HELD UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY ABDEL FATTAH EL SISI, PRESIDENT OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

EGYPES CLIMATECH CHALLENGE

PART OF EGYPES EGYPT ENERGY SHOW

SUPPORTED BY

MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2025 | EGYPT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTER

UNLOCKING
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN
MENA'S STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

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GATEWAY FOR

CLIMATE TECH STARTUPS IN MENA

Global economies are increasing their support for the adoption of low carbon technologies, which will need to be scaled rapidly to achieve net zero by 2050. At the forefront of the energy transition are climate tech startups, driving innovative solutions that are reshaping how we produce and consume energy, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, and accelerating industrial decarbonisation.

The EGYPES 2025 CLIMATECH Challenge serves as a platform for climate tech startups to expand into the MENA region, bringing together leading industry thought leaders, policymakers, investors, venture capitalists and emerging startups from across the world to showcase the critical innovations and groundbreaking solutions that are producing clean energy, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and paving the way for a sustainable future.

During the Challenge, startups championing the vision to decarbonise our planet will have the opportunity to present their technologies and business models to an influential panel of judges, gaining access to investors and building connections essential for scaling their impact in the MENA region.

The journey to net-zero requires a multi-pronged approach, and innovative startups are pivotal players. Winning the EGYPES 2024 CLIMATECH Challenge placed PiKARE on a global stage, validating our technology and connecting us with vital networks to accelerate our growth. EGYPES is an invaluable platform, shining a spotlight on climate tech solutions and helping us forge partnerships for a sustainable future.

HÜSEYIN ÇILOĞLU
Vice President and COO
PiKare

EGYPES 2025
CONFERENCES

- EGYPES **STRATEGIC** CONFERENCE
- EGYPES **TECHNICAL** CONFERENCE
- EGYPES **SUSTAINABILITY IN ENERGY** CONFERENCE
- EGYPES **FINANCE & INVESTMENT IN ENERGY** CONFERENCE
- EGYPES **AFRICAN DIALOGUE** CONFERENCE
- EGYPES **LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT** CONFERENCE
- EGYPES **CLIMATECH** CHALLENGE

HOW IT **WORKS**

The EGYPES 2025 CLIMATECH Challenge identifies and supports promising energy startups from around the world, focusing on technologies and solutions crucial for achieving a low-carbon future. Here's how the process unfolds:

SELECTION COMMITTEE EVALUATION

A panel of investors and energy industry experts carefully evaluate all applications, focusing on the most viable and innovative business models. Those selected advance to the second round, where they must submit a 5-minute video pitch.

SHORTLISTING FINALISTS

From these video pitches, the selection committee identifies the five most promising startups. These finalists then participate in the EGYPES 2025 CLIMATECH Challenge, where they have the opportunity to present their innovative technologies and solutions to a distinguished audience of investors and energy leaders.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

In the week leading up to the Challenge, the selection committee members take on a second crucial role as mentors. They will guide and support the finalists through a dedicated mentorship programme, sharing valuable insights and expertise. This session helps prepare the finalists to deliver an effective presentation that aligns with the judging evaluation criteria.

JUDGING PROCESS

During the challenge, startups will deliver a 10-minute pitch to a judging panel consisting of venture capitalists, investors and senior energy leaders, followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. The judges will assess the viability of each startup's business model and the effectiveness of their climate technology and solution in accelerating decarbonisation efforts.

AWARDS AND INCENTIVES

The judges select the first-place winner of the CLIMATECH Challenge, while the audience vote for the "people's choice" winner, determining the second place. The winning startup will receive up to $35,000 worth of incentives to support the growth and development of their business.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

15 AUGUST
Applications open

22 NOVEMBER
Applications deadline

3 DECEMBER
Selection committee shortlists startup finalists

10 DECEMBER
Shortlisted finalists invited to submit 5-minute video pitch

13 DECEMBER
Selection committee will select 5 finalists

17 DECEMBER
Finalists announced

18 DECEMBER
Mentorship programme to support finalists in delivering high quality presentations

17 FEBRUARY
5 finalists deliver 10-minute pitches to jury and industry leaders, winner announced

THE JUDGING **CRITERIA**

The judges will assess start-ups on their ability to demonstrate strong competency and effectiveness of their climate technology and solution in driving decarbonisation and producing clean and affordable energy based on their demonstrated competency in five key areas:

CLIMATE INNOVATION

Evaluates how effective and unique the start-ups climate technology is in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting clean energy, and facilitating the transition to a low-carbon economy.

