



# OPENING THE FUTURE OF DESALINATION

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**XPRIZE**  
**WATER**  
**SCARCITY**

مبادرة محمد بن زايد للماء  
THE MOHAMED BIN ZAYED WATER INITIATIVE

للماء

# **XPRIZE WATER SCARCITY UPDATE**

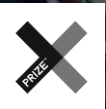
## **TRACK A: SYSTEM-LEVEL INNOVATION**



The mission of XPRIIZE is to inspire and empower humanity to achieve breakthroughs that accelerate

**AN EQUITABLE, ABUNDANT  
FUTURE FOR ALL.**





# COMPETITION & COLLABORATION LEADS TO INNOVATION

SET AUDACIOUS GOALS.

CROWD SOURCE VIABLE & SCALABLE SOLUTIONS.

FOSTER ECOSYSTEMS.

& ACCELERATES IMPACT

OUR WORK

## OUR 30 YEAR REACH AND IMPACT

**\$519M+**

Cumulative Prize Purses Launched

**30**

Prizes Launched

**88**

Prize Sponsorships

**\$268M+**

Awarded Prize Purse

**9,175**

Patents Filed by XPRIZE Teams

**360+**

Prize Partners

**\$236M+**

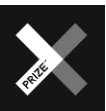
Currently Available in Prize Awards

**592**

Trademark Filings by  
XPRIZE Teams

**1,046**

Research Publications Citing  
XPRIZE Competitions & Teams



# OUR COMPETITORS SPAN GLOBALLY

**35,000 COMPETITORS**

**10,600 TEAMS**

**173 COUNTRIES**



# CORE PROBLEMS OF SEAWATER DESALINATION

- Unaffordable for low- to medium-income communities
- Advancements are increasingly incremental and marginal
- Complex and vulnerable operations
- Unsustainable lifecycle



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## **\$119M Competition to Revolutionize Seawater Desalination Technologies**

- **Innovative Breakthroughs:** Drive reliable, affordable, and sustainable technologies
- **Widespread Access:** Deliver clean water globally, to help tackle water scarcity
- **Environmental Protection:** Preserve marine life, reduce energy use, ensure brine resource recovery and minimize environmental impact
- **Operational Excellence:** Maintain uptime, simplify maintenance, and build system resilience







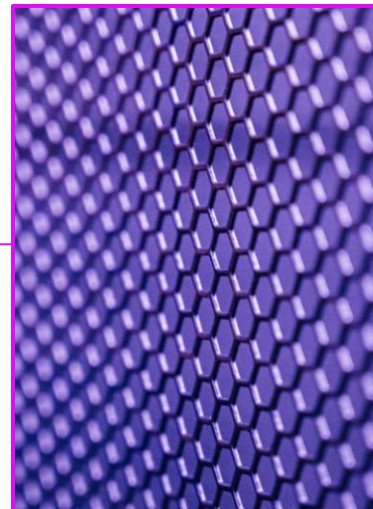
# TWO WAYS TO COMPETE

## TRACK A



**DESALINATION:  
SYSTEM-LEVEL  
INNOVATION**

## TRACK B

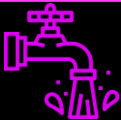





**DESALINATION:  
NOVEL MATERIALS  
AND METHODS**



# DESALINATION: SYSTEM-LEVEL INNOVATION (TRACK A)

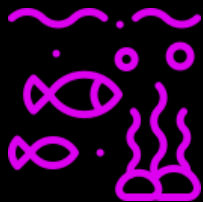
The **Winning Team** will reliably and most sustainably generate one million liters of potable water per day (1,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day) from seawater at the lowest cost to ensure global accessibility, over the course of one year.

REQUIRED MAIN GOALS	
	<b>Flow &amp; Quality:</b> Delivers a flow of 1,000 m <sup>3</sup> /d (1.0 MLD) while meeting WHO standards for drinking water.
	<b>Cost:</b> Achieves the lowest cost based on Cost of Water model scenario analysis, covering capital costs, one-year operating costs, and 3–5 years of projected costs.
	<b>Sustainable and Reliable Operation:</b> Emphasizes environmental responsibility while ensuring uptime, easy maintenance, and resilience.
	<b>Global Accessibility:</b> Demonstrates the solution's potential for global impact through an analysis of the total addressable market and achievable lowest cost.

