Frequently Asked Questions

Criteria

Applications are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Impact**: How will the proposed project improve lives? How many people will be affected if successful and to what extent? Is the proposal rooted in research that identifies the size of the problem and how the proposed idea will help solve it?
- **Technology and Innovation**: What is the core insight or innovation that differentiates this project from others, in philosophy or execution? What makes the proposed project unique? How does the proposal leverage technology in a new and creative way to tackle the issue it seeks to address?
- **Scalability**: If successful, how easily can this project scale? Can this proposal serve as a model for other efforts?
- **Feasibility**: Does the team have a well-developed, realistic plan to execute on the proposal? Have they identified the right partners for implementation?

Note that the DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize is subject to additional criteria. Please see the DFAT Prize section.

Voting

How does the public voting work?
The public is invited to vote on the four finalist ideas that most inspire them.

How do I cast my vote on the website?
To vote, select a project and click "vote". Click "confirm" to confirm your vote. Once you have confirmed your vote, you may not change your selection.

Can I vote more than once?
We invite you to vote for the four ideas that most inspire you. You can only vote for any given organisation once, and may cast a total of four votes.

When will voting end?
Voting will close at 11:59 p.m. AEDT on October 25, 2016.

When will we find out who won the Google Impact Challenge Australia?
The winners will be announced on October 26, 2016.

About

What is the Google Impact Challenge Australia?
It's an opportunity for charities registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission to apply for up to AU$750,000 in grant funding by sharing their vision for how they will use technology to make an impact. Google will award a total of AU$4.5 million in grants, with four winners each receiving AU$750,000, and six additional finalists receiving AU$250,000.

Why is Google hosting the Challenge?
Technology and innovation can solve some of the world's most pressing problems, and we're eager to back innovators that are exploring new ways to make a big impact. The Google Impact Challenge was created to identify these risk-takers around the world and to engage the public in supporting them.

What will the selected grantees receive?
On October 26 we'll announce 10 Google Impact Challenge finalists and invite the public to vote for their favorite projects. The judging panel will select three winners to receive AU$750,000 grant funding, and mentoring from Google volunteers, and one additional winner will be selected based on the public vote. The remaining six finalists will each receive AU$250,000 in funding for their project. Separate funding and support from DFAT is available to DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize. Please see the DFAT Awards tab.

Who can participate in the Challenge?
Eligible organisations must meet a number of criteria, which are outlined in detail in the rules. Applicants must be charities registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

How does my organisation enter the Challenge?
Applications are now closed. It is no longer possible to enter this Challenge.

Where can I read a full copy of the rules?
You can find the rules here.

Projects

What do you mean when you say "project"?
A project is the organisation's proposed concept and implementation plan for how to address a social issue.

How do you define "technology and innovation"? Does each project have to use technology? What makes a project innovative?
The Impact Challenge seeks to fund innovation *and* technology applied for social good. An innovative project is one that differs in approach or structure from those that presently exist -- it presents a new or unexpected solution to an unmet need. Proposals should use technology -- and should do so as a core element of the project, in a way that is both deeply impactful and new or creative.

We've submitted our application. What do we do now?
Finalists are shown on this site, and we'll announce the winners on October 26.

Process

The FAQs below refer to the Google Impact Challenge. For details on the DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize, please see the DFAT Prize section.

Was every application reviewed?
Yes, we reviewed all eligible applications that we received before selecting the 10 finalists.

Who are the judges?
See our panel of judges here. The judges were selected based on their demonstrated commitment to social impact and their ability to rally public support for the best ideas.

How were the entries evaluated?
All eligible applications were reviewed by a team at Google. Applications were evaluated based on the Challenge Rules and criteria. 10 Google Impact Challenge finalists were selected and invited to pitch their project to a panel of judges at an event in Sydney on October 26. A total of four GIC winners will be chosen: three winners will be selected by the panel of judges and one winner will be selected by popular vote. Eligible applications will also be evaluated for the DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize (please see relevant section for details).

What is the timeline and process for selecting the winners?
- **4 October 2016:** Finalists announced, and public invited to vote.
- **26 October 2016:** Finalists pitch to a panel of judges at an event in Sydney. Four Google Impact Challenge winners announced.

DFAT Prize

What is the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Technology Against Poverty Prize?
The DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize is a AU$500,000 grant provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's InnovationXchange program as part of the 2016 Google Impact Challenge. The prize encourages charities registered in Australia to explore new ways of delivering social impact internationally, using technology.

How are DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize winners chosen?
The winners will be chosen by judges appointed by DFAT based on applications that meet the DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize eligibility criteria, outlined below.

How is the DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize different from the Google Impact Challenge grants?
Grants are similar to those awarded in the Google Impact Challenge, but are provided by DFAT, not Google. As a result, specifics of due diligence, terms, project length, travel reimbursement, and other details may differ slightly (see Rules). DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize Winners will coordinate with DFAT directly, and will receive limited technical support from DFAT, not from Google.

Who is eligible for the DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize?

Applications that meet the eligibility requirements for the Google Impact Challenge **and**:

> (a) do not indicate that the Organisation does not wish to be considered for a DFAT Prize
> (b) are directed towards activities to be fulfilled outside of Australia

will be reviewed for eligibility for a DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize.

When and how will DFAT Technology Against Poverty Prize winners be notified?
DFAT will contact winners directly in October, and winners will be invited to the Google Impact Challenge finalist event in Sydney on October 26.