**Regulations**

**for the creation and operation of the Expert Council of the Business Ideas and Startups Competition**

**І. General Principles**

1.1. These Regulations define the procedure for creating, composing, functioning, and organizing the work of the Expert Council of the Business Ideas and Startups Competition.

1.2. The Expert Council is an advisory body created by the Competition Organizer to ensure an objective and professional evaluation of applicant projects and to select the best projects to participate in the final stage of the Competition — DemoDays.

1.3. The main terms used in these Regulations are:

*Applicant* — an individual who has applied to participate in the Competition.

*Participant* — an individual whose application for participation in the Competition has been accepted by the Organizer.

*Organizer of the Competition* — NGO "Tech StartUp School".

*Expert Council of the Competition* (hereinafter referred to as the Expert Council) — a group of Ukrainian and foreign experts, as well as representatives of local self-government bodies of the Chervonohrad district, who professionally evaluate the applications of Applicants and determine the Participants recommended to participate in the Competition Final (DemoDays).

1.4. The activities of the Expert Council are carried out by these Regulations, the current legislation of Ukraine, and other internal documents of the Organizer that regulate the Competition.

1.5. The Organizer provides the Expert Council with the necessary materials and information to perform its functions.

**ІІ. Procedure for forming the Expert Council, its composition, and term of office**

2.1. The Expert Council is formed to evaluate applicant projects and to select at least thirty of the best projects to participate in DemoDays.

2.2. The Expert Council consists of experts, including scientists, public figures, representatives of local self-government bodies, entrepreneurs, foreign experts, and other interested parties.

2.3. Members of the Expert Council may exercise their powers for the term determined by the Provisions

on the Conduct of the Business Ideas and Startups Competition

**ІІІ. Procedure for Nominating Candidates to the Expert Council and Criteria for their selection**

3.1. The nomination of candidates to the Expert Council takes place through self-nomination of the person to participate in the competition to select experts.

3.2. To form a list of experts, an expert registration form for the Startup Competition is posted on the website of the NGO "Tech StartUp School".

3.3. To participate in the selection to the Expert Council, applicants must register by June 25, 2024, at the following link:

<https://tsus.org/node/460>

3.4. The selection of candidates will be carried out by the Organizer according to the following criteria:

for scientific-pedagogical and scientific workers: having a scientific degree (Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Science);

* fluent in the state language;
* knowledge of English is an advantage;
* an advantage (not a mandatory criterion) is the experience of teaching or studying abroad, experience of cooperation with international accreditation agencies, training and/or certification according to ESG 2015 standards;
* experience in effective project management, including project budgeting experience and/or project evaluation experience;
* ability to consult and recommend improvements.

3.5. Evaluation of candidates is carried out by the Organizer based on the submitted applications and compliance with the selection criteria.

3.6. Based on the results of the evaluation, a rating of candidates is formed. The Expert Council includes candidates with the highest scores in the ranking.

 **IV. Working conditions for members of the Expert Council**

4.1. Members of the expert council perform their duties voluntarily.

4.2. Evaluation of projects is carried out online on the Open Green Platform website through the Lime Survey platform.

4.3. Accounting of expert opinions on projects is carried out using an electronic system that provides statistical processing of the results.

4.4. Members of the Expert Council have the right to:

* request and receive additional information on projects;
* express their opinions, suggestions, and comments on issues related to the Applicants' projects.

4.5. Members of the Expert Council are obliged to:

* consider applications of Applicants for participation in the Competition;
* evaluate projects according to the methodology of the Organizing Committee and provide recommendations regarding the project's entry into the final of the Competition;
* conduct the evaluation personally, and adhere to the principles of integrity and objectivity during evaluating projects;
* not to disclose information that became known during the consideration of projects and additional materials;
* not to interfere in any way with the evaluation of projects by other members of the Expert Council;
* not to allow potential and actual conflicts of interest during the evaluation of projects;
* act by the current legislation of Ukraine.