

## Google.org Impact Challenge: AI for Science

### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

***This copy is for reference only. All applications must be submitted online at [g.co/ImpactChallenge/aisci](https://g.co/ImpactChallenge/aisci) by Friday, May 1 at 11:59PM PT.***

#### Introduction

This is the application for the Google.org Impact Challenge: AI for Science, a \$30M global open call for nonprofits, social enterprises, and academic institutions to leverage AI to achieve scientific breakthroughs and accelerate scientific progress.

We are particularly interested in proposals leveraging AI and advanced technology to achieve scientific breakthroughs and accelerate progress in the following ways:

- **AI for Health & Life Sciences:** Improve our understanding of human life—from genomics to brain mapping—to ultimately improve human health and wellbeing.
- **AI for Climate Resilience & Environmental Science:** Build a deeper understanding of our planet’s living systems—spanning biodiversity, agriculture, oceans, and more—to help build a more resilient and sustainable Earth and atmosphere.

#### Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria: Scientific Ambition and Impact, Innovative and Responsible Use of AI, Feasibility, and Scalability and Sustainability.

- **Scientific Ambition & Impact:** Projects must pursue high-impact research in the following areas: AI for Health & Life Sciences, AI for Climate Resilience & Environmental Science. Proposals should be evidence-based and define clear, quantifiable success metrics.
- **Innovative & Responsible Use of AI:** AI should be a core component of the solution, developed in alignment with Google’s [Responsible AI Principles](#) and shared via open-source licensing to benefit the public, or the solution should specifically enable future AI use cases (e.g. a foundational open dataset).
- **Feasibility:** Applicants must provide a realistic execution plan, timeline, and budget. Teams must possess the necessary technical and domain expertise to successfully execute the proposed research.
- **Scalability & Sustainability:** Projects should demonstrate potential for scaled impact and/or relevance beyond their immediate scope. Applicants are encouraged to articulate how their outputs will be discovered, adopted, and maintained across scientific domains and geographies.

For additional information on what we’re looking for, refer to our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

#### Instructions

- You must sign in or create an account with Submittable in order to apply to the Google.org Impact Challenge: AI for Science.
- We strongly recommend reviewing the [Application Criteria](#) and the application questions before you begin. This PDF contains a list of the questions in the application form for use in preparing your responses.

- All applications **must be** submitted in English as interviews and the Google.org Accelerator program for selected organizations will be conducted in English. We require at least one fluent English speaker in your project team.
- Please note that response boxes enforce a maximum response length per question, and hyperlinks are supported where specified.
- Applications can be saved for later completion in the platform, though it's helpful to press 'Save' periodically.
- You can invite additional people to complete the application as a collaborator ([see additional information](#)).
- Do not submit any confidential or proprietary information through this application as the details of your project proposal may be shared with internal or external experts to evaluate your submission.
- Except for the information required for questions asking about the submitter's contact information or team members, please do not include any personally identifiable information in your response. If you are including names and contact information for someone other than yourself, be sure you have their explicit consent and have provided them with notice on how to request deletion or updates to their information (contact [gic-aisci@google.com](mailto:gic-aisci@google.com)).
- We believe that projects supported by Google.org funding should be able to benefit everyone. If your organization is selected to receive Google.org support, we will require, to the extent possible, any intellectual property created (or distributed) with support from Google.org funding be made available to the public for free under a permissive open source license. Please refer to the [Terms](#).
- You must be using one of the following internet browsers that are compatible with the application form: Apple Safari, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge (latest Chromium version), Mozilla Firefox.
- This information is being collected by Google LLC. By submitting this document and any attachments ("Application"), you indicate that you understand and agree that the information you provide will be shared with experts (both internal and external to Google) to evaluate your Application for the purpose of selecting funding recipients, administering the program and communicating with you about your organization's Application. You also agree to the [Application Terms](#) and acknowledge that your Application will be used and maintained in accordance with [Google's Privacy Policy](#). Contact [gic-aisci@google.com](mailto:gic-aisci@google.com) with questions and to change or delete your information. As set forth in the [Terms](#), ideas provided in your organization's Application will not be treated as confidential or proprietary.

