

Guide to Human Practices in Synthetic Biology

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In this guide, you will learn how to get feedback from the community, other iGEM teams, and experts and use that feedback to better your project. Through learning this, you will be able to ensure, as is so critical to great iGEM projects, that your project is, as iGEM says, “responsible and good for the world”.

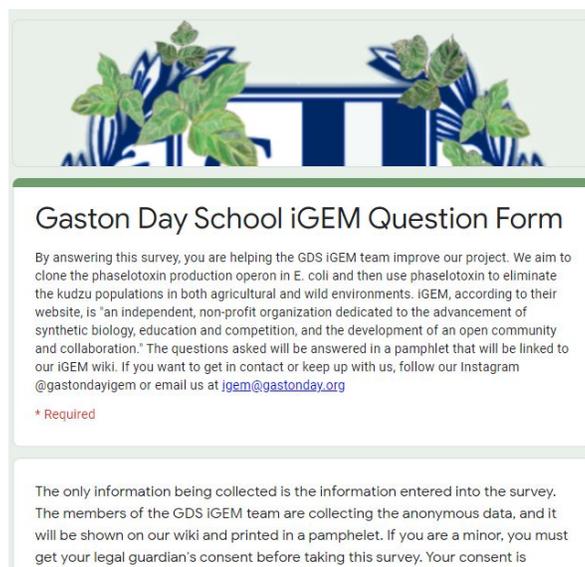
Section I: Feedback from the community

When should I collect feedback from the community?

- Ideally, feedback should be collected when you have made significant progress on your project and still have a significant amount of time to make changes before the Jamboree. However, this is not always possible. If it is not possible to collect feedback at the aforementioned ideal time, collect it with as much time left before the Jamboree as possible. Additionally, it is best to collect feedback from the community first because you can address any major problems that arise earlier.

How do I collect feedback from the community?

- There are many ways to collect feedback from the community. One possibility is to have a town-hall style discussion with members of the community to answer questions and figure out what you need to improve on in your project. This can be done via a video call version or in person. Gather the feedback from the discussion through a survey made with Google Forms or another similar software. Below is an example of a survey.



Gaston Day School iGEM Question Form

By answering this survey, you are helping the GDS iGEM team improve our project. We aim to clone the phaselotoxin production operon in *E. coli* and then use phaselotoxin to eliminate the kudzu populations in both agricultural and wild environments. iGEM, according to their website, is "an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of synthetic biology, education and competition, and the development of an open community and collaboration." The questions asked will be answered in a pamphlet that will be linked to our iGEM wiki. If you want to get in contact or keep up with us, follow our Instagram [@gastondayigem](#) or email us at jgem@gastonday.org

* Required

The only information being collected is the information entered into the survey. The members of the GDS iGEM team are collecting the anonymous data, and it will be shown on our wiki and printed in a pamphlet. If you are a minor, you must get your legal guardian's consent before taking this survey. Your consent is

What members of the community should I get feedback from?

- Get feedback from the members of the community who would be most affected by your project. Ensure that you get feedback from people of different educational backgrounds, ethnicities, and genders. One way to do this is by asking for demographics at the end of a survey.

What kind of feedback should I get from the community?

- You should get feedback regarding the practical application of your project and the effects it has on the community.

Section II: Feedback from other iGEM teams

When should I collect feedback from other iGEM teams?

- Ideally, collect feedback from this group before you collect feedback from experts and after you collect feedback from the community. iGEM teams can provide larger-scale feedback on technical topics than feedback provided by experts.

How do I collect feedback from other iGEM teams?

- You could set up a video call or send them your project and have them troubleshoot it.

Section III: Feedback from experts

When should I collect feedback from experts?

- Collect feedback from experts after you get feedback from the community and other iGEM teams. The experts will help you work out the kinks in your project.

Section IV: How to apply this feedback

How should feedback from the community be applied to iGEM projects?

- You should prioritize this feedback first. If the community found major issues with your project (i.e. it will hurt the economy, it is morally objectionable to many), then major changes will need to be made to either the purpose of the final product or the way the project is carried out.

How should feedback from other iGEM teams be applied?

- This should be addressed after the feedback from the community. Other iGEM teams will be able to find major issues with the technical part of your project.

How should feedback from experts be addressed?

- This should be applied after feedback from the community and other iGEM teams. Experts will be able to work out the kinks in the technical part of your project and advise you on how to continue on a commercial level.