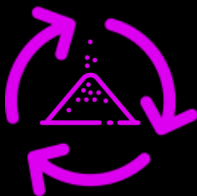


# TRACK A - ADDITIONAL AWARDS (MOONSHOTS) FOR BREAKTHROUGHS

Recognize bold innovations in **sustainable** and **environmentally** responsible desalination,  
awarded in the **Semifinals** and **Finals**



**MARINE-FRIENDLY  
INTAKE DESIGN**



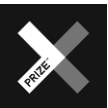
**RESOURCE  
CIRCULARITY  
AND BRINE  
MANAGEMENT**



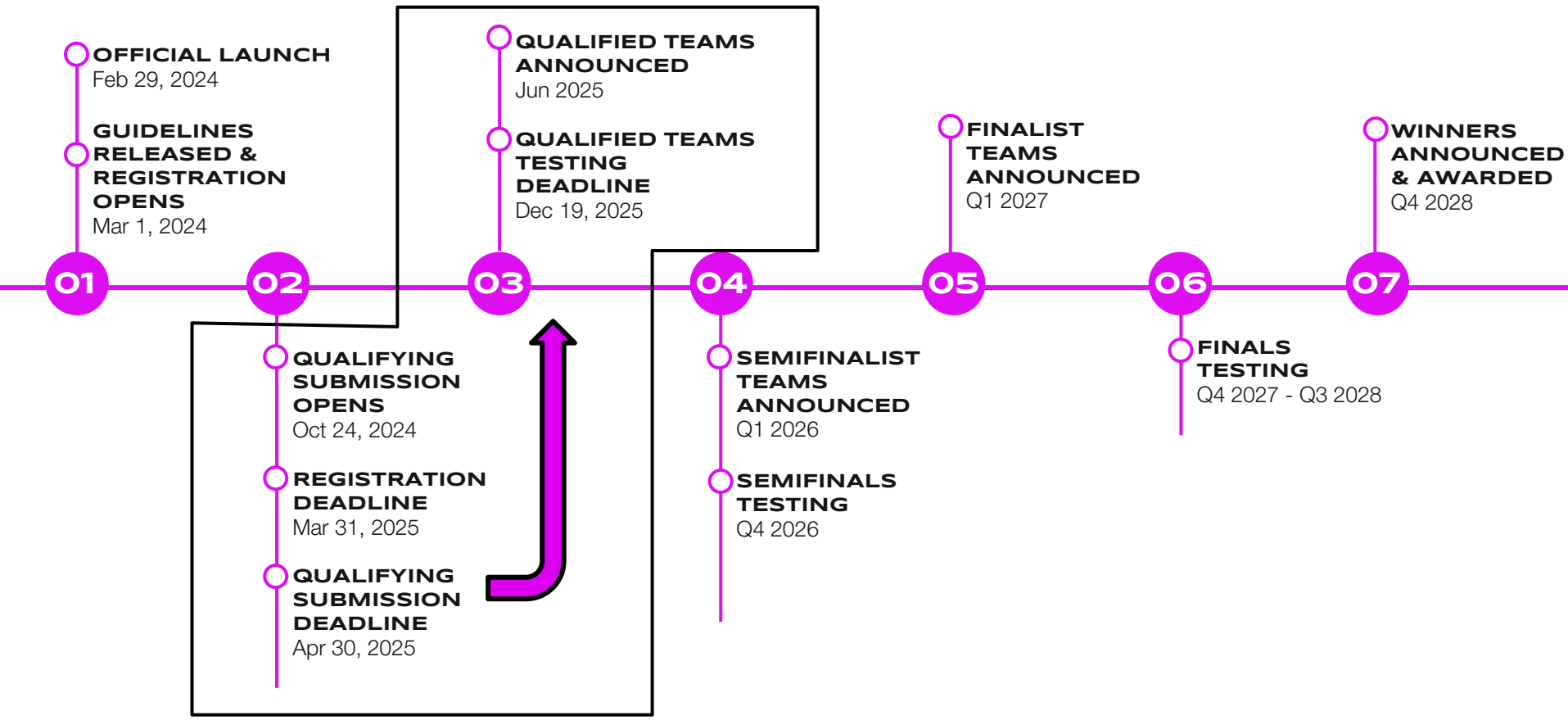
**ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY  
STEP CHANGE**



