AI for ALL:
Global Impact Challenge

Participant Application Guide

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1. Introduction

The AI for All Global Impact Challenge is a pioneering initiative at the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and global impact, aligned with the AI Impact Summit 2026 theme. As the transformative potential of AI becomes increasingly evident, this global challenge seeks AI solutions that are widely deployable, demonstrate high potential value at large scale, and address critical needs across diverse sectors, including healthcare, agriculture, education, and financial inclusion and beyond to improve supply chain logistics, quality control, etc. The aim is to leverage AI-driven technologies to deliver practical, implementable, inclusive, and impactful solutions for all.

Set to culminate at the AI Impact Summit in February 2026, this global challenge invites innovators worldwide to propose solutions that can translate AI innovations into tangible outcomes. Selected innovators will benefit from global visibility, access to funding opportunities, structured mentorship, and the chance to showcase their solutions at this prestigious global forum attended by policymakers, investors, and industry leaders.

This guide provides comprehensive information for potential applicants, covering context, indicative themes, challenge process, evaluation criteria, mentorship opportunities, and more. We invite your innovative ideas and active participation to collectively drive progress towards a more inclusive, resilient, and AI-empowered global future.

2. About the India - AI Impact Summit 2026

The profound advancements in AI are reshaping our societies and economies at an unprecedented pace. As we stand at a pivotal moment in this transformation, the global community must collectively ensure that AI is developed and deployed in a manner that is inclusive, ethical, safe, and beneficial to all.

Building upon the momentum of global AI dialogues, including the Bletchley Park, Seoul and Paris Action Summit, India will be hosting the AI Impact Summit on the 19th and 20th of February 2026 in New Delhi. With its vision of moving from action to impact, the Summit represents a pivotal moment in the global AI journey.

The Summit will be inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, and is expected to bring together Heads of States, global leaders, policy makers, researchers, industry experts and innovators to deliberate on the transformative potential of AI in delivering equitable growth, improving public services, and addressing pressing global while ensuring safety, ethics, and inclusivity.

Anchored around the theme of People, Planet, and Progress, the Summit will advance a future where AI delivers real impact, advancing inclusive growth, social development, and a healthier planet.

By anchoring discussions in tangible deliverables, demonstrations, and Impact Challenges, the AI Impact Summit aims to ensure AI becomes a driver of shared prosperity and responsible progress.

3. AI for ALL: Global Impact Challenge

3.1. Challenge Overview and Objectives

The AI for All: Global Impact Challenge aims to spotlight cutting-edge AI solutions that address pressing global challenges and unmet needs. Guided by the Summit's vision of translating ideas into action, the challenge invites researchers, innovators, and industry leaders worldwide to advance scalable real-world AI applications. The Challenge invites innovative AI solutions that are widely deployable, impactful at scale, and address critical needs across diverse sectors.

The Challenge aims to:

- **Identify High Quality Solutions:** Spotlight high quality, AI-driven innovations addressing unmet global needs across sectors

- **Inspire Adoption and Scale:** Amplify AI innovations through global visibility, recognition, and ecosystem support

- **Build Strategic Partnerships:** Foster meaningful connections between global innovators, and enabling organizations to drive sustained impact

3.2. Eligibility

The AI for All: Global Impact Challenge invites participation from a broad spectrum of entities and individuals across the globe. Eligible participants include:

- Students: Enrolled in universities or research programs

- Working Professionals: Employed in start-ups, companies, public-sector, public-sector entities or non-profits

- Researchers: From universities, autonomous bodies, or research institutions

- Companies & Start-ups: Registered businesses, start-ups, or non-profit entities

Applicants must submit pilot-ready solutions as a part of this Challenge. This includes solutions ready for pilot, having completed pilot implementation, or already in the scaling phase with demonstrable market presence. Global participation with innovative AI solutions catering to unmet needs are encouraged. Please note that IP rights of solutions will remain with the participants.

3.3. What is in this challenge for you?

- **Monetary Awards:** INR 25,00,000 will be awarded to the top ten teams. All monetary awards are subject to applicable taxes in accordance with Indian laws.

