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MIT Solve 2025 Global Challenges: Application Questions

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Instructions

Thank you for applying to Solve's 2025 Global Challenges! We look forward to reviewing your solution. **Please read these instructions carefully before you begin your application. Before starting, you may also want to take this [quick eligibility quiz](#) to ensure that applying is a good use of your time.** Good luck!

Solution deadline

The deadline to submit your solution is Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 12pm (noon) Eastern Time. Please note the time – it is 12pm (noon) ET, NOT end of day.

Don't wait until the last minute to submit your application on the platform! It may be difficult for us to help you with technical issues if you request last-minute help. We do our best to help as many applicants as possible, but if we are not able to help before the deadline, your application will not be accepted. Late submissions are not accepted even if they're late because of technical issues, confusion about time zones, or connectivity problems.

What we're looking for

Solve seeks innovative, human-centered, tech-based solutions to our Global Challenges. Your solution will be judged based on the following criteria: Alignment with the Challenge, Potential for Impact, Feasibility, Innovative Approach, Inclusive Human-Centered Design, Scalability, Partnership Potential, and Technical Feasibility. Judging will take place over multiple rounds between April and August 2025.

Before you begin an application, be sure to review the FAQs on the challenge page for details on the types of solutions we accept and the criteria that judges use to score your application. You can also consult the [How to Apply](#) page for information about building your team and submitting your application.

If you or your organization has been selected as an Indigenous Communities Fellow or as a Solver for a Global Challenge in the past, you may still apply, but your solution must be new – it may not be the same solution that was previously selected by Solve. If you were selected as a winner for a Custom Challenge or as a Solv[ED] Innovator in the past, you're eligible to apply for the Indigenous Communities Fellowship or to a Global Challenge, even with the same solution.

MIT Solve is open to anyone in the world, with the exception of United States embargoed countries: US law prevents MIT Solve from accepting applications from people who are ordinarily resident in Iran, Cuba, Syria, North Korea, Crimea, Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic regions of Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus, or from parties blocked by the US Treasury Department.

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Tips for completing the application

Once you decide you would like to apply to Solve's 2025 Global Challenges, begin your application as soon as you can. In post-application surveys, most applicants reported that they spent several hours completing the application. Be sure to budget enough time to submit your application before the deadline.

Keep in mind that answers in your solution profile may become visible to the public if you advance in the selection process. Please only share information in your solution profile that you are comfortable publicly sharing.

Only some of the questions in the application are required, and they all appear in the Solution Profile and Solution Overview sections. You must answer all the required questions in order to submit your application, **but we strongly encourage you to complete the optional questions too** – applicants who answer all or most of the optional questions are more likely to be selected.

Recognize that word limits are limits, not requirements - you should use the fewest words you need to answer the question with sufficient detail.

If you have an unstable internet connection, you may wish to work offline using this list of questions, then copy-paste your answers into the application.

Guidelines for using [ChatGPT](#) and other generative AI tools as you write your application:
- We discourage using ChatGPT or other generative AI chatbots to write your application for you. Your application will sound impersonal or generic to reviewers, and this can strongly disadvantage your application in our selection process. We want to hear *your* passion for and perspective on your solution!
- However, ChatGPT and other generative AI chatbots may be able to assist you with initial drafts for some application questions. We suggest a few uses below. Don't worry if you cannot (or don't wish to) use these tools – we also provide links and help text that can assist you as you write.
- Always be sure to read and edit any answers that you receive from ChatGPT or another tool very carefully; these tools are experimental and sometimes unreliable (e.g. do not always get factual details correct, hallucinate sources etc.). The prompts we have provided below are not guaranteed to provide accurate responses!

Prompts to use with generative AI tools that may be helpful to you as you write your application:
- "I have written the following in answer to a question in an application about [topic]. Can you shorten my answer so that it's only 200 words?"
- "English is not my first language and I need help rewriting an application answer so that it is clear and grammatically correct. Here's what I've written so far: [answer]"

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- Getting more information about a concept mentioned in a question (we do not suggest using a chatbot as the sole source of information when doing research): "Can you tell me more about what a Theory of Change is and how I can make one for my organization?"