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## I. Organization and Submitter Info

1. What is the full, registered (legal) name of your organization? [Required, text field]
2. In which country is your organization headquartered? [Required, select one, list of countries in Terms by alphabetical order]
3. Which of the following classifications applies to your organization? [Required, select one]
  - University: public or private academic or research institution
  - Nonprofit: not-for-profit charity or other not-for-profit organization
  - Social enterprise: for-profit social enterprise company with a project that has an explicit social impact purpose

Other, please specify: [text field]

4. To the best of your ability, please share the following information about your organization:
  - a. What year was your organization founded? Enter as YYYY. [Required, number field]
  - b. What is your organization's current annual budget (approximate, in USD\$)? For a research lab within an academic institution, please use your lab's budget. Please do not include potential funding from this program. [Required, number field]
  - c. What is your organization's current number of full time employees? Do not include volunteers. [Required, number field]
5. If your organization has a website and/or a primary social media channel, please provide the links below:
  - a. Website: [optional, text field]
  - b. Primary Social Media Channel: [optional, text field]
6. Have you received funding from Google.org before? [Required, Y/N buttons]
  - a. If you answered 'Yes', please share more about the funding you received (e.g., project name, year, and a brief description). [Optional, text field, 50 words max]
7. How did you first discover or hear about this funding program and opportunity? [select all that apply]
  - a. Social Media (e.g. X, LinkedIn)
  - b. Direct Email
  - c. Website Search
  - d. Third Party Organization (e.g. RenPhil, CPI)
  - e. Referral (specify)
  - f. Other (specify)
8. Please note the person listed here will serve as the main point-of-contact for your organization throughout the Google.org Impact Challenge: AI for Science
  - a. **Full Name:** Please enter your full name. [Required, text field].
  - b. **Job Title:** What is your job title? [Required, text field]
  - c. **Email:** What is your work email address? [Required, text field]. *Please ensure your work email address is correct.*
  - d. **Timezone:** (Drop down)
9. Please note the person listed here will serve as the second point-of-contact for your organization throughout the Google.org Impact Challenge: AI for Science.
  - a. **Full Name:** Please enter the second point of contact's full name. [Required, text field].
  - b. **Second Job Title:** What is the second point of contact's job title? [Required, text field]
  - c. **Second Email:** What is the second point of contact's work email address? [Required, text field]. *Please ensure the work email address is correct.*
  - d. **Timezone:** (Drop down)
10. The Google.org Impact Challenge: AI for Science interview, additional follow-ups, and post-funding support will be in English. Within your organization, can you please confirm that at least one project lead is fluent in English? [Required, Yes/No, Select one]

## II. Impact

11. What is your project's name? [Required, Text field]
12. Please select the topic(s) that best align with your project's scope. For additional information on each topic, please reference the [FAQs](#). [Required, Select all that apply]

- Health & Life Sciences - Functional Genomics
- Health & Life Sciences - Cellular & Tissue Biology
- Health & Life Sciences - Neuroscience & the Brain
- Health & Life Sciences - Drug Discovery
- Health & Life Sciences - Disease Understanding & Resistance
- Health & Life Science - Other (please specify)
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Chemistry for Climate Solutions
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Synthetic Biology for Climate Solutions
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Food & Agriculture
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Biosphere, Climate, and Society
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Climate & Weather
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Materials Discovery
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Advanced Energy & Materials
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Science - Other (please specify)
- Other (please specify)

13. Please select the open-source output(s) that best align with your project's scope and goals.

[Required, Select all that apply]

- a. Peer Reviewed Publication(s)
- b. Curated Dataset(s)
- c. Software, Tools, or Platform(s)
- d. AI Model(s) or Architectures
- e. Other (please specify)

14. Please select the geographic regions, and countries, your project serves (select all):

- a. APAC
- b. EMEA
- c. NA
- d. LATAM
- e. Global

15. Please specify your project's current stage. [Required, Select one]

- a. **Hypothesis & Study Design:** A research question or theoretical framework is defined, but data collection or modeling has not yet begun.
- b. **Proof of Concept / Preliminary Results:** Initial experiments, models, or pilot studies have been conducted and demonstrate feasibility.
- c. **Validated Methodology:** The approach has been rigorously tested, peer-reviewed, or applied successfully to a relevant dataset or problem space.

