

Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department
Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Yunnan
Province

**Notice Regarding the Hosting of the Lancang-Mekong
Countries Science and Technology Innovation Competition**

To all provincial (city) science and technology bureaus, higher education institutions, research institutes, members of various competition organizing committees, relevant associations and organizations, and related units and enterprises:

To fully leverage Yunnan Province's pioneering and exemplary role as a key province at the forefront of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, and to further advance scientific, technological, and cultural exchanges and cooperation among Lancang-Mekong countries, promote the transformation and application of regional scientific and technological achievements, and enhance the vitality of industrial technological innovation, Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department, Yunnan Province Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government, in collaboration with relevant departments, has decided to organize the Lancang-Mekong Countries Science and Technology Innovation Competition from September to December 2025. The specific

details are as follows:

I. Competition Theme

Pooling Wisdom of the Lancang-Mekong · Creating a Shared Future

II. Organizing Institutions

Hosts:

Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department

Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Yunnan Province

Organizers:

Yunnan Academy of Scientific and Technical Information
(China-ASEAN Innovation Center)

Dehong Prefecture Bureau of Science and Technology

Honghe Prefecture Bureau of Science and Technology

Supporters:

Relevant government departments of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam

III. Competition Structure

This competition will solicit entries from the six Lancang-Mekong countries (Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam) for the preliminary round, with semi-finals held in China (Hekou), Myanmar and Thailand, and the final hosted in China (Kunming). The detailed competition schedule is as follows:

1. Project Submission and Qualification Confirmation

The competition will accept project submissions from September 23 to October 29, 2025. Eligible enterprises and teams may select the appropriate competition zone and category based on their circumstances, register and submit the commitment letter, as well as other required supporting documents through the official website: stic.csttc.org.cn. By October 31, 2025, the organizing committee will conduct formal reviews based on the principles of authenticity, completeness and credibility. Those who have complete materials and meet the requirements will be confirmed as qualified to participate.

2. Preliminary Round

The preliminary round will take place simultaneously across the six Lancang-Mekong countries in early November 2025. The competition will be conducted in two categories: enterprise and team. Each category will be evaluated by a panel of five judges

through an online blind review process. A total of 60 qualifying spots will be available for each category, allocated proportionally based on the number of entries per country. The final list of qualifiers will be confirmed by the Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department and published on the official website.

3. Semi-Final

The semi-finals will be held concurrently in China (Hekou), Myanmar and Thailand in the middle to late November 2025. The two categories will be assessed by panels of five Expert judges using a hybrid (online and offline) evaluation format. Each presentation will last 15 minutes, including 10 minutes for the project pitch (with PowerPoint Slides and physical demonstration) and 5 minutes for Q&A. Each team may have no more than two presenters on-site. A total of 30 spots per category will advance, allocated proportionally based on the number of entries per venue. The list of finalists will be jointly reviewed by the Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department and published on the official website.

4. Final

The final will be held in Kunming, China, in early December 2025. The two categories will be evaluated by panels of seven

judges using a hybrid (online and offline) format. Participants are encouraged to attend in person, though international participants unable to travel may join online. Finalists must submit presentation materials in advance and will present using the "10+7" format (10 minutes for presentation and 7 minutes for Q&A). The results will be confirmed by the Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department and published on the official website.

IV. Competition Requirements

1. Registration and Review Process

All eligible enterprises and teams must register via the official website (the sole designated channel) and submit their application materials between September 23 and October 29, 2025. Applicants should select their competition track and category, complete identity verification, and submit full documentation. Applicants are responsible for ensuring the accuracy and authenticity of the information provided. The organizing committee will conduct formal reviews before October 31, 2025, based on the principles of completeness, accuracy, and credibility. Applications with complete and valid materials will be granted eligibility, while those with incomplete or inaccurate information will be contacted for corrections within a specified timeframe. Failure to rectify within the

deadline will result in disqualification.

2. Participant Group Requirements

The competition is open to participants from universities, research institutions, enterprises, and other organizations across the six Lancang-Mekong countries. It is divided into two categories: enterprise group and team group. Each team must consist of three to six core members. At least 50% of the core members must be from the Lancang-Mekong countries. Cross-border collaboration among participants from Lancang-Mekong countries, and other South and Southeast Asian nations is strongly encouraged.

