

**REGULATIONS
ON INTERNATIONAL AWARD OF BEST PRACTICES
“BRICS SOLUTIONS AWARDS”**

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SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. These Regulations establish the goals, objectives, procedure, conditions, timeframe of the International Award for Best Practices in Tech “BRICS Solutions Awards” (hereinafter the Award).

1.2. The official name of the award is “International Award for Best Practices “BRICS Solutions Awards”.

1.3. The main objectives of the Award are:

1.3.1. To facilitate the establishment of an independent and multipolar cooperation system for creating, implementing and improving new technologies based on the unique needs and capabilities of the BRICS countries;

1.3.2. To assemble a pool of best practices and discuss joint projects aimed at designing a common technological space.

1.4. The following terms are used in these Regulations:

Application for the Award (hereinafter the Application) stands for data, documents and presentation materials containing complete information about the Applicant and the Practice, submitted through the official Internet resource of the Award in accordance with these Regulations.

Applicant stands for a legal entity (for-profit companies, non-profit organizations and associations, public institutions, universities, startups etc.), an individual, a public authority, a local government body that submits (submitted) an application to participate in the selection of practices through the official Internet Resource of the Award. The Applicant should be residing, registered or active in one or more BRICS countries.

Practice stands for a completed project with measurable results and proven efficiency. It should have a scaling potential and address relevant issues within the agenda of one of the nominations.

Winner of the Award stands for up to 3 (three) practices that received the largest number of votes by the Award Board in the corresponding nomination.

Award Board stands for a collegial body formed by the Steering Committee of the Award to determine the winners of the Award.

Expert Groups of the Award stand for representatives of specialized Brazilian and foreign expert organizations involved in expert assessment of practices in each of the nominations.

Shortlist stands for a list of five practices receiving the largest number of points in each nomination after the expert evaluation.

1.6. The Applicant who provided information on the practice on the official Internet Resource of the Award is considered to be the author of the Practice for the purposes of the Award.

1.7. The official language of the Award is English. Given the technical opportunity, the Awards materials may also be made available in BRICS countries’ national languages.

1.8. Participation in the Award is voluntary and free of charge. Participants of the Award bear the costs associated with the Application preparation and submission, as well as with attending the awards ceremony for the Winners of the Award.

1.9. The official Internet Resource of the Award is <https://bbcbrasil.org>. It hosts information about the Award and publishes the Award results. Applications are submitted through the official Internet Resource of the Award through the Project Management Information System (<https://monday.com/>).

1.10. These Regulations, as well as amendments hereto, are approved jointly by the Steering Committee of the Award.

SECTION 2. AWARD PROCEDURE

2.1. The Steering Committee of the Award is formed by the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) and the Brazilian Institute for the Development of International Business Relations (IBREI).

2.2. The Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) provides organizational support for the Award, receive, process and review applications in the platform (<https://monday.com/>), arrange the evaluation process to identify the Winners and Finalists of the Award, as well as declare the Award results to the public.

2.3. The Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) provides information support for the Award, carries out the process of inviting the international jury, takes part in the work of the Award Board, and provides event space and relevant organizational support for awarding the Winners of the Award.

2.4. The Brazilian Institute for the Development of International Business Relations (IBREI) disseminates information about the Competition, attracts participants to the Competition from the BRICS member countries, provide proposals for the International Jury of the Competition, and provides multifaceted support in organizing and holding the Competition.

2.5. The Steering Committee forms the Award Board and Expert Groups of the Award and provides them with organizational support.

2.6. Participation in the Award is open to for-profit corporations, government agencies, authorities, local governments, non-profit organizations and associations, universities, startups and individuals, provided they are residing, registered or active in one or more BRICS countries.

2.7. The Steering Committee ensures equal conditions for all participants and public transparency of the Award.

2.8. Expert Groups of the Award are formed for each relevant nomination and include at least two specialized experts in each nomination for the purpose of expert evaluation of practices, corresponding to the nominations specified in Section 4 hereof, and presenting the shortlist to the Board.

2.9. The Expert Group evaluation framework is outlined in Section 7 here of and published on the official Internet Resource of the Award.

2.10. Members of the Expert Group of the Award have equal standing in expert assessment of practices submitted for the Award.

