



Spark the future, **join the Challenge!**

# Nature-based **Future** Challenges





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## For whom?

**BSc, MSc and PhD\*** students from Universities (of Applied Sciences) **worldwide** from **various backgrounds**, including:

Landscape architecture, Spatial planning, Forestry, (Organic) Agriculture, Nature Conservation, Environmental Sciences, Land, Water, Urban and Marine Resources Management, Sociology etc.

\* Max.20% PhD students and fresh graduates in a team





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# The Challenge

Develop a vision for a [nature-based future for Mississippi River Delta in 2120](#) that:

- Is **biodiversity positive**
- Ensures **food & water security**
- Enhances **climate adaptability & resilience**
- Has **positive social & socio-economic** impact



Inspired by the project [The Netherlands in 2120](#)





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# How does it work?

Duration: **January 2026-June 2026**

Participation in a **multidisciplinary team**

**Three** rounds:

- Each round ends with selection moment
- Hybrid Studios in each round to get started
- Opportunities to ask feedback



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# How does it work?

## Selection:

- Landscape planning & local experts score the reports
- International jury selects the winner of the Challenge







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# NBF Challenge step-by-step

1

Inspiration Workshop  
2 -12 -2025

Get inspired by partners  
Meet potential team  
members

2

Deadline Team Profile  
9-01-2026

Finalize team profile

3

Round 1: Kick-off Event  
13-01-2026

Meet other teams & partners  
and celebrate the start of the  
challenge together

4

Round 1: Studio 1  
20-01-2026

Local and WUR experts will  
equip you with valuable tools  
to achieve your first milestone

5

1st Milestone Deadline  
20-02-2026

Submit your vision

6

Round 2: Meet the Coach  
12-03-2026

Exclusive one-on-one  
coaching session for the top  
twenty teams with Challenge  
partners.

7

Round 2: Studio 2  
17-03-2026

Benefit from the guidance of  
WUR experts to enhance your  
initial design and understand the  
concept of a transition path.

8

2nd Milestone Deadline  
17-04-2026

Submit your improved and  
validated vision

9

Round 3: Studio 3  
7-05-2026

Engage in a storytelling  
workshop and collaborate  
with your group to refine your  
detailed design.

10

Grand Finals  
2-06-2026

Present your vision &  
celebrate



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## ROUND 1

### Deliverables:

3

Round 1: Kick-off Event  
13-01-2026

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Round 1: Studio 1  
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1st Milestone Deadline  
20-02-2026

Submit your idea

- Inventory and analysis of the current situation & future trends
- Description of your vision for nature-positive future
- Identification of an area to design in the second round of the Challenge



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## ROUND 2

### Deliverables:

- Inventory and analysis of the current situation & future trends for a chosen region
- Translation of your vision into concrete choices, proposals and effects for the chosen area
- Description of the transition pathway



PBL Netherlands Environmental  
Assessment Agency



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12-03-2026

Exclusive one-on-one  
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## ROUND 3

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Round 3: Studio 3  
7-05-2026

Engage in a storytelling  
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detailed design.

10

Grand Finals  
2-06-2026

Present your idea & celebrate

### Deliverables:

- Improve on your report
- Pitch video
- Poster presentation



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# What is there for students?

**Learning experience** that boosts professional skills

**Opportunity to learn from and network with** industry leaders

**Opportunity to meet and exchange ideas** with students from Universities worldwide

**Certificate** for top 20 teams & finalists of the Challenge

The finalists receive **travel & accommodation budget** to attend the Grand Finals in the Netherlands (not full costs)

The winning team gets **9 000 EUR and exposure**

Representatives of **top 3 teams** go to **Louisiana**







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# Interested?

Scan the QR-code to learn more!