Please complete the following sentence prompts:

16. **Problem Statement:**

- a. The problem this project is trying to tackle is...[Required, Text field, 50 words max]
- b. The challenge is significant because... (please use data to illustrate the problem statement) [Required, Text field, 50 words max]
- c. The questions we seek to answer through this project that will help us improve our services/inform the field are... ([Required, Text field, 50 words max])

17. **Proposed Solution:**

- a. The solution we are proposing is...[Required, Text field, 50 words max]
- b. The tools, methods, or techniques we are planning to use are... [Required, Text field, 50 words max]

- c. The evidence we have that our solution, once implemented, would solve this problem is...[Required, Text field, 50 words max]
  - d. Beyond addressing the immediate problem, our use of AI will catalyze new scientific inquiry and/or establish a new field benchmark by...[Required, Text field, 50 words max]
18. **End Beneficiaries**
- a. The end beneficiary group(s) that we hope to support are... . [Required, Text field, 50 words max]
  - b. To gather and incorporate feedback from our end beneficiaries, our project will... [Required, Text field, 50 words max]
  - c. The potential reach (e.g., the estimated number of individuals, organizations, or geographic regions your project will directly impact over the 36-month funding period) is... [Required, Text field, 50 words max]
19. **Expected Outcomes:**
- a. The specific metrics we'd use to assess our solution's real-world impact are... [Required, Text field, 50 words max]
  - b. The specific signals or **negative indicators** that would demonstrate our solution is **failing to achieve** its intended impact are... [Required, Text field, 50 words max]
  - c. The changes from baseline we'd expect to see are... (e.g. include the amount of individuals you expect to reach in this time period, % changes **in outcomes , etc.**) [Required, Text field, 50 words max]

### III. Innovative Use of Technology

20. What existing technologies will you use to build your solution, and what role will they play? Give specific names, such as the AI models, open source packages, or cloud technologies you plan to use. If these technologies will need to be adapted or customized for your use case, describe how. [required, 100 words max]
21. If applicable, why is a new, custom-developed solution necessary? Please detail the shortcomings of currently available solutions or simpler technical or non-technical alternatives in addressing this specific problem. [optional, 100 words max]
22. Do you have an existing dataset being used for your solution? [Y/N Required]
- a. If YES, Please describe the critical datasets (existing or to be generated) you will use for training/validation? Describe the size, quality, and access status. [optional, 100 words max]
  - b. If NO, if the dataset is to be generated, please provide detail on how it will be generated.
23. How have you considered the ethical risks of your solution, and how does your design align with Google's AI Principles?[Required, Text field, 100 words max] (read more about [Google's AI Principles](#) here)
24. We expect funded projects to contribute open source outputs for use across the scientific community. Will all outputs funded by Google.org be freely and openly available to the public? [Y/N, required]
- a. [if no], If any datasets, models, or other outputs would not be made open source (e.g. sensitive individual health data), please provide an explanation below.[Required, Text field, 100 words max]
25. All selected organizations will be offered to take part in the Google.org Accelerator. Participants receive access to offerings like pro bono technical support from Google's AI experts, mentorship, technical training and more. A commitment of 2–4 hours weekly from two team members is expected for six months beginning in October 2026. How might you leverage Google's technical

support and expertise to accelerate project outcomes? Please be specific about the technologies or skills where you'd most benefit from support. If you are not interested in participating, please note. (Please reference the [FAQs](#) to learn more about Accelerator offerings).[Required, 100 words max, Select all that apply]

#### IV. Feasibility

26. Why is your organization or research group uniquely positioned to lead this project? Describe any specialized access to data, community trust, prior published work or deep domain expertise that ensures your team can successfully implement this technology. Please feel free to include links to any particularly relevant publications. [Required, Text Field, 150 words max]
27. How would you describe your organization's current AI Maturity:
- AI First: AI is core to our organization's offerings, and we're already using it to provide demonstrated value to beneficiaries
  - AI Adoption: AI is used as part of our offerings, either for internally or externally-facing workflows
  - AI Exploration: We are actively prototyping AI within our offerings
  - AI Interest: We are assessing the potential benefits, but not currently leveraging AI
  - No prior AI exploration
    - [if AI interest/AI Exploration or no prior AI Exploration] If limited AI/ML experience, how does your organization demonstrate strong tech fluency? [Required, Text field, 50 words max].
    - [No Prior AI Exploration] If this is your first AI/ML project, what has prevented you from using AI/ML in your work? (e.g., data, talent, resources, tools, priorities). [Required, Text field, 50 words max].
28. Describe the work you have done to demonstrate the technical feasibility of your approach. Be sure to describe the specific metrics or evidence you've used to judge success.[Required, Text field, 100 words max]
29. Please provide an overview of the potential risks (including technical, policy, administrative, or logistical), key dependencies for adoption, and ongoing maintenance requirements associated with your project. For all identified challenges, describe the mitigation strategies you will implement. [200 words max]
30. Identify the 3-5 key team members (e.g. software engineer, data analyst - do not include individuals' names), current or to be hired, that are essential to project success. Briefly describe the relevant expertise (technical and/or management) of each individual that ensures the successful implementation of the project. [Required, Text field, 100 words max]
31. If applicable, please list the partner organisation(s) that you are working with or would like to work with who will support **this project proposal's** execution and success. [Optional, indicate up to 5 partners]
- Partner Org Name: [text field]
  - Partner Org Website: [text field]
  - Role in project/expertise: [50 words max]
  - Status: [Select one]
    - Existing partner
    - In contact with, but not a solidified partner
    - Aspirational partner, not yet contacted

