



## INSTITUTIONAL REGULATION

### Regenerative Innovation Competition – InnovaCities 2026 – 15th Edition Technology Innovation Center – NIT UNILA

The Regenerative Innovation Competition – InnovaCities 2026, in its 15th edition, constitutes an initiative promoted by the Technology Innovation Center of the Federal University of Latin American Integration (NIT UNILA), within the scope of the Innovacities 2026 event, with the objective of recognizing, fostering, and giving visibility to innovative solutions oriented toward the regeneration of urban and regional territories. Aligned with the consolidated trajectory of the previous edition (2025), the competition reinforces its positioning as an international platform for articulation among academia, the productive sector, public authorities, and civil society, promoting the integration of knowledge and the practical application of technologies, business models, and public policies aimed at sustainable and regenerative development.

In this edition, the improvement of evaluation criteria, the structuring of thematic categories aligned with contemporary global agendas — such as decarbonization, bioeconomy, social innovation, and green infrastructure — and the expansion of the reach and international visibility of participating projects stand out, consolidating the evolutionary, strategic, and high-impact nature of the initiative.

#### CHAPTER I

##### PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Art. 1 The Regenerative Innovation Competition – InnovaCities 2026 is promoted by the Technology Innovation Center of the Federal University of Latin American Integration (NIT UNILA), within the scope of the Innovacities 2026 event.

Art. 2 The competition has a technical-scientific, educational, and innovation-stimulating nature, aimed at recognizing solutions with regenerative impact applicable to urban and regional territories.

Art. 3 This Regulation establishes rules, criteria, procedures for registration, validation, evaluation, selection, and awarding.

#### CHAPTER II

##### OBJECTIVES

Art. 4 The general objective of the competition is to recognize and foster innovative projects with measurable regenerative impact.

Art. 5 The specific objectives are:

- I – To encourage scalable and replicable solutions;
- II – To promote integration among academia, the productive sector, and civil society;
- III – To stimulate a culture of innovation with socio-environmental responsibility;
- IV – To consolidate Innovacities as an international platform for regenerative solutions.

#### CHAPTER III

##### TARGET AUDIENCE AND ELIGIBILITY

Art. 6 The following may participate:

- I – Undergraduate and graduate students;
- II – Researchers;



III – Professionals;

IV – Startups;

V – Companies;

VI – Civil society organizations.

§1 Participation of high school students is not permitted.

§2 Each team must have at least 1 (one) and at most 5 (five) members, which may not be changed during the competition.

§3 The team must designate an official representative responsible for communication with the organization.

§4 Projects already awarded in other events may be submitted, provided they comply with this Regulation.

Art. 7 Participation of members of the Organizing Committee and the Evaluation Board is prohibited.

## CHAPTER IV

### THEMATIC CATEGORIES

Art. 8 Projects must fall into one of the following categories:

I – Resilient Cities;

II – Diversity and Technology for Equity;

III – Governance and Inclusive Public Policies;

IV – New Regenerative Economic Systems;

V – Urban Sustainability;

## CHAPTER V

### SCHEDULE

Description	Date
Opening of registrations	04/10/2026
Closing of registrations	05/15/2026
Deadline for validation of registrations	05/25/2026
Preliminary technical evaluation (asynchronous) by judges	Until 06/05/2026
Final evaluation – Presentation (Pitch)	06/09 and 06/10/2026
Announcement of preliminary and final results	06/12/2026
Award ceremony	06/12/2026

## CHAPTER VI

### REGISTRATION

#### Section I – Formalization



Art. 9 Registration shall be carried out by fully completing the Official Competition Form, accompanied by the submission of the mandatory documentation provided for in this Regulation.

The form must mandatorily contain:

- I – Full name of the proposer and team members;
- II – CPF or equivalent document (when applicable);
- III – Affiliated institution (if any);
- IV – Contact phone number;
- V – Active WhatsApp number;
- VI – Main email and alternate email;
- VII – City, State, and Country;
- VIII – One thematic category in which the team intends to compete;
- IX – Declaration of accuracy of the information;
- X – Declaration of authorship and responsibility.

