WHAT IS THE CEC’S YOUTH INNOVATION CHALLENGE?
The 2020 Youth Innovation Challenge hosted by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation invites North American youth aged 18 to 30 to propose innovative solutions to address environmental challenges and opportunities for communities in Canada, Mexico and the United States.

WHAT IS THE THEME OF THIS YEAR’S CHALLENGE?
This 4th annual challenge focuses on social entrepreneurship for environmental sustainability.

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN THE CHALLENGE?
Should you win, you will:
+ Receive CAD $5,000 in seed funding
+ Present your innovative solution to North America’s top environmental officials at the CEC’s Council Session in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada on June 25 & 26, 2020
+ Visit an innovation center at an academic institution in North America in collaboration with the North American EcoInnovation Network

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION?
+ It describes a solution that addresses an environmental sustainability challenge in North America
+ It includes a solution that has a direct impact on North American communities
+ It demonstrates the innovativeness and business potential of your proposed solution
+ It is supported by photos, videos, schematics and prototype designs, etc.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY INNOVATIVE SOLUTION?
An innovative solutions could be a:
+ Product
+ Technology
+ System
+ Process
+ Application
+ Service
+ Business
+ Supply chain

WHO CAN JOIN THE CHALLENGE?
+ You can join if you are in between the ages of 18 and 30 on the date that you submit the solution.
+ You can submit a solution individually or as a team.
+ You must be a resident of Canada, Mexico or the United States.

IMPORTANT DATES 2020
March 31 Submission deadline
Week of May 11 Announce 3 winners
June 25 & 26 Winners present their solutions

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HOW WILL YOUR INNOVATIVE SOLUTION BE EVALUATED?
Your proposed solutions will be judged against the 4 following criteria:

1 **Impact (30%)**
   How does your solution benefit the environment and the livelihoods of North American communities? Does it create green jobs and economic opportunities?

2 **Innovation (30%)**
   How is your solution innovative? How does it differ from current solutions?

3 **Feasibility & Replicability (30%)**
   How will you implement your solution considering technological feasibility and the availability of resources? Is your solution replicable and scalable?

4 **Economic Value (10%)**
   Is there a market for your solution or does it fill a specific niche? Does your solution have potential for economic growth?

HOW DO YOU SUBMIT A SOLUTION VIA SUBMITTABLE?
It is easy:
1 Log-in or register a profile with Submittable
2 Accept the participation guidelines
3 Fill out the form & submit your solution

WHO WILL SELECT THE WINNERS?
The three winning solutions will be selected by environmental officials from the federal governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States, from a pre-selected group of finalists.

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