**MINIMAL  
PHYSICAL  
SYSTEM  
FOOTPRINT**



# TRACK A - SYSTEM-LEVEL INNOVATION TIMELINE

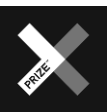






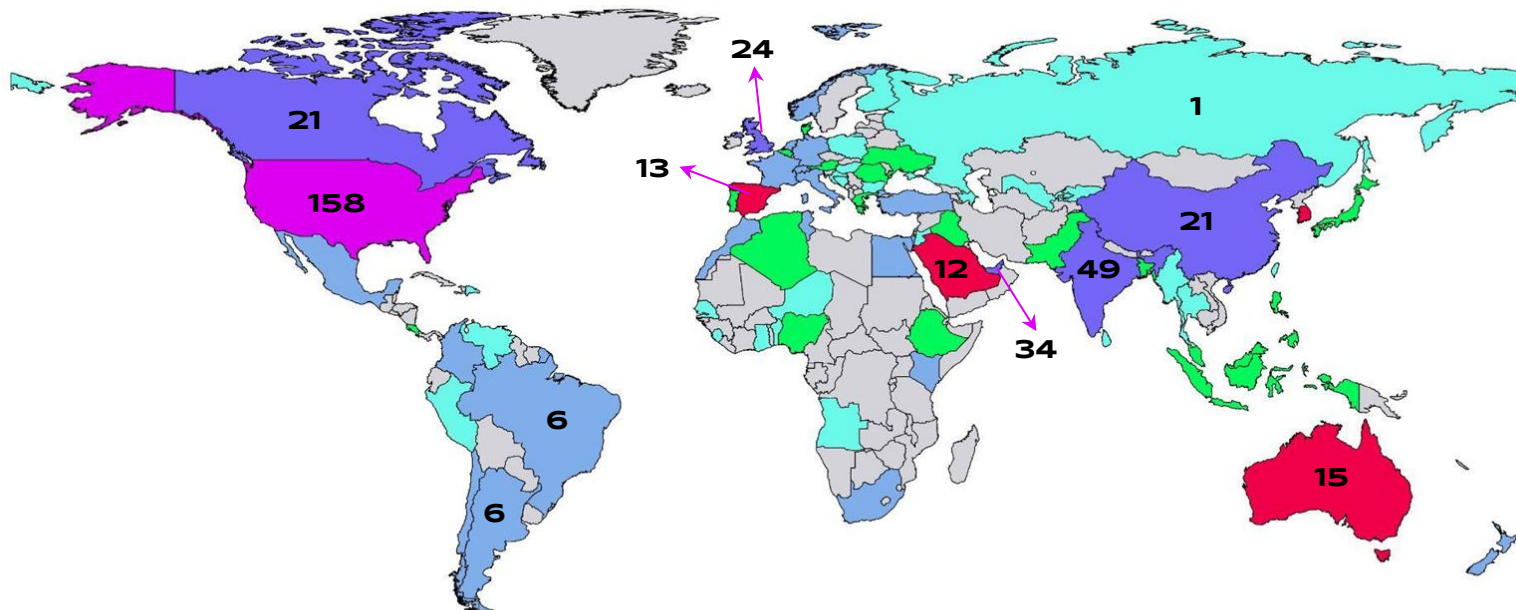
# PRIZE PURSE BREAKDOWN (TRACK A)

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	SUBTOTAL
First Place	\$40,000,000	1	\$40M
Second Place	\$20,000,000	1	\$20M
Third Place	\$10,000,000	1	\$10M
Moonshot Awards - <span>Finals</span>	\$3,000,000	4	<span>\$12M</span>
Moonshot Awards - <span>Semifinals</span>	\$2,000,000	4	<span>\$8M</span>
Finalists Milestones	\$2,000,000	5	\$10M
Semifinalists Milestones	\$250,000	20	\$5M
Qualified Teams Milestones	A total of \$3M will be distributed among all Qualified Teams. Teams that are Qualified as a Full System Team will be awarded a full share. Teams that are Qualified as a Component/Partial System Team will be awarded a 50% share.		\$3M
Track A Total Prize Purse			\$108M



