

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**NATIONAL INNOVATION COMPETITION | INNOVATE 2023**

Issue No. 18

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation through the Directorate of Articulation and Audiovisual Content calls for the presentation of scientific and technological projects for the eighteenth edition of the National Innovation Contest, to be held in the year 2023.

### **1. OBJECTIVE**

INNOVAR distinguishes projects aimed at inventing, designing and developing new products and services that stimulate the transfer of knowledge and technology to the productive sector with the aim of promoting a national innovative culture, highlighting inventions with social and commercial impact, and sustaining the growth of enterprises technology-based.

In the eighteenth edition, the following strategic themes that are framed in the Strategic Sectors of the National Science, Technology and Innovation Plan Argentina 2030 are prioritized: Argentina space; energy transition; food sovereignty; digital transformation; Argentina against poverty; transition to sustainable development; accessible, equitable and quality health; bioeconomy for territorial development; small and medium enterprises and productive development.

### **2) PARTICIPANTS**

The participants must be natural persons over 18 years of age, of native Argentine nationality or resident in the country and legal entities based in Argentina that are not subsidiaries of parent companies.

They can participate individually or form teams of more than one member. Likewise, the teams of participants can be part of companies, civil society institutions or public sector organizations.

Participating projects, finalists or winners in previous editions can register in this edition, it being the responsibility of each owner to upload the information again at [www.innovar.gob.ar](http://www.innovar.gob.ar) to be officially validated and nominated.

Workers of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, or direct family members, as well as those who have some participation or link with the Organizing Institution, with the Evaluation Committee and Jury, cannot apply for the call.

### **3) CATEGORIES**

Each project must be submitted in one -and only one- category. The Organizing Institution and the Evaluation Committee can change the location of the projects in the categories if they consider it appropriate, without having to notify the participant.

The categories are the following:

#### Innovative Design

Products or processes that stand out for their design, inventiveness, novelty or originality and their commercial potential. It is desirable that the projects contemplate improvements in their structural, technical-productive, provision, or cultural aspects. The developments must be protected or protectable by industrial or intellectual property rights (invention patents, utility model patents, industrial model or design, software) in Argentina and/or abroad. **It is a mandatory requirement to have a proven prototype and evidence of its effectiveness in the case of processes.**

#### Applied Research

Projects derived from a line of scientific research carried out in the laboratory that solve a certain problem or specific approach. The developments must be protected or protectable by industrial or intellectual property rights (invention patents, utility model patents, industrial model or design, software) in Argentina and/or abroad. **It is a mandatory requirement to have a proven prototype and evidence of its effectiveness in the case of processes.**

#### Sustainable Development and

Energy Products or processes patented or patentable in Argentina and/or abroad that include the development of technologies, equipment, and materials that contemplate environmental protection, the development of the bioeconomy, and the distribution of energy in any of their forms. **It is a mandatory requirement to have a proven prototype and evidence of its effectiveness in the case of processes.**

#### Foods

Developments in the area of food technology, which demonstrate a high degree of innovation and/or generate added value in food processes and/or products. They must be patented or patentable products or processes in Argentina and/or abroad whose purpose is to add value and quality to primary products, strengthen territorial development and increase export destinations and volumes.

#### Health

Products or processes patented or patentable in Argentina and/or abroad destined to produce important advances in the health care of the population as well as the insertion in the world market. It includes the incorporation of technology for the development of equipment for diagnostic examinations and medical treatments, as well as the development of components and innovation and design of equipment and devices to improve the conditions of care for people with disabilities.

#### Robotics and Artificial

Intelligence Robots and machines with developed prototypes, in project state, and advanced software designed for use in space technology, robotics and artificial intelligence. Developments for research are included; that have commercial projection; as well as those for education and social development. It is aimed at projects that present improvements with respect to the existing ones and that stand out for being developments with applicability in the national market.

#### Small and Medium Enterprises

Products or processes that stand out for their design, inventiveness, novelty or originality, and their commercial potential, carried out by small and medium-sized national companies. **Small and Medium Enterprises will be considered those whose total annual sales expressed in Pesos (\$) do not exceed the values established in the table referred to in the resolution of art. 1 of Resolution 11/2016 of the Secretariat for Entrepreneurs and Small and Medium Enterprises, modification of Resolution No. 24/2001 of Buenos Aires, 03/17/2016.**

#### Innovation at the University

Products or processes that stand out for their design, inventiveness, novelty or originality and their commercial potential, carried out by undergraduate students. **The projects must be presented by the corresponding Technological Linkage Unit and signed by a teacher with an adjunct, associate or titular position.** The distinction will be assigned to the winners to develop the prototype of the project presented.

