

**Environmental Management Administration, Ministry of Environment**  
**Brochure for “2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation  
and Remediation Research Competition”**

## **I. Objectives**

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2050 Net-Zero Emissions goal have become the global guiding framework for promoting sustainable development. This year's "Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation Research Competition" has been expanded to include participation by students from ASEAN countries. We invite university students (including those enrolled in undergraduate, master's, and doctoral programs) from Taiwan and ASEAN nations to participate. The goal is to inspire critical reflection on soil and groundwater pollution issues and environmental protection, thereby encouraging proactive environmental action among students. With **“Concepts of Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation”** as the core theme, this competition encourages the submission of feasible proposals to address pollution issues. Through the presentation and exchange of ideas, we aim to guide participants in bridging academic knowledge and practical application, moving toward sustainable development and net-zero transformation, and fulfilling our mission of co-cultivating soil and water professionals from Taiwan and ASEAN countries.

## **II. Organizing Authorities**

- A. Organizer: Environmental Management Administration, Ministry of Environment
- B. Implementer: Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation

## **III. Competition Description**

Participating teams must focus on the theme **“Thinking in Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation”**. Entries should be submitted under one of the following categories: **(1) Research Aspect**: Innovative technical solutions, or **(2) Management Aspect**: Environmental protection policies and strategies. Results can be

presented through physical prototypes or oral presentations for evaluation by the selection committee.

#### IV. Participants

- A. Applicants must be currently enrolled as students at universities or colleges in Taiwan or ASEAN countries, including third-year (junior) undergraduate students and above, as well as master’s, or doctoral programs. Students of any nationality are eligible to apply.
- B. Participants must register as a team of no fewer than 2 and no more than 5 members. Each team may include a maximum of 2 Taiwanese nationals. Teams may be formed **across different universities or academic departments**. Each team shall designate one team leader to complete the registration on behalf of the team. Each individual may participate in only one team.

#### V. Registration and overall schedule

Matter	Date	Content
<b><u>Registration</u></b> <b><u>Deadline for Online</u></b> <b><u>Seminar on</u></b> <b><u>competition</u></b>	From now until 5:00 PM, Friday, March 20, 2026.	1. <b><u>2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation Research Competition</u></b> Prospectus. 2. Online seminar registration URL: <a href="https://forms.gle/Ls5Ywdewb988dPsL7">https://forms.gle/Ls5Ywdewb988dPsL7</a>  Qrcode
Online Seminar on Competition (Session 1)	1:00 PM, Wednesday, March 25, 2026.	Seminar URL <a href="https://meet.google.com/xka-bafd-zmz">https://meet.google.com/xka-bafd-zmz</a>
Online Seminar on Competition (Session 2)	1:00 PM, Friday, March 27, 2026.	Seminar URL <a href="https://meet.google.com/kfu-eypt-qji">https://meet.google.com/kfu-eypt-qji</a>
Online Seminar on Competition (Session 3)	1:00 PM, Monday, March 30, 2026.	Seminar URL <a href="https://meet.google.com/rcq-gtgw-nuv">https://meet.google.com/rcq-gtgw-nuv</a>
<b><u>Deadline for</u></b> <b><u>Competition</u></b>	April 1 (Wed.) to April 30 (Thu.),	1. Please appoint one member as the team captain to complete the online registration at

<b>Matter</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Content</b>
<b><u>Registration and Submission</u></b>	2026	<p><a href="https://forms.gle/NPUpsmE2CR4TYKSY7">https://forms.gle/NPUpsmE2CR4TYKSY7</a></p> <p>The captain shall represent the team in providing basic information for the team and its members, student certificates, and uploading competition submissions (in both Word and PDF formats).</p>  <p>Qrcode</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the quality of the event, on-site registration will not be accepted.</li> <li>The selection committee will select the top 20 groups based on written materials to participate in the next stage of the final review.</li> </ol>
<b><u>Research Competition</u></b> – Notice of Finals	May 2026	The preliminary review results will be announced, and qualifying teams will be notified to proceed to the finals.
<b><u>Research Competition</u></b> – Finals (Competition day)	June 2026	The final review of the Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation Research Competition will be held. Please submit presentation materials one week prior to the finals.
<b><u>Research Competition</u></b> - Awards Ceremony	Saturday, July 25, 2026	Teams entering the finals will be notified separately regarding the competition awards ceremony.

※The actual schedule will be announced by the organizer.