How to edit and submit your application

- Your application will save automatically as you answer questions.
- You can click ahead to see subsequent sections in the application without completing all prior questions.
- You can save and exit at any time (using the button which comes up in the top banner as you scroll down the page and at the bottom of the page).

You can **submit your application** by clicking SUBMIT SOLUTION.

- You must complete the required questions in the Solution Profile and Solution Overview sections in order to submit.
- Submit as soon as you are ready. We recommend submitting as soon as you have completed the required questions. You may log back in to edit your application, including adding your answers to the optional questions, at any time before the deadline.
- If you save your application but you do not click SUBMIT SOLUTION before the deadline, your application will not be considered. You must submit before the deadline: **April 17, 2025, at 12pm (noon) Eastern Time**. If you do not submit before the deadline, your application will not be considered.
- If your solution advances beyond the initial stages of the application process, your Solution Profile (the first page of questions and not the whole application) will be made visible on Solve's website.

You can **edit your submitted application** by logging back in and clicking on your solution in your Dashboard

- You can edit your application as often as you would like before the deadline.
- Click Save & Exit once you're done editing your submitted application.

Read through our How to Apply Guide for more details on how to create, save, submit, and edit a solution on Solve's platform.

Support with your application

If you don't already have a business and impact plan for your solution, that's okay. Take a look at the help text of the application questions for explanations of concepts, examples of successful answers, and even tools to help you craft your own answers. Not all application questions have help text, but many do!

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Solve staff will be available to answer questions about the Challenges and the application at several online application clinics during the application period. You can get more information and register on [Solve's Events page](#).

You may also consider taking Solve's online MITx course [Business and Impact Planning for Social Enterprises](#). The course introduces core concepts on business models and impact planning and is designed to help you write strong responses to Solve's application (and to applications for other challenges or competitions like Solve's). The course is self-paced and takes about 25 hours to complete.

September 2025: Solve Challenge Finals

If your solution is selected as a Solver team, your solution Team Lead must be available to attend Solve Challenge Finals in New York City in September 2025. Travel assistance is provided.

[CHECKBOX] I agree to [MIT Solve's Terms of Service](#), the [MIT Solve Media Release and License](#), and the [MIT Solve Privacy Policy](#). *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

[CHECKBOX] I confirm that I have not fabricated, exaggerated, or otherwise misrepresented the information in this application. If GenAI tools were used for writing, I confirm that I have checked the content and that it accurately reflects the *current* status of my solution. I am aware that including fabricated or misleading information in my application may lead to the removal of my solution from the Challenge. *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

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Select Your Challenge

Navigate to the open challenges page and select the 2025 Global Challenge to which you intend to apply. Once you select a Challenge, you won't be able to return to this page to change it. If you change your mind, you'll have to start a new application.

You are welcome to apply to more than one Challenge. However, Challenge alignment is critical to your application's success, so only apply to Challenges that are truly relevant to your solution.

If you choose to apply to more than one Global Challenge, please note: the same solution will not be selected for more than one Global Challenge. If your solution advances beyond the initial judging rounds in multiple Global Challenges, you will be asked to select one. Your application(s) to the other Global Challenge(s) will not advance to the next round.

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Page 1: Your Solution Profile

After selecting a challenge, you will be prompted to complete a Solution Profile. Your Solution Profile is an initial set of questions you will answer to provide basic information about your solution. If you proceed beyond the initial rounds of a challenge, this profile will be made public on our site. For future applications, you can re-use this profile as a starting point.

What is the name of your organization? *(Required)*

What is the name of your solution? *(Required) {Character Limit = 30}*
If you have a formal name for your solution, put that here. If not, use the name of your organization unless your solution is just a small piece of the organization's work, or the solution is a coalition between organizations that does not yet have a formal name. We recommend a length of 1-4 words. Example: in the title "Offline Squared: Project-based learning with Kolibri", ***Kolibri*** *is the name of the organization,* ***Offline Squared*** *is the name of the solution, and "Project-based learning" could be part of the one-line summary below.*

The name you provide will be used to refer to your solution on Solve's website, during the selection process, and, if you are selected, during your participation in Solve. Examples of solution names can be found [*here*](#)*.*

Provide a one-line summary or tagline for your solution. *(Required) {Character Limit = 150}*
Describe your solution in 10-20 words. This summary will be used to describe your solution on the Solve website and to refer to it during the selection process. Examples of one-line summaries can be found [*here*](#) *directly under each solution name.*

In what city, town, or region is your solution team headquartered? *(Required)*
Headquarters typically refer to the central location where the key managerial and administrative activities of the solution are coordinated. This is likely where the solution's senior team is based and, if applicable, where the organization is formally registered.