§1 The absence of valid contact information will prevent the validation of the registration.

§2 It is the sole responsibility of the proposer to keep their data updated throughout the entire duration of the competition.

## Section II – Mandatory Materials for Evaluation

Art. 10 For evaluation purposes, the information and documents required by the form must be submitted at the time of registration, in Portuguese, English, or Spanish:

- I – Technical data of the innovation project/process/product submitted via the form link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIDi3vO7FXQFMfpmHKGjVE5SyutLn5KZooHbmANsUgpWozpQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

and containing the information specified in Article 12.

- II – Project presentation video, with a maximum duration of up to 5 (five) minutes, made available via link (unlisted YouTube or equivalent platform), containing:

- a) Presentation of the inventor and/or team;
- b) Objective explanation of the problem;
- c) Clear demonstration of the proposal;
- d) Evidence or prototypes (when available).

§1 The video must not be exclusively advertising or promotional in nature.

§2 The material must allow objective understanding of the proposal, under penalty of non-validation.

§3 Failure to comply with the maximum duration limit will result in rejection of the project submission, and the video will not be validated for evaluation purposes.

## Section III – Validation of Registrations

Art. 11 All submissions made within the established deadline will initially undergo formal validation analysis, under the exclusive responsibility of the Organizing Committee.

§1 The validation stage is strictly documental and technical-formal, not involving judgment of merit, technical content, or innovative potential of the project.

§2 The following will be considered validation criteria:

- I – Complete submission of the official registration form;
- II – Submission of all mandatory documents required by this Regulation;



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- III – Compliance with the required format and technical specifications;
- IV – Minimum clarity and structural consistency of the information presented, allowing proper understanding and evaluation by the Evaluation Committee;

V – Compliance with the academic and technical purpose of the competition.

§3 Registrations will not be validated if they:

- I – Are exclusively advertising or promotional material without a structured technical proposal;
- II – Do not present minimum information to understand the problem, the proposed solution, and its impacts;
- III – Have missing, illegible, or non-compliant mandatory documentation.

§4 Non-validated registrations will be disqualified at the preliminary stage and will not be forwarded for evaluation by the judges.

§5 The Organizing Committee may, at its discretion and within the established schedule, grant a deadline to correct formal deficiencies, provided there is no substantial alteration to the proposal content.

Art. 11-A Projects will be disqualified at any stage of the competition if they:

- I – present evidence of plagiarism, copying, or violation of third-party rights;
- II – contain false, inconsistent, or unverifiable information;
- III – fail to meet the minimum technical criteria required in this Regulation;
- IV – fail to comply with any formal requirements or deadlines;
- V – fail to attend the mandatory presentation stage (pitch), when summoned;
- VI – use exclusively promotional materials without structured technical content;
- VII – violate applicable ethical or legal standards.

Sole paragraph. Disqualification may occur at any time, upon a reasoned decision by the Organizing Committee.

## **CHAPTER VII**

### **PROJECT STRUCTURE**

Art. 12 The project, to be submitted via Google Form through the link provided in this regulation, must mandatorily contain:

- I – Title;
- II – Selected category;
- III – Identified problem;
- IV – Technical justification;
- V – Detailed description of the solution;
- VI – Innovative differential;
- VII – Expected regenerative impact;
- VIII – Implementation model;
- IX – Maturity stage;
- X – Technical feasibility;
- XI – Economic feasibility;
- XII – Scalability potential;
- XIII – Team identification.



## CHAPTER VIII

### SELECTION AND EVALUATION PROCESS

Art. 13 The selection process shall consist of:

- I – Documentary validation;
- II – Technical evaluation;
- III – Final classification;
- IV – In-person or virtual pitch, depending on the choice made during registration, to be presented during Innovacities 2026.