## VI. Selection Process

- A. Selection Committee: The committee consists of 3 members from the ASEAN Partnership Strategic Group of this project. The number of judges may be adjusted based on the number of submissions (up to 5 members). The evaluation consists of two stages: Preliminary Review and Final Review.
- B. Description of Competition Topic Types: This competition offers two types of topics: “**Designated Topics**” and “**Self-selected Topics**”. Participating teams may choose one of these two types when registering. The details are as follows:

1. **Designated Topics:** Designated topics will be proposed by soil and groundwater-related industries or professional organizations in Taiwan, invited by the organizer. The topics will focus on **specific soil and groundwater cases or practical issues in Taiwan**, encouraging participating teams to develop innovative concepts for investigation, remediation, or management based on the designated site or scenario. Selecting either a research-oriented or management-oriented approach. The designated topics are expected to be announced by **the end of March 2026**.
2. **Self-selected Topics:** Participating teams may independently propose a topic based on the core **concepts of soil and groundwater investigation and remediation**, selecting either a research-oriented or management-oriented approach.

C. Selection Criteria:

1. Preliminary Review: Teams must upload required materials by the specified deadline. Evaluation will be based on written submissions, including: (1) Innovation, and (2) Team Execution and Feasibility. Up to 20 teams will be selected for the final review.
2. Final Review: The on-site review conducted on the competition day will primarily focus on **(1) physical prototypes and presentation materials for the Research Track**, or **(2) presentation materials for the Management Track**. The judges will conduct the final review based on the following criteria: (1) Innovation, (2) Specific Methodology, (3) Feasibility, and (4) Oral or Virtual Presentation (limited to 12 minutes for presentation and 6 minutes for Q&A). The list of award winners will be announced separately by the organizer.

## VII. Registration and Submission

- A. Registration and Preliminary Materials: Please register and submit materials **(max 10 pages)** via the online system: <https://forms.gle/NPUpsmE2CR4TYKSY7>. The length of the materials must not

exceed 5 pages. Please submit both a Word file and a PDF file named by “**Theme\_ Institution/University\_Team Name**”. Preliminary material includes:

1. Introduction/Background
2. Proposal for Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation Concepts
3. Specific Methodology (1) Research Track: Innovative Technical Solutions OR (2) Management Track: Environmental Protection Policy Strategies
4. Expected Goals and Benefits

B. Final Review Materials:

1. **Research-Oriented**: Submit presentation slides 1 week prior to the competition and prepare physical prototypes for the competition day.
2. **Management-Oriented**: Submit presentation slides 1 week prior to the competition and prepare the oral presentation for the competition day.

## VIII. Scoring Standards

- A. Scoring Method: The evaluation adopts a **tiered total score method**. Judges shall assign a tier (A, B, C, or D) to each scoring item. These tiers are converted into corresponding points and summed to produce a total score. Teams are then ranked based on their total scores; the team with the highest total score will be ranked first.

**Tier Conversion:** A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points, D = 1 point.

- B. Tie-breaking Procedures: In the event of a tie in overall ranking, the scores from the “Creativity” category will be compared, and the team with the higher score in that category will be declared the winner. If a tie still persists, the scores from the “Feasibility” category will be used as the next tie-breaker; the team with the higher score in this category will be the winner.

<b>Preliminary Selection Criteria</b>			
<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Evaluation Item</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Innovation and Creativity of Proposal*	50%	Degree of innovation and creative expression (e.g., integration of carbon sinks, net-zero emissions, green investigation/remediation technologies, etc.).
2	Team Execution and Feasibility**	50%	Reasonableness of benefit assessment and practical feasibility.

Note 1: \* indicates the evaluation item used for the first tie-breaker.

Note 2: \*\* indicates the evaluation item used for the second tie-breaker.

<b>Final Selection Criteria</b>			
<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Evaluation Item</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Innovation of Proposal*	25%	Degree of innovation and creative expression (e.g., integration of carbon sinks, net-zero emissions, green investigation/remediation technologies, etc.).
2	Specific Methodology	25%	(1) Research Track: Innovative technical solutions (2) Management Track: Environmental protection policy strategies
3	Feasibility**	25%	Reasonableness of benefit assessment and practical feasibility.
4	On-site Presentation	25%	Presentation delivery, oral communication, and impromptu response

Note 1: \* indicates the primary tie-breaking criterion.

Note 2: \*\* indicates the secondary tie-breaking criterion.

