

Judging Rubric: Business & Non-profit Track

Each criterion is worth a maximum of 10 points, except Creative AI Use (3 pts) — **60 points total**.

Criteria	5–7 pts Developing	8–9 pts Strong	10 pts Exceptional
Innovation & Impact (10 pts)	Problem identified, solution proposed. No clear impact metrics.	Specific problem & solution with 1+ measurable metric (e.g., "reach 500 users"). Basic research or feedback provided.	Multiple metrics with documented evidence — baseline data, research citations, or user interviews.
Feasibility (10 pts)	Basic steps outlined. No timeline, budget, or resource plan.	Timeline provided, 2–3 resources or partners identified, 1–2 challenges with mitigation noted.	Detailed timeline with milestones, budget estimates, potential partners, and documented risk mitigation.
SDG Alignment (10 pts)	A relevant SDG is named. Connection is general or indirect.	Specific SDG cited with target number (e.g., SDG 13.2). Clear explanation of how solution contributes.	Specific SDG targets cited with data, case studies, or evidence of measurable progress.
Scalability (10 pts)	Current scope described. No growth plan or barriers identified.	At least one growth mechanism named (e.g., expand regions, license model). Rough expansion timeline included.	Phased scaling plan with milestones, funding/replication mechanisms, and projected reach per phase.
Presentation Quality (10 pts)	Problem and solution communicated. Structure present but lacks clarity. Visuals minimal.	Clear problem, solution, and next steps in logical order. Professional visuals. All members speak. On time.	Well-structured, polished delivery. Visuals enhance understanding. All members contribute. Precisely on time.
Creative AI Use (10 pts)	0 pts: AI evident but no disclosure of tools or purpose.	3–5 pts: Tools named (e.g., "ChatGPT for copy") with brief explanation of use.	5–10 pts: Full documented breakdown — tools used, elements created, detailed prompts used, rationale, and measurable outcomes. Explanation of where AI was not used and why.

Judging Rubric: Technical Track

Each criterion is worth a maximum of 10 points, except Creative AI Use (3 pts) — **60 points total**.

Criteria	5–7 pts Developing	8–9 pts Strong	10 pts Exceptional
Innovation & Impact (10 pts)	Prototype functional. No clear impact metrics defined.	Functional prototype with 1+ measurable metric (e.g., "40% faster," "500 users"). Basic testing or feedback provided.	Multiple metrics with documented evidence — benchmarks, user testing, or analysis showing targets are realistic.
Technical Execution (10 pts)	Prototype works but features are limited. Code is basic; architecture undocumented.	Core features work reliably. Clean code, documented architecture, handles basic errors.	Polished, robust implementation. Well-organized code, documented design rationale, scalability considered.
SDG Alignment (10 pts)	Relevant SDG named. Connection is general or indirect.	Specific SDG cited with target number (e.g., SDG 13.2). Clear explanation of how solution contributes.	Specific SDG targets cited with research, data, or case studies demonstrating measurable progress.
Scalability (10 pts)	Works at small scale. No discussion of handling growth in users, data, or complexity.	Describes how solution scales (e.g., cloud infra, API architecture). Rough timeline included.	Detailed plan: infrastructure needs, performance projections at scale, deployment mechanisms, documented assumptions.
Presentation Quality (10 pts)	Problem and solution communicated. Structure present but lacks clarity. Demo/visuals minimal.	Clear problem, solution, and next steps. Professional demo/visuals. All members speak. On time.	Polished, well-structured delivery. Smooth demo highlights key functionality. All members contribute. Precisely on time.
Creative AI Use (3 pts)	0 pts: AI evident but no disclosure of tools or purpose.	3–5 pts: Tools named (e.g., "ChatGPT for docs," "TensorFlow for ML") with brief explanation.	5–10 pts: Full breakdown — tools used, components built, detailed prompts used, rationale, and measurable outcomes. Or: Explanation of why AI was not used.