



BUILDING FOR RESILIENCE, INNOVATION, COOPERATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

BRICS WBA WOMEN'S STARTUP AWARDS COMPENDIUM 2026



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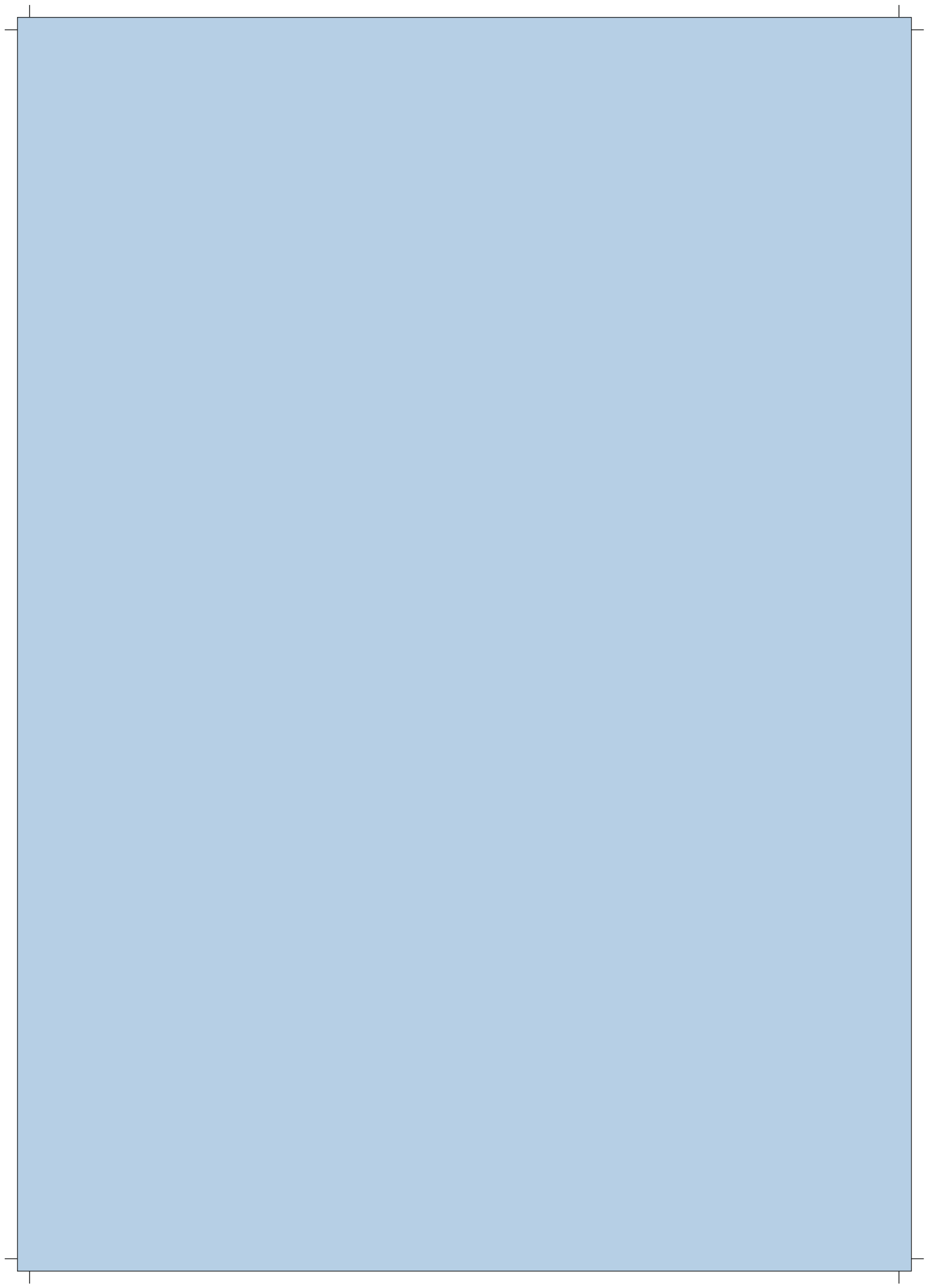
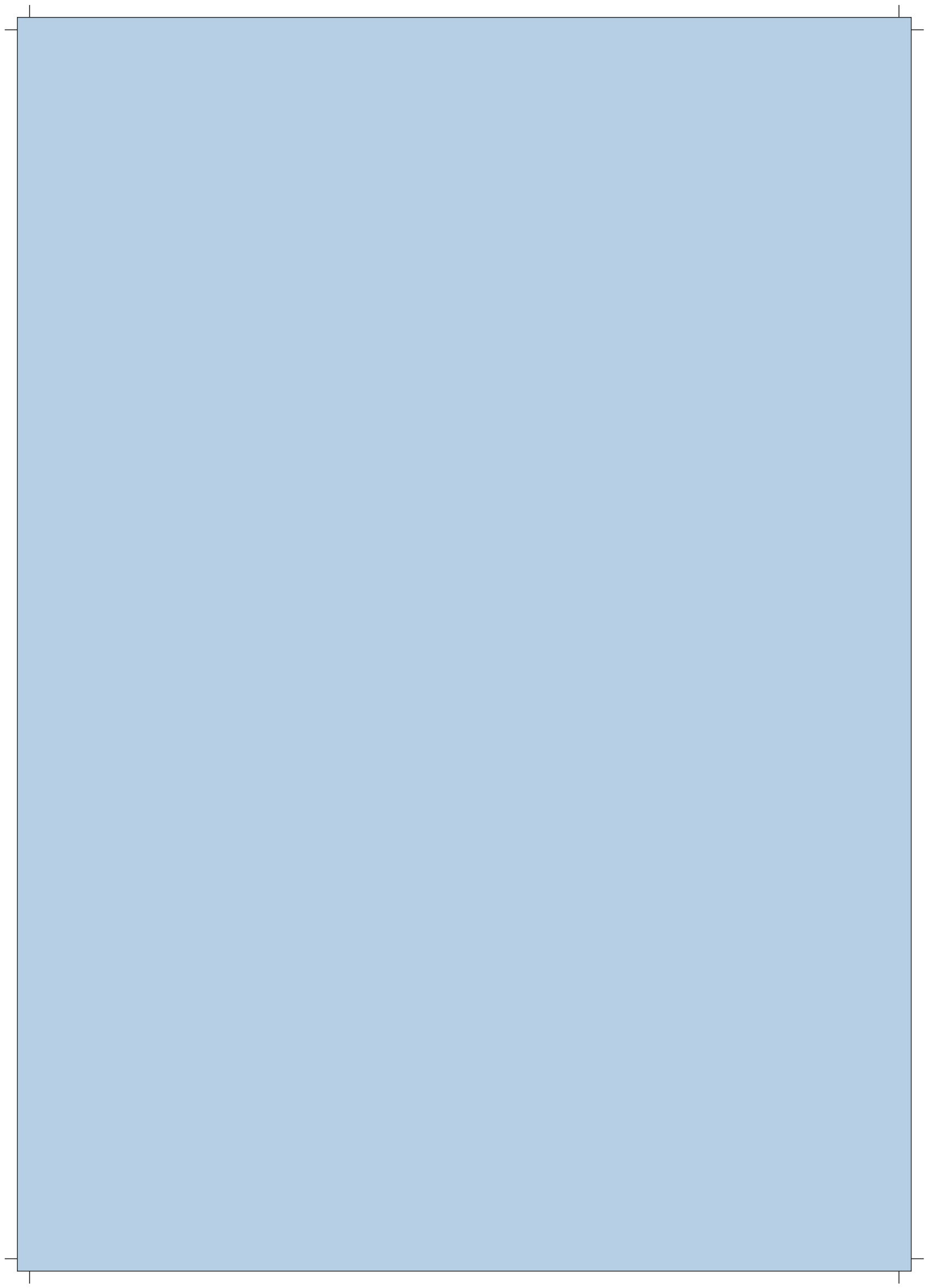


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FOREWORD

It is with great pride that I present the **BRICS WBA Women's Startup Contest 2026 - Winners' Compendium**.

Women entrepreneurs are increasingly shaping the future of our economies, communities and societies. Through innovation, enterprise and resilience, they are developing solutions to some of the most pressing challenges of our time while creating new opportunities for growth, employment and sustainable development. The BRICS WBA Women's Startup Contest was conceived as a platform to recognise this potential and provide women-led enterprises with greater visibility, access to networks and opportunities for collaboration across the BRICS ecosystem.

The 2026 edition, led under India's BRICS Presidency, witnessed an encouraging response, receiving **545 applications from 11 BRICS countries** across key sectors ranging from healthcare and agriculture to digital transformation, education, sustainability and infrastructure. This strong participation reflects not only the depth and diversity of women-led innovation across our countries, but also the growing ambition of women entrepreneurs to build businesses that can create impact beyond national borders.

The enterprises featured in this compendium represent a remarkable range of ideas, experiences and entrepreneurial journeys. They are addressing real-world challenges through technology, sustainable business models, scientific innovation, traditional knowledge and community-led solutions. From early-stage ventures to growing enterprises with demonstrated impact and scale, each winner reflects the transformative potential of women's entrepreneurship.

This Compendium is, therefore, more than a celebration of the winners. It is a record of the ideas and enterprises that are helping shape a more innovative, inclusive and sustainable future. It also reflects the value of collaboration across BRICS-where knowledge, markets, partnerships and shared experiences can help promising enterprises grow beyond geographical boundaries.

As we celebrate these remarkable women entrepreneurs, I hope their stories inspire many more women to pursue their ideas, build with confidence and aspire to create change. I also hope that the connections forged through this initiative continue to translate into meaningful partnerships, new market opportunities and a stronger ecosystem for women-led businesses across BRICS.



I congratulate all the winners of **the BRICS WBA Women's Startup Contest 2026** and extend my appreciation to our Knowledge Partner, jury members, partners and the entire team whose efforts made this initiative possible.

Together, we reaffirm our belief that when women are empowered to innovate, lead and grow, they do not merely build successful enterprises-they help build a stronger and more sustainable future for all.

Avarna Jain

Global Chairperson,

BRICS Women's Business Alliance India Presidency 2026.



About BRICS WBA Women's Startup Contest 2026

The Women's Startups Contest 2026 is a flagship initiative of the BRICS Women's Business Alliance (BRICS WBA) aimed at empowering and accelerating women-led startups across BRICS nations.

With India taking the lead in the 2026 edition, the Contest underscores a strong commitment to advancing women-led development, innovation and entrepreneurship on the global stage.

Building on the success of previous editions, the 2026 Contest shines a spotlight on innovative, high-impact women-led enterprises, creating a platform for entrepreneurs to gain visibility, build networks and explore opportunities for business expansion across the BRICS ecosystem.

The initiative seeks to foster cross-border economic integration, collaboration and knowledge exchange, while enabling women entrepreneurs to connect with investors, industry leaders and policymakers across BRICS countries.

