









<u>Overview</u>

NXplorers is an innovative educational programme introduced by Shell Global. It equips young

people with the tools and methodology to tackle complex and interconnected problems within

their communities, framed in the Food-Water-Energy nexus. Students will apply systems

thinking, scenario planning and theory of change to solve a problem in their communities. The

duration of the NXplorers programme content delivery is eight (8) weeks in September and

October 2025, culminating with finalists showcasing their projects in the NXplorers Competition

carded for January 30th, 2026. Registered students are expected to agree to and abide by the

NXplorers Terms and Conditions.

Eligibility

• The NXplorers Programme and Competition is open to undergraduate students who

are nationals of Trinidad and Tobago and are currently enrolled in a tertiary level

institution within Trinidad and Tobago (e.g. UWI, UTT, COSTATT, USC SBCS, SAM

Caribbean Ltd and any other Trinidad and Tobago university/institution).

Registration is open to students between the ages of 17-25 years old. Students that are

under the age of 18 years at the time of the registration must acquire consent from

his/her parents or legal guardian to participate in the NXplorers Competition.

Persons who are currently employed, apprentices, trainees, or interns of any Shell group

of companies are not eligible to participate in the Competition.

• Winners of a previous cycle (those who placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>) are not eligible to compete

in a following NXplorers cycle.

Note: NXplorers is a team competition and students will be required to work in groups.

### The Competition Calendar & Guidelines:

There are 3 stages in the competition. The guidelines and calendar below set out the key timings and deadlines for each stage of the Competition.

#### Venues

North Location: TBD

North Location Dates: Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

South Location: TBD

South Location Dates: Wednesday September 10– October 29th, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Note: Students are required to attend all workshops each week.

### Stage 1: Registration (August 6<sup>th</sup> – September 9<sup>th</sup> 2025)

- Each student must complete and submit their NXplorers Student Registration Form.
- Online registration begins 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025 and closes on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Late registration will not be considered.

#### Stage 2: Workshop, Submission & Preliminaries (September 10<sup>th</sup> – October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025)

- Facilitators from NIHERST will deliver the content via NXplorers workshops for registered students who will be guided through the NXthinking, NXplorers Methodologies and ideation process in preparation for the competition.
- The NXplorers Competition judging criteria is a rubric assessing students' application of the NXthinking tools addressing their problem statements.
- Student participation in all NXplorers workshops is compulsory.
- Each team is required to submit their unique project proposal and any supporting documents by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 after completing NXplorers workshops. Late submissions will not be considered.
- Problem statement must be aligned to the Food-Water-Energy nexus.

- To receive a Certificate of Completion/Participation AND to participate in the preliminary competition, students must meet the following criteria:
  - o Students must attend all phases of the programme (explore, create, change).
  - Students are allowed to miss 2 workshops but must send an email citing a valid reason for missing the sessions and must complete and submit the activity that they missed on their own time.
- All finalists are required to participate in an Intellectual Property workshop.
- A preliminary round of student presentations will be conducted after the completion of the workshops, on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025. The top 5 finalist teams will be shortlisted to compete in the NXplorers Competition which will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

### Stage 3: Mentorship and Finals (4th November 2025 - 29th January 2026)

- The top 5 teams will be engaged by the NIHERST Creative Design Lab in prototype development.
- The top 5 teams will be mentored by a SHELL volunteer in implementation development.
- The challenge competition will crown a "NXplorers Champion" and the winning participants will be awarded attractive prizes.

NXplorers Tertiary Timelines Summary Table					
Items Start Date End Date Engage					
Stage 1 – Recruitment					
NXplorers Cycle 5 Registration	6 <sup>th</sup> August 2025	9th September 2025	Calls & Emails		
Stage 2 – NXthinking Process					
NXplorers Workshops (1st – 8th Session)	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Physical		
Submission of Final NXplorers Tools	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	Emails		
IP workshop	8 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	8 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Virtual		
Preliminary Competition (Selection of 5 Finalists)	29 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	30 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Physical		
Stage 3 – Mentorship & Competition			1		
Pre-Mentorship	4 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Online (Zoom)		
AutoCAD Training	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Online (Zoom)		
Mentorship (Shell Volunteers)	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Online (Zoom)		
NXplorers Competition (Shell Judges)	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Physical (TBD)		
NXplorers Award Ceremony	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026		Physical (TBD)		

<sup>\*</sup>Note that dates may be subject to change.

NXplorers Workshop Breakdown			
Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	
(10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2025)	(17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2025)	(24 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2025)	
Orientation: NXplorers student expectations.  Module 1: Welcome to NXplorers.  Module 2: A New Way of Thinking Form Groups of 5	Orientation: NXplorers student expectations.  Module 1: Welcome to NXplorers.  Module 2: A New Way of Thinking Form Groups of 5  Module 3: Introduction to Explore- 'What is the Issue?' Team building exercises Problem Statement	Module 4: Explore- What's causing the Issue?  Connections Circle  Tool	Tool Review and Completion.  Facilitators will review the problem statements and connection circles and assist teams in finalizing these tools before moving forward to the 'Create' Stage
Workshop 4	Workshop 5	Workshop 6	Workshop 7
(1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct 2025)	(8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2025)	(15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2025)	(22 <sup>nd</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2025)
Module 6: Create Futures. Create Scenario Planning Ideas and Preferred Future- What actions can bring about change? Scenario Planning Quadrant Tool Module 7: Ideation	Module 8: Change- What actions can lead to our Preferred Future? Feasibility Funnel Tool	Module 10: Change Planning & Persuading Persuasion Pyramid Tool	Module 11: Action Planning  Module 12: Reflections & Next Steps  Preliminary round trial runs.

<sup>\*</sup>Note that dates may be subject to change.

## **Intellectual Property Clause**

Any of the work done within this competition could be considered as intellectual property. As such all inventions made could be captured and shared using photos and videos. These photos and video materials could be shared for internal and external communications such as promotions, advertising, internet presence, TV, radio and press reports.

# **Privacy Policy**

All personal data provided by participants will remain secure and confidential at all times.

# **NXplorers Competition Prizes**

1st place	\$18,000.00
2nd place	\$15,000.00
3rd place	\$13,500.00

Special Prizes

Most Innovative \$1,500.00 Most Impactful \$1,500.00

Note: Cash prizes represent the total amount to be divided equally between team members.