## **IX. Competition Subsidies and Rewards**

- A. **Subsidy Items:** Reimbursement is provided for round-trip travel via intercity bus or TRA (Taiwan Railways) to attend the final review and awards ceremony. The maximum subsidy is based on the Tze-Chiang Limited Express fare; other modes of transportation are not eligible for reimbursement.

Note: Please mail (a) the original ticket stubs, (b) the transportation receipt forms, and (c) a photocopy of the cover page of your bank passbook to Ms. Hsin-Tzu Tai, Room 110, Biotechnology Building, No. 200, Zhongbei Rd., Zhongli Dist., Taoyuan City 32023, within 2 weeks after the event.

- B. **Rewards:** Awards will be presented at the official ceremony as follows:
1. **Grand Prize (1 team):** NT\$50,000 in gift certificates and a certificate of merit.
  2. **Excellence Prize (1 team):** NT\$30,000 in gift certificates and a certificate of merit.
  3. **Merit Prize (1 team):** NT\$20,000 in gift certificates and a certificate of merit.
  4. **Rising Star Prize (2 teams):** NT\$10,000 in gift certificates and a certificate of merit.

## **X. Important Notes for Participants**

- A. Team names and team members cannot be modified, replaced or added after the registration deadline. The organizer reserves the right to reject any requests to add team members after the shortlist or winner list has been announced.
- B. Please provide a frequently used email address and a valid contact number (e.g., mobile number) during registration. Important competition updates, including shortlist notifications and awards ceremony details, will be sent to this email address.
- C. To protect the rights, obligations, and intellectual property of all participating teams, please ensure that the “Copyright License Agreement” and “Intellectual Property Rights Affidavit” are properly completed and submitted. These documents authorize the organizer and implementing agency to use the submitted

works for soil and groundwater protection promotion and permanent non-profit purposes.

- D. Submitted works must align with the competition theme and submission specifications, and must not violate any laws, infringe upon the rights of others, or contravene public order or good morals. Entries must be previously unpublished (defined as works never publicly released in any media, in whole or in part, via print, internet, social media, or other public platforms, and not submitted to other competitions).
- E. If plagiarism, imitation, copyright infringement, or participation in other simultaneous competitions is verified, the organizer reserves the right to disqualify the team and revoke any awarded prizes. Participants shall bear full legal responsibilities for any illegal acts.
- F. If the entry cites works or data from others, please provide a detailed explanation or clearly cite the source.
- G. All materials or works submitted during the competition will not be returned. Teams should back up their own files as needed.
- H. Taxation Rules:
  - 1. **R.O.C. Residents:** 10% income tax withheld (exempt if the tax amount is NT\$2,000) or less.
  - 2. **Foreign Nationals (residing >183 days):** 10% income tax withheld (exempt if the tax amount is NT\$2,000) or less.
  - 3. **Non-Residents (residing <183 days):** 20% income tax withheld regardless of prize value.
- I. Winning teams must appoint one representative to sign the receipt. On the day of the awards ceremony, the representative must provide hard copies of: (1) The Representative Authorization Letter and (2) The **signed** Award Receipt.

## **XI. Miscellaneous**

- A. Absence: If a selected team cannot attend the final review, a backup team will be notified to fill the spot.

- B. Participation Certificates: Non-selected teams will receive a **participation certificate** for encouragement.
- C. Organizer Rights: The organizer reserves the right to modify the program and schedule. °

## **XII. Contact Information**

- A. Contact person: Hsin-Tzu Tai, Assistant, The Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation
- B. TEL : 03-2654909
- C. Email : [hsin-tzu-tai@cycu.org.tw](mailto:hsin-tzu-tai@cycu.org.tw)

