OFL - FAQ

In this document you can find

General Questions

What is the Ocean Future Lab?

> The Ocean Future Lab offers space for co-creative and inspiring design of healthy future scenarios for our oceans. Citizens are invited to develop ideas and possible action in exchange with artists and scientists. The Ocean Future Lab is a project of the "Science Year 2022 – Participate!" and is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Partners are the German Marine Research Alliance, the Institute for Art and Innovation, the German Oceanographic Museum in Stralsund and the German Maritime Museum in Bremerhaven.

Is there an entry fee?
- No

What language will the event be in?
- English

Is the event fully online?
- Yes

Is the event open to participants in all locations/time zones?
- Yes

Is there a Code of Conduct?
- Yes, you can find it **here**.

Do I have to be available 48 hours?
- Everyone is welcome to be around for three days, but as the teams work in a self-organized way, it's up to the agreements of each other.

Hackathon

FAQ for Participants

What tools will be used during the Hackathon?
- Slack - for the overall communication and matchmaking
- Zoom - for specific team sessions and for the science slammers
- Miro - for co-creation and acceleration of ideas

Can I join a team to help accelerate their idea?
- Yes, of course.

How do I join a team and when?
- When you join the OFL Slack channel (See "How to Slack" document here) you can find all the different team channels and enter them easily. You can always reach out to the IFAI Team Guides for help.

Does joining a team commit me to continue the project with them?
- No, you are welcome to support the team during the Hackathon only.

Where can I find the Science Slam program?
- You can find it **here**.

If I don't join a team, what do I do during the Hackathon?
   Join our Science Slam on our facebook channel, listen to talks and dive deeper into a specific subject in a dedicated breakout room after a scientific impulse.

FAQ for Teams

Do I need to have a team when joining the Hackathon?

- No, participants may join in after the teams' pitches on SEPT 21 at 15:00 CET on zoom.

What do I need to prepare?

- To kick-off the Hackathon, on SEPT 21 at 15:00 CET, every team gets the chance to pitch their idea by means of a short presentation. This presentation will be in front of all the Hackathon participants. Then they can decide if they want to join a specific team.

Here are some bullet points to help you get started:

- Idea Title
- Present your team and its members
- State the problem that you want to solve and the solution you devised
- Give an overview of your goals
- Give a value proposition, talk about the purpose of your project
- Length: max. 10 minutes
- Medium: you can use the presentation format of your choice (e.g. PPT, PDF)

What sorts of sessions can I expect to participate in?
- All teams are welcome to join the expert speaker sessions during the Science Slam.
- We will individually match you with expert mentors. How this session goes is entirely up to you and your self-organized team.

Can we bring our own experts?
- Yes, you have full freedom to invite people to help you accelerate your idea.

What support will Expert Mentors be able to provide?
- Our valuable Expert Mentors will share their expertise and experience with interested teams. They will provide insights, methods, instruments and skills to accelerate the ideas.

What support will Team Guides be able to provide?
- Team Guides will guide the participating teams during the Hackahton so there will always be someone from the IFAI team (Team Guides) to reach out to expert mentors and to answer questions.

When do I have to pitch my idea and how long should the pitch be?
- There are 2 pitches requested. First, on SEPT 21 at 15:00 CET in front of Hackathon participants and IFAI team mentors to get everyone familiar with your ideas and goals. Second, on SEPT 23 at 14:00 CET in front of the jury to get selected for the presentation opportunity at the Entrepreneurship Summit. The pitch should not exceed 10 minutes.
- The pitch can be supported by a PDF or PPT document to be screenshared.

When are the final pitches in front of the jury?
- 23 SEPT at 14:00 CET

What are the judging criteria of the jury?
- Impact: How much sea life can be saved?
- Reach: how many people can be reached with this idea?
- Implementation:How easy the solution can be realized and get adopted to a global scale?
- Sustainability: What are the ecological benefits of the idea?

What happens after the jury session? When can we expect to hear results?
- On 23 SEPT at 18:00 CET there will be an official announcement of the three teams that will be sent to pitch their idea at the Entrepreneurship Summit (22 OCT. at 17:00 CET)

What are the prizes?
- 3 teams will be selected in the jury session on Sept 23 to get further invited to the Entrepreneurship Summit to pitch their idea to a broader audience

When is the Award Ceremony?
- It takes place at the Entrepreneurship Summit in FU Berlin on 22 OCT. at 17:00 CET

FAQ for Expert Mentors

What role do Expert Mentors play in the Hackathon?
- Mentors are experts in a specific field. They will share their experience, skills and competencies by request of teams.

How much time do I have to plan?
- As we value the limited time of our Expert Mentors we'll try to matchmake the participating teams with mentors according to their availability.

What dates would I need to be available?
- The best time for our teams will be on SEPT 22. but you are also welcome to follow the team's pitches on SEPT 21, when the Hackathon starts.

May I participate in the Hackathon myself?
- If you like to support our teams even more than sharing your insights in specific sessions, you can be part of the Hackathon and also join the teams while accelerating their ideas.

Can I be a jury member and mentor at the same time?
- No, we try to avoid a conflict of interest.

FAQ for Jury Members

When and how does the jury session take place?
- The teams will pitch their ideas on Friday, 23 SEPT at 14:00 CET. The jury session will be from 15:30 - 16:30 CET on Friday evening. The winners are announced at 18:00 CET.
- You get a document, where you can find all relevant information about the projects. There you can make notes during the pitches in order to evaluate the projects according to 4 main criteria.

How will the voting system work?
- A special handout for the evaluation will be given to each jury member. It's about qualitative and quantitative evaluation.

What are the judging criteria?
- **Impact:** How much sea life can be saved?
- **Reach:** How many people can be reached with this idea?
- **Implementation:** How easy the solution can be realized and get adopted to a global scale?
- **Sustainability:** What are the ecological benefits of the idea?