Art. 14 Evaluation shall be conducted in two stages:

#### **I – Preliminary Technical Evaluation (Remote)**

- a) Judges will have prior access to the technical document and presentation video;
- b) No preliminary scores will be assigned at this stage;
- c) Judges' participation will occur remotely.

#### **II – Final Presentation**

- a) Registered projects will be invited for in-person or synchronous presentation, in pitch format of up to five minutes.
- b) At this stage, the following will be evaluated:

##### **b.1) Resilient Cities Category**

- Innovation – 30 points;
- Resilience – 30 points;
- Feasibility – 20 points;
- Presentation – 20 points.

##### **b.2) Diversity and Technology for Equity**

- Innovation – 30 points;
- Equity – 30 points;
- Feasibility – 20 points;
- Presentation – 20 points.

##### **b.3) Governance and Inclusive Public Policies**

- Innovation – 30 points;
- Impact – 30 points;
- Feasibility – 20 points;
- Presentation – 20 points.

##### **b.4) New Regenerative Economic Systems**

- Innovation – 30 points;
- Circular Economy – 30 points;
- Economic Impact – 20 points;
- Presentation – 20 points.

##### **b.5) Urban Sustainability**

- Innovation – 20 points;



Impact – 30 points;  
Feasibility – 30 points;  
Presentation – 20 points.

Sole paragraph. The final score will result from the sum of the criteria related to the final presentation, totaling up to 100 points.

## **CHAPTER IX**

### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Art. 16 Projects will be evaluated according to the criteria established in this regulation.

§1 Each project will receive a score from 0 (zero) to 100 (one hundred).

§2 The final score will be calculated based on the sum of the scores obtained in each criterion, as established in Article 14.

§3 In the event of a tie, the highest score in Innovation shall prevail.

§4 Subjective criteria not provided for in this Regulation shall not be considered.

## **CHAPTER X**

### **EVALUATION BOARD**

Art. 17 Each category will have evaluators invited by the Organizing Committee of the competition.

Art. 18 Evaluators must:

- I – Have proven experience in the field;
- II – Sign a confidentiality agreement;
- III – Declare absence of conflict of interest.

Art. 19 The decisions of the board are final and non-appealable.

## **CHAPTER XI**

### **FORMAT OF PRESENTATION, EVALUATION AND AWARDING OF PROJECTS**

Art. 20 Validated projects must be presented either synchronously or in person, in pitch format, on June 9 and 10, 2026, at Uniguaçu – Foz do Iguaçu Campus.

Art. 21 Pitch presentations must observe the following criteria:

- a) maximum duration of up to 5 (five) minutes per team;
- b) objectivity and clarity in the presentation of information;
- c) mandatory inclusion of at least:
  - i) identified problem or opportunity;
  - ii) proposed solution (product, service, or process);
  - iii) innovative differential;
  - iv) target audience and impact potential;
  - v) development stage and results achieved (or expected).

Art. 21-A Presentations will take place according to a detailed schedule to be previously disclosed by the Organizing Committee, containing:

- I – individual presentation times;
- II – order of team presentations;
- III – specific location within the event;
- IV – guidelines regarding available infrastructure (audiovisual equipment, internet connection,



among others);

V – operational instructions for accreditation and access to the presentation area.

§1 It is the responsibility of the teams to follow official communications to be informed about logistical details.

§2 Failure to appear at the scheduled time may result in disqualification.

Art. 21-B Pitch presentations may include audiovisual resources, observing the following guidelines:

I – the use of slides or other visual support materials is optional;

II – materials presented must be clear, objective, and compatible with the maximum time established;

III – it is recommended that the content be structured to highlight the problem, proposed solution, innovative differential, and project impacts;

IV – presentations must be conducted in Portuguese, Spanish, or English;

V – any additional technical requirements will be previously communicated by the Organizing Committee.

