



# **ACTION PLAN**

**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
COMPETITION**

## **COMPETITION MANUAL**

**OCT 2020**

**JAN 2021**

A comprehensive guide to participating in Abhyuday, IIT Bombay's Flagship social entrepreneurship competition: Action Plan 2020-2021



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## About Abhyuday

Abhyuday started 7 years back, with a group of socially inclined students who felt the need for a body, which provides opportunities to the students of the institute who wish to work for a better society. With a vision to channelize the youth towards India's social challenges, Abhyuday has established itself as one of the country's largest student-run social bodies in the mere span of 7 years. Our flagship being Action Plan competition and Career Counselling Campaign, we also conduct year-long events like volunteer weekends, conferences, donation drives, exhibitions and provide social fellowship, internship opportunities to the students of the institute.

The 'Social Fest' usually held in January is a two-day extravaganza that celebrates the spirit of social good.

## About Action Plan

The notion of Human beings has always been to think and decide upon a bigger goal in their life. In the midst of that pursuit, they have intentionally or unintentionally raised some social issues that in turn stand in their way to success. Nonetheless, we believe it is high time now to bring the best, smart and innovative young minds of our country in front of the world where they themselves try to solve numerous challenges that have plagued our society for long. Unfortunately, most of the startups built around them fail because they lack the required business plan. Here comes in **Action Plan**: the social entrepreneurship competition of Abhyuday, IIT Bombay, where we help such startups convert their idea into a scalable business model. Spread across 20+ states, 40+ cities and 1500+ colleges, this nationwide competition takes the participating teams through multiple stages, starting from identifying a specific problem through stakeholder interaction, progressing to engage with stakeholders and organizations in developing a solution, and validating those ideas in the society for further improvement.

In its last edition, 550+ teams registered for the competition out of which 120+ teams received professional mentorship.

**Action Plan - A Social Entrepreneurship Competition**



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## **Why Action Plan?**

- Cash Prize of INR 3,00,000
- An exciting chance to get selected by ICICI Foundation for Project Internships focussed on Social Initiatives
- Top 3 teams will be directly selected into the Mentorship program 2021 by our Knowledge Partner, iB Hubs.
- An opportunity to be mentored by successful seasoned entrepreneurs and mentors from worldwide, experienced industry professionals and faculty.
- The mentors from our very prestigious Knowledge Partners like EdelGive Foundation, Eprenz, ILFAT, iB Hubs, Ecochirp, ChildFund India, Villgro would not only help build your startup, but also to provide many networking opportunities and real-time advice.
- A learning opportunity through the rigorous training sessions and speaker sessions hosted by reputed organizations- Navayuvak Entrepreneurs and Vruksh Foundation in realising the idea for your startup.
- Numerous Investment opportunities and a chance to pitch in front of leading angel investors, venture Capitalists, and Industrialists with India's leading Venture Capital
- Firms: Unicorn India Ventures, Equanimity Investments, Cumulative Ventures LLP. Networking Opportunities with potential partners, investors, and world class Entrepreneurs.
- Incubation opportunities for social ventures in various incubation centres like NSR-CEL-IIMB, StartUp Oasis, Amity Innovation Incubator, AIC-RMP, 3i Zones, GCEC Global, and SCEI.
- Content rich feedback on the business model from globally acclaimed and highly successful Entrepreneurs, investors and Industry Experts, and professional service providers on our Judging Panel.



## Structure of Action Plan



## Timeline\*

Action Plan Launch/ Registration Starts. . . . .	14th Oct
Online Workshops . . . . .	17th Oct - 14th Nov
Playbook Submission Deadline. . . . .	20th Nov
First round results . . . . .	4th Dec
Mentor Allocation . . . . .	5th Dec - 12th Dec
Webinars . . . . .	6th Dec - 1st Jan
Solution Handbook submission. . . . .	1st Jan
2nd Round Results . . . . .	15th Jan
Final Action Plan Submission . . . . .	Jan, 2021
Mentor Mentee meetup . . . . .	Jan, 2021
Final pitching . . . . .	Jan, 2021

\* Subjected to minor changes. Participants will be notified beforehand.





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## Playbook

Playbook is to help the teams develop a deeper understanding of the opportunities they are trying to explore. The playbook would help the teams lay out clear objectives for their projects ideas, identify metrics for measurement, and provide a common framework & approach for reaching a logical conclusion within the constraints of time, space & resources.

