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Rules

1. Pacific Dataviz Challenge Organisers

This competition will be organised by the Pacific Community (SPC)

- Hereinafter referred to as “the Organiser”.

2. Purpose of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge

a. Background to the Pacific Dataviz Challenge

The Pacific Community (SPC) will organise the fourth Pacific Dataviz Challenge.

The challenge will take place **from 1 June 2025 to 31 July 2025** and aim at improving data access, sharing and use in the Pacific and highlighting innovative dataviz productions.

b. What is a dataviz?

Dataviz is short for “data visualisation”.

It consists of representing raw and often unintelligible data in a more graphic and ergonomic manner for decision-makers and end-users, by transforming the information into objects, such as dots, bars, curves, maps and infographics, etc. By combining aesthetics with simple features, dataviz aims to illustrate seemingly complex information and highlight correlations that would otherwise be difficult to visualise in raw data tables. This saves considerable time and makes it a powerful means of communicating: a real asset for decision-makers who will be able to use it to simulate and model facts so as to make better decisions.

c. Pacific Dataviz Challenge objectives

The Pacific Dataviz Challenge is an excellent opportunity for anyone who is interested in Pacific data to take up the challenge and stand out from the crowd by putting their skills to good use so as to create ways of visualising data in an innovative, creative, aesthetic and impactful manner that would illustrate data from a fresh angle by making them tell a story, which would help us better understand our world.

3. Contest participation terms and conditions

Duly registered persons in the Pacific Dataviz Challenge shall hereinafter be called “Contestants” or “the candidates”.

a. Contestant eligibility

The Pacific Dataviz Challenge is open to private individuals of all ages regardless of their country of residence.

Members of the Jury and persons involved in organising the competition, as well as their close relations (spouses, ancestors, descendants and first-degree relatives), shall be ineligible to compete in the contest as candidates.

b. Registration terms and conditions

Contestants shall register by filling in the registration form available on the [Pacific Dataviz Challenge](#) website.

They shall submit their applications **no later than 11 pm (GMT+11, Pacific/Noumea time) on 31 July 2025**.

Individuals or teams. Candidates, whether professional or amateur, may take part either individually or as part of a group.

Teams shall be grouped under a single application: it shall be incumbent upon the team to organise itself around a single entry made by the “team contact person”.

Number of registrations allowed

1. Each individual candidate may submit a single entry for each of the contest categories (see 4.c. of these rules: Dataviz categories), i.e. “Static Dataviz” and “Interactive Dataviz”. In other words, any individual candidate may submit up to two entries in total: one under each category.
2. Each team may submit a single entry for each of the competition categories, i.e. “Static Dataviz” and “Interactive Dataviz”. In other words, any team may submit up to two entries in total: one under each category.
3. An individual candidate may also be part of a team. In other words, an individual candidate who is also part of a team may submit up to four entries in total, i.e. two as an individual candidate and two as part of a group.

Contestants under the age of 18. When registering by using the registration form, each candidate under the age of 18 shall attach a written parental consent form (downloadable from the [Pacific Dataviz Challenge website](#)).

Language. The entry form shall be completed in English or French.

Acceptance of the rules. Upon registration, each Contestant shall be required to read and unconditionally accept these rules so that his or her application may be approved.

c. Registration fees

Participation in the Pacific Dataviz Challenge shall be free of charge for all Contestants.

As participation in the Challenge is entirely voluntary, no Contestant may, therefore, request a consideration for his or her participation. Any fringe expenses relating to participation in the contest, such as software licence or solution hosting fees shall be borne by each Contestant. No expenses shall be refunded.

d. Procedure for assessing applications

The Organisers hereby reserve the right to reject any Contestant's application that does not meet all the eligibility criteria and other requirements for Contestants.

Incomplete or late applications shall not be accepted. Any false or misleading statements or fraud, e.g. plagiarism or dataviz generated by artificial intelligence, etc., shall result in candidates' being disqualified.

After submitting an application using the [online form](#), each candidate shall be forwarded an electronic acknowledgement of receipt notifying him or her that the form has been duly received.

If necessary, the Organisers may request candidates to provide further details or supporting documents regarding their applications.

4. Contest principles

a. Language used

The dataviz developed shall necessarily be in the English or French language.

