

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**Opening call: 16th June 2021**

**Deadline of submission: 15 December 2021**

1. **Scope**

A total number of 150 Inventors and innovators will be evaluated and selected. A total of 27 applicants will be winners from the 9 sectors.

The aim is to;

1. To enable the public to obtain new technological knowledge and inspire other inventors to innovate further while avoiding “reinventing the wheel”.
2. To increase market exposure, networks and opportunities for nominees and winners.
3. To reward inventors and innovators, especially the youth and women, for their time, effort, money and creativity.
4. To increase the number and value of locally generated inventions and innovations in the local and exports markets.
5. **Who can apply?**
6. An individual or team aged 7 years and above or a start-up ( incorporated or not) that is either at formation, market validation or scale-up phase
7. The applicant must either have an innovation or an invention in the following sectors:
* Information and communication technology
* Engineering and Industrial designs
* Fintech
* Bio-technology and health
* Green-Climate Environment
* Food and Agriculture
* Young inventors and innovators award
* Inventors and Innovators living with disabilities
* Female Game Changer

Key

1. **Female Game changer:** A female inventor or innovator of any age, in any category who has emerged as a disrupter.
2. **Young Inventors and Innovators** aged 7 years to 17 years on a class of their own.
3. **Prizes**
4. **Fintech Category**

**1st Prize – E15 000.00**

**2nd Prize – E10 000.00**

**3rd Prize – E5 000.00**

1. **Other categories**

**1st Prize - E5 000.00**

**2nd Prize - E3 000.00**

**3rd Prize – Gift Hamper**

1. **Intellectual Property Protection: Inclusive Patent Search for all applicants (Inventors) and IP registration for the top 3 winners to be determined by the kind of patent needed.**

**Selection Criteria**

**Criteria**

1. The selection criteria will focus on a product or business model that is generating sales income or is gaining users/customers, combined any of the following:
2. **Inventions**

An Invention is a product or a process that provides in general, a new way of doing something, or offers a new technical solution to a problem (WIPO).

1. Invention is protected through patent law or at least filed for protection
2. A new or novel technology or technique or industrial design
3. Technical information about the features of the invention
4. How the invention is made or carried out?
5. Industrially applicable (technologically, scientifically, mechanically, technically) or usable which means it can be used in any kind of industry
6. **Innovations**

A new or significantly improved product (goods or service) or process (Oslo manual). A process of bringing an invention to the users, to the market place, to industrial application (WIPO).

1. **One or a combination of the following:**
2. New product or a significant improvement of an existing one that is generating sales income or is gaining users/customers; OR
3. A new business model or improvement of an existing one that is generating sales income
4. A cheaper version of an existing product that is generating sales income or is gaining users/customers
5. Production for or service delivery to a new set of customers and generation of sales income
6. **Description of innovation and supporting information.**
7. **How the applicants be selected?**

**First Phase**

The first phase will take place at RSTP where the business incubation team will select the top 5 per category (9 categories).

**Second Phase**

The second phase will be 60 seconds pitching videos which will be opened for ONLY the top 5 participants per category selected in phase 1.

**Third Phase**

In this phase three winners per category will be chosen by the selection committee.

1. **Application process**

Download application form at [www.itbi.org.sz/asisunguleeswatini/](http://www.itbi.org.sz/asisunguleeswatini/) and email the complete application form to incubation@itbi.org.sz before or on the **15th November 2021**.

1. **Schedule – Applicants and Public**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Process** | **Outputs** | **Start-date** | **Duration** | **End-date** |
| Application period | Complete applications received | 16-Jun |  | 15-Dec |
| **Phase1: Evaluation and Selection** |  |  |  |  |
| Selection & Screening | Selection of top 5 per category | 16 Dec | 5 days | 21 Dec |
| Notify eligible applicants | 35 Inventors and Innovators | 22 Dec | 1 day | 22 Dec |
| **Phase2: 60 seconds pitching videos** | Open only for top 5 Nominees | 05 Jan | 2 days | 7 Jan |
| **Phase 3 : Selection** | Top 3 nominees | 10 Jan | 5 days | 14-Jan |
| Notify eligible top 3 applicants | Top 3 nominees | 17-Jan | 1 day | 17-Jan |
| Exhibition | Top 3 nominees | 04-Feb | 1 day | 04-Feb |