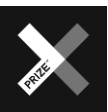
# PRE-REGISTERED TEAMS AT CLOSE OF MARCH 31, 2025

571 TEAMS / 750+ TEAM MEMBERS / 78 COUNTRIES

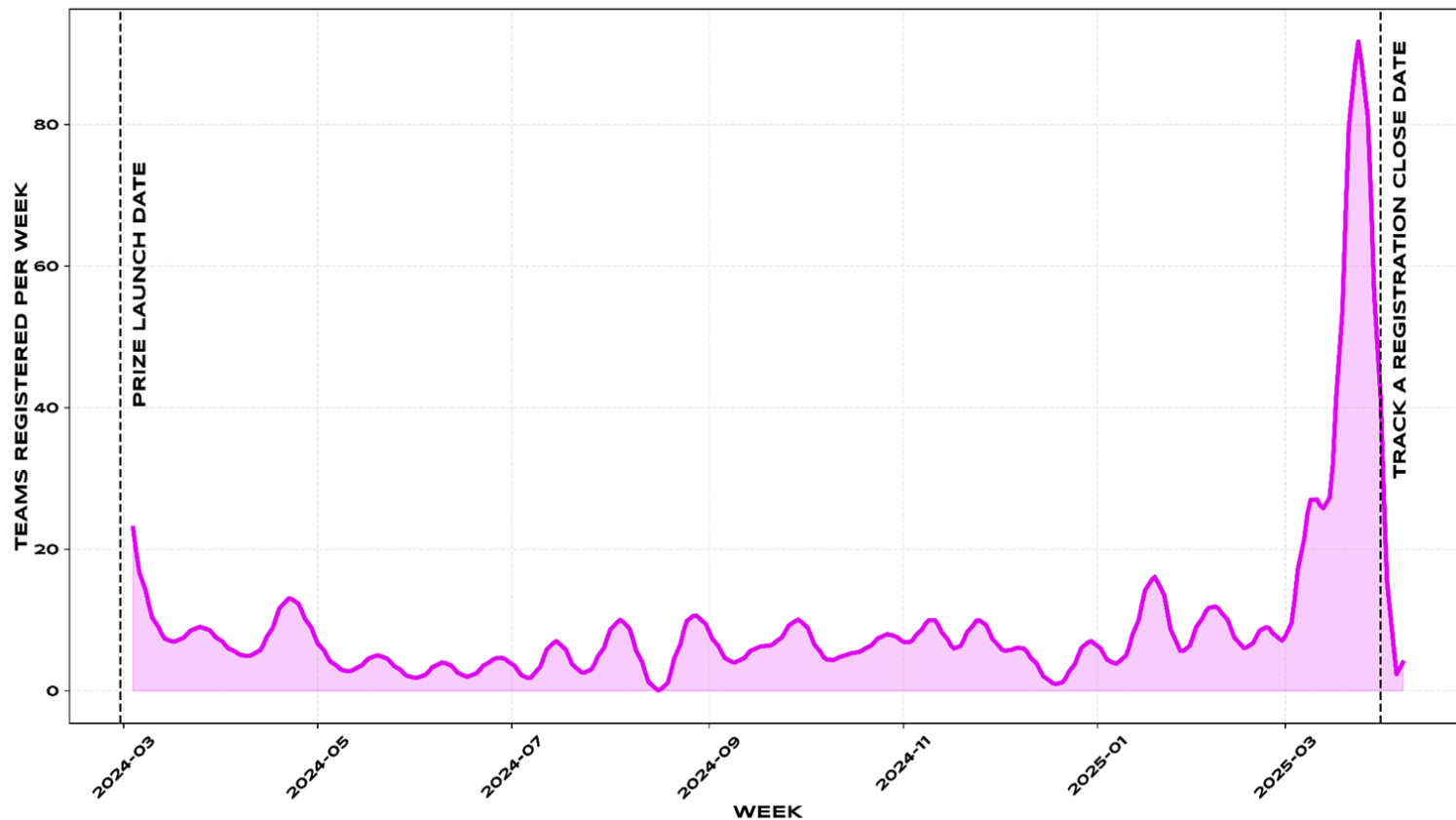


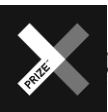
## NUMBER OF REGISTERED TEAMS





# PRE-REGISTERED TEAMS WEEK BY WEEK





# 151 REGISTERED TEAMS MAP

39 Countries | 6 Continents

**Africa:** 6 countries (8 teams)

**Asia:** 13 countries (46 teams)

**Europe:** 13 countries (30 teams)

**North America:** 2 countries (56 teams)

**South America:** 3 countries (4 teams)

**Oceania:** 2 countries (7 teams)

## NUMBER OF REGISTERED TEAMS

0 TEAMS