§1 It is the responsibility of the teams to ensure the proper functioning of their materials during the presentation.

§2 Technical issues do not justify extension of presentation time.

Art. 22 The evaluation committee may allocate additional time for questioning the teams, at its discretion.

Art. 23 Validated projects will be exhibited on June 11 and 12, during the InnovaCities event, within the framework of the International Tourism Festival of the Cataratas.

Art. 24 The award ceremony will take place on June 12, in the afternoon, at the same event.

Art. 25 The following will be awarded:

a) 1st place, with trophy and medal, as well as certificates internationally accredited by IFIA;

b) 2nd place, with trophy and medal, as well as certificates internationally accredited by IFIA;

c) 3rd place, with trophy and medal, as well as certificates internationally accredited by IFIA.

§1 Failure to comply with the maximum pitch duration may result in penalties in the evaluation, according to criteria defined by the organizing committee.

§2 Projects not presented in synchronous or in-person format will be summarily disqualified.

## CHAPTER XII

### ABIPIR 15 YEARS CELEBRATION – GLOBAL IMPACT GRAND PRIZE

Art. 26 Within the scope of the Regenerative Innovation Competition – InnovaCities 2026, a special award named ABIPIR 15 YEARS CELEBRATION – GLOBAL IMPACT GRAND PRIZE will be established, with the objective of celebrating the 15 (fifteen) years of ABIPIR's activities in promoting innovation and transforming ideas into real impact.

Art. 27 The award aims to recognize:

I – Innovative high-impact projects;

II – Initiatives with concrete potential for social, economic, environmental, and technological transformation;

III – Relevant contributions of inventors, researchers, and entrepreneurs aligned with ABIPIR's mission.

Art. 28 The distinctions provided for in this chapter will be granted during:

I – the InnovaCities event – International Fair of Smart, Joyful, Human, and Resilient Cities;



- II – the BRICS Skills and Technology Competition;
- III – both held in the municipality of Foz do Iguaçu, in 2026.

Art. 29 The Global Impact Grand Prize aims to identify, recognize, and promote high-impact innovative projects that demonstrate potential for:

- I – relevant social transformation;
- II – fostering sustainable economic development;
- III – environmental preservation;
- IV – significant technological advancement.

### Section I – Target Audience

Art. 30 The following may compete for the Global Impact Grand Prize:

- I – Independent inventors;
- II – Academic researchers;
- III – Entrepreneurs, including startups and traditional companies.

§1 One (1) Grand Prize winner will be awarded per competition.

§2 Only projects presented in person will be eligible.

§3 Submissions or evaluations of projects exclusively submitted through digital or audiovisual means will not be accepted.

### Section II – Evaluation Criteria

Art. 31 Projects competing for the Global Impact Grand Prize will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

I – Social Impact:

Ability to improve quality of life, promote inclusion, and address relevant societal challenges;

II – Economic Impact:

Potential to generate employment, create new markets, increase productivity, and contribute to sustainable development;

III – Environmental Impact:

Contribution to environmental preservation, efficiency in the use of natural resources, and adoption of sustainable practices;

IV – Technological Impact:

Degree of innovation, technological advancement, scalability, and potential for disruption or significant improvement of existing solutions.

Art. 32 The Global Impact Grand Prize represents institutional recognition of initiatives that transform knowledge into concrete solutions, contributing to the construction of a more intelligent, inclusive, and sustainable future.

## CHAPTER XIII

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Art. 33 Ownership of the projects remains with their authors.

Art. 34 By registering, participants authorize institutional dissemination of the project for academic and promotional purposes.

Art. 35 Confidential information must not be submitted without prior protection by the authors.



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#### **CHAPTER XIV**

#### **FINAL PROVISIONS**

Art. 36 Registration implies full acceptance of this Regulation.

Art. 37 Cases not covered will be decided by the Organizing Committee.

Art. 38 This Regulation enters into force on the date of its publication.

