The Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) is inviting students enrolled in public and private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) registered with HEC in Mauritius to participate in a poster competition.

The theme of the competition is

“The Ocean We Need for the Future We Want”.

“The Earth’s seas and oceans are the largest component of the climate-stabilizing system that supports life on Earth and human well-being. The oceans also contribute to economies and form a huge part of the world’s natural and cultural heritage. However, over-exploitation, insufficient governance and large-scale climate-related changes, lead to ecosystem degradation and subject the oceans to severe and multiple stresses, creating complex and often unpredictable feedbacks. These stressors will likely increase, should a concerted effort by the global ocean community not be undertaken to protect, together, the ocean we need for the future we want.

Humanity depends on our remedial actions now to ensure a resilient and sustainable future of our oceans for present and future generations. Any small action counts and makes a big difference in the long run.”

The objectives of this initiative are to:
- Promote environmental stewardship among higher education students.
- Provide higher education students a platform to voice out their opinions on environmental issues.
- Inspire the higher education students in developing their imaginary and creative skills.

**Duration of competition:** 28 November 2022 – 26 January 2023

**The closing date for submission is 26 January 2023 (by latest 23.59).**
**Who Can Participate?**
- Full-time and part-time students in public HEIs and private HEIs registered with HEC in Mauritius.
- In the case of team submission, all participants constituting a team must be from the same institution.

**Entries**
- Individual or a group of maximum 3 students.
- Only 1 submission per individual / group.
- In case of group submission, a contact person should be designated.

**Submission Process**
Participants should submit the following documents to the Higher Education Commission (HEC) via email on hesecretariat@hec.mu, **not later than 26 January 2023 (by latest 23.59):**
- **Poster** accompanied by a brief (not exceeding 200 words) describing its relevance to the theme
- duly filled and signed Participation Form

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
- The Participation Form can be downloaded from the website of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change (https://environment.govmu.org)
- Only entries/ submissions by email to HEC will be accepted. Other means of submission will be automatically rejected.
- Upon submission of poster, a notification email will be issued by HEC within 5 working days. In the event, participants do not receive same, they are requested to contact the Research and Planning Division at HEC on 467 8800. In case of group submission, a Contact Person (CP) must be designated in the participation form, and his/her contact details must be correctly and clearly written for future correspondences.

**Specifications for making the Poster**
- The poster shall be designed in digital format either in vector or bitmap, in RGB or CMYK colour mode.
- The techniques used for the poster may include, but not limited to drawing and digital painting, vector graphics, photo-montage, illustration, cartoon or mixed media.
- The work should be submitted in A3 in portrait (297 x 420 mm) for publishing and printing.
- The work should be submitted in high quality both PDF and jpeg. format, in 300 Dot Per Inch (DPI) resolution.
- The size of the poster should not exceed 50 MB.
### Selection Process

#### Jury

An independent Panel of Jury members will select 5 best posters for which prizes will be awarded.

#### Selection Criteria

The poster will be assessed, amongst others, on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme;
- Innovation, creativity and originality;
- Aesthetic quality and visual impact; and
- Ability to communicate a clear message.

### Prizes

To the students forming part of the top 5 finalists, the cash prizes are as follows:

- **1st** winner: Rs 25,000
- **2nd** winner: Rs 20,000
- **3rd** winner: Rs 15,000
- **4th** winner: Rs 10,000
- **5th** winner: Rs 5,000

Certificates of participation will be awarded to those participants having satisfied the minimum criteria.

### Phases in the competition:

- Submission of Participation Forms and Posters (*accompanied by brief*): 26 January 2023
- Assessment of posters: February - March 2023
- Announcement of selected nominees: Around 22 April 2023
- Announcement of 3 winners and award Ceremony: Around 05 June 2023

### Conditions of Participation

- **Only one** submission per individual/group.

  Students should provide all required information in their participation forms. Failure to do so and non-compliance to the guidelines of the competition will result in disqualification.

- Posters must incorporate original ideas. The artworks should be unpublished and have never been used in publications or awarded in other contests. The artworks should be unproduced, free from copyright and must not infringe any other propriety rights of any person or entity. Participants will be disqualified in case of plagiarism.

- The decision of the Jury Panel shall be final and irrevocable.

- The Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change in collaboration with the HEC reserve the right not to proceed with the competition.
**Copyrights:**
Once selected, the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change retains copyright of the poster. Thus, it will have the exclusive right to use the poster, make any modification, publicise same in its communication and sensitisation campaign and other relevant activities.

⇒ **Declaration of Participants**

a. Participants must declare that:
   - their respective entries are their original works.
   - they will bear all responsibilities and losses arising, in the event that the organizers or related organizations infringe any third-party rights due to the use of the entries.
   - they have never transferred the rights of any work in any way or allowed any third party to use the work in any form.

b. Participants know and agree that the organizers have the right to publish and display works in various forms, and the works are not refundable. The organizers have the right of the use and copyright of the award-winning works.

c. Participants know and agree that the organizers and contractors appointed by the Ministry have the right to copy, display, report and publicize all the works without paying any fees to the authors.

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**For additional information, please contact officers of the Information & Education Division (MOESWMCC) on 2036200/ 57085729.**

**For queries regarding submission of posters, please contact the Research and Planning Division at HEC on 467 8800.**