At its heart, the Contest celebrates women who are not only building businesses, but also developing solutions to pressing economic, social, technological and environmental challenges.

Why The Contest Matters

Women entrepreneurs are playing an increasingly important role in driving innovation, generating employment, strengthening communities and creating solutions to global challenges.

The BRICS WBA Women's Startups Contest creates a dedicated platform to identify and recognise this potential across diverse sectors and stages of business development.

The 2026 edition brings together startups across seven priority categories and three stages of business development, ensuring that promising ventures—from early-stage startups to businesses demonstrating significant growth and scalability—have a platform to showcase their ideas and achievements.

The Contest is therefore not simply a recognition platform. It is designed as a bridge between entrepreneurs and opportunity—connecting women-led businesses with wider BRICS markets, networks, knowledge and visibility.

Vision & Objectives

The Contest is guided by a broad set of objectives that place women-led entrepreneurship within the larger agenda of sustainable and inclusive development.

■ Foster Sustainable Development

Encourage businesses that contribute to long-term and sustainable economic, social and environmental outcomes.

■ Promote Economic Inclusion

Support greater participation of women entrepreneurs in economic activity and opportunity.



- **Strengthen Integration among BRICS Markets**

Create opportunities for women-led businesses to connect, collaborate and expand across BRICS markets.

- **Support Innovation in Key Sectors**

Recognise innovative solutions addressing important sectoral and societal needs.

- **Build Entrepreneurial Resilience**

Highlight businesses demonstrating adaptability, ambition and the ability to navigate changing markets.

- **Highlight Women-Led Solutions for Global Challenges**

Bring visibility to solutions developed by women entrepreneurs to address pressing global and local challenges.

- **Enhance Collaboration between BRICS Nations**

Promote greater interaction, knowledge exchange and business linkages across BRICS countries.

- **Promote Sustainable Business Practices**

Raise awareness of business models and solutions that integrate sustainability into growth.

- **Promote Technological Adoption & Digital Transformation**

Encourage the adoption of technology and digital solutions as drivers of competitiveness and scale.

- **Strengthen Local Economies Through Global Connections**

Enable women-led enterprises to leverage international networks and opportunities to strengthen their businesses.



The Contest Framework

Seven Categories. Three Business Stages. One Platform for Recognition.

The BRICS WBA Women's Startups Contest 2026 has been structured to recognise women-led startups across seven sectors of strategic relevance, while taking into account the different stages of business development.

This framework allows entrepreneurs to be evaluated in the context of both what they are building and where they are in their entrepreneurial journey.

Award Categories

CATEGORY 1		CATEGORY 2		CATEGORY 3	
Healthcare & Wellbeing		Agriculture & Food Security		Education & Skill Development	
CATEGORY 4		CATEGORY 5		CATEGORY 6	
Energy, Infrastructure & Mobility		Commerce, Service & Digital Transformation		Sustainable Development & Climate Solutions	
				Any Other	

Business Stages

EARLY STAGE	GROWTH	SCALE UP
Startups in the MVP or prototype phase, focused on validating their concepts, identifying market needs and establishing a foundation for future growth.	Startups with an established product or service that has achieved initial customer engagement or market acceptance, and which are focused on expanding operations and refining their business models.	Mature startups that have achieved significant growth and are expanding into new markets, demonstrating strong operational performance and scalability.

Eligibility Requirements

The Contest is designed for women entrepreneurs with a meaningful connection to the BRICS ecosystem.

1. Residency & Market Presence

- Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of BRICS nations and must be currently operating in one or more BRICS markets, with active exports or supply within these markets.
- The Contest identifies the participating BRICS nations as Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the UAE.

2. Female Leadership

- The applicant must hold a key leadership position within the startup, such as Founder, Co-Founder or equivalent, and must play an active role in the startup's operations and strategy.
- Multidisciplinary teams with diverse expertise are encouraged.

3. Impact & Sustainability

Applicants must demonstrate the potential for long-term social, economic or environmental impact and sustainability.



4. Commercial Viability & Traction

Startups are expected to demonstrate a viable business model, market demand and, where applicable, existing traction or growth.

5. Solution & Innovation

Applicants must clearly articulate the problem being addressed, the proposed solution and its innovative and scalable features.

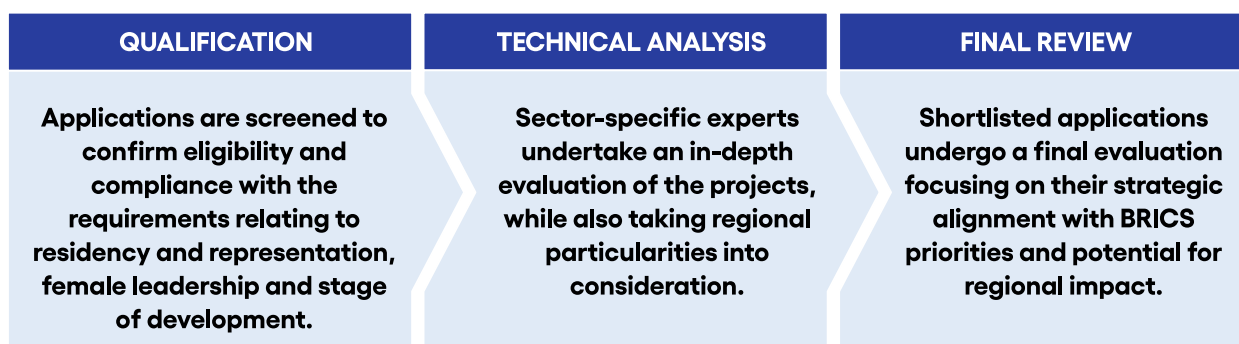
6. BRICS Alignment & Scalability

Startups must demonstrate alignment with BRICS priorities and potential to scale, replicate and create impact across BRICS countries.

Selection Process

The selection process has been designed to combine eligibility screening, expert assessment and strategic evaluation.

Selection Process



Evaluation Criteria

The Contest's evaluation framework places equal emphasis on innovation and impact while also assessing commercial strength, scalability, technological capability and networks.

Evaluation Parameter	Weightage
Impact & Sustainability	25%
Solution & Innovation	25%
Commercial Viability & Traction	20%
BRICS Alignment & Scalability	10%
Technology Readiness & Capability	10%
Partnerships & Networks	10%
Total	100%

This framework reflects the Contest's emphasis on businesses that are not only innovative, but also commercially viable, scalable, technologically capable and capable of generating meaningful impact within the BRICS ecosystem.

Contest at a Glance

545 Applications | 11 BRICS Countries | 7 Key Sectors

The **BRICS WBA Women's Startup Contest 2026** received **545 applications from 11 BRICS countries**, reflecting strong participation and growing interest among women entrepreneurs across the BRICS ecosystem.

Applications spanned **seven key sectors**: Healthcare & Wellbeing; Commerce, Service & Digital Transformation; Sustainable Development & Climate Solutions; Education & Skill Development; Agriculture & Food Security; Energy, Infrastructure & Mobility; and Any Other. Together, these categories highlight the diversity of women-led innovation addressing healthcare, food systems, education, digital transformation, infrastructure, sustainability and climate challenges.

The participation reflects **strong engagement across the BRICS ecosystem**, with women entrepreneurs contributing innovative solutions and demonstrating interest in opportunities for enterprise development, networking and cross-border collaboration.



Knowledge Partner



The Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence is a multidisciplinary, student-centric research university established in 2011 by Shiv Nadar, one of India's foremost philanthropists and a pioneer of technological revolution. It has four Schools, viz., Engineering, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, Management & Entrepreneurship, and the Academy of Continuing Education. We were the first university in the country to offer a 4-year multidisciplinary research degree. Today, we are continuing as trailblazers with new kinds of curriculum, championed by faculty drawn from some of the top institutions in the country and the world. With low faculty-student ratios, their in-depth attention to students lead to high levels of student success.



WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY
**AGRICULTURE &
FOOD SECURITY**

INSTITUTO FOME DE TUDO (BRAZIL) The Social Transformation Agency

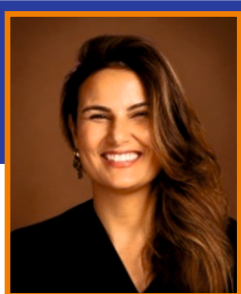
Winner

The Story

Instituto Fome de Tudo (FDT) is a Brazil-based organisation working at the intersection of **food security, social technology and family farming**.

Its model responds to the interconnected challenges of food waste and hunger by transforming surplus food into nutrition and income while improving market access for family farmers. The organisation's submission highlights the scale of food waste in Brazil and the challenges faced by women and small farmers within fragmented food systems.

The Founder



Úrsula Da Silva Corona, Founder of Instituto Fome de Tudo, has more than **32 years** of international experience across Brazil, Portugal and other markets. With backgrounds in Journalism, Performing Arts and Social/Global Project Management, she has worked on projects aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular focus on women's economic autonomy.

Her recognitions include an International EMMY Award and the CPLP Persona Award.

The Solution

FDT operates a social technology model built around three interconnected components:

■ Dignity & Sustainability

Supporting family farmers through fair commercialisation, market access and seeds.

■ Redistribution & Scale

A tracked logistics operation that redistributes surplus food at source, moving approximately 500 tons per month.

■ Intelligence & Traceability

A digital platform connecting supermarkets with surplus food to registered beneficiary organisations while providing real-time impact reporting and CO₂-emission calculations.

The platform is currently active across **seven Brazilian states**.

Creating Impact

The organisation reports **9 million meals redistributed**, more than **300,000 people reached**, **15,000 tons of CO₂ emissions avoided** and **4,500 active partners**.

Its response to the 2024 climate disaster in Rio Grande do Sul further demonstrated the model's potential in crisis situations, supporting the reintegration of **1,050 families** and the recovery of more than **8,000 hectares**.

Building for Scale

FDT currently operates across **seven Brazilian states**, as well as Portugal, Angola, Mozambique and China. Its stated expansion strategy identifies **India and South Africa as priority markets**, with the organisation aiming to adapt its model to new regions through technology localisation, logistics and retail partnerships and integration with local food-security policies.

HAN AGROCARE LLP (INDIA)

Building India's Women-Led Mushroom Bioeconomy

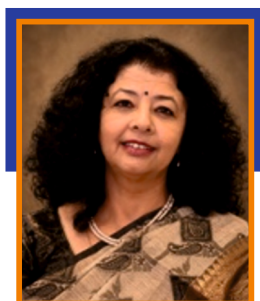


The Story

HAN Agrocare LLP, operating under the brand **HWOM (Hiresha's World of Mushrooms)**, is an India-based agritech venture developing a women-led mushroom bioeconomy ecosystem.

The company was founded to address interconnected challenges in the Himalayan region, including rural-to-urban migration caused by limited livelihood opportunities for women and tribal communities, growing demand for preventive nutrition and the environmental impact of agricultural waste burning. HAN Agrocare approaches these challenges through an integrated, systems-level model rather than a standalone mushroom-farming operation.

