

Registrations for Dubai, UN award open

Urban development practices-related projects that improve living conditions for the population can be entered until August 31. Past winners include Brazilians.

From the Newsroom*

São Paulo – Registrations are open until August 31 for the Dubai International Award for Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment (DIABP). The award is offered by the Dubai government and by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) and is conferred upon projects conducive to human and urban development.

According to the United Nations, the DIABP is awarded in recognition of initiatives that have a demonstrable, tangible impact on people's living conditions, and which are either the result of effective alliances of the public and private sectors and the society or are socially, culturally, economically and environmentally sustainable.

The award includes five categories with two winners in each. The first one is Best Practices, for one national urban policy project and one project for improvement of informal neighborhoods.

The second category is Best Practices Transfer, including one prize for projects involving urban redevelopment and redesign of urban spaces, and one prize for monitoring mechanisms for the New Urban Agenda and the Urban Sustainable Development Goals. The latter concerns the United Nations' goal of making cities more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable by 2030.

The third category comprises two Individual Awards for contributions to urban economy and municipal finance. The fourth category targets the Private Sector, with winners picked for their contributions to territorial planning, urban planning and design. The fifth category includes two prizes given for Research on legislation, rules, regulations & governance systems.

Entries are accepted from government organizations or entities, committees, multilateral agencies, cities or associations, non-government organizations, research and academic



institutions, media vehicles, public or private foundations and individuals, provided that they are involved in urban practices. All winners will get USD 30,000 plus a trophy and a certificate, except those in the Research category, who'll get USD 15,000 each.

The Award is now entering its 11th cycle. In the 9th cycle, the Water Conservator project from Extrema, in Brazil's Minas Gerais state, was one of the winners. It saw farmers get paid by the government for their actions to prevent water pollution in their properties.

In 2010, São Paulo's Organização Cidades Sem Fome (Cities Without Hunger) de São Paulo won a prize with a communal farming project in vacant government- and privately-owned plots in underprivileged communities.

Other Brazilian projects have won in the past, including one by Minas Gerais-based NGO Associação Imagem Comunitária, which encouraged the creation of a media network by low-income youths, and a project by the Belém, Pará city hall for environmental sanitation and social inclusion targeting waste collectors in a landfill in the community of Aurá.

Quick facts:

11th Dubai International Award for Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment (DIABP)

Registration open until August 31, 2017

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