



Instructions for the 2019 Regional* Competition in Assistance Technologies Solutions for Persons with Disabilities



*Latin America and the Caribbean

The regional contest organized by **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** in partnership with **SiDi** is a competition to promote the creation and development of new technological solutions to assist persons with disabilities, under two categories of participation:

1. Projects and solutions that still need to be developed or that are under development in assistance technologies for persons with disabilities, and;
2. Solutions in assistance technologies for persons with disabilities that are already developed and/or available in the market.

The solutions proposed and developed by the participants of the competition will be analyzed by a Judging Contest Committee, composed of ITU and SiDi representatives, experts in different areas related to Information and Communication Technologies' products. Each member of the Judging Committee will assign a score to each proposed solution, according to the following criteria: Creativity, User's Experience, Technology and Solution Development.

Participation

To enter the contest, the candidate must submit the proposal under one of the competition's categories:

1. Project or solution under conception or development: The proposed idea is still under conception or the project is under development and there is no available version to be used by persons with disabilities. While the creation of a solution prototype is not a requirement for this category, the submission of all possible documentation on the solution would facilitate the evaluation of the "technical feasibility of the solution" requirement (see details under "Classification"). To participate, please submit all the information available about your idea. We recommend sending a summary description of the solution, containing the main components and the relation between them; a detailed description of the components, how they work and how are the interfaces like; and a detailed description of the main uses of the solution use.
2. Product available for use: The solution to benefit persons with disabilities is already developed and it is available to be used or tested by the target public. For this category at least a prototype is required. The developed solution or the created prototype will be evaluated following "Solution Development" criteria. To enter the contest please submit all the available information on the solution (it is recommended to send the same ones required for the previous category).

The participation may be submitted individually or in groups.

Proposal Submission

The participants will have until **September 30th 2019** to submit their proposals according to the following instructions:

- Fill out the registration form and send the required material related to the proposal through the link: <https://forms.gle/jmdGECiHqhCYFHpa8>
- The competitors are required to maintain an ethical conduct and may be subject to disqualification – please note that members of the competing team must control the majority of the intellectual property rights of the solution submitted to the competition and must account for the majority of the work and resources put into the creation and prototyping of the project.

The participation of employees, or persons related to the ITU and/or SIDI is prohibited

Classification

The Contest’s Judging Committee, based on the number of projects received in each category, will carry out the preliminary analysis of the proposals and assign grades to all the solutions presented within the established deadline, according to the criteria table with their respective weight and rate.

CRITERIA	SPECIFICATION	WEIGHT	GRADE			
			Very low	Low	High	Very high
Creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation/originality of the idea 	35	1	2	3	4
User’s Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size of the target public benefiting from the solution • Impact of the solution in user’s life • Mobile application with good use experience 	35	1	2	3	4
Solution Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical feasibility of the solution • Quality and finishing of the solution presented 	20	1	2	3	4
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning • Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality • Big Data • Cloud Computing • Internet of Things (IoT) • Payment by mobile device 	10	1	2	3	4

The final score will result from the sum of all grades obtained by each proposal, multiplied by its weight - in accordance to the formula below:

$$\text{FINAL SCORE} = (\text{Creativity} \times 35) + (\text{Experience} \times 35) + (\text{Development} \times 20) + (\text{Technology} \times 10)$$

Considering the contest’s categories, the solutions will be sorted in descending order of their FINAL SCORE, and the highest FINAL SCORE will be declared the winner.

Failing situations will be analyzed by the Judging Committee.

It is important to highlight that neither the ITU or SIDI are making any commitment nor will have any responsibility related to the development of the submitted solutions, not even for the winning ideas, nor will they provide the necessary resources for such (human or financial).

Awarding

The ITU will award certification to the winner or a representative of the winning team of each category and will cover all the respective travel expenses for the participation in the ITU Regional Event "Accessible Americas 2019: *Information and Communication to ALL*", that will be carried out in Quito, Ecuador*, from 20 to 22 of November 2019. The fellowship will cover travel expenses corresponding to the air ticket from city of origin to Quito, in economy class and the most direct route, as well as a daily amount to cover the costs of accommodation, meals and local transportation during the period of the event. **Please take into consideration that travels are allowed for winners over 18 years old.**

The ITU and SIDI, whenever appropriate, will promote the winning projects in national and international events organized in the framework of their mandate, thereby increasing business opportunities to the author/s.

(*) In case winning participants are from Ecuador, the fellowship offered by ITU may be granted for another ITU event in the Americas Region to carried out next year, in a different location to be informed by ITU and coordinated in due time.