

Open Air Exhibition & Competition | 5th International River Congress (IRC 2026)

Rules and Guidelines for Submission

General Rules and Regulations:

- Participation is open to students, research scholars, professionals, artists, photographers, filmmakers, institutions, and river enthusiasts.
- All submissions must be original and related to rivers, river ecosystems, river conservation, river rejuvenation, water resources, river culture, biodiversity, or sustainable river management.
- Entries may be submitted individually or as a team, subject to the category-specific guidelines.
- Participants must provide their full name, institutional affiliation (if applicable), contact number, email address, and competition category.
- All entries must be submitted within the officially announced submission deadline.
- Plagiarised, copied, misleading, or previously published work submitted without appropriate disclosure may be disqualified.
- Participants must ensure that they hold the necessary copyright, permissions, and usage rights for all submitted materials.
- The organising committee reserves the right to reject entries that do not comply with the submission guidelines.

Registration Instructions :

- Candidates who have been shortlisted will receive an official email containing the registration and payment details.
- Upon receiving the email, shortlisted candidates are required to complete the prescribed payment and registration process within the specified time. Please carefully follow the instructions provided in the email and ensure that all required information is entered correctly in this form.

Physical Submission Instructions

For selected entries requiring physical submission for the Open Air Exhibition, participants must bring and submit their physical entries at the designated venue on:

Date: 25 November 2026

Time: From 3:00 PM onwards

Venue: Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh

Note: Registration will be considered complete only after successful payment and submission of all required details.

1. River Photography Competition :

Theme : River ecosystems, River conservation, River rejuvenation, Water resources, River culture, Biodiversity, or Sustainable River Management.

Submission Guidelines :

- Participants may submit a maximum of 3 photographs.
- All photographs must be original and captured by the participant.
- Participants must upload low-resolution digital copies of their photographs through the official Google Form for initial submission and evaluation.
- Basic adjustments such as cropping, brightness, contrast, and colour correction are permitted.
- Composite images, AI-generated photographs, and substantial digital manipulation are not permitted.
- Participants must retain the original high-resolution photographs for exhibition and verification purposes.

Physical Exhibition Requirements

- Participants whose photographs are selected for exhibition must arrange and bring their own printed photographs to the exhibition venue.
- The printed photograph must meet the following specifications:
- **Minimum print size:** 12 × 18 inches
- **Minimum image resolution:** 3000 pixels on the longer side
- **Recommended print quality:** 300 DPI
- **Mounting:** The photograph must be properly mounted, bordered, or framed by the participant.
- **Glass:** Photographs must be mounted or framed without glass.
- Participants shall be responsible for printing, mounting, transportation, installation, and collection of their photographs.
- The printed photograph must correspond to the digital image submitted through the Google Form.
- Selected participants must ensure that their photographs are exhibition-ready and suitable for public display.
- The organising committee may specify the venue, installation schedule, and display arrangements separately.

**** Each submission must be accompanied by (At the backside of the Frame):**

- **Title of the photograph**
- **Name of the river and location**
- **Date of capture**

2. River Painting Competition :

Theme : River ecosystems, River conservation, River rejuvenation, Water resources, River culture, Biodiversity, or Sustainable River Management.

Submission Guidelines :

- Participants may submit one painting per entry.
- Accepted mediums include watercolour, acrylic, oil, poster colour, charcoal, pencil, and mixed media.
- Suggested artwork size: A3 to A1.
- Artwork must be original and created by the participant.
- Digital paintings may be submitted in high-resolution JPEG or PNG format, subject to exhibition requirements.
- Physical artworks must be properly mounted or framed for display.
- Tracing, copied artwork, and AI-generated paintings are not permitted.
- Participants are responsible for the safe packaging and transportation of physical artworks.

*****Each physical submission must include:***

- ***Title of the artwork***
- ***Name of the artist***
- ***Medium used***
- ***Artwork dimensions***

3. River Poster Competition :

Theme : River ecosystems, River conservation, River rejuvenation, Water resources, River culture, Biodiversity, or Sustainable River Management.

Submission Guidelines :

- Each participant may submit a maximum of 1 poster.
- Posters may be created digitally or manually.
- Recommended poster size: A2 (420 × 594 mm) or A1 (594 × 841 mm).
- Digital submissions must be provided in JPEG, or PNG format.
- Posters must be original and should communicate a clear message related to rivers.
- Posters may include illustrations, infographics, maps, charts, and relevant data.
- All facts, statistics, maps, and external materials must be appropriately referenced.
- AI-generated visual elements, if used, must be disclosed, and the participant must retain responsibility for the originality and accuracy of the complete poster.

*****Each submission must include:***

- ***Poster title***
- ***Participant's name and affiliation***
- ***References, wherever applicable***

4. River Short Film / Documentary Competition

Theme : River ecosystems, River conservation, River rejuvenation, Water resources, River culture, Biodiversity, or Sustainable River Management.

Submission Guidelines :

- Films may be submitted individually or by a team.
- **Recommended duration:** 5–10 minutes, including credits.
- **Accepted formats:** MP4 or MOV.
- **Recommended resolution:** Full HD (1920 × 1080) or higher.
- Films may be in English, Hindi, Bengali, or any other Indian language. English subtitles must be included for films in languages other than English.
- All films must be original and produced by the participant or submitting team.
- Participants must upload their final film to Google Drive and generate a shareable link.
- The Google Drive sharing permission must be set to “**Anyone with the link – Viewer**”, with download access enabled, so that the organising committee can access and download the film for evaluation.
- Participants must submit the Google Drive link through the official competition Google Form.
- **Mandatory Watermark:** All submitted films must contain a visible watermark displaying the participant's name, production team's name, or institution's name.
- The watermark must remain visible throughout the film without significantly obstructing the main visual content.
- Use of copyrighted music, footage, or photographs without appropriate permission is prohibited.
- AI-generated footage or synthetic narration, if used, must be disclosed.
- Participants must ensure that all necessary permissions have been obtained for filming identifiable individuals and private locations.

Important Submission Notice

- *Participants must verify that their Google Drive link is accessible and that the video can be downloaded without requesting additional permission. Links that are restricted, inaccessible, or do not permit download may be treated as incomplete submissions.*

5. River Model Competition

Theme : River ecosystems, River conservation, River rejuvenation, Water resources, River culture, Biodiversity, or Sustainable River Management.

Submission Guidelines :

- Participation is permitted individually or in teams of up to 5 members.
- Models may be physical working models, non-working 3D models, or scientific demonstration models.
- Participants must submit a brief concept before bringing the model through the official google form.
- Working models must be safe and suitable for public exhibition.
- Electrical components(Should be battery operated), water circulation systems, and other equipment must comply with the safety instructions of the organisers.
- Models must be transportable and capable of installation within the space allocated by the organising committee.
- Participants are responsible for transportation, installation, and dismantling, unless otherwise communicated.
- Participants must be available to explain and demonstrate their models during the exhibition.

****Each physical model must be accompanied by:***

- ***Model title***
- ***Names of team members***
- ***Institution or organisation***
- ***Concept note (maximum 250 words)***

Submission and Exhibition Conditions

- Participants must complete the official registration/submission form.
- All digital submissions must be uploaded through the designated submission link or sent to the officially notified email address.
- Physical entries, where applicable, must be delivered to the designated venue within the communicated schedule.
- Each submission must be clearly labelled with the participant's name, category, and contact details.
- Incomplete submissions or entries received after the deadline may not be considered.

Important Note

The organising committee reserves the right to modify the submission schedule, exhibition arrangements, technical requirements, or competition guidelines, with due notification to registered participants.