## V. Scalability

32. How might your solution scale or **build beyond** your core idea? Detail how success could expand beyond the initial proposal. [All that apply]
- Geographic transfer** (e.g., moving from a local pilot to a regional or global scale)
  - Adaptation to different sectors** (e.g. moving from Neuroscience to Robotics)
  - Exponential user growth** (e.g., broad consumer adoption)
  - Technical & performance maturity** (e.g., optimizing for enterprise-scale throughput)
  - Ecosystem & integration** (e.g., becoming a foundational tool for other developers)
  - Community-led expansion** (e.g., growing the contributor base to sustain the code)
  - Policy & standards leadership** (e.g., defining the ethical "gold standard" for the field)
  - Other (please specify):** \_\_\_\_\_
33. Address how the team's structure and capabilities would need to evolve to support this growth at scale. If you're expecting a partner organization to scale your idea, please explain. [Required, Text field, 150 words max]
34. Google.org generally makes one-time contributions. How would you financially and technically sustain this work beyond Google.org's support?
- Financial sustainability: [Required, 50 words max]
  - Technical sustainability: [Required, 50 words max]
35. What key learnings will your project generate, and how will you share them with other organizations to help advance the field?[ Required, Text field, 100 words max]
36. Please provide information related to your organization's public presence and project visibility. This includes: 1) Links to media coverage or press articles featuring your organization or project, 2) Details on presentations of this work or related expertise at professional conferences, public talks, or academic venues, 3) A link to a pitch, demo, or explainer video, and/or recent publication, existing proof of concept, if available. [optional, 100 words max]

## VI. Project Budget and Timeline

*For the questions below, we are asking for your early assessment based on the information you have today. The budget table and activities are not expected to be final, and selected finalists will ultimately undergo an iterative proposal development process with the Google.org team.*

37. **Funding Request:** The GIC expects to award funding between \$500K and \$3M USD. Please request a funding amount [USD] that most closely matches your project's needs. Note that this is an initial starting point and finalists will go through an iterative proposal development process with the Google.org team to validate and increase/decrease funding as appropriate. [Required, Select one]
- \$500,000
  - \$1,000,000
  - \$1,500,000
  - \$2,000,000
  - \$2,500,000
  - \$3,000,000
  - Other [fill in]

Budget Breakdown (required): For each of your **3 to 5 high-level categories**, please answer the following three prompts. Please focus on the most significant costs that directly impact the execution and success of your project, and are readily identifiable as being linked to a specific activity. Common categories may include:

- **Budget Breakdown:** Please provide a breakdown of your requested funding, across 3-5 high-level categories, in the table below. Please list specific items within each of these categories. Common categories may include:
- **Personnel & staffing:** project team salaries, especially technical roles like developers and data scientists; level of specificity expected is, for example, “Data Scientist, 1, 24 months, \$X total cost”
- **Technology development:** costs for software, hardware, data acquisition, and development of AI models
- **Equipment & Infrastructure:** costs for compute and ccloud services
- **Project amplification & other business costs:** activities that foster collaboration; any subawards to partners expected to play a substantial role in the project, travel and conferences, scientific journal fees, institutional overhead cost, staff training, etc
- **Measurement & evaluation:** resources for measuring the project's success and impact
- **Indirect costs:** rent, utilities, etc (Typically limited to 10-12% of total budget)

38. Category 1

- Expense Category Name: (e.g., Personnel & Staffing, Infrastructure, etc.)
- Budget Allocation (USD): Enter the total numerical value.
- Description & Subcategory Details: Provide a breakdown of what this funding covers and how it links to specific project activities. (*Maximum 100 words*).

