

**Macao Technology & Innovation  
Competition for the Lusophone and Hispanic  
Countries  
2026**

**Competition Guidelines**

Organizer:	Economic and Technological Development Bureau of the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region
Implementers:	Da Heng Qin (Macao) Corporation Limited Macao Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre
Strategic Partner:	Economic Development Bureau of Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin
Supporting Units:	Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute of the Macao Special Administrative Region  Science and Technology Development Fund of the Macao Special Administrative Region  Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province  Jiangsu Provincial Department of Science and Technology  Beijing Municipal Science & Technology Commission, Administrative Commission of Zhongguancun Science Park  Science and Technology Commission of Shanghai Municipality  Guangzhou Municipal Science & Technology Bureau  Science, Technology and Innovation Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality  Zhuhai Science and Technology Innovation Bureau  The Association for Promotion of Science & Technology of Macau  Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries  Service Centre for Economy and Trade between China and Portuguese/ Spanish-speaking Countries

Supporting Organizations : 8 HOURS AHEAD

(In alphabetical order)

929 Challenge

ABES - Brazilian Association of Software Companies

Antera Asset Management SA

Association for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Macau —  
China and Portuguese Speaking Countries (AEIMCP)

Audax-ISCTE

Biocat

Católica Lisbon Entrepreneurship Center (CLEC)

Center for Integrated AI (CIIA)

Fábrica de Startups

Federal University of Ceará (Partec UFC)

Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Fosun Foundation

Grupo Lucrea

InovaHC

Madan Parque

NOVA University Lisbon

Startup Leiria

Startup Madeira

Supera Parque

TERINOV

Traciona

UBImedical

University of Aveiro

University of Coimbra

University of Évora

University of São Paulo

UPTEC

WI Harper Group

- Cooperating Entities:
- Banco Nacional Ultramarino
  - Bank of China
  - Macau Delegation of The Portugal-China Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - The Portuguese Speaking Countries Community Business Confederation (CE-CPLP)
  - Macao Portuguese and Spanish Speaking Countries Entrepreneurs Association
  - C&C Lawyers and Notaries
- Special Supporting Unit: Macao Science Center

# **Macao Technology & Innovation Competition for the Lusophone and Hispanic Countries 2026**

## **Competition Guidelines**

### **1. Background**

In accordance with China’s innovation-driven development strategy, Macao is embracing a significant opportunity to integrate into the overall national development. Supported by the Belt and Road Initiative, the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and the innovative institutional environment of the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, Macao will remain committed to its strategic positioning as “One Centre, One Platform, One Base” and “One Highland”. By leveraging its unique advantages of reinforcing connectivity and the fusion of Chinese and Western cultures, Macao aims to deepen all-round, mutually beneficial cooperation with Portuguese-Speaking Countries and other international partners.

Building upon this foundation, Macao will further consolidate and enhance the strategic functions of the “Platform between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries” and its global connectivity, fostering profound exchange and cooperation between China and the international community in the field of technological innovation. On one hand, Macao will be developed into an efficient and pragmatic hub for international scientific and technological cooperation, facilitating the convergence of innovative resources and the transformation of scientific achievements. This initiative aims to support Macao’s appropriate economic diversification and sustainable development while injecting innovative momentum into the construction of the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin.

On the other hand, Macao will serve as a bridge for outstanding overseas technology enterprises to enter the Chinese Mainland market, promoting effective alignment with the Chinese Mainland’s vast market scale, advanced technical capabilities, and abundant capital resources. By establishing a mutually beneficial and synergistic cooperation mechanism, it aims to promote complementary strengths and collective advancement between China and foreign partners in tech innovation and industrial development, injecting sustained impetus into the high-quality development of the regional economy.

