

# **ALLIANCE OF GUANGZHOU INTERNATIONAL SISTER-CITY UNIVERSITIES COMPETITION RULES**

## **Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities overview**

The Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities (GISU) currently includes 18 members, representing 15 countries, 17 sister and friendly cities, with a combined population of almost 38 million, over half a million students and 44,000 faculty and staff.

Supported by the People's Government of 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.

Strategic goals of each city's economic and social development should be considered with the basic idea of promoting sustainable urban development through scientific and technological innovation.

## **Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition**

The third Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition sponsored by the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities and hosted by the University of Padua will be held from February to November 2022.

The competition is promoted by members of the GISU alliance with the support of the People's Government of the Guangzhou Municipality.

The theme of the competition is Promoting Sustainable Urban Development with Scientific and Technological Innovation.

## **Eligible Participants**

Full-time students over 18 years old or graduates within 5 years of graduation (graduates after 2017) belonging to one of the GISU member universities. The principal applicant will be considered as the team leader.

Current GISU 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
- Linköpings Universitet
- Middle East Technical University
- National Technical University of Ukraine (“Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute”)
- Polytechnic University of Valencia
- Tampere University
- Université du Québec à Montréal
- University of Coimbra
- University of Padua
- University of the West of England
- University of Zaragoza
- Western Sydney University.

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 2020. 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**

The entries must be real, legal, and in good standing without any negative records. The forum and competition must not infringe on intellectual property rights of others. Inventions, patents, resources, etc. involved must have clear and legal property rights or intellectual property rights. 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.

Given this project involves the intellectual property rights of others, a complete written authorization letter, patent certificate, etc. for the owner with legal effect must be submitted. For entrepreneurial projects that have completed company registration, its profile and legal representative status, shareholding structure, and copies of other relevant certification documents must be provided. Participating projects can provide relevant financial materials, such as current financial record, details of investment received, employment status, and ecological contributions. For projects that have been funded or have earned more than ten million RMB (or equivalent in other currencies), corresponding supporting materials are recommended.

Registration for the forum and competition must come as a team. Multi-disciplinary, inter-professional, inter-university, and multinational teams are encouraged.

**Each team must have at least two participating members and must be actual members of the project.**

Entrepreneurship projects reported by participating teams must be projects planned or operated by the team. Borrowing projects from others is not allowed. The GISU member university by which the project leader is currently enrolled will be taken as the home university of the project.

Registration for the forum and 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.

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.***

## **Registration**

Participating teams register for the in-school preliminary competition according to the guidelines of each Alliance member. Please consult your designated university contact for further registration details.

## ***Project Submission Requirements***

- Project demonstration video: MP4 format, maximum five-minute video duration with size to not exceed set limits. Videos submitted should be encoded as H.264 while audio is encoded as AAC with the resolution being 800 \* 600.
- Project presentation powerpoint: in the format of ppt or pptx with the size to not exceed 20M, for maximum five-minute presentation duration.
- Business Plan: PDF format.
- Summary of project: brief summary of the project, about 300 words, to be published on the promotional website for the competition hosted by the University of Padua.

Please nominate the file as follows:

TEAMNAME\_PROJECT\_VIDEO,  
TEAMNAME\_PROJECT\_PPT,  
TEAMNAME\_BUSINESS\_PLAN,  
TEAMNAME\_PROJECT\_SUMMARY.

## **Stages of Competition**

### ***1. IN-SCHOOL PRELIMINARY COMPETITION***

The competition stages and selection methods of this preliminary round are determined by each GISU member university. Each member university is responsible to ideally select no less than five participating teams to enter the online semi-final competition.

## **Submission of the entries for the preliminary competition by no later 25 April**

Project presentation videos, PPT, business plans and summary for the online semi-final competition need to be uploaded to the designated online system or sent to the designated mailbox by the member university.

## **Deadline to upload the team entries: 10 May 2022**

### *2. ONLINE SEMI-FINAL*

The online semi-final competition is organized by the competition organizing committee and its expert judges who will select from the project presentation videos, and PPTs submitted by the participating teams recommended by each member university through the network to finalize 12 teams to compete in the final.

## **To be held in June 2022**

### *3. FINAL COMPETITION*

This will be held both virtually and in-person in Padua, Italy.

The final competition will be held either virtually or in-person in Padua for the 12 teams selected. The finals will take the competition form of presentations by participating teams with panel group interviews.

## **Date: November 2022, date to be confirmed**

## **Judging Criteria**

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

- Innovation – Assessment of the level of innovation;
- Team – Assessment of the qualifications of team members, teamwork and external partners;
- Commerciality – Assessment of business feasibility, operating performance, growth potential and cash flow;
- Social Benefits – Assessment of contributions driving employment and other sustainable developments;
- Communication – Assessment of presentation.

## Final Competition Awards and Bonuses

There will be gold, silver, bronze awards and outstanding mentor awards to be presented in the finals. Some awards may be vacant according to the number of entries. All awards are subject to applicable taxes. The forum and competition organizing committee will issue award certificates, medals and bonuses.

In addition, ample opportunities for continuous training, intercollegiate exchange and communication will be provided. Favorable policies and follow-up arrangements for introducing potential investment, financing services, talent settlement and incubation are to be offered to the outstanding project teams.

- **FINAL AWARDS FOR CONCEPT TEAMS**

<b>Awards</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Bonus</b> <i>* All award money is subject to applicable taxes.</i>
GOLD	1	<b>100,000 RMB (or equivalent)</b>
SILVER	2	<b>50,000 RMB (or equivalent)</b>
BRONZE	3	<b>20,000 RMB (or equivalent)</b>
OUTSTANDING MENTOR	6	<b>5,000 RMB (or equivalent)</b>

- **FINAL AWARDS FOR START-UP TEAMS**

<b>Awards</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Bonus</b> <i>* All award money is subject to applicable taxes.</i>
GOLD	1	<b>10,000 EURO (or equivalent)</b>
SILVER	1	<b>T.B.D.</b>
BRONZE	1	<b>T.B.D.</b>

### **Contact Information**

For further information, please contact the University of Padua at the following email:  
**[gisu.competition2022@unipd.it](mailto:gisu.competition2022@unipd.it)**

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