Candidates shall also be capable of understanding and answering questions from the Jury in French or English.

b. Pacific Dataviz Challenge theme

For this fourth edition of the Challenge, the dataviz shall be consistent with a theme, which shall be publicly announced on the website **at 12 p.m. on 1 June 2025 (GMT+11, Pacific/Noumea time)**. Contestants shall, therefore, use at least one dataset proposed by the Organisers (see article 4. d) of these rules: Data to be used).

c. Dataviz categories

Two dataviz categories shall be accepted:

- **Static dataviz:** this provides a graphical representation of the data in picture or poster form.
- **Interactive dataviz:** this consists of offering a graphical representation with additional information that can be accessed using dynamic functions such as clicking, filtering, zooming, hovering over visuals and scrolling. An interactive dataviz can be a dashboard, animation or video.

d. Data to be used

Contestants shall use one or more datasets from the selection of datasets on the open data platforms specified by the Organisers and provided at the time of the challenge.

A list of such datasets shall be made public on the website **at 12 p.m. on 1 June 2025 (GMT+11, Pacific/Noumea time)**.

Other datasets may be used, provided they are accessible through open data platforms.

All dataset sources shall be cited in the dataviz.

All Contestants shall accept the licences pertaining to each dataset used and unconditionally accept the terms and conditions thereof.

e. Dataviz tools

Contestants may use all the tools they wish in order to explore the data and submit a visual representation based on graphs and/or charts or other illustrations. They may also carry out any type of calculation based on the dataset(s) that they select. They shall list the tools used to develop their dataviz entries on the registration form.

f. Problem statement

All Contestants shall explicitly state a problem that their Dataviz addresses. They shall explain it in a few sentences in the “Describe your dataviz” field of their registration forms.

g. Dataviz format

The Dataviz may be submitted in one of the following two formats:

- **Static dataviz:** this shall be in PDF format or a high-quality image format. It shall be uploaded to the registration form (maximum size: 100 MB).
- **Interactive dataviz:** this shall be available online as a URL specified by the candidate.

Candidates submitting an interactive dataviz shall ensure it is accessible online for at least the time required by the Jury to assess it and award prizes. Contestants shall provide the source codes to the Organisers so that the latter may publish the dataviz permanently online.

h. Dataviz licence

All Contestants hereby undertake to deliver their dataviz entries under open licences that meet the standards of the Open Definition (<https://opendefinition.org/>).

i. Originality

All dataviz entries to the Pacific Dataviz Challenge shall be original creations specially developed for this competition. No previous work or projects, whether published or previously shared, shall be accepted.

5. Selection process and prizes

a. Jury

The submissions shall be assessed by a jury selected by the Organisers. The public figures on the Jury may neither compete in the Pacific Dataviz Challenge nor assist any of the Contestants.

Contestants shall acknowledge that the Jury is sovereign and its decisions shall therefore be final. The Jury shall not be required to justify its decisions. Contestants

hereby expressly agree not to dispute jury appointments, decision processes or decisions.

The Jury reserves the right to exclude Contestants who do not comply with these rules.

b. Selection criteria

Submissions shall be assessed based on various criteria, including the following (not listed by order of importance):

- Storytelling: relevance of the story to the problem addressed
- Design
- Innovativeness
- Technique

c. Prizes and awards

After the jury has deliberated, six cash prizes shall be awarded.

Three prizes in the Interactive Dataviz category:

- Open Prize (International): USD 3000
- Pacific Prize: USD 3000
- Pacific Youth Prize: USD 1500

Three prizes in the “Static Dataviz” category:

- Open Prize (International): USD 3000
- Pacific Prize: USD 3000
- Pacific Youth Prize: USD 1500

The winners for these two categories will be selected as follows:

Open prize (international): USD 3000

The aim of the prize is to provide a platform for acknowledging international talents. The prize shall be awarded at the discretion of the sovereign Jury for the most inspiring and innovative dataviz, submitted by an individual or a team regardless of the age, nationality or residence of the entrant(s). **All candidates are competing for the Open prize by default.**

Pacific prize: USD 3000

The aim of the prize is to provide a platform for acknowledging emerging talents in the Pacific region, while encouraging the economic and social development of small island communities. The prize shall be awarded at the discretion of the sovereign Jury for the most inspiring and innovative dataviz, submitted by an individual or a team who identify



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as belonging to a Pacific community on the entry form. This prize shall not be combined with the Open or Pacific Youth prizes.

