

FUND CHALLENGE

For undergraduate students in economics

The IMF's African Department (AFR), Asia and Pacific Department (APD), Institute for Capacity Development (ICD), and Middle East and Central Asia Department (MCD), in collaboration with the IMF Office of Innovation and Change (OIC), invite economics students to join the **2022 Fund Challenge**.

Pre-qualification requirements for participating in the 2022 Fund Challenge are as follows:

- Students must be currently enrolled in undergraduate degree programs¹ (including class of 2022) in economics or a related field at an institution of higher learning in any AFR, APD or MCD member country² to be eligible to compete in the Fund Challenge.
- Each team must consist of two students of the same institution of higher learning.³ Each team wishing to participate should register only once using the [Fund Challenge Registration Site](#) by **June 1**. Registration will require providing the contact information of a faculty member who can then verify the team's enrollment at an institution of higher learning in any AFR, APD, or MCD member country.⁴
- As a part of the challenge, participants must register and successfully complete ICD's online Macroeconomic Diagnostics course (MDSx), between **June 6 and September 2**. The course is provided at **no charge** to participants, but each team member must register and complete the course separately with edX. The workload for the course is approximately 6–8 hours per week. Participants who wish to receive a course certificate must purchase a [verified certificate from edX](#). Details on course access and technical requirements will be communicated on **June 2**.
- Teams who successfully complete the required online course will be asked to analyze a new case study developed by ICD. Each team will then submit a presentation that (a) describes the current economic situation in the case study, and (b) recommends policies to address the identified challenges.
- Presentations may be prepared in English or French and submitted in any format (MS PowerPoint is recommended), but please note that the MDSx course and new case study will only be available in English. The process and deadlines for submitting presentations will be communicated on **September 6**.

Finalist teams will have the opportunity to present virtually at the IMF annual meetings in October 2022. This is an opportunity to meet policy makers, academics, and civil society organizations from around the world. For questions or concerns, please contact IMF-FundChallenge@imf.org

¹ Eligible degree programs include Economics, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, Computer Science, data Science or other related quantitative field.

² AFR member countries include: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe. APD member countries include: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Lao PDR, Macao SAR, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Vietnam. MCD member countries and territories include: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen.

³ Multiple teams studying at the same institution of higher learning may compete, but only one team can be chosen as a finalist. *Participants must choose their team member prior to registration.*

⁴ *Sponsoring faculty member can be any faculty member within the field of study at the respective institution of higher learning; one faculty member may sponsor multiple teams from the same institution.*