## **2. About the Competition**

The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition (Macao) for Technology Enterprises from Brazil and Portugal has been held every year since 2021. In an effort to further expand the Competition's reach to other international markets this year, the event will be officially renamed the "Macao Technology & Innovation Competition for the Lusophone and Hispanic Countries" (hereinafter referred to as "Competition") and will adopt the approach of "recommended by localities, reviewed in Macao, settled in the Greater Bay Area" to provide ample development opportunities for international innovative startups. The startups taking part in the Competition are recommended by international organizations such as incubators and higher education institutions, and will be selected by the judging committee consisting of professional investors, academics, heads of financial institutions, and representatives of incubators, etc. In addition to prizes and certificates, the winning startups will also have the opportunities to be referred to renowned venture capitalists, financial institutions, incubators and other tech enterprises in China, enabling them to get a head-start in finding partners and capital resources in the Greater Bay Area. This year, the Competition will adopt a "One Application, Two Competitions" format. Upon registering for this event, all participating projects will automatically qualify for the "Hengqin International Sci-Tech Innovation Competition for Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking Countries (HISIC)" (To be confirmed).

Furthermore, the award winners will be eligible to take part in the Delegation of Technology Enterprises from Portuguese-Speaking Countries to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, showcase their projects in major exhibitions in Macao and have the opportunities to network with different entrepreneurial ecosystem stakeholders in the Greater Bay Area. Participants can also utilize Macao as the Commercial and Trade Co-operation Service Platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries and the Centre for Science and Technology Exchange and Cooperation between China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries to obtain opportunities for exchanges, demonstration and matchmaking during the exhibition and competition.

### 3. Competition Schedule and Entry Requirements

3.1 Call for entries: **From now until May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**. Interested parties must submit their application materials, **application form, company logo, any road show materials (such as PPT or Brochure)** and a **5-minute pre-recorded project roadshow video**.

- Video and Pitching Language: English

- Video Resolution: 720p/1080p

- Video Format: MOV/MP4

3.2 Final:

3.2.1 Date and Time: June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Tuesday), 9:00 a.m. (GMT+8);

3.2.2 Venue: Macao Science Center;

3.2.3 Contest: The judges will evaluate the projects based on the **5-minute pre-recorded roadshow video** of each participating project and the **3-minute online Q&A session** on the day of the competition.

3.3 Result Announcement:

The results will be announced on the day of the final contest or through the official channels and media (websites, Facebook pages, WeChat Official accounts, etc.) of the Organizer and Implementers.

#### 4. Awards, Prizes, and Incentives

##### 4.1 Champion, 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up, 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up, and other major awards:

Awards	Qualification	Quota	Prizes
Champion	<b>All teams entering the Final</b>	1	MOP200,000 (Approx. USD 24,000) and a Certificate
1st Runner-up		1	MOP150,000 (Approx. USD 18,000) and a Certificate
2nd Runner-up		1	MOP120,000 (Approx. USD 14,000) and a Certificate
Greatest Potential for Development in the Greater Bay Area Award		1	MOP40,000 (Approx. USD 5,000) and a Certificate
Greatest Potential for Transfer of Technological Value Award		1	MOP40,000 (Approx. USD 5,000) and a Certificate

- **The prize for the Champion, 1st Runner-up, and 2nd Runner-up will be disbursed in two installments (upon the conclusion of the competition and upon local business registration):**
- **First Installment (50%):** Award winners may apply for disbursement following the conclusion of the competition.
- **Second Installment (50%):** Award winners apply for the award upon formal registration and incorporation in Macao or Hengqin on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027.
- **Failure to complete local business registration within the prescribed period will be deemed a voluntary waiver of the second installment of the prize.**

##### 4.2 Other incentives and opportunities

The award winners of the Competition will have the opportunity to connect with venture capitalists, financial institutions, incubators and other tech enterprises at the recommendation of the Organizer. In addition, if the awarded startups are interested in setting up their operations in the Greater Bay Area and intend to conduct on-site visits for finding partners and financing, qualified teams may be subsidized by the Macao SAR Government for the visits. Details will be announced later.

## **5. Themes and Restrictions**

5.1 Participating startups must fall into one of the following technology areas:

5.1.1 Integrated Circuit / Electronic Component and Device;

5.1.2 Biomedicine / Medical Devices;

5.1.3 Biotechnology;

5.1.4 Big Data/ Artificial Intelligence (Including Autopilot Technology/ Intelligent Manufacturing Technology/ Internet of Things Technology Services/ Blockchain Technology/ Interactive Technology/ Cloud Computing/ Edge Computing/ Wearable Devices/ Intelligent Drones, etc.);

5.1.5 New Materials /New Energy.

5.2 Project teams shall have the intention to seek business opportunities and establish companies in the Greater Bay Area.

