GIZ Innovation Fund
Call for Ideas 2024

Application Guide

In order for the community and the jury to take a qualified decision which of the many teams will get one of the 25 seats in the Launchpad programme, we need a convincing application from you. This guide summarizes the challenge, the conditions for participation, the submissions as well as the selection criteria.

Please note: Submissions will only be accepted that are submitted via the official submission portal of the Call for Ideas 2024.

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Challenge & Timeline

We are looking for motivated teams with innovative ideas for scalable products or services. In line with our corporate strategy of fostering systematic partnerships, these should build on strong collaborations with new or existing external partners from the private or public sector, academia, or civil society. Check here for more information.

TIMELINE

Submission	Voting	Launchpad	Jury Selection	Accelerator
27.05 – 23.06	24.06 – 30.06	02.09 – 11.10	14.10 – 18.10	Nov'24 – May'25

→ Submit your ideas between Monday 27.05. until Sunday 23.06 via the submission portal
→ Vote for your favorite ideas between Monday 24.06. until Sunday 30.06 here

Submission Form: Idea

The submission form asks you to provide the following information on your idea. If not stated differently, there is a limit of 1500 characters for each text field, so please be concise!

- **Sector**: Select the sector your idea belongs to

- **Name of your idea**: Give your idea a catchy title

- **Problem**: What the underlying problem is that you want to address?

- **Target group & their need**: Who is your solution for? What are their pain points and needs?

- **Idea description**: What is your innovative approach for addressing the need? What are ist core elements?

- **Your idea in short**: Describe your proposed solution in one or two sentences (only 160 characters)

- **Benefit over existing solutions**: How is this need currently being addressed (e.g. in other fields or contexts)? Why are existing solutions not sufficient? What would you do differently? What can you build on?

- **Internal Partners**: Which GIZ project(s) might be interested in collaborating with you?

- **External Partners**: Which external partners from private sector, public sector, academia, or civil society might be relevant partners to develop, implement and scale your proposed solution?

- **Countries**: Where would you pilot and test your ideas? Where else do you see potential for implementing your idea?

- **TOPICS**: Which TOPICS does your idea relate to?

- **Image**: Add an image that represents your idea

- **Video**: Optionally you may also add a video related to your submission

Submission Form: Team

An idea stays just an idea, without a strong team behind that drives it forward towards implementation. Every team needs to have between 3 and 6 team members. Make sure you also comply with all team requirements.

Please provide the following information:

Expertise and motivation: What are your backgrounds? What motivates you? Why should you get supported by the GIZ Innovation Fund? (max. 1500 characters)

For each team member:
- Name
- Select if person is external or else form of employment with GIZ
- Email
- Country of Residence

If you do not have enough team members yet, feel free to submit your idea and try to find additional team members. Here are some tips for finding additional team members. However, make sure you have completed your team latest before the end of the submission phase (23.06.2024).

Rules for Participation: Team requirements

The GIZ Innovation Fund is open to **all** GIZ employees to form teams and submit their ideas, as long as they comply with the following rules:

- Teams can include 3-6 GIZ staff members, development workers, integrated experts or externals
- At least 2 members must work in a GIZ project
- Other members can be from other GIZ units, external partners (ministries, start-ups, NGOs, …), or target groups
- Only one intern per team allowed
- Each person may only be member of up to two teams applying in the Call for Ideas 2024
- Each team member must have:
  - A good command of English
  - The capacity to participate in the
    - Launchpad, 6 weeks (September & October 2024)
    - Accelerator, 7 months (November'24 - May'25)
  - Discussed participation with their respective superiors

Teams that do not fulfill the above criteria are not eligible for the Launchpad!

Rules for Participation: Idea requirements

Before drafting your idea, please consider the following requirements:

- Ideas should align with the [focus of the Call for Ideas 2024](#) and take into account the [selection criteria](#) by which they will be assessed.
- Ideas should primarily serve GIZ's service delivery. Ideas mainly focusing on improving internal processes are not eligible. In that case, the [GIZ Sustainability Challenge](#) might be right for you.
- Ideas may build on existing solutions or ideas, as long as they are not yet covered by other commissioning parties (e.g. as part of a GIZ project)
- Submissions must be submitted in English language
- Ideas must be submitted via [the Call for Ideas 2024 platform](#)

Ideas that do not fulfill the criteria above are not eligible for the Launchpad!

Voting and Selection Process

Your idea can make it into the Launchpad either by being among the 10 most voted ideas in the community voting or by being among the 15 additional ideas that are getting selected by the GIZ Innovation Fund team.

Throughout the different selection gates of the GIZ Innovation Fund, the ideas will be reviewed against these criteria:

1. **Partnership Engagement**: The proposal aligns with GIZ's strategic goal to engage partners from civil society, academia, private, and public sectors, enhancing quality, innovation, and effectiveness of our service delivery.
2. **Value Proposition**: It alleviates pain or increases gain for GIZ's beneficiaries and considers the agenda of GIZ's clients and partners.
3. **Innovativeness**: It will solve a problem innovatively in comparison to existing solutions. It has a USP and an innovative approach.
4. **Feasibility**: It is realistic and feasible to advance the idea within the accelerator with the given budget and proposed team.
5. **Scalability**: The idea has the potential to become a scalable product or service having an impact in many partner countries.
6. **Team**: The team behind the idea is highly motivated and brings a diverse set of skills and backgrounds.

→ Learn more about the selection process of the GIZ Innovation Fund

If you have further questions,
check out our FAQ
or email us at
innovationfund@giz.de