

ELIGIBILITY

The NCIC Gauteng Smart Mobility Cleantech Challenge is open to a wide range of innovators who meet the following specific criteria. We encourage applications from diverse backgrounds and geographies, provided the core requirements are met.

1. Solution Type: Digital-Only Cleantech

- **Core Requirement:** Solutions must be software-based, data-driven, or digital platforms. This can include, but is not limited to, scalable software platforms, data analytics models, and mobile applications.
- **Environmental Focus:** As a cleantech challenge, your solution must demonstrate a clear, measurable environmental benefit, such as reducing emissions or promoting sustainable energy use in transport.
- **Hardware Exclusion:** This challenge will not consider hardware-centric innovations. This includes the design or manufacturing of physical vehicles, charging station hardware, or road sensors.

2. Development Stage: Post-Proof-of-Concept

- **Readiness:** Solutions must have completed proof-of-concept (PoC) development and be ready for pilot implementation in an urban transportation context. The fundamental technology must be tested and validated.
- **Exclusions:** We are not looking for early-stage ideas, academic research projects, or solutions that are pre-proof-of-concept.

3. Founder and Company Profile

- **Founder Commitment:** The founder or a key member of the leadership team must be working full-time on the venture or be willing to commit full-time for the duration of the challenge.
- **Company Stage:** We welcome applications from early-stage to growth-stage companies from around the world.

4. Market and Contextual Fit

- **Geographic Focus:** While applications are open globally, all proposed solutions must be directly applicable to smart mobility for the movement of people and goods within Gauteng.
- **Local Understanding:** Applicants must demonstrate a nuanced understanding of Johannesburg's unique transport landscape, including the informal economy.
- **Resilience:** Business models must be adaptable and resilient to the specific infrastructural and socio-economic realities of Gauteng.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT | INCUBATION | MARKET ACCESS

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