**A GUIDE FOR IEC**

**“PROSPERITY THROUGH OWN CREATIVITY”**

**WHAT IS THE INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMPETITION?**

The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition (IEC) is a development program initiated and funded by the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Kiribati.

The purpose of this program is to encourage and support brilliant ideas with a strong development focus, help I-Kiribati to look into ways of sustainable and self-reliant development that will benefit Kiribati in the longer term, find solutions to pressing issues in Kiribati and create opportunities for employment. All in all, achieving prosperity through creativity.

**WHEN DID THE IEC FIRST IMPLEMENTED?**

The IEC was first implemented in 2021 by KCCI through the established organizing committee including some Ministries and the Chinese Embassy. It became one of the highlighted celebrated days in honoring Kiribati’s 42nd independence.

**HOW DOES THE IEC OPERATE?**

The IEC is led by an organizing committee with member representatives from ministries including OB, MFAI, MFED, MELAD, MIA, MWYSSA, MEHR, Chinese Embassy and MTCIC. They will be known as the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition Organizing Committee or IECOC for short.

**WHAT ARE THE PHASES OF THE IEC?**

There are three phases of the IEC as follows:

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| Phase I | Receive applications | Until 16th September, 2022 |
| Phase II | Review applications | 16th Sept to 7th October, 2022 |
| Phase III | Preparation and Having the Grand Final | 7th October to 4th November, 2022 |

**WHAR ARE THE REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR THE IEC?**

Projects should be:

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| 1. Innovative | Based on new ideas, new thoughts, new solutions |
| 1. Feasible | Can be implemented and achieved in Kiribati, with clear and viable action plan |
| 1. Business potential | Possible to be turned into real business, with profitable market demand |
| 1. Problem oriented | Focus on actual pressing issues in Kiribati, identify the problems and find out the solutions |
| 1. Original | Your own ideas instead of copying and borrowing |

**WHAT ARE MAJOR AREAS THAT THE IEC FOCUSES ON?**

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| 1. Local Tradition (Weaving, handcraft, etc) |
| 2. Tourism (Anything attracting to tourists) |
| 3. Production (Agriculture, Fisheries, Copra, etc) |
| 4. Technology (IT, e-commerce, etc) |
| 5. Environment (Green energy, waste management, Sanitation etc) |

**WHAT ARE THE AWARDS WITH PRIZES?**

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| **Awards** | **Prizes** | **No. of awards** |
| Overall best proposal | AU$10,000.00 | 1 |
| First prize for each major area | AU$3,000.00 | 1 for each major area |
| Overall second prize | AU$1,500.00 | 4 in total |
| The rest of top 20 | AU$500.00 | 10 in total |

**WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE IEC?**

All individuals or groups from different households, churches, communities, associations, workplaces, schools, clubs and so forth who attained the age of 18 years old or above.

**TO A GROUP APPLICANTS OR OVERSEAS (INDIVIDUAL/GROUP) ONLY**

All groups including overseas applicants (individual/group) apply for the IEC should designate ONLY ONE PERSON as a focal contact in the application form to ensure that all inquiries by the IECOC relate with the application be relayed to him/her instead of a group or overseas applicants as well as attending the grand final to claim the prize.

**WHO WILL BE CLAIMING THE PRIZE?**

The IECOC will give a serious and fairness in reviewing all applications in order to pick out the top twenty (20). The top ten (10) will be then selected to enter the grand final and who will be assessed by the judges.

The top twenty will rewarded with different amount that matches where they placed.

Anyone who wish to claim the prize must attend the Grand Final but the IECOC regrets to advise that accommodation, transport for attending the Grand Final would not be provided.

**WHAT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICANT/APPLICANTS?**

You must have three documents to fill in:

1. **The Checklist** is provided and you must fill in to ensure that all items are provided and for a quick screening so make sure all documents match with the checklist.
2. **The Applicant’s/Applicants’ Details** is a first part that needs to be filled in order to give to have the right address or title to the applicant or representative or member of a group.
3. **The Project Proposal Template** is the second part that needs to be filled in by the applicant or a representation and member of a group.
4. **The Declaration** needs to be filled by the applicant or a representative or member of a group.

**WHEN DO REGISTRATION OPENS AND ENDS?**

Opens on Monday 25th July, 2022

Closes on Friday 16th September, 2022

**WHERE YOU CAN ACQUIRE THE APPLICATION FORM AND DO A FOLLOW UP?**

1. The three documents can be retrieved on downloaded from MTCIC and Chinese Embassy websites and facebooks. It can be also enquired via email address: [2022IECompetition@gmail.com](mailto:2022IECompetition@gmail.com) or sighted at the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Co-operatives (MTCIC) in Betio.
2. All the three documents in No.1 should be sent via the following:
3. Email address: [2022IECompetition@gmail.com](mailto:2022IECompetition@gmail.com);
4. On desk: The registry at the MTCIC office;
5. Safe handed: An envelope to someone you really trust who can deliver to MTCIC office.
6. All sealed envelopes should address the following:

Secretary

MTCIC

Betio

Attn: IEC Project Manager

1. Follow up on 75126156/75126157/75126158/73008368 to confirm that we already got your application.