Privacy Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

Last updated: March 14, 2022

The FoodTech Challenge seeks to find the next wave of technology innovations that are on the cusp of transforming food and traditional agriculture practices, efficiently and sustainably. Targeted at early-stage start-ups, ranging from international university-based research teams to individual entrepreneurs and small firms, the competition invites innovations related to two critical tracks: ‘food production’ to address the availability and abundance of food and explore ‘next gen’, nutrient rich alternatives, and ‘food loss and waste’ to ensure sustainability across the food supply chain and the planet more broadly. With a pooled prize of up to US $2 Million, the winners will be offered an opportunity to scale-up their business model within the UAE, supported with R&D, start-up acceleration, commercial incentives, and mentorship to take winning concepts from lab-to-market.

For the purposes of this Privacy Policy, your personal information will be held and managed by Tamkeen Abu Dhabi LLC, who administer the FTC in collaboration with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Ministry for Climate Change and Environment. Tamkeen Abu Dhabi LLC is a company incorporated and registered in Abu Dhabi in the UAE (referred to in this Privacy Policy as "Tamkeen", "we", "us" and "our"). The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is a ministry of the United Arab Emirates federal government (referred to in this Privacy Policy as "MOCCAE". Please note that we use a third party, Award Force, to administer parts of the FTC application and participation process, and your interactions with Award Force are separate from the FTC site (defined below) and will be subject to Award Force’s policies and procedures, including its privacy policy.

By visiting and using FTC’s website www.foodtechchallenge.com or any other corresponding services provided by Tamkeen or MOCCAE (“FTC Site”) that we make available from time to time to administer the FTC or by contacting us, you expressly consent to our collection, use and disclosure of your personal information in accordance with the terms of this Privacy Policy. We may provide third-party websites in relation to the FTC that are subject to separate and independent privacy policies.

We are committed to respecting your privacy and complying with applicable laws and regulations to ensure that the personal information you give us is kept appropriately secure and processed fairly and lawfully.

2. YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

When you access the FTC Site as either a visitor or a member of a startup (“Startup”, “you”, or "your"), we process your personal information for the following purposes:

(a) to use the services offered by Tamkeen and/or MOCCAE;
(b) to enter, provide or update your personal information;
(c) to enable you to take part in the FTC and for us to administer the FTC (including communicating with you in relation to the FTC);
(d) to send marketing communications to you;
(e) To offer an enhanced user experience when you access the FTC Site;
(f) To ensure the proper functioning and security of the FTC Site;
(g) To receive more general information from you as a result of your visits to, and use of, the FTC Site which does not personally identify you; and
(h) To ensure we continue to comply with applicable laws, for example in maintaining the accuracy of our records.

3. COLLECTING AND USING YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION
When you register on the FTC Site, we will collect certain personal information from you. We will indicate whether this collection involves personal information and, if it does, whether providing your personal information is voluntary or mandatory for the service. Please be aware that where collection is mandatory, we may not be able to provide the relevant products or services to you if you do not provide that information to us. If we wish to use your personal information for purposes other than those stated in this Privacy Policy, we will obtain your consent where required by applicable laws.

**We may collect the following information:**

**Contact Information and other identifying information:** We may collect your name and e-mail addresses. We use this information to identify you, to deliver products and services, to update our records and to generally manage your account with us under our terms with you.

We may also use your contact information to send you marketing communications. We will only use your contact information where permitted to do so in accordance with applicable laws or if we have your consent to do so (if required by applicable laws).

**Internet and other electronic activity:** Where permitted under applicable laws or with your consent (if so required by applicable laws), we may use information about how you use the FTC Site to personalise our communications to you, tailor the content appearing on the FTC Site so as to make the FTC Site and our services and communications more relevant to you and to enable your use of any interactive features of our services. We also use this information to maintain and improve the FTC Site, and our services.

We may process information about the device you are using to connect to the services on our FTC Site or any interactive content we may provide. This may include the type of device you use, your internet browser, or your location based on the unique identifier for your device such as an Internet Protocol address (IP address).

**Location information:** When you visit our FTC Site we may seek to determine your country-level location in order to direct you to the appropriate domain (internet location) of the FTC Site, based on the region you appear to be visiting the FTC Site from. We will do so using information being transmitted publicly via the internet, including your IP address.

**How Personal Information may be collected:**

**From You.** We collect personal information from you directly. We may also collect personal information from you indirectly, including through your use of the FTC Site and/or where we draw inferences about you (both as described above).

