



VGU
VIETNAMESE-GERMAN
UNIVERSITY

VSA
VGU STUDENT ASSOCIATION



VGU Student Sustainability Contest

Green Future Challenge 2025

- July – October, 2025
- VGU Campus
- Open to VGU and other universities' students
- conference.vgu.edu.vn (updating)

introduction

The Student Sustainability Contest - "Green Future Challenge 2025" as a side event of the "Fostering Green Science and Innovation: 50 Years of Vietnam-Germany Diplomatic Relations" Conference is an inter-university competition hosted by Vietnamese-German University (vgu), inviting students from vgu and partner universities in Ho Chi Minh City to collaboratively design sustainable, innovative solutions for urban challenges and green campus. The competition aligns with the theme of the main conference: "Fostering Green Science and Innovation".



Objectives

- 1** Promote interdisciplinary collaboration among students from engineering, architecture, urban development, environmental sciences, economics and management, etc..
- 2** Encourage innovation and practical problem-solving for green infrastructure, water management, and energy efficiency.
- 3** Foster a sustainability mindset among youth, contributing to climate action and SDG goals.
- 4** Connect students with industry mentors, researchers, and policymakers.
- 5** Inter-university connection for SDG17 – Partnership for the goals
- 6** Showcase vgu and other universities' commitment to sustainability and student-led innovation.



COMPETITION PHASES

Phase 1 – Registration & Concept Brief Submission

Teams register and submit max 3-page concept brief that proposes a sustainable solution in one of the following themes:

- Energy Efficiency
- Waste Management
- Water Conservation
- Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Resilience
- Sustainable Mobility
- Circular Economy
- Community Engagement and Education

Phase 2 – First Pitch for Shortlist with Presentation

All teams are invited to conduct their presentations. Top 5 teams are shortlisted for the Final Pitch Day. The remaining 5 teams will be invited for PechaKucha presentation and Posters at the Conference (24 Oct).

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Innovation (25%)
2. Sustainability Impact (20%)
3. Feasibility (20%)
4. Interdisciplinary Approach (15%)
5. Complete Plan (10%)
6. Presentation Clarity (10%)

Phase 3 – Mentorship & Preparation

- Shortlisted teams are paired with academic mentors
- Teams refine their proposals, develop pitch decks, and prepare a 15-minute final presentation
- Teams receive the trainings from academics where necessary
- 5 shortlisted teams deploy their ideas to have products/concepts/policies/guidelines for application for VGU Green Campus, other universities and showcase at the Conference

Phase 4 – Final Pitch Day (24 October 2025)

- Teams present live to a jury at the Conference, 24 Oct 2025
- Each team: 15-minute presentation and 5-minute Q&A, posters and product showcase
- 5 Team without deployment will have the PechaKucha presentations and their posters at the Conference
- Winning teams announced during the Awards Ceremony



REGISTRATION

Teams submit online interest forms



Scan to register
shorturl.at/n8ftT



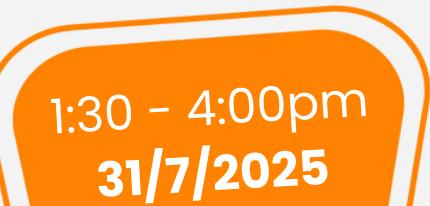
ONLINE BRIEFING SESSION AND Q&A



11:00am
30/7/2025

SUBMISSION

Teams develop and submit max 3-page concept briefs + presentation file



1:30 - 4:00pm
31/7/2025



FIRST PITCH

7-minute presentation and 5 minutes for Q&A

5 selected teams for products/concepts/policies/guidelines development for deployment



1/8 - 17/10
2025



FINAL PITCH & AWARDS

Presentations, posters and product showcase at the Conference



24/10/2025

REHEARSE PRESENTATIONS



COMPETITION RULES

ELIGIBILITY

- All participants must be current students (bachelor or master)
- Each student can participate in only one team
- Teams must submit original work—no plagiarism or pre-published ideas

