



Call for Proposal Submission

Information Pack

Project VOCAL Mentorship Program: Pitch Your Voice

## 1. Background & Introduction

Based on the [National Youth for Climate Change Survey Report 2020](#) done by UNDP & UNICEF, supported by Project VOCAL of EcoKnights, it was found that a majority of the urban and non-urban youth in Malaysia have experienced water- and air-related effects in the last 3 years. Furthermore, the youth respondents have provided suggestions on ways Malaysia could address climate change with key recommendations including to stop deforestation and logging, promote and implement better waste management, and an increase of education and awareness information surrounding climate change issues.

From these findings, Project VOCAL is hosting the **Pitch Your Voice mentorship program** to elevate the work of youth members in Malaysia who are currently tackling issues relating to these climate change topics. From this mentorship program, the selected youth members will gain opportunities to directly engage with our board of sustainability experts and youth ambassadors as well as bring their voice towards a larger cause.

Project VOCAL is also looking for existing or new **policies** in Malaysia that could be improved or implemented to address these issues. We recognize that there are a lot of existing local youth groups and youth organisations who are already working on the ground to tackle the different aspects of climate-related issues today, hence, we are looking at enhancing these work in accordance with relevant policies.

Overall, the main aspiration for this mentorship program is to mobilise and enhance these grassroots level initiatives, led by groups of young people who may need additional support e.g. on (1) funding opportunities, (2) experts consultation and interventions, (3) manpower assistance, (4) as well as capacity and knowledge resources.



Additionally, this program will also amplify their work through strategic partnership and networking with relevant stakeholders, policymakers and decision-makers.

## **2. Objectives**

- a) To provide support in terms of amplifying and mobilising youth groups around Malaysia who are delivering on-ground work tackling climate change related issues
- b) To provide support and network for youth groups to reach wider visibility and better opportunities
- c) To gather like-minded youths to work on a better and more sustainable Malaysia in the future

## **3. Timeline**

- a) Proposal submissions will be accepted from the 12th of June until the 23rd of July 2021.
- b) The winners will be announced on the 26th of July 2021.
- c) Selected project winners will be required to participate in training sessions. More information about these sessions will be given at a later date.
- d) The project is expected to begin on 27th of July 2021.
- e) Submission of final report by project leads will be tentatively on 31st of October 2021.

## **4. How to Apply**

To apply for this project, kindly refer to the proposal (and budgeting) template that can be found on the website. Proposals are to be submitted via the application submission portal, latest by 23rd of July 2021.

Proposals must include:

- a) Proposal Submission Form
- b) Narrative Proposal
- c) Budget Template, if relevant (\*T&Cs)

**In your project proposal, tell us more about what you need for your project:**

- Funding Opportunity (\*T&Cs)
- Manpower
- Capacity & Knowledge



Supported by:

- Networking
- Others (*please state in the submission form*)

\*If you have chosen *Funding Opportunity* as one of your project needs from the options above, kindly take note of the following:

- a) Project VOCAL will disburse a maximum of RM2,500 for each selected team. To be eligible to receive the aforementioned amount from Project VOCAL, the selected grantee must be able to **MATCH** the same amount of funds through fundraising.
- b) The fundraising will be done on the organizer's platform which is the EcoKnights/Project VOCAL website for project transparency purposes. The teams will be informed of their fundraising status.
- c) The final amount fundraised will be MATCHED by Project VOCAL's funding. (*For example, if your team fundraises RM1,000, we will match the amount and provide you with RM1,000 of funding, and so on*).
- d) The maximum amount of funding provided by Project VOCAL is RM2,500 only. (*For example, if your team successfully fundraises RM3,000 or more, Project VOCAL will disburse the maximum amount of RM2,500, as stated*).
- e) After the fundraising period is over, each selected team will receive their respective final funds accordingly.
- f) Project VOCAL may advise and provide recommendations in searching for fundraising opportunities.
- g) Please fill in the Budget Template (*as provided on the [main website](#)*) as part of your proposal, outlining your activities and proposed expenditure.

##### **5. Who is eligible to apply?**

- a) You must already be a youth group working on the climate-related issue that you are applying to.
- b) A majority of the team members must be within the age of 18-35 years (*for example, if you are a group of 6 people, 4 of you are to be within the age range to be considered as the majority*)
- c) Team members who are within the age range (18-35) can register as a VOCAList member for FREE [here](#). As a member, you are also eligible to retrieve information on future climate-related events and activities.
- d) A minimum of 5 people in a group



- e) Project leader must be Malaysian
- f) Project leader should have considerable experience and exposure in delivering programmes, minimum 1 year of project management OR at least have handled 3 projects
- g) Youth groups or youth-led organizations are encouraged to apply (e.g. university groups from Malaysia, NGOs/CSOs)

## 6. Topics

Your group must be tackling ONE of the following climate-related topics:

- a) Deforestation, Logging, and/or Tree-Planting
- b) Sustainable Waste Management
- c) Climate Education
- d) Air-related Issues
- e) Water-related Issues

## 7. Selection Process

Submitted proposals will undergo a screening process. All applicants will be contacted about the outcome at the allocated timeline.

## 8. Selection Criteria

Project proposals that meet the following criteria will stand better chances of receiving the award. See below:

- Clear and distinct techniques, tools and strategies to tackle the climate change issues effectively, backed by climate science information.
- Strong observation or understanding of current perception among the topic, in relation to climate change and how your project will bring changes to these perceptions.
- Innovative, personalised and localised techniques that will develop strong engagement with the relevant beneficiaries (partners, collaborators, participants, etc.). We **highly encourage** partnership with policy-makers, government (federal and state) bodies and registered associations relevant to designated target stakeholder groups to develop the proposal; these will be highly regarded during the selection process.
- Traditional approaches or usage of the latest technologies is welcome. Proposals that clearly articulate which aspects of the science will effectively tackle the



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targeted issue, how feasible it is to reduce the negative impacts of climate change and showcase good assessment strategies of the applied techniques will be highly regarded.

- Showcase of an existing connection/involvement to the target stakeholders is an added advantage.
- Aimed at a key group of the target stakeholder that has a clear and strong connection to climate change either from impact, mitigation or management perspective.
- Well defined communication and marketing strategies.
- Project reports from participants must be submitted by the 31st of October 2021.

### **9. Expected Project Outcomes**

- a) Five (5) youth groups mobilised in their respective climate action projects
- b) Engagements with Project VOCAL's Advisory Board and Youth Ambassadors as mentors
- c) Engagements with relevant policymakers and/or government officials via roundtable meetings aiming towards a more strategic policy making in climate-related issues
- d) A tangible document outlining the recommendations and proposed solutions on the policies relating to the chosen topic and climate action

### **10. Provisions to Adhere**

The selected project winners have responsibilities to:

- a) Formulate the concept and strategy of project implementation as aligned to this Call for Proposal information pack.
- b) Dedicate at least one communication staff to coordinate with the Communications Team of EcoKnights while implementing the project. They must update any activities that will be conducted to EcoKnights at least 7 working days in advance.
- c) Develop a working plan and timeline for the proposed project.
- d) Commit to the training sessions including the capacity building programs and hackathon conducted by the Organizer.
- e) Develop a final policy recommendation to be included as part of the final reading material from this program.
- f) Attend roundtable meetings with the presence of state and federal government officials for sharing of policy recommendations.



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- g) Manage all documents related to the project implementation.
- h) Document every activity in various multimedia (written, photos, videos). To also document activities on social media as deemed relevant.