# "ODDO BHF YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS AWARDS" 2025 RULES

(hereinafter: "Rules")

## **ARTICLE 1 - ORGANIZATION OF THE CONTEST**

The contest is organized by **ODDO BHF SE**, a Societas Europeae incorporated under the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany with its registered office in Frankfurt am Main (hereinafter referred to as "**ODDO BHF**").

ODDO BHF has decided to organize another a contest for the year 2024/2025, entitled "ODDO BHF Young Entrepreneurs Awards" (hereinafter "OYEA" or the "Contest").

In course of this Contest, ODDO BHF will study the applications of the first one hundred and fifty (150) German speaking startups in the DACH region (Germany, Switzerland, Austria), received in accordance with the procedures described in Article 3 of the Rules.

## **ARTICLE 2 - CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION**

This Contest is open to any company (hereinafter referred to as the "Participant"), which (i) has been founded by individuals of legal age on or after 1 January 2021 (max. 3 years old), registered in the commercial register has taken place, (ii) the head office of the company is in Germany, Austria, or Switzerland and (iii) whose corporate purpose is not to offer innovative, technology-based application systems in the field of finance (so-called "FinTechs"). The prototype and business model must exist, and the first seed financing has taken place. The Participant must have been founded by a team of founders (companies founded by an individual founder are not allowed).

Participation in the Contest is free.

Participation in the Contest implies full and unconditional acceptance of the Rules.

## **ARTICLE 3 - TERMS OF PARTICIPATION**

Participants can exclusively participate in the Contest by sending an application file on the following electronic platform (hereinafter the "Platform"):

https://oyea.oddo-bhf.com/

between September 1, 2024, and October 31, 2024 (the "Closing Date").

Participation in the Contest is conducted as follows:

On the Platform, the Participant must (i) fill in all the fields of the questionnaire and (ii) transmit:

- a business plan or market study presenting the business model;
- the CVs of the founders.

## **ARTICLE 4 - DESIGNATION OF WINNERS**

Four (4) successive phases involving different juries will make it possible to select the four (4) winners (hereinafter the "Winners"), each of whom will be awarded one of the four (4) prizes set forth in Article 5 of the Rules while being clarified that, theoretically, one Participant can be awarded with more than one of the prizes set forth in Article 5 of the Rules.

- 1. **Phase of pre-selection**: All applications will be reviewed for completeness and detail at the end of the application phase in order to finally select the applications that will be submitted to the Expert Committees (phase 2 below).
- 2. **Selection phase:** The deliberations of the Expert Committees will begin on 15 November 2025. The ten (10) finalists will be selected in stages by 31 January 2025 at the latest.
- 3. **Presentation to the final jury**: between the selection phase and the award phase, the final jury will receive the ten (10) finalists Participants.
- 4. **Award Phase**: The ten (10) finalists will present their startups at the Awards Night. The JURY'S AWARD (as defined in Article 5 of the Rules), the SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD and the FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS AWARD (as defined in Article 5 of the Rules) will be awarded by the final jury and the PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD (as defined in Article 5 of the Rules) will be awarded by the public during the grand prize-giving evening to be held in March 19 2025.

The jury evaluating the Participants and the final jury will be made up of ODDO BHF employees, as well as well-known people from the world of entrepreneurship and business, selected at the discretion of ODDO BHF.

The selection of the ten (10) finalist projects will be based on the following criteria:

- i. ambition (value proposition, inclusion in major trends, long-term vision, ESG criteria);
- ii. positioning (analysis of the target market, interest of the market for the offer, viability of the business model over time);
- iii. innovation and know-how (expertise, creativity, unique technology);
- iv. leadership (founders' backgrounds, vision, motivation and integrity of the entrepreneurs); and
- v. financial projections (revenue and margins, cost management, personal investment, possible fundraising).

Each Winner will be informed directly by ODDO BHF at the latest during the Award Phase.

## **ARTICLE 5 - PRIZES**

The Contest is endowed with the following prizes, awarded as described in Article 4 of the Rules.

