

# ImpreSapiens Innovation Award

## **Art. 1 – Premises and Purpose of the Award**

This Regulation lays down the procedures for the competition for the ImpreSapiens Innovation Award ("Award") launched by Centro di Ricerca ImpreSapiens. The Award is an important initiative for ImpreSapiens to promote and celebrate innovation and stimulate collaboration between academia and the ecosystem of businesses and more generally the community of innovators. The aim is to identify, evaluate and reward more innovative projects put in place by public and private entities, whether they are startups, SMEs or large multinationals, in order to encourage the development of advanced solutions that have a tangible and significant impact on society.

## **Art. 2 – Eligibility requirements**

All legal entities, including corporations of every form, institutions, public bodies, non-profit organizations, foundations, research entities and other entities constituted in associative or similar forms are eligible to participate in the competition.

If the application for the Award is submitted by the “project representative” not acting in the capacity of the legal representative of the proposing entity, it is mandatory to attach to the application form a specific power of attorney, duly signed by the legal representative of said proposing entity. This power of attorney must explicitly authorize the applicant to submit the proposal on behalf of and in the name of the legal entity and must be drawn up in accordance with the methods and requirements prescribed by the applicable laws. In the absence of such a power of attorney, the application will not be considered and will be deemed null and void.

Individuals acting in their personal capacity are not eligible to participate in the Award.

## **Art. 3 - Modalities of Participation**

- **By January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** submission of the project according to the guidelines contained in Art. 5 of these Regulations.

- **By February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** communication of the finalists by email. More detailed information about the award event will be published on the website of Centro di Ricerca ImpreSapiens and disseminated through its own social media channels.

## Art. 4 - Project Categories

The Award aims to enhance innovative ideas and solutions - also in the prototype phase - and will be awarded to the 5 best innovative projects. Below is an illustrative but not exhaustive list of potential areas of interest:

- Art, culture and tourism
- Biotechnology
- Customer engagement and customer satisfaction
- AI & Deep tech
- Energy and sustainability
- Fashion
- Fintech
- Food & beverage
- Healthcare and personal services
- ICT applied to the enterprise
- Organization of work
- Smart city and mobility
- Sport and non-profit sector.

The top 5 innovative projects will be selected based on merit and innovation, regardless of category.

## Art. 5 – Presentation of Projects

A complete overview of the submitted project is required in order to accurately assess its merit, innovation, potential impact and alignment with the objectives of the competition. Applications must be submitted exclusively by filling in the appropriate online form available at the following link: <https://forms.gle/KXBdZNhEktZyB6u58>

The project will be illustrated through three separate documents, structured as follows:

- **Pdf document** (maximum length: 5 pages) containing the following information:
  1. *Abstract*: a summary of the project indicating its objective, the methodology used and the innovation it represents.
  2. *Objectives*: A detailed description of the aims to be achieved by the project, highlighting the main objectives expected.
  3. *Target*: definition of the audience or market segment to which the project is directed, with an explanation of the specific needs it intends to satisfy.
  4. *Applications*: an illustration of the possible applications and concrete implementations of the project in the real context, highlighting where it can find greater applicability.

5. *Impacts*: an assessment of the potential effects of the project, examining possible beneficial effects for the identified target and/or possible impacts in the reference market and/or in the wider socio-economic context.
6. *KPIs*: a list of specific indicators used to assess the potential of the project.
7. *Collaborations*: possible partnerships or collaborations with third parties.
8. *Network*: an analysis of the ecosystem in which the project operates, considering the adequacy and effectiveness of the adopted strategy.

- **Presentation ppt format or similar** (maximum length: 10 slides) that summarizes the information reported in the previous document, to be structured according to the preferences and stylistic choices of the applicant.

- **Supporting materials**: any complementary documentation, prototypes, video recordings and any other material that can complement and deepen the presentation of the project, providing further details or concrete demonstrations of its validity (OPTIONAL).

- **Video document** not exceeding 90 seconds in which the project is presented without visual support (OPTIONAL).

During the evaluation period, the jury members reserve the right to request additional details from the candidates regarding the submitted project, possibly through the organization of targeted meetings.

## **Art. 6 – Evaluation Criteria**

The projects submitted will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

1. *Innovativeness*: the degree of originality and pioneering spirit of the project in introducing unconventional ideas, technologies or methodologies, as well as the potential relevance in defining new standards or opening new horizons in the field of application.
2. *Impacts on the territory*: the effectiveness of the project in generating significant impacts at a territorial level, as well as possible synergies with the local and national economic and social fabric.
3. *Sustainability*: the coherence of the project with the principles of sustainability, considering in particular the alignment with the United Nations SDGs.
4. *Ability to build value networks*: the capacity to generate added value for the stakeholders involved in the project, in quantifiable terms of revenues, profits, innovation and/or social/environmental impacts.
5. *Scalability*: the adaptability of the project to different contexts and its potential influence at the macro level.

## **Art. 7 – Prize and Award Ceremony**

The prize, which will be awarded during a dedicated ceremony, does not include a cash reward or other economic benefits. The winners may be asked to present their project as part of the award event. This eventuality will be duly notified to interested parties as appropriate.

## **Art. 8 - Processing of Data and Privacy**

The processing of personal data and information related to the submitted project, contained in the documents uploaded through the specific online form, is carried out in accordance with the provisions set out in the Privacy Notice, attached to these Regulations and considered an integral part thereof. Applicants are required to carefully read the Privacy Notice and to upload a signed copy for acceptance through the online form, as a necessary condition for the submission of the application. The Notice must be digitally signed and/or accompanied by a legally valid identity document of the individual acting on behalf of the proposing entity. By signing the Privacy Notice, the applicant expresses their informed and unequivocal consent to the processing of their personal data as well as all additional information contained in the submitted documents, under the terms and for the purposes indicated therein. In the absence of such a document, or should it be incomplete or non-compliant, the application will not be considered and will be deemed null and void.

## **Art. 9 – Grounds for Exclusion**

Participants who do not scrupulously adhere to the provisions established in these Regulations will be automatically excluded from the competition. The same treatment will be reserved for those who, through illicit or unauthorized actions, attempt to interfere with the regular progression of the contest or, in any way, threaten its final success.

In particular, candidates are required to comply with the following behavioral guidelines:

- demonstrate the use of expressions that may incite violence, discrimination, obscenity or defamation;
- refrain from disseminating offensive, defamatory, vulgar content, infringing upon others' privacy, contrary to current laws, as well as from advertising material or of a political, ideological or religious nature;
- respect copyright, registered trademarks, and other intellectual property rights;
- comply with regulations concerning the protection of personal data.

Furthermore, it is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that all documents are complete, accurate and conform to the established rules and according to current legal regulations. Failure to meet these requirements will result in the invalidity of the application.