Art. 39 Questions will be clarified through the following contact email:

[c.inov.reg.innovacities@gmail.com](mailto:c.inov.reg.innovacities@gmail.com)



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## ANNEX I – Main areas of interest for each competition category

### I – Resilient Cities



#### Areas of interest:

- **Sustainable and regenerative urban planning**

Development of urban strategies based on compact cities, mixed land use, tactical urbanism, and smart zoning, aiming at territorial efficiency and quality of life.

- **Sustainable and integrated urban mobility**

Implementation of active transport solutions (walking and cycling), fleet electrification, micromobility, and efficient urban logistics, with

reduced emissions and improved accessibility.

- **Smart cities and data-driven urban management**

Application of digital technologies such as Internet of Things (IoT), urban sensors, and open data platforms for monitoring, optimization of public services, and real-time decision-making.

- **Sustainable housing and efficient use of urban land**

Development of low environmental impact housing solutions, focusing on energy efficiency, qualified densification, and reduction of unplanned urban expansion.

- **Urban resilience and climate change adaptation**

Planning and implementation of urban systems capable of addressing extreme events, including sustainable drainage, risk management, and disaster mitigation.

- **Green and multifunctional urban infrastructure**

Integration of solutions such as green roofs, ecological corridors, urban parks, and permeable areas, promoting climate regulation, biodiversity, and social well-being.

- **Participatory urban governance and collaborative planning**

Structuring inclusive decision-making processes, using digital tools and participatory methodologies for social engagement and co-creation of urban public policies.



## II – Diversity and Technology for Equity



### Areas of interest:

- **Sustainable and inclusive energy solutions**

Development and implementation of renewable energy generation technologies (solar, wind, biomass, and small hydropower plants), focusing on equitable access and energy territorialization.

- **Advanced energy storage technologies**

Storage systems based on next-generation batteries, green hydrogen, and hybrid architectures, aiming at stability, autonomy, and energy inclusion.

- **Energy efficiency applied to diverse contexts**

Optimization of energy consumption in buildings, industrial processes, and production chains, emphasizing the reduction of inequalities in access to efficient technologies.

- **Smart and decentralized energy infrastructures**

Development of smart grids, microgrids, and distributed management solutions, promoting energy autonomy and inclusion of peripheral and rural communities.

- **Energy transition and decarbonization of productive systems**

Emission mitigation strategies, including carbon capture and storage (CCS), industrial electrification, and innovation in sustainable production processes.

- **Sustainable and low-carbon mobility**

Technologies and solutions for clean transportation, including electric vehicles, advanced biofuels, and integrated accessible mobility systems.

- **Climate governance, ESG metrics, and carbon neutrality**

Preparation of emission inventories, development of ESG indicators, and implementation of strategies for decarbonization and achievement of carbon neutrality targets.



### III – Governance and Inclusive Public Policies



#### Areas of interest:

- **Circular economy models and innovation in sustainable businesses**

Development of production arrangements based on reuse, remanufacturing, sharing, and reverse logistics, focusing on productive inclusion and generation of socio-environmental value.

- **Integrated management and valorization of solid**

#### waste

Structuring efficient systems for managing urban and industrial waste, including recycling, energy recovery, and inclusion of cooperatives and social actors in the chain.

- **Biotechnology for sustainable production**

Application of biotechnological solutions in the development of biomaterials, bioplastics, and bio-inputs, promoting substitution of fossil-based inputs and strengthening green value chains.

- **Sustainable use of biodiversity and bioeconomy**

Development of production chains based on natural resources, respecting sociobiodiversity, traditional knowledge, and fair benefit sharing.

- **Valorization of agro-industrial and forestry residues**

Transformation of by-products into high value-added inputs, promoting circular economy in the agroforestry sector and reduction of environmental liabilities.

- **Sustainable design and lifecycle-oriented innovation**

Application of eco-design principles, life cycle assessment (LCA), and product durability, aiming at reducing environmental impacts from conception to disposal.