The Founder



Dr. Hiresha Verma, known as the “Mushroom Queen of the Himalayas,” brings more than **20 years of expertise in Himalayan mycology and agri-tech innovation**. With a background in Botany and Chemistry and an MBA in International Business, she developed the company's “Seed-to-Market” model to transform subsistence farming into a scalable bio-enterprise network for rural women.

Her recognitions include a National Award for Mushroom Farming from ICAR, Government of India, recognition in NITI Aayog's Compendium of 75 Agri Entrepreneurs and Innovators, and selection for the US Embassy's Academy for Women Entrepreneurs and Nexus Incubator programmes.

The Solution

HWOM cultivates medicinal mushrooms-including **Shiitake, Ganoderma, Lion's Mane, Cordyceps, Turkey Tail, Chaga and Maitake**-by upcycling agricultural waste.

Its model combines three pillars:

- **Circular cultivation:** A zero-waste system designed to use agricultural waste with low water and land requirements.
- **Women-led micro-enterprises:** Rural women are trained, provided cultivation inputs and supported through a buyback model.
- **GIS-enabled intelligence:** Climate and impact intelligence supports site selection, climate-risk mapping and monitoring.

The resulting harvest feeds into fresh and dried mushroom products, functional superfoods under the “**Hi Shroomz**” brand and an emerging nanomedicine pipeline.

Creating Impact

The company reports a grower network that is **90% women-led**, with more than **5,000 people trained**, over **200 self-help groups formed** and five micro-enterprises established. It reports an income uplift of approximately ₹ **10,000-15,000 per beneficiary**.

Its circular model also focuses on agricultural waste reuse, GIS-based climate-risk mapping and soil-health restoration through mycelium.

Building for Scale

HAN Agrocare operates a **2-acre GMP-certified facility near Dehradun** and works with a network of more than **2,000 rural growers across Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh**. Its stated roadmap includes expanding its GIS-enabled technology, pursuing net-zero cultivation goals and scaling support to **100,000 rural women**.



KUNMING NONGGUO TRADING CO. LTD. (CHINA) Advancing Rural Development through Agricultural Innovation

2nd
*Runner
Up*

The Story

Established in 2018, Kunming Nongguo Trading Co., Ltd. is a China-based agricultural enterprise building an integrated value chain around Yunnan's distinctive colourful peanuts.

The company addresses a range of challenges faced by local agricultural producers, including fragmented cultivation, inconsistent quality control, long supply chains and limited value addition. These constraints can reduce farmers' earnings and make it more difficult for high-quality local products to reach wider markets.

By bringing together scientific breeding, standardised cultivation, origin-based supply chains and product development, Kunming Nongguo Trading is working to create a more integrated and sustainable model for agricultural and rural development.

The Founder



Yun Li, Founder and Chairman, leads Kunming Nongguo Trading Co., Ltd. Her work focuses on promoting Yunnan's specialty agricultural products while creating new opportunities for rural communities.

She is joined by Yun Qiong, Co-Founder, who oversees the company's operations and sales. Together, the founders combine agricultural entrepreneurship with a focus on market development and rural income generation.

The Solution

Kunming Nongguo Trading has developed an integrated industry-chain model that spans scientific breeding, standardised cultivation, origin warehousing, farmer support and product development.

The company works with the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC) and the Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences on scientific breeding and has established technology centres, demonstration bases and origin warehouses. Farmers receive technical and market-support services, while standardised planting and direct supply from the source help strengthen quality control and market access.

A distinctive element of the company's approach is the use of space-breeding technology to cultivate high-quality peanut varieties. By combining agricultural innovation with cultural and creative product development, the company seeks to create greater value across the entire agricultural supply chain.

Creating Impact

Kunming Nongguo Trading reports measurable outcomes across farmer incomes, agricultural productivity and rural employment.

The company has supported an average annual income increase of 3,000 yuan for each of more than 2,300 cooperative farmers. It has also promoted over 10,000 mu of space-breeding peanut cultivation, with a reported 28% increase in yield.



Its wider impact includes more than 1,000 stable jobs, approximately 15,000 person-times of temporary employment, and agricultural technology training for over 300 rural workers.

The company's sustainability approach incorporates ecological farming, standardised production and the recycling of straw and agricultural by-products. It also reports a 25% reduction in pesticide use across 10,000 mu of peanut cultivation.

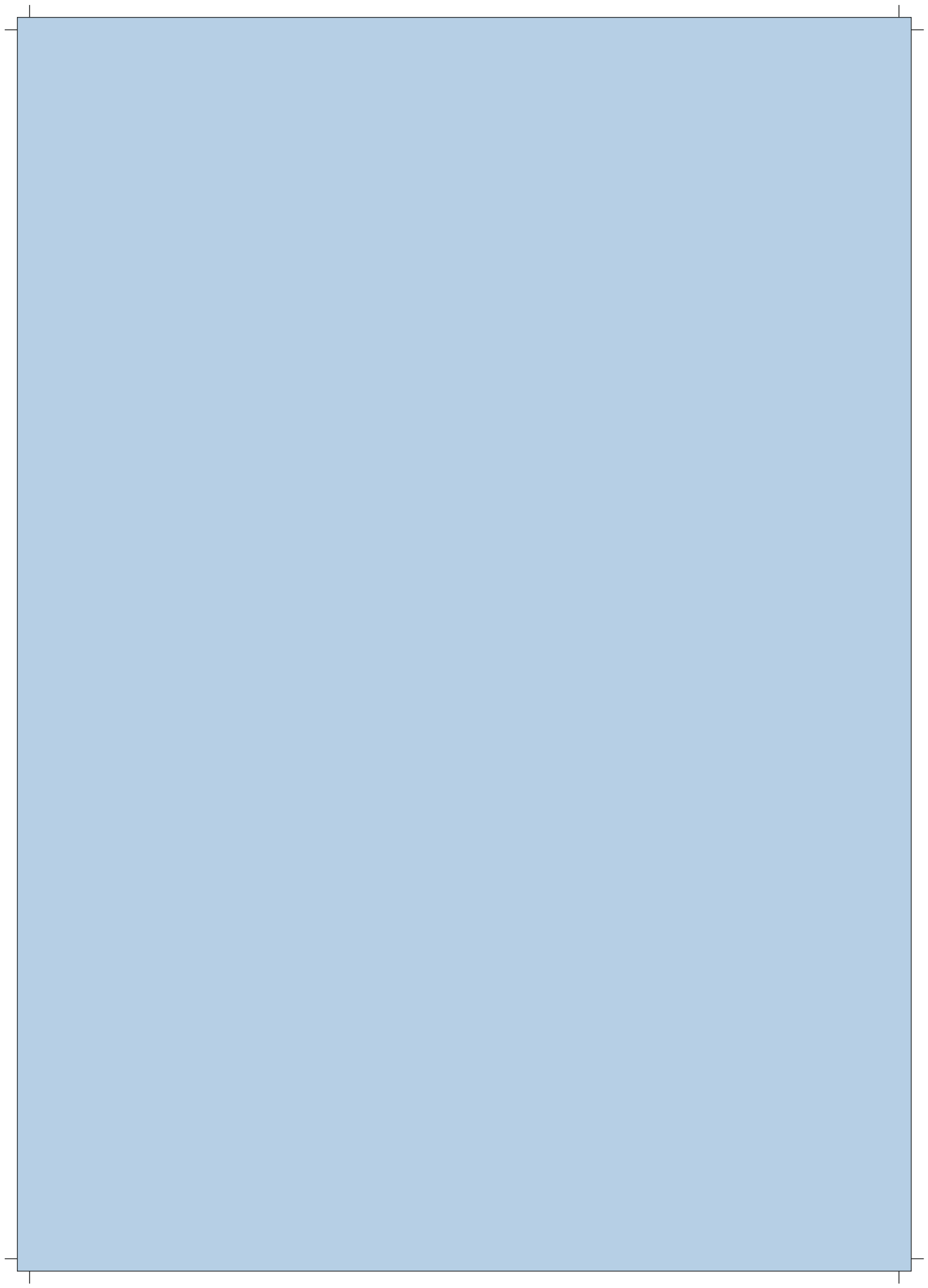
Building for Scale

Kunming Nongguo Trading generates revenue through transactions, direct sales, services and government project subsidy funds.

The company has identified India as a potential market for expansion, recognising opportunities within its large smallholder farming sector and demand for higher-yield and pest-resistant agricultural varieties.

Its proposed expansion model includes a 500-acre pilot project with local agricultural cooperatives in India, with an initial implementation timeline of six months. Distribution partnerships and government support have been identified as important requirements for the next stage of growth.





WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY
Commerce, Service
& Digital
Transformation

SCIATIVE SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD. (INDIA) AI-Powered Pricing Intelligence for Retail, Hospitality & Travel

Winner

The Story

Established in **2015**, **Sciative Solutions Pvt. Ltd.** is an India-based scale-up developing AI-powered pricing intelligence for businesses across retail, hospitality and travel.

Its core proposition is to make enterprise-grade pricing intelligence accessible to businesses of different sizes by converting market, demand and competitor signals into actionable pricing decisions.

The Founder



Vijeta Soni, Co-Founder and CEO, is an IIM Bangalore alumna and Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Entrepreneur. She previously served as VP of Technology & Innovations at Reliance Industries' Chairman's Office and brings more than **20 years of cross-industry leadership experience**.

She leads Sciative's AI pricing SaaS platform, which serves **200+ global brands**.

The Solution

Sciative's Agentic AI suite comprises **ZettaRMS, Viaje and BRIO**, designed for hospitality, travel and retail respectively.

The platforms process real-time market signals, demand shifts, competitor movements and consumer behaviour to support intelligent pricing decisions. The submission states that the technology processes **83 travel parameters and 100+ retail factors every 15 minutes**.

Its distinctive proposition is the combination of industry-specific AI platforms with pricing science and cross-industry intelligence, designed to remain accessible to non-technical business owners.

Creating Impact

Sciative reports that more than **66 million travellers** moved through its platforms over the last two years, while its AI influenced purchasing decisions for **167 million retail consumers** in the last year.

The submission also reports **US\$650 million in revenue facilitated within India's travel sector** over 24 months and **US\$71.5 million contributed to the Indian economy** in the last nine months.

Building for Scale

Sciative operates through subscription and licensing, with annual turnover above **US\$1 million**. It identifies the **UAE, Russia, Brazil and Indonesia** as priority markets, with a stated 0–6 month scaling timeline.



CHINA AGRICULTURAL CREDIT FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY CO. LTD. (CHINA)

Asset Digitalization | Data Rights | Inclusive Finance



The Story

Founded in **1998**, **China Agricultural Credit Financial Technology Co., Ltd. (CAC Fintech)** is a scale-up developing cross-industry digital infrastructure for asset rights confirmation, assetisation and value circulation.