2.11. The Award Board includes:

2.11.1. The Chairman of the Award Board;

2.11.2. Members of the Award Board;

2.11.3. The Executive Secretary of the Award Board.

2.12. The Chairman and the Executive Secretary of the Board are representatives of the Steering Committee of the Award. Members of the Award Board are representatives of the Expert Group of the Award nominated by the Steering Committee.

2.13. The Award Board meetings may take place in the form of video conferencing,

or as absentee voting sessions carried out in writing, using absentee voting forms.

An in-person meeting of the Award Presidium is valid if at least half of the total number of the Award Presidium members are present there.

An absentee voting session of the Award Presidium is valid if at least half of the total number of the Award Presidium members take part in the absentee voting. An absentee voting form shall be counted as a vote if it carries the signature of the Award Presidium member.

2.14. Decisions of the Award Presidium are made by a simple majority vote of the Award Presidium members.

2.15. In case of equality of votes, the vote of the Chairman of the Award Presidium shall be decisive.

2.16. Applications shall be assessed by the Award Presidium as follows:

1) The Steering Committee provides the Expert Group of the Award from each country member a list of practices formed based on the registrations per country in the regional stage.

2) The Expert Group of the Award, based on their expertise, composes a rating of practices from the list in each individual nomination, voting for the appropriate place of each Application in the relevant nomination, which will result in a shortlist of practices per country.

3) The Executive Secretary of the Award Presidium counts the votes cast by the Expert Group of the Award for each practice from shortlist in each individual nomination.

4) The shortlist of practices is evaluated in the final stage by the Brazilian Board of Experts and the Steering Committee in each nomination. First, second and third shortlisted practices are considered finalists, and the most voted practice is awarded.

2.19 Organizational and technical support for the Award Presidium is provided by the Steering Committee.

2.20 The decision of the Award Presidium is documented in the minutes signed by the Chairman of the Award Presidium. The Winners and the Finalists list is published on the official Internet Resource of the Award.

2.21 The Members of the Award Presidium may not disclose the Award results before their official publication.

SECTION 3. THE AWARD TIMELINE

3.1. Deadlines for submitting Applications for the Award shall be determined by the Steering Committee of the Award and published through the official Internet Resource of the Award.

3.2. The results shall be summed up and the winners and finalists of the Award shall be determined within 30 calendar days after the deadline for accepting Applications for participation in the Award.

3.3. The venue for awarding the Winners and Finalists of the Award is approved by the Steering Committee of the Award. Up-to-date information shall be posted on the official Internet Resource of the Award (<https://www.bbcbrasil.org/>)

SECTION 4. AWARD NOMINATIONS

4.1. The Award shall be held in the following nominations:

Nomination	Category Priorities
Bioeconomy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Biodiversity exploration solutions for technological and social use.▪ Biotechnology and bio-input solutions (use of living organisms) to develop technologies.▪ Advancement of biodegradable and sustainable materials.
Energy Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Solutions for the expansion and scalability of renewable energy production. Examples include electrification, biofuels, and synthetic fuels.▪ Electrification frameworks, encompassing energy storage and charging infrastructure to guarantee stability during the transition to renewable energy sources.▪ Energy efficiency enhancement in the sectors of industry, transportation, and construction.▪ Intelligent networks enhancing efficiency in energy consumption and distribution (smart grid solutions).▪ Use of agricultural waste as an energy source.
Digital Transformation for Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cybersecurity for essential environmental infrastructure.▪ Application of artificial intelligence and data analysis for the purposes of decarbonization and enhanced productivity.▪ Digital surveillance of emissions and the utilization of natural resources.▪ Data governance and federation for sharing climate data insights.▪ Automation and intelligent management of environmental systems, encompassing energy and water.▪ Utilization of digital technologies for the prevention and mitigation of extreme climate-related events.
Circular Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Technologies for the utilization of waste and biomass in industry.▪ Carbon capture, storage, and utilization to reduce emissions.▪ Manufacturing procedures - This minimizes waste and promotes the reuse of materials.▪ Advanced recycling and resource recovery▪ Circular product design.▪ Strategies for enhancing the product life cycle advocating for its repurpose and reintegration into the production cycle.

