



# MENTOR INVITATION

Support a 14-day immersive hackathon where students, alumni and offer holders of Imperial College and its partners collaborate across borders to turn ideas into real ventures.



## Become a Mentor for the Global Challenge Lab 2026

**Theme:** One Imperial. Global Impact.

**Dates:** 14–30 July 2026 | 100% Virtual

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We are looking for driven professionals and industry experts to support a student team as a mentor during the Global Challenge Lab 2026!

Sign up [HERE](#) by June 14th, 2026

Global Challenge Lab is a global, Imperial-led innovation programme. Anchored by Imperial College London, the program brings together 1,000+ students, alumni, and offer holders from global university partners. This year, we are bridging the gap between academic research and global markets across four critical innovation tracks. Participants will grow their international networks, gain entrepreneurship skills, and turn "How might we?" into "Here is the solution."

### The Innovation Tracks

Teams will generate a well-rounded business concept (technical prototype not required) within one of our four programme tracks:

#### TRACK 1: Climate & Sustainability

- Challenge: How might we build a more climate-resilient and sustainable future for all?
- Focus: Renewable energy, circular economies, and green infrastructure.

#### TRACK 2: Health & Technology

- Challenge: How might we harness technology to transform healthcare access globally?
- Focus: AI-driven diagnostics, digital health, and personalized medicine.

#### TRACK 3: Space, Security & Connectivity

- Challenge: How might we create a safer, more connected world through innovation in data and space?
- Focus: Satellite analytics, cyber-resilience, and 6G/IoT networks.

#### TRACK 4: Smart Cities & Urban Futures

- Challenge: How might we design intelligent, inclusive, and sustainable cities for the future?
- Focus: Intelligent mobility, adaptive urbanism, and green-blue infrastructure.



## 1. HOW DOES MENTORING WORK?

To ensure projects are genuinely impactful, teams need the guidance of professionals from diverse backgrounds. All mentoring takes place online via Zoom and Slack.

- **Preparation:** There will be a mentoring overview session on 9th July to go over the process, network with fellow mentors and answer any questions you might have
- **Communication:** We use Slack for primary communication. You will be invited to the GCL Slack workspace on 15th July and notified of your assigned team on Friday, July 17th.
- **The Commitment:** Mentoring takes place over 3 days for 1 hour each day: **July 20th (Monday), 22nd (Wednesday), and 24th (Friday).**

**Time Slots:** You pick 1 out of 2 slot times for the duration of the program. To provide consistent support, we require you to join the same time slot for all three days:

- **Slot 1:** 08:00 – 09:00 (UK Time / BST)
- **Slot 2:** 14:00 – 15:00 (UK Time / BST)

You will be provided a Zoom link and placed in a dedicated breakout room with your team. This will be your primary team for the entire program.

## 2. MENTOR GUIDELINES

- **Offer Knowledge:** Share your industry insights, professional experiences, and market realities.
- **Guide, Don't Lead:** Support the team's autonomy; offer recommendations rather than directing their work.
- **Widen/Narrow Focus:** Suggest paths for exploration or help teams focus their idea into a viable value proposition.
- **Connect:** Suggest goals for progress, share resources for the team to explore
- **Mediate:** Assist in case of team conflict or report concerns to the program organizers.

## 3. CODE OF CONDUCT

- **Reliability:** Let the organizers and your team know in advance if you need to reschedule.
- **Active Engagement:** Be active on Slack. Ensure you have the app and notifications enabled for real-time updates.
- **Boundary of Mentorship:** Mentors provide perspective and advice; they do not join the team or actively complete the work.
- **Confidentiality:** Undertake to maintain the confidentiality of any information shared by participants and not disclose it to third parties.
- **Intellectual Property:** All IP rights arising from the program rest entirely with the teams.
- **Voluntary Role:** The Mentor role is voluntary. In appreciation, you will receive an Official Certificate of Participation from Imperial College London and a social media kit to showcase your involvement.