**From Third Parties.** We may supplement information we collect about you with personal information which we receive from our business partners (who promote the FTC or perform functions on our behalf which may include, without limitation, Award Force, Sponsors (as defined in the Terms and Conditions), judges or the MOCCAE (“Service Partners”) and FTC Affiliated Companies (defined below), in addition to other information which is available in the public domain or which we are otherwise lawfully permitted to be provided with in order to ensure the accuracy of our records and improve our services to you. If you do not want us to use your personal information in this way then you can contact us at any time to ask us to stop by contacting us at info@foodtechchallenge.com.

**4. COOKIES**

Cookies are small text files that are sent to or accessed from your web browser or your device’s memory. A cookie typically contains the name of the domain (internet location) from which the cookie originated, the “lifetime” of the cookie (i.e. when it expires) and a randomly generated unique number or another identifier. A cookie will also contain information about your device, such as user settings, browsing history and activities conducted while using the FTC Site. By linking the information in these cookies with other personal information that you provide to us, we may be able to identify the cookie information that relates to you.
Most web browsers are initially set up to accept cookies. You can reset your web browser to refuse cookies or to indicate when a cookie is being sent, however, certain features of our FTC Site may not work if you delete or disable cookies. Some of our Service Partners may use their own cookies, anonymous identifiers, or other tracking technology in connection with the services they perform on our behalf.

We inform you where relevant of our use of cookies and other device identifiers on arriving at our FTC Site, or if required by applicable laws. You acknowledge and agree that by continuing to use the FTC Site without managing your cookie and device choices and preferences that you consent to our cookie and device identifier settings. Please be aware that restricting certain cookies or other device identifiers will impact on your user experience and may prevent you from using part of the FTC Site.

5. **ADVERTISING AND ONLINE TRACKING**

We may allow third-party companies to serve ads and collect certain anonymous information when you visit the FTC Site. These companies may use non-personally identifiable information (e.g. click stream information, web browser type, time and date, subject of advertisements clicked or scrolled over) during your visits to the FTC Site and other Tamkeen websites in order to provide advertisements about goods and services likely to be of interest to you. These companies typically use a cookie to collect this information.

We may also engage with Service Partners who are social media or internet search platforms so that Tamkeen and FTC related advertisements appear on those platforms.

If you contact us by email or phone, we will collect your personal information and use this information to identify you, help with your query, deliver products and services, update our records and to generally manage your account with us under our terms with you. We may also use information, including our chat history with you, to better understand your interests and preferences.

We will only send you marketing communications if you want to receive them (and, if required under applicable laws or you have provided your consent). You can opt out of receiving such marketing communications (which would signify withdrawing your consent if you have provided consent), at any time.

When sending you marketing communications we will use the preferred communication method you selected (e.g. by e-mail, phone or messaging services).

We may also obtain personal information where you “like” us, create posts, mention us in public posts or otherwise interact with our pages on social media platforms and may in response, use this information to communicate with you or provide relevant content via those social media platforms about our products, events and promotions where permitted to do so in accordance with applicable laws. Please refer to the privacy policies of the social media platforms for information about how they collect and use your personal information.

6. **WHO WE SHARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION WITH**

In certain circumstances, we may share your personal information with other companies, affiliates, and representatives globally (“FTC Affiliated Companies”) and Service Partners, including, without limitation, Award Force who process the personal information when you register your Startup for the FTC, our Sponsors, the judges or the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment or as permitted by applicable laws or with your consent (if so required by applicable laws) We may also share aggregated or anonymised information that does not directly identify you.

Where we share your personal information with third parties (whether FTC Affiliated Companies or Service Partners), we will put in place contractual measures to require FTC Affiliated Companies and Service Partners to take reasonable precautions to safeguard your personal information, as required by applicable laws.
7. **LEGAL DISCLOSURES**

In certain circumstances (where required or permitted under applicable laws or with your consent (if so required by applicable laws), we may disclose personal information relating to you to third parties (including in other jurisdictions) in order to conform to any requirements of law, to comply with any legal or regulatory process, for the purposes of obtaining legal advice, for the purposes of credit risk reduction, to prevent and detect fraud, for sanctions screening purposes and/or to protect and defend the rights and property of Tamkeen and MOCCAE. At all times where we disclose your information for the purposes of credit risk reduction, fraud prevention and/or sanctions screening, we will take all steps reasonably necessary to help ensure that it remains secure.

