

Somabay Egyptian Solar Challenge (SESC)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are the dates of the SESC?

A. Scrutineering/qualifying: 14-16 March, challenge: 17-21 March, 2017. Scrutineering, qualifying, and the first four day stage starts will be at the Red Sea Somabay Resort (www.somabay.com)

Q. What is the difference between the USC and SESC?

A. The United Solar Challenge (USC) is a solar car competition held in the Middle East and North Africa on odd years. Each event takes on a name unique to the location it is held in. The first event, the Abu Dhabi Solar Challenge (ADSC) was held in the UAE in 2015. The SESC is the second edition of the USC and will be held in Egypt in March 2017. The website and regulations are referenced as USC (www.UnitedSolarChallenge.org).

Q. What are the regulations for the USC?

A. The 2017 USC regulations, v1.0 document has been published and can be obtained from the USC website. Cars that meet the design regulations of the 2013/2015 World Solar Challenge, 2014/2016 American Solar Challenge, or other derivatives of their regulations can participate with minimal modifications. All cars must pass scrutineering.

Q. Does the SESC qualify for ISF Championship points?

A. Yes, participants will qualify for up to 10 points (plus 1 point for fastest qualifying lap) per the ISF Championship rules.

Q. Are there different vehicle classes?

A. The SESC recognizes two entry classes; Open and Fixed Distance. Further definitions of the classes are provided in the regulations. All entries will compete for the USC trophy regardless of choice of entry class.

Q. What is the route?

A. The challenge will be held in Egypt in a cross-country staged format and will run over five days. The first four days will begin in Somabay, and the fifth day will end in Cairo at the Great Pyramids of Giza. The route is predominantly along the Red Sea coast or the desert between the Red Sea and the Nile, all on paved roads. Teams are expected to have lead and chase vehicles to accompany the solar car.

Q. Will the cars need to be registered?

A. Yes. Cars will need to be authorized to drive on Egyptian roads. Details for proper vehicle registration and required documentation will be provided.

Q. Is there an entry fee?

A. Yes. The entry fee is \$3,000 and must be paid to complete the registration process. The fee is discounted 50% if paid by December 31, 2016

Q. Is there financial support to help teams travel to Egypt and compete in the SESC?

A. There is no direct financial support by the event. However, teams wishing to partner with Egyptian Universities to help reduce local costs may contact the organizers.

Q. Who are the organizers of the SESC?

A. The SESC organized and managed by Global EEE (www.GlobalEEE.org) in collaboration with Hadath Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Co. (www.hadath.com.eg) and the Sharaf

Foundation for Sustainable Development (www.sharaf-foundation.org). It is sanctioned by the International Solarcar Federation - ISF (www.internationalsolarcarfederation.org). The SESC is hosted by Somabay (www.somabay.com).

Q. Will there be any other activities during and around the USC?

A. Yes. The Global Hybrid-Electric Challenge (GHEC) takes place during the earlier part of the SESC (<http://egypt.globalhechallenge.org/>).

Q. Which airports can we fly into internationally?

A. Cairo International Airport (CAI) is approximately 6 hours by car to Somabay. The nearest airport is in Hurgada (HRG) and is about 30 minutes by car to Somabay. Several airlines from Europe fly directly into HRG.

Q. Will there be any meals covered by the event?

A. Each team will be provided 12 free tickets to attend the Welcome Dinner on March 16, the GHEC Awards dinner on March 18, and the Final SESC Awards Dinner in Cairo on March 22. Teams will also be provided free water bottles and 12 lunch bags on each of the 8 days of the event.

Q. What is unique about the SESC?

A. The SESC has several unique characteristics that distinguishes it from other events, among them: (1) a large section of the route is along the Red Sea offering incredible scenery with perfect sun and weather, and with overnight stays at the beautiful Somabay resort; (2) the challenge will end at the Great Pyramids of Giza, providing an unmatched backdrop including the Sphinx and the ancient Solar Boat museum, (3) the SESC encourages partnering with local institutions of higher learning creating a rewarding experience for both parties and an opportunity to share costs, and (4) the option to enter in either the Open or Fixed Distance classes ensures that all teams will find the SESC to be challenging and commensurate with their team capabilities.

Q. Who do we contact for further questions?

A. For initial inquiries and team registration or technical questions please email info@unitedsolarchallenge.org.