Water Breakthrough Challenge

Round 3 Launch Webinar and live Q&A

Wednesday 5 October 2022
What we’ll cover today

1. The Ofwat Innovation Fund
   - Ofwat’s Innovation Fund – at a glance
   - The Strategic Innovation Themes

2. Water Breakthrough Challenge 3 – Overview
   - What’s changed
   - Timeline

3. What we are looking for
   - The assessment categories
   - The assessment process
   - Who can be involved
   - Requirements for successful entries

4. Get involved and enter
   - How to enter
   - Support for your entry

5. Q&A

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
Water Breakthrough Challenge 3

3 October 2022
Ofwat’s Innovation Fund – at a glance

£200m of funding has been unlocked by the Ofwat Innovation Fund to unleash a wave of innovation in the water sector and tackle some of the major challenges of our time – delivering transformative benefits for consumers, society and the environment.

Three different innovation competitions, across two funding rounds

41 projects have been successfully funded across the pilot

£63.6m has been awarded

Approximately 300 different organisations and partners have been involved in entries

92% of water companies in England and Wales (23 of 25) entered at least one of the competitions
1. Adapting to climate change and achieving net-zero emissions.
2. Protecting and enhancing the environment.
3. Delivering long-term operational resilience.
4. Improving the delivery of services for customers and society.
Water Breakthrough Challenge 2 - Changes from Round 2

- Background IPR Trial now applied to all streams as default IPR.
- Live pitches to judges being trialled in this round.
- Catalyst entries can be submitted by any partner.

Water Breakthrough Challenge 3

- Catalyst Stream: ~£8m available for entries between £100k and £1m
- Transform Stream: ~£38m available for entries between £1m and £10m
Water Breakthrough Challenge 3 – Timelines

**Catalyst Stream**
- **Entry Period Opens**: 3 October
- **Entry Period Closes**: 8 December
- **Winners Announced**: Mid-April
- **Winners Paid**: End of May

**Transform Stream**
- **Stage 1 Entry Period Opens**: 3 October
- **Stage 1 Entry Period Closes**: 9 November
- **Stage 2 Entry Period Opens**: 8 December
- **Stage 2 Entry Period Closes**: 2 February
- **Winners Announced**: Late May
- **Winners Paid**: Early July

* Subject to water company payment timelines
Catalyst Stream

Opens 3 October 2022

~£8 million available

£150k - £2 million per entry

1-stage entry process

Closes 8 December 2022
Transform Stream

Opens 3 October 2022

~£30 million available

£2 million - £10 million per entry

2-stage entry process

Stage 1 closes 9 November 2022
Water Breakthrough Challenge 3 – Assessment categories

1. Positive impact for water customers, society, and the environment
2. Innovation enablers and innovative solutions
3. Capacity, capability, and commitment to deliver

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
1. Positive impact for water customers, society and the environment

Strong entries will:

• Address a significant need or opportunity for customers, society and/or the environment

• Align with one (or more) of Ofwat’s four strategic innovation themes

• Will, or could, be effective in addressing needs or opportunities for customers, society and/or the environment

• Set out a realistic reflection of external risks and how the potential benefits to customers, society and the environment outweigh these risks.

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2. Innovation enablers and innovative solutions

Strong entries will:

• Use innovative approaches and/or solutions which would not reasonably be expected to be funded as part of business-as-usual and/or develops innovative enablers which accelerates practice beyond business-as-usual

• Set out the potential for adoption at scale across the water sector.
3. Capacity, capability and commitment to deliver

Strong entries will:

- Show commitment to the entry
- Be delivered by a team with the relevant skills and experience
- Set out a realistic and achievable programme
- Demonstrate a realistic and considered costing which provides efficient use of customer funds
- Demonstrate a clear and proportionate approach to addressing risk
Water Breakthrough Challenge 3 - The assessment process

Entry → Technical Assessment → Judging → Ofwat Decision

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
Water Breakthrough Challenge 3 – Who can enter

Water Company or NAV in England & Wales* + Partner(s)

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
The **Terms and Conditions** remain the largely consistent with previous rounds of the Challenge, with exception of changes to Default IPR terms.

There are requirements regarding:
- Use of funding (how you use the funds)
- Open Data by Default
- 10% contribution
- Monitoring & reporting requirements
- Regulatory reporting
- Intellectual property rights (IPR)
- Publicity
- Conflicts of Interest
- Settlement Arrangement

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function.
Water Breakthrough Challenge – How to enter

Online Entry Form for both streams

Catalyst
1-Stage entry process
Closes 8 December
Deadline to book your pitch recording: 25 Nov at 5PM (GMT)

Transform
Stage 1 closes: 9 November
Stage 2 opens: 8 December
Stage 2 closes: 2 February
Deadline to book your pitch recording: 28 October at 5PM (GMT)

A summary of the entry process is available at:
waterinnovation.challenges.org/breakthrough3/get-involved/

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
Water Breakthrough Challenge – Support for your entry

For more information, visit:
waterinnovation.challenges.org/breakthrough3/entrant-support/

Webinars & Events
Entrant Handbook
One-to-One Surgeries
Entrant Support

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
Entrant support from Science Practice

Science Practice help funders identify important problems and design responsible and effective programmes to solve them.

Please submit your questions via the Zoom Q&A Function
Q&A
Any questions?

For more information about the Ofwat Innovation Fund, contact us:

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You can sign up for updates on the Fund at:
waterinnovation.challenges.org/newsletter
Thank you!