

SLINGSHOT

CHALLENGE 2026

Photo: Ian Nichols/National Geographic

SEVEN WAYS
to make your
NEXT Slingshot
Challenge submission
even better than
your first!

Did you enter a previous Slingshot Challenge? You can enter again this year with a video that 1) better highlights your **original idea**, 2) updates us on your **project progress**, or 3) proposes a **brand new solution**. Here are seven ways to help your new-and-improved Slingshot Challenge project shine!

Get started on your next Slingshot Challenge submission by logging in to your Videos for Change account at [Slingshot.videosforchange.org](https://slingshot.videosforchange.org). Submit your one-minute video by **February 6, 2026**, for a chance to receive up to \$10,000 in funding.

1 Keep putting in the work

Your solution idea will grow as you continue to work on it and give you a new and even more incredible story to tell.

2 Sharpen Your Focus

Was your previous solution idea broad and global? Choose one specific, local action you can take close to your home or school and do it.

3 Collaborate

Think about other people who can help you with your project. What roles can they play? Friends, family, mentors and community organizations have the skills and resources to make your dreams into a reality.

4 Get Inspired

Learn more about the work of [National Geographic Explorers](#) who have projects like yours. How do they take action to make a change? How can you?

5 Show Your Impact

Now that you have been working on your idea, you have more to show. Take pictures, conduct interviews, or collect data to show how you are making a difference.

6 Innovate

Innovators are constantly tweaking their ideas based on successes and challenges. How can your previous idea get even better? What does your project look like leveled up? Check out the [Selection Criteria Explained](#) and choose one or two areas that you can focus on for improvement this year. You can sign up for a [Redesign Lab session](#) to get one-on-one feedback on your previous solution idea.

7 Turbocharge Your Storytelling

Use the planning documents in the Participant Toolkit to outline a video that has a strong flow and shows the power of your idea.