Its platform uses blockchain to establish secure digital records for physical assets and data, enabling their circulation, financing and connection between digital and real-world assets. The company works across agriculture, tourism, new energy and education, serving farmers, artisans, MSMEs, large enterprises and government users.

The Founder



Zhang Dandan, Founder and Chairperson of CAC Fintech, brings more than **20 years of experience in rural digitalisation**. The submission records her work in developing more than **100 rural information systems** and China's first rural asset digital certificate.

Her work integrates AI and blockchain in support of rural revitalisation and covers more than **110,000 villages nationwide**.

The Solution

CAC Fintech's **Asset Digitalization Service Platform** uses blockchain-powered infrastructure to confirm rights for underlying assets and data, create digital certificates and build digital twins of real-world assets.

The model combines **data rights confirmation, assetisation and capitalisation**, with services spanning data governance, AI training, fintech and data-asset transaction matching. Within agriculture, the company combines asset digitisation with county-level data systems and AI-enabled modern agriculture.

Creating Impact

The company reports more than **RMB 150 trillion in physical assets digitised**, **RMB 6 trillion+ in inclusive financing facilitated**, more than **40 million digital certificates issued** and coverage across **1,200+ counties**.

Its applications include rural asset management, inclusive finance, digital copyright protection and new-energy asset management, with the broader objective of unlocking idle assets and creating sustainable economic value.

Building for Scale

CAC Fintech operates through subscription, transaction, services and marketplace revenue streams. **Brazil** has been identified as its BRICS pilot market, with the company citing opportunities in agriculture, renewable energy and cultural tourism. It plans to scale within **6-12 months**, with capital, distribution, government and regulatory support identified as key requirements.



TUVIS (BRAZIL) AI-Powered Governance for Enterprise Messaging

2nd
Runner
Up

The Story

Established in **2021**, **Tuvis** is an Israeli-Brazilian technology company focused on secure, efficient and compliant governance of enterprise messaging.

As business communications increasingly move to channels such as WhatsApp, Telegram, Slack, Teams and WeChat, organisations face challenges in monitoring, archiving and protecting information exchanged through these platforms. Tuvis addresses this enterprise visibility gap by bringing messaging communications into a monitored corporate environment.

The Founder



Deborah Palacios Wanzo, CEO of Tuvis, is a business administrator with an MBA from IE Business School. Her professional experience includes multinational companies such as **3M, Mary Kay and Salesforce UK**, with expertise in large-scale data governance and enterprise technology risk.

As CEO, she leads global operations and advocates for gender equity in technology.

The Solution

Tuvis provides messaging governance through three core capabilities:

- **Capture** automates monitoring and archiving of messaging interactions.
- **Protect** integrates with enterprise security systems to provide real-time alerts and control over data shared through unofficial channels.
- **Engage** connects CRM systems with messaging channels, enabling teams to access customer information and register activities more efficiently.

The platform's stated USP is native **Data Loss Prevention (DLP)** across messaging channels, combined with secure ChatGPT capabilities.

Creating Impact

Tuvis reports **100% visibility and control over Shadow IT**, **60% faster compliance review cycles** and approximately **20 hours of employee productivity gained per month**.

The company also reports an **80% increase in sales volume**, positioning its impact at the intersection of compliance, security and operational efficiency.

Building for Scale

Tuvis operates at the **revenue stage** with a subscription-based model and annual turnover above **US\$1 million**. The company identifies **India and China** as its next markets, citing high reliance on mobile messaging and evolving data-privacy requirements.



WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY
Education & Skill
Development

MOVIMENTO BLACK MONEY (BRAZIL)

AI-Native Education for Productive Inclusion at Scale |
Powered by the Afreetech Platform

Winner

The Story

Founded in **2017** by **Nina Silva**, **Movimento Black Money** is a Brazil-based non-profit working across education and skills development. Through its AI-powered **Afreetech** platform, the organisation brings together workforce development, entrepreneurship, supplier diversity and digital commerce within a single ecosystem.

It serves women, youth, informal workers, microentrepreneurs, artisans, SMEs, large enterprises and government partners, addressing the gap between human potential and economic opportunity in the digital economy.

The Founder



Nina Silva (Marina Barbosa da Silva) is a Brazilian entrepreneur, investor and founder of Afreetech and Movimento Black Money. Since 2017, her initiatives have impacted more than **50,000 people** through workforce development, entrepreneurship acceleration, supplier diversity and digital inclusion programmes.

Her recognitions include the **2025 BRICS Women Startup Contest International Winner — Scale-Up Category**, Women in Tech Global Awards' World's Most Disruptive Woman, Bloomberg Línea's 500 Most Influential People in Latin America and recognition among Forbes Brazil's 20 Most Powerful Women

The Solution

Afreetech combines **AI-powered learning with economic activation**. Its hybrid model brings together online technology and community-based implementation in favelas, quilombos and fishing communities.

Users access personalised learning pathways, job opportunities, entrepreneurship acceleration and business digitisation tools, while corporations gain access to qualified talent and diverse suppliers. Its marketplace further supports small-business growth and market access.

Creating Impact

Since its founding, Movimento Black Money reports impacting more than **50,000 people** through training and digital inclusion programmes.

The Afreetech platform currently serves **20,000+ active online learners**, while its marketplace has helped digitise and formalise more than **2,500 small businesses and microentrepreneurs**, the majority of whom are Black women and residents of peripheral communities.

The organisation reports a **1.7x territorial economic multiplier** for every Real invested in community entrepreneurship.

Building for Scale

Now at the **Scale-Up stage**, Movimento Black Money operates with a team of 11-50 employees, more than 75% of whom are women. Its corporate partnerships include **iFood, Petrobras and MOVER**.

Priority expansion markets include **India, South Africa, Indonesia and the UAE**, with a stated 12-24 month scale-up timeline.



TRUSITY (UAE)

TruPreneurs.AI — A Knowledge-Grounded, Multi-Agent
AI Entrepreneurship Platform for K-12 & Youth



The Story

Established in **2020**, **Trusity** is a UAE-based education-technology enterprise addressing the global skills gap among children and youth.

Through **TruPreneurs. AI**, its patented platform provides personalised pathways that enable learners to explore innovation, entrepreneurship, communication and investment while developing solutions to real-world challenges. The platform is aligned with international frameworks including **IB, UK, Indian NEP 2020, American and UNESCO frameworks**.

The Founder



Rajani Nalla, Founder & CEO, is an edupreneur, technology governor and startup mentor with more than **20 years of experience** across technology, banking and education.

Her corporate experience includes Convergys India and RAKBANK UAE. She holds a BTech in IT and has completed the Leaders of Learning programme at Harvard University and the Seed Spark Entrepreneur programme at Stanford University.

Her recognitions include Top 20 in Stanford's Seed Accelerator, Excellence in Education by Inc Arabia, Woman Entrepreneur of the Year 2023, Top 5 in MENA by the Cartier Regional Awards, Champions of Change and Best in STEM by GESS Education Awards.

The Solution

TruPreneurs. AI is positioned as a knowledge-grounded, Multi-RAG Agents AI entrepreneurship platform taking K-12 and university learners through a structured journey from a raw idea to an investor-ready pitch.

The journey comprises four stages:

Innovation ⇨ Entrepreneurship ⇨ Communication ⇨ Incubation

The platform also generates digital portfolios, rubric-scored assessments and exportable evidence that schools can use to demonstrate learning outcomes.

Creating Impact

Trusity reports supporting **2,644 students from low-income families** through its STEM education programmes.

Students have generated more than **1,000 ideas**, with six progressing to funding and incubation, alongside **35+ placements at top universities**. The platform has delivered more than **100,000 sessions** and reports a **97% overall student satisfaction rate**.

Building for Scale

Trusity is at the **growth stage**, generating revenue through licensing and services. It has raised angel investment and holds patent protection for its platform.

The company has government recognition in both the **UAE and India** and has demonstrated cross-border delivery through its partnership with T-Works in India. Its current target markets are India and the UAE, with a stated 6-12 month scale-up timeline.



SOTVORCHESTVO - MOTHERED PLATFORM (RUSSIA) Schools for Mothers

2nd
*Runner
Up*

The Story

SOtvorchestvo (MotherEd Platform) is a Russian education enterprise founded in **2023** and operating at the growth stage. It is a profitable, women-led K–9 family-education platform serving homeschooling families across a multicountry geography.

The platform's next phase, **MotherEd**, extends structured educational and professional support directly to homeschooling mothers alongside their children.

The Founder



Anastasia Kalmykova, Founder & CEO, is an edupreneur and mother of four children in family education. Over more than five years, she developed SOtvorchestvo from a solo MVP into a profitable EdTech platform serving **5,200 paying students across 71 Russian regions**.

The company generated **RUB 280 million in revenue in 2025 without external investment**, while Anastasia developed the platform's family-education methodology and built a community of thousands of homeschooling parents.

The Solution

SOtvorchestvo Core provides a K-9 family-education platform supported by a community of homeschooling parents. Its next phase, MotherEd, is designed to strengthen the role of the homeschooling mother as an educator.

Planned additions include an **AI-Mentor for parents**, a **Mom-Teacher Certification Academy** and an **international Fellowship**. The submission specifically notes that these three elements are currently at the planning stage and have not yet been delivered.

Creating Impact

The platform serves **5,200 active paying students across 71 Russian regions**, with reported quarter-on-quarter growth of 18%.

Students on the platform score **22 percentage points above the national family-education attestation average**, according to the submission. The company generated **RUB 280 million in 2025 revenue** and reports an **11.5× LTV/CAC ratio** alongside a 3.4-month CAC payback period.

Building for Scale

SOtvorchestvo plans to expand first into **India**, followed by the UAE, with Brazil and South Africa identified as subsequent markets.

The India strategy proposes working through a local methodology partner at CBSE level, while the UAE strategy focuses on Russian-speaking diaspora and expatriate families through bilingual cohorts.



WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY
**Energy, Infrastructure
& Mobility**

VIRA KAAVIR

(IRAN)
ARBI - Automatic Railway Bridge Inspection

Winner

The Story

Founded in **2018**, **Vira KAavir** is an Iran-based infrastructure technology startup operating at the intersection of AI, robotics and railway infrastructure.

Its flagship platform, **ARBI (Automatic Railway Bridge Inspection)**, uses standard drone-captured imagery and artificial intelligence to automate the detection of defects in railway and bridge infrastructure. The solution addresses the limitations of manual inspection, which can be slow, costly and hazardous for inspection crews.

The Founder



Dr. Azam Karami, Founder and CEO of Vira KAavir, is an Associate Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department at Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, where she heads the Image Processing and Robotics Lab.

She holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering and has undertaken postdoctoral research at the University of Antwerp and Purdue University. She has published **19 journal papers**, led industrial projects worth **US\$20 million** and holds a patent for laser-based image measurement. She leads a multidisciplinary team of around 35 people, with women holding more than half of its leadership positions.