## **6. Application and Entry Submission**

6.1 Interested parties can contact local supporting organizations for further information:

6.1.1 Macao (In alphabetical order):

6.1.1.1 929 Challenge:

(Website: <https://929challenge.org/> ;Email: [marco@929challenge.org](mailto:marco@929challenge.org))

6.1.1.2 Association for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Macau — China and Portuguese Speaking Countries (AEIMCP):

(Website: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/association-for-entrepreneurship-and-innovation-macau-china-psc/> ;Email: [marco@929challenge.org](mailto:marco@929challenge.org))

6.1.2 Portugal (In alphabetical order):

6.1.2.1 Audax-ISCTE:

(Website: <https://ibs.iscte-iul.pt/> ; Email: [international.ibs@iscte-iul.pt](mailto:international.ibs@iscte-iul.pt))

6.1.2.2 Católica Lisbon Entrepreneurship Center (CLEC):

(Website: <https://clsbe.lisboa.ucp.pt/entrepreneurship-center/about> ; Email: [pierre.gein@ucp.pt](mailto:pierre.gein@ucp.pt))

6.1.2.3 Fábrica de Startups:

(Website: <https://www.fabricadestartups.com/> ; Email: [talk@fabstart.pt](mailto:talk@fabstart.pt))

6.1.2.4 Madan Parque:

(Website: <https://www.madanparque.pt/en/> ; Email: [info@madanparque.pt](mailto:info@madanparque.pt))

6.1.2.5 NOVA University Lisbon:

(Website: <https://www.unl.pt/en/> ; Email: [reitoria@unl.pt](mailto:reitoria@unl.pt))

6.1.2.6 Startup Leiria:

(Website: <https://startupleiria.com/> ; Email: [geral@startupleiria.com](mailto:geral@startupleiria.com))

6.1.2.7 Startup Madeira:

(Website: <https://startupmadeira.eu/en/> ; Email: [info@startupmadeira.eu](mailto:info@startupmadeira.eu))

6.1.2.8 TERINOV:

(Website: <https://terinovazores.pt/> ; Email: [geral@terinovazores.pt](mailto:geral@terinovazores.pt))

6.1.2.9 UBImedical:

(Website: <https://ubimedical.pt/> ; Email: [ubimedical@ubi.pt](mailto:ubimedical@ubi.pt))

6.1.2.10 University of Aveiro:

(Website: <https://www.ua.pt/pt/incubator/> ; Email: [uaincubator@pci.pt](mailto:uaincubator@pci.pt))

6.1.2.11 University of Coimbra:

(Website: <https://www.uc.pt/en/> ; Email: [dri@uc.pt](mailto:dri@uc.pt))

6.1.2.12 University of Évora:

(Website: <https://www.uevora.pt/en/> ; Email: [geral@sasue.uevora.pt](mailto:geral@sasue.uevora.pt))

6.1.2.13 UPTEC:

(Website: <https://uptec.up.pt/> ; Email: [geral@uptec.up.pt](mailto:geral@uptec.up.pt))

6.1.3 Brazil (In alphabetical order):

6.1.3.1 ABES - Brazilian Association of Software Companies:

(Website: <https://abes.org.br/en/> ; Email: [desenvolvimento.associados@abes.org.br](mailto:desenvolvimento.associados@abes.org.br))

6.1.3.2 Antera Asset Management SA:

(Website: <https://www.anteragr.com.br/> ; Email: [contato@anteragr.com.br](mailto:contato@anteragr.com.br))

6.1.3.3 Center for Integrated AI (CIIA):

(Website: <https://www.ciia.com.br/> ; Email: [ciia@com.com.br](mailto:ciia@com.com.br))

6.1.3.4 Federal University of Ceará (Partec UFC):

(Website: <https://parquetecnologico.ufc.br/pt/> ; Email: [parquetecnologico@ufc.br](mailto:parquetecnologico@ufc.br))

6.1.3.5 Federal University of Rio de Janeiro:

(Website: <https://incubadora.coppe.ufrj.br/> ; Email: [inc@incubadora.coppe.ufrj.br](mailto:inc@incubadora.coppe.ufrj.br))