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Concept brief: max. 3 pages, PDF format.
Language: English. Must include:
- Problem statement
 - Proposed solutions
 - Sustainability impact
 - Implementation feasibility
 - Team introduction

FIRST PITCH

- 10-minute presentation for the group's ideas aligned with the required sub-themes
- 5 teams will be selected and receive 6 million VND for deployment of their ideas (the models, products, concepts, policies, guidelines, etc.) to showcase in the Conference.
- 5 teams will be selected for PechaKucha presentations and posters

FINAL PITCH

- 5 teams that conduct the deployment of their ideas
- Format: 15 minutes presentation and product showcase
- Each team must designate a speaker
- Time limit: strictly 15 minutes, with 5 minutes for Q&A



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

 **1 PRIZE**

VND 20,000,000 + Certificate + a recommendation letter for industry internship by VGU

 **2 PRIZE**

VND 15,000,000 + Certificate

 **3 PRIZE**

VND 10,000,000 + Certificate

 **SPECIAL PRIZES**

VND 5,000,000 Best Technical Solutions
VND 5,000,000 Best Community Impact

***Winning teams will deploy their final products/results at VGU for application.*



CHALLENGE TOPICS

Teams will propose practical, creative, and research-based solutions under one of the following themes:

01 Energy Efficiency

- **Smart Campus Energy Dashboard:** Concept or prototype for real-time monitoring and reporting of electricity use across buildings.
- **Passive Cooling and Lighting Design:** Policy or design recommendation to reduce HVAC and lighting energy through architecture.
- **Energy-Saving Behavior Program:** Guidelines or campaign toolkit to encourage students/staff to adopt low-energy habits.

02 Waste Management

- **Smart Waste Sorting and Tracking System:** Product prototype for IoT-based bins with data analytics.
- **Campus Composting Initiative:** Policy + concept for segregated organic waste composting at dining halls.
- **Recycling Compliance Campaign:** Educational toolkit and signage concept for improving recycling accuracy.

03 Water Conservation

- **Water Leak Detection Network:** Prototype or policy for smart leak sensors in building, dormitories, and restrooms.
- **Greywater Reuse System Design:** Concept and feasibility study for capturing and reusing greywater.
- **Water Footprint Awareness Campaign:** Educational toolkit to promote responsible water use among campus residents.

04 Sustainable Mobility

- **Campus Micro-Mobility Plan:** Concept: bike/e-scooter-sharing system with charging and storage stations.
- **Low-Carbon Commute Incentives Policy:** Guideline or policy to reward use of public transport, cycling, or walking.
- **Car-Free Campus Zones:** Proposal for pedestrian-friendly zones, with phased implementation roadmap



CHALLENGE TOPICS

Teams will propose practical, creative, and research-based solutions under one of the following themes:

05 Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity & Resilience

- **Green Roof and Wall Pilot Program:** Concept or model of living walls/roofs that reduce heat and promote biodiversity.
- **Urban Biodiversity Mapping Tool:** Product: interactive map of campus flora/fauna with conservation priorities.
- **Nature-Based Disaster Resilience Plan:** Policy draft outlining green infrastructure to manage stormwater and reduce heat.

06 Circular Economy

- **Campus Thrift & Repair Hub:** Concept: student-led swap shop, repair café, or upcycling workshop space.
- **Circular Design Guidelines for Events:** Checklist or policy for zero-waste, reusable materials, and eco-friendly packaging.
- **Electronic Waste Collection & Reuse Program:** Proposal for collecting, refurbishing, or recycling used electronics.

07 Community Engagement & Education

- **Sustainability Badge Program for Students:** Product: gamified certification system for completing eco-actions.
- **Green Ambassadors Training Manual:** Guideline for peer-led sustainability education and leadership on campus.
- **Annual Sustainability Innovation Fair:** Concept for event showcasing green student projects and connecting with local partners.



CONTACT

VGU Student Association

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- 📞 (0274) 222 0990 - Ext. 28101
- 🌐 conference.vgu.edu.vn (updating)

Scan to register



shorturl.at/n8ftT