



## SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CHALLENGE HONG KONG

ACCELERATING INNOVATION IN SUSTAINABLE FINANCE



### FAQ

## APPLICATION

### Who can participate?

All undergraduate students who is graduating no earlier than December of 2025, with exception of first-year students, from any academic programme of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), City University of Hong Kong (CityU), The University of Hong Kong (HKU), and The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) are welcome to participate.

### Who can be in my team?

You can form a team with other students from your same university, regardless of the year or programme you are in. The team should consist of 3 to 5 students.

### Can I join more than one team?

No, please join one team and pick one problem statement only.

### Is there an entry fee for this challenge?

No, participation for this challenge is completely free.

### How do I register for the challenge?

To register, fill in the registration form available on the challenge [website](#) and send it to [sf.challenge.hk@asia.bnpparibas.com](mailto:sf.challenge.hk@asia.bnpparibas.com) by **21 February, 2025**. Please only send one document per team.

### When is the deadline for registration to the challenge?

21 February 2025

### When is the deadline for the submission of my solution?

7 March 2025

### Does this challenge require my physical presence?

You will be asked to present your solution in-person at the grand final, which will take place at the BNP Paribas office. Other events will be held online or have an option for you to join virtually. The kick-off webinar on 6 February 2025 will be recorded and we will be sharing the replay of the session.

### What is the level of engagement expected for this challenge?

We designed this challenge with your school's academic calendar in mind, to give you and your team the flexibility to decide how much time to spend in this challenge. You will have 4 weeks between the kick-off session and proposal submission to develop your solution. While not mandatory, we highly encourage you to join the kick off and Q&A sessions to get the most out of this challenge. For teams shortlisted for the finals, there will be mentoring sessions in the 4 weeks leading up to the final presentation. The timing and frequency of these mentoring meetings are entirely up to your team.

## CONTENT GUIDELINES

### Do I have to choose one of the problem statements proposed?

Yes, you need to present a solution to one of the proposed problem statements. These problem statements are carefully selected by our panel of seasoned bankers and sustainability experts. When registering your team for the challenge, please specify which problem statement you will work on. Teams shortlisted for the final presentation will be supported by a mentor who can offer advice and guidance leading up to the final presentation.

### Can I work on a different problem statement than the one I choose and put in registration document?

We would prefer you to stick to the same problem statement you initially picked. But if you really want to change, please indicate clearly when submitting your proposal.

### What is the expected format of the proposal?

For the qualification phase, we are looking for a short slide deck in pdf format. You can also include research materials such as excel tables. For the final presentation, teams are expected to present in form of a pitch presentation (with supporting materials).

### Can I submit the proposal in a language other than English?

No, we expect your brochure and pitch to be delivered in English.

## SELECTION OF THE FINALISTS & NEXT STEPS

### What happens if my team is selected as a finalist?

As a finalist your team will be invited to present your solution to a panel of jury from BNP Paribas management. You will have 3 weeks to further develop your idea with the support of your senior mentor. The objective is to leverage this time to refine your solution and prepare a compelling pitch presentation for the grand final event.

### When and where the final will take place?

The final will take place on 2 April (TBC), 2025 at the BNP Paribas office.

### What is the prize for the winners?

The students from the winning team will have the opportunity to enter a fast-track recruitment process for their application to the BNP Paribas internship and graduate programmes. The winning team and the two runner-up teams will be invited to an exclusive networking event with BNP Paribas Hong Kong senior management and bankers across business lines. In addition, the challenge offers a great platform to expand your professional network, learn from seasoned bankers and differentiate your resume.

## OTHER

### Where can I find out more about BNP Paribas' commitments and engagements in sustainability?

At BNP Paribas, sustainability is at the core of our vision and company purpose. In the global context of climate crisis, banks play a major role in the provision of capital to finance the investment in renewables, new technologies and the transition to a circular economy. You can find out more here: <https://group.bnpparibas/en/our-commitments/transitions#>

### Where can I find the replay of the kick-off sessions?

Replay of the kick-off session will be emailed to students who have signed up for the webinar. Please ensure you sign up for the session even though you may not be able to attend at the scheduled time.



Find out more about BNP Paribas' sustainability commitments and details on this challenge here: [BNP Paribas Sustainable Finance Challenge Hong Kong 2025: Accelerating Innovation in Sustainable Finance - BNP Paribas Hong Kong](https://group.bnpparibas/en/our-commitments/transitions#)

Got a question? Email us at: [sf.challenge.hk@asia.bnpparibas.com](mailto:sf.challenge.hk@asia.bnpparibas.com)