In what country is your solution team headquartered? *(Required)*
Please select from the dropdown menu. Some challenges specify that your solution must be headquartered in particular countries in order to be eligible - please check this before continuing. The list in the dropdown menu is sourced from the [*World Bank's list of Country and Lending Groups*](#)*. Per the World Bank, note that the term country, as used for purposes of this list, "does not imply political independence but refers to any territory for which authorities report separate social or economic statistics." MIT Solve is open to anyone in the world, with the exception of United States embargoed countries (Iran, Cuba, Syria, North Korea, Crimea area, Russia, and Belarus).*

What type of organization is your solution team?

Refer to [this link](#) for organization definitions.

- *For-profit, including B-Corp or similar models*
- *Nonprofit*
- *Hybrid of for-profit and nonprofit*
- *Not registered as any organization*
- *Other, including part of a larger organization (please explain below)*

[IF OTHER] If you selected Other, please explain here. *{Word limit = 100}*
For example, if your solution team is part of a larger organization, share the name of the larger organization and describe the relationship between your solution and that organization.

Film your elevator pitch.
Provide a Vimeo or YouTube video link pitching your solution (maximum 2-minute video). Your video doesn't need to be fancy—you can simply record yourself speaking into the camera of a smartphone. Though it's not required, a video will help our reviewers understand your solution. If you have a tangible product, we suggest that you demo it in the video. An example of a successful application and its video pitch can be found [here](#). Note: please ensure the video privacy settings are set to public.

What specific problem are you solving? *(Required) {Word limit = 200}*
Describe the specific problem within the Challenge that you are working to solve. What is the scale of the problem in the communities you are working in, and globally? How many people are affected? Which factors contributing to the problem relate to your solution? Include any relevant local or global statistics. If you're not sure where to start, take a look at these resources [here](#) and [here](#). You can also review answers from successful applications, [such as this one](#).

What is your solution? *(Required) {Word limit = 200}*
Describe your solution and how it works in simple terms. What is it? What does it do? Briefly describe how it works and what technology it uses. Be sure to use this space to talk about your solution, not the problem you are trying to solve. If relevant, share a link to a video of a product demo.

Who does your solution serve, and in what ways will the solution impact their lives? *(Required) {Word limit = 200}*
Describe the target population whose lives you are working to directly and meaningfully improve. Who are they, and in what ways are they currently underserved? How will the solution address their needs?

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Page 2: Solution Overview & Team Lead Details

Tell us about your solution. The Solution Profile and this page ("Solution Overview & Team Lead Details") are the only sections of the application with required questions. You must complete all the required questions and submit your application before the deadline (April 17, 2025, at 12pm (noon) Eastern Time) to be considered for the Challenge. We suggest submitting your application as soon as you complete the required questions so that you don't miss the deadline. You may log back in to add your answers to the optional questions at any time before the deadline.

You'll be asked this only for the Indigenous Communities Fellowship.

Which Indigenous community(s) does your solution benefit? In what ways will your solution benefit this community? *(Required) {Word limit = 200}*

Describe the target population whose lives you are working to directly and meaningfully improve. Who are they? What are you doing to understand their needs, and how are you engaging them as you develop the solution? How will the solution address their needs? Please note that strong preference will be given to Indigenous-led solutions that directly benefit and are located within the Indigenous community/communities the solution aims to benefit.

How are you and your team well-positioned to deliver this solution? *(Required) {Word limit = 300}*

We aren't looking for your academic or professional credentials here; we would like to understand your proximity to the communities *you are serving. How are the Team Lead and the team representative of these communities? How is the design and implementation of your solution meaningfully guided by the communities' input, ideas, and agendas? Strong responses will provide specific examples of how you have engaged with the target population, how many people you have engaged, and how these interactions have shaped your solution.*

Which dimension of the Challenge does your solution most closely address? *(Required)*
Select the dimension to which your solution is most aligned. If your solution is not aligned to any of the listed dimensions, select Other.