INVESTMENT POTENTIAL

Analyses the start-ups potential for attracting investment and generating returns for investors, factoring the start-ups growth potential, scalability, market traction and funding strategy.

BUSINESS MODEL

Rigorously evaluates the scalability and adaptability of the start-ups approach to generating revenue and creating sustainable business operations, considering factors such as revenue streams, client portfolio, marketing strategy and plans for growth.

MARKET OPPORTUNITY

Examines the potential market size and growth prospects for the start-ups product, considering market trends, demand, and market saturation, with analysis of the attractiveness of the market opportunity.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Considers the capabilities and collection of skills within the start-ups team, including experience, expertise and responsibilities of the founders, key personnel and board members.

SELECTION **COMMITTEE**

MANAL HASSAN
Chief Sustainability Officer
ELSEWEDY ELECTRIC

KAMEL EL KHOLY
Strategic Program Manager
SLB NEW ENERGY

TAREK ROUSHDY
Chief Executive Officer
& Founder
UI INVESTMENTS

ZIAD ELADAWY
Co-Founder and Chief
Commercial Officer
OCTANE

NICCOLO SAPIO
Senior Venture
Capital Associate
PLUG AND PLAY TECH CENTER

MOHAMMED AL-HABIB
Regional Executive Director
Climate Technology Solutions
BAKER HUGHES

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SCAN QR CODE
TO REGISTER ONLINE NOW

WHO SHOULD
APPLY

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Start-ups working on renewable energy sources such as solar and wind that play a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

ENERGY STORAGE

Companies developing advanced energy storage solutions such as next-gen batteries, supercapacitors or thermal storage systems for ensuring a reliable supply of renewable energy.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Start-ups focusing on energy-efficient technologies for buildings, transportation and industries can contribute to reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions.

CARBON CAPTURE, UTILISATION AND STORAGE (CCUS)

Start-ups working on technologies to capture carbon dioxide emissions from industrial and energy-related sources, utilise and store the captured CO2 to mitigate climate change.

Electric Mobility

Startups developing electric vehicles (EVs), charging infrastructure, or battery technologies, including solutions to electrify public transportation or heavy-duty vehicles.

HYDROGEN

Start-ups working on hydrogen production and utilisation technologies, particularly those using renewable energy sources as a clean energy carrier and relevant to climate action.

DIGITALISATION

Startups focused on leveraging digital technologies and AI to optimize energy performance, improve cost efficiency and monitor emissions.

WASTE-TO-ENERGY

Startups that convert waste materials into energy, reducing landfill use and providing alternative energy sources, such as agricultural byproducts, or industrial waste into biofuels or electricity.

CARBON OFFSETTING

Start-ups exploring innovative approaches to carbon offsetting and trading, including blockchain-based solutions to help companies meet their carbon reduction goals.

WATER AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

Companies developing technologies for efficient water use, desalination, water recycling, or energy generation from wastewater treatment.

RULES & GUIDELINES

The CLIMATECH Challenge is open to established start-ups and entrepreneurs worldwide who are serving the energy transition with the development of climate technology, addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the production of clean, affordable and sustainable energy.

ENTRY ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to start-ups operating across the energy sector with climate technologies that provide solutions to decarbonise the energy value chain.

- Start-ups must have been founded within the last six years, between 2018 - 2024.
- Start-ups must have no more than 25 employees.
- Start-ups must have proof of concept with an established product portfolio.
- Both domestic and international start-ups are eligible to participate.
- Each start-up can submit only one entry.