## Playbook Submission

- In the problem statement submission round, participants are expected to submit an overview of the exact problem that they seek to solve during the Action Plan competition. This would include the inclusion of different viewpoints, needs and perceptions, and narrowing them to a bunch of measurable parameters
- After a detailed analysis of the problem statement including the measurement of impact by choosing the standard metrics like disease ratio, accident ratio, etc. to quantify the problem, participants are required to provide a detailed analysis of their stakeholder identification through the framed questionnaire.
- Participants are expected to clearly identify aim, expected risks, set milestones for their startup journey and mention these in their playbook submission.
- Also, participants must mention whether their solution is going to be a profit type model or a non-profit type model.



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## Sectors



Action Plan aims to promote startups that hope to create a social impact in one of the following sectors:

**Education:** “Education improves peoples’ productivity, creativity and also plays a crucial role in securing social and economic progress.” Thus, startups aiming at improving the quality of primary education, creating or prototyping Learning Management Systems (LMS), practical learning aspect of secondary education and enhancing vocational education and other digital innovations pertaining to the field of Education can register under this sector.

**Women Empowerment:** “Women empowerment is accepting and allowing women who are on the outside of the decision-making process into it.” This for startups providing regional rights and facilities, security and protection, employment and employability to women, you should register under this sector

**5Rs (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover):** Climate Change is real and we need the impact-creators working on the same to motivate and educate the public. Topics with high focus in this sector are but not limited to Hygiene and sanitation, innovative models to reuse, reduce, recycle and recover waste, technology and digital innovations to substitute manual scavenging.



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**Pollution:** “India has 15 cities in the list of the world's 20 most polluted cities in the world. Thus, it is really important for us”Introducing this sector to come up with technologies that aid people in fighting pollution for the time needed to shift to clean energy fuels” and to improve the existing condition.

**Water Management:** According to a recent report of NITI aayog, “21 of the major Indian cities will run out of water by 2020. Thus, this sector will focus on ways to provide and supply clean drinking water.”.

**Financial inclusion:** “It is making financial services available to each and everyone, via digital payments, micro-lending, peer to peer lending, etc.” This will include startups aiming at developing policies for financially weak people.

**Employability:** Most developing countries struggle with underemployment and unemployment. With the second-largest population in the world, our country is also facing similar problems. Hence, “this sector is for startups that can act as an employment source in rural areas, or for less-educated people.”

**Sustainable Energy:** “Economies across the world are on the verge of a profound and urgently necessary transformation in the way they produce and use energy.” Thus, in this sector, we are looking For startups that focus on maintaining, or generating energy from cleaner fuels, improving the efficiency of existing solutions, developing sustainable methods for energy management and educating people on the same.

**Health and Nutrition:** This sector is for startups tackling malnutrition, providing financial instruments and digital platforms (e.g. telemedicine facility) and other digital innovations for availing health services, accessibility to health services, and hygiene and sanitation.

The submission of the problem statement round would be in the format of a pre-decided questionnaire which goes by the name Playbook. Once qualified for the action plan submission stage (phase 2), each team will be provided with a mentor experienced in the respective sectors.



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## Mentorship Program & Guidelines

We have mentors who are successful and experienced people willing to share or impart knowledge and wisdom to our participants. Mentors with a wide range of expertise and experiences are chosen. They are categorized as:

1. **Technical Mentors:** Technical mentors are CEOs, consultants, partners, prominent Social Activists or directors of successful companies or firms of NGOs or Social Organizations. They will have deep knowledge in their social sectors. Their experience will help mentees in understanding the problem broadly.
2. **Business Mentors:** Business mentors consultants, CEOs, CTOs, VPs, partners or directors of successful companies. These experienced people will be responsible in helping in at almost all activities of a startup, such as formulating the business plan, product development, business development, team-building, fund-raising, marketing, etc.

- Every team qualifying for the 2nd round will be provided with mentors
- You will be provided with contacts of mentors. (preferably email ids)
- Regular contact with the mentors can be made preferably through emails. Any other ways of communication such as Phone calls, Skype chats, Google Hangouts, etc. can be discussed with the respective mentor.
- The teams will have to send a proper progress report within every two weeks to team Abhyuday once they are allotted the mentors.

**Please Note:** Not contacting the allotted mentors will lead to certain point penalties in the final pitching round (provided if the team qualifies for the same)



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## **Action Plan Submission**

After the problem statement submission, participants with the help of their mentors would start working on the solution part of the respective problem statement. All the solutions can be broadly classified in these 2 categories:

- A. Non-Profit Solution Model
- B. Profitable Solution Model

In the action plan submission round, participants are expected to submit a brief overview of the solution that they would be working on and the degree of completion in a format that would be provided by us. The participants should have walked through their entire solution once and thought about the process of implementation of the solution.

