



Data Intensive Research Initiative of South Africa (DIRISA) Student Datathon Challenge (SDC) Programme 2024

Challenge 1: October 2024 to November 2024

The teams will be working on Challenge 1 online prior to the physical SDC. The Mathworks and Optimum team will be marking the challenge on 1 December 2024.

The theme for Challenge 2 will be given on 28 November 2024 to allow the students adequate time to gather required additional datasets. The students are expected to submit a presentation of their proposed problem, solution and links to datasets by 29 November 2024.

Challenge 2 and Challenge 3: 30 November to 4 December 2024

Day 1: 30 November 2024 (Saturday)

Time	Location	Activity
	Boardwalk ICC	Student Arrival and Checkin
		Technical Setup: - Laptop assignment - Technologies and stack setup - Slack group assignment
16:00 – 18:00		Feedback session on proposed solutions
19:00 – 20:00		Dinner
20:00		Datathon Challenge continues Students to mainly work in booths until 11pm. Snacks will be served.

Day 2: 1 December 2024 (Sunday)

Time	Location	Activity
08:00 – 08:30	Boardwalk ICC	Arrival Team Daily Standups – technical and research
08:30 – 11:00		Datathon challenge continues Marking of Challenge 1
11:00 – 12:30		Welcoming Session: <i>Programme Director – Mr Sthembiso Mkhwanazi</i> - Welcome by Dr Nobubele Shozi - Presentation by Sponsor – Mathworks and Optimum - Presentation by Sponsor – Altron and Boston - Presentation by Sponsor – ALX



DIRISA SDC

STUDENT DATATHON CHALLENGE

12:30 – 13:00		Lunch
13:00 – 15:00		Meeting with research participants (<i>Research Mentor, University Mentor and DIRISA Team only</i>)
13:00 – 16:00		Datathon Challenge continues
17:00 – 18:30		5 Minute Pitch
19:00 – 20:00		Dinner
20:00		Datathon Challenge continues Students to mainly work in booths until 11pm. Snacks will be served.

Day 3: 2 December 2024 (Monday)

Time	Location	Activity
08:00	Boardwalk ICC	Arrival
08:30 – 09:00		Preparing for your Final Presentation: - Datathon Presentation Guidelines and How to deliver a winning pitch by Khanyisa Mokgolobotho and Ketro Sithole
09:00 – 09:30		Team Daily Stand-up Session – technical and research DIRISA Meeting (<i>DIRISA Team only</i>)
09:10 – 12:30		Datathon Challenge
12:30 – 13:00		Lunch
13:00 – 14:00		Meeting with research participants (<i>Research Mentor, University Mentor and DIRISA Team only</i>)
13:00 – 17:00		Datathon Challenge continues
17:00 – 17:30		Debrief
19:00 – 20:00		Dinner
20:00		Datathon Challenge continues Students to mainly work in booths until 11pm. Snacks will be served.

Day 4: 3 December 2024 (Tuesday)

Time	Location	Activity
08:00	Boardwalk ICC	Arrival
08:00 – 13:00		Datathon Challenge continues
13:00 – 14:00		Lunch



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STUDENT DATATHON CHALLENGE

14:00 – 15:00		Meeting with research participants (<i>Research Mentor, University Mentor and DIRISA Team only</i>)
14:00 – 17:00		Datathon Challenge continues
17:00 – 19:00		Poster sessions – students to wear institutional branded tshirts. Students ALL required to be in their booths from 5pm to 8pm!
19:00 - 20:00		
20:00		Dinner
		Test final presentation in venue and venue computer Students to leave booth at 11pm. Snacks to be served.



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STUDENT DATATHON CHALLENGE

Day 5: 4 December 2024 (Wednesday)

Time	Location	Activity
04:00	Road Lodge	Final hand in due!!
08:00 – 10:00		Final Presentations: Teams to wear provided tshirts - 5x teams
10:00 – 10:15		Break
10:15 – 12:00		Final Presentations: - 5x teams
12:00 – 13:00		Judging: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Judge 1 – Mathworks / Optinum- Judge 2 – Altron- Judge 3 – Boston- Judge 4 – External- Judge 5 – Mr Ntlharhi Baloyi
13:00 – 14:00		Lunch
14:00 – 15:00		Judges deliberation
17:30 – 20:30		Awards and Dinner
20:30		Depart for Road lodge

Day 6: 5 December 2024 (Thursday)

Time	Location	Activity
07:00	Road Lodge	Students and mentor depart