The table below sets out the dimensions for each challenge.

Global Economic Prosperity Challenge	- Enable universal access to financial services, including innovative fintech tools for banking, insurance, credit, instant payments, and asset ownership - Increase digital participation and security, including reliable connectivity and protected online spaces that safeguard civic participation, privacy, and digital identity - Expand workforce development, such as through skill-based training, employment matching, and career mobility programs, or worker safety and benefits, with an emphasis on underinvested populations. - Other
Global Health Challenge	- Ensure health-related data is collected ethically and effectively and that AI and other insights are accurate, targeted, and actionable in the real world. - Increase capacity and resilience of health systems, including workforce, supply chains, and other infrastructure. - Increase access to and quality of health services for all communities. - Other
Global Learning Challenge	- Increase access to quality learning experiences and materials, especially for those living in emergency and conflict-affected areas or with limited internet. - Improve engagement and enable better learning outcomes for those with disabilities and learning differences, while benefiting all learners. - Provide the skills that people need to thrive in a complex world, from problem-solving to AI literacy, with adequate training and support for educators. - Other
Global Climate Challenge	- Drive a shift towards a low-carbon and nutritious global food system, across large and small-scale producers plus supply chains. - Build zero-carbon and resilient cities, including through better construction or retrofitting of multi-family or commercial buildings, enabling non-car transportation, and managing extreme weather.

	- Enable rapid deployment of distributed renewable energy and adaptation measures, such as community-scale solar, ecosystem restoration, or cooling/dehumidification. - Strengthen a low-carbon blue economy, including sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, marine industry, or ecosystem conservation. - Other
2024 Indigenous Communities Fellowship	- Strengthen sustainable energy sovereignty and support climate resilience initiatives by and for Indigenous peoples. - Develop tools to promote Indigenous sovereignty, including the ethical use of AI and data technologies, culturally aligned digital infrastructure, or access to economic opportunity. - Drive positive outcomes for Indigenous learners of any age and context through culturally grounded educational opportunities - Other

Which of the UN Sustainable Development Goals does your solution address?
*Select all that apply. You can read more about the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals and how progress toward them is measured [here](). **(Required)***

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life On Land
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

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What is your solution's stage of development? *(Required)*

Review the definitions below and select the most appropriate stage for your solution. Be honest about your stage - we accept solutions across stages, including early-stage solutions; exaggerating your progress can affect your chances of selection.

- **Concept:** *An idea being explored and researched for its feasibility to build a product, service, or business model, including prototypes under development. Until the solution has a functioning prototype, we would still consider it a Concept.*
- **Prototype:** *An initial working version of a solution that may be in the process of getting initial feedback or testing with users (i.e. running a pilot). If for-profit, a solution that has raised little or no investment capital. Until the solution transitions from testing to consistent availability, we would still consider it a Prototype. (Often 0 users/direct beneficiaries)*
- **Pilot:** *The solution has been launched in at least one community, but is still iterating on design or business model. If for-profit, is generally working to gain traction and may have completed a fundraising round with investment capital. (Often 10+ users/direct beneficiaries)*
- **Growth:** *An established solution available in one or more communities with a consistent design and approach, ready for further growth in multiple communities or countries. If for-profit, has generally completed at least one formal investment round (Seed stage or later). If nonprofit, has an established set of donors and/or revenue streams.*
- **Scale:** *A standard solution operating in many communities or multiple countries and is prepared to scale significantly by improving efficiency. If for-profit, has likely raised at least a Series A investment round.*

What is your solution's stage of development? *(Required)*

Review the definitions below and select the most appropriate stage for your solution. Please note that MIT Solve is not able to support Concept-stage solutions, and therefore Concept-stage solutions will not be reviewed or selected as Solver teams. We hope that you will apply to a future Challenge when your solution is further developed. Be honest about your stage - we accept solutions across stages, including prototypes and pilots; exaggerating your progress can affect your chances of selection.