8. **BUSINESS OR PROCESS CHANGE PARTNERS**

In the event that we or a part of our business undergo re-organisation or are sold or licensed to a third party, any personal information we hold about you may be transferred to that re-organised entity, licensee or third party.

9. **OVERSEAS TRANSFERS OF DATA**

The personal information that you provide through the FTC Site is processed and stored in the United Arab Emirates. The personal information that you provide through the Award Force judging platform is processed and stored in the European Union.

We may transfer information that we collect from you to other companies, joint ventures, franchisees, licensees, FTC Affiliated Companies, who promote the FTC and to Service Partners who perform functions on our behalf (as described above), based in countries/regions outside of the UAE, where permitted by applicable laws, or if we have your consent (if so required by applicable laws) and this information may be stored and processed in such countries/regions.

Personal information stored in another jurisdiction may be subject to access requests from governments, courts, or law enforcement in that jurisdiction according to its laws. Whether the personal information you provide to us is processed by us or FTC Affiliated Companies or Services Partners within the UAE or outside of it, we will take steps to ensure that your personal information will be afforded the level of protection required of us under and in accordance with this Privacy Policy and applicable data protection laws and in accordance with current legally recognised data transfer mechanisms, such as appropriate approved standard contractual clauses.

10. **YOUR RIGHTS IN RELATION TO YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION**

You may have the right under applicable data protection laws to ask:

(a) for details of the personal information we hold and process about you (including information regarding how your information may be shared),

(b) for a copy of your personal information,

(c) that we correct your personal information where it is inaccurate and/or that we complete your information where it is incomplete,

(d) that we limit or restrict your personal information in certain cases,

(e) that we delete your personal information in certain cases,

(f) to receive your personal information in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format, and for Tamkeen and MOCCAE to transmit that data to another controller (data portability) in certain cases,

(g) to object and opt out of important decisions which were based solely on automated decision-making.

You also have a right to file a complaint with your local data protection controlling authority.
You can also limit or withdraw any consent you give to us at any time and may have the right under applicable law to object to us using your personal information for our legitimate purposes. You may ask us for further information regarding withdrawal or refusal of consent and the consequences of such refusal. If you do withdraw your consent, this will not affect the lawfulness of any previous processing based upon such consent.

If you would like to exercise any of these rights in relation to the personal information we hold about you or wish to change your preferences at any time, please contact us at [insert email].

Please note that we may require your personal information to verify your identity in order to process a request made to exercise your rights in relation to your personal information. If we are unable to match this information, we may ask you to provide additional identifying information, such as a copy of your passport or drivers’ license. You may designate a third party to act on your behalf provided they have appropriate written authority to do so.

If you make a request to delete your personal information, note that we may not delete all of your information. We may still process your personal information if it is necessary to do so and we are lawfully permitted.

If you remain unhappy with a response you receive from us you can refer the matter to your local data protection controlling authority.

11. RETENTION AND DELETION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

We will only keep your information as long as necessary and for the purposes described in this Privacy Policy. We will retain and use such personal information to the extent necessary to comply with our legal obligations (for example, if we are required to store your personal information to comply with applicable laws or to properly fulfil our obligations under a contract), to resolve disputes, and to legally enforce our agreements and/or policies.

12. SECURITY AND THIRD PARTY LINKS

We take reasonable steps to protect your personal information against unauthorized or accidental access, processing, erasure, loss or use. Unfortunately, transmission of information via the internet is not completely secure. Although we do our best to protect your personal information, we cannot guarantee the security of your personal information submitted to us and any transmission is at your own risk.

We do however use strict procedures and security features to try to prevent unauthorised access wherever possible. Personal information may be accessed by persons within our organization, or our third-party service partners, who require such access to carry out the purposes indicated above, or such other purposes as may be permitted or required by the applicable law.

The FTC Site may from time to time contain links to other websites not controlled by us. We do not accept responsibility or liability for the privacy practices, data collected or the content of such other websites. The operators of these linked websites are not under a duty to abide by this Privacy Policy. If there are terms and conditions, other privacy statements or policies appearing on those websites, you should also review them carefully as your use of those sites may be subject to them.

13. CHANGES TO THIS PRIVACY POLICY

We may update this Privacy Policy from time to time. The amended Privacy Policy will be posted on the FTC Site. Please check this page regularly for changes to this Privacy Policy. If we make any material changes to this Privacy Policy we will notify you and obtain your consent (if required by applicable law) before they take effect either through the FTC Site or by sending you a notification. Any such material changes will only apply to personal information collected after the revised Privacy Policy took effect.