## List of prizes:

- 1. "JURY'S AWARD": rewarding the favorite of the final jury, composed of a panel of experts and endowed with an amount of twenty thousand euros (€20,000);
- 2. "SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD": rewarding social and/or environmental commitment, with a prize of ten thousand euros (€10,000);
- 3. "PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD": awarded to the project selected by the public during the awards ceremony (the ten (10) finalists will then appear on stage) it being specified that this prize may be combined with one of the other prizes mentioned above with a prize amount of ten thousand euros (€10,000).
- 4. FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS AWARD: Honours the best start-up project founded or cofounded by at least one woman. The award is endowed with ten thousand euros (€10,000).

In addition, this monetary award will be accompanied by:

- i. the presentation of a trophy during a grand awards evening;
- ii. comprehensive financial and asset coaching, notably through ODDO BHF's Private Wealth Management;
- iii. personalized entrepreneurial support;
- iv. enhanced media exposure through media partners; and
- v. access to the ODDO BHF network.

In case of force majeure, ODDO BHF reserves the right to cancel the prize(s) won without compensation.

## ARTICLE 6 - DESIGNATION OF WINNERS AND ELIMINATION

The Participants authorize the verification of their identity and of all information contained in the application file. Entries that are not fully completed and/or contain incomplete or false contact information will not be considered and will result in elimination from the Contest.

Likewise, failure to comply with these rules as well as any fraud or attempted cheating, of any kind whatsoever, will result in the pure and simple elimination of the participation of its author. In general, at any time during the Contest, ODDO BHF reserves the right to remove a Participant from the Contest at its discretion.

## ARTICLE 7 - MODIFICATION OF THE CONTEST DATES AND THE TERMS OF THE PRIZES

ODDO BHF shall not incur any liability in the event of force majeure or events beyond its control, in the event that it is forced to cancel this Contest. ODDO BHF also reserves the right to extend or limit the participation period and/or the dates indicated in these rules, to postpone them or to modify the conditions, and may not be held liable in this regard.

Additions and modifications to these rules may be published in an appendix during the course of the Contest.

#### ARTICLE 8 - USE OF PARTICIPANTS' IDENTITY AND PERSONAL DATA

In the context of the Contest, the Personal Data of the Participants respectively the founders and employees of the Participant (hereinafter the "Personal Data") will be processed by ODDO BHF, acting as recipient and controller, in accordance with the applicable European and German regulations on data protection.

The Data Protection Officer (DPO) can be reached at: dpo@oddo-bhf.com

By sending the application questionnaire completed by each Participant to the Contest, the Participants consents to the processing and collection of his/her personal data by ODDO BHF.

The personal data of the Participants is necessary and exclusively intended for ODDO BHF for the sole purpose of taking into account their participation in the Contest, the management of the Winners, the awarding of prizes and in order to meet legal and regulatory obligations.

Personal Data will be transferred to ODDO BHF's marketing and communication departments, as well as to service providers and subcontractors located in the European Union that ODDO BHF may call upon for the purposes of organizing and/or managing the Contest.

The Personal Data will be deleted at the end of the Contest, with the exception of the Personal Data of the Winners necessary for the award of their prizes. It is specified that this period may be extended in the event that such extension is necessary to defend the interests of ODDO BHF in the event of litigation.

It is understood that the consent of Participants may be withdrawn at any time.

Participants have the rights of access, rectification, deletion and portability of their data, limitation and opposition to the processing of data as well as the right to define directives concerning the outcome of Personal Data after their death.

The Participants also have the right to lodge a complaint with the German Data Protection Authority.

## **ARTICLE 9 - RESPONSIBILITIES**

ODDO BHF cannot be held responsible for any prejudice of any nature whatsoever (personal, physical, material, financial or other) arising from participation in the Contest. No claim will be accepted.

Consequently, ODDO BHF cannot be held responsible for:

- any damage that may occur due to the lack of protection of certain data against possible hijacking or piracy and risks of contamination by possible viruses circulating on the Internet network; and
- any damage related to the misuse of or incidental to the use of the computer, access to the Internet, maintenance or malfunction of the Contest servers, telephone line or any other technical connection, or the sending of forms to an incorrect or incomplete address.

