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QBE seeks entrepreneurs and start-ups to create more resilient cities

QBE is pleased to announce the launch of the QBE AcceliCITY Resilience Challenge with non-profit organisation Leading Cities for the third consecutive year. The global competition accelerates the growth of start-up companies transforming cities worldwide.

The Challenge is designed to harness and support technology innovations that create more resilient cities with solutions that address risk, equity, and sustainability.

"As an organization, our purpose is to give people the confidence to achieve their ambitions by helping them manage their risks and stay resilient especially during difficult times," said Jason Hammond, CEO of QBE Asia. "Through the QBE AcceliCITY Resilience Challenge, we hope to nurture innovative ideas and solutions towards creating a more sustainable society."

Michael Lake, President and CEO of Leading Cities said the cities that will come to thrive in the post pandemic era are taking advantage of the astounding innovation that is arising at this time.

"The QBE AcceliCITY program acts as the vehicle by which entrepreneurs and city leaders can work together with the goal of building more resilient communities."

The challenge comes with a total prize pool of USD \$150,000 in funding for the winning entrepreneurs or ventures to further develop their idea and benefit the broader community. Previous organisations to win the challenge include Bioo who leveraged innovative technology solutions to address climate change and DrugViu aimed to solve for greater health equity for people of colour.

Competition details

- Submission close 30 April 2021
- Semi-finalists will take part in 6 week virtual accelerator program
- Finalists participate in bootcamp and present a live-pitch session
- One winner will be awarded USD \$100,000 and two runners up will be awarded USD \$25,000 in cash prizes, along with additional resources and access to valuable connections to help scale their initiatives

To apply or find out more about the challenge, please visit **www.accelicity.com**

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News release



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About QBE

QBE is a general insurance and reinsurance company. Across our operations we offer commercial, personal and specialty products and risk management solutions to our customers.

Our purpose is to give people the confidence to achieve their ambitions.

QBE is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) and headquartered in Sydney. We employ more than 11,000 people in 27 countries.

About Leading Cities

Leading Cities is a non-profit organization that improves global sustainability, resiliency, and quality of life by helping cities achieve their needed transformation through developing Smart and Resilient City Ecosystems, implementing innovative solutions, and reducing the risk and cost of civic innovation.

Leading Cities partners with government leaders, corporations, startup companies, investors, and academics to keep cities evolving and working toward their potential, taking on challenges such as climate change, social justice, automation technology, cyber security, data analytics, accessibility, and global health.

AcceliCITY, a signature program, leverages the Leading Cities network of forward thinkers in the public, private, academic and non-profit sectors to advance innovation in local governments. The program lowers the cost and risk of innovation for startups as well as cities and corporations by streamlining the innovation and sales cycles for Smart City solutions.

You can learn more at www.LeadngCities.org or by following Leading Cities on **Twitter** and **LinkedIn**.