Food Security and Sustainable Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Solutions for sustainable agricultural practices minimizing the overuse of chemical inputs and enhancing soil management practices, fertility, and adaptation to climate change. ▪ Optimal utilization of water resources in irrigation and advanced water management. ▪ Minimizing food waste by advancing more efficient production networks. ▪ Solutions for sustainable production efficiency (digital surveillance and agricultural automation; may include utilizing IoT and AI for instantaneous decision-making). ▪ Genetic development to increase productivity.
Innovative Financing for Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable financing models for projects focused on environmental impact. ▪ Technologies for monitoring and certifying environmental impact. ▪ Digital platforms that connect investors to sustainable projects, democratizing access to financing. ▪ Fintech companies with social and environmental impact foster accessible financing for sustainable innovation. ▪ Utilization of blockchain and artificial intelligence.

SECTION 5. REQUIREMENTS TO THE AWARD PARTICIPANTS

5.1. The Award is open to legal entities that meet the criteria of reliability.

5.2. The Award is open to legally capable individuals who have reached the age of 18.

5.3. The Award is open to public bodies, state institutions, universities and local governments.

5.4. The participants in the Award are required to comply with all rules and conditions established by the Organizers. Violation of any rules may result in disqualification of a participant.

SECTION 6. APPLICATION RULES

6.1. Before submitting an Application, the Applicant shall read these Regulations.

6.2. Applications for participation in the Award are submitted by filling out the form and attaching presentation materials on the Practice at the official Internet Resource of the Award (Clause 1.9 hereof).

6.3. Any Applicant may submit up to 6 Applications (Practices) for the Award, one for each nomination. The same Application may not be allowed to be submitted in several nominations of the Award at the same time.

6.4. If information is provided in a format that does not meet the requirements specified in the Award form, as well as in the absence of a complete set of documents, or if inaccurate information is provided, the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry shall have the right to remove the Application from consideration due to non-compliance with the established requirements.

6.5. When submitting an Application, the Applicant confirms that the information and materials in the Application are not confidential do not contain information that is a commercial or other secret protected by the national legislation of the Applicant and do not violate any rights of third parties.

6.6. The Brazilian National Confederation of Industry is not responsible for non-reception of any required information from the Applicant, including through fault of any third parties, technical difficulties, or wrongful actions in the Internet and/or on communication channels used for the Award, inability to contact the participant and/or their representatives due to incorrect or out-of-date contact details provided.

6.7. The Brazilian National Confederation of Industry shall not be liable for any actions of the Applicants and also shall not reimburse any expenses incurred by the Applicants in connection with participation in the Award. The Applicant is liable to third parties for their actions related to their participation in the Award, as well as for the information and materials transmitted, and will independently and at their own expense resolve any disputes that arise thereof.

6.8. In order to participate in the Award, disseminate and popularize the practice, produce advertising materials for the Award, as well as to ensure transparency and openness of the Award, the Applicant agrees to the terms of the Award, and agrees to the use of the information presented in the Application, including without indicating the name of the author by submitting the Application for participation in the Award.

6.9. If necessary, the Organizer shall have the right to request the Applicant to provide additional information or materials related to the submitted Application.

SECTION 7. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA; WINNERS AND FINALISTS

7.1. First level criteria:

Criteria	Results
Compliance of the practice with the topic of the nomination	Yes/no
Quality and completeness of the Application	Yes/no
Applicant's compliance with the requirements of the Award	Yes/no

7.2. The second level criteria are based on a list of questions focused at identifying the best project.

7.3. Methodology for determining the Award participants ranking criteria.

The evaluation range of the Award participants' possible answers: from 0 to 5, where the following points are provided for each ranking criterion:

- 0 points:

- Documentation nonexistent
- No visible impact
- Completely unfeasible project
- No potential for replication

- 1 point:

- Insufficient documentation, missing essential data. (0.25)
- Minimal and insignificant impact. (0.25)
- Very low feasibility, with major barriers. (0.25)
- Very low replication potential, with many challenges. (0.25)

- 2 points:

- Incomplete documentation but containing some relevant information. (0.25)
- Limited impact, affecting only a small area or group. (0.25)
- Limited feasibility, with significant challenges. (0.25)
- Limited replication potential, with some major obstacles. (0.25)

