

8th BRICS YOUNG INNOVATORS PRIZE

Terms and Conditions

1. The Prize

The 8th BRICS Young Innovators Prize (YIP) is jointly organized with the 10th BRICS Young Scientist Forum (YSF) and both will take place on from the 15th to the 17th of September 2025 in Brasilia, Brazil, under the Brazilian BRICS presidency.

The BRICS Young Innovators Prize seeks to recognize and reward outstanding achievements in research, development, and innovation that exemplify technological advancements and contribute to the science and technology sectors of BRICS nations.

This award specifically honors young, talented entrepreneurs and researchers whose exceptional innovations have the potential to significantly improve the socio-economic landscape and quality of life within BRICS societies.

These bright young individuals will represent the next generation of scientific and technological leadership in the BRICS countries.

2. Requirements

2.1. Requirements for the projects

The submitted projects **must be innovative**.

Projects must be in the pre-market stage, meaning they are not available for widespread consumer acquisition and are not offered to the public, even in local markets. We accept projects that are in the phases of limited product testing, non-serial production, certification, or preparation for market launch.

The BRICS Young Innovators Prize focuses on **projects** that should/could be used to improve their respective sectors/ industries.

*The thematic area of the contest is: **Artificial Intelligence applied to public service solutions. How can emerging technologies improve the lives of citizens in BRICS countries?***

Considering the public sector, the use of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence enables the modernization of processes through the automation of repetitive tasks, improvement of efficiency and quality of services, cost reduction, increased transparency and more informed decision-making. These benefits bring some challenges related to data privacy and security, algorithm bias and ethical

and legal aspects, among others.

Under the umbrella of this theme, are expected presentations of innovative products and services applied to the public sector, with the potential to improve the socio-economic conditions in the lives of citizens of BRICS countries. Development and applications in AI of inference models, generative and AI agents, LLM, fine-tuning or RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation), Augmented Recovery Generation with efficiency evaluation methods in terms of hit rates, response time, computing intensity, and/or reduction of biases in AI applications, used in the segments of health, education, public safety, economic development, among others are welcome.

Projects must be dedicated to the above-mentioned theme and scope. Projects on other topics will not be considered. They should address significant social, economic, developmental or environmental challenges and offer innovative solutions designed to improve the quality of life in contemporary BRICS societies.

Corporate innovations are not accepted (e.g. projects developed by the employees of a technology company). Also, the projects should not be merged with any other technology company and not be in the process of being merged at the time of participation in the Prize.

By participating in the BRICS Young Innovators Prize, participants agree that the Terms and Conditions outlined herein are binding upon them.

2.2. Requirements for participants

Requirement	Details
Age Limit	Candidates must be under the age of forty (40) by 31 Dec 2025.
Affiliation	Candidates must be affiliated with BRICS countries by nationality (born or naturalized) or residency (permanent residency visa).
Project Submission	Only one project may be submitted per candidate.
Authorship	Candidates must be the initial authors of the submitted project.
Nominations per Country	Each BRICS country may nominate three (3) innovators and one (1) jury member
National Selection Process	Each BRICS member state may select candidates competitively or through nomination.

2.3. Requirements for the submissions

The projects must be submitted by the respective BRICS Ministries of Science, Technology and Innovation or equivalent country institution that leads the BRICS official STI cooperation by **29th of August, 2025** via email, addressed to [<sti@brics.br>](mailto:sti@brics.br)/[<multilateral@mcti.gov.br>](mailto:multilateral@mcti.gov.br)/[<marcus.moraes@mcti.gov.br>](mailto:marcus.moraes@mcti.gov.br).

Submissions must contain the following documents:

- Application form (completed, signed and dated);
- Nominee's Curriculum Vitae/Biography;
- Photo of the nominee (image must be larger than 250*300 pixels); and
- Information and research data pertaining to the submitted innovative project (may be provided in various formats, including Microsoft Word Documents, PowerPoint presentations, as well as photo and video materials).

The Application form must contain the following information:

- Nominee's details/information;
- Nomination Statement (up to 300 words);
- Innovative Project Statement (up to 300 words); and
- Information on the participation in innovation awards/competitions/achievements.

All personal and project information must be submitted in English. The application form cannot be changed in its respective contents after being sent to the Ministry/equivalent institution that leads the BRICS official STI cooperation.

3. Evaluation

3.1. Pre-selection

The project that does not meet the requirements of the regulation, whether by format, content, incorrect thematic area, submitted documentation or other criterion that precludes exempt analysis of plagiarism, will be disqualified at any time.

The organizers of the BRICS Young Innovators Prize reserve the right to reject submissions without notice, including the cases of supplying false registration information and/or non-compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the BRICS Young Innovators Prize.

There is no legal recourse possible against the decision of disqualification. The adjudicators' decisions, including both procedural and reasoning, will be final and will not be open to contest or review.

The selected projects will be presented to an adjudication panel, during the 8th BRICS Young Innovators Prize, which will choose the winners based on the established criteria.

3.2. Presentation of applications to an Adjudication panel

The participants will be required to present their projects to an expert panel comprising of jury members designated by the BRICS member states.

The presentations must be sent to the organizers in their final version by noon on September 14th and cannot be changed after that <sti@brics.br> /<multilateral@mcti.gov.br>.

The presentation of each project is limited to 10 minutes. A clock will be available for checking the time.

By the end of the 10-minute slot, the presentation must be finished, and the microphone will be muted. No extra time will be granted.

The presentation must be individual. Only one person is accepted for each presentation. The participation of any other delegates during the presentation is not allowed.

The Jury will have up to 10 minutes for Q&A. All information provided during the presentation must be in English. The use of translation devices or translation services is not allowed.