6.1.3.6 InovaHC:

(Website: <https://inovahc.com.br/en/home/> ; Email: [inova@hc.fm.usp.br](mailto:inova@hc.fm.usp.br))

6.1.3.7 Supera Parque:

(Website: <https://superaparque.com.br/> ; Email: [parque@superaparque.com.br](mailto:parque@superaparque.com.br))

6.1.3.8 Traciona:

(Website: <https://www.traciona.com/> ; Email: [franklin@traciona.com](mailto:franklin@traciona.com))

6.1.3.9 University of São Paulo:

(Website: <https://www5.usp.br/> ; Email: [convinte@usp.br](mailto:convinte@usp.br))

6.1.4 Spain (In alphabetical order):

6.1.4.1 Biocat:

(Website: <https://www.biocat.cat/en> ; Email: [info@biocat.cat](mailto:info@biocat.cat))

6.1.4.2 Grupo Lucrea:

(Website: <https://www.lucrea.es/> ; Email: [lucrea.es@gmail.com](mailto:lucrea.es@gmail.com))

6.1.5 Others (In alphabetical order):

6.1.5.1 8 HOURS AHEAD:

(Website: <https://www.8-hours.co/> ; Email: /)

6.1.5.2 Fosun Foundation:

(Website: <https://csr.fosun.com/> ; Email: [csr@fosun.com](mailto:csr@fosun.com))

6.1.5.3 WI Harper Group:

(Website: <https://wiharper.com/?lang=zh-hant> ; Email: [marco.wai@wiharper.com.mo](mailto:marco.wai@wiharper.com.mo))

## 7. Judging Criteria

7.1 Novelty;

7.2 Feasibility;

7.3 Profitability;

7.4 Market competitiveness;

7.5 Overall capacity of the team.

Note: In case of entries with tied scores, the judging committee will hold a meeting to make final decision.

## **8. General Rules**

8.1 All the personal information submitted by the participating startups must be correct and accurate; the Organizer reserves the right to request the original documents and/or information for verification;

8.2 The Organizer shall not be liable for any delayed, late, or wrongly submitted applications;

8.3 Each participant can only represent one project;

8.4 If the participating startups own the intellectual property rights of their contesting projects, they must ensure that no intellectual property rights of any individual or entity are infringed. The responsibility for protecting the intellectual property rights or any other rights of the contesting projects rests solely with the participating startups, and the Organizer shall not assume any responsibility for protecting the intellectual property rights or any other rights of the participating startups;

8.5 Projects that have won the awards in previous Competitions are not eligible to participate in the Competition;

8.6 The awarded startups of the Competition are required to participate in the promotional activities held by the Organizer;

8.7 For the purpose of arranging business matching and other follow-up activities in the future, the Organizer reserves the right to grant the project information submitted by the participants to the relevant third-party organizations for referral purposes.

## **9. Remarks**

9.1 All the personal information submitted by the participating startups will be handled by the Organizer in strict protection accordance with the provisions of Law No. 8/2005, the Personal Data Protection Act. The information provided will be kept strictly confidential and will only be used for the purpose of the Competition and related activities;

9.2 The Competition features a “One Application, Two Competitions” model this year. Consequently, the project information submitted by participants will be shared with the organizers of the “Hengqin International Sci-Tech Innovation Competition for Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking Countries ( HISIC ) ” for registration purposes.

9.3 The finalists of the Competition must cooperate with the Organizer in required promotional activities, and the Organizer reserves the right to use the photos and videos taken during the activities for promotional purposes;

9.4 The Organizer reserves the right to revise the Competition Guidelines without prior notice, should any aspect be found inadequate;

9.5 The Organizer reserves the right of interpretation and final decision regarding the Competition;

9.6 The Chinese version of the Competition Guidelines shall prevail in case of dispute.

## **10. News Release and Contact Information**

10.1 Release of the latest news on the competition:

Website of the Macao Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre (MYEIC): [www.myeic.com.mo](http://www.myeic.com.mo)

10.2 Contact information:

Email address of the Competition Affairs Committee: [myeic@zhukuangroup.com](mailto:myeic@zhukuangroup.com)