Food & Bio Cluster Denmark

GREEN LEAP CHALLENGE 2026

Rules

To participate in the challenge, you must fill out the application scheme available for download here: Download application scheme

Scope of the application

The application may not exceed five A4 pages in the pre-chosen font size (Calibri 10). Your idea must be described as a business model; it should be clear how the applicant intends to generate revenue from the idea. Appendices may be included for further documentation but should be kept to a minimum. We expect you to fill out the application form as detailed as possible within the given framework, although certain sections may not be possible to answer in full detail.

Who can participate?

Participation is open only to individuals based in Denmark with a business idea related to the bio-based economy (agriculture, food, bio-resources, bio-energy, and environmental technology), that demonstrates novelty and a certain level of expertise are eligible to participate. Please note: A requirement for entering the competition is that no commercial sales of the idea/product/service/concept have been registered or carried out at the time of submission. Crowd funding, crow lending and similar activities are not considered commercial sales. Employees of FBCD A/S are not eligible to participate in the competition.

Several people can apply together

Proposals may be submitted in cooperation with a knowledge institution, a company, etc., but the main applicant must be an individual. If an application is based on research conducted in cooperation with staff from another research institution or company, this must be clearly stated in the application, and that any rights to the project have been clarified prior to submission. We encourage you to resolve any issues concerning rights with your employer before sending in the proposal.

Deadline for submission of proposals: 20 November 2026 at 11:59 PM.

Applications must be submitted via this link: https://podio.com/webforms/30834856/2623658

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Food & Bio Cluster Denmark is responsible for ensuring that submitted projects are treated confidentially and stored securely. All participants will be notified once their project has been received and registered.

Evaluation criteria

All received proposals will be assessed based on the following:

1. **TOPICALITY**
   Is your idea relevant to the bio-based economy (agriculture, food, bio-resources, bio-energy, and environmental technology)? To what extent does the idea address a current challenge within the relevant industries?

2. **TECHNOLOGICAL AND KNOWLEDGE BASED NEWS VALUE**
   Does the project involve new knowledge and/or new technology? Does it create opportunities based on new insights that, when utilised, can generate added value?

3. **COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL**
   Is there a potential market for the activities and what are the prospect? Is it possible to position the idea in the market in relation to existing and future competitors?

4. **FEASIBILITY**
   Can the idea be realised from both a technical and economic perspective within a reasonable timeframe?

Evaluation

Assessment of the submitted proposals takes place in two stages. First, a judging committee, consisting of representatives from the sponsors and partners, will review all eligible proposals. The members of the committee are bound by confidentiality regarding the content of the project proposals. The committee may seek expert advice from external specialists, who will be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement. Based on these assessments, the committee will nominate nine cases for pitching - three corresponding to each of the themes indicated below:

- High-impact Biosolutions
- Resource-efficient Plant Production
- Resilient Agro-Food Systems

The winners will be found at the Awards Event, taking place in Copenhagen on 11 January 2027, where the jury and the audience will together nominate the three winners after hearing their pitches – 1 for each of the three themes.

Mark your calendar now to keep the day free in case your application is selected as one of the nine finalists invited to pitch. You will be notified approximately two weeks before the award event whether you have been selected. Participation in the pitch is a requirement to be able to win the competition.

Prize

Three prizes of DKK 50,000 each will be awarded. The prizes are personal and will be paid regardless of the subsequent commercialization of the business idea. The prize money is subject to taxation.

The 3 winners will also be offered sparring and guidance on their business plan, access to contacts through our network, and valuable input to support securing further funding from other sources.

Further information

The Green Leap Challenge 2026 is managed by employees of FBCD A/S, who can answer any questions in relation to the competition. Please contact:

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