- **Traceability and transparency in production chains**

Development of digital platforms for monitoring, certification, and traceability, strengthening governance, compliance, and trust in markets.



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#### IV – New Regenerative Economic Systems



##### Areas of interest:

- **Social technologies to reduce structural inequalities**

Development and application of low-cost, replicable solutions adapted to local contexts, aimed at overcoming socioeconomic vulnerabilities.

- **Productive inclusion and strengthening of local**

##### **economies**

Promotion of initiatives in solidarity economy, cooperativism, and micro-entrepreneurship, focusing on sustainable income generation and economic autonomy.

- **Professional training and critical digital inclusion**

Implementation of technical and technological training programs, emphasizing digital literacy, workforce qualification, and reduction of inequalities in access to knowledge.

- **Equitable access to essential services**

Development of innovative solutions to expand access to education, health, sanitation, and other basic services, especially in vulnerable territories.

- **Innovation in public policies and regenerative governance**

Creation of institutional models integrating social justice, sustainability, and citizen participation, focusing on public policies oriented toward collective well-being.

- **Impact entrepreneurship and socio-environmental businesses**

Support for the creation and scaling of businesses that generate measurable positive impact, combining economic return with social and environmental transformation.

- **Digital platforms for economic and financial inclusion**

Development of technological solutions that expand access to markets, credit, financial services, and employment opportunities for vulnerable populations.



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## V – Urban Sustainability



### Areas of interest:

- **Nature-based solutions (NbS) for climate mitigation and adaptation**

Development of strategies that use ecological processes to reduce emissions, sequester carbon, and increase the resilience of ecosystems and communities.

- **Ecological restoration and recovery of degraded**

### areas

Application of ecosystem restoration techniques, including forest restoration, soil recovery, and rehabilitation of productive landscapes.

- **Green infrastructure and urban and rural ecosystem services**

Implementation of solutions such as parks, ecological corridors, green roofs, and sustainable drainage systems, aimed at flood control, water quality improvement, and thermal comfort.

- **Biodiversity conservation and valuation of ecosystem services**

Protection of habitats, maintenance of biological diversity, and integration of economic mechanisms to value ecosystem services.

- **Regenerative agriculture and agroforestry systems**

Promotion of sustainable agricultural practices that restore soil health, increase biodiversity, and strengthen productive resilience.

- **Integration between gray infrastructure and nature-based solutions**

Development of hybrid approaches combining traditional engineering with ecological solutions, increasing efficiency and sustainability of urban and territorial systems.

- **Environmental monitoring with advanced digital technologies**

Use of remote sensing, artificial intelligence, and geoprocessing for real-time analysis, forecasting, and management of environmental variables.



## ANEX II

# ABIPIR 15 YEARS CELEBRATION

### Commemorative Awards and Honors

The commemorative awards and honors of ABIPIR were created to celebrate its 15 years of activity in transforming ideas into real impact, recognizing projects, institutions, and personalities — both national and international — that have made relevant contributions to this trajectory.

These distinctions will be granted during the **InnovaCities – International Fair of Smart, Joyful, Human and Resilient Cities** and the **BRICS Skills and Technology Competition**, to be held in Foz do Iguaçu in 2026.

Throughout its history, ABIPIR has trained thousands of inventors, scientists, and entrepreneurs, supporting the transformation of ideas into concrete solutions that improve quality of life and promote sustainable development on a global scale.

### CATEGORIES

#### 1. GLOBAL INNOVATION IMPACT AWARD – PROJECT

##### Objective

To identify, recognize, and promote high-impact innovative projects presented at both events, InnovaCities and the BRICS Technological Innovation Competition, with concrete potential to transform society, boost economic growth, preserve the environment, and advance technological frontiers — aligned with ABIPIR's mission of connecting innovation to practical application.