The Solution

ARBI is a cloud-based, AI-driven platform that analyses standard RGB imagery captured by drones to detect railway and bridge defects.

The system identifies cracks, corrosion, ballast contamination, rail and sleeper damage, missing fasteners and other structural defects with reported accuracy of **more than 90%**. It generates geotagged reports in KMZ, Excel and PDF formats within hours rather than weeks.

The platform does not require specialised hardware investment: standard drones can be used to capture the imagery, which is then processed through the company's image-processing and defect-detection systems.

Creating Impact

Field pilots with regional rail authorities have demonstrated more than **90% defect-detection accuracy**, alongside **70% faster inspections and 30% lower maintenance costs**.

The company reports multiple paid commercial contracts, year-on-year revenue growth and Technology **Readiness Level 8**, indicating proven operational deployment across railway networks. By reducing the need for manual on-site inspections, ARBI also contributes to worker safety and supports longer infrastructure lifespans.

Building for Scale

Vira KAavir operates at the **growth stage**, with annual turnover above **US\$1 million** and a team of 11-50 people. Its revenue model combines subscription, licensing, direct sales and services.

The company has identified **India, Russia and Brazil** as priority markets, citing their extensive and ageing rail networks and the need for affordable, scalable inspection technologies. It has a stated 6-12 month scale-up timeline.

Recognition

Vira KAavir's achievements include **first place in the BRICS Best Women's Startup Competition 2024** and a top startup award at **GITEX Global 2022**, alongside multiple Iranian government recognitions.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MARKET / MNT-LOGISTIC (RUSSIA)

Bringing Transparency and Efficiency to Fuel Procurement



The Story

Established in **2015**, **Petroleum Products Market / MNT-Logistic** is a Russia-based energy-sector enterprise developing digital solutions to improve transparency, efficiency and trust in fuel procurement.

Through its digital platform, **mos-nt.ru**, the company provides businesses with real-time visibility into petroleum product prices, availability and quality across Russia's fuel market. The platform serves a diverse customer base, including individual customers, large enterprises, farmers and government buyers.

The company addresses a key challenge within the sector: the lack of a unified and transparent system for accessing reliable information on fuel prices, quality and logistics. By bringing these elements together on a single platform, Petroleum Products Market / MNT-Logistic is working to simplify and strengthen fuel procurement across a complex and fragmented market.

The Founder



Veronika Aleksandrovna Kaveshnikova, Co-Founder of Petroleum Products Market and MNT-Logistic, brings more than **15 years of experience in the fuel industry**.

Her work has focused on developing solutions that improve transparency and efficiency across fuel purchasing, quality control and logistics. Alongside her entrepreneurial journey, she has also founded a women's club that provides a space for communication, support and knowledge-sharing among women from diverse professional backgrounds, reflecting her commitment to supporting and inspiring other women.

The Solution

The company's core platform, **mos-nt.ru**, aggregates real-time petroleum product prices and quality information directly from producers, without intermediary markups.

The platform works with **13 refineries and major suppliers**, providing buyers with access to transparent market information across a network of **372 oil depots spanning 89 regions of Russia**. Available around the clock, the platform allows users to compare offers, assess product quality and make more informed purchasing decisions.

Each listing includes a detailed quality passport covering parameters such as **octane rating, density, sulphur content, flash point, fractional composition** and GOST/TU compliance, supported by photo and video documentation of the specific batch. A built-in delivery calculator also enables buyers to compare logistics costs and place orders directly through the platform.

Beyond the digital platform, the company provides complementary services including fuel and tank-truck transportation, temporary storage-container rental, tank cleaning and instalment purchase options for qualifying businesses.



Creating Impact

The platform is designed to reduce both the cost and complexity of fuel procurement.

According to the company's reported performance and targets, the platform can support an **8-12% reduction in fuel-purchase costs** compared with regional market averages and reduce transaction timelines from **three to five days to approximately two hours**.

The company reports more than **500 successful transactions annually**, with a **75% repeat-purchase rate within six months**. More than **10,000 documents**, including quality passports, contracts and electronic invoices, have also been processed through the platform.

By strengthening access to verified information and documentation, the company aims to reduce quality-related risks and build greater trust between buyers and suppliers.

Building for Scale

Petroleum Products Market / MNT-Logistic generates revenue through **subscriptions and direct sales** and has grown on a bootstrapped basis without external investment.

The company has an annual turnover in the **US\$500,000-1** million range, with a team of **11-50 employees**, more than half of whom are women.

Looking ahead, **India has been identified as the company's priority expansion market**. The company sees opportunities arising from the growing trade in Russian oil with India, the need for stronger fuel-quality verification and the increasing use of rupee-ruble settlements.

Over the next **6-12 months**, the company aims to explore opportunities for scaling its single-window model for transparent and efficient fuel procurement within the Indian market.



CALLOTROPES PRIVATE LIMITED (INDIA) Sustainability Powers the Future



The Story

Callotropes Private Limited is an India-based clean-tech and energy startup established in **2025**. The company produces **Biographene**, a biogenic alternative to conventional graphene, from agricultural and biomass waste through a proprietary catalytic pyro-conversion process.

The innovation addresses two interconnected challenges: the environmental burden of underutilised biomass waste and India's dependence on imported battery-grade anode carbon.

The Founder



Subhash Chandra, PhD (IIT Kharagpur), is the Founder of Callotropes and specialises in sustainable graphene, hard carbon and advanced energy-storage materials.

Dr. Isha Medha, PhD (IIT Kharagpur), is Co-founder and CEO, bringing expertise in sustainability, clean technology, research coordination and commercialisation. More than half of the company's leadership is women, while women comprise 25-50% of its employees. The team also includes Mr. Yash Raj, Director and CFO, and Dr. Harihara Padhy, Technical Advisor.

The Solution

Callotropes' **Biographene** converts low-cost organic biomass waste into an advanced carbon material through catalytic pyro-conversion. It is designed as a renewable alternative to conventional graphene, with tunable electrical conductivity, porosity and surface properties.

Testing described in the submission reports a theoretical specific capacity of approximately **520 mAh/g**, compared with 370 mAh/g for synthetic graphite, with comparable electrical conductivity and a substantially lower production carbon footprint. The material has been tested as an anode in both lithium-ion and sodium-ion coin cells, and the technology is patent-protected.

Creating Impact

Callotropes' impact centres on converting biomass that might otherwise be burned into a higher-value material, thereby reducing emissions associated with open burning and fossil-derived carbon materials.

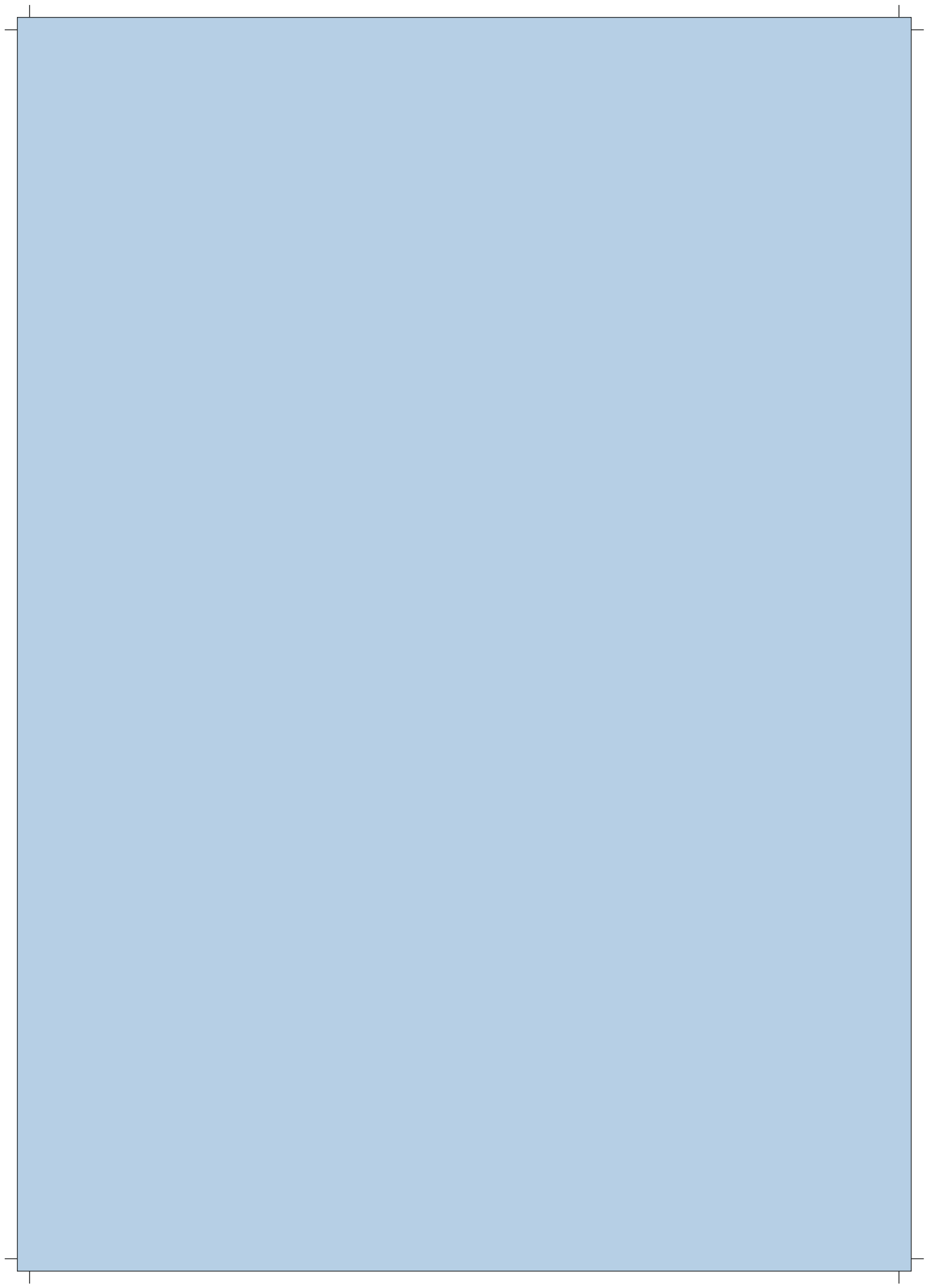
At the same time, its domestic production model has the potential to reduce India's dependence on imported advanced carbon materials and strengthen supply-chain resilience for battery manufacturers.

Building for Scale

Callotropes currently operates at the **revenue stage**, using a direct B2B model serving the battery industry, coating industries and research laboratories.

The company has identified **Brazil and South Africa** as target international markets, citing their biomass resources and growing battery and energy-storage ecosystems. Its stated 12-24 month scale-up plan requires capital, distribution, government, regulatory and manufacturing support.





WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY
Healthcare &
Wellbeing

THIRD OPINION AI (RUSSIA)

A Data-Driven Clinical Decision Support Platform
for Diagnostic Imaging & Care Quality

Winner

The Story

Established in **2017**, **Third Opinion AI (Third Opinion Platform LLC)** is a Russia-based healthcare technology company developing a data-driven clinical decision-support platform.

Its technology spans diagnostic imaging, EHR-based treatment-quality review, patient-safety monitoring, healthcare analytics and professional education. The platform currently serves healthcare providers across eight countries, connecting more than **2,000 healthcare providers** and processing more than **10 million images annually**.

The Founder



Anna Meshcheryakova, CEO and Co-Founder, holds more than 50% ownership of Third Opinion AI. Under her leadership, the company has grown to more than 100 employees and generated **US\$2 million+ in revenue in 2025**. She is also a two-time BRICS WBA winner.

Vadim Konushin, Co-Founder and CTO, leads the company's technology development, including more than 15 proprietary neural networks and four Class III medical device registrations.

The Solution

Third Opinion AI is a multimodal, vendor-neutral platform covering **mammography, chest X-ray, chest CT and head CT**, alongside EHR analysis, patient-safety video analytics and clinician education.

The platform integrates through DICOM, HL7 and FHIR and processes more than **100,000 AI protocols daily**. The company reports four Class III medical device certifications and ISO 13485:2017 certification.

Creating Impact

Third Opinion AI processes **10 million+ multimodal datasets annually** across eight countries and more than 2,000 healthcare providers.

According to the company's reported results, its mammography service has increased breast-cancer detection by **29.6% overall and 47% in early stages**, with reporting time reduced by 40%. Its Chest CT solution reports a **69% increase in coronary calcium detection**, while automated quality control can reduce imaging errors by up to 18%. The company has also trained more than **1,500 clinicians**.

Building for Scale

Third Opinion AI is at the **scale-up stage**, with annual turnover above **US\$1 million** and revenue generated through subscription, licensing, direct sales and marketplace models.

Its target markets include **India, Brazil and South Africa**, in addition to Russia. The company has demonstrated cross-border experience through a teleradiology pilot in Algeria and is planning further expansion across BRICS markets over the next 12-24 months.

Recognition

The company's recognitions include a 2023 award for an AI-powered breast-cancer diagnostics solution and 2025 first-place recognitions in Health & Wellbeing, **Scaling, Artificial Intelligence and IT in Medicine**.



HYMONBIO CO., LTD. (CHINA)

Pan-Cancer Early Screening Through a qPCR-Based Platform



The Story

Founded in **2015**, **HymonBio Co., Ltd.** is a China-based healthcare scale-up focused on molecular diagnostics and cancer screening.

Its **Hymon® Pan-Cancer Screening Kit** is designed as an early-screening solution covering **28 high-incidence cancers**, addressing the challenge of making cancer screening more affordable, practical and accessible.

The Founder



Dr. Tammy Tan (Miao Tan), Founder and CEO, holds a PhD from the Chinese Academy of Sciences and is a master's supervisor at Nanjing University and Southeast University.

She is described in the submission as a pioneer in molecular diagnostics and has led HymonBio's work on technologies aimed at improving PCR sensitivity. The company reports that its technologies have been validated by PerkinElmer.

The Solution

The **Hymon® Pan-Cancer Screening Kit** uses qPCR to detect abnormal DNA methylation in plasma, combined with AI-driven multidimensional matrix analysis.

The test requires only **5 mL of blood** and does not require fasting. The company reports that its proprietary technologies increase nucleic-acid extraction efficiency from 30% to 90%, while enabling detection of more than **400 methylation sites in a single test**. The submission positions the solution as offering performance comparable to NGS on a standard PCR platform at a substantially lower cost.

Creating Impact

HymonBio is at the **revenue stage**, with direct sales, licensing and OEM revenue streams. The company reports annual turnover above **US\$1 million**, a workforce of 11-50 employees and 51-75% women employees.

The full 28-cancer screening can be completed within a single working day, according to the submission. The company has established cohort studies with hospitals in Beijing and Shanghai, obtained **EU CE certification** and is pursuing FDA Breakthrough Device Designation.



INFIHEAL HEALTHCARE PRIVATE LIMITED (INDIA)

Healo - Safe & Responsible AI Therapist for Mental Health

2nd
*Runner
Up*

The Story

Established in **2019**, **Infiheal Healthtech Private Limited** is an India-based healthcare technology company developing **Healo**, a multilingual AI mental-health companion.

Healo provides round-the-clock emotional support through natural conversation in **93+ languages**. The platform has been developed with therapists and psychiatrists using proprietary clinical datasets and combines Responsible AI safeguards, risk detection, privacy protections and human-in-the-loop escalation with self-care tools, assessments and therapist referrals.

The Founder



Srishti Srivastava, Founder & CEO, is an IIT Bombay graduate and Cornell Executive MBA with certifications in CBT, DBT, ACT and Gestalt therapy. She previously worked at KPMG and served as a Chief Minister's Fellow with the Government of Maharashtra.

Utkarsh Srivastava, Co-Founder & Director, holds a Master's degree in Computer Information Systems from Boston University and leads Infiheal's technology, AI infrastructure and platform architecture. Together, the founders have developed Healo into a multilingual AI mental-health platform.

The Solution

Healo provides 24/7 AI-enabled emotional support covering concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationships and work, across 93+ languages.

Rather than functioning as a general-purpose chatbot, the platform is positioned as a **psychology-first AI model**, built with clinical expertise and proprietary therapist-developed datasets. Responsible AI safeguards include real-time risk detection and human-in-the-loop escalation for high-risk situations, alongside psychometric assessments and therapist referrals.

Creating Impact

Healo has supported **close to 1 million users across 165+ countries**. The platform reports identifying and connecting **16,592 high-risk individuals** to timely support and has been deployed across government, institutional and disability-support ecosystems.

Clinical validation studies reported in the submission show statistically significant improvements in psychological wellbeing, while **91% of users** reported enhanced emotional wellbeing and increased psychological self-awareness.

Building for Scale

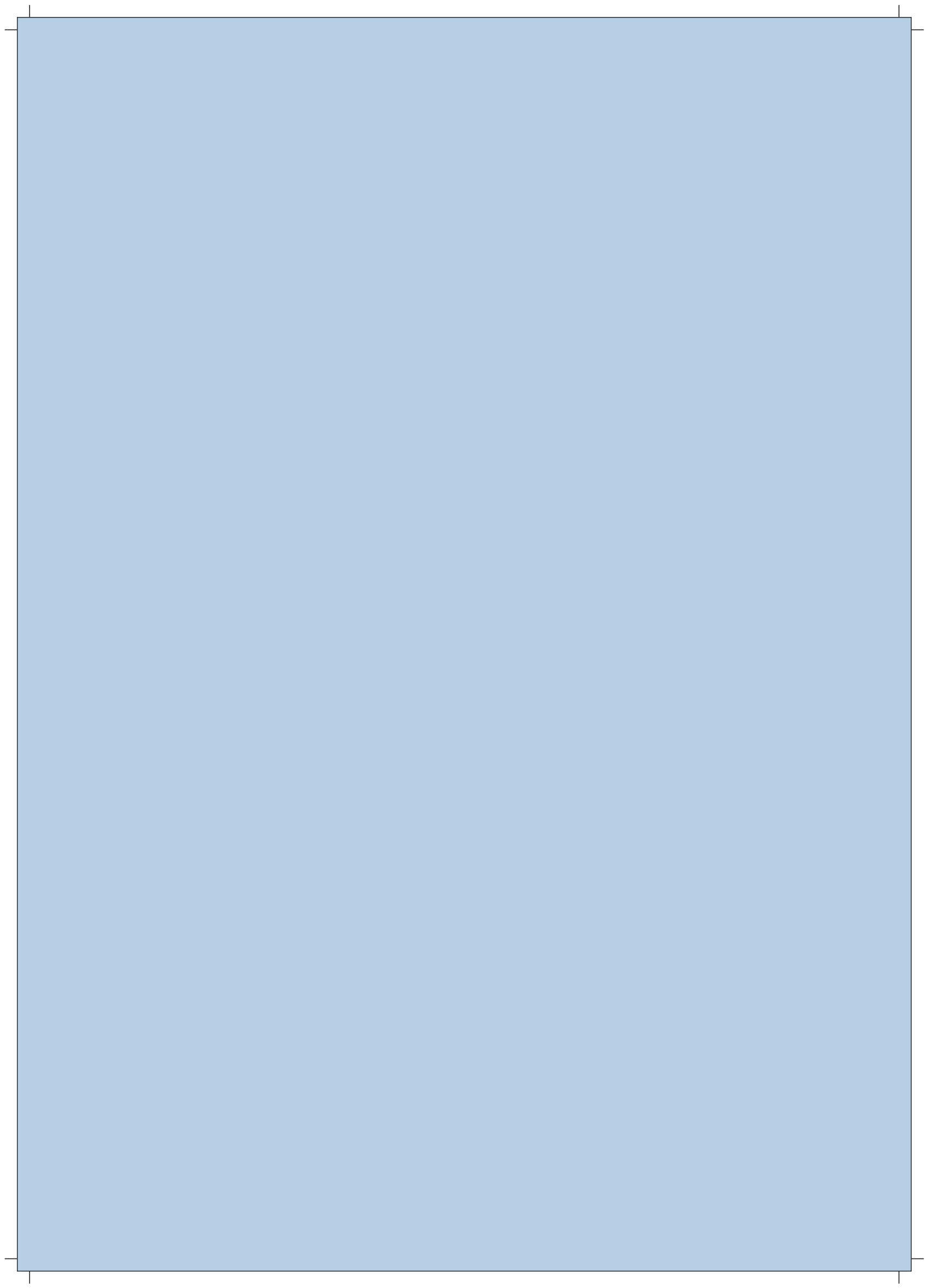
Infiheal is at the **growth stage** and generates revenue through subscriptions, licensing, freemium offerings and marketplace streams. The company has cross-border experience and has participated in the US Embassy India Nexus Accelerator, World Economic Forum ecosystem and Seedstars Asia.

Its next target markets are **Brazil, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia**, with expansion planned over the next 12-24 months.



WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY

Sustainable
Development &
Climate Solutions



MANACÁ TECNOLOGIAS SOCIAIS

(Brazil)
AI-Powered Urban Waste Intelligence

Winner

The Story

Manacá Tecnologias Sociais is a Brazilian technology enterprise focused on sustainable development and climate solutions. Its **SAÍRA** platform uses artificial intelligence and urban intelligence to detect, map and manage illegal waste disposal.

By providing real-time, georeferenced information on waste hotspots, the platform enables municipal authorities to move from reactive clean-up to more predictive and evidence-based urban waste management.

The Founder



Rayssa Mendes, CEO & Founder, holds an MSc in Social Sciences from PUC-SP and a BA in History from USP.