Participants are therefore reminded that it is their responsibility to take all appropriate measures to protect their own data and/or software stored on their computer equipment against any potential attack.

ODDO BHF shall make its best efforts to allow adequate access to the Contest. ODDO BHF may, at any time, in particular for technical, updating and/or maintenance reasons, interrupt access to the site and the Contest. ODDO BHF shall in no case be liable for these interruptions and their consequences.

In addition, ODDO BHF shall not be held liable in the event of problems with the delivery or loss of postal or electronic mail (particularly with regard to the delivery of prizes).

Where applicable, any prize sent by ODDO BHF to a winner and not claimed or returned for any reason other than the aforementioned by the postal services shall be considered lost for the winner and shall remain the property of ODDO BHF, where applicable. ODDO BHF shall not be held responsible for the malfunctioning of the Internet network, nor for any delay, loss or damage resulting from the postal and management services.

In all other cases ODDO BHF's liability for its own behaviour and the behaviour of its organs, employees and other vicarious agents is limited to the following cases (a to c):

- a. The breach of material duties if the breach of duty is at least slightly negligent.
- b. The breach of other duties if the breach of duty is grossly negligent or willful.
- c. The at least slightly negligent injury to life, body or health.

The above restrictions do not apply to cases of culpable injury to life, limb or health or to cases in which stricter liability is required by law (e.g., under the German Product Liability Act).

## **ARTICLE 10 - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The images used on the Contest site, the objects represented, the brands and commercial names mentioned, the graphic elements, the computer elements and the databases making up the Contest site are the exclusive property of their respective owners and may not be extracted, reproduced or used without the written authorization of the owners, under penalty of civil and/or criminal proceedings.

## **ARTICLE 11 - CONSULTATION OF THE RULES**

The rules are available for viewing and downloading at oyea.oddo-bhf.com for the duration of the Contest.

#### **ARTICLE 12 - IMAGE RIGHTS**

By participating in the Contest, each Participant, during the selection phase, the presentation before the members of the jury and the award phase, agrees that his or her participation may be the subject of video, audio and photographic recording (including his or her silhouette, voice, first and last names, and the presentation of his or her project). In this regard, ODDO BHF reserves the right,

for a period of five (5) years from the beginning of this Contest and for purposes of commercial or marketing promotion and free of charge, to:

- broadcast and represent live or at a later time, the recordings made during the oral presentation and the award ceremony on any tangible or intangible medium (websites, television, media platforms, press, flyers, social networks, etc.);
- adapt and modify the footage to translate, subtitle, include third-party elements or create a compilation.

ODDO BHF undertakes to ensure that the various uses made of the Participant's image do not infringe upon his/her privacy or are not of such a nature as to cause him/her any prejudice whatsoever. In the event that the Participant considers that the use of his/her image infringes on his/her privacy or is of such a nature as to cause him/her any prejudice whatsoever, the Participant may request ODDO BHF to remove the contentious content.

## ARTICLE 13 - JURISDICTION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

Any possible dispute on the interpretation of the Rules will be decided by ODDO BHF.

Participation in this Contest implies unreserved acceptance of (i) these rules in all their stipulations, (ii) the ethical rules in force on the Internet (netiquette, charter of good conduct, etc.) as well as (iii) the laws and regulations in force on German territory and in particular the provisions applicable to games and lotteries in force.

In the event of a dispute, only a registered letter with return receipt sent within thirty (30) days after the end of the Contest will be admissible. Except in the case of obvious errors, it is agreed that the information resulting from the Contest systems of ODDO BHF shall have evidentiary force in any dispute as to the connection elements and the computer processing of said information relating to the Contest.

Prior to any legal action related to or in connection with these rules (in particular their application or interpretation), the Participants undertake to make an amicable and gracious appeal to ODDO BHF.

Any dispute that cannot be settled amicably shall be submitted to the competent courts of the ODDO BHF's registered office, except in the case of public order provisions to the contrary.