

Environment

Submissions open for BE OPEN's Design Your Climate Action: international competition for young creatives focused on the United Nations' SDG13

By CM 62

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Design Your Climate Action is an International competition developed by humanitarian educational initiative BE OPEN and its partners. It is open to all students, graduates and young professionals who specialise in the fields of design, architecture, engineering and media globally. The competition aims to encourage creation of innovative solutions by younger creatives, for a more prosperous and sustainable future; the focus of the competition is the United Nations' SDG13: Climate Action.

Earlier in 2023, the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres addressed the younger generations: *"My generation has clearly failed in many respects – especially on the climate crisis. I count on your generation to keep turning up the heat on global leaders. Hold the powerful accountable. Sound the alarm. Stand up for each other and our planet, and human rights. And build a better future – rooted in solidarity, equality and sustainability."*

In 2023, the United Nations announced the *Climate Action* programme which encourages governments, businesses, financial institutions, centres of innovation, communities and non-profit organizations like BE OPEN to take a joint action to come up with new technologies and accelerate the shift towards sustainable infrastructure.

BE OPEN strongly believes that creativity is integral in the shift to sustainable existence. To attain the UN SDGs we need to think out of box the goals. We need creative thinking – design thinking – and creative action. Design has a crucial role to play as an instrument or vehicle for the implementation of the UN SDGs.



Elena Baturina, Founder of BE OPEN

Elena Baturina, Founder of BE OPEN explains the objective of the project: *“I am certain that involving young creative people in developing solutions centered on the SDG agenda is a very wholesome way of raising awareness of sustainability principles and encouraging development of promising innovative ideas. Our contestants are capable of hard work, commitment and creativity, and we believe in their ability to make a real difference and inspire change for a more sustainable future for all of us.”*

Achievement of SDG13 is impossible without ensuring that a growing number of households, communities and production companies use green energy technologies. Therefore the contestants are encouraged to reflect on *“What can be done to combat climate change and its effects on all the levels of our lives: from introducing new national policies to adopting new technologies by industries and switching to greener practices at home?”*

Projects for the competition must be submitted until December 31st, 2023 and relate to one of the following submission categories: Raising Resilience and Adaptation, Energy of Change and Solutions Offered by Nature.

BE OPEN will reward the best work with the monetary prizes as well as with honorary mentions:

- First prize — €5,000
- Second prize — €3,000
- Third prize — €2,000
- BE OPEN Founder’s Choice prize — €3,000
- Public Vote prize – €2,000

The international jury will select the top 50 honourable mentions, then decide amongst the strongest submissions and name the winners of the First, Second and Third Prizes out of all submissions.

The Founder’s Choice prize is allocated by the Founder of BE OPEN Elena Baturina who will select the awardee out of 50 honourable mentions. The Public Vote prize winner will be decided upon by the majority of votes in an online open vote from 50 honorary mentions.

Design Your Climate Action is the fifth competition of the SDG-dedicated programme developed by BE OPEN. Every year the foundation chooses to focus on one particular goal, and have so far covered SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG2: Zero Hunger, and SDG7: Affordable and Clean Energy.