Her professional experience includes work with **UNICEF, the World Bank, Itaú Social and the Lemann Foundation**. She is also co-founder of Resiliência, an AI-powered climate-resilience project that won the AI4GOOD Impact Awards at the Brazil Conference at Harvard and MIT in 2025. Her motivation as a founder is rooted in developing innovation for communities most affected by waste.

The Solution

SAÍRA combines computer vision, geospatial intelligence and municipal-management tools.

AI cameras using YOLO-based technology detect and classify waste around the clock, while georeferenced analysis maps hotspots, tracks recurrence and supports risk assessment. Municipal dashboards provide heat maps, route planning and enforcement tools, helping authorities prioritise interventions based on data.

The platform has been validated through a **government contract in Recife, Brazil**.

Creating Impact

SAÍRA created **Recife's first AI-generated georeferenced waste intelligence map**, providing information that the submission states did not previously exist.

Its predictive approach is projected to generate savings of up to **80% per intervention**. The platform also supports efforts to reduce environmental and public-health risks associated with unmanaged waste, including breeding grounds for *Aedes aegypti*.

Building for Scale

Manacá's business model combines **government contracts, municipal SaaS subscriptions and consulting and integration services**.

The company reports **R\$647,000 in accumulated revenue** and 561% growth from 2022 to 2024. Its Recife government contract includes an acceleration phase of R\$1.6 million and a supply-contract pipeline of up to R\$8 million.

India and South Africa are identified as priority markets, reflecting similar urban-waste challenges and compatible technology infrastructure.



DOBROKHIM (RUSSIA)

On-Site Sodium Ferrate Technology for More Efficient Wastewater Treatment

1st
Runner
Up

The Story

Founded in **2020**, **Dobrokhim** is a Russia-based cleantech company developing solutions for industrial enterprises and water utilities. Its core technology, **Ferrator**, is an electrochemical system that produces sodium ferrate on-site and in real time for wastewater treatment.

The solution responds to increasingly stringent wastewater-treatment standards while addressing challenges associated with conventional treatment methods, including complex multi-stage processes, high operating costs, secondary contamination and delayed laboratory analysis.

The Founder



Anna Koniashina, CEO and Co-Founder, brings more than 10 years of industrial engineering experience and seven years of business-development experience at an international corporation.

Dobrokhim's founding team combines scientific and industrial expertise, with Professor Ani Petkova leading the scientific division, Alexey Mayzel overseeing engineering implementation and Mikhail Brunman developing electrolytic systems, including sodium ferrate technologies. Women comprise more than half of the overall team and half of the founding team.

The Solution

Ferrator generates sodium ferrate directly at the point of treatment according to the composition of the wastewater. Sodium ferrate can perform three treatment functions—**oxidation, coagulation and disinfection**—within a single process.

According to the submission, Ferrate technology can increase treatment efficiency by up to 30% and reduce operating costs by **2-10** times compared with conventional treatment schemes. On-site generation also reduces the need to transport and store hazardous chemicals.

Creating Impact

Dobrokhim reports reductions of up to **90% in target pollutants**, including phosphates, ammonium, COD and bacteria. The company also reports a **tenfold reduction in hypochlorite consumption** and **60% reduction in UV-related energy use per cubic metre** of treated water.

By reducing chemical and energy consumption, the solution aims to lower environmental risks, improve worker safety and reduce the carbon footprint associated with wastewater treatment.

Building for Scale

Dobrokhim serves industrial enterprises and water utilities across sectors including **oil and gas, metallurgy, water utilities and agriculture**.

The company is already expanding internationally: it has delivered its first Ferrator unit to **Saudi Arabia**, is shipping a system to **India** and is conducting pilot trials in the **UAE**.



INO-BIODIESEL (SOUTH AFRICA) Fuelling the Future Through a Circular Economy



The Story

Established in **2020**, **INO-Biodiesel** is a South African clean-energy enterprise converting waste and used cooking oil into renewable clean fuel.

The company addresses two interconnected challenges: the improper disposal of used cooking oil and heavy reliance on fossil fuels. Its biodiesel serves customers across sectors including **farming, mining, aviation, construction and logistics**.

The Founder



Mahlatse Mamaila, Founder of INO-Biodiesel, is a finance graduate and entrepreneur. She is a recipient of the **UN Africa Young Entrepreneur Award** and the **Visa She's Next Award**, and has been featured by Forbes Africa for her work in sustainability.

Through her wider work, she also mentors emerging African leaders and supports women and youth through sustainable climate solutions.

The Solution

INO-Biodiesel collects used cooking oil from restaurants and businesses and converts it into renewable clean fuel.

The model follows three stages: **collecting waste oil, producing clean fuel and supplying it to end users**. The resulting biodiesel provides an alternative to fossil diesel while simultaneously diverting waste from drains and landfills.

The company describes its fuel as non-toxic and eco-friendly and reports testing by **SANAS and Sasol**.

Creating Impact

INO-Biodiesel reports diverting approximately **1 million litres of waste oil** from waste streams into clean-fuel production, representing an estimated **2,700-2,800 tonnes of CO² avoided** compared with fossil diesel use.

Weekly production has grown to between **10,000 and 100,000 litres**, from an initial output of just 100 litres per month in 2021. The company also trains **30 young people annually**, directs 30% of proceeds to a community trust and creates income opportunities throughout its collection and processing value chain.

Beyond Clean Fuel

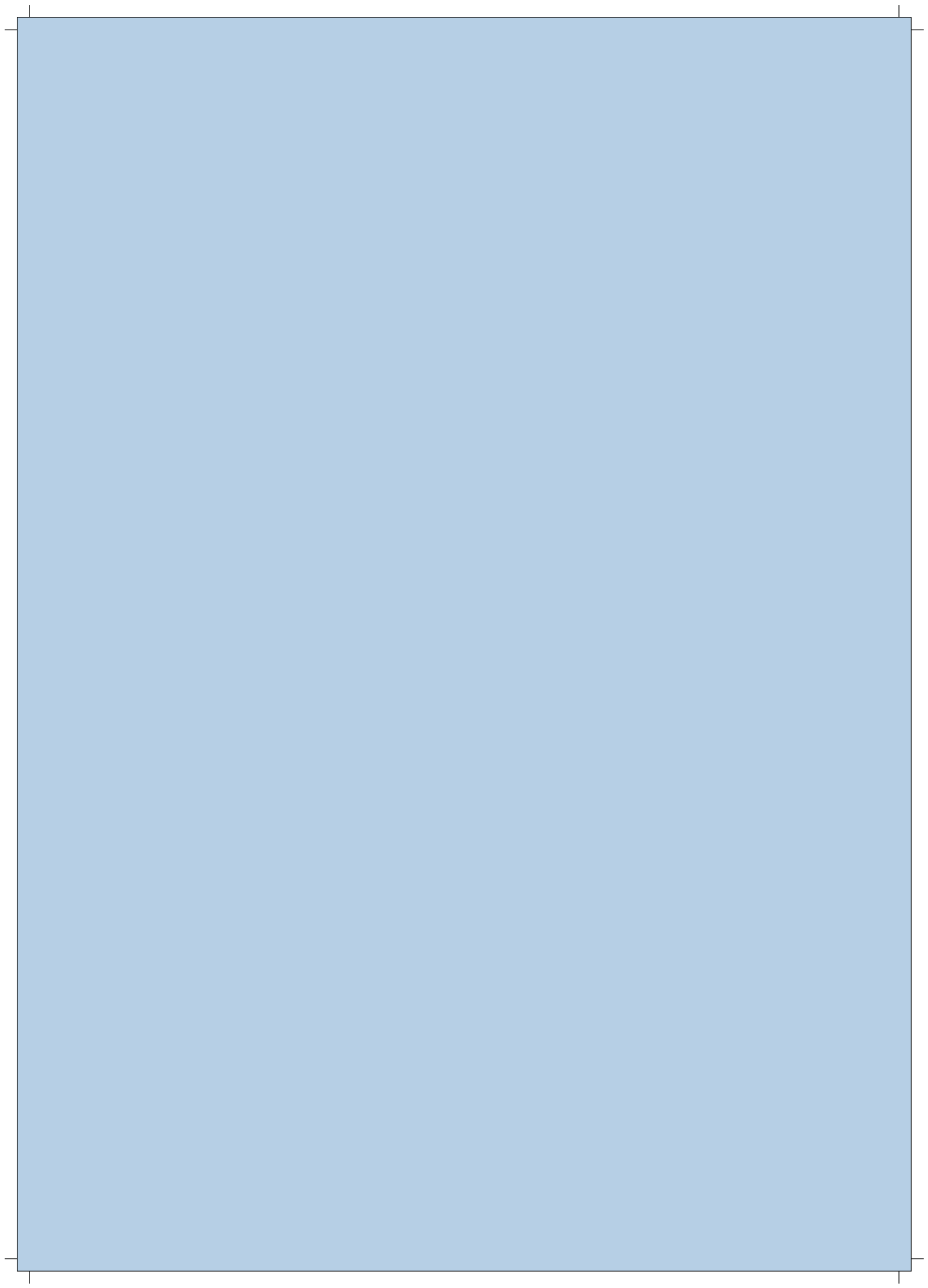
INO-Biodiesel's wider impact ecosystem includes an environmental water-research facility, a waste-management facility creating permanent youth employment, recycled-plastic school shoes for rural schools and a digital-literacy and coding programme through **Bothlale Coding**.