##### Target Audience

- Independent inventors
- Academic researchers
- Entrepreneurs (startups and traditional companies)

Each competition (InnovaCities and BRICS) will grant one Grand Prize winner, selected exclusively from projects presented in person. Online or video-only projects will not be eligible.

##### Evaluation Criteria

**Social Impact** – Improvement of quality of life, inclusion, and addressing relevant challenges

**Economic Impact** – Job creation, new markets, and sustainable growth

**Environmental Impact** – Sustainability, resource efficiency, and environmental preservation

**Technological Impact** – Degree of innovation, scalability, and disruptive potential

##### Meaning

This award represents the recognition of initiatives that transform knowledge into real solutions, contributing to a smarter, more inclusive, and sustainable future.



## 2. GLOBAL INNOVATION IMPACT AWARD – STRATEGIC PARTNER

### Objective

To recognize institutions, governments, and organizations that have contributed directly or indirectly to the success of ABIPIR's actions over its 15 years, strengthening the innovation ecosystem and international cooperation.

### Profile of Honorees

- Municipal, state, and national governments
- Universities and research centers
- International organizations
- Funding and innovation institutions
- Strategic institutional partners

### Evaluation Criteria

**Institutional Contribution** – Concrete support to ABIPIR programs, events, and initiatives

**International Cooperation** – Promotion of global connections and strategic partnerships

**Ecosystem Impact** – Strengthening of innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological development

**Legacy and Continuity** – Sustained and expanded contributions over time

### Meaning

This recognition celebrates organizations that act as pillars of innovation, enabling connections, opportunities, and lasting impact on a global scale.

## 3. GLOBAL INNOVATION IMPACT AWARD – PERSONALITY

### Objective

To honor individuals who have played a relevant role in strengthening innovation, supporting the entrepreneurial ecosystem, and contributing directly or indirectly to the success of ABIPIR and its initiatives.

### Profile of Honorees

- Institutional and governmental leaders
- Distinguished scientists and researchers
- Entrepreneurs and innovators
- Representatives of partner organizations

### Evaluation Criteria

**Social and Institutional Impact** – Benefits generated for society and innovation ecosystems

**Contribution to ABIPIR** – Direct or indirect support to the institution's initiatives

**Leadership and Inspiration** – Ability to mobilize people and promote innovation

**Global Relevance** – International impact, especially within the BRICS context

### Meaning

This award celebrates trajectories that reflect commitment to innovation, collaboration, and positive transformation of society.

## FINAL MESSAGE

The **ABIPIR 15 YEARS CELEBRATION** awards represent more than recognition — they symbolize a journey dedicated to transforming ideas into real impact.

They highlight projects, institutions, and individuals that are shaping a more sustainable, inclusive, and innovative future, reaffirming ABIPIR's commitment to building a better world for all.



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## **LIST OF HONOREES AND INSTITUTIONS**

### **1. GLOBAL INNOVATION IMPACT AWARD – PROJECTS**

- a) Best project presented at InnovaCities
- b) Best project presented at the BRICS Competition

### **2. GLOBAL INNOVATION IMPACT AWARD – STRATEGIC PARTNERS**

- a) UNILA
- b) UNIGUAÇU
- c) IDESTUR
- d) UNIOESTE
- e) Municipality of Foz do Iguaçu
- f) Government of the State of Paraná
- g) BRICS Academy

### **3. GLOBAL INNOVATION IMPACT AWARD – PERSONALITY**

- a) Mariangela and Celso Lückmann (ABIPIR)
- b) Katia Regina Garcia Punhagui (UNILA)
- c) Claudio Alexandre de Souza
- d) Mr. Liu Zhenying (BRICS Academy)
- e) Mr. Alireza Rastegar (IFIA)
- f) Silvio Palmieri



## ANNEX III

### FAQ – INNOVACITIES 2026 COMPETITION

#### 1. Who can participate in the competition?

Undergraduate and graduate students, researchers, professionals, startups, companies, and civil society organizations may participate. High school students are not allowed to participate.

