



**AYuTe
Africa
CHALLENGE**

Nigeria

An initiative of



HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

AYUTE

AFRICA

CHALLENGE

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

This Participation Agreement (“Agreement”) governs participation in the **AYuTe Africa Challenge** (“the Challenge”), an innovation and entrepreneurship initiative implemented by **Heifer International** (“Heifer”) and its implementing partners.

By submitting an application, participating in any Challenge activity, or accepting any support, award, or recognition under the Challenge, the participant (“Participant”) agrees to comply with and be bound by the terms of this Agreement.

1. Purpose of the AYuTe Africa Challenge

The AYuTe Africa Challenge seeks to identify, support, and scale innovative, youth-led agribusiness and agri-tech solutions that enhance productivity, sustainability, market access, and inclusive agricultural transformation across Africa.

2. Eligibility and Application

Participation in the Challenge is subject to meeting eligibility criteria as published by Heifer International.

Participants represent and warrant that:

- All information submitted during application and selection is accurate and truthful
- The submitted solution is original or lawfully developed and does not infringe on third-party rights
- They have the authority to submit the application on behalf of their organization or startup, where applicable

Heifer reserves the right to verify submissions and disqualify any Participant found to have provided false or misleading information.

3. Selection and Participation

Selection into the Challenge does not guarantee funding, awards, or long-term support unless explicitly stated in writing by Heifer International.

Selected Participants agree to:

- Participate in Challenge activities including pitch sessions, training, mentoring, and reviews
 - Comply with communicated timelines, reporting, and evaluation requirements
 - Engage in good faith and uphold the objectives of the Challenge
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4. Code of Conduct

Participants shall:

- Act professionally, ethically, and respectfully
- Uphold principles of inclusion, gender equity, and diversity
- Refrain from harassment, discrimination, fraud, or unethical conduct
- Comply with safeguarding, anti-corruption, and anti-fraud standards

Violation of this Code may result in disqualification or termination from the Challenge.

5. Use of Awards and Support

Any grants, awards, technical assistance, or non-financial support provided under the Challenge shall be used solely for the purposes communicated by Heifer International.

Misuse or misrepresentation of Challenge support may result in recovery of funds, disqualification, or additional corrective action.

6. Intellectual Property

- Participants retain ownership of their intellectual property before, during, and after the Challenge.
 - Participation does not constitute transfer of intellectual property rights to Heifer International.
 - Participants grant Heifer International a non-exclusive, royalty-free right to reference non-confidential information, names, logos, and solution summaries for reporting, learning, communications, and promotional purposes.
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7. Confidentiality

Participants shall treat as confidential any non-public information disclosed by Heifer International, partners, mentors, judges, or other Participants during the Challenge.

Confidential information shall not be disclosed without prior written consent, except as required by law.

8. Data Protection and Privacy

Heifer International will process personal data in accordance with applicable data protection laws and its internal data protection and privacy policies.

Participants consent to the collection and use of their data for Challenge administration, evaluation, reporting, and impact measurement.

9. Media, Publicity, and Communications

Participants grant Heifer International permission to capture and use photographs, audio, video recordings, pitch materials, and success stories generated during the Challenge for reporting, donor engagement, learning, and promotional purposes.

Requests for exclusion must be submitted in writing prior to participation.

10. Safeguarding and Ethical Compliance

Participants agree to comply with Heifer International's safeguarding, child protection, whistleblowing, anti-fraud, and anti-corruption policies.

Any suspected misconduct or safeguarding concern must be reported through Heifer International's official reporting channels.

11. Limitation of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Heifer International shall not be liable for:

- Any loss, injury, or damage arising from participation
- Business, investment, or commercial outcomes related to participation

Participation in the Challenge is at the Participant's own risk.

12. Disqualification, Suspension, and Termination

Heifer International reserves the right to disqualify, suspend, or terminate a Participant's involvement where the Participant:

- Breaches this Agreement or Challenge rules
- Provides false or misleading information
- Engages in conduct that undermines the integrity or objectives of the Challenge

Such action may be taken at any stage of the Challenge.

13. Amendments

Heifer International may amend this Agreement at its discretion. Continued participation constitutes acceptance of any revised terms.

14. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws applicable in the country or region of Challenge implementation, unless otherwise stated in writing.

15. Acceptance

By submitting an application or signing below, the Participant confirms that they have read, understood, and agreed to be bound by the terms of this Agreement.