- **Global Visibility:** Top 20 teams secure a chance for global visibility through innovation showcase to venture capitalists, investors, philanthropists, policymakers, and industry leaders at the prestigious AI Impact Summit, opening doors for strategic partnerships and further investments.

- **Structured Mentorship**: Participants may benefit from mentorship at each stage of the competition. This support aims to enhance solution scalability, optimize market readiness, and strengthen presentation and pitching skills, thereby significantly improving the overall effectiveness and potential for success.

- **Rewards and Giveaways:** In addition to monetary rewards and mentorship, winning teams may receive additional rewards and giveaways, including compute credits and more.

3.4. Suggested themes

We welcome all innovative AI solutions that are widely deployable, demonstrate high potential value at large scale, and address critical needs across diverse sectors. Below themes are indicative.

- **Agriculture:** AI solutions for pressing agriculture challenges such as declining crop productivity due to climate unpredictability, post-harvest losses, resource management, and access to timely market insights.

- **Climate and Sustainability:** AI solutions for addressing sustainability and resilience challenges, including extreme weather events, emissions reduction, and sustainable resource management.

- **Education:** AI solutions for equitable access to quality learning resources, addressing geographical and demographic learning gaps, lack of capacity and personnel to deliver personalized instruction, and digital divide.

- **Financial Inclusion**: AI solutions for financial inclusion, enhancing credit access for migrants, gig workers, MSMEs, and informal communities, addressing financial fraud in digital payment systems, and low financial literacy among marginalized groups.

- **Healthcare:** AI solutions for addressing healthcare worker shortages, access to health services in remote and rural areas, efficient resource utilization, and insurance-related inefficiencies.

- **Manufacturing:** AI solutions for enhancing operational efficiency, improving product quality, and fostering sustainable industrial growth. Participants are encouraged to address critical industry challenges such as frequent equipment breakdowns, unplanned downtime, high variability in product quality, inefficient resource utilization, and vulnerability to supply-chain disruptions.

- **Urban Infrastructure and Mobility:** AI solutions for traffic management, waste management, and last-mile connectivity.

- **Open Innovation:** Applicants are invited to submit innovative solutions beyond the indicative themes listed above. Solutions that are deployable, scalable, and leverage cross-sector applications are strongly encouraged.

4. Challenge Process

- **Launch:** October 2025

- **Round 1 (Application – October, 2025):**

  - Participants must submit their applications by completing the official application form in accordance with the guidelines provided in the appendix below.
  - All submissions will be evaluated against the selection criteria outlined in this guide. Based on this assessment, select applicants will be shortlisted for the next stage.

- **Round 2 (Evaluation – November - December, 2025):**

  - Shortlisted applicants may present their solutions before a jury comprising AI specialists, sectoral experts, venture capitalists, and ecosystem leaders.
  - Evaluation will be based on predefined criteria including impact, feasibility, and team capability.
  - Top 20 finalists shall be shortlisted for the innovation showcase at India - AI Impact Summit.

- **AI Impact Summit:**
  - The top 20 solutions will have the opportunity to showcase their work at the India - AI Impact Summit in New Delhi, connecting directly with venture capitalists, investors, policymakers, and innovation leaders.
  - The 10 winners will be announced at the Summit, receiving global recognition and a unique platform to engage with key decision-makers and potential partners to accelerate the scaling and impact of their solutions.

Participants gain access to mentorship opportunities, such as interactive webinars on sector-specific AI applications, strategies for scaling solutions, and expert guidance to sharpen their ideas throughout the course of the challenge.

Please note: Details of applicant engagement, mentorship opportunities, and submission requirements are subject to modification for ensuring optimal participant support and effectiveness throughout the competition.

5. Evaluation Criteria

The applicants will be evaluated based on below mentioned criteria, subject to further updates.

- **Solution Definition:** Assess the clarity and significance of the identified problem, the appropriateness and clear advantage of using AI to address this problem, and the uniqueness or innovation of the proposed AI-driven solution.

- **Solution Technical Feasibility:** Assesses the technical viability of a solution by assessing its architectural design and core foundational elements to scale and be widely adopted.

