1. The competition is open to individuals for ASEAN nationals who are researcher or PhD students currently pursuing their Doctoral degree in one of institutions in ASEAN (includes Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam).

2. Each Participant is only eligible to submit one research proposal.

3. The research could be conducted by individual or team.

4. The research proposal topic must be based on the 4 themes provided:
   - Socio-economic impact caused by plastic pollution to fisheries sector (Case study or localized study).
   - Socio-economic impact caused by plastic pollution to tourism sector (Case study or localized study).
   - Riverine or marine plastic litter impact on the environment/ecosystems.
   - Microplastic presence in the environment (example: potential impact to human health).

5. Participants are requested to explain the reason of selecting the topic and its relevance in the Background, Research Questions, and Objectives sections in the research proposal as well as what methods they intend to use.

6. The Research Proposal must be not more than 10 pages.

7. The Research Proposal format should adhere to these basic requirements:
   a. Times New Roman 12 pt font,
   b. 1.5 Line Spacing and 1’ margins on all sides.
   c. A4 paper size
   d. Do not use multiple columns.
   e. Number the pages of your research proposal in the bottom, right corner.
   f. Do not include any photographs of people, especially yourself, unless scientifically necessary and with proper consent.

8. The Research Proposal Structure is as follows:
   a. Title of Research
   b. Table of Contents
   c. Chapter I: Introduction
      • Background
      • Research Question
      • Objective
   d. Chapter 2: Literature Review
   e. Chapter 3: Methodology
   f. References or Bibliography

9. Participants are also requested to attach their curriculum vitae.

10. All submission must be in English.

11. Submit the research proposal to the ASEANO official email (aseano.competition@gmail.com) by 20 February 2021.

12. The research activities will be conducted on 2 March – 16 May 2021. Deadline of research report (30 - 50 pages) on 31 May 2021.