ENTRY SUBMISSION

Start-ups must complete the official application form on egypes.com/climatechallenge

- The application form will include a comprehensive description of the start-ups business model, technology, revenue, investments received and its potential impact on the energy sector.
- The application form may require supporting documents such as financial projections, market analysis, and team structure.

SELECTION PROCESS

Entries will be evaluated by a panel of technical committee members.

- The evaluation criteria will include innovation, market potential, business model, sustainability, scalability, and team structure.
- Shortlisted start-ups will be notified and invited to submit a five-minute video pitch as part of the second round.
- Five start-ups with the most promising climate technology will be selected as finalists and invited to participate in the CLIMATECH Challenge.

PITCHING EVENT

Selected start-ups will be provided with a designated time slot to present their sustainable solutions to the judges and audience.

- Each start-up will have up to 10 minutes to deliver their pitch, followed by a Q&A session with the judges.
- Presentations should clearly communicate and address the judging criteria – Climate Tech, Market Opportunity, Business Model, Team Composition and Investment Potential
- The CLIMATECH Challenge is an in person event with no virtual options, finalists must therefore be physically present to deliver their pitch.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

The CLIMATECH Challenge winner will be selected by the jury. The second-place, known as the 'People's Choice Award' will be determined by the audience. The CLIMATECH Challenge winner will receive a variety of awards and prizes to support the growth of their business, including but not limited to the following:

- Exhibition stand at EGYPES 2026
- Session sponsor and speaking opportunity at EGYPES 2026 Sustainability in Energy Conference.
- Video interview with Energy Connects
- Feature story and interview published and editorial publications

CLIMATECH CHALLENGE **PROGRAMME**

MONDAY
17 FEBRUARY
2025

EGYPES **CLIMATECH** CHALLENGE

KEYNOTE SPEECH

14:00 – 14:10 | **Overcoming the Unique Challenges of Climate Tech Startups**

Climate tech startups are at the forefront of the energy transition, driving the research and development of new technologies and solutions for a sustainable future. They play an important role in leading innovation in areas such as energy storage, grid integration, energy efficiency, and renewable energy generation. However, startups often face significant challenges in scaling their innovations from pilot to market due to the complexity of the technologies involved, the need for significant capital, and quite often the rigorous regulatory environments that these innovations often encounter. Overcoming these challenges is crucial, as early-stage startups have the potential to transform low-carbon innovations from concepts into commercially successful solutions at scale.

Attendee insights: The keynote speech will delve into the unique challenges faced by startups, outlining strategies to navigate the complex path from pilot to full scale commercialisation.

PANEL DISCUSSION

14:10 – 14:40 | **Creating a Thriving Climate Tech Startup Hub in the MENA Region**

The Middle East and North Africa is particularly vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change, requiring a diverse range of climate solutions tailored to local environmental challenges. While the number of climate tech startups in the region is still growing and the ecosystem is beginning to take shape, it offers a significant opportunity for growth and innovation. Key to this transformation is the venture capital industry, which plays a crucial role in nurturing the ecosystem by providing the financial support needed for startups to scale their solutions. By channelling private funding in climate tech, investors will help propel innovative technologies that cater to the unique needs of the MENA's environmental challenges, whilst also creating a thriving ecosystem which positions the region as a leader in climate innovations on both local and global stages.

Attendee insights: The panel discussion will spotlight MENA as a rising hub for climate tech startups, highlighting the key barriers to increased private investment in climate tech startups in the region.

Ayman Ismail
Founding Director
AUC Venture Lab

Amal Enan
Partner
500 Global

Niccolo Sapio
Senior Venture Capital Associate
Plug and Play Tech Center

PANEL DISCUSSION

14:40 – 15:10 | **Accelerating decarbonisation through energy corporations and climate tech startup partnerships**

The global push to reduce carbon emissions has created an urgent need for cutting-edge technologies that can be rapidly scaled to combat climate change. As governments implement climate policies and embrace the transition to sustainable energy sources, climate tech startups are well-positioned to capitalise on this paradigm shift. Accelerating the widespread adoption of decarbonisation technologies hinges on cross-sector partnerships between startups and leading energy corporations. By partnering with startups, energy corporations can explore innovative low carbon solutions with reduced risk, while startups can benefit from the market reach, access to capital and extensive resources of corporations to help them scale their solutions more rapidly.

