposal (1500 words **maximum**)
Pitch Statement (300 words or less)
Short biography (150 words maximum) and headshot in .jpg for each team member

Recommended:
Pitch Video (2 minutes or less) Upload to Vimeo or Youtube and include URL link

**Submission details: Compress all contents and e-mail .zip file to internationalurbanization@gmail.com
Submissions must be received by March 11 at 11:59 PM.**

D. Proposal Criteria:

Demonstrates an innovative concept
Provides background information on cities and relevance to proposed concept
Considers social, cultural, environmental impact and economic feasibility

E. Exhibit Criteria:

To receive funding, finalists must present a preliminary sketch of possible exhibit design. They must also meet with conference planners during a pre-conference orientation on Stanford University campus on **Monday, March 28.**

F. Eligibility:

This competition for students is geared toward the Stanford community. Interdisciplinary teams of 2-5 persons is highly encouraged. At least half of the team must consist of current Stanford students.

G. Evaluation:

Judging will be conducted by a panel of Stanford faculty and Bay Area and international guests who work on issues of urbanization and the built environment.

H. Prizes:

Teams will be awarded the following (USD):

First Prize: \$3,000
Second Prize: \$1,500
Third Prize: \$750

I. Timeline:

Please be sure to REGISTER ONLINE right away to get the latest updates about the challenge!

Challenge Launched: February 12. Register your interest online at www.humancities.org/challenge and begin fielding your team of innovators!

Join other Urban Innovators: Sunday, February 28. Attend social session to find teammates and brainstorm about the competition.

Final submission deadline: March 11 at 11:59 PM Review the submission guidelines thoroughly before submitting.

Finalists announced: March 16 Finalists will have two weeks to build an exhibit for the “Global Cities in an Era of Change” conference

Finalists at the Conference

Conference orientation: March 28 Join a mandatory orientation to view the exhibit space and get acquainted with conference workings. Each team has a budget to build the exhibit.

All finalists pitch at the conference: March 31 (11-3 PM) Staff your exhibit and share your innovation with industry professionals, government officials, and thought leaders!

Final awards presentation: April 1 Celebrate with family and friends as we present the winning teams of the Urban Innovation Challenge for 2016!

J. Questions:

If you have further questions, please visit www.humancities.org/challenge or send an e-mail to internationalurbanization@gmail.com

Please be sure to REGISTER ONLINE

www.humancities.org/challenge

to get the latest updates about the Urban Innovation Challenge!