2 TEAMS

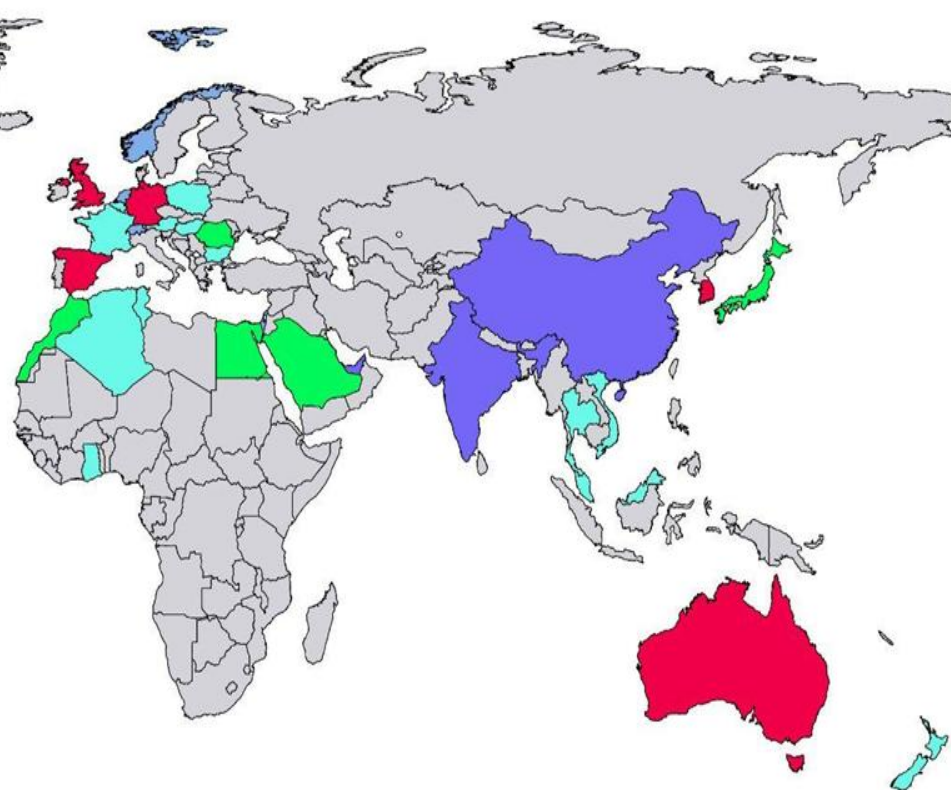
4-6 TEAMS

10+ TEAMS

1 TEAM

3 TEAMS

7-9 TEAMS







# WHAT'S NEXT & OPPORTUNITIES

- Become or join a team - **Track B Reg Closes May 31, 2025**
- Judge Track A: Qualifying Submissions
- Announce Qualified Teams June 2025
- Foster Team Matchmaking & Collaboration

## Support the Prize/Teams:

- Become a Prize Partner
- Become a Judge
- Join our ecosystem





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# JOIN THE \$119M WATER SCARCITY COMPETITION



[XPRIZE.org/water](https://XPRIZE.org/water)