Attendee insights: Industry thought leaders will discuss the current state of corporate-startup collaboration, as well as strategies for establishing partnerships that can drive innovation and bring new climate technologies to market faster.

Youssef Salem
Chief Financial Officer
ADNOC Drilling

Hüseyin Çiloğlu
Chief Executive Officer
PiKARE SKYSOURCE

Kamel El Kholy
Strategic Program Manager
SLB New Energy
(Moderator)

15:10 – 15:25 | **STARTUP PITCH 1 – NoorNation**

NoorNation is a renewable energy startup, developing and manufacturing decentralized renewable energy and water solutions for remote farming and rural communities in Egypt, MENA, and Sub-Saharan Africa. NoorNation's patent-pending flagship product, LifeBox, proudly labeled as a Solar Impulse Efficient Solution, is a solar-powered, all-in-one, tech-enabled unit, that provides clean energy and safe water for many applications, such as water pumping for irrigation, water treatment (desalination or purification) for domestic and livestock consumption, and providing 24/7 access to electricity.

Ragy Ramadan
Founder &
Chief Executive Officer
NoorNation

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17 FEBRUARY
2025

15:25 – 15:40	STARTUP PITCH 2 - Hydram Research

Hydram Research is pioneering a novel and efficient method for generating steam. The company's large-scale boiler primarily operates on low-grade thermal energy instead of natural gas, and its promising efficiency makes it especially suitable for recycling waste heat from industrial processes. Energy losses due to waste heat represent the most significant inefficiency across various industrial sectors—including paper manufacturing, chemicals, plastics, petroleum refining, and food processing—as well as in data centers and power plants.

Lydur Thorgeirsson
Chief Executive Officer
Hydram Research

15:40 - 15:55	STARTUP PITCH 3 – Helical Fusion

Helical Fusion is dedicated to creating a sustainable energy source by developing the world's first steady-state fusion reactor, based on the "Helical Stellarator," by 2034. Fusion energy, replicating the sun's mechanism on Earth, lies at the core of Helical Fusion's groundbreaking approach. The Helical Stellarator, originally invented in Japan in the 1950s, has been extensively developed at the National Institute of Fusion Science (NIFS), a globally renowned research institution. The company's vision is to deploy fusion reactors globally, working in collaboration with governments and power companies to secure a stable and sustainable energy future.

Takaya Taguchi
Co-founder &
Chief Executive Officer
Helical Fusion

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15:55 - 16:10	STARTUP PITCH 4 – kraftwerk BOX GmbH

kraftwerk BOX GmbH is on a mission to revolutionize sustainable energy solutions with cutting-edge technologies that enable individuals and businesses to generate their own clean and reliable power. The company's Our pioneering technology converts gas into electricity and provides a versatile and mobile solution for a variety of applications, including electric vehicles, portable devices and off-grid power systems. By integrating its technology into everyday use, Kraftwerk BOX GmbH aims to reduce reliance on centralized power grids, enabling energy generation whenever and wherever it is needed.

Sascha Kuehn
Chief Executive Officer
kraftwerk BOX GmbH

16:10 - 16:25	STARTUP PITCH 5 – Team Solid

Team Solid is advancing hydrogen storage technology by developing an iron-based solution as an alternative to conventional methods like liquification. While hydrogen holds the potential to drive a complete energy transition, its high cost—largely due to storage and transportation challenges—has hindered widespread adoption. Team Solid's technology, leveraging the wet cycle of iron, significantly reduces these costs, making hydrogen a competitive and emission-free alternative to natural gas. Through this breakthrough, the company is paving the way for a more sustainable energy future.

Mick Gast
Team Manager
Solid

17:00 – 17:05	'PEOPLE'S CHOICE' AWARD ANNOUNCED

17:05 – 17:10	CLIMATECH CHALLENGE 2025 WINNER ANNOUNCED

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