Pacific Youth Prize: USD 1500

The aim of the prize is to encourage and recognise innovation and emerging talents in the Pacific region, specifically among young people under the age of 26 (born after 2000). By offering this opportunity to people under the age of 26, the competition aims to stimulate creativity and foster the development of data visualisation skills in the region. The prize shall be awarded at the discretion of the sovereign Jury for the most innovative dataviz submitted by an individual or a team of individuals who identify as belonging to a Pacific community on the entry form. In the case of a Team submission, all entrants must be under the age of 26 (born after 2000). This prize cannot be combined with the Open or Pacific prize.

At its sole discretion, the jury may award special distinctions to one or more entries that demonstrate outstanding originality, creativity, or impact, even if not selected as a winner.

Prizes shall not be transferable, nor shall they give rise to any dispute whatsoever or be exchanged or refunded for any reason. No claim of any sort shall, therefore, be entertained. If a Contestant is unwilling or unable to take possession of his or her prize, he or she shall not be rewarded.

If the winner is under the age of 18 as on 1 June 2025, the prize shall be awarded to the legal representative who signed the parental consent form allowing such minor to compete.

d. Prize-giving ceremony

The prize-winners shall be made public at a prizegiving event to be held on **Thursday, 18 September 2025** in Noumea, New Caledonia. The prize-winners shall be notified of their prize during such event.

The names of the prize-winners (with the titles, descriptions, links to and screenshots of their dataviz entries) shall be posted on the Pacific Dataviz Challenge website.

6. Schedule

The Pacific Dataviz Challenge shall take place according to the following schedule:

Dates	Key item
2 June 2025 at 8 am (GMT+11, Pacific/Noumea)	Challenge launch Registration opens
31 July 2025 at 11 pm (GMT+11, Pacific/Noumea)	Registration closes Any entry received after this date shall not be eligible to compete in the challenge
1 August to 17 September 2025 (*)	Jury deliberations
18 September 2025 at noon (*) (GMT+11, Pacific/Noumea)	Award ceremony

(*) Provisional dates, subject to change

The Organisers reserve the right to change any date in the organisation of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge (see 8. Organisers' Undertakings).

7. Undertakings by Contestants

a. Guarantees and liability

Contestants hereby undertake to provide true and sincere information about themselves in their Pacific Dataviz Challenge application forms. They hereby solemnly vouch that the information they provide is true and accurate. Any inaccuracies or omissions that may lead to an erroneous judgment shall result in the cancellation of a Contestant's participation in the Challenge. Contestants hereby undertake to authorise the posting of their dataviz entries on the dedicated Pacific Dataviz Challenge website for not less than one (1) year.

Contestants shall be solely liable for their hardware and software, which shall remain in their custody, and for any damage such hardware and software may sustain as part of the Pacific Dataviz challenge.

Contestants hereby undertake to comply with requirements for the use of data made available to them on the Organisers' open-data platforms and shall be solely liable for any claims by third parties resulting from any non-compliant use of such data or metadata.

Contestants hereby declare and warrant to the Organisers that they either hold all the intellectual property rights relating to the productions making up the dataviz developed by them as part of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge and the related documents or that they are duly authorised to act for and on behalf of the other right holder(s) of the project and related documents. Contestants shall hold the Organisers harmless with regard to any action by third parties related thereto and hereby acknowledge that they have been notified that Contestants shall be solely liable for any breach of this obligation to hold the Organisers harmless.

Contestants hereby forego any legal remedy against the Organisers regarding the organisation, process or outcomes of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge. Contestants shall be solely liable for any damage or injury caused by them or their hardware to any goods or persons as part of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge and shall see to it that they are covered by their own insurance.

b. Confidentiality

Pacific Dataviz Challenge Contestants hereby undertake to refrain from disclosing any confidential information that may come to their knowledge as part of this contest.

If any communication becomes strictly necessary for the purposes of assessing a Contestant's project, the Organisers hereby warrant under these rules that such persons as may have knowledge of any confidential information regarding such project shall in turn be required to maintain the confidentiality thereof.

