

Sustainability Week Zurich Startup Award 2026



Are you a sustainable startup based in Switzerland?

Then join the Sustainable Startup Day where you can network, find co-founders, showcase your startup, and participate to win an award judged by an expert jury. This event is organised by the Sustainability Week Zurich.

First Prize: CHF 1'000

Runner-up: CHF 500

Audience Award: CHF 500



**Sustainability
Week Zurich**



**Nachhaltigkeits
Woche Zürich**

What is the Sustainability Week Zurich?

The Nachhaltigkeitswoche Zürich (NHWZ) is an independent student association / Verein made up of Zurich's 5 largest public universities: UZH, ETH, ZHAW, ZHdK & PHZH. The Week is led by students and is open and free for all to attend.

The 14th iteration of the Sustainability Week Zurich / Nachhaltigkeitswoche Zürich (NHWZ) will take place 13-17th April 2026 across many campuses in with more than 60 sustainability events, making it the largest such event in Zurich.

What is the Startup Day?

The **Sustainable Startup Day** is an event within the Sustainability Week Zurich this year. It will be held on **16.04.25 (Thu)**, **Location TBD**.

Eligibility Criteria:

- A startup based in Switzerland (Incorporation is not a necessary condition)
- Sustainability focus

Expectations:

- Presence in the startup booth during the Sustainable Startup Day (11:00-17:00) (exceptions allowed)
- 1 min pitch & 5 min Q&A with expert jury (15:00-17:00)

Evaluation Criteria

Impact Potential 25%:
How does your startup create positive social and/or environmental impact?
How is your value proposition contributing to sustainability?

Innovation 25%: How is your startup different from the others? Why would someone would be compelled to use your product or services over others?

Team 25%: How have you worked so far as a team or as solo-founder to get the startup going? How have the varying backgrounds of your team contribute to the success of the startup so far?

Sustainable Business Model 25%: How does your business model reflect the logic behind sustainability? How is it part of the way you conduct business or the way you structure your organisation or work culture?

The Setting

During this event, we would like to showcase startups / companies for whom sustainability is not simply an add-on, but the whole point. Those who have their heart in sustainability.

We are looking for startups / companies:

Focusing on creating long lasting and sustainable products

Practicing humane business models & organisational models

Orienting towards positive impact on living beings & the environment we inhabit.

We offer:

A booth to present your products and startup during the day

A platform to interact with students and form networks

Get to know other sustainable startups from Switzerland

Present your startup to an expert jury and win prizes amounting to CHF 2'000

An opportunity to be featured on our blog:

How to Apply

Please fill out this form to apply:
<https://chk.me/usMGOaJ>.

Please do share in your circles too!

For more details, visit <https://nhwz.ch/2026-sustainable-startup-day>.

Thank you for considering us as a platform and we look forward to hearing from you.

In case of any questions, please reach out to info@nhwz.ch with the title “Sustainable Startup Day”.

Ashoka Vardhan Manchala (UZH) &
Leah Michelsen (ZHAW)

Lead Team
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