#### Technical and Agrotechnical Schools

Innovative technological products or processes committed to local productive needs, which demonstrate the knowledge and skills learned during the school career of the participating teams. The distinction will be assigned to the technical and agrotechnical schools whose projects are selected to develop the prototype of the project presented. The projects that are presented must refer to Technological Base or Productive Base proposals and the inclusion and development of "Innovative Products" and/or "Innovation in Production Processes" will be specially considered. **The projects will be presented as requested in the attached document *Bases and Conditions Category No. 9.* Any questions about this category should be sent to [escuelastecnicas@innovar.gob.ar](mailto:escuelastecnicas@innovar.gob.ar).**

### **4) AWARDS**

Distinctions are awarded to projects as follows:

#### Innovative Design

TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00).

#### Applied Research TWO

(2) distinctions equivalent to ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (\$600,000.00).

#### Sustainable Development and Energy

TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00) .

#### Food TWO

(2) awards equivalent to PESOS ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) awards equivalent to PESOS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) awards equivalent to PESOS SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00).

#### Health

TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00).

#### Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00) .

#### Small and Medium Enterprises TWO

(2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,200,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000.00), TWO (2) distinctions equivalent to PESOS SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$600,000.00) .

#### Innovation at the University FIVE

(5) distinctions equivalent to SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (\$700,000).

#### Technical Schools

FORTY-EIGHT (48) distinctions equivalent to THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (\$300,000).

#### Great Distinction Innovate

TWO (2) additional allocations of EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (\$800,000), to be selected by the jury within the winning projects of each of the categories.

### **5) SCHEDULE**

1. *Registration*: From the signing of the Resolution approving these Bases and Conditions until May 15.
2. *Evaluation*: June 2023 (estimated date).
3. *Preselection*: July 2023 (estimated date).
4. *Announcement and Exhibition of winning projects*: September 2023 (estimated date).

### **6) PRESENTATION OF PROJECTS**

#### **6.1 Online registration**

Project registrations are made from the official portal [www.innovar.gob.ar](http://www.innovar.gob.ar) in the "[2023 Registrations](#)" section. The participants will define a username and password to access the registration platform system, in which they will carry out the actions related to the registration and uploading of the requested documentation.

In the event that those invited to participate in the exhibition need a Certificate of Participation, they can download it from the aforementioned digital platform using their username and password, once the exhibition of the projects has been carried out and finished.

## **6.2 Ownership of projects**

Projects can be submitted by individuals or legal entities. The distinctions will be awarded to the bank account in the name of the holder. In the case of groups, a holder must be chosen who will be responsible to the organizer.

For the cases in which the projects are presented by SMEs, Universities, all the data of the forms to be completed (name of the company, CUIT, bank account, etc.) must be from a legal person.

In the case of the Technical Schools category, at the time of the transfer of funds, it is a condition to be able to receive the distinctions that they have a cooperative account or an institutional account in order. No transfers will be made to private accounts.

In order to collect the awards, it is a requirement that the Project Holders have a bank account in their name and present the documentation that will be required by the Budget, Accounting and Finance Directorate of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.

In case of having to modify the ownership, you must inform by email to [concurso@innovar.gob.ar](mailto:concurso@innovar.gob.ar) and in turn, send a note by postal mail in the name of the Innovar Edition No. 18 Contest, Ticket Desk, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, at Calle Godoy Cruz 2320, (C1425FQD), Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

## **6.3 Acceptance of the Bases and Conditions**

Once the account has been created on the registration platform, the Holders must declare their knowledge and acceptance of these Terms and Conditions, as an Affidavit, certifying that the data provided is correct, truthful and complete, and that they assume all responsibility for the lack of veracity or accuracy thereof. Express authorization is left for the "Public Data" of the projects to be published.

Likewise, the acceptance of the Bases and Conditions implies that the contestant gives their unconditional agreement to the content and to the decisions of the Evaluation Committee.

## **6.4 Form**

Once the form is completed, the Holders can make the shipment during the entire registration stage, taking place to verify, modify and save the data provided as many times as they deem necessary until the closing date of the registration. Once the registration stage is over, the project cannot be modified in any way and will enter the evaluation stage.

When completing the registration form, the Holders must choose the category that best describes the project presented. The Evaluation Committee may recommend to the Organizing Institution the change of category of a project if it considers it pertinent.