- **Concept:** *An idea being explored and researched for its feasibility to build a product, service, or business model, including prototypes under development. Until the solution has a functioning prototype, we would still consider it a Concept.*

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- **Prototype:** *An initial working version of a solution that may be in the process of getting initial feedback or testing with users (i.e. running a pilot). If for-profit, a solution that has raised little or no investment capital. Until the solution transitions from testing to consistent availability, we would still consider it a Prototype. (Often 0 users/direct beneficiaries)*
- **Pilot:** *The solution has been launched in at least one community, but is still iterating on design or business model. If for-profit, is generally working to gain traction and may have completed a fundraising round with investment capital. (Often 10+ users/direct beneficiaries)*
- **Growth:** *An established solution available in one or more communities with a consistent design and approach, ready for further growth in multiple communities or countries. If for-profit, has generally completed at least one formal investment round (Seed stage or later). If nonprofit, has an established set of donors and/or revenue streams.*
- **Scale:** *A standard solution operating in many communities or multiple countries and is prepared to scale significantly by improving efficiency. If for-profit, has likely raised at least a Series A investment round.*

Please share details about why you selected the stage above. *(Required) {Word limit = 200}*
What have you built and tested so far? Please focus this answer on what you've accomplished so far, not what you plan to do.

How many beneficiaries or customers does your solution currently serve? *(Required)*
The option you select here will not change your chances of being selected - we accept solutions across stages, including early-stage solutions. Be honest - exaggerating your progress can affect your chances of selection.

- 0
- 1-10
- 11-100
- 101-1,000
- 1,001 - 10,000
- 10,001 - 100,000
- 100,001+

Does your solution have a website, app, or social media handle? *(Required)*
- Yes
- No

[IF YES] Provide the link(s) here. *(Required)*
Websites that are consistently unavailable may result in a less competitive application.

[IF NO] Please provide another proof point that your solution is a genuine response to the challenge question. *(Required) [Upload type] [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

Possible proof points may include:

1. *A one-minute video demo of your solution*
2. *Proof of your solution's legal status as an incorporated business or registered nonprofit.*
3. *An organizational document such as an Memorandum of Understanding with a partner, or report about your solution's implementation/operations.*

Why are you applying to Solve? *(Required) {Word limit = 200}*

What specific financial, technical, legal, cultural, or market barriers that you face do you hope Solve can help you overcome, and how? Keep in mind: Solve aims to connect all Solver teams with partners who can help advance their solutions through monetary and/or non-monetary support. If your only goal in applying to Solve is to raise funds, Solve is not the right program for you! Review the [Become a Solver page](#) for more information about what selected Solver teams receive.

Who is the Team Lead for your solution? *(Required)*

Provide their name only. The person you identify should be the CEO or Executive Director of the solution organization. In some special cases, the Team Lead may be another member of the executive team. They should be the person who is responsible for the strategic direction of the solution. If your solution is selected as a Finalist, this person will be expected to pitch the solution and interview with judges in July over Zoom. If your solution is selected as a Solver, this person will be expected to attend Solve Challenge Finals in New York City in September and to be the lead participant in the Solver program.

Team Lead: Email Address *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

If you are selected as a Finalist, we will contact the team lead to confirm that you wish to continue moving forward in the competition. Because the timeline for confirmation is very short, please provide your contact details here to ensure that we can reach you or someone else on your team. Be sure to watch your email for a message from us in mid-July 2025.

Team Lead: Phone Number (including country code) *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

Backup Contact: Name *[Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

Backup Contact: Email Address *[Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

Backup Contact: Phone Number (including country code) *[Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

You'll be asked this only for the Indigenous Communities Fellowship.

Please indicate the tribal affiliation of your Team Lead.
If no tribal affiliation, please write in 'None'.

