

#Hack4Climate

Background Information for Participants (09/2017)

Please note: [Application Deadline](#) is 06/10/2017, thereafter we update via Slack-Channel

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[I want to first take part in the preparatory workshop, what's next?](#)

Great stuff. Sign up for our alert service, and you'll be the first to know when and where they will take place, as well as how to apply.

[Do I have to attend one of the preparatory workshops?](#)

No, you don't. But of course, we very much encourage you to physically attend in one of the regional centres, where we are offering our workshops. If you can't make it physically, try to be online, live during one of the workshops held. And if that does not work for you, make sure you have seen the key sessions provided online shortly following the workshops.

[What exactly am I supposed to do at the Hack4Climate?](#)

You will team up to create useful, DLT-based, climate solutions in a 6+24h hour hacking marathon. And we wish you good luck for that ;-)

[How much will it cost me?](#)

All selected participants are invited to Bonn, this includes travel, accommodation, food, some sponsor goodies, and also a small daily living expense allowance. Hack4Climate has chosen this approach to allow all potential participants to attend, and to try and maximise the quality of participants in the interest of climate and the urgency to act.

How do I get to Bonn?

We will invite all selected participants to Bonn. This includes their full travel expenses. Should you be asked to make your own travel booking (for whatever reasons), make sure you'll keep the receipts.

I come from a country that requires a visa, now what?

As part of the application process, we will guide you on both visa and travel issues – so relax and enjoy the trip! Of course, in case you are not able to travel (for whatever reasons), please let us know as part of the application process.

What do I need to take along?

The main thing is your computer and the charger (we'll take care of power adapters). Take some warm and comfy clothes to change, your swimsuit and cloths for some sports/cycling, and your toiletries. The rest we will provide you. Watch out for our alerts, in case there is additional stuff we would like you to take along.

Do I need a specific idea on how to save the world before the hack?

No, you don't. But if you do, make sure you'll bring it along! We encourage individual participants who come with an open mind and no particular idea. Be assured, other participants, events, exchanges – will all inspire you.

Can I come and work on an existing project?

Yes, you can, but it better be a good one! While most hacks forbid participants to come with existing work, Hack4Climate does not. You will have to declare, on which basis you will start the hack, and your performance will be judged based on what was added as part of the hack, as well as the overall potential of your project approach.

How can I sign up?

Registration opens on Monday, September 18, 2017, and ends on Saturday, September 30. All applicants, please use this specific application forms that will be provided. You can sign-up for our mailing list to be [reminded](#).

Is there an award?

Yes, there is. The best hack performance, per category and with an overall audience-voted winner, is awarded. Category winners will have a chance to present/pitch their project as part of the formal Hack4Climate side event following the hack. The category prize is EUR10'000, the first/audience-voted prize is EUR25'000.

What is the team size?

At most 4 people, and you should be at least 2 people.

How do I find team members?

You'll find them at the event – no worries. There will be lots of interesting folks with similar interests. Teams are built, based on their project ideas, on specific suggestions on how to address the general challenges presented in 5 areas. Anyone who has an idea on how to address a particular one, can pitch it to the crowd. Anyone who likes it, or thinks he or she can make it better, joins.

Is there an age limit?

You have to be at least 18 years old at the time of the event. There's no upper limit ;-)

Should I work on the project for 24h non-stop, or can I take a break?

Of course you can take a break to refresh your mind! We will provide nice hack venues and facilities to sleep. However, you will prefer working as much as you can – so come relaxed and pre-sleep! To ensure a fresh working environment and your personal hygiene we'll provide showers as well.

Can I participate in the event as a guest?

No. Apart from the invited hackers, participants only include organisers, coaches and moderators, speakers, and sponsor representatives.

What about intellectual property? Do I own my code?

Yes you do. You submit the code for the pure purpose of evaluation and awarding, you do not transfer any rights of your work. Registering a patent after showing a demo may be more difficult though, but who wants patents anyway!

What about if I apply, you invite me, but I then decide not to attend?

Hey, you're a free person, and we certainly will not force anyone to attend. Being part of the first Hack4Climate should be regarded as a privilege! So, we do expect applicants to be committed. In case there are unforeseen circumstances, we'll find solutions – but in fairness to other applicants, please assure that you only apply in case you are committed and can make the time available for the preparatory workshop (physically or online) as well as the 4 days in Bonn.

I would like to stay in Bonn a little longer, is that possible?

We are working on this one.

What exactly is the Paris Climate Agreement?

The [Paris Agreement](#) (PA) was adopted by 195 countries in December 2015 at COP21 ('Conference of the Parties' No. 21). It is the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The PA sets a collective temperature goal of 'substantially below 2 degrees, if possible 1.5 degrees' of warming compared to pre-industrial levels), establishes a process for countries to raise their efforts for reducing emissions over time, including but not limited to the use of market based mechanisms. The PA also provides for an increase of information from countries on adaptation needs and actions, strengthens transparency of climate finance flows and obliges all countries from 2020 onwards to regularly inform the international community about their national greenhouse gas emissions as well as their progress with respect to their climate targets (the so called 'Nationally Determined Contributions, NDCs') to the global effort. The PA entered into force 04/11/2016. The core challenges of PA implementation will be that countries ensure information sharing as well as accept accountability of their actions (within mitigation, adaptation and finance) in order to provide for transparency and trust over time. DLT has potential as an appropriate tool to assist countries in implementing the PA, ensuring transparency, and thus building the necessary trust.

Climate change, why all the rush?

The science is crystal clear, and there's not really another way to put it - climate change is the defining challenge of our time. Not acting would be unfair to future generations, of humans and all other species. We have already gone so far that we now must reverse emission trajectories drastically, and achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This means our power sources must all be renewable by then, our transport all clean, etc. – quite a disruption. And we only have until 2020 to fundamentally shift course (see for example [#Mission2020](#)).

Can DLT really make a difference?

Yes it can. We have examined the potential. Much of 'climate' is suitable for DLT-based innovation. For one thing, trust and transparency are key for the type of international cooperation and global solutions required to successfully address climate change. New options for financing open-up, and greater levels of security. The famous Paris Climate Agreement is a bottom-up agreement, essentially consisting of 195 different climate targets (NDCs) submitted by each of the participating countries. Ideally, emissions could be uniquely identified, and private and public stakeholders could transact peer to peer, across borders, on a global level. There are different types of market/exchange solutions needed, for which ownership should be in the network and not with any one participant/clearing.

I have another question, now what?

We look forward to hearing from you. Please use our [general inquiry](#) form.