It is a requirement that the projects include high quality photographs to be used for the dissemination of the Contest, with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, and a minimum size of A4. No less than TWO (2) images / illustration / color render must be uploaded. Photos that are not of the requested quality or do not present aesthetic criteria, may not be included in the dissemination and catalog pieces. On the registration platform, a tutorial guide is offered to take the photos.

Likewise, a link containing an embedded video can be uploaded to an online platform (Youtube, Vimeo, etc.) that can be used to provide more detail about the project. The use of representative images of various social sectors is strongly recommended, avoiding stereotypes whenever relevant.

In the event that you declare that you have initiated the procedures for the protection of the product or process by industrial property rights (brand, invention patent or utility model, model or industrial design), you must upload the image of the application or title that proves such circumstance.

## **6.5 Responsibilities**

The Holders of the project presented declare themselves solely or solely responsible for any third-party claim on the intellectual property of the product or process presented as a project. Likewise, the Organizing Institution of the contest is released from any responsibility for any type of claim originated by its presentation.

From the presentation of their projects, the participants agree to hold the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation harmless against third-party claims related to the project. For this purpose, they undertake to clean up all contingencies that have a cause prior to the communication and/or entry into the contest.

The applicants undertake to respect the legal and ethical norms that govern free competition, intellectual property and free market practices.

The Holders will be solely responsible for all administrative acts before the Organizing Institution of the contest. In the event that a project with more than one or one member is the winner, the Organizing Institution will not intervene in potential conflicts that may arise.

Once the project is registered in the contest, the Organizing Institution of the same may publish the data uploaded in the "Public Data" section of the form, namely: Name and Surname of the Holder - Name of the project - Place of Filing of the project - Email address of the Owner - Website - Institution to which it belongs.

These data may be used for publication in the contest dissemination campaign, in the product catalogue, on the digital platform for technological projects of the Ministry and in any other space that the Organizing Institution of the contest deems necessary.

In the event that the contestant does not want the previously mentioned data to be published for any reason, after the registration of the project, they must inform the Organizing Institution by email to [curso@innovar.gob.ar](mailto:curso@innovar.gob.ar) and send a note by mail

postal which expresses its resignation to the contest, requesting the deletion of its data. It must be addressed to the name of "Innovar 2023 Contest", Ticket Desk, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, located at Calle Godoy Cruz 2320 (C1425FQD) Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

In the event that the published data is incorrect and/or has been modified, the contestant may request its rectification or modification by email.

## **7) EVALUATION STAGE**

Once the registration stage is over, the stage of evaluation and selection of projects that will be summoned to be part of the catalog and the exhibition will begin.

### **7.1 Jury and Evaluation**

**Committee** The Organizing Institution appoints the members of the Jury and an Evaluation Committee. The Jury is made up of people with an outstanding career in fields related to innovation both nationally and internationally. The Evaluation Committee will be made up of specialized people from the scientific, academic and business world. In both cases there will be an equal composition in terms of gender for the composition of both bodies.

### **7.2 Evaluation Criteria**

The Evaluation Committee must choose the finalist projects according to the evaluation obtained, respecting a confidentiality agreement on the information of the projects to which they have access.

The evaluation criteria to obtain a rating option between high, medium or low are the following:

- A) **Degree of Novelty.** Originality and distinctive character. How disruptive and unique is the innovation presented.
  
- B) **Impact Level.** What is the tangible value created or expected to be created, for a company or institution, its various participants, its community and/or society as a whole. How said impact is determined in value from an economic, environmental, social perspective, improvement of people's quality of life, gender perspective, among others.
  
- C) **Commercial viability.** What is the business model. How the postulated innovation subsists and is strengthened over time. How scalable is it? Its projection at national, regional and global level.
  
- D) **Degree of Development.** The projects that are presented in the contest should preferably have a prototype or equivalent degree of development. Those projects that make express reference to concepts, ideas or pre-projects must have demonstrable progress in their implementation, evidence or study.

### **7.3 Powers of the Jury and Evaluation Committee**

Among all the selected projects, the Jury will distinguish the winners of this edition that will be announced during the days of the exhibition. The members of the Jury constitute the supreme authority of the contest and their decisions are not subject to review or appeal. Likewise, they have powers to declare an Award void, if it is considered that

the quality of the innovations postulated does not allow an adequate and consistent evaluation with the objectives of the Contest.

The Evaluation Committee will make its decisions independently of the Organizing Institution. The Evaluation Committee may recommend to the Organizing Institution the change of category of a project, if it considers it pertinent.