How is your Team Lead connected to the community or communities in which your project is based?
(Required)

Is the Team Lead a resident of the United States? *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*
We ask this question about your Team Lead to better understand our applicant pool and to fulfill some of our grant reporting requirements.
- *Yes*
- *No*
- *Prefer not to answer*

[IF YES] What is the Team Lead's race or ethnic group? Mark all that apply.
(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]
We ask this question about your Team Lead to better understand our applicant pool and to fulfill some of our grant reporting requirements.
- ❏ *American Indian or Alaska Native*
- ❏ *Asian*
- ❏ *Black or African American*
- ❏ *Hispanic or Latino*
- ❏ *Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander*
- ❏ *White*
- ❏ *Prefer not to answer*

You'll be asked this version of the question if you are an applicant for the Global Economic Prosperity Challenge, Global Health Challenge, Global Learning Challenge, or Global Climate Challenge.

[IF YES] Would you like to be considered for the Black & Brown Innovators in the US Program? *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*
In recognition of racial disparities among US communities, we will select solutions from across our 2025 Global Challenges that are focused on driving positive impact in Black and Brown communities in the US. If you select Yes for this question, you will be automatically considered – no additional application questions are required. Applicants who emphasize how they're thinking about racial equity in their work (for example, in

application questions about who the solution serves or why the team is well-positioned to deliver the solution) are more likely to be selected. If you are selected, you will receive additional coaching, resources, and partnership support. Learn more about the program here.

- *Yes*
- *No*

What is the Team Lead's gender? *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*
We ask this question about your Team Lead to better understand our applicant pool and to fulfill some of our grant reporting requirements.

- *Agender*
- *Genderqueer/Gender Fluid/Non-Binary*
- *Man*
- *Unsure/Questioning*
- *Woman*
- *Prefer Not to Answer*
- *Prefer to write in:*

Is the Team Lead transgender? *(Required) [FOR SOLVE USE ONLY]*
We ask this question about your Team Lead to better understand our applicant pool and to fulfill some of our grant reporting requirements.

- *Yes*
- *No*
- *Unsure/Questioning*
- *Prefer Not to Answer*

Have you or someone else from your organization ever been selected as a Solver for an MIT Solve Global Challenge or for the Indigenous Communities Fellowship? *(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

- Yes
- No

[IF YES] Explain what makes your solution different from when you or your organization was previously selected. *(Required) {Word limit = 200} [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*
If you or your organization has been selected as a Solver for a Global Challenge or for the Indigenous Communities Fellowship in the past, you may still apply, but your solution must be new – it may not be the same solution that was previously selected by Solve. Use this space to explain how this solution is different from last time.

Is your solution an active or past participant in another entrepreneurship network?
(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]
Entrepreneurship networks are business incubators, accelerators, venture capital programs, or fellowship programs that aim to help you grow your solution. This has no impact on the evaluation of your solution.
- Yes, this solution is already (or has been in the past) a part of other networks
- No, Solve is the first network joined

   [IF YES] Please share the names of the other entrepreneurship networks. *[Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

Did you take the MITx course "Business and Impact Planning for Social Enterprises?"
(Required) [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]
You do not need to take the MITx course to apply to Solve. This question helps us understand whether the course is a useful resource for applicants.
- *Yes, I completed the entire course*
- *Yes, I completed part of the course*
- *No, I didn't take the course*

How did you first hear about Solve? If you heard about us through a network/mailing list, please let us know so we can thank them. *{Character Limit = 150} [Not Publicly Viewable: for internal use only]*

Page 3: More About Your Solution

What makes your solution innovative? *{Word limit = 300}*
Describe how your solution approaches the problem in a new or significantly improved way. How is it distinct from others using a similar technology or approach? How could it catalyze broader positive impacts from others in this space? How could it change the market/landscape?

Describe in simple terms how and why you expect your solution to have an impact on the problem. *{Word limit = 300}*
This is called a theory of change or logical framework, and it should link your activities to immediate outputs and longer-term outcomes for your target population. In addition to illustrating logical links between activities, outputs, and outcomes, a strong theory of change provides evidence to support the existence and strength of those links, such as third-party research, findings from a process or impact evaluation, data from interviews with your target population, etc. If you're unsure how to answer this question, start by following these guidelines or enroll in our online course.