Contestants hereby undertake on behalf of themselves and any persons working with them on a team submission to refrain from obtaining information, whether confidential or not, regarding the other Contestants. Contestants hereby agree to take all the necessary measures to ensure that any data that may be made available to them are protected.

c. Intellectual property

Transfer of rights

All Contestants shall authorise the Organisers and producers of data used in developing their entries to reproduce, represent and adjust any dataviz they develop as well as the methodology note submitted as part of the contest without any consideration other than:

- credits acknowledging the Contestants on all representations of their entries, including any adjustments thereto; and
- any awards they may receive as prize-winners.

Reproduction shall mean the right to:

- reproduce the dataviz by any known or heretofore unknown electronic means including optical, magnetic or digital methods with a view to displaying it publicly online;

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- modulate, compress or decompress the dataviz so as to store, transfer or disseminate it or use it in any other manner;
- include the dataviz in the database or on a website;
- produce extracts from the dataviz.

Representation shall mean the right to:

- publicly display all or part of the dataviz anywhere in the world in the French language or any foreign language on any network for transmitting data, including digital network services, whether interactive or not, the Internet, websites, telecommunication networks, satellite networks and mobile telephone networks;
- use all or part of the dataviz on any network, be it a telecommunication or cable network or any interactive process inherent to such use; and
- the right to publish extracts from such dataviz.

Adjustment shall mean the right to:

- correct, improve and alter all or part of the dataviz;
- make any alterations required to exercise assigned rights;
- translate the dataviz into any language so as to reproduce or represent it;
- isolate the dataviz or one of its elements in order to use it; and
- convert the dataviz into another computer language.

Contestants, therefore, hereby permanently forfeit the following rights to any relevant media, technical procedures and formats, namely the right to object to:

- any reproduction of their dataviz or any incorporation thereof into a combined production;
- any creation or reproduction of derivative works based on the dataviz they produce;
- any distribution, copies or recordings of their dataviz;
- any presentation, representation or transmission of their dataviz in any form whatsoever;
- any extraction or re-use of substantial parts of their dataviz;
- any alteration of their dataviz for the purposes of re-using it; and
- any marketing of their dataviz or adaptations of their dataviz.

The Organisers and the producers of any data used hereby undertake to comply with the same open licence (cf. dataviz licence) for any reuse by them of Contestants' entries.

Reserved rights

All Contestants shall retain:

- the reproduction, representation and adjustment rights to the dataviz they develop and the methodology note submitted as part of the contest; and
- the right to market their dataviz.

Requirement

All Contestants shall, when communicating with third parties, mention the producers of the datasets used to develop their dataviz entries.

Contestants hereby declare that they hold the unrestricted and unconditional rights set forth in this Agreement and are legally competent. Contestants shall be solely liable for the content of the productions developed and transmitted as part of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge and hereby attest that such productions comply with currently applicable legislation with regard to the intellectual property rights of third parties.

d. Contestants' personal data

By registering online with a view to taking part in the Pacific Dataviz Challenge, Contestants hereby freely, specifically, and unequivocally grant their informed consent to the Organisers' collecting and processing the data provided in response to the application form. Such personal data are strictly necessary for taking part in the contest.

The Organisers shall process them electronically for the purposes of managing the administration of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge registrations, managing the relationship and contact with applicants, producing statistics on the makeup of the group of Contestants and forwarding practical information on Contestants or general organisation of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge.

As the persons responsible for overseeing such processing, the Organisers hereby undertake to refrain from processing the data in any manner that is incompatible with such predetermined, explicit and legitimate purposes. Such data shall be processed in a strictly confidential and transparent manner.

The data shall be held by the processing manager for five years after the competition closes.

As the processing manager, the Organisers hereby undertake to comply with the regulations applicable to them relating to the processing of personal data, specifically as regards the Pacific Community, in accordance with SPC's Data Privacy Policy.

In accordance with such applicable regulations, Contestants shall be entitled to access, rectify and object to such personal data processing. In order to exercise such rights, Contestants shall contact the Organisers at the following contact address: datavizchallenge@spc.int, indicating their given names, surnames and email addresses.