The use of paper/electronic notes/cues during the presentation is allowed.

The projects could be demonstrated by photos, videos or in-person at the discretion of the participant. All formats are accepted, neither has an advantage over the other when rating. The lack of demonstration is allowed but can cause the loss of points according to the criterion "Consistency of the technical information presented: theoretical basis of other authors, presentation of procedures that prove the technical functionality of the product or process".

The adjudication panel will comprise independent experts designated by the BRICS member states. Each BRICS member state shall nominate one independent expert to ensure balance, fairness and transparency in the adjudication process. Each jury member will have a scorecard and provide a separate evaluation for each presentation.

The organization will provide a secretary for computing the scorecards of each

jury member. A table with the final score and place of all candidates will be submitted to the adjudication panel.

The adjudication panel will select the three prize winners without disclosing the classification of the other candidates.

Candidates can be disqualified at the adjudication panel. The jury might not grant the Prize if it considers that there are no qualified projects.

The final evaluation of the projects will be held in person from 15th to 17th of September 2025 during the 10th BRICS Young Scientist Forum.

3.3. Winner Selection

Each project will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Points	Description
Innovative Impact	10	Novelty, trends, social impact, and relevance to current challenges in BRICS societies.
Short-Term Applicability	5	Current demand and relevance of the project.
Long-Term Applicability	5	Prospective demand and relevance in the future.
Technical Feasibility	5	Accessibility of implementation and understanding of the technology.
Market Feasibility	5	Business model, competitiveness, and local market applicability (evaluated by each adjudicator for their market).
Quality of Presentation	5	Clarity, consistency of information, grammar, and methodology.
Consistency: Written vs. Presented Project	5	Logic, persuasiveness, clarity, structure, strength of arguments, and supporting evidence.
Consistency: Technical Information	10	Theoretical foundation, procedures proving technical functionality.
Vision	5	Long-term planning and potential future influence of the project.
Project Team	5	Expertise and competencies of the team members.
MAX TOTAL POINTS	60	-

After the end of all presentations, the adjudication panel will have a meeting to adjudicate the final scoring before the announcement of the winners. The decision of the adjudication panel will be final and irreversible. The decision of the jury will be announced at the closing ceremony of the 10th Young Scientist Forum.

4. Prizes

Successful participants will receive the following prizes after applicable verification and subject to compliance with the rules and conditions of the BRICS Young Innovators Prize:

First Prize: twenty-five thousand dollars (USD 25,000);
Second Prize: fifteen thousand dollars (USD 15,000); and
Third Prize: ten thousand dollars (USD 10,000).

All candidates must provide a bank account before the competition with the following information: (SWIFT number, IBAN, Name of the Bank, Address of the bank, account number, full name of the candidate, copy of passport).

Prize payment will be made by deposit on personal Bank Accounts informed. By Brazilian laws, the payment will be made by the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development – CNPq.

It can take a few weeks to process due to bank regulations and exchange conversions. The prize amount will be free of tax in Brazil. Taxes in other countries may apply.

5. Intellectual Property Rights

Each contestant is solely responsible for taking the necessary actions to protect their intellectual property rights before filling in the submission for the BRICS Young Innovators Prize. Such actions may include obtaining legal counsel such as advice from an attorney or a professional experienced in intellectual property law.

The Terms and Conditions of this contest do not prescribe any specific course of action or strategy (e.g. filing for patents) as such decisions remain the business prerogative of the contestant.

The BRICS Young Innovators Prize organizers disclaim any responsibility to take action to protect the intellectual property rights of any contestant.

6. General information

By entering the BRICS Young Innovators Prize, the contestant agrees to:

- The organizers of the contest have no duty of confidentiality concerning the materials submitted and the participant acknowledges that the filing of a submission and participation in a public presentation may be deemed to be the publication of their invention.

- The organizers of the contest may publicly disclose or reproduce any part or all the contestant's submission as well as any presentation materials.
- If the contestant becomes a finalist, they will not enforce any intellectual property rights that they own or control or their solution against any person who uses this solution for personal use.
- To waive any moral rights to materials submitted about the BRICS Young Innovators Prize.
- The organizers of the BRICS Young Innovators Prize may use the contestant's place of residence, image and likeness in publications and promotional materials. Conversely, the organizers of the contest agree that the contestant may use the description «BRICS Young Innovators Prize» in publications about the contest. However, the contestant is not authorized to use the BRICS 2025 Brazil logo, nor state or imply that the organizers of the contest approve or endorse the contestant or the contestant's solution.
- The organizers of the contest may photograph and/or create videos, and/or visual or audio-visual works of all or any part of the presentations and Q&A sessions and awarding of prizes and may use, reuse, publish and republish, display and reproduce these images in whole or in part, with or without alteration or modification, without the contestant's inspection or approval.
- That they do not have any interest (whether under copyright or otherwise) in any of the images or any creative works incorporating those images.

Projects and documents will not be returned to the candidate and will not be considered in future calls for the BRICS Young Innovators Prize. National ministries or equivalent institutions are not responsible for proposals not received because of possible technical problems and network congestion.

By submitting their registration, candidates acknowledge and accept these Terms and Conditions and assume full responsibility for the information they provide.

The participants authorize the BRICS Young Innovators Prize organizers to use their names and images in any type of media.

The organizers of the Prize will not participate in the profits obtained from the project.

The authors of the awarded projects are protected by the right to present them in exhibitions, meetings, and congresses and to allow their dissemination by the

press or any other means, with or without commercial purposes.

The omissions and any doubts or situations not provided for in the rules shall be judged and decided in a sovereign manner by the organizers of the BRICS Young Innovators Prize or by the Adjudication Panel.