**Annex I : Authorization Consent Form**

**“2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation  
Research Competition”  
Authorization Consent Form**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Authors participating in the competition must agree to authorize their works for free, permanently and non-exclusively to the Environmental Management Administration, MOENV (from now on referred to as the EMA) and its entrusted consortium legal person, Environmental Sustainability Development Foundation (from now on referred to as the Association) to do the following use :
- 1、 Published in paper or digital form.
  - 2、 It can be used for the digital collection, reproduction, public transmission through the network, printing, browsing, etc.
  - 3、 Cooperate with marketing promotion to include this article in the database or other channels to provide services.
  - 4、 To meet the business needs entrusted to the Association by the EMA, the Association may change the format.
  - 5、 Publish works in various forms, provide public screening, public broadcasting, and online reading for teaching, research, and public service purposes for wide publicity.
  - 6、 For teaching and research needs, the EMA may reproduce the work.
  - 7、 I guarantee that the work is my own creation, and if the same work has been published, won awards in other competitions or is under review, and I will take the initiative to inform the EMA (organizer) as an important reference for the review.
- B. The author guarantees that the design work is created by himself and has the right to obtain the authorization of this agreement. In addition, you should ensure that the authorized works do not infringe on the intellectual property rights of any third party. If the works are untrue and infringe on the copyrights of others and other laws and regulations. In that case, the relevant legal liabilities and losses shall be borne by me and compensated by myself. This consent form is a non-exclusive license, and the author has the right to authorize others to use the design work.
- C. If this work should be signed by all authors. If signed by a single author representative, the signed author warrants that the other co-authors have been notified of the terms of this agreement and that all co-authors are authorized to sign this agreement on their behalf.

Sincerely,

**Environmental Management Administration**

**The Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation**

The person who signed the consent (leader) : \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

Identity card number (ARC no or Passport no) :

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact address :

**Date:                      (year)                      (month)                      (day)**

**Annex II : Affidavit of Intellectual Property Rights**

**“2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation  
Research Competition”**

**Affidavit of Intellectual Property Rights**

I/We hereby certify that the work titled \_\_\_\_\_ is an original creation of mine/our team and does not violate any provisions of the Patent Act, Copyright Act, or other intellectual property laws and regulations. Should there be any infringement of the patent rights, copyrights, or other intellectual property rights of others, I/we agree to bear all legal responsibilities. Furthermore, I/we agree that the organizer may disqualify the award and I/we pledge to proactively return all certificates and prize money received. This affidavit is hereby executed as evidence.

**Sincerely,**

**Organizer: Environmental Management Administration**

**Implementer: The Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation**

The person who signed the consent (Team leader) :	Representative Team (Signature/Seal)
ID number (ARC no or passport no)	

**Date:**                      (year)                      (month)                      (day)

**Annex III : The consent form of the award representative**

**“2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation  
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**Consent of the award recipient**

The members of team \_\_\_\_\_ [Team Name] hereby agree to appoint  
\_\_\_\_\_ [Name of Representative] as the authorized representative to  
receive the award. All team members have signed below. The team members shall be solely  
responsible for any disputes that may arise.

Authorized Representative for Receiving Awards	(Signature/Seal)
Participating Team Members	(Signature/Seal)

**Sincerely,**

**Organizer: Environmental Management Administration**

**Implementer: The Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation**

**Date:                      (year)                      (month)                      (day)**

**Annex IV : Transportation fee receipt**

**Receipt/收據**

I hereby receive the transportation fee for “Developing Cooperation and Exchange Program on Soil and Groundwater Environment Protection in ASEAN Countries (III) - 2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation Research Competition” amounting to NT\$\_\_\_\_\_.

茲領到「發展東協國家土壤及地下水環境保護合作交流計畫(三)–2026 年土壤及地下水調查整治研究競賽」交通費用計新台幣\_\_\_\_\_元整，確實無訛。

Sincerely,

此 致

**The Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation**

**財團法人環境永續發展基金會**

Payee/領款人：\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature/簽章)

Identity card number (ARC no or Passport no)/身分證字號 (居留證號碼或護照號碼)：\_\_\_\_\_

Address/住址：\_\_\_\_\_

中華民國 115 年 (Y) 月 (M) 日 (D)

**Annex V : Receipt of the award**

## **Receipt/收據**

I hereby receive the Developing Cooperation and Exchange Program on Soil and Groundwater Environment Protection in ASEAN Countries(III) - 2026 Soil and Groundwater Investigation and Remediation Research Competition” The gift vouchers totaling NT\$\_\_\_\_\_.

茲領到「發展東協國家土壤及地下水環境保護合作交流計畫(三)–2026 年土壤及地下水調查整治研究競賽」獎金禮券計新台幣\_\_\_\_\_元整，確實無訛。

Sincerely,

此 致

**The Taiwan Environmental Sustainable Development (TESD) Foundation**

**財團法人環境永續發展基金會**

Payee/領款人：\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature/簽章)

Identity card number (ARC no or Passport no)/身分證字號 (居留證號碼或護照號碼)：\_\_\_\_\_

Address/住址：\_\_\_\_\_

中華民國 115 年 (Y) 月 (M) 日 (D)