Building for Scale

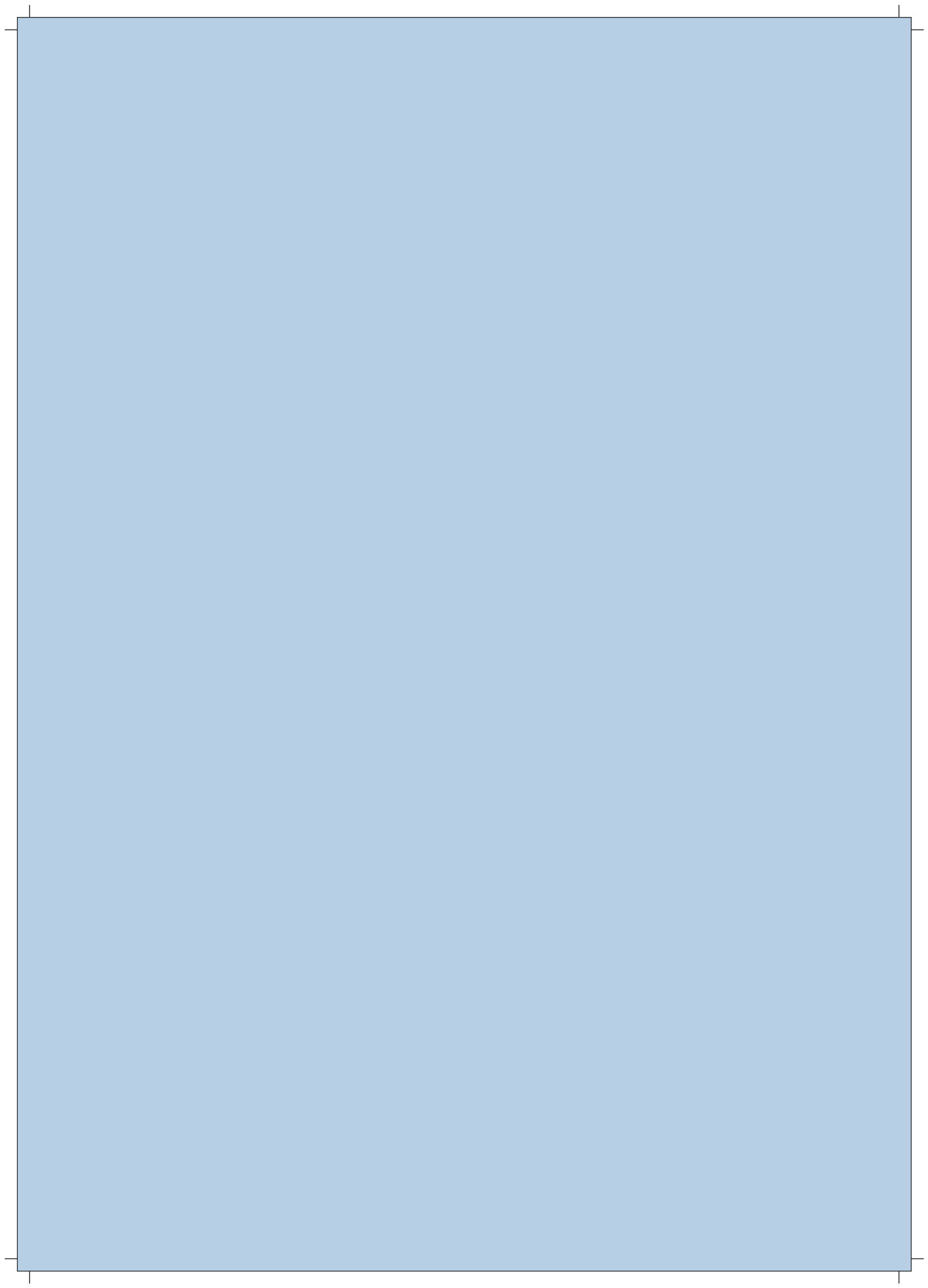
The company generates revenue through direct sales and services and has undertaken early cross-border collaborations in **Germany, Botswana, Kenya and Zambia**.

Its next target markets are **Brazil, India and China**, with a 12-24 month scale-up plan requiring capital, distribution infrastructure, manufacturing capacity, technology and supportive government and regulatory engagement.





WINNERS UNDER CATEGORY
Any Other



PUBA (BRAZIL)

Nanobiotechnology for Sustainable Agriculture & Cosmetics

Winner

The Story

Founded in **2022**, **Puba** is a Brazil-based sustainable-input company developing high-performance bioactive compounds through **nanotechnology and bioprocesses**.

Drawing on biodiversity and agro-industrial residues, the company creates sustainable alternatives to conventional synthetic and potentially toxic inputs for the agriculture and cosmetics sectors. Its work focuses on maintaining performance and scalability while supporting cleaner, bio-based production.

The Founder



Tárís Maria Macedo de Santana, Founder and CEO of Puba, is a pharmacist with a PhD in Plant Genetic Resources and more than 15 years of experience in innovation, with expertise spanning nanoemulsions, bio-based products and business strategy.

She is joined by Co-Founder and CTO **Acsa Magalhães**, a pharmacist with a PhD in Biotechnology and more than a decade of experience in bioactive plant extracts and natural preservatives. Together, the team combines scientific research with innovation and commercial strategy.

The Solution

Puba develops bio-based formulations using **nanotechnology, bioprocesses, biodiversity and agro-industrial residues**.

In agriculture, its solution includes a transparent, plant-derived sunscreen designed to selectively protect crops from UVB radiation while allowing UVA to support natural ripening and colouring. In cosmetics, the company develops sustainable ingredients, including natural preservatives, photoprotectors and antioxidants.

Its value proposition centres on clean-label and biodegradable alternatives designed to reduce dependence on conventional synthetic inputs.

Creating Impact

Puba reports a **30-40% reduction in solar-induced fruit damage** and a reduction in the use of synthetic chemicals.

Its wider reported outcomes include up to **30-50% lower post-harvest losses**, **2-3 times longer shelf life** using natural preservatives, up to **60% lower use of synthetic inputs**, up to **70% reduction in solar crop damage** and up to **20% higher farmer income**.

The company also reports upcycling more than **80% of agro-industrial residues** and generating biochar to support soil recovery and carbon sequestration.



Building for Scale

Puba is at the **growth stage** and generates revenue through direct sales. The company has annual turnover below US\$100,000, a team of 1-10 employees and a workforce that is more than **75% women**. It also reports receiving up to **US\$300,000 in grants** through different programmes.

India and China have been identified as priority expansion markets, driven by their large agricultural sectors, exposure to UV-related crop losses and demand for sustainable, technology-driven agricultural inputs. Puba identifies capital, regulatory support and manufacturing capacity as key requirements for the next phase of growth.



KHEONI VENTURES PVT. LTD.

(INDIA)
Sustainable Beauty, Forest Livelihoods &
Regenerative Consumption



The Story

Kheoni Ventures Pvt. Ltd. is a mission-driven sustainable beauty and wellness venture that connects everyday well-being with responsible consumption, forest restoration and livelihood creation.

Led by Dr. Megha Jain Garg, the company develops clean, toxin-free products while working directly with more than 60 sustainable communities across India. Its model brings together responsible sourcing, handcrafted production, natural ingredients and plastic-free packaging, with revenue reinvested into forest restoration and ecosystem recovery.

The Founder



Dr. Megha Jain Garg, Co-Founder and CEO of Kheoni Ventures Pvt. Ltd., is a wellness entrepreneur, physiotherapist and internationally certified yoga practitioner.

Her background in healthcare and wellness informs Kheoni's focus on preventive well-being, sustainable consumption and women-led innovation. Under her leadership, the venture is positioned as more than a product company, linking consumer choices with environmental consciousness and community livelihoods.

The Solution

Kheoni's model is built around three interconnected components.

First, it develops **organic, toxin-free and ecosystem-safe products** designed with both personal well-being and environmental impact in mind. Second, it works with **60+ forest communities** to source materials responsibly and create stable livelihood opportunities. Third, it replaces conventional plastic packaging with materials such as **recycled and reclaimed wood**, using grass and coconut coir as natural padding.

Together, these elements create a regenerative cycle—from **forest to consumer, and back to forest**.

Creating Impact

Kheoni reports **40,000+ trees planted over eight years**, annual CO₂ absorption of **7.7+ tonnes** and engagement with more than **60 forest communities**.

The submission also presents broader cumulative figures of **45,000 trees planted, 7,500+ tonnes of CO₂ avoided, 60+ forest communities supported, ₹494.9 lakh in revenue and 45,000 units sold**.

Building for Scale

Kheoni's expansion model seeks to take its regenerative approach from India to other BRICS markets.

The company identifies **Brazil** as an opportunity to develop ethical sourcing and sustainable livelihood models with forest communities, while **Russia** represents a potential market for premium wellness and toxin-free products. Its growth strategy centres on adapting its combination of sustainable beauty, responsible sourcing and restoration-led reinvestment to new markets.



FAVRY COUTURE (RUSSIA | NIGERIA)

Culture × Commerce: Taking African Creativity
to BRICS Markets

2nd
Runner
Up

The Story

Founded in **2021**, **Favry** Couture is an Afrocentric fashion and cultural commerce platform connecting African creative industries with BRICS markets through made-to-order production, digital trade and cultural storytelling.

The platform addresses the underrepresentation of Afrocentric fashion and creative products across international markets while creating pathways for African women entrepreneurs and artisans to participate in digital commerce, cross-border trade and international partnerships.

The Founder



Edet Favour Godwin, Founder & CEO of Favry Couture, leads the venture across its Russia-Nigeria presence.

Since its establishment in Russia, Favry Couture has built connections across BRICS-focused fashion and creative-industry platforms. Its journey includes participation in the **2023 BRICS Fashion Summit**, the **2024 Moscow Fashion Week BRICS designer network**, registration in Nigeria in **2024** and participation in the **2024 BRICS Creative Industries Summit**.

The Solution

Favry Couture operates through three interconnected elements.

Its **digital commerce platform** enables African fashion brands to reach markets including Russia, the UAE, Nigeria, South Africa and Brazil through localised storefronts. Its **made-to-order model** produces garments against confirmed demand, working with women artisans across Africa while supporting ethical sourcing, reduced overproduction and circular fashion.

A third element-the company's **cultural storytelling engine**-connects fashion with African heritage and cultural diplomacy through BRICS summits, fashion weeks and international programmes. Together, these elements define the company's core proposition: **Culture × Commerce**.

Creating Impact

Favry Couture reports **US\$35,000+ in lifetime revenue** and reach across **5+ countries**, with women comprising **51-75% of its workforce**.

Its model directly engages women artisans and entrepreneurs as production partners while using confirmed-demand manufacturing to avoid overproduction. The company has also developed partnerships linked to the BRICS Fashion Summit and Moscow Fashion Week, secured angel seed investment and established a dual-country presence in Russia and Nigeria.

Building for Scale

Favry Couture generates revenue through direct sales of custom-made fashion pieces, marketplace commissions, creative collaborations, international brand partnerships and fashion styling and cultural-brand consulting.



Its BRICS growth strategy spans Russia, Nigeria, the UAE, South Africa and Brazil, with India identified as the priority market for 2026. Over the next 12-24 months, the company aims to invest in platform technology and production scale-up, BRICS marketplace integrations and future AI-powered personalisation and AR try-on capabilities.



About the BRICS WBA India Secretariat



Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** serves as the Secretariat of the **BRICS Women's Business Alliance (BRICS WBA) in India**, supporting the Alliance in advancing women's participation in business, entrepreneurship and economic development across the BRICS ecosystem. Established in 1927, FICCI is one of India's leading apex business organisations, providing a platform for dialogue, networking and collaboration among industry, government and international stakeholders.

As the BRICS WBA Secretariat, FICCI facilitates the Alliance's programmes and engagements, connecting women business leaders and entrepreneurs with wider industry networks and supporting opportunities for knowledge exchange, collaboration and business development across BRICS markets. Its extensive institutional and industry network provides a strong foundation for advancing women-led development and strengthening cross-border business linkages.

The **BRICS WBA Women's Startups Contest 2026** reflects this commitment by providing women-led startups with a platform for recognition, visibility and networking, while enabling them to engage with investors, industry leaders and policymakers across BRICS countries. Through the Contest, the Secretariat contributes to building a stronger and more connected ecosystem for women entrepreneurs and supporting their potential to scale across markets.



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