2023 Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition
The Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities (GISU) currently includes 20 members and affiliate members representing 5 continents, 17 countries, 19 sister and friendly cities, a combined population of almost 38 million, over half a million students and 47,000 faculty and staff.

Supported by the People's Government of the Guangzhou Municipality, GISU’s mission is to attract and leverage the academic resources of its members in close collaboration for the sustainable development of our cities.

Current GISU members and affiliate members include:
- Belarusian State University of Physical Culture
- Charles Darwin University
- Durban University of Technology
- Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
- Guangzhou Medical University
- Guangzhou University
- Incheon National University
- Linkoping University
- Middle East Technical University
- National Technical University of Ukraine “Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute”
- Polytechnic University of Valencia
- Stellenbosch University
- Tampere University
- University of Coimbra
- University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City
- University of Padova
- University of Quebec at Montreal
- University of the West of England
- University of Zaragoza
- Western Sydney University
The fourth Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition sponsored by the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities and hosted by the University of Padova will be held from March to November 2023. The competition is promoted by members and affiliate members of the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities.
2023 Alliance Competition

The theme of the competition is *Promoting Sustainable Urban Development with Scientific and Technological Innovation*, focusing on *Science Entrepreneurship*.

Competition Finalists will be judged by the following criteria, but not limited to:

- Innovation
- Team
- Commerciality
- Social Benefits
- Communication
Eligible Participants

Eligible participants are full-time students over 18 years old or graduates within 5 years of graduation (graduates after 2018) from GISU members and affiliate member universities. Each team must have at least two participating members and must be actual members of the project. The principal applicant will be considered as the team leader.

Based on different projects and categories, competition groups include:

- **CONCEPT TEAMS**: Members of the team have not funded a company, but have a business idea or project.

- **START-UP TEAMS**: Members have launched a start-up company. The company must not have been established before 2021. The equity of the legal representative of the participating enterprise shall not be less than 10% and the total equity of the participating members shall not be less than 1/3. The corporate legal representative shall not be allowed to make changes after the announcement of the contest.
Project Requirements

Registration for the forum and competition must come as a team. Multi-disciplinary, inter-professional, inter-university, and multi-national teams are encouraged. Each team must have at least two participating members and must be actual members of the project.

The GISU member university where the project leader is currently enrolled will be taken as the home university of the project.

The entries must be real, legal, and in good standing without any negative records. Plagiarism, misappropriation, provision of false materials, or violation of relevant laws and regulations will result in the project team immediately losing rights to participate and will bear all legal responsibilities.

For start-up projects that have completed company registration, the company profile and legal representative status, shareholding structure, and copies of other relevant certification documents must be provided during the in-school competition to the relevant university.

For more details, please check the document COMPETITION RULES.
IN-SCHOOL PRELIMINARY COMPETITIONS

Must be completed by 16 June 2023 in order for the entries to be forwarded to the University of Padova (instructions will follow)

Deadline for the upload of projects: 23 June 2023 (business plan, video, PPT and summary of project - instructions will follow)

SEMI-FINAL COMPETITION
10 July 2023, ONLINE

The expert judges will select 12 teams per category to compete in the final. The finalists will be announced on 10 July 2023.

All semi-finalist winners, unless the team notifies the finalist competition committee otherwise, will automatically be entered into the China International College Students’ "Internet+" Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition which is the world's largest innovation and entrepreneurship competition for college students.

FINAL COMPETITION
9-10 November 2023

The final competition will be held both virtually and in-person in Padova (Italy) for the 12 teams selected for each category.
Submission Requirements

- Project demonstration video
- Project presentation power point
- Business plan
- Brief summary of the project (about 300 words the team approves to be used as advertisement material on the university website)
Certificates and Training Opportunities

All semi-finalists will receive a participation certificate and appreciation letter provided by the Alliance.

Online course will be offered to semi-finalists with the aim to improve their performance for the final competition:

• How to prepare and manage a short presentation
• How to prepare a business plan for a start-up
• Introduction to Lean start-up

The above courses are not mandatory, but strongly recommended.
## Competition Awards and Bonuses

### AWARDS FOR CONCEPT TEAMS

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<th>Awards</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Bonus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOLD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100,000 RMB (or equivalent of)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SILVER</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50,000 RMB (or equivalent of)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRONZE</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20,000 RMB (or equivalent of)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OUTSTANDING MENTOR</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5,000 RMB (or equivalent of)</td>
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*All award money is subject to applicable taxes.*
## Competition Awards and Bonuses

### AWARDS FOR START-UP TEAMS

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>GOLD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ACCELERATION PROGRAMME</td>
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<td>(consultancy equivalent of 10,000 EURO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SILVER</td>
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<td>ACCELERATION PROGRAMME</td>
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<td>ACCELERATION PROGRAMME</td>
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<td>(consultancy equivalent of 5,000 EURO)</td>
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Judges of the in-school preliminary competition are selected by each GISU member university. Judges of the online semi-final competition and the final will be selected by the organizing committee under the supervision of the Alliance Secretariat Office.
2023 Competition

For more information on the GISU competition, please visit:

https://www.unipd.it/en/gisu
For further information, please contact the University of Padua at:
email: gisu.competition@unipd.it

Organisational secretariat:
Michele Toniato
Kim Anne Barchi
Juan Deng
* The Entrepreneurship Competition organizing committee for the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities (GISU) reserves the right to require competitors to sign an affidavit that they meet each of the eligibility requirements as outlined in the application process.

* By participating in the competition, competitors agree that the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities assumes no liability and shall have no liability or obligation whatsoever for disclosures of information provided by a competitor as part of a submission or otherwise during the course of the forum and competitions.

* Failure to comply with competition requirements may result in disqualification at any time in the sole discretion of the Entrepreneurship Competition organizing committee. The Entrepreneurship Competition organizing committee reserves the final say in all disputes and may at any time require that a finalist or winner of any cash or service award that failed to comply with requirements as outlined in the application process forfeit and/or repay any such award. Guidelines, rules and awards for the competitions are subject to change at any time as might be required by the Entrepreneurship Competition organizing committee. All award money is subject to applicable taxes.