- **Business Model:** Measures the solution's financial and operational feasibility, scalability, and sustainability, taking into consideration revenue streams, cost management, market viability, and future growth plans. It also evaluates the identification of necessary external enablers such as partnerships, funding raised, as well as risk assessment and mitigation strategies.

- **Team:** Assesses the experience, capability, and diversity of the team, including their educational qualifications, prior experience in working with public and private partners, and the ability of the team to streamline the anticipated scale of solution's impact both financially and socially.

- **Potential for Impact:** Evaluates tangible outcomes and measurable benefits, focusing on, clear impact metrics, robust model performance monitoring and impact on underserved communities, prioritizing relevance and reach in underserved regions and demographics

6. Queries and Clarifications

All queries or clarifications must be emailed to fellow3.gpai-india@meity.gov.in using the subject line: "*AI for All: Global Impact Challenge – Query - [Applicant Name]* ".

7. Confidentiality

All submitted applications and documents will be treated as confidential and accessed only by authorized members of the evaluation and coordination team. If applicants wish to designate specific documents as proprietary or sensitive, they must be clearly marked as 'Confidential'.

8.Annexure

8.1. Application Form

Section	Question	What is expected?
Organization /Team details	Name of the Legally Registered Entity or Name of the Applicant Team	Name of the lead applicant/ organization applying for the Challenge
	Country of Registration for Legally Registered Entities/Base Country for Applicant Team	Lead applicant's country of citizenship/organization registration as applicable
	Applicant Type	Select organization type (Companies, Startups, Academic and Research Organisations, Non-profit organisations, Others)
	Website URL	Share your official solution/organization website, if available
	Names of Team Members that may attend the Summit in person	List up to 2 individuals who will represent your team at the Impact Summit, if selected
	PoC Email Address	Email ID of Lead Applicant
	PoC Phone Number	Contact of Lead Applicant
Thematic Category	Select the thematic track you are applying under	Select the appropriate sector of your solution. In case your solution does not fit into the specified themes, please select others.
Solution Details	Title of Your Solution	Name of the solution in 50 words
	Stage of solution	Select if your solution is in a) Pilot Stage (solutions that are ready for or have completed pilot) b) Scaling Stage (solutions with presence in the market)
	Briefly describe what problem your solution is solving, what are the key unique features and who are primary beneficiaries? (250 words)	● The problem your solution is solving and the features of your solution ● Mention how the solution is unique (via technology, novelty of approach, execution moat, IP/patents etc.)

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	Upload solution architecture with: 1. AI technologies used 2. Training datasets used and their sources 3. Resources Utilized: Open Source, Proprietary, and Licensed	Your solution architecture diagram should clearly illustrate: ● The AI models and techniques used. ● The rationale for the chosen architecture/models, along with their licensing status (Open Source, Proprietary, or Licensed) ● Sources of data leveraged (domain-specific, proprietary, synthetic, or open datasets). ● Any open-source components incorporated in the solution. File size limit to be 10 MB File type: .pdf, .docx
	Have you built your own SLM?	Please select yes in case you have built your own proprietary model for a specific sector/ use case
	Upload pitch deck to help evaluators understand your solution and deployment plan (max. 10 slides)	Pitch deck with other relevant details which can help evaluators understand your solution like solution architecture, workflow, etc along with scalability and deployment plan File size limit to be 10 MB File type: .pdf, .pptx
	Upload a 2-3 minutes video demo	2–3 minutes solution demo video showing functionality, usability and impact File size limit to 200 MB File type: .mp4 file
	Live link of the solution	Share a working product link (if available)
	Describe the model metrics (accuracy, precision, F-Score etc.) and how is it being measured and validated 100 words	Provide quantitative results such as Accuracy/ Precision/ Recall/ F1/ AUC/ Parameter count etc. which are relevant to your solution, benchmarked against industry or baseline