Such data are mandatory for the purposes of taking part in the Pacific Dataviz challenge. As a result, any Contestants exercising their right to object to the processing of their data prior to the end of the contest shall be deemed to have opted out of such contest.

For more information on the French Data Protection Act, Contestants may consult the [SPC Data Privacy Policy](#) and the [CNIL website](#).

e. Image rights

All Pacific Dataviz Challenge Contestants shall authorise the Organisers to take photographs and make sound and/or audiovisual recordings of their images and speech uttered as part of the contest.

They hereby undertake to authorise the Organisers and their partners, sponsors and media contacts to publish and broadcast their names, photographs and recordings on any medium, whether or not in the mass media, anywhere in the world for promotional purposes without creating any right to remuneration or compensation or any other right or advantage or consideration for one year following the prize-giving ceremony.

All Contestants hereby transfer free of charge to the Organisers with regard to their image rights and copyright to their speech, the right to reproduce and represent images and speech by means of photographs and recordings for non-commercial purposes.

If Contestants do not wish to appear in any photographs or recordings re-used by the organiser, they shall indicate this in writing to the Organisers before the end of the Challenge period.

The Organisers and their partners, sponsors and media contacts shall be authorised to disseminate on any medium the names of the prizewinners, titles of the dataviz produced and the descriptions and website links thereof and screenshots.

8. Undertakings by the Organiser

The Organisers hereby reserve the right to alter, postpone, bring forward, extend or cancel the Challenge unilaterally and at any time and Contestants may not claim any compensation as a result thereof.

The Organisers shall not provide any services or guarantees other than as provided for by article 5c) of these rules.

The Organisers shall not be held liable for any data relating to Contestants' registration that for any reason reach them in an illegible form or are impossible to process.

The Organisers hereby remind Contestants that the Internet has certain characteristics and limitations and hereby decline any liability for any incident occurring when Contestants connect to send in their submissions or applications or upload their dataviz to a hosting platform.

Contestants shall be entirely liable for their participation in the Pacific Dataviz challenge. During the challenge, all Contestants shall take all appropriate measures to protect their own data and/or source codes and/or software used and/or stored on their computer.

hardware from any damage. The Organisers shall not be held liable in this regard. The Organisers shall not be held liable for any contamination viruses or intrusion by a third party into the architecture used by Contestants.

9. Undertakings by the Prize-winners

Prize-winners, whether teams or individuals, shall each provide the details of a single bank account to the Organisers so that their prizes may be awarded to them.

If a Contestant under the age of 18 as on 1 June 2025 wins a prize, he or she shall provide the Organisers with the bank account details of his or her parents or legal guardians so that the prize may be awarded to him or her.

Prize-winners shall take note that the Organisers are unable to distribute a prize to several persons in the same team and, as a result, teams shall share any prizes entirely at their own discretion.

10. Acceptance of the Challenge rules

Merely by taking part in the Pacific Dataviz Challenge, Contestants indicate their full and unconditional acceptance of all these rules and any addenda hereto and that such documents constitute a contract between the Organisers and Contestants and a solemn commitment to guarantee that the information provided by the Contestants is true and accurate.

The Organisers shall not be held liable if these rules are amended for any reason whatsoever, even without prior notice. Any amendments shall be notified to Contestants on the website and the rules as amended shall automatically replace the previous rules. Any person rejecting such amendments shall be barred from the challenge.

11. Publication

The rules of the Pacific Dataviz Challenge may be viewed and downloaded from the challenge website: <https://pacificdatavizchallenge.org/#rules>.

12. Validity of these rules

If one or more provisions of these rules are rescinded or declared null and void, the rules as a whole and the individual provisions thereof shall continue in effect and such rescinding or voiding shall not affect the performance of the undertakings made by the parties hereto.

13. Applicable law and disputes

These rules are subject to such regulations as are applicable to the Pacific Community, particularly its internal regulations and the general principles of international law.

Any disputes that may arise as to the interpretation of these rules shall be expressly referred to the sovereign appreciation of the Organisers.

Any dispute arising between the Organisers and Contestants during the Challenge that cannot be settled out of court shall be submitted to arbitration.

None of the provisions of these rules may be construed as the express or tacit forfeiture of any of the privileges or immunities enjoyed by SPC in the fulfilment of its international mission.