Action With Africa Challenge Audit Guidelines 2025

Introduction

To support the integrity of the *Action With Africa Challenge* in 2025, Enactus Germany requires an audit of the winning teams selected through the final application on 6 May 2025.

The goal of the audit is to verify the data provided in the course of the *Action With Africa Challenge* application process by Enactus teams.

Audit Procedure

All winning Enactus teams will be audited against their submitted documents, including but not limited to the 1st Progress Report. They will need to upload references, emails, receipts and other relevant substantiation to a cloud storage provided by Enactus Germany.

The uploaded documents will be reviewed online and verified by independent third-party auditors. The process may be supervised by staff from the related Enactus Country Organization. Auditors appointed on behalf of Enactus Germany have the right to address questions to the Enactus project teams and request additional information at their discretion.

TOP 6

Enactus teams ranked within this bracket will need to pass a remote audit carried out by a thirdparty auditor by September 2025.

The audit process shall start after the announcement of the TOP 6 at the end of June and will be completed in October after the submission of the 2nd Progress Report. All TOP 6 Enactus teams will be asked to upload the relevant documents to a cloud storage provided by Enactus Germany ahead of the scheduled audit.

Scope of Audit

The audit will focus on various parts:

Legal Aspects

This check focuses on formal aspects including but not limited to verifying the existence of a business legal entity and bank accounts (if applicable).

Business Aspects

This check focuses on the submission documents, particularly the information specified in the 1st Progress Report.

All teams must prove that data, assumptions and information stated in the 1st Progress Report are correct or have been calculated correctly. The 1st Progress Report includes the following sections:

- **Needs Assessment**: The needs assessment shall prove that the team's business idea meets or creates demand of its target group. Enactus teams shall provide records and other materials used when having carried out the Needs Assessment.
- **Proof of Concept**: The business idea must have been tested and proven to work. Enactus teams must provide records and other materials used when having realized the Proof-of-Concept.
- **Business Model**: The auditors may ask questions to verify statements made about the chosen Business Model.
- **Unique Selling Point (USP)**: A strong USP is crucial to stand out from one's competitors. The auditors may ask questions to verify statements made about the USP.



- Financial Planning: Concerns the project's financial planning between 1 September 2024 and 30 April 2025, 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025 as well as a financial planning from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026. Enactus teams must provide accurate calculations, records of actual income and expenses as well as other documentation that prove the data stated in the submitted Progress Reports.
- Local Partnership: Teams working with an external partner organization need to explain who does what. The auditors shall verify the partner's existence, contributions made as part of the cooperation and check its integrity to receive payments on behalf of the Enactus team.
- **Job Creation**: Only report jobs that have been created within the designated periods. The auditors will check the job results against plausibility and request records as well as calculations provided by the Enactus team.
- **SDG Impact Metrics**: The project has to present and explain the impact on up to three SDGs. The auditors will check the reported SDG impact against plausibility and review records provided by the Enactus team.

Other aspects that may be addressed are:

- Operational aspects
- Conduct interviews with target groups, customers, partners and advisors.
- Check annual reports, e.g. of project partners and other third parties.

Award Payments

Enactus Germany reserves the right to:

- Split the transfer of the awarded project funding in two or more installments,
- Carry out a Due Diligence prior to payment of each installment,
- Audit the correct use and spending of the project funding after having issued any payment,
- Request reports on how the project funding has been used and which impact has been achieved.

How can a team fail the audit

Teams may not pass the audit, if there is a case of material infractions. Such material infractions could include, although are not limited to following:

- The Project never existed.
- The Project need has been exaggerated.
- Project results and outcomes have been exaggerated.
- Actions or outcomes taken by third-parties, presented intentionally as if they were taken by the team.
- Clear mismatch or gap between project beneficiaries, sponsors and team.
- The team has falsified information on team structure, membership or finances.
- Actions or outcomes from prior years presented intentionally to mislead that they were achieved in current year.

Source: Enactus Competition Handbook 2024

Self-auditing Tips

Self-Auditing is an on-going process! As an Enactus team, this should be a natural phase of all your programmatic and operational activities:

- Do not wait until the end of the program year to audit yourself or prepare for the audit by your Enactus Country Office! Create an actual Audit Strategy.
- Take proactive measures in documenting your processes, systems, outcomes, etc.



- Consider appointing a member of your team with the task of managing all auditing
 procedures or request that a faculty person at your institution (preferably with
 auditing/accounting background) review your processes and lend advice on how to best
 prepare. You may also reach out to an external source in advance and ask for their
 expertise on how to best manage your self-audit.
- Inform your project beneficiaries (well in advance) that they may be subject to interview by the audit committee. This will avoid any challenges later when the audit is being implemented.

Source: Enactus Competition Handbook 2024

Contact <u>awa@enactus.de</u> in case you have any questions.

