

Regulations Portugal 2019

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1 Aim

- 1.1 The Bio-based Innovation Student Competition Europe (BISC-E) aims to raise awareness and involve students in the transition towards a bio-based economy. The ability to work in a multidisciplinary team is believed to be essential to design viable bio-based solutions. Therefore, it is encouraged to assemble teams gathering with both technical, environmental and economic skills.

2 Organisation

- 2.1 The Bio-based Innovation Student Competition Europe is organized on a national level by federations in the participating countries. After national finals a European final is organized (see however, 9.1) where all national winners can compete for the European award.
- 2.2 In Portugal, University of Minho Department & Centre of Biological Engineering, DEB/CEB (<http://ceb.uminho.pt/>) is organizing the national finals.

3 Indicative timeline

26 April 2019	Registration deadline
23 May 2019	Kick-off with all Portuguese BISC-E participants
28 June 2019	Presentation and Portuguese final
Autum 2019	EU final (to be decided)

4 Participants

- 4.1 Teams of 3 to 6 students are welcome to join the challenge.
- 4.2 All team members should be enrolled in a study programme at a Portuguese education institution, either in the final year of a Bachelor's degree at a University College or in a Bachelor or Masters programme at a university on registration.
- 4.3 The innovations proposed by the teams are judged on technical, environmental and economic criteria. Due to the multidisciplinary character of the competition, it is highly advised, though not obliged, to embody students with different study backgrounds in your team. Mixed teams with students from both University Colleges and universities or different institutions are encouraged.
- 4.4 Each team must appoint one student as team manager. The team manager coordinates the contact between the competition organizers and the other team members.
- 4.5 Each team should be supported by one main supervisor employed at one of the host institutions as e.g. lecturer, PhD candidate, assistant professor, associate professor or professor. More staff members can be asked for support or advice of course but these hold no official role in the competition.
- 4.6 Students and supervisors can only join one team participating in the challenge.
- 4.7 At least two team members should be present at the kick-off meeting and finals.

5 Registration

- 5.1 The registration for BISC-E can be done through the portal at www.bisc-e.eu
- 5.2 For registration for the challenge you need:
 - A team name
 - Team manager (one of the student team members)
 - A supervisor (as stated under 4.5)
 - An initial description of the proposed process or product (app. ½ A4), the technical aspects (½ A4) and an outline of the business case (½ A4). Claims in the business case and/or production process needs supported by basic calculations.
 - Personal details of the team members
- 5.3 The teams are checked to ensure they comply with the regulations as stated in this document. In case the team or a team member is not eligible for this challenge, the team manager will be notified within two weeks after closing of the registrations.

6 Challenge

- 6.1 In this challenge student teams are asked to develop a bio-based product or bio-based process that could be integrated in the current (or near future) economy.
- 6.2 The definition of a bio-based product is: A product composed in whole, or for a significant part, of biological material derived from renewable biological sources, including plant, animal or marine materials. Where product is defined as: substance, mixture of substances, material or object resulting from a production process, this can be an intermediate, material, semi-finished or final product.
- 6.3 The definition of a bio-based process is: A process using only, or for a significant part, bio-based feedstock. Bio-based as defined above. The process may yield intermediate products or energy or have another economic value.
- 6.4 The innovation may, but does not have to, replace a fossil derived product / fossil based process.
- 6.5 Food or feed products and their production processes are not allowed in this challenge.
- 6.6 The challenge consists of a presentation, addressing the elements mentioned in 6.8.
- 6.7 Two tracks can be followed.
 1. For innovations concerning a bio-based product.
 2. For innovations leading to a bio-based process or bio-based improvements of a process step. Also, services or other innovations strongly advancing the bio-based economy not leading to a touchable prototype product that can be presented fall in this category.
- 6.8 The presentation for the Portuguese Final will comprise the following elements:

- 6.8.1 Short description of the innovation
- 6.8.2 Introduction and explanation of the innovative aspect (including illustrations)
- 6.8.3 Technical explanation of the innovation.
 - Production process of a product or process scheme of a process
 - Mass balances
 - The bio-based materials used
 - (Production)process energy use estimation
- 6.8.4 Elaboration of the positive environmental impact of the innovation.
 - product life cycle / process resource chain
 - input, output and residual streams
 - comparison with conventional product or process (if applicable)
- 6.8.5 Economic viability
 - Business model canvas with explanation
 - SWOT analysis
 - Quantitative and qualitative market analysis and a cost benefit analysis