(1) Enterprise Group

- a. Enterprises must be legally registered in their respective countries, demonstrate innovation capabilities, and possess high growth potential. They must hold undisputed ownership of the intellectual property related to the submitted project.
- b. Enterprises must have been registered on or after January 1, 2019, with registered capital not exceeding USD 4.5 million.
- c. Annual revenue in 2024 must not exceed USD 30 million.
- d. Enterprises must operate in compliance with the law and regulations, maintain a good social reputation, and not be

publicly listed.

(2) Team Group

- a. Teams must consist of researchers or entrepreneurs with innovative achievements or entrepreneurial plans (e.g., academic research teams, early-stage startup teams, or university innovation teams). At the time of registration, teams must not have established a formal enterprise.
- b. Core team members must be directly involved in the design, development, and execution of the project. The project and its associated intellectual property must be owned by the core team members and remain free of disputes.

3. Project Requirements

- (1) Projects must align with the development needs of the Lancang-Mekong region and focus on key sectors such as biomedicine, modern agriculture, new materials, equipment manufacturing, green and sustainable development, next-generation information technology, artificial intelligence, and fintech.
- (2) Projects may be either in the planning stage or already implemented. They may include inventions, patented technologies, or conceptual products/services developed through

research and innovation. Projects must demonstrate scientific and technological novelty, strong market potential, and clear economic benefits.

(3) Projects that have previously won awards in prior editions of the Yunnan International Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition are not eligible. However, new projects from previously awarded teams or enterprises may be submitted, provided they are distinct from previously awarded projects. Duplicate or similar submissions will result in disqualification.

4. Language Requirements

The official languages for communication during the competition are Chinese and English. All participating teams must submit the required documents and attachments in accordance with the registration guidelines. Chinese participants are required to provide materials in both Chinese and English.

V. Policy Support

The final round will determine first, second, and third prizes, as well as excellence awards for both the enterprise and team groups.

1. Enterprise Group Awards

A total of six awards will be conferred, including one first prize,

two second prizes, and three third prizes. Winners will receive priority for project approval under the "Special Project for Building a Science and Technology Innovation Center Facing South Asia and Southeast Asia" in Yunnan Province, with eligibility retained for two years after the award. The funding amounts are as follows: up to RMB 500,000 for first prize, RMB 400,000 for second prize, and RMB 300,000 for third prize.

2. Team Group Awards

A total of six awards will be conferred, including one first prize, two second prizes, and three third prizes. Winners will also receive priority for project approval under the same special project, with eligibility retained for two years after the award. The funding amounts are the same as for the enterprise group: up to RMB 500,000 for first prize, RMB 400,000 for second prize, and RMB 300,000 for third prize.

3. Excellence Awards

Six excellence awards will be granted—three for the enterprise group and three for the team group—to the teams ranked 7th to 9th in the final round. These winners will also receive priority for project approval under the "Special Project for Building Science and Technology Innovation Center Facing South Asia

and Southeast Asia" in Yunnan Province, with eligibility retained for two years after the award, and may receive funding amount of up to RMB 100,000.

4. Additional Policy Support

Winning enterprises and teams may access the following policy benefits:

(1)Eligibility to apply for Yunnan Province's science and technology finance integration programs, including venture capital risk subsidies, loan subsidies, loan-guarantee subsidies, and insurance-premium subsidies for small and medium-sized technology enterprises. Teams meeting the criteria of the "Loan, Exemption, Assistance, and Subsidy" policy for entrepreneurship and employment may be prioritized.

(2)Enterprises registered in Yunnan by winning teams or enterprises may be recognized as small and medium-sized technology enterprises and recommended for inclusion in the provincial high-tech enterprise cultivation database.

(3)Winning teams and enterprises may be recommended to enter various innovation and entrepreneurship platforms in Yunnan. Newly established enterprises may be accommodated in provincial-level incubators, university science parks, co-worker spaces, overseas returnee parks, and other innovation clusters,

where they will receive assistance in applying for relevant policies.

(4) Access to entrepreneurship mentorship and training in areas such as policy interpretation, financing strategies, business model development, and market expansion.

Winning enterprises or teams that are currently undertaking projects funded by the Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department must complete the acceptance process for those projects before the end of the competition to be eligible for the above policy support.

VI. Contact Information

1. Competition Organizing Committee Office (Yunnan Academy of Scientific and Technical Information)

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Yunnan Province Science and Technology Department



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