



Alliance of
Guangzhou International
Sister-City Universities

Call for Entries

2024 Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition

Sponsored by the Alliance of Guangzhou
International Sister-City Universities and
Hosted by Guangzhou University

The fifth annual Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition will be held from March to November 2024. This competition is for members and affiliate members of the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities.

The theme of the 2024 Competition is “Promoting Sustainable Urban Development” focusing on the United Nations Sustainability Goals to Transform Our World.





Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities

The Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities (GISU) currently includes 22 members and affiliate members representing 5 continents, 17 countries, 20 sister and friendly cities, a combined population of approximately 40 million, enrollment of 550,000 students and 51,000 faculty and staff.

Supported by the Guangzhou Municipality, GISU's mission is to attract and leverage the academic resources of its members in close collaboration for the sustainable development of our cities.



Current GISU Members and Affiliate Members Include:

- Belarusian State University of Physical Culture
- Charles Darwin University
- Durban University of Technology
- Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
- Guangzhou Medical University
- Guangzhou University
- Incheon National University
- Linköping University
- Middle East Technical University
- National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute"
- Polytechnic University of Valencia
- Stellenbosch University
- Tampere University
- University of Coimbra
- University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City
- University of Padova
- University of Quebec at Montreal
- University of the West of England
- University of Zaragoza
- Western Sydney University
- Guangzhou Maritime University
- Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology

2024 Competition Theme

The theme of the 2024 Competition is “Promoting Sustainable Urban Development” focusing on the United Nations Sustainability Goals to Transform Our World.

Competition Finalists will be judged by the following criteria but not limited to:

- Innovation
- Team
- Commerciality
- Social Benefits
- Communication



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



Eligible Participants

Eligible participants are full-time students over 18 years old or graduates within 5 years of graduation (graduates after 2019) from GISU members and affiliate member universities. Each team must have at least two participating members and must be actual members of the project. The principal applicant will be considered as the team leader.

Based on different projects and categories, competition groups include:

CONCEPT TEAMS:

Members of the team have not funded a company but have a business idea or project.

START-UP TEAMS:

Members have launched a start-up company. The company must not have been established before 2022. The equity of the legal representative of the participating enterprise shall not be less than 10% and the total equity of the participating members shall not be less than 1/3. The corporate legal representative shall not be allowed to make changes after the announcement of the contest.



Project Requirements

Registration for the competition must come as a team. Multi-disciplinary, inter-professional, inter-university, and multi-national teams are encouraged. Each team must have at least two participating members and must be actual members of the project.

The GISU member university where the project leader is currently enrolled will be taken as the home university of the project.

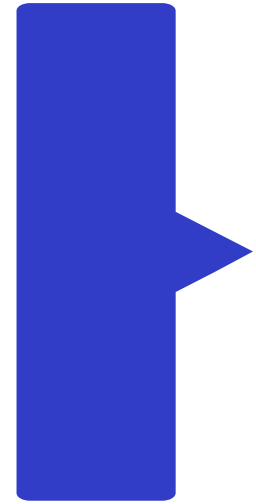
The entries must be real, legal, and in good standing without any negative records. Plagiarism, misappropriation, provision of false materials, or violation of relevant laws and regulations will result in the project team immediately losing rights to participate and will bear all legal responsibilities.

For start-up projects that have completed company registration, the company profile and legal representative status, shareholding structure, and copies of other relevant certification documents must be provided during the in-school competition to the relevant university.

For more details, please check the Competition Rules document.



First



IN-SCHOOL PRELIMINARY COMPETITIONS

Must be completed by June 14, 2024 in order for the entries to be forwarded to Guangzhou University (instructions will follow)

Deadline for the upload of projects: June 21, 2024 (business plan, video, PPT and summary of project - instructions will follow)

Second



ONLINE SEMI-FINAL COMPETITION

July 10, 2024

Expert judges plan to select 12 teams per category to compete in the final. The finalists will be announced by July 17, 2024.

All semi-finalist winners, unless the team notifies the finalist competition committee otherwise, will automatically be entered into the China International College Students' "Internet+" Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition which is the world's largest innovation and entrepreneurship competition for college students.

Competition Schedule

Third



FINAL COMPETITION

November 2024

(Exact Date To Be Announced)

The final competition will be held both virtually and in-person in Guangzhou, China for the approximate 12 teams selected for each category.

Submission Requirements

- Project demonstration video
- Project presentation power point
- Business plan
- Brief summary of the project (about 300 words the team approves to be used as advertisement material on promotional websites)



Competition Awards and Bonuses

Awards for Concept Teams

*All award money is subject to applicable taxes.

GOLD (1) – 50,000 RMB or Equivalent

SILVER (2) – 25,000 RMB or Equivalent

BRONZE (3) – 10,000 RMB or Equivalent

OUTSTANDING MENTOR (6) – 2,500 RMB or Equivalent



Competition Awards and Bonuses

Awards for Start-Up Teams

All award money is subject to applicable taxes.

GOLD (1) – 50,000 RMB or Equivalent

SILVER (2) – 25,000 RMB or Equivalent

BRONZE (3) – 10,000 RMB or Equivalent

OUTSTANDING MENTOR (6) – 2,500 RMB
or Equivalent



Judges and Crediting Rules

Judges of the in-school preliminary competition are selected by each Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities member university.

Judges of the online semi-final competition and the final competition will be selected by the Secretariat Office of the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities.



For Further Information

For further information, please contact Xiaojia Liu (Maggie) in the Secretariat Office of the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities at Xiaojia_liu52@gzhu.edu.cn



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Competition Disclaimer



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The Secretariat Office of the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities (GISU) reserves the right to require competitors to sign an affidavit that they meet each of the eligibility requirements as outlined in the application process.

By participating in the competition, competitors agree that the Secretariat Office of the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities and its members assume no liability and shall have no liability or obligation whatsoever for disclosures of information provided by a competitor as part of a submission or otherwise during the course of the forum and competitions.

Failure to comply with competition requirements may result in disqualification at any time in the sole discretion of the Secretariat Office.. The Secretariat Office reserves the final say in all disputes and may at any time require that a finalist or winner of any cash or service award that failed to comply with requirements as outlined in the application process forfeit and/or repay any such award.

Guidelines, rules and awards for the competitions are subject to change at any time as might be required by the Secretariat Office.

All award money is subject to applicable taxes.