39. Category 2

- Expense Category Name:
- Budget Allocation (USD):
- Description & Subcategory Details: (*Maximum 100 words*)

40. Category 3

- Expense Category Name:
- Budget Allocation (USD):
- Description & Subcategory Details: (*Maximum 100 words*)

41. Category 4

- Expense Category Name:
- Budget Allocation (USD):
- Description & Subcategory Details: (*Maximum 100 words*)

42. Category 5

- Expense Category Name:
- Budget Allocation (USD):
- Description & Subcategory Details: (*Maximum 100 words*)

**Project Timeline Overview:** Please provide an overview of your project's key activities and expected outcomes, including 3-5 key milestones, by completing the questions below. Funding can be used over the course of 36 months, including the Google.org Accelerator period. Clearly indicate the timeframe for each row. [Required]

43. Milestone 1

- Timeframe: (e.g., Months A–B)
- Activities: Describe what you will do during this specific period.
- Outcomes/Key Milestones: Describe the expected, measurable results of these activities. [100 words max]

44. Milestone 2

- Timeframe:
- Activities:
- Outcomes/Key Milestones:

45. Milestone 3

- Timeframe:
- Activities:
- Outcomes/Key Milestones:

46. Milestone 4
  - a. Timeframe:
  - b. Activities:
  - c. Outcomes/Key Milestones:
47. Milestone 5
  - a. Timeframe:
  - b. Activities:
  - c. Outcomes/Key Milestones:

## VII. Ethics and Compliance

*Ethics and Compliance: Please answer the following Ethics & Compliance questions carefully and provide additional information if any of the questions below apply to you, your organization, and any partner organizations. If you indicate "Yes" to any of the questions below, or if you're unsure about your responses, please provide as much detail as possible in question 53.*

48. To your knowledge, does your organization have any ongoing commercial contracts or negotiations with Google that are directly related to the project detailed in this application? (For the sake of clarity, this does not include Google's standard product offerings like G Suite, Google Ads, Google for Nonprofits, etc.) [Required, Y/N, I'm not sure, buttons]
49. To your knowledge, are any current government officials, employees or civil servants employed by your organization or are they members of your organization's board or officer group? (If you are employed by a public university, please select yes). [Required, Y/N buttons]
50. To your knowledge, are any current government or intergovernmental entities, officials, employees, or civil servants (collectively "Government Persons") involved in your project? For example, if selected to receive funding, will your organization use funds to: (i) provide goods or services to a government or intergovernmental entity, (ii) pay for any Government Persons salaries, stipends, travel, or related costs, or (iii) otherwise benefit any Government Persons? (If you are employed by a public university, please check yes). [Required, Y/N buttons]
51. If selected to receive funding, will your organization engage with or provide funding to any local, state, federal (including military) law enforcement entities or officials on the project?[Required, Y/N buttons]
52. Does your organization have any dealings or programs in Crimea, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Russia, the so-called Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) and Luhansk People's Republic (LNR), or Syria?[Required, Y/N buttons]
53. If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, please explain here (if you are employed by a public university, please note here): [Required if any of Ethics & Compliance questions = "Y", 100 words max]

## Certification & Completion

By submitting my Application, I certify on behalf of my organization that: (1) my organization and the points of contact listed in my Application have consented and agreed to be contacted by Google for purposes of evaluating and potentially funding the project described in my Application; (2) my organization agrees to the [Terms](#); (3) all information contained in this Application is true and accurate; (4) my organization meets the eligibility requirements specified in the [Terms](#); (5) none of the information in this Application is confidential or proprietary; and (6) I am an authorized representative of my organization who has the authority and permission from my organization to submit an Application on behalf of the organization and has the authority to legally bind the organization or have permission from an authorized representative to submit an Application on behalf of the organization, – including, without limitation, to the [Terms](#).

- a) You must be an authorized representative of your Organization or have permission from an authorized representative to submit an Application on behalf of your Organization.

Note: The information you submit will be used in accordance with [Google's Privacy Policy](#).

Yes, I certify

No, I do not certify and I understand my application will not be accepted.

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