## **Final Presentation and judging**

All the participants who will qualify in the "Action Plan Submission" round (2nd round) will get an opportunity to present their solutions to a panel which includes judges, incubators, and investors in the final round. In the final presentation, the participants are expected to present a minimum viable product and customer validation of their solutions. It is not required of the participants to actually implement the solution.

The teams will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Problem Analysis Approach
2. Solution Approach
3. Mentor's feedback
4. Practicality/feasibility of Solution
5. Customer Validation
6. Fitness quotient of the solution to the problem statement
7. Presentation



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## Rules and guidelines

### ***Eligibility and Team structure***

1. There is no restriction on any individual to participate. Anyone, from students to working professionals across the nation, can participate.
2. For startup, any startup incorporated in or after 2018 is eligible to participate. You will be required to submit proof of the same during the competition process
3. Action Plan aims to promote startups that require assistance in funding, mentoring, etc. Therefore startups who have raised external funding are not eligible to participate.
4. A team can register with a minimum of two and a maximum of eight members including the Team Leader. Team leader will be the point of contact for any correspondence for the team
5. The team should use their team leader's email address for future correspondence and must abide by timely instructions, guidelines, and ethics provided by Abhyuday with general business ethics.

### ***Problem Statement Submission guidelines***

#### **Pre-decided Questionnaire for the problem statement.**

- a) Teams must answer each question in the questionnaire of problem statement in order to be considered for evaluation. (Questionnaire will be uploaded on the website of Action Plan)
- b) You must submit whether your action plan will be profit type model or non profit type model.
- c) The answers to the questionnaire of problem statement can be saved and edited repeatedly till the last day of submission i.e. 20th November. The last saved answers would be frozen at 11:59 pm.
- d) Entries submitted after the deadlines will not be considered.

*Note: The questionnaire of Action Plan is so designed that compiling the answers to the questions would create a basic but complete image of the Idea. A participant is expected to answer all questions in the questionnaire in detail.*



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### ***Solution-Submission guidelines***

1. Mention the impact of the solution on the society and consequences of implementing the idea
2. Compare your solution with any existing solution and mention how your idea will be better than the current solution.
3. Mention the scalability and feasibility of each solution.
4. Give a detailed budget plan to implement your solution.
5. Mention constraints of each solution that you are expecting to face if you implement that solution.
6. Mention one solution on which you will work for feasibility analysis and customer validation.

### ***Final presentation submission guidelines***

1. The pitching to the judges shall preferably be a PDF/PPT, but any creative approach will also be entertained (charts, videos, photos, stats or a simple speech). Also, include the customer validation of the respective solution Note: A template ppt will be provided to every team qualifying for the 3rd round. All teams must follow that template while making their presentation for the final round.
2. Participants will submit their PPT/PDF 2 days before the time of reporting
3. The criteria are roughly as follows
  - Business Model
  - Social Impact
  - Financials
  - Problem identification
  - Market Study and customer discovery
  - Sustainability of the impact
- 4.\* The pitching round maybe conducted online if the current situation of COVID 19 pandemic continues. Detailed guidelines shall be released to the teams qualifying for the final pitching round.





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### **Interaction Guidelines with Stakeholders**

*( Please note that stakeholder interaction has been kept as an optional step, in view of the current pandemic situation, as such interaction may lead to going outdoors which Abhyuday, IIT Bombay does not advice given the COVID-19 situation.)*

1. Please remember that you are there to try to understand their problems.
2. **DO NOT** talk to them in such a way that sounds like you know more.
3. As far as possible try to keep your questions in the “how”, “what”, “where” domain. Delve into the “why” realm with care, it sounds offensive if spelled in the wrong tone. People might just plainly refuse to answer regarding their intentions. Ask questions with the “why not this” spirit with utmost care. Those questions have a dangerous tendency to sound as if you are suggesting solutions to their problems which you are yet to properly understand
4. **Be polite with people. NEVER** argue. **NEVER** preach, your aim is to understand.
5. Don't fight amongst the team to ask them questions.
6. Ask them before clicking any picture or taking videos. (some people may feel offended or may not be willing for video and pictures)

*(\*By registering for Action Plan, Abhyuday expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to update or revise any forward-looking statements, targets or estimates contained in this concept note to reflect any change in events, conditions, assumptions or circumstances on which any such statements are based unless so required by applicable law. Also by participating in Action Plan, each participating team and all of its team members agree to allow Abhyuday, IIT Bombay to use their names, images, and information regarding the team's action plan, and prize information in publicity and marketing)*