#### 2. How many people can be part of a team?

Each team may have between 1 (one) and 5 (five) members. After registration, changes to the team composition will not be allowed.

#### 3. Can I participate individually?

Yes. Individual participation is allowed.

#### 4. What type of project can I submit?

Innovative projects at different stages may be submitted, including:  
structured ideas;  
prototypes;  
solutions under development or already implemented.

The most important requirement is that the project demonstrates technical coherence, impact potential, and feasibility.

#### 5. Do I need to have a prototype ready?

Not necessarily. Conceptual-stage projects are accepted, provided they present clarity of proposal, technical foundation, and feasibility.

#### 6. In which category should I submit my project?

The project must be submitted to only one thematic category. It is recommended to choose the one that best aligns with the problem and the proposed solution.

#### 7. Are the areas of interest in Annex I mandatory?

The areas of interest serve as thematic and strategic guidance. Projects aligned with these areas tend to have greater adherence to the competition's proposal, but they are not mandatory in a restrictive sense.

#### 8. Can I submit a project that has already been awarded in another event?

Yes, provided the project meets the requirements of this regulation.



## 9. How will the projects be evaluated?

The evaluation occurs in two stages:

Preliminary technical analysis (remote) – review of the project and video;

Final presentation (pitch) – scored evaluation.

The final score will be assigned based on the final presentation, considering criteria such as innovation, impact, feasibility, and presentation quality.

## 10. Does the preliminary technical evaluation influence the result?

Yes. Although it does not assign a score, the preliminary analysis is used to qualify the projects and support the selection of finalists.

## 11. What will be evaluated in the pitch?

The following will be evaluated:

innovation;

impact (according to the category);

feasibility;

clarity and quality of the presentation.

## 12. Can I present the project online?

Yes, the presentation may take place either in person or synchronously (online), according to the option selected at registration. However, projects presented exclusively remotely will not be eligible for the Global Impact Grand Prize.

## 13. Do I need to be present at the event?

Attendance is not mandatory for general participation but is highly recommended. To compete for the special award (Grand Prize), in-person presentation is mandatory.

## 14. Who should present the project?

The team must designate a representative who will be responsible for the presentation. It is not necessary for all team members to participate in the pitch.

## 15. Can I use slides in the presentation?

Yes. The use of slides or other visual resources is allowed, provided the maximum time of 5 minutes is respected.

## 16. In which language can I present?

Presentations may be conducted in:

Portuguese;

Spanish;

English.

## 17. What happens if I exceed the pitch time limit?

Failure to comply with the time limit will result in elimination.



### **18. What may lead to project disqualification?**

Among the main reasons:

- lack of essential information;
- exclusively promotional content;
- plagiarism or violation of rights;
- failure to attend the pitch;
- non-compliance with the rules of the regulation.

### **19. Will the results be published with scores?**

The official announcement includes the final results. The availability of detailed scores or technical feedback will depend on the event organization.

### **20. What are the prizes?**

1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each category will be awarded. Additional information about prizes may be provided by the organization.

### **21. What is the Global Impact Grand Prize?**

It is a special award that recognizes projects with high global impact. It will be granted to a project selected from those presented in person.

### **22. Can I win more than one award?**

Yes. A project may be awarded in its category and also be selected for the Global Impact Grand Prize.

### **23. Will my project be protected?**

Ownership of the project remains with the authors. It is recommended not to submit confidential information without prior protection (such as patent filing or registration).

### **24. Can my project be disclosed?**

Yes. By registering, the participant authorizes institutional dissemination of the project for academic and promotional purposes.

### **25. Can I modify my project after submission?**

No. After submission, substantial changes to the content will not be allowed.

### **26. How can I ask questions?**

Questions may be sent to:

[c.inov.reg.innovacities@gmail.com](mailto:c.inov.reg.innovacities@gmail.com)