Describe the core technology that powers your solution. *{Word limit = 300}*

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We define technology broadly as the application of science and evidence-based knowledge to the practical aims of human life. For MIT Solve and our mission to drive innovation to solve world challenges, it's important that your solution uses technology to solve a problem facing your community and/or the world, and that it seeks to benefit people and the planet. We welcome solutions that are using apps, SMS technology, software, AI, robots, drones, blockchain, and virtual reality, and what you might commonly think of as technology in this modern era! We also welcome solutions that are leveraging traditional, ancestral, and natural technologies and knowledge systems. That could be using centuries-old irrigation or building techniques, plant-based solutions that can reduce the effects of climate change, biodegradable sanitary pads, and so much more.

Which of the following categories best describes your solution?
A new technology
A new application of an existing technology
A new business model or process that relies on technology to be successful

> **[IF A NEW TECHNOLOGY] How do you know that this technology works?** *{Word limit = 300}*
> *Since you have developed a new technology, please provide evidence that it works. Consider providing a link to an academic paper or some other form of publicly available evidence.*

Please select the technologies currently used in your solution:
- *Ancestral Technology & Practices*
- *Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning*
- *Audiovisual Media*
- *Behavioral Technology*
- *Big Data*
- *Biomimicry*
- *Biotechnology / Bioengineering*
- *Blockchain*
- *Crowd Sourced Service / Social Networks*
- *GIS and Geospatial Technology*
- *Imaging and Sensor Technology*
- *Internet of Things*
- *Manufacturing Technology*
- *Materials Science*
- *Robotics and Drones*
- *Software and Mobile Applications*
- *Virtual Reality / Augmented Reality*

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In which countries do you currently operate?
Please select from the picklist. The list in the dropdown menu is sourced from the [World Bank's list of Country and Lending Groups](#). Per the World Bank, note that the term country, as used for purposes of this list, "does not imply political independence but refers to any territory for which authorities report separate social or economic statistics."

Which, if any, additional countries will you be operating in within the next year?
You do not need to re-list the countries where you are currently operating.

In which parts of the US and/or Canada do you currently operate?

Which, if any, additional parts of the US or Canada will you be operating in within the next year?
You do not need to re-list the parts of the US and Canada where you are currently operating.

Page 4: Your Team

How many people work on your solution team? *{Word limit = 100}*
Please provide separate numbers for full-time staff, part-time staff, and contractors or other workers.

How long have you been working on your solution? *{Word limit = 100}*
Please provide the number of years you, your team, or your organization have been working on your solution.

Tell us about how you ensure that your team is diverse, minimizes barriers to opportunity for staff, and provides a welcoming and inclusive environment for all team members.
{Word limit = 300}
Use this space to share about the diversity of your leadership team, your team's goals for becoming more diverse, equitable, and inclusive, and/or actions you've taken to achieve those

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goals. You may find the following definitions of diversity, equity, and inclusion useful: diversity is the social, cultural, and identity-based human attributes represented within a group; equity is access to opportunity and advancement for all members of a group, and is distinct from equality and fairness (equitable environments address disparities and strive to eliminate unique and systemic barriers that have prevented the full participation of marginalized groups); and inclusion is the act of creating environments in which all members of a group are welcomed, respected, supported, and valued.

Page 5: Your Business Model & Funding

What is your business model? *{Word limit = 300}*
Your business model describes how you provide value to the populations you serve. Think about your key customers and beneficiaries. What products or services do you provide them? How do you provide these products or services? Why do they want or need them? If you're unsure how to answer this, start by completing the Social Business Model Canvas *or enroll in our* online course.

Do you primarily provide products or services directly to individuals, to other organizations, or to the government?
- *Individual consumers or stakeholders (B2C)*
- *Organizations (B2B)*
- *Government (B2G)*

What is your plan for becoming financially sustainable, and what evidence can you provide that this plan has been successful? *{Word limit = 300}*
Explain how you are bringing/will bring in money to fund your work, whether through sustained donations and grants, selling products or services, service contracts to governments, raising investment capital, or a combination of all. In the long term, your revenue streams should cover your expected expenses. To see some examples, take a look at these common revenue models*.*
Also, provide examples of how your plans to fund your work have been successful to date: examples may include grants that you have received, revenue you have generated, or investment funding you have raised. We understand that some financial information may not be shareable, but any specifics you can provide (such as funder names or monetary amounts) is helpful to the judges as they assess the potential for success of your solution.