- 3 points:

- Nearly complete documentation, missing only a few details. (0.25)
- Moderate impact, with noticeable effects on a specific group or area. (0.25)
- Moderate feasibility, with some manageable challenges. (0.25)
- Moderate replication potential, with some manageable challenges. (0.25)

- 4 points:

- Complete documentation, with all necessary data, but some room for improvement. (0.25)
- Significant impact, with clear and broad benefits. (0.25)
- High feasibility, with only minor challenges. (0.25)
- High replication potential, with only minor challenges. (0.25)

- 5 points:

- Complete and detailed documentation, with no missing information. (0.25)
- Extremely positive and transformative impact, with broad reach. (0.25)
- Completely viable project, with no significant obstacles. (0.25)
- Very high replication potential, easily adaptable and implementable in different contexts. (0.25)

7.4. The total points for each question, adjusted for the weight of assessing the Applicant's answer, provides the final assessment of the Application from each member of the Expert Group in a given nomination. After the Applications are assessed by all members of the Expert Group for each of the ranking criteria in each nomination, the average score for each Application is calculated. After calculating the average score, ranking shall be made in descending order from the maximum result among the Applications, to determine the Winner and the Finalists in each nomination.

No.	Question	Points for answer
1.	General Concept and Substance of Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clarity of the proposal and anticipated impact ▪ Alignment with the environmental and climate guidelines of BRICS 	0-5
2.	Novelty and Uniqueness of the Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use of new (non-standard) approaches when implementing the Practice 	0-5
3.	Competitive Advantages of Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Benefits and advantages compared to current solutions ▪ Potential for differentiation within the global marketplace 	0-5
4.	Results and Effectiveness of Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Positive impact achieved and cost-benefit ratio of the solution ▪ Tangible evidence of environmental, social, or economic advantages 	0-5
5.	Expert Validation of the Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patents, certifications, and external assessments ▪ Tests conducted and scientific evidence of the solution's viability 	0-5
6.	Potential for Replication of the Practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential for adoption across various markets and sectors ▪ Lack of regulatory or operational obstacles to worldwide implementation 	0-5

SECTION 8. PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING WARNING

8.1. It is indispensable to accurately, adequately, and completely fill out the requested data during the registration process for the Award. Any false and/or inaccurate information may be subject to verification and may result in the informant being subject to the veto of their registration for the Event or the cancellation of the registration, if already completed.

8.2. The personal data collected from participants will be processed exclusively for purposes related to the Award.

8.3. Personal data will only be shared with third parties unrelated to the Award in the event of a legal or regulatory obligation, to comply with a request from Brazilian public authorities, or in the event of regular exercising of rights in judicial, administrative, or arbitral proceedings by the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI). In such cases, the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) will not be responsible for the subsequent misuse or loss of the shared personal data.

8.4. The Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) is also exempt from liability for the illegal and unauthorized use of personal data as a result of improper use or diversion of access credentials, negligent or malicious conduct as a result of acts or omissions by the participant or someone authorized on their behalf.

8.5. The participant of the Award expressly declares that they have read and understood the content of this Terms of Use and Privacy Notice and are fully aware of the rights and duties described herein.

8.6. The privacy of information is of utmost importance to the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI), whose policy is to respect the confidentiality of information and the privacy of individuals.

8.7. Personal data of the Applicant will be processed by the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in Brazil.

8.8. For any questions or if you need to communicate with the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI) regarding matters related to the processing of your personal data, please contact via email: encarregadolgpd@cni.com.br.

SECTION 9. MISCELLANEOUS

9.1. Explanations and consultations on organizational and technical issues of the Award are provided by the Steering Committee of the Award by e-mail bricsbrazil@cni.com.br

9.2. The Award results are covered in the mass media and posted on the official website of the participants of the Steering Committee, the official Internet Resource of the Award.

9.3. By completing their registration, the Applicant declares to be aware of all the terms of this document and agrees to adhere to the conditions established herein, acknowledging that non-compliance with any rule described herein may, at the discretion of the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI), result in the immediate cancellation of their participation in the Award, as well as the application of any applicable penalties, if appropriate.

9.4. The Applicant expressly declares that they have read and understood the content of this document and are fully aware of the rights and duties described herein.