- 6.9 For the European Final a complete dossier has to be submitted. A format will be provided on the website. Limited appendices (e.g. references, additional figures, table) are allowed, but are not part of the evaluated material.
- 6.10 The presentation and the submitted dossier – in case of the European Finals – should contain only work of the team members or properly referenced work of others.
- 6.11 Each team will have the chance to present their bio-based innovation and prototype product/ process animation to the jury. The oral presentation, supported by slides, lasts 10 minutes followed by the possibility for the jury to ask questions during 5 minutes.
- 6.12 All text and spoken words have to be in English.

7 Jury and assessment

- 7.1 The jury will consist of a number of experts in the field of bio-based economy / process technology / agriculture / environmental impact assessment, from academia or industry.
- 7.2 Jury members cannot be involved in any way with any of the participating teams.
- 7.3 The jury members will not be announced before the submission deadline.
- 7.4 The presentation, including the Q&A session, is considered by the jury. The innovations are evaluated by the jury on the following points:

Innovation

How creative and novel is the concept? Does it solve an existing problem or does it replace a petroleum-based product?

Sustainability impact

First of all, is the innovation truly bio-based. Is it also environmentally friendly, i.e. does it have a better environmental performance / more environmentally friendly production process compared to the product it replaces or does it enhance the sustainability of a process throughout the total life cycle? And how big is the positive impact for the environment if the product or process would be widely applied.

Technical feasibility

In case of a product, the technical feasibility of the proposed production process is considered. In case of a process / process innovation the feasibility of the claimed advantages are considered.

Economic viability

Is there a market for the proposed product? Is there economic incentive to apply the proposed product or process innovation? Economic viability of the product or process.

Presentation and prototype product / process animation

The presentation is judged on content and presentation skills together with the quality of the answers offered to the jury's questions.

Also, the appearance and professionalism of the prototype product / process animation is considered under this point.

7.5 No communication about the jury's decisions is possible.

8 Award

8.1 The monetary award is provided 'as is' (any taxation should be paid by the receiving party) and is divided equally over the team members.

8.2 In case the winning team rejects the price or does in any way not comply with these regulations the organization has the right to select another winner.

9 European finals

9.1 The aim is to have multiple European countries organizing a national competition similar to the Portuguese competition. The winning teams of all national competitions will present their innovations to win the European award. However, only if at least three countries participate, a European final will be organized.

9.2 In case there is a European final, the team winning the first prize in the Portuguese competition has chance to go to the Europe final.

9.3 Reasonable travel expenses, accommodation costs and entrance to the event are reimbursed to a maximum of € 1500 per team and a maximum of € 500 per team member.

9.4 In case the winning team rejects the offer to join the European final, the organization has the right to let another team represent the country at the European finals.

10 Intellectual property

10.1 Only the jury and the organization has access to the presentation and submitted dossier – in case of the European Final - and personal information for matters related to the competition only.

10.2 All IP and knowledge in the submitted materials of teams remain the property of the original owners. Submission will not result in any transfer of ownership to the organizers, jury and sponsors of the competition. Foreground IP and knowledge generated by the students during the competition rests with the students and can be protected or published in close consultation with the supervisor at the host institution.

11 General

11.1 All deadlines mentioned with a date only are before 23:59 GTM that day.

11.2 The organization may always make exemptions to these regulations without notice or providing the reason.

11.3 The organization can exclude a participant or a team when not complying to these regulations, acting against the law or otherwise acting immoral.

11.4 The BISC-E organization team reserves the right to amend, postpone or cancel the competition or to change the dates and conditions without incurring liability if circumstances beyond its control require doing so.

11.5 All participants permit the organization, free of charge, to use personal information and team information including information on the designed innovation (excluding IP related details, 10.2) and awarded prizes for promotional purposes. Also pictures and other contributions provided in the context of the challenge can be used free of charge for promotion via different media channels.

11.6 In all situations not foreseen in these regulations or in case of a dispute, the organization shall decide how to resolve the problem.