



## SWISS INNOVATION PRIZE COMPETITION

The **Swiss Innovation Prize Competition** is an initiative aimed at fostering innovation and supporting the *development of new ideas that have the potential to drive economic growth and improve society*. The competition provides a platform for young scholars, entrepreneurs, startups, and researchers to showcase their innovative solutions and secure initial funding for new ideas that have potential to advance into meaningful projects. Participants likewise may gain access to mentorship, internship, and other resources that can help bring their innovative ideas to industry.

### I. OBJECTIVES

- i. Promote a culture of innovation in the Philippines by drawing inspiration from Switzerland and elsewhere.
- ii. Showcase innovative solutions of Swiss companies in the region.
- iii. Support the development of new ideas that have potential to benefit people, environment, and economy.
- iv. Bridge industry and academe in ensuring steady supply of globally competitive talents for economic development.

### II. ELIGIBILITY

- i. The competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students, early researchers, entrepreneurs, and start-ups based in the Philippines who have innovative ideas or projects that could contribute to economic development and societal improvement.
- ii. Individuals and teams can participate, but teams should not exceed three (3) members.
- iii. Participants must be between 18- 30 years old.

### III. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- i. **Potential Impact:** The extent to which the proposed solution can address significant societal or environmental issues, and the potential for economic growth.
- ii. **Novelty and Innovation:** The extent to which the idea or solution is new and innovative, as opposed to incremental improvements on existing solutions.
- iii. **Feasibility:** Whether the idea or solution can be realistically developed and implemented within a reasonable time frame and budget.
- iv. **Sustainability:** Whether the idea or solution considers environmental, social and economic sustainability.

### IV. PRIZE

The winning team or individual in each category will receive the following opportunities and prizes:

1 <sup>st</sup>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Financial reward of PHP 100,000.00</li> <li>ii. Mentorship with the possibility of employment subject to policies of participating Swiss companies.</li> <li>iii. Company visits of participating Swiss companies.</li> <li>iv. Features in the business journal of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and the Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines.</li> <li>v. Other resources to help bring their innovative ideas to industry.</li> </ol>
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## Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines

2 <sup>nd</sup>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Financial reward of PHP 50,000.00</li><li>ii. Internship opportunities in participating Swiss companies.</li><li>iii. Company visits of participating Swiss companies</li><li>iv. Features in the business journal of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and the Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines.</li><li>v. Other resources to help bring their innovative ideas to industry.</li></ol>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Financial reward of PHP 30,000.00</li><li>ii. Company visits of participating Swiss companies</li><li>iii. Features in the business journal of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and the Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines.</li><li>iv. Other resources to help bring their innovative ideas to industry.</li></ol>

All winners will be invited to attend a reception to be hosted by the Swiss Ambassador to the Philippines.

There may be special prizes to be awarded during the final round.

### V. CATEGORIES: INNOVATION STREAMS

Proposals are welcome in any of the following innovation streams:

1. **Digitalization.** There are several areas where companies and individuals can focus on to drive digital innovation and stay ahead of the curve.
  - i. **Digital transformation**, where businesses can leverage technology to streamline processes, improve customer experiences, and create new revenue streams.
  - ii. **Internet of Things (IoT)**, where devices and sensors are connected to the internet, providing real-time data that can be used to optimize operations, reduce costs, and create new products and services.
  - iii. **Artificial intelligence (AI)**, which is rapidly transforming the way businesses operate by providing advanced analytics, automated decision-making, and personalized experiences.
2. **Sustainability.** This has become an increasingly important focus for businesses and individuals around the world as we seek to address the environmental and social challenges facing our planet.
  - i. Reducing *carbon emissions and adopting renewable energy sources*.
  - ii. Reducing *waste and promoting circular economies*.
  - iii. Promoting *sustainable agriculture and food systems*.
3. **Prosperity.** Economic well-being encompasses a range of factors, including income, employment, education, health, and social well-being.
  - i. Entrepreneurship
  - ii. Education and skills development
  - iii. Social inclusion and reducing inequality.

### VI. APPLICATION PROCESS

- i. There is no format for this competition but proposals in each category must not exceed 5,000-word limit and must contain the following required elements:
  1. Executive summary
  2. Background / rationale
  3. Discussion of the innovative idea/project addressing (a) potential impact, (b) novelty and innovation, (c) feasibility, and (d) sustainability.
  4. Action points / recommendations
  5. References

## Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines

- ii. Address your entry submissions to:

**The Selection Committee – Swiss Innovation Prize Competition**

Attention: Mr. Kent Marjun Primor, Head of Economic & Trade Advisory  
Embassy of Switzerland in the Philippines  
24/F BDO Equitable Tower, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, Philippines  
[secretariat@swisscham.ph](mailto:secretariat@swisscham.ph)

*\*All submissions will be screened and judged by the selection committee composed of CEOs of Swiss companies in the Philippines.*

- iii. Key dates

Deadline of entry submission		29 September 2023
Notification of results		16 October 2023
Final Round	Site visits to Swiss companies	8-10 November 2023  <i>*Finalists will be invited to Manila for the final pitch and other activities.</i>
	Oral presentation of projects	
	Reception at the official residence of the Swiss Ambassador	
	Awarding Ceremony	

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