The jury will determine the method of distribution of the additional "Great Distinction Innovate" award in order to select the TWO (2) best projects among the winners of each category and may split the additional award as it deems appropriate.

Decisions will be made by a simple majority of the participants. The members of the Jury and the Evaluation Committee, in the event of being related in any way to any registered candidate or perceiving conflicts of interest, must refrain from participating in the discussion and decision of a certain mention.

## **8) EVALUATION STAGE**

### **8.1 Confidentiality**

Both the information that they complete and the documentation that the contestants accompany will be analyzed by the Organizing Institution under strict confidentiality, and may not be communicated in any way to third parties or entities without prior authorization from the applicant.

Likewise, the Organizing Institution may use the information and/or documentation presented from a project as an example for the production of material for dissemination in the media, as well as to include it in publications or to promote the innovative culture of the country; all this, subject to the prior approval of the contestants, and except in the case of information uploaded as public ("Public Data", in the registration form), which will not require such approval. The Organizing Institution reserves the right to mention those who compete, are finalists and win, as well as public information regarding their applications, in the publications that may be made.

### **8.2 Affectation of the novelty of the invention** The

intellectual property of the research results obtained as a result of the scientific-technological developments that are awarded, will be determined according to the patent laws and specific regulations of the institutions involved.

The Law on Invention Patents and Utility Models - No. 24,481 (TO 1996), in its article 5, establishes that the disclosure of an invention will not affect its novelty, when within ONE (1) year prior to the date of presentation of the patent application, or in its case, of the recognized priority, the inventor has made the invention known by any means of communication or has exhibited it in a national or international exhibition.

In the particular case of the INNOVAR Contest, the time of the awards ceremony should be taken as the certain date of disclosure, unless the participating person presents other prior disclosure records.

**IMPORTANT:** This grace period established in the patent laws is valid in Argentina, and in other countries such as the United States, but not in all territories. In the cases that it is foreseen, it usually has an extension of SIX (6) to TWELVE (12) months.



### **8.3 Ownership of Intellectual Property Rights**

In those cases in which the project is presented by a researcher or a researcher or research group in a dependency relationship with a company, institution or organization, or by a person or group of people who have been hired to carry out research activities; and that consists of results obtained as part of its research and development activities, the ownership of intellectual property rights over such results will be determined by the applicable laws and specific regulations of each entity.

### **8.4 Communications**

The information about the contest and the scope of these Bases and Conditions are provided through the contest website [www.innovar.gob.ar](http://www.innovar.gob.ar) and all communications originated by the Organizing Institution are made through the email [concurso@innovar.gob.ar](mailto:concurso@innovar.gob.ar).

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The list of winning projects will be published on the contest website once the exhibition is over. Winning participants give up their right to their image and use of it, to carry out any type of promotional or advertising publication related to the contest, in the media and social platforms that the organizer considers using.

Once the contest is over, the Organizing Institution will file the documentation received from the participants, which will become part of a database that can be used in an aggregate manner for actions carried out by the Directorate of Articulation and Audiovisual Content and different areas of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation in order to continue supporting outstanding projects related to innovation. Contestants may request the rectification, modification or deletion of their personal data, by sending an email to [concurso@innovar.gob.ar](mailto:concurso@innovar.gob.ar).

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### **8.5 Legal Notices**

The mere fact of participating in the contest means that the participating person fully knows and accepts these Bases and Conditions. The Organizing Institution reserves the right to modify the terms of the different stages as well as any aspect that in its opinion implies organizational improvements in the contest and its procedures.

Any situation not contemplated in these Bases and Conditions will be defined by the Organizing Institution and the participating persons will abide by these decisions without appeal.

The participating persons release the Organizing Institution from all responsibility for any claim that occurs in relation to the information that they upload in their projects and communications related to their participation in the entire contest process. The names of the winning projects will appear published in the media that cover the contest, whether they are contacted by the Organizing Institution, specific media or others.

### **8.6 Jurisdiction and Applicable**

**Law** For the interpretation and fulfillment of these Bases and Conditions, the Organizing Institution and the Participant submit to the application of the applicable laws of the Argentine Republic. Any divergence that may arise related to the interpretation of these Bases and Conditions, as well as derived from the execution of this contest, will be resolved by the Federal Courts in Administrative Litigation based in the Autonomous City

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Argentine Republic - National Executive Branch  
1983/2023 - 40 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY

**Additional Signature Sheet**  
**graphic report**

**Number:**

**Reference:** Bases and Conditions - National Innovation Contest "INNOVAR 2023"

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