	What guardrails are in place for this solution to ensure that it is used responsibly, safely, and ethically to prevent harmful, biased, or misleading outputs and ensure compliance with relevant legal or regulatory requirements? (150 words)	• Outline safeguards integrated in your solution development and deployment lifecycle including bias testing, fairness audits, privacy measures, misuse prevention, compliance with legal/regulatory compliances such as GDPR compliance etc. • Explainability techniques used such as SHAP etc.
	What is the approach for integrating the AI solution with existing systems, processes, and workflows? (100 words)	• Explain how your solution integrates with existing systems, platforms, or infrastructure, including, APIs, plug-ins, middleware, or other integration mechanisms. • Outline compatibility with existing government systems, cloud environments, databases, and applications. • Highlight the level of technical effort required for integration (e.g., minimal configuration vs. extensive customization).
	Describe the model and application improvement strategy. (100 words)	Roadmap for enhancing solutions such as existing partnerships to secure real-world datasets, steady flow of compute resources, performance metric measurement and improvement protocols, new features, etc.
	Does your solution use Digital Public Infrastructure?	Is your solution built on an existing DPI or utilises an exciting DPI?
	If yes, please describe which DPI is used and how? (200 words)	• DPI components used and what problem does use of DPI solve? • DPI integration into your solution (APIs, middleware etc.)
	Describe your business model, monetization plan, market size and opportunity, enablers needed to scale, risks and mitigation plans and future roadmap (300 words)	Describe for your solution: • Monetization plan, revenue streams, unit economics, market opportunity and evidence of PMF • Key risks and mitigation strategies • Future plans for growth, new markets, financials, and enablers (partnerships, regulations, etc.)
Team	Team overview, experience, education, work experience, LinkedIn URLs etc. (200 words)	• Core members: roles, educational background, prior work experience, domain expertise • Share LinkedIn URLs

		● Complementary skills in team
	Have you received any prior support or recognition (grants, partnerships, pilots) from government and/or Private Entities?	Participants could specify if they have received pre-seed, seed, Pre Series A, Series A and Beyond in funding or donations, grants from national or international government or academic institutions
	Upload documents with proof of funding	File size limit to be 10 MB File type: .pdf, .docx
Impact & Scalability	Describe the value and impact potential of your solution, including the direct and indirect beneficiaries of your solution in terms of communities, demographics etc. and how will this impact be measured (300 words)	● Identify the direct and indirect beneficiaries (communities, demographics, geographies), Outline quantitative and qualitative value to underserved regions (Global South) ● Approach for measuring impact and the metrics and/or frameworks. ● Explain if the solution can be scaled effectively and be replicated across regions or contexts. ● Demonstrate how the solution ensures inclusivity across language, culture, gender, and accessibility needs etc.
	Target Location (Mention country/region name)	Mention country/region(s) where the solution can be deployed for impact

8.2. Terms and Conditions

India - AI Impact Summit 2025–26 – Global Challenges Terms and Conditions

Please note: These terms and conditions are bound to change without a prior notice

● **Rules & Guidelines**:

  o Applicants must meet all eligibility criteria outlined in various sections of the Global Challenges and submit truthful and complete information.
  o Any misrepresentation will lead to disqualification.

● **Single Point of Contact (SPOC):**

  o Each team must designate a Team Leader/Lead Applicant during registration, who will act as the SPOC for all official engagements and communications from the Organising Committee.
  o The SPOC cannot be changed during the course of the Challenge.

- **Official Communication:**

  o All updates, announcements, and instructions will be made available only through India – AI Impact Summit Website and/or via the registered email ID of the Team Leader.

  o No other medium of official communication will be entertained.

- **Team Composition & Categories:**

  o Students: Enrolled in universities or research programs

  o Working Professionals: Employed in start-ups, companies, public-sector, public-sector entities or non-profits

  o Researchers: From universities, autonomous bodies, or research institutions

  o Companies & Start-ups: Registered businesses, start-ups, or non-profit entities

Professionals applying in their individual capacity or as part of a team must provide a no-objection certificate (NOC) from their parent organization stating they have no rights to any prize money or intellectual property rights (IPR) related to your submission, to be considered for the monetary awards.

Please note, travel and accommodation support will be provided for a maximum of 2 members (including the team leader), if shortlisted for solution demonstration at the Summit.

- **Project Submissions:**

  o Each team may submit only one solution under a given Challenge category.

  o Multiple challenge applications by the same team are permitted only if each submission is a distinct solution aligned with that Challenge's objectives.

- **Submission Validity:**

Only complete and valid submissions that meet eligibility will be considered.

- **Prize Money:**

  o INR 25,00,000 will be awarded to the top ten teams

  o Prizes/Grants will be awarded by IndiaAI or designated funding partners in the India-AI Impact Summit 2026.

  o Applicable taxes will be deducted as per prevailing laws in India at the time of disbursement.

  o The selection of winners and the award of prize money will be completely at the discretion of the Jury.
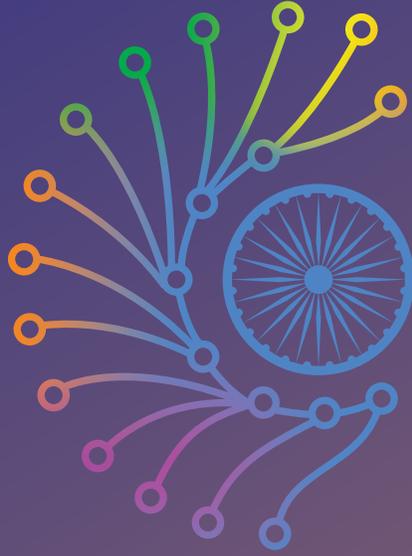
- **Solution Development:**

  o All work, including prototypes, MVPs, and pitch decks, must be created substantially by the registered team members.

  o Use of external mentorship, training, or technical advice is allowed if disclosed to the Organising Committee.

  o Outsourcing the bulk of development to unregistered third parties is prohibited.

- **Documentation & Transparency:**

  o Teams must maintain detailed documentation, including design notes, technical architecture, and progress logs.

  o The Organising Committee reserves the right to request documentation at any stage.

- **Reviewer / Jury Interaction:**

  o Shortlisted teams may be called to present their solutions virtually or in-person during any stage for verification or progress review.
  o Timelines and formats will be communicated in advance.

- **Travel & Participation:**

  o Travel and accommodation support will be provided only for top 20 finalists invited to the AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi, in line with the approved budget.
  o Any additional costs have to be borne by the participants.

- **Team Changes:**

  o Only registered team members shall be allowed to participate in case the applying team is shortlisted as a finalist.
  o No change in team representation will be permitted at any phase.

- **Intellectual Property (IP) & Compliance**

  o The submitted solution must be original, and not knowingly infringe on existing IP rights.
  o Any pre-existing IP incorporated into the solution must be owned or duly licensed by the team.
  o Solutions found in violation of IP, confidentiality, or ethical compliance rules will be disqualified.

- **Laws and regulations:**

  o All selected awardees must comply with applicable Indian laws and regulations.
  o The courts of India shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all disputes.
  o All solutions must align with ethical AI principles, avoid bias, and comply with applicable data protection laws.

- **Non-Compliance & Disqualification:**

  o Any false declaration, rule violation, or unethical conduct may lead to immediate disqualification.
  o The Jury Panel's decision on such matters will be final.

- **Decision-Making Authority:**

  o Any dispute or unforeseen case not covered in these guidelines will be resolved by the Designated Committee under India - AI Impact Summit & Partners.
  o Their decision will be binding and final.

- **Data Processing and Retention:**

  o All information submitted by applicants will be handled in accordance with the laws of India.

- **Role of Jury Panel:**

  o Evaluation Responsibilities:
    - Review and score submissions across stages (as per the official rubric.
    - Consider key parameters: Solution definition, Solution Technical feasibility, Business model, team, potential for impact.

  o Transparency & Fairness:
    - Vet and approve evaluation rubrics.
    - Ensure reviews are free from bias; sign NDAs and Conflict of Interest declarations.
    - Moderate scores where significant variation occurs between reviewers.

  o Engagement in Challenge Phases:
    - Participate in bootcamp, provide feedback to teams, and conduct Q&A sessions as needed.
    - Attend final jury moderation meetings to select winners for each challenge.

  o Final Selections:
    - Select Top Winners.
    - Ensure results are locked and communicated to the Organising Committee for announcement in time.