**Tool 9: Student competition:**

**“Nature-based solutions for climate adaptation measures in neighbourhoods”**

**Instructions**:

The programme CitiesAdapt in Mexico conducted a student challenge for universities in the Yucatán Peninsula to come up with innovative ideas for nature-based climate adaptation solutions for the neighbourhood chosen for the intervention.

This tool will present you with a draft of the Call for Proposals for you to replicate the student challenge. Do not forget to adapt the text to your context and own Terms of Reference!

**Call for Proposals**

[*Name of the organisation or programme who is conducting the student competition*], call students from the [*region or city*] to participate in the Regional Inter-University Competition, in search of innovative ideas for Climate Adaptation in [*city or neighbourhood*].

[*Description of your programme, initiative or organisation*].

1. **Adaptation to climate change**

Today, the effects of climate change are becoming more and more evident. Some of these effects are, for example, that the seasons are becoming more pronounced, leading to hotter seasons with higher temperatures. Abnormal phenomena are also being observed, such as droughts and hydro-meteorological phenomena, like hurricanes and extreme rain.

While governments around the world are making efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which are the cause of climate change, the reality is that many of the impacts we are seeing will be something that will still be present in the future. That is why it is very important that people and cities learn to adapt to these new conditions. We believe that neighbourhoods and local communities have a big role to play in increasing resilience.

1. **Efforts to increase resilience in the region or city**

[*Describe here how this student challenge fits into the policies and agenda of your city or region. Make sure to list the initiatives, action plans or goals that your city might have on climate adaptation, Nature-based solutions and/or resilience*].

1. **Objectives of the competition**

General objective

To develop proposals for innovative practices for the planning of [*name of the neighbourhood and public spaces where the intervention will take place*], in order to increase the resilience of the neighbourhood and promote its adaptation to the foreseeable effects of climate change.

Specific objectives

* Promote environmental innovation for the integration of **Nature-based solutions** in public space and facilities, to prepare them for the effects of climate change (e.g. heat waves, waterlogging that favours the spread of dengue and other diseases).
* Support ideas that bring about social, environmental and economic co-benefits in addition to climate change adaptation.
* Generate strategies for urban-architectural interventions that can be replicated in the medium term in other parts of the city and in other cities, and that require low maintenance.
* Develop a concept of an intervention that meets the specific needs of the residents of [*neighbourhood*], while integrating a gender perspective and including residents of all ages (children, young people, older adults), in order to guarantee their ownership in the implementation and maintenance of the measure.

1. **Scope of the competition**

This competition will be conducted according to the following rules, to present ideas that contribute to climate change adaptation in the [*neighbourhood and public space*], as well as a general proposal to increase the resilience of the entire neighbourhood. These ideas will serve as the basis for further discussion with neighbours and the development of an executive project to be developed by the [*name of the organisation or programme implementing the climate adaptation measure*] of technical team.

Neighbourhood

[*Describe the neighbourhood selected for the intervention*]

Public space or intervention area

[*Describe the public space (e.g. school, health unit, park, etc.) or intervention area*]

1. **Participation requirements and registration**

The competition is aimed at university students currently enrolled in a university located in the [*region or city*] who wish to participate in multidisciplinary teams made from 3 to 5 students plus one tutor or advisor from the university.

Registration will be done only through a university liaison who must be a professor, technician or administrative staff member of the institution and who will be the focal point for all communication with the competition organising committee.

The same tutor may advise several teams from the same university.

There is no limit to the number of teams each university can register.

The university representative must complete their registration via [*link or email address where the registration will take place*] no later than [*deadline for registration*].

Once the registration is completed, within 2 working days, the team representative will receive an email to the email address provided:

* A final registration number.
* Information of the public space where the intervention will take place, which includes a general plan of the area, as well as documents and a copy of the project.

**There is no registration fee for this competition.**

1. **Deliverables**
2. Infographic

Submit a letter-size infographic summarising the approach of your project, the analysis methods used that led to the delivered result, describing the most representative elements of the project and the objectives you seek to achieve with them, as well as the argumentation of the name of the proposed solutions.

1. Master plan at neighbourhood level

A slide presenting a synthesis of the diagnosis, strategic lines, and an architectural urban project at a conceptual level is expected.

The diagnosis should consider at least an analysis of the urban, environmental, social and risk context related to climate change. It is desirable that a gender approach be considered.

1. Intervention proposal in [*public space*]

* Submit an overall plan identifying the proposal and its interrelation with the immediate context.
* Present a conceptual project identifying the issue, the problem to be solved, the solution and the co-benefits.
* Description and details of the nature-based solutions to be incorporated.
* Explanation of environmental benefits, with special emphasis on climate change adaptation.
* Indication of access for different means of transport (pedestrian, bicycle, car).
* List of vegetation incorporated with description of the ecosystem functions or services they provide to the urban space.

1. **Submission of proposals**

Maximum 2 sheets with sufficient resolution to be printed in 90x60 (one for the master plan and one for the health module). Infographic in A4 size. All in PDF format. Please make sure the files do not exceed 15 MB between the three documents.

The final delivery of the documents must be sent to [*email address*] by [*time and deadline for submission*], indicating in the subject of the message ‘Adaptation competition + Registration number’.

1. **Evaluation criteria**

The proposals will be scored by a jury based on the following criterial:

* Creativity and innovation of the proposal.
* The effectiveness of the proposal in promoting resilience and adaptation to climate change.
* Integration of ecosystem services and Nature-based solutions.
* Consideration of the specific conditions of [*city*] (climate, soil, vegetation, culture, etc.).
* Replicability of the proposal.
* Possibility of implementing the proposals in the short and medium term.
* Social and economic co-benefits that the proposal may generate, especially to disadvantaged groups like women, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples, etc.

1. **Jury’s decision**

The jury's decision shall be final. The jury reserves the right to declare the prize void. The jury may declare the prize void if it considers that the works submitted are not of the required quality.

1. **Obligations of the participants**

By applying and submitting entries to the competition, participants:

* Guarantee the total original authorship of their projects.
* Undertake not to infringe the rights of third parties through the design or implementation of their proposals.
* Undertake to accept the decisions of the organising committee and the decision of the jury.
* They authorise the organising committee to use all or part of the material for dissemination and as elements to be taken up in the neighbourhood strategy and the project to be implemented by [*name of implementer of climate adaptation measure*].

1. **Prizes for winning teams**

The three winning teams will be notified by e-mail and/or telephone of the results.

The winning teams will be awarded the following prizes:

* First place: [*Prize*]
* Second place: [*Prize*]
* Third place: [*Prize*]

Plus a diploma for each team member.

The winning teams will be invited to participate in the working groups in charge of developing the executive project of the climate adaptation measure. They will also have the opportunity to present their project and share their experience in international fora and events.

All teams will receive a participation certificate and will be invited to the award ceremony, as well as to a session with the neighbourhood where the winning proposals will be presented.

1. **Important dates**

[*Insert a table of list with the important dates to remember, such as deadlines for the registration and submission of proposals, publication of results, date of the award ceremony, etc